

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

# The Whisper

September 2008

CIRCULATION: 1083

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 February. 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 by email to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto: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 October 2008 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, September 28, 2008, 7:00 pm. The Whisper always goes to deliverers by the following Saturday, which 6 times out of 7 is the first Saturday of the new month.

**LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial 000 All Hours**  
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## WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	Helen Montesin	President	6238-3208
<b>Bywong Community Assn</b>	Nora Stewart	Acting President	6230-3305 or <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a>
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 ah
<b>Wamboin Playgroup</b>	Angie Matsinas	Convener	6238 0334
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Laura Taylor	Convener	62369662
<b>Landcare</b>	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
<b>Breastfeeding Assoc.</b>	Belinda Dennis	Community Educator	6236 9979
<b>Emergency Services</b>	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
<b>Emergency Services Admin</b>	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Margaret Fletcher	JP	6238-1211
<b>Wamboin Scout Group</b>	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
<b>Wamboin Guides</b>	Rosemary Riley	Contact Person	6241-6565
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472
<b>Gearys Gap Pony Club</b>	Leigh-Anne Barlow	Secretary	6238-3376
<b>Play Group</b>	Angie Matsinos	Convener	6238-0334
<b>Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
<b>Church, Anglican</b>	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
<b>Christian Prayer Group</b>	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966
<b>WonderfulWomenOfWambn</b>	Claire Ayling	Convener	6238-3347
<b>Lake George Day VIEW Club</b>	Pauline Segeri	President	6238-1996
<b>Wamboin Bookgroup</b>	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

## 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
Elena Sutcliffe, petsitting and babysitting .....	6238-3228
Gabrielle Simpkin, babysitting and petsitting .....	6238-1335
Matilda Whitney, pet care .....	6238 3059

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## Wamboin Community Association

### President's Paragraphs

**WCA Meeting** – The last meeting incorporated a ‘Meet the Candidates’ information session for the upcoming Council election. It was well attended with all groups and individual candidates represented and an audience of more than 100 people. The next WCA meeting will on **16<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm** at the Community Hall.

**Local Council Elections** -- will be held on **13 September 2008** and voting is compulsory for residents aged 18 and over. The WCA has long recognised the need for adequate local representation on Council. For this reason, and in response to community pressure, several WCA executive members have nominated as candidates in the election. I am standing on Judith Miller’s Progressive Palerang Group (*the Progressives*), along with John van der Straaten, Ned Noel and Pete Harrison. The group members all have a solid background in the community with a long history of working together as a team. The Progressives will be a voice for all Palerang residents and will work to build a viable and sustainable Palerang for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We need your votes to make a positive difference in Palerang, please consider the option to **Vote 1 – Group D [Above the Line] for a Progressive Palerang Council.** – **Helen Montesin**

**Wamboin Produce Markets** – The long awaited return of the markets is **20<sup>th</sup> September** from 9:00am until noon at the Community Hall. The markets are a great place to catch up with friends over a cup of coffee and scones/muffins and pick up some lovely local produce at the same time.

**Bonfire Night** –Wamboin’s annual fireworks and bonfire will on **27<sup>th</sup> September**. Donations of suitable material to the bonfire pile on the oval are now being gratefully accepted. As this is a major fundraiser for many local community groups, we hope you will come and support it, and enjoy the great display that Black Widow Fireworks always puts on.

**New Residents** – If you are new to Wamboin, or know someone who is, Lofty Mason has collated a “Meet and Greet” package. It contains useful information about Wamboin, including a map. It has details of the diverse range of community groups in the area. Please contact him on 6238 3258 for a copy.

**WCA Electronic Noticeboard** – The noticeboard 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**. The Wamboin Whisper is now available on the electronic noticeboard.

**Calendar of events** – If you have any events that you would like included in October’s Whisper, please contact John van der Straaten (ph: 6238 3590).

- Helen Montesin ([montesin@tpg.com.au](mailto:montesin@tpg.com.au))

### WAMBOIN MARKETS

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

**9AM - 12**

**Community Hall 112 Bingley Way**

**Entry free - Stall Holders \$5**

**A Community Market selling garden produce, coffee, cakes, jewellery, craft, dried fruit & nuts, cheese, plants and more.**

**Contact: Joan Mason – 6238 3258**

### Results of Wamboin Golf - August

There was a very good turnout for a cold August Sunday with more than half the golfers opting to play in the nine hole event. This was the Wamboin Tradies Day with local tradies Don, Trent and Hank once again sponsoring this annual event.

Visitor's trophy won by Denis Mettam. Junior event won by Vincent Gorham.

Winners of the long drive and nearest the pin competitions were; Larry King, Peter Greenwood, Bob Mettam, John Whitney, Nat Urban x2 and Tim Barter x2.

The 9 hole trophies were won by Nat Urban, John Whitney 2nd and Rob Gorham 3rd.

The 18 hole event was won by Charles Guscott with Steve Miners in 2nd place.

Next game on September 7th will be the Mason's Spring Trophy.

- Enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358



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The advertisement for M Johnson Building Services features a dark background with white text. At the top, "M JOHNSON BUILDING SERVICES" is written in large, bold, sans-serif letters. Below this, a small house icon is followed by the text "now a ... WAMBOIN RESIDENT". A list of services is presented in horizontal bars: "PLAN DRAWING", "GENERAL CARPENTRY", "DECKS &amp; PERGOLAS", "EXTENSIONS", and "KITCHENS, BATHROOMS &amp; LAUNDRY". The phone number "0412 799 433" is prominently displayed in a large font, with "NSW LICENCE NO. 196061C" in smaller text below it.



