

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

June 2007

CIRCULATION: 1073

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, which started the Whisper in 1981 and continues to own it. This Newsletter is distributed to all RMBs in Wamboin, Bywong, Clare, and Yalana at the beginning of each month, except January. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Contributions which readers may wish to make will be appreciated, and should be submitted to by email to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or dropped into his mailbox at 17 Reedy Creek Place. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the July 2007 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, June 24, 2007, 7:00 pm.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial 000 All Hours

Queanbeyan Police 6298-0599 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre 6238-3396 Ambulance Bookings 131233

WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Helen Montesin	President	6238-3208
Bywong Community Assn	Judith Miller	President	6236-9321.
Fire Brigade	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 ah
Wamboin Playgroup	Leanne Quick	Convener	6238 3435
Sutton School Playgroup	Laura Taylor	Convener	62369662
Landcare	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
Breastfeeding Assoc.	Belinda Dennis	Community Educator	6236 9979
Emergency Services	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
Emergency Services Admin	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
Justice of the Peace	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
Justice of the Peace	Margaret Fletcher	JP	6238-1211
Wamboin Scout Group	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
Wamboin Guides	Rosemary Riley	Contact Person	6241-6565
Wamboin Pony Club	Maureen Purdie	Contact Person	6238-3343
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Leigh-Anne Barlow	Secretary	6238-3376
Play Group	Leanne Quick	Convenor	6238-3435
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
Golf	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966
Claire Ayling	WWOW Group	Convener	6238-3347
Lake George Day VIEW Club	President	Pauline Segeri	6238-1996

THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

Ashleigh Caird, babysitting	6238 0746.
Deanne Brucic, babysitting & petsitting	6238-1884
Ellen Smith, petsitting (experienced with horses)	6238-3115
Fiona Skea, babysitting	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, petsitting	6238-3343
Frank Deveson, bicycle maintenance	6238-3294
John Brennan, babysitting and petsitting.....	6238 3472
Elena Sutcliffe, petsitting and babysitting	6238-3228
Gabrielle Simpkin & Nicolette Neveu-Abramczuk, petsitting	6238-3600

Macs Reef Tip Hours 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon (to 7 pm Sat - Sun in daylight saving time) closed Tue-Wed-Thurs

Wamboin Community Association

President's Paragraphs

Palerang Council – The 2007-8 Draft Management Plan and Budget will be on public exhibition from 28th May for about a month. The Council is holding public meetings in Braidwood (4th June) and Bungendore (6th June) to discuss the Draft Management Plan and Budget and will consider all submissions at the Council meeting on 28th June. The WCA will review the plan and lodge a submission to Council. Possible rate models for 2007-8 were discussed at the last Council meeting and the councillors voted to apply for a 9.9% increase and a preferred rating model similar to last years. John van der Straaten attended the meeting and made a statement on behalf of the WCA seeking an adjustment to the distribution of rates between the categories and for the Council to pursue cost cutting (particularly staff costs) and revenue raising alternatives to the proposed 9.9% rate increase. The Social Plan was also accepted at the meeting. Most of the suggestions made by the Wamboin and Bywong Community Associations were accepted and incorporated into the final Social Plan, for which John commended the Council.

Land Valuations – The WCA has received a response from the Valuer-General to our submission on the 2006 valuations. In the letter, he stated that all valuations in this area were being reviewed as part of the ongoing land valuation audit process and that the review should be finalised by the end of May. He also noted that landowners can lodge an out of date objection (the last date for objecting to current valuations was 23rd March) and he would determine whether to accept the objection. If you wish to lodge a late objection, please contact me for an objection kit (ph: 6238 3208).

Review of Rural Lands Protection Boards rating system – Richard Bull, who is conducting the review, is holding a public meeting of BRLPB ratepayers in the **Bungendore Community Centre, Majara Street, Bungendore, (near the new Council Chambers) at 7.30pm on Friday 8 June 2007**. See the article by John van der Straaten later in the Whisper for details of the meeting and some background of the issues.

Wamboin Community Hall Extension – Thanks to Lofty and his crews' hard work, the extension to the hall is progressing well. It is now up to lockup stage and the doorway to the hall has been opened up – just in time for the Fireman's Ball on 2nd June.

Wamboin Community Association – The next WCA meeting is on **19th June at 7:30pm**. The Council's Draft Management Plan and Budget will be discussed at this meeting and the WCA submission formulated. Everybody is welcome to attend. Another project for 2007 is to enhance the Wamboin Community Hall and its environs. If you have any ideas that you would like to raise or you would like to help out with this project, please contact me on 6238 3208.

Wamboin Produce Markets – The May markets were very successful with some stalls selling out quite early. The final markets before the winter recess will be on **16th June** from 9:00am till noon.

Bonfire Night – Claim the date in your diary for Wamboin's annual fireworks and bonfire which will be on **22nd September**. It is always a great display by Black Widow Fireworks and a major fundraiser for many local community groups.

WCA Electronic Noticeboard – Residents are continuing to subscribe to the noticeboard. It is a great way to keep up with issues of community interest and I encourage everybody to subscribe. To subscribe, simply send an email message (doesn't need any subject or content) to Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au.

Calendar of events – If you have any events that you would like included in July's Whisper, please contact John van der Straaten (ph: 6238 3590). -- Helen Montesin (helen.montesin@canberra.edu.au)



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Bywong Community News compiled by Morag and Guy Cotsell

Local Donations: During the March Car Boot Sale, Community President Judith Miller presented a \$1000 donation to the Wamboin Rural Fire Service. Other Community groups which benefited from the Car Boot Sale were Wamboin Guides (\$250), Queanbeyan Wildcare (\$250) and Bungendore Tennis Club (\$100).

RLPB Review: Community members will attend the Bungendore meeting on 8 June with Mr Richard Bull, who has been nominated to conduct the review of the Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB). The State Government authorised the review following complaints from small landholders who unexpectedly found themselves billed for RLPB rates. Many landholders, supported by the Community, claim that these rates are levied for services which they never receive, and that the existing system places an inequitable burden on those who have small holdings and do not engage in any farming activity. The Community urges all affected residents of Bywong to attend the meeting, which will be held in Bungendore Community Centre. Watch the local papers for starting times.

Trivia Challenge: The Community's annual Trivia Challenge will take place on 28 July at 7.30pm at the Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road, Bywong. Tables of up to eight persons are invited to participate, and entry remains at \$10 per person. Book with Morag 6230 3523.