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## BYWONG COMMUNITY NEWS

by Guy Cotsell

**Crunch time for Bywong.** The Community's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 28 October. The executive will be giving notice of a motion to decide the future direction of the association. Following a public consultation, the executive will be proposing an approach to Wamboin Community Association to determine whether a merger of the two Associations would be acceptable. Members and residents are urged to attend to take part in this important decision process.

**Distribution of Funds.** The last meeting of the the Community executive reviewed the financial position and decided it could continue with its traditional policy of providing some financial assistance to local organisations. Funds will be made available to the Wamboin Fire Brigade (\$1000), Wildcare (\$200) and Bungendore Park Tennis Club (\$200).

**Thanks.** The Community extends a warm thank you to Dennis Ryan, who stepped in at a time of need and has shown efficiency and good humour in looking after the Community's finances over the past year. The Community wishes Dennis and Carmel all the best during their stay overseas.

**Council elections.** The Community urges all residents of Bywong to fulfil their legal obligations by voting. In contrast to the last election, we have a strong array of candidates from our area in addition to those from other parts of the Shire. Remember to follow the instructions on the ballot paper, to use numbers rather than crosses or ticks, and to make sure your numbers land in the squares, not around them.



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## Wamboin Notes

### Lofty Mason

**The Curry Night** was a great evening although down in numbers from previous years. I congratulate Dave Hubbard who started these evenings many years ago and has run them on his own. They are now part of the Wamboin tradition. Dave has said that the 08 Curry Night was his last one so on behalf of those who have enjoyed these evenings, thanks very much Dave for your time and effort. The third Saturday in August 09 is booked.

**The Hall Extension** saw the activity of a small working bee with Don Evans rerouting the plumbing while Charlie Montessin, Hank Berlee and self built the roof to cover the planned shower block and the Hall/Fire-shed entry doors.

**Shire Elections** coming up on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September. We will get the Councillors we deserve. The last Council was predominately Braidwood residents and despite the promises of representation, just remember how they appeared to have voted on local issues. We have a vibrant rural community so please make your vote count. – Lofty Mason

**The Bonfire/Fireworks Night** is planned for the 27<sup>th</sup> of September. This is always a spectacular event where food stalls run by local groups can raise much needed funds. Advertisement elsewhere in this issue of the Whisper. The Bonfire is growing at the Community Centre so please continue to bring more loads of suitable material.

**The Locality Sign** is about to happen at the Sutton Road/Norton Road intersection. The area has been approved by Council and cleared by Telstra. The Community Association has paid the deposit and the sandstone block has been engraved.

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### **WE ARE RE-OPENING !!**

Our renovations are finished and we are delighted with the extra space. We will be re-opening from 12 noon on Saturday 9 August so please come and have a look. In addition to a really interesting group of Asian items including snuff bottles, figurines, egg shell china and clay pipes, we have a beautiful range of Shelley items, Wedgewood, Royal Doulton, Staffordshire, Meakin and Aynsley. We also have a variety of vintage clothes and evening purses.

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BALLOT PAPER FOR  
**ELECTION OF 9 COUNCILLORS**  
 PALERANG COUNCIL

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D	GROUP E	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>GROUP A</b>	<b>GROUP B</b>	<b>GROUP C</b>	<b>GROUP D</b>	<b>GROUP E</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> MARJASON, Ian <small>Independent</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> BRANSDON, Terry	<input type="checkbox"/> MOORE, Catherine	<input type="checkbox"/> MILLER, Judith	<input type="checkbox"/> FIEBIG, Kev	<input type="checkbox"/> COCKRAM, Paul <small>Independent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> CROZIER, Howard	<input type="checkbox"/> McCOLL, Mike	<input type="checkbox"/> TURLEY, Judith	<input type="checkbox"/> VAN DER STRAATEN, John	<input type="checkbox"/> JAGGARD, Mike	<input type="checkbox"/> GRAHAM, Richard <small>Independent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> MASON, David <small>Independent</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> HOLDING, Richard	<input type="checkbox"/> GORDON, Forbes	<input type="checkbox"/> NOEL, Ned	<input type="checkbox"/> LAU, Nivan	<input type="checkbox"/> GOONAN, Anne <small>Independent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> SULLIVAN, Rick <small>Independent</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> BLAKE, Simon	<input type="checkbox"/> CASEY, Angela	<input type="checkbox"/> MONTESIN, Helen	<input type="checkbox"/> SCHMIDT, Allan	<input type="checkbox"/> RAYNOLDS, Walter <small>Independent</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> BRIEN, Greg <small>Independent</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> FRANCE, Keith	<input type="checkbox"/> HARDEN, Fred	<input type="checkbox"/> HARRISON, Peter	<input type="checkbox"/> HART, Nerida	<input type="checkbox"/> HORAN, Mark <small>Independent</small>
		<input type="checkbox"/> TAYLOR, John			<input type="checkbox"/> WALLACE, Rodney
		<input type="checkbox"/> MERRIMAN, Sarah			<input type="checkbox"/> BATEMAN, Bill <small>Independent</small>
		<input type="checkbox"/> MOY, Ian			



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**Buonissimo!**

After our opening on 8 May we have continued to be very thankful for the support of the Wamboin Community. One of our most successful events has been the first round of Italian Cooking classes run by Chef Mario Larocca. As we move into Spring look forward to heading outdoors and to budburst in the vineyard.



From back left: Merridee, Peter, Wayne, Andres, Dana, Helen, Vicky, Alice, Tracey, Kay, Belinda, Mario, Rhonda, Joan and Sue

*Upcoming Events*

- Sun 7 Sept** – Father’s Day
- Thu 11 Sept** – Launch of our new Spring Menu
- Fri 12 Sept** – Happy Hours begin! Every Friday from 4:30pm until 7:00pm.
- Wed 24 & Sun 28 Sept** – Part of the Canberra District Wines Marquee at Floriade
- Sat 4 Oct** – Launch of our new wine – 2008 “Mardi Gras” Gewürztraminer
- Sat 11 Oct** – Thai Evening
- Mon 13 Oct** – Thai Cooking Classes Start
- Sat 1 & Sun 2 Nov** – Wine, Roses and All that Jazz Festival – KarismaKatz jazz duo playing
- Tue 4 Nov** – Melbourne Cup Day – depending on interest from you chaps.
- Sat 22 Nov** – Gourmet BBQ Evening

## Group A – Palerang United

### Group A “Palerang United”

By now the 35 candidates have had some newspaper exposure and some similar themes are emerging in the policies being proposed. Palerang residents will have to decide which candidates can deliver their programmes the most effectively.

**Palerang United, Group A** comprising Ian Marjason, Howard Crozier, David Mason, Rick Sullivan and Greg Brien are the team that have long experience in local government, needs of small business and financial and land planning management

Ian is a lawyer and long serving respected Councillor, also a previous Mayor of Yarrawlumla, Howard is a former Head of CSIRO Finance and has had long representational experience on the Council of NSW Farmers Association particularly in land planning, the RLPB and in credit unions.

David is a lawyer working in Defence and is associated with a number of community projects. Rick is the proprietor of a dynamic small business serving the needs of Palerang residents in ecologically sustainable water and sewer systems. Greg is a teacher and educational administrator and active in Chamber of Commerce activities.

This is a well qualified forward looking team which will represent all parts of the Shire, and will strive for balance in all issues that come before it, always having regard to the principle of what is best for the health, wellbeing and happiness of the majority of Palerang residents

We have the plans for avoiding future rate rises, future transport and waste systems, an invigorated road sealing and maintenance programme, new clean industry and city standard mobile and broadband coverage shire wide.

**Vote 1 for Group A above the line OR Vote 1-9 following our how to vote suggestions below the line.**

Written and Authorised and Printed by HC Crozier 145 Butmaroo Rd Bungendore 2621.



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## Group B – Get the Balance Right

Group gets the balance right with a blend of experience and new talent

Our Group B, *Get the Balance Right*, aims to work to do just that — to have the shire's population, and especially Wamboin/Bywong and hobby farmers, represented fairly.

The Group feels all Palarang communities deserve the best possible representation, both demographically and geographically. Group B includes Mike McColl (from Bungendore), Richard Holding (Bywong), Simon Blake (Wamboin), Keith France (Wamboin) and Terry Bransdon (now back in Bywong after a year living in Bungendore).

Terry was the last mayor of Yarrawlumla before the amalgamation, the administrator of the newly constituted Local Government Area and then the first mayor of Palarang.

He is Wamboin/Bywong's local councillor, is seeking re-election because he has lots of ideas to contribute. He retired last week from full time employment, so he has the time to focus on the job and give it the effort it deserves.

Terry has been sticking up for the residents of our area and especially rural residential residents since 1999. He has maintained a strong interest in Wamboin and Bywong issues from the poor telecommunications and internet infrastructure to the condition of our roads through to establishing the rates reference group – the main reason he was ousted as mayor by the Braidwood Boys and Burra's Jim McLachlan in September 2005.

The rates reference group, especially with Wamboin Community Association President Helen Montesin's contribution, managed to rectify much of the unjust rate burden that the Braidwood group thrust on Wamboin/Bywong residents in 2005-06.

Group B is pleased to have Terry as its Number 1 because the new Council will need corporate memory and experience. There will be at least four new councillors and perhaps six, and as the council is a \$50 million a year enterprise, there needs to be experience as well as lots of new talent.

Group B provides four new candidates with diverse talents and great ideas for the future Council.

Having Group B, along with the Wamboin/Bywong's other team, Group D, should ensure the area isn't duded by the second Palarang Council. The two groups are exchanging preferences to give you 10 good candidates to choose from for however many locals you feel you need for fair representation.

Group B recommends voting above the line with a 1 for GroupB (the second square from the left) and a 2 for Group D (the fourth square from the left).

If you have any questions any issues to discuss, please contact Richard Holding on [richard.holding@Hotmail.com](mailto:richard.holding@Hotmail.com) and Terry Bransdon at [tbransdon@bigpond.com](mailto:tbransdon@bigpond.com).

– Terry Bransdon, Mike McColl, Richard Holding, Keith France and Simon Blake.