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Mobile: 0409 224 901
Fax: (02) 6238 3165

155 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN: Ph 6238 3208

Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34

278 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20
Ned Noel	13 Palerancn cl+41Advtrs	55
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19

227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:

Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20
Deb Gordon	Yalana East	41
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	11
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	60

222 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:

Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	20
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	24
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26
Nora Stewart	Rovere Lane	12
Joan Milner	Birriwa Road	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Lane	10

191 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609

Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20
Len Parrish	Summerhill Rd Area	33
Sue Gorham	Schofields/Brooks/Millyn	25
Sue Aunella	Brooks	17

Bill Owen Cooper Rd.	26
Cathy Abell Canning Close	17
Alan Rope Sutton Road	25

Ph 6238 3463	
Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive	17
Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors	31
David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley	35
Penny Evans Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	25

Ph 6238 3489

Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley	38
Pauline Segeri North End - Clare Valley	42
Bungendore Shop Bungendore	10

Ph 6238 3590	
Brian Higgison Deley/Kestral area	12
Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FdHwy	12
Morag&Guy Cotsell MReef /Newington/Harriot (A)	30
Sandra Favre MReef /Newington/Harriot (B)	20
Ian & Esther Rudd Mreef/Bankers to Fed Hwy	26

Snowdon Family Hogan Drive	28
Diana+Keith Gascoine Snow Gum Road	23
Thelma Martin Shinglehouse Rd area	20
Judith Miller Wyoming and Doust Rds	25

TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1073

NEW CLASSIFIEDS

Work Wanted. Concreting, Rendering, Rockwalls, Pruning, Fruit Trees, Grapvines. Phone Sam Lentini on 0418 621 744 or 6298 1670.

Going away? House/farm & pet sitter available. Capable, independent professional man available from early June. I am a very fit non-smoker; no vices. Graduated from both Hawkesbury & Orange Agric Colleges and was a jackaroo/farm-hand in 1970s. Have owned hobby farms & horses since. Now working in & around ACT and own car. I enjoy pets & look over livestock. Email Jon mortz@spitfire.com.au or 0414824448 for more details.

For sale: Nectre 15 slow combustion stove with all fittings, flu etc . An excellent heater in top condition. \$500 ono. 6230 3523.

LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS

WCA Electronic Noticeboard – Residents are continuing to subscribe to the noticeboard. It is a great way to keep up with issues of community interest and I encourage everybody to subscribe. To subscribe, simply send an email message (doesn't need any subject or content) to **Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au**.

CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.

Maths and Science tutoring K-10. Diagnostic testing. Encouraging, expert coaching. Please contact Judy Shellard, [BSc(Hons) Dip Ed], Phone 62383050

Beekeeping Services Prompt removal of swarm bees and hives that are no longer wanted. Can also remove feral hives depending on location. Fee charged depending on distance travelled and the type of job required. Happy to discuss your requirements. Award winning local honey for sale. Wamboin Yellow Box \$8 kg. Available in 1 x kg or 500gram glass jars while stocks last. - Phone or see us each month at the markets! Call John - Ridgiedidge Apiary 6238 3791.
www.ridgiedidge.net.au

Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for further information.

ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements attract a small fee (see below) which is donated to the Wamboin Community Association. Please make your cheque out to this association, but post it to the editor. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information.

Advertising rates: Full Page - \$100 Half Pg - \$50 1/3 Pg \$35 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/6 Pg - \$20 1/8 Pg - \$15

FOR HIRE from the Wamboin Community Association: GAS BBQ - Party Size, Portable, \$30 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond, both payable on collection. Cleaning bond will be refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258.

Trestles and chairs are available for hire by local residents. Hire rates are: Trestle \$10ea and chairs \$1.50 ea. Price does not include delivery or pick-up charges. Available from the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way. Must be returned in clean servicable condition. All damages are responsibility of the hirer. Equipment must be tied securely on trailer etc. when taken (otherwise they don't go.) Time of pick-up and returned MUST be adhered too (I don't live at the Hall!) -Joan Mason, 62383258.

FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 6238 3258.

Local Residents \$70, Bond \$200. Non Resident \$125, Bond \$250. The Hall is not available for teenage or 21st functions.

The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au. And thanks if you have already done so.

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Hall Working Bee

There was a special request from the Ball organisers to make the extension to the Hall useable for the Brigade Ball. On Saturday morning, May 26 a small working bee was organised. Don, Charlie, Trent, Ted and new guy Stewart joined the Extension Coordinator (big name to make me feel good) to make lots of dust and noise. Despite all the confusion we tackled various jobs with varying degrees of success. Popular high points were the morning tea and lunch organised by Joan. By 3.30 we decided enough was enough and partook of 'Après Working B' refreshments while we congratulated ourselves on a job well done.

On Sunday morning I sneaked back down to the Hall to do a few clean up jobs on the quiet. Would you believe Don also came down in a sneaky fashion for the same purpose. So we joined forces and made more noise and dust. What did we achieve? There is a special prize for anyone who can pick any differences to the Hall. Well, we had fun writing another chapter (sentence anyway) to Wamboin Myths and Legends. - Lofty Mason

Wamboin Rural Fire Service Annual Ball 007 Ball

Your Licence to dress as you dare!

Come as your favourite Movie idol, Cartoon Character, Pop Idol, Sportsman, Special Agent.
Come and join us and give us a thrill

WHEN: Saturday 2th June 2007
WHERE: Wamboin Community Hall
TIME: 7:00pm – 1:00 am
TICKETS: \$40
BAND: Fun on the Run
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Canberra Equine Hospital is located on the corner of the Federal and Barton H'way, Lyneham.

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The hospital offers a reduced call out fee to the Wamboin region on Monday afternoons.

Please feel free to call with any questions about your horses health needs.

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02 6241 8888

WAMBOIN COUNTRY GOLF CLUB MAY 2007 COMPETITION – RESULTS

A beautiful autumn day encouraged a larger than usual number of our golfers to assemble at the Community Hall in Bingley Way for the May comp. Our sponsors for the day were “the Navy” represented by Tim Barter and CAE represented by Charles Guscott. Our thanks to them for providing the prizes and the post golf refreshments. It was also good to see Charles’ daughter, Alyssa, back from Sweden and Austria and in such fine form.

The encouragement award went to young Rachel Schroder having her first crack at 9 holes under the tutelage of her doting father, Neville. Best score by a junior was a nett 69 fired by Vince Gorham, who’s looking more and more like a raw boned loose forward every day.

Ball winners were Rob Gorham, Nev Schroder X 3, Charles Guscott and Tom Argæet.

The 9-holers winner was Tom Argæet with a nett 26.

The runners-up in the 18 hole comp. were – B-grade, Paul Griffin (nett 61) and A-grade, Len Ivey (nett 66)

Winners were – B-grade, Larry King with the assistance of the Oxford Unicompartmental Knee (nett 60) and A-grade, Charles Guscott (nett 64).