### THE LOCAL GRADER MAN

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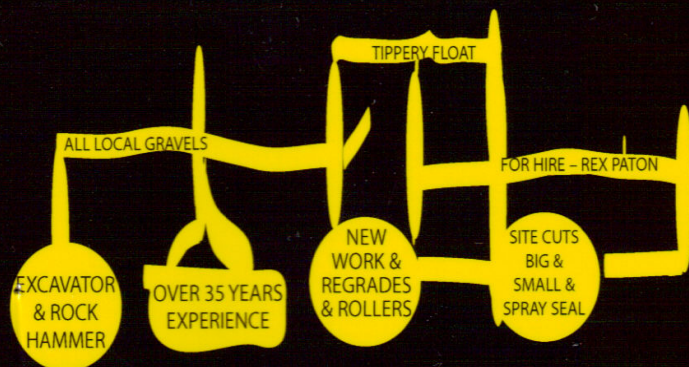
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## THE LOCAL GRADER MAN

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## Group C – Community First

With the round of Meet the Candidate events that began in Wamboin, all the groups and individuals have tried hard to distinguish themselves to the Palerang voters. They're good forums to introduce new faces, but the short time allowed for thirty five people, all keen to share their reasons for standing, left little time for specific questions. That really leaves voters to choose people who they think will represent them fully, and whom they trust. There were some familiar faces such as the current councillors, and many of you would have known Catherine Moore, for her work on the community visioning process, her representation of community views during Council debates and regular contributions to local media. Her record of community consultation has attracted a group of like minded candidates as **Community First (Group C on the ballot paper)**. The four women and four men from across the shire come from a strong community base, having been active in various ways on our home turf and beyond.

We are, in the order on the ticket, Catherine Moore from Charleys Forest, Judith Turley from rural Bungendore, Forbes Gordon from Braidwood village, Angela Casey from Araluen, Fred Harden and John Taylor from Bungendore village, Sarah Merriman from near Reidsdale and Ian Moy from Krawarree.

**Our platform?** We want to work towards a **healthy and sustainable future for all** with appropriate planning that takes into account the future needs of the people of Palerang, reflects the expressed visions of various communities and recognises the pressing need to plan for and adapt to climate change and dwindling water supplies; **increased democracy through maximising community involvement** with real and ongoing community consultation which informs Council decision-making; **openness and accountability** through ongoing declaration of donations received and erring on the side of caution when it comes to conflict of interest issues; and **inclusive and non-adversarial politics** – we have all signed with a pre-election pledge to, if elected, treat councillors and others with respect at all times, while recognising diversity of opinion and working co-operatively to solve problems.



We understand the nature of the dispersed rural lifestyle of this Shire and the importance of the villages which support those communities. We maintain that the costs of all new development infrastructure should be met by the developers themselves, not by the community, and that increasing rates or the rates base is not the way to raise revenue.

Picture: Catherine Moore and Community First members at the first of the Meet the Candidates events, Wamboin.



**INTRIGUE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY & GALLERY

*'An Evolving Journey'*  
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## GROUP D – Palerang Progressives

# Vote **1** Group D

### PROGRESSIVE PALERANG GROUP

#### Progressing Palerang in the 21st Century

The Progressive Palerang Group, 'The Progressives', is a representative, community-conscious Group standing in the coming Council election. With its roots firmly in the rural residential soil of Palerang, the Group aims to provide a voice for those living in rural residential areas, their neighbours in the villages and the wider rural community.

#### Introducing the Group

The Group members are Judith Miller, John van der Straaten, Ned Noel, Helen Montesin and Pete Harrison. Group members have a solid background in their communities, particularly in the Wamboin and Bywong Community Associations, the Volunteer Rural Fire Service, Landcare, Scouts Australia, show societies and agricultural organisations.

#### Vote 1 – Group D – for a Progressive Palerang Council

Written & Authorised by Richard Miller, 93 Wyoming Road, Bywong, NSW 2621

#### The Progressives will:

- Ensure equitable outcomes for **all** residents of Palerang
- Achieve a forward looking, living Local Environment Plan (LEP)
- Explore funding options other than special rate variations
- Provide a Council working in harmony and consulting with residents to achieve effective, transparent governance



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## Group E – The Rural Community Group



**Kevin Fiebig**



**Mike Jaggard**



**Nivan Lau**

**Photo not readily available**

**Alan Schmidt**



**Nerida Hart**

We are the Rural Community Group. Our members are Kev Fiebig, Mike Jaggard, Nivan Lau, Alan Schmidt and Nerida Hart. *(Due to communication problems that were partly my fault Group E did not have time to supply an integrated 1/2 page, so John Mitchell of the Mirror sent me the material he had on their number 1 and 2 persons with their group's statements along with 4 photos. I've tried to put that together here in a coherent fashion. – Ned Noel, Whisper Editor)*

This coming election is an important opportunity for all residents to be heard through consultation and open governance. We recognise that we all don't live in towns or villages; it's a big shire and we all come from varied backgrounds and that's what makes us one vibrant community. We also recognise that resources are limited, so we think that we need to make sure that rates are fairly and equitably distributed, taking particular note of what supports and improves our lives – sustainability is something we need to focus on. We think we need to be open and keep people informed about how decisions are made. Having been involved in the local community we get a sense that many don't think that resources are not equally distributed across the shire. Do you agree? I encourage you to get in contact with us to let us know what's important to you.

Kevin Fiebig is married with two kids (one still at home and one in the Army). He and his family and came out to Burra in 2005 and quickly realised that living in a rural community is the only way to live! He runs a small mob of Wiltshire sheep, a couple of horses and enjoy the sense of community and the many social groups that are active in our area. He has become active in the local community through the various clubs and last year became President of the Burra Community Association. He and his family have received a great deal of support and benefit from the community and that's what has inspired him to run for Council. He has a diverse background that includes working in the private and public sector, including a stint in the Royal Australian Navy. His main skill set is in management, and he has been an executive manager in the Australian Public Service for about 15 years. He is currently implementing a multi-million dollar project associated with the Australian childcare sector. [Kevin.Fiebig@gmail.com](mailto:Kevin.Fiebig@gmail.com)

Mike Jaggard is 54 years old and has been married for 30 years, with 2 adult girls; both are doing community work (one is with SES and the other is with the rural fire service). His wife is a nursing sister at the Canberra hospital, and is involved in the rural fire service. In the past 27yrs he's been a chef around the Canberra area, as head chef has done the budgeting and problem solving, especially dealing with clients and staff, trying to listen to what people are saying. He has been very lucky and had the best 7 years in Royalla of doing something he loves doing -- living in the rural community and cooking – the two passions in his life (not counting my wife Irene and his family). They breed Murray Grey cattle - although the numbers are down due to ongoing drought – and the horses come up every night looking for a feed.