The next Wamboin Golf Day will be Sunday, 3 June. See you all at the Hall between 12.15 and 12.30 pm. Enquiries, please contact Peter Greenwood 6238 3358 or Lofty Mason 6238 3258. - Larry King, golfer (still).



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1816

To Bywong or not to Bywong, that was the question ...

by Nora Stewart

Dublin, Ireland September 2002: Looking out across Dublin Bay from Sandymount beach to distant Howth Head, I knew that the last of Irish the summer was upon us. In a couple of weeks, we would be back in the winter tunnel – long seemingly endless, wet, grey and dreary winter with suffocating misty skies. “There’s got to be a better place than this” I thought. “And I know where to start looking...”

Kaleen, Australia September 2005: You know you’re in the thick of hunting for a new place to live when AllHomes.com.au is the home page on your PC desktop and most of the real estate reps numbers are in your mobile phone.

A process of elimination was underway – Burra was out because the road was too narrow and twisty; Tharwa and Uriarra were out because of the high possible fire risk. Gundaroo had attractions but perhaps just a little too far to drive to Canberra (in case we needed to commute); Murrumbateman and Hall had a lot going for them too but possibly too close to the busy Barton Highway (noise) and too expensive (Hall). Bywong and Wamboin soon became our targets.

We were seeking a property with an existing home that was mostly North-facing with land that we could grow veggies, plants and trees, and a reasonable water supply. We soon realized that, despite beautiful bush and trees, most properties we saw in Wamboin had too much shale rock, and could involve a lot of work to get underway.

Zooming in on Bywong, we saw a wide range of properties: a beautifully built house on 20 acres with a huge dam – no Northerly aspect at all and too much road noise for us. Another had a brand new funky house on acreage – no water. Yet another house on 20 acres boasting “lots of water” and backing onto the (very choked) Yass River – looked to me like a scene out of a spaghetti Western – tired, droopy and very thirsty – not very inspiring. Then we came upon a seemingly ideal property– 20 acres of pretty decent pastureland with a few trees, existing house North-facing with two dams, a bore and two huge water tanks. (continued on next page)

Wandering the wineries in the Canberra Region? When you head out to the cool climate wineries in the Wamboin region, spoil yourself with the bonus of a very short diversion and browse through

Something Special

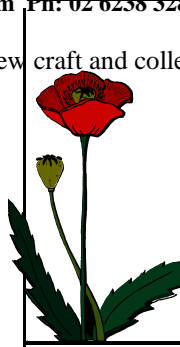
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(continued from previous page)

Aaaaah...making a decision. Despite being confronted with the makings of our dream place, we dawdled. We'd come this far across the world to a new life and yet....Maybe there was something better that we hadn't seen yet? Perhaps something else would come up? About six months after we initially saw the property, we made a bid for it. Withdrawn from sale, we were told – yesterday. Challenged, we made another bid and soon we were playing real estate ping-pong. Three weeks on, we agreed a price and we settled in June last year.

The story doesn't end there – it was just the beginning. No sooner had we moved in but two days later we jetted back to our beginnings in Ireland. For a break, you understand. Arriving back in Bywong in early August on my own, I was daunted by the prospect of suddenly becoming a land-owner, in debt and out here, for goodness sakes. Nowhere near anyone I knew. My adventurous spirit completely deserted me as I desperately tried to get the slow combustion stove to light, keep emptying all the mouse traps (full) and wonder at the number of aeroplanes flying low overhead. What were we thinking? All that money and all that effort... I was convinced it wasn't going to work out.

Well, by January this year, we had met most of our neighbours – helpful, interested, wonderful people – and I completely relaxed. (I had also figured out how to get the fire going and to eliminate mice – they love peanut butter!) Having friendly folk around has made settling in so much easier and has relaxed me enough to enjoy the life that can be had here. The quiet, sun-filled days wandering around the paddocks with our two wee dogs tearing about the place in great excitement; the novelty of sharing our place with kangaroos and black cockatoos. I think back on my days in Dublin with a touch of fondness but I think this is the best place of all to live.

WHISPER MUSIC LINK

by Angela Hunter & Jake Annetts

It became apparent to us, after yet another party where more than half the guests were either playing something or singing, that we have a multitude of talented musicians in Wamboin and the surrounding districts. Many of them are currently either performing or recording or have aspirations to and we felt we needed some way of connecting us all together. We also felt we needed to raise interest and support in our community for our local musicians - and so is born the first of what we hope will be many issues of the Whisper Music Link.



The aim of this segment is to provide a networking point for local artists and various links to venues, music groups and other musicians, which will be particularly useful for those budding stars of the future. Each month we will introduce and feature an artist or band from the area and any other ideas for the page will be gratefully accepted and considered.

If you are a musician or singer and would like to feature as our 'Musos of the Month', are currently performing and would like to advertise your gig or have any other music related events please contact us on:

e-mail: - jakeandange@optusnet.com.au

phone: 6238 3969.

Looking forward to watching this space build.

Please note: This page is not designed for free advertising. If you wish to advertise services such as music tutoring; band for hire; instruments for sale etc then you will need to go through the regular channels for Whisper advertising.

NOTICE

Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Annual General Meeting of the Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade will be held on
Thursday 14 June 2007

Wamboin Community Association Hall, 112 Bingley Way Wamboin.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm.

The AGM is the Brigade's most important formal event of the year.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Aspiring members, families, and other visitors are welcome.

The Brigade's area covers Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Park.

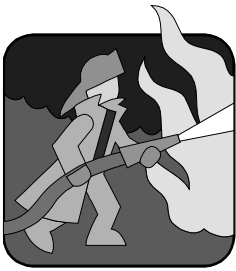
Ian Coillet, Secretary, 6238 3425

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The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled by Cliff Spong with help from many members of the Brigade (Wamboin Brigade's website is www.wamboin-fireshed.com)

THE FIRE SEASON HAS FINISHED.

Even though fire permits are not required, please ensure adequate precautions are taken if a fire is lit in the open, notify your neighbours and the brigade Captain 24 hours before you light it and as a matter of courtesy – ring the brigade captain.

RING 000 (Zero-Zero-Zero) TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS.

From the Captain's Desk

The faint smell of burning eucalypt wafting around the area early in the morning mixed in with the mist and late afternoon usually means one thing. The cooler temperatures are here. Many of the old faithful slow combustion stoves are coming out of their hibernation and flaming into life. Windows are staying closed with curtains drawn with the hope of keeping in the warmth. If you are feeling the need to use any fireplace inside your home, be they slow combustion stoves or open fireplaces, now is the time to check the chimney or flue. Make sure the chimney or flue has been swept to remove as much creosote as possible. It is also a good idea to check inside the stove, especially if it hasn't been used for some time. You never know what you could find that may block the entrance to the flue or chimney. A chimney or flue fire is sometimes hard to detect and can cause a lot of damage in the roof space before it becomes obvious to the occupants of the house.



By now many residents in Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Park will have received a letter from your brigade. The letter provides a brief summary of the major activities your brigade has been involved in and some of the highlights over the past twelve months. We are also asking for your financial support as well as your help with our support crew. The more people we have in this important team eases the load on our stalwart few. This crew keeps the firefighters fighting fires and attending other emergency incidents by looking after all the vital behind-the-scenes activities. If you would like to help, in whatever capacity you can and for whatever time you can spare, please contact me.

Your brigade's Annual General Meeting will be held on the 14th of June at 7:30pm in the Wamboin Community Hall. It is the time for elections for all the positions within the brigade; field officers, members of the Brigade Executive and several other positions. Nominations are welcome for all positions. It is also an opportunity to come along to meet your fellow residents who have chosen to support our community as volunteer firefighters. All the members of your brigade would be pleased to see you there. Refreshments will be available after the meeting.

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(Wamboin Firefighter – continued from previous page)

Over the next few months various working bees are being organised for some work we need to complete before the next fire season. We will be installing a pump and a not insubstantial pump house next to the dam and installing underground pipes to link up with outlets at the fire shed and the back of the community hall to help fill the fire tankers faster. It will also enable us to improve the fire protection capabilities outside the Community Hall. We will also be reorganising our storage facilities inside the fire shed as well as building drying racks outside for the fire hoses. There are also a number of minor repairs we need to carry out in and around the shed.

With all the burning off being carried out at this time of year another timely reminder is warranted. The following useful information has been gleaned from the NSW RFS website.

Fire can be a useful tool for reducing bush fire hazards, for removing rubbish and for agricultural activities. Under the *Rural Fires Act, 1997*, landholders are legally required to reduce bush fire hazards on their land. You can do this by hand clearing, mowing, slashing, or by using fire. Inappropriate use of fire can endanger lives, property and the environment. Many wild fires result from burning off work that gets out of control. You can help avoid this by following some basic guidelines and obtaining the correct approvals before you burn.

At all times you are required to ensure that a fire is safe and under control. If you become aware that a fire is out of control (whether you lit it or not) you must take all possible steps to extinguish the fire. If you are unable to do this you must immediately call 000 (triple zero) to alert the nearest Rural Fire Brigade or NSW Fire Brigade. Failure to do so may result in a fine of over \$2000 and/or six months in prison.

Burning off is a cheap and simple method of removing unwanted litter and fire hazards. However, it must be planned carefully and carried out with extreme caution at the right time, otherwise there is a real danger that the burn off will get out of control.

- Careful planning is essential if you plan to use fire for hazard reduction. You must ensure that it will do the job:
- **Efficiently:** as part of a greater hazard reduction plan, for example creating part of a system of fuel breaks.
- **Safely:** control of the fire is not left to chance.
- **Legally:** is a permit or environmental approval required? Have neighbors been informed? Is burning permitted in your council area?
- The RFS has several publications available from their website (http://www.bushfire.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?CAT_ID=182) on living in bushfire prone areas:
- [These are available in PDF format from our Publications Area](#) and from RFS Fire Control Centres
- Planning for Bushfire Protection
- Building in a Bushfire Prone Area
- Before you Light that Fire
- Standards for Asset Protection Zones
- Standards for Low Intensity Burning
- Standards for Pile Burning



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(Wamboin Firefighter – continued from previous page)

- Standards for Windrow Burning
- Application and Guidelines for Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificates
- [Efficient Use of Fire](#)
- [Safe Use of Fire](#)
- [Legal Use of Fire - Permits and Approvals](#)
- [Bushfire Hazard Reduction Certificates](#)
- [Permits to Burn Safely](#)
- [Application Forms](#)
- [Fines and Penalties](#)
- [Current Fires and Fire Bans](#)
- [Are You at Risk of Bushfire?](#)
- [Hazard Reduction](#)
- [Bushfire Management in NSW](#)
- Planning For Bushfire Protection

If you are concerned about bush fire hazards on your property, or the property adjacent to you, the RFS can provide advice regarding preparing your property against bush fires and what to do in the event of a bush fire. This advice is free and can be arranged by contacting our local [Fire Control Centre](#) (6297 1840) and speaking with the Fire Mitigation Officer. Please remember to show some consideration for your neighbours and your brigade during the off-season. Even though you don't need a fire permit if you need to burn off, you should notify your neighbours and your fire brigade Captain at least 24 hours before you light up. This could save an embarrassing visit from a fire crew. We are still obliged to check reports of smoke at all times, even if the fire danger is low and knowing where the smoke is coming from helps to determine what we need to respond to. Finally, if you need any advice about fire protection around your property please give me a call on 0409 991 340.

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST		Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	
A'Hern Fitness at the Airport	Coolah Holdings Pty Ltd	Quick-Eze Towing	
AAA Water Carriers	Cross Country Construction	Ratz Mobile Welding	
Anytime Backhoe Hire	Eureka Plants Pty Ltd	So Good Sausages Pty Ltd	
B & B Tree Surgery	Horizon Real Estate	Sotech Pty Ltd	
Bingley Contractors (Water Carriers)	FH Office Services	Shepherds Hut Wines	
Bungendore Rural	France Harrison & Associates	Sherrin Hire	
Bungendore Taxi Service	Gidgee Estate Winery	Sutton Real Estate	
Capital Business Services	Inland Trading Co (Aust)	Tipton Shopfitters Pty Ltd	
Capital Stainless Steel	Lambert Vineyards	Trevor Barker & Associates	
Clare Valley Tree Services	LMS Consulting	Trevor Duncan Homes	
Coates Hire, Fyshwick	Manuka Childcare Centre	Wagonga Coffee	
Congari Bookkeeping & Business Services	Marloc Engineering	Westpac Banking Corporation	
	Overdene Excavations Pty Ltd	YLess4U	

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Win prizes and be published!

How about trying to give Bywong /Wamboin something to read over Sunday morning breakfast? Can you dream up a good story?

This new story competition is to provide encouragement and publication to writers and to provide stories for the reading pleasure of residents. Stories submitted can be either fiction or non-fiction and must have Bywong/Wamboin as a key part of the story. All winners will be awarded prizes and will be published in the *Wamboin Whisper*.



Some suggested topics for your short story

I could tell a few stories alright, mate!