He has been involved in the rural community most of his life here as well in NZ. He has been in Royalla for the past seven years. He has been involved in rural fire services both ACT as well as NSW for the last 26 yrs. He has a lot of changes in the RFS but it still comes down to local knowledge and strong community spirit which seems to pull us through when times get tough. That's why he is standing for council, as he believes that it's time for us to listen and look at solutions. When he first came out to Royalla he got involved with Greening Australia, using his tractor to put in rip lines in peoples blocks so they can plant trees and now it's good to see the results of that work.

In conclusion we cannot change things overnight maybe but will do our best to listen and see if things can be done, but most of important thing is that the small communities can have a say and also get something back for their rates in either works or maintenance.

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**Wamboin Community Centre,  
112 Bingley Way, Wamboin**

**Saturday 27th September 2008**

**Food stalls from 5.30**

**Bonfire lit at 6.33 and**

**Fireworks light-up 7.03 precisely**

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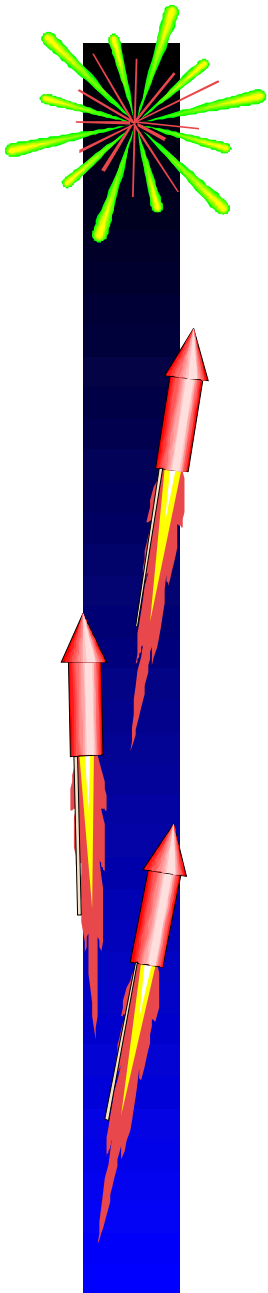
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**Please note: by law the only fireworks allowed will be  
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**Anne Goonan**

I have been a resident of Bywong for over 20 years, was Secretary of the Bywong Community organization for several years, helped with Trivia nights, bush dances and the Car Boot Sale through its twelve successful years. I value the environment we live in, and enjoy the solitude and the community. My background is in scientific research, I've worked in the Public Service, and I'm currently assisting in our own business. We provide wireless broadband to the region, and the largest part of our network is within the Palerang Shire.

Although I was invited to join a group of locally based candidates, I chose to stand as an independent – to avoid any perceived 'local' interests. If a person at the top of a group of candidates from Braidwood told me that they would represent me just as well as Braidwood folk- I wouldn't be convinced - and so I couldn't expect it of others.

I believe we have to really meld Palerang into a unit with a view to managing our resources with the best area-wide outcomes. We need transparency and active community involvement - with more information readily available to our residents. My aim is to get Council and community working together on a number of fronts. These include health and aged care, the environment, small business and sport. As a community, we have an amazing range of skills and capabilities. If we work together with Council, we could establish projects and attract funding from higher levels of government – which would benefit all of us. You do this in Wamboin and Bywong.....we need to do it as Palerang!

With the Sydney Canberra Corridor Strategy describing how the area is expected and should grow it is up to us as residents to make sure that we get the best outcomes possible for ourselves and our area (<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plansforaction/queanbeyan.asp>).

On 13<sup>th</sup> September choose your candidates wisely....a good team is made up of a range of people and skills. When you make the effort to go to and vote, make the choices for yourself – select the candidates you want – and vote 1-9 below the line!

**Richard Graham – Independent**

[www.RichardGraham.com.au](http://www.RichardGraham.com.au)

I would like to complete my thoughts from the candidate presentations and to express **my support for Anne Goonan as your best local candidate.**

At that event, I shared about the financial adversity of my youth, the creative stimulation working in the entertainment industry, and the fateful juncture in my life where I joined other penniless uni dropouts in Silicon Valley to start-up enterprises that went on to transform the world, including Apple Computer, Microsoft, Electronic Arts and my venture, Computerland. That was about when time ran out and left the story incomplete.

In another minute, I would have completed my point that positive outcomes do not require 'perfect conditions' or lots of money. Rather they require a large inclusive vision and able leadership to make it come about. That real-life knowledge of how to make things successful is what I would put to good use if elected to council. I do not accept the Progressive Group's public position that "*rates are unlikely to ever go down*". Such a statement demonstrates their puerile approach to enterprise economics and lack of front-line money creation experience.

As Council's \$40M annual operating bud-get only has 17% of it coming from Rates, there are very real prospects of stabilising and winding back Rates without cutting back services. But to do so, the councillors must have strong financial skills and proven innovation in economic problem solving and revenue creation. Starting as the Progressive Group does, denying that rate reductions are ever possible, they have no chance of finding a solution and if found by others would be as likely to deny it as support it.