- What it is like to wait for the bus each morning? What it is like to ride home on the bus each afternoon? Commuting to work...?
- Jobs at our place that I like OR jobs at our place that I don't like
- A place in Wamboin or Bywong that is special or a place in on my property that I like to be
- How I came to live in or know about Bywong or Wamboin
- Things I have noticed or learned about Bywong or Wamboin when visiting or passing through on the way to the Coast
- OR anything else you wish to write about, whether imagined or real that includes Bywong or Wamboin

Criteria for the short story competition- Entry Form on the back

- Bywong and /or Wamboin are a part of the story
- Has a title that will grab readers' attention
- Uses words and ideas that make the writing interesting for readers
- Has correct spelling, grammar and punctuation
- Closing date is **5pm Friday 29th June 2007**

Entry Categories and Prizes

Primary school students Years 4-6 (Includes home schooled students)	250 words maximum	Year 4 – three prizes of \$20 each Year 5– three prizes of \$20 each Year 6– three prizes of \$20 each
High school students – open category (Includes home schooled students)	500 words maximum	There will be three prizes of \$40 each for the High school year category.
Adult – open category	750 word maximum	There will three prizes of \$40 each for the Adult category.

Some guidance on writing

- write something that you think others would enjoy reading or something that would make them think
- be careful not to put in for publication anything that would embarrass yourself or anything that would embarrass or offend someone else
- Think about giving it a go - consider entering not mainly for the prize money but because writing something for publication is one good way to show you are alive

Conditions of entry

- Entries should observe the maximum word limit
- All entries must be legible and must be your own individual work and will be printed along with your name.
- Scripts and poetry will not be accepted.
- Multiple entries from the same person will be accepted.
- Closing date for entries will be **5pm 29th June 2007**.
- All winners will be announced in the August 2007 edition of the *Wamboin Whisper*.
- All winning entries and as many others as possible will be published in the *Wamboin Whisper* in 2007.

Please email or mail this form with your story by **Friday 29 June 2007** to:

Mail: The Editor, *Wamboin Whisper*, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin NSW 2620

Email: nednoel@optusnet.com.au

Please include your first and last name, age category, address, and phone and (if relevant), your school.

We suggest that you make a copy of your work as entries will not be returned. Good luck!

(Competition has been organised and administered by Nora Stewart of Rovere Lane, Bywong in collaboration with a number of other residents and with the Wamboin Whisper and with local schools)

Wamboin 15 years ago: from the Whisper of May, 1992, Circulation 300, Editor Judy Frazer-Jans

From the President's paras: "Golf used to be a quiet pastime enjoyed on the first Sunday of each month until a bunch of budding media starlets took over the course. The results of this phenomenon were evidenced on Prime television during April. Soon they might even want grass on the greens." - Malcolm Harrington, President

Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin 32 year statistics from the Robertsons

April rain 19mm to 29/4 (2006 .12.5mm) 2007 rain to 29/1 - 61.5mm (2006 to 30/4 227mm)
Average May rain 50.4mm (May 2006....13.5mm) Wettest May -- 171mm (1995) Driest May - 1mm (1985)
Hottest May day 20 degrees C (3 times) Coldest May day 3 degrees C (29/5/00) Coldest May night -5 degrees C 28/5/01



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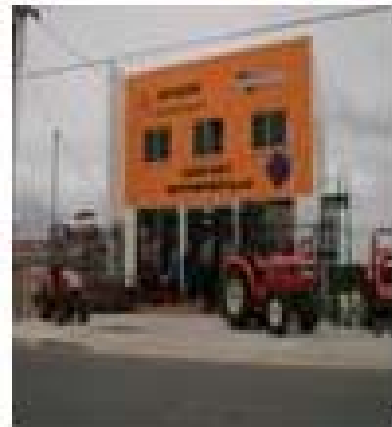
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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Collet

By the time you read this we'll be in Winter : _According to an article in Country Energy's latest quarterly newsletter that accompanied our electricity bill, one third of all house fires occur in winter. It hasn't become really cold yet – but it will. Darkness is falling earlier and though the days are relatively balmy, temperatures are trending downward, particularly of an evening.

As the Country Energy article notes, “the cooler winter months result in us bringing all types and varieties (new and old) of heating devices out of storage. Heating devices that are old and poorly serviced are a common cause of fires during the winter months.”

While I'm sure several fellow members of your fire brigade are more knowledgeable and experienced than I on the matter, my observation over a number of years is that the most fire prone parts of the home are the kitchen and the bedroom. Cooking left unattended even for a few seconds, radiators that malfunction or are knocked over or left on while you are absent, combustibles left too close to heating sources, and smoking in bed represent a possible dangerous situation and potential recipe for disaster.

According to the article: (1) 40 per cent of house fires start in the kitchen; (2) 15 per cent begin in a bedroom, and (3) one in four fire is caused by unattended cooking. Oh, and what about the flue of your slow-combustion heater? Has it been swept or otherwise checked since last year, or the year before, or.....can't recall?

And smoke alarms – the smell of smoke won't wake you up – in fact it has a propensity to send you into a deeper sleep. On the other hand, a properly functioning smoke alarm screaming at you to alert you to the stealthy, evil penetration of smoke will normally have you backing out of your slumber faster than you can say...”ffffferarri”!!!!



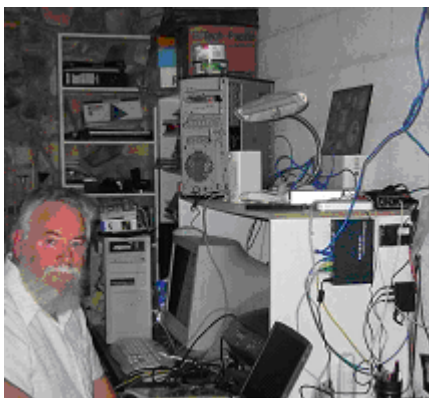
Couple of issues back, I asked if anyone out there in “Whisper-readersville-land” knew the background to the toy bears in trees? Someone must know?

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Capital Region Technology and Computer Support has recently begun providing its services to the people of the Braidwood, Goulburn, Canberra and surrounding districts. It is staffed by Don Ray. The business is offering a unique approach to fixing your computer (or other technical) problems and assisting with any technology. When you ring and discuss your problem or requirement, Don is likely to give you a fixed quote for that job. Sometimes he will be able to help you solve the problem over the phone so there is no cost to you! Other than the phone call!

Don has a long and varied history using various technologies. As a boy he collected old TVs and radios to repair, sometimes successfully. In 1970, as part of his studies at the University of NSW, he “wrote” a few simple computer programs in FORTRAN IV and submitted them to an IBM 3620. He has been a technical volunteer for Technical Aid to the Disabled. In 1985 he started work in the IT industry and has held several positions which have provided him with a very good knowledge of computer hardware and software and how end-users interact with them.

Don has lived in Moruya, Captains Flat, Queanbeyan and the ACT and now lives in Braidwood. Don is very involved in community activities including Scouting, Braidwood Community Technology Centre and the RFS. Any spare time is spent with Don's grandchildren in Captains Flat or Narooma or when possible, a visit to Braidwood Folk Club or a Landcare activity.

If you would like to discuss any computer or technology based equipment usage or problem contact Don via phone 4855 0253, mobile 0413 18 7878 or Email tech@crtcs.com. Web site www.crtcs.com

THE RURAL LANDS PROTECTION BOARD REVIEW YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN

No the mountain is not coming to meet Muhammad – but the **Hon Richard Bull**, chair of the Review and the chair and deputy chair of the Braidwood RLPB will be coming to a public meeting of BRLPB ratepayers in the **Bungendore Community Centre, Majara Street, Bungendore, (near the new Council Chambers) at 7.30pm on Friday 8 June 2007**. As you might know there has been some disquiet among the small landholders in the BRLPB area over the extension last year of RLPB-rateable properties to 4 hectares from a minimum of 10 hectares. The Wamboin and Bywong Community Associations and many members of these communities made representations to the NSW Minister for Primary Industries and the BRLPB about what was seen to be a blatant revenue raising exercise without any benefit to most property owners. These representations were sidestepped but the intercession by the Member for Monaro prior to the NSW elections resulted in a Review of RLPBs, regrettably with very odd terms of reference.

The Wamboin and Bywong Community Associations have made substantial submissions to the Review and, after some to-ing & fro-ing, the BRLPB has arranged for this meeting at Bungendore. Accordingly our communities should have as big a representation as possible to meet with Mr Bull and the BRLPB Directors and share in the discussion and questioning of these gentlemen. There are many issues to take up with them and I'm sure that it will be a lively and interesting session. Some of the issues are as follows:

1. Is there a need for an RLPB, ie a fourth tier of government, when, in the other States, the stated responsibilities are carried out by the State Departments of Agriculture and the local Councils?
2. What is a viable area for an RLPB? Of the 48 RLPBs in NSW only six of them have rateable areas to 4 hectares. Some have a minimum of 400 ha. Should there be some amalgamation, eg Braidwood and Cooma?
3. What is a minimum rateable area for a property. Should the rating be determined by the carrying capacity and, if so, should there be a rating on the notional carrying capacity of that property or the actual number/value of animals stocked.
4. Rates can be determined on a number of bases. Should there be a base rate for ALL properties or do we stick to the current minimum rate? Should charges be according to the actual size of the properties or a base size-rate and an extra rate for larger holdings? Or, as indicated earlier, should the costs, particularly for animal health/veterinary costs, be apportioned on a user-pays basis for those owners of large numbers of animals? Some properties carry no animals.
5. The BRLPB is practically irrelevant for the majority of small landholders (rural residential) in western Palerang as there are no travelling stock reserves used by travelling stock, very few feral animals actively being controlled by the ranger(s) and no significant/visible presence or service by other staff.
6. The extension of the rateable area in the BRLPB to 4 ha last year attracted significant additional revenue, ie \$65 X 1500 properties, for which there was no publicly stated need nor subsequent accountability. If administration consumed 88% of revenue in previous years what is the new amount programmed for?

The terms of reference for the Review include "ratepayer satisfaction with the system". This is your opportunity to question a significant person on the Council of RLPBs and to discuss with him and the Directors of the BRLPB any of your concerns, eg equity, over the existence of the system and the service provided by the Boards.

-- John van der Straaten (6238 3590), Secretary, Wamboin Community Association.

CANBERRA REMOVALS

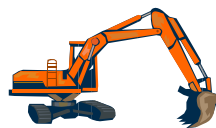
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LAKE GEORGE DAY VIEW CLUB IN GOULBURN



Members from the LGDVC attended the annual VIEW Club Zone Conference in Goulburn. Zone Councillor, Fiona Spottiswood transformed the Centretown Motel Goulburn into a magical "Neverland" where children's literary toys swamped the room to welcome members. VIEW members dressed as children's literary characters answering Peter Pan's call to "Come Fly With Me To Neverland". Members flocked from Goulburn, Braidwood, Bungendore, Crookwell, Lake George and Queanbeyan VIEW Clubs to experience a world of "Literacy, Learning and Laughter" and share their Club adventures. A resolution from Zone AA03 was supported and will be presented at the National VIEW Convention in September stating that "Dr John Holts Radiowave Cancer Therapy to be recognised and introduced into mainstream medicine in Australia and to be covered by Medicare for anyone wishing this form of treatment". An enjoyable day was had by all attendees of Zone AA03 and a vote of thanks was given to Zone Councillor Fiona Spottiswood and best wishes for her success in

her nomination as Area AA National Councillor.

National Councillor Susan Groenhout outlined VIEW's visions for the future. VIEW Club is a valued part of The Smith Family and in 2007 their five key focus areas include:

- . Sponsoring Learning For Life Students.
- . Donating school stationery packs for children.
- . Reading with children to advance literacy.
- . Engaging with children after school at Homework and Computer Clubs.
- . Providing books and toys for children at Christmas.

To unlock opportunities for disadvantaged Australian children and families, The Smith Family also provides programs focusing on reading literacy, financial literacy, computer literacy, student mentoring, and targeted programs suitable for indigenous and migrant families.

The next LGDVC meeting will be held on Tuesday June 19. In keeping with International Refugee Week we will be welcoming author of "White Butterflies" Colin McPhedran as our speaker. This is expected to be another "sellout" luncheon so book your place early with Kerry on 6238 0603 asap and at the latest by Thursday June 14. -- Lydia Teodorowych visit our blog: <http://lgdviewclub.blogspot.com>

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Its' been a busy couple of months.



And there were more that we couldn't fit on the page.

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JOIN LEGACY AND HELP CARE FOR DEFENCE VETERANS' WIDOWS

Queanbeyan Legacy needs volunteers to help care for the widows and children of Defence Force personnel who have died as a result of service to Australia. The organisation, formed to care for the wives and offspring of war veterans after World War I, has issued an invitation to all suitable members of the public to help care for more than 220 widows and dependants of former servicemen in the Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Jerrabomberra areas. In recent years, Legacy has extended its help to the spouses and children of members of the Navy, Army and Air Force who have died as a result of service to our country. Legacy's purpose is to build and maintain the morale and independence of these families - providing advice and help for widows and educational assistance to children. It strives to ensure that these victims of war are not disadvantaged by the loss of their family members.

In Queanbeyan, Legacy operates Legacy Village to provide low cost housing for widows, and has contributed to other facilities such as the George Forbes aged care residence. In the wider Queanbeyan area, Legacy helps to care for about 225 widows of average age nearly 80, along with a small number of young adults.