I assert that the Wamboin/Bywong Ratepayer's essential interests reside first and foremost in Council's financial viability and performance, not whether the LEP has 20, 40 or 80 hectare lots. Without economic strength all the rest is just window dressing that will fly out the window if an administrator is appointed.

Few candidate CVs indicate that they can provide the economic vision and leadership required to govern a \$40M enterprise or can bring Rates down. **I am one** who can, as is **Howard Crozier**. I strongly believe your own **Anne Goonan** makes the grade too. So I encourage you to **vote 1 to 3, below-the-line, for us** to protect your greater interests by assuring the best economic outcome for Council, from the slate of candidates available. As for the LEP, the candidate fear mongering is uncalled for because in the end it will be the community who'll have the final say.



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**Wal Reynolds**

Age 58, married 31 yrs. 2 grown up children. Farmer Contractor. Palerang faces a huge development challenge, now and in the future. Bungendore is growing at 7 - 10% p.a. There is a very strong feeling against development in parts of the community, and that development per se, needs to be stopped. I believe that is impossible. It is a Councillor's duty to control development, after the community has decided what development is appropriate at the L.E.P. stage. The system of L.E.P. D.C.P.'s S. 94 plans S. 64 plans provides certainty to the whole community. The importance of an L.E.P. cannot be overstated; for instance the Y.L.E.P. allowed village development in Bungendore without Town Sewer. This has since been amended by this Council. It is therefore imperative that the community of Palerang make very clear to the next Council what the community wants. It is unreasonable to expect Councillors to vote down developments that are legal under the existing L.E.P. or any future L.E.P. There are too many instances of planning laws being ignored, for the sake of instant popularity, or money, or some other form of corruption. I always support the L.E.P. and its associated documents. I fully realise this stance has annoyed a lot of people, and for that I apologise, but for me there was never a choice. Right from the start I led the rates debate. I am very pleased with the result. In each zone the more you're worth the more you pay: a high base rate [service component], then valuation based, a straight line graph. Queensland pays tax according to the same tax scale as Tasmania. N.S.W. pays the same rate of G.S.T. as the Northern Territory. Nerriga pays rates according to valuation, the same as Wamboin.

Palerang Council did not borrow money against the general fund, even though there was a very strong push to do so when the Council was very short of money. This Council did not, like many others, lend money to Lehman Bro's. [sub prime]. There have been severe but necessary rate rises. Palerang is now a viable outward looking financially strong unit, capable of not only tendering for, but gaining large contracts for, both Goulburn Mulwarree and Queanbeyan City. I have many times noticed the courtesy that outdoor staff extend to the travelling public. This is a sign of not only competence but a high level of morale right through the entire organisation. First elected in 1988, and after 15 years as a councillor, I still look forward to the next business paper to see what's on. There is always something to get your teeth into. I create controversy, create debate, I oblige those at the table and the general public to look at and understand the issues.

The future is a blank canvas,

but every four years they give us a piece of paper and a pencil.



**P**ALERANG COUNCIL, perhaps one of the most important organisations representing our rural communities, is well placed to make a vital contribution to a strategic plan for the region's future.

No longer must we see ourselves, or allow governments to see us, as the poor cousins to the city. We are the rich ones. The cities cannot collect their own water, grow their own food, sequester their carbon emissions or generate renewable energy – all this must be done by rural and regional Australia.

There is the challenge of finding solutions to the ever-increasing development pressures.

All Palerang residents have the right to expect that the essential nature of their lifestyle is safe from sudden change. The next wave of settlers will want that guarantee for themselves too, so we may as well get the ground rules established sooner rather than later.

Water supply for future development is a huge concern for both sides of the shire.

If elected on September 13, I will work hard to help Palerang develop a plan for future prosperity, environmental sustainability and a good working relationship with all its residents.

I want to feel proud to live in Palerang.



**Paul COCKRAM  
IN PALERANG**

Please take the time and vote only below the line. Mark at least 5 boxes in the order of your choice.

Authorised by Paul Cockram, 64 Budawang Road, Mongarlowe NSW 2622 ☎4842 8062

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**Mark Horan**

Why would you vote for Mark Horan, He is from Braidwood!

The truth is, I live in the middle of Palerang. On a dirt road, with rural residential blocks lining most of its length. I used to live in Wamboin and somewhere amongst you, I still have some friends.

I stopped reading the "free" newspapers sometime ago because I became tired of reading some editors bent of what I actually said in council, or failed to report it completely if it would have made me look good.

The decisions I have made on this new council were often difficult, which were proven correct by their level of unpopularity. However, they HAD to be made. The council is now somewhat financial but there is still one or two more years of pain, that's the truth.

As a councillor, I have been disappointed by the number of phone calls or emails I have received over the past four and a bit years, during the next term of council, do your councillor a favour and call them when you have a problem, you will be amazed by the result.

People often ask me why I want to run for council, It's not the pay, It's not the hours and it's not because I am particularly Politically Correct! It's because I live here, I work here and I want to make the place a little better than when I came here. I like my wife, My four kids, my farm, my gyrocopter and seeing people and businesses prosper in the shire.

You can Vote for Wamboin if you really want to, but try to think past Bungendore rd and vote for Palerang. Thanks.

**Rodney Wallace**

My permanent home is Braidwood and I am seeking election because I am dis-satisfied with the performance of the present Palerang Council and with the treatment that Local Govt receives from higher Govt. I love Local Govt and am appalled at State Govt's attempts to de-stabilise it. I was outspoken just prior to amalgamation and prior to the last State election and now, in all sincerity, I seek to continue my campaign. I have 40 years experience working as an Engineer and an administrator in Local and State Govt.

I am a supporter of rural residential living and have continually fought against the Govt opposition to a growth in this development. The official arguments against are based on cost of servicing etc, but in my opinion the opposition is more that the opposition is more political. I will fight for more exclusive zonings to responsibly attract more ratepayers, as one way of reducing the burden on existing residents.

I have many thoughts on improving Councils finances but I am cognizant of the fact that support must be forthcoming from other Councillors and the community for these "to work." Space does not permit expansion herein, suffice to say I am apposed to the current management strategy which seems void of any other initiative than to increase charges. I seek your support and guarantee to be open and approachable

**BILL BATEMAN**

**BILL BATEMAN NEEDS YOUR VOTE BELOW THE LINE.** I want to be elected to the Palerang Shire Council in September, as an Independent, and I need your help. More importantly I need your vote! Often we just vote for a Party ticket, but as an Independent I believe there is no room in the Shire Council for party politics and factional interests. As an Independent I want to represent everyone's interests and take forward ideas that benefit all of us – regardless where we live.

At 66 years young I am happily married to my wife, Barbara and I am a 'retired' public servant but. some drive the local school bus around Braidwood and Majors Creek. I am also very active as an Armourer and Dealer for the Braidwood Pistol and Rifle Clubs and often help people as a Licensing Examiner to obtain gun licences and help sort out firearms problems.

I love to garden – especially growing vegies. I create garden sculptures, such as accurate sun dials and like many men I love to potter around my workshop doing welding and carpentry. I am also studying and developing a craving for astronomy using a 115mm reflector

I want your vote, as I believe I can make a difference. I have devoted my time to being a successful representative of everyone in the Shire in all my activities and will promote policies that benefit everyone in an equal way. I've had experience as a Councillor and in Government as a Public Servant, so I am confident I can hit the ground running. I'd like to have a go!

I'm sure that I have the skills and capacity to represent you successfully. Please get in touch with any comments and issues you have: Bill Bateman, 14 Mackellar Street, Braidwood NSW 2622 or email [kangabill@internode.on.net](mailto:kangabill@internode.on.net).



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## Frog

By Erin Cooper - Bywong and Wamboin Short Story Competition winner – Year 5

One day a little frog named Lyra was sitting in her tree on Norton Road. Suddenly the smoke started surrounding her paddock. So she leapt from the tree and started to escape. She got out of her paddock and watched it burn to the ground. She went looking for a new home. She came to a tree and called up, "Is anyone here?"

"Of course I'm here! It's my house," said Mr Kookaburra. "Why do you want to know?"

"Because I'm looking for a new home," said Lyra.

"Too bad," said Mr Kookaburra.

Lyra went on hopping for hours. Many animals turned her down until finally she came to a tree in Claire Valley Place, where there lived another frog named Fergus.

"Excuse me. May I live with you?" asked Lyra.

"Sure," said Fergus.

They became friends and had a treeful of frogs.

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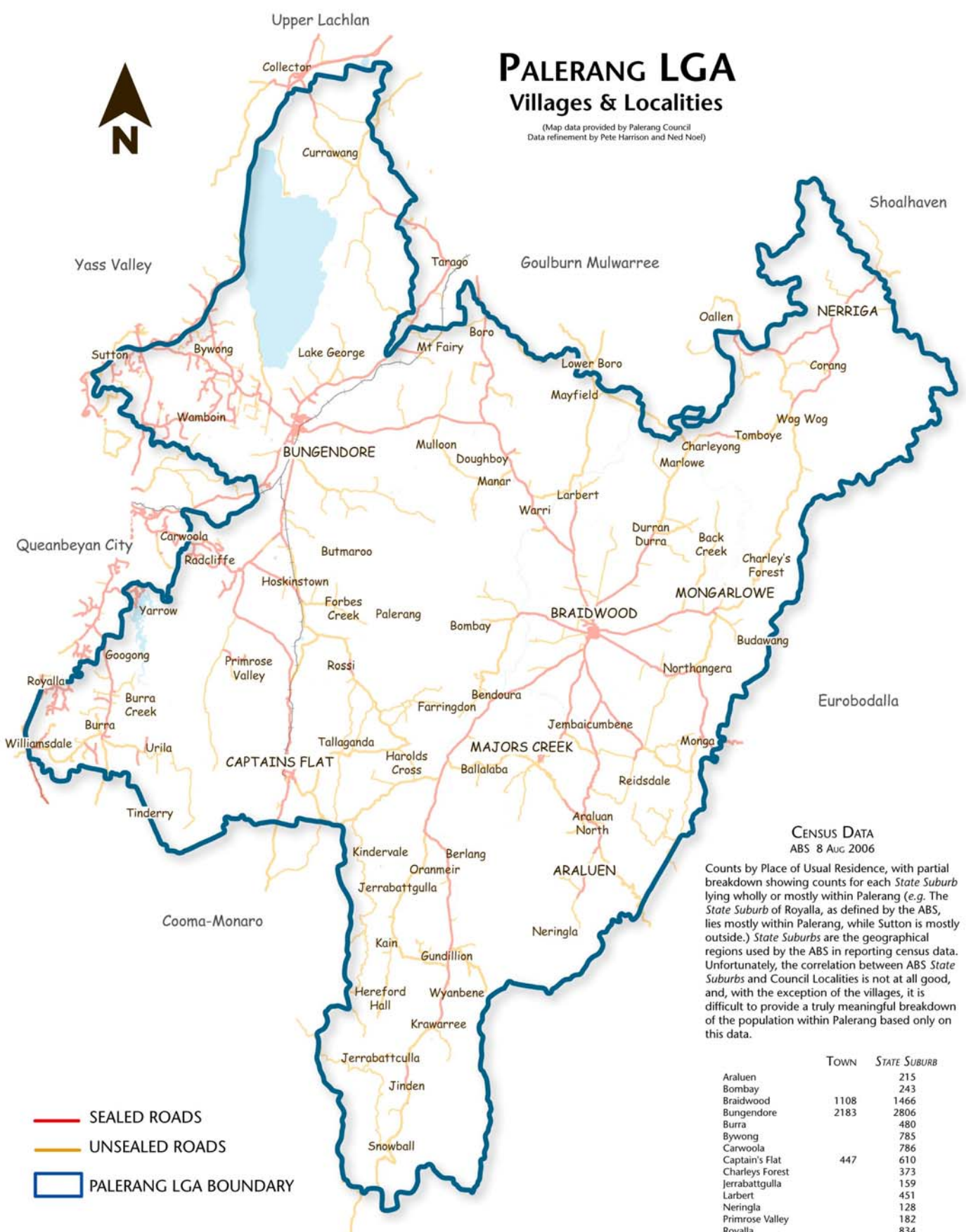
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# PALERANG LGA Villages & Localities