But Legacy's income is not government based. It relies on the generosity of the public to fund its services. And the money raised in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Jerrabomberra stays here and is used appropriately within the local area. A key element of Legacy is personal contact maintained by individual members, called 'Legatees', with the widows and dependants that they help. It is this personal contact, which makes Legacy care special, and which gives the work of Legacy its uniqueness. Many public-spirited citizens have 'carried the torch' (the organisation's symbol) for Legacy in different capacities over the years.

One prominent Legacy volunteer was Judy MacDiarmid, who died in September 2006, the late wife of senior Legatee John MacDiarmid. As well as having a successful business career in the hospitality industry in their home, Burra Station Homestead, Judy was the founding president and active member for many years of the Queanbeyan Torchbearers, the fundraising arm of Legacy. At the time, serving with the Torchbearers was the only way people who did not have an armed forces background could contribute to the cause of Legacy. Since then, Legacy has opened its arms to public spirited people of all backgrounds to become full members and help with this special work.

Others who have been great workers for this wonderful cause, and who have passed away recently include Leila Scotter and Joan Reid. Legacy salutes them along with Judy MacDiarmid last year, and all the unnamed helpers who have given their service to Legacy.

With the passing of years though, the number of Legatees has shrunk threatening the work of Legacy in this area. So Queanbeyan Legacy has issued a call for volunteers. Those able to assist as a Legacy Torchbearer or Legatee to care for the 225 widows and dependants, victims of the cost of defending our country should contact Legatee Peter Kalkman on 6299 8057. Please phone for further information. -- Tony Underwood (02) 6265 2700

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

The garden has had to look after itself for most of this month, and it has done remarkably well without my interference. There are masses of whites and creamy whites; viburnums, potato vines, daisies and snapdragons, correas and westringias, catching the early morning sun as the fog lifts. And in amongst them, the leaves of the may bush look warmly autumn and a few bedraggled winter iris are poking through. Black cockatoos are back again, rising and falling like a wave of black velvet in the sky, masking their evil intent. I'm happy to see them around providing they stay on the other side of the creek.

Earlier this month we accompanied an elderly friend who was looking for a new car. As she was debating the merits of a small European number, I wandered over to look at its big brother. Nice! Immediately I could picture myself in it as I slid behind the wheel and made myself comfortable in the pale leather luxury. Suddenly I was purring along Norton Road, cocooned and oblivious to the smells and the outside temperature, skimming over potholes and hardly registering the broken edges of the road. There were no kangaroos poised ready to jump out in front of me and no cyclists clinging to the frayed edges of the bitumen to be avoided as a blind corner appeared. Bliss! Maybe it was time to finally ditch the battered old station wagon and update our image.

But Wamboin has a way of pricking your bubble. When I was feeding the chooks the next morning I became eerily aware, as I rattled the feed bin, that something was amiss. There was no sound from Lena. Lena, like Pavlov's dog, would bleat on cue when she heard the clank of metal. Today there was silence. I investigated and in an instant I knew why. Our poor "lamb", for she is at least eight years old, was standing motionless, head hung low, eyes glazed and blood saturating her black wool. The back and side of her neck were torn open. It was horrible. Lena needed the vet. This was poor defenceless Lena whom we'd had since a lamb, who'd sat on the kids' laps and watched TV with us, who'd slowly recovered after losing her mate in an attack years ago, who'd given her fleece to me so I could knit a scarf and who had represented her flock at each Christmas nativity play while the lone shepherd watched.

As she was being lifted into the back of the old station wagon, hardly pausing before she showered it with calling cards, I suddenly had a vision of another car. How could we have carried a shocked and bleeding sheep in the backseat of a stylish, gleaming European number. Despite their age and bumps and bruises, our trusty models are a mobile testimony to their endurance and versatility.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....Mind you, I still wouldn't say no to a flash car, but the problem is, with the cost of feeding one lamb these days we'll never have the necessary funds.....and especially when the vet has assured us that Lena will be good for another eight years!

WWoW Group - Wonderful Women of Wamboin

by Claire Ayling

Our members grow almost weekly and come from Wamboin, Bungendore and Sutton with visitors from interstate and overseas. The sound of laughter and chatter is lovely to hear and the full carpark is attracting lots of interest. The church is beautifully warm and we are enjoying the sense of belonging and community. Next Monday 4 June the fence wires around the church will be particularly colourful as we are pegging out the little jumpers and beanies which the group have knitted to send over to babies suffering from AIDS in Africa - photos to follow next month.

The extremely talented group have also produced kimonos to support Bosom Buddies and the breast screening programme - it was a great day with sewing machines, overlockers, scissors and irons all working overtime, with lots of tea and coffee provided by a support team. With the winter months approaching, the patchworking is continuing and we also have a social function with partners planned for early July.

The group meet at 10am on Mondays at St Andrews - it is a community group and ALL are welcome. Don't forget the walking group which meet at 9am on Mondays and 8am on Fridays. I mentioned last month that men are welcome to join us - also 4 legged friends, although they must be on the lead.

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WILDCARE on your Patch.....

Submitted by Philip Machin

It's great to see more and more people contacting *Wildcare* to help with the rescue of injured or orphaned wildlife. Over the last few months *Wildcare* has been quite busy and there have been some interesting stories to tell....

- Like the Tiger Snake that somehow got into someone's computer room. We were sure it was in there, as the door had been taped up all around, so it couldn't get away! *Wildcare* found the snake and released it in a safe area.
- And a call from some riders in Kowen Forest who happened to see a distressed kangaroo by a fence line. The husband generously led us to the spot and we were able to sort out the problem.
- Also one of our local *Wildcare* members just happened to stop by a dead Wombat on the roadside only to find a baby Wombat half in and half out of the pouch. 'Bruiser' is recovering very well from some nasty back injuries and will be ready for release in a few months time.
- Oh, and a small kangaroo with a leg caught in a fence - a local family stopped and waited for *Wildcare* to turn up. Time was spent removing the animal from the fence, it was sedated and moved to a carer's enclosure and is doing well.
- Not forgetting a call to pick up a turtle with a broken shell. *Wildcare* fixed the shell and it will continue to recuperate over winter in a two- metre tank.
- And a really interesting story about a lady who rescued a Blue Tongue Lizard from her a dog. As the lizard was dying it gave birth to six young babies. All these young lizards have been released into a safe area.
- The best of all was a keen gardener who on two separate occasions found two Red Bellied Black snakes caught in some netting on his vegetable patch. He cared for these animals before *Wildcare* arrived by covering them with damp towels and shading them. These snakes were cut free, rehabilitated and later used on a *Wildcare* snake handling course prior to being released into a safe are.

There are a few sad stories too, which result from dog and cat attacks. Often these incidents are associated with people not doing the right thing. Recently a lady was observed to release her dog to purposely allow it to chase a young kangaroo. The dog caught the roo and it subsequently died from shock. This is simply against the Law and doesn't need to happen. Look after our wildlife.....and report bad behaviour to the Police or Rangers.

Contact *Wildcare* on 62991966 for help – anytime day or night. Put it in your Mobile too. *Wildcare* is your local wildlife charity and you might like to make an end of the year tax deductible donation. Just send in your donation to The Treasurer, *Wildcare*, PO BOX 1404, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 or visit the *Wildcare* website www.wildcare.com.au (click on 'participate').

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Open Day on Thursday 21st June 2007 9:30 -11:00 am. Staff, parents and students will be on hand to speak to you and answer your questions. Tours of the school facilities will be conducted.

Notes from St Andrews

The little church on the corner of Poppet and Norton Road is beautifully warm on these cool autumnal days, and the welcome given to all is equally warm, The services are held on the first and third Sundays at 9am, with Holy Communion on the third Sunday. The church is part of the Parish of St John's Church in Reid , along with St Peters Church in Sutton and the clergy come out from Canberra to run the services. If any other information is required please call Robyn Robertson on 6238 3347.

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WAMBOIN HISTORY AND LEGENDS **BUSINESSES FROM THE PAST & PRESENT**

By Don Evans

Most people who live in Wamboin would know of someone who thought that it was a good enough place to run a business from home. Working a day job today is demanding enough, but many years ago, there were a few that thought providing an after hours service as well was all part of living in this rural retreat. For instance, Dr Ian Cook ran a medical practice out here for a number of years. Well before the fire station was even built, a small transportable shed, about 5 metres by 2.4 metres known as the "OPS Room" was situated behind the toilet block at the community hall. Apart from being a communications, meeting and training room for the fire brigade, it was also used by the local Doctor, actually a sports medicine specialist, to run a practice for treating the locals with all their ailments. As the patronage increased, it was moved to his place of residence in Norton Road, where with his wife, a nurse, expertly treated the growing queues lined up on the verandah come waiting room. (In winter, we were moved inside into the warm). I can remember the "Doc" treating me for an ankle injury one evening, well after dinner time. I was not the last patient either. The few still sitting in the waiting room after I left, would have kept him busy well after 9PM! There are plenty of stories of his great work, including Lofty Masons treatment, when he was struck by lightning and thrown across the room while on the phone in his dining room. He was rendered unconscious, and had a few burns and a ruptured eardrum as part of his ordeal. (A good reminder why you shouldn't use the phone in a thunder storm). Dr Cook had the amazing ability to get you in to hospital or to see a specialist at very short notice. Best of all, he bulk billed.

Proud Place had a hairdressing salon; Bingley Way has a landscape business and a tree surgeon. Poppet Road had a range of businesses: "Farmhouse Pastries" was a bakery, "So Good Sausages" (located in Fyshwick) owners, Lyn and Bill, have supported the Fire Brigade and community association for many years, and lastly for Poppet Road, it still has two nurseries. One of these, "Eureka plants", which are a wholesale only nursery, (not to the general public) also supplies the plants that Lofty sells at the Wamboin and Bungendore markets, that raise funds for the Fire Brigade. By the way, Poppet Road also had a bordello. Yes! I thought that would get your attention, but in fact was very true. It was unknown for some time until people wondered about the large numbers of taxis coming and going throughout the nights! In Weeroona Drive, Wagonga Coffee blends, grinds, bakes, packages and brews coffee for EPIC and Bus Depot Markets plus other coffee outlets. Tony supports the Wamboin Markets by packaging and supplying a coffee dispensing machine down at the "hall". (continued ...)

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(Wamboin Businesses – Continued from previous page)

The many “Tradies” who lived out here provided services that could build an entire house. Darrell Tipton from Tipton Shop fitters had also set up out here before moving into Queanbeyan, the donated high quality fitout of benches and cupboards can be seen in the recently completed fire station extension. Mechanical and vehicle rust proofing services were also offered, where they would even pick your car up from home and return it when the job was completed. A bus depot and maintenance workshop was also built in Norton Road. It provided the school bus service for quite some time and employed a few of the locals as drivers.

The late John Finn, originally owned the block on the corner of Bingley Way and Norton Road. The block which is only 2.1 acres, was zoned for a shop and residence. After being sold twice, I think, it was finally sold again and a shop was built. The shop ran for a few years before the old Yarrowlumla Council approved it to be rezoned for a “dual occupancy”. Sadly the Community was not informed of this and we no longer have a block in the area zoned for a shop.

In recent years, businesses like Lamberts and Gidgee Wineries have sprung up. Apart from providing a great restaurant (Lamberts), they have provided community groups with support and fund raising assistance, especially the Fire Brigade. In August this year, the Davies’ hope to open a new café in the Shepherds Run Winery, in Norton Road. Inland Trading Company, also in Norton Road, is a major exporter of local and Australian wines, a family business that also employs a few locals as well.

There are of course many owner operators of machinery, like Anytime Backhoe Hire, CTM Backhoe and truck hire, and Charlie’s trade services. Ian, Lyle and Charlie have always helped out over the years with their earthmoving equipment at short notice down at the “hall” when ever the need arises. There are of course those businesses which support our main community interest, the Fire Brigade. They are all mentioned on the “Captains List”, printed each month in the Whisper. My apologies for any businesses not mentioned here today.

So once again, thanks to all of the businesses who have contributed over the years. Your assistance has helped Wamboin to be the great place it is!

News from Sutton School

Our Education Week assembly and sausage sizzle was enjoyed by many parents and grandparents. We welcomed back ex-principal Graham McKenzie and some ex-students including Professor Bill Ballard and Peter Cartwright who spoke about their memories of Sutton School. With a submission prepared by our P&C and Commonwealth Government funding our school now has reverse cycle air-conditioning installed in all classrooms and administrative areas. Students eagerly await the installation of some fantastic new playground equipment and teachers will soon have the challenge of engaging children with interactive whiteboards.

Class excursions this term have included Bywong Town, the Indonesian Embassy and the National Gallery. Thanks to the generous parents who have provided the transport to make these valuable learning experiences possible. Sutton school sporting teams have come second in both a Senior Boys soccer competition in Queanbeyan & an ACT Rugby Union knockout. Bryce Gibson will represent the region at the national rugby union trials in Armidale. Congratulations also to Brendon Brown, James Allen and Holly Suitor who gained places in the District Cross Country held at Michelago. Amelia Burton, Kiralee Cox and Ebony Reeves were chosen in the district team for the regional netball trials. Well done girls.

In Term 2 students traditionally spend one afternoon working in small enrichment groups. Activities this year include: cooking, multicultural games, woodwork, sewing, blanket making, computers, oil painting and much more. This term our Peer Support Groups are focussing on bullying. Each small group works with a trained Year 6 leader to build assertive behaviours and co-operative skills. Gay McNeill

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