(Map data provided by Palerang Council  
Data refinement by Pete Harrison and Ned Noel)

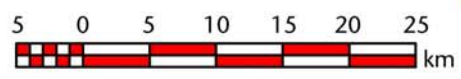


**CENSUS DATA**  
ABS 8 AUG 2006

Counts by Place of Usual Residence, with partial breakdown showing counts for each *State Suburb* lying wholly or mostly within Palerang (e.g. The *State Suburb* of Royalla, as defined by the ABS, lies mostly within Palerang, while Sutton is mostly outside.) *State Suburbs* are the geographical regions used by the ABS in reporting census data. Unfortunately, the correlation between ABS *State Suburbs* and Council Localities is not at all good, and, with the exception of the villages, it is difficult to provide a truly meaningful breakdown of the population within Palerang based only on this data.

	TOWN	STATE SUBURB
Araluen		215
Bombay		243
Braidwood	1108	1466
Bungendore	2183	2806
Burra		480
Bywong		785
Carwoola		786
Captain's Flat	447	610
Charley's Forest		373
Jerrabattgulla		159
Larbert		451
Neringla		128
Primrose Valley		182
Royalla		834
Wamboin		1980
<b>SUBTOTALS</b>	<b>3738</b>	<b>11498</b>
<b>PALERANG POPULATION</b>		<b>12316</b>

- SEALED ROADS
- UNSEALED ROADS
- PALERANG LGA BOUNDARY





## Bywong Bushfires

By Tilda Musgrave-List - Bywong and Wamboin  
Short Story Competition merit awardee – Year 5

My name is Niki.  
I am walking through the bush.  
I am calm.  
All of a sudden it starts to become hotter and hotter.  
I can see smoke rising into the sky from trees ahead.  
Flames burst out in front of me.  
They rise higher and higher.  
Colours and more colours.  
Red, yellow, orange.  
Everything around me starts to catch alight.  
I am trapped in the middle of a raging fire.  
I am scared, very scared.  
I don't know what to do.  
I am sweating all over.  
I want my Mum.  
I want my Dad.  
I want to be home.  
All of a sudden I feel a drop on my hand.  
And another. And another.  
The rain has come!  
I am so relieved.  
The rain starts to extinguish the fire.  
I take two steps backwards.  
I start to run, then leap, over the fire.  
I land.  
I am panting.  
When I look behind me, the fire is out.  
It continues to rain.  
I make my way home.  
Amongst the ashes, new life sprouts.

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## Tank on the Rampage

By Jack dePuit - Bywong and Wamboin Short Story Competition winner – Year 6

Late on a Saturday night, a lone person on a windswept hill in Bywong was struggling to put his brand-new tank on the old tank stand. He had already pulled down the old corrugated tank that was now lying at the bottom of a long and rather steep slope in a tangled heap.

Greg floored the accelerator of his ute and shot forward, pushing the new tank further up his makeshift ramp. He heard an ear-splitting “crack!” from the wooden ramp that he had just driven over by accident. He reversed, and got out of the ute. He thoughtfully surveyed the large crack he had made in the timber. He floored the accelerator again and pushed the tank so that it was almost on top of the tank stand. He reversed and got out.

The tank was teetering on the edge of the stand. He jumped back into the ute. The tank gave one final creeeaaak and rolled back off the stand. It bounced off the ute and took off down the hill.

Greg turned around and raced down the hill in the ute. The tank rolled over the jumbled metal at the bottom of the hill and over Greg’s fence. Greg shot after it in his ute. The tank splashed into the dam. He skidded to a stop and looked at the tank, still spinning, in his dam.

The tank slowed, and stopped. Right on the inlet. It started taking water. Greg stared in silence at his tank, now sinking below the surface of his own dam.

(Based on a true experience)

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### How The Whisper Gets From the Printer To Your Mailbox

The 40 people below each spend time each month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong residents own and receive a free community newspaper. If your deliverer has been on the job for a long time and you have a bit of time you could spare, think about offering to take over the job. If you already have too many tasks in your month, every now and then give your volunteer paperwoman/man/boy/girl a thank you.

160 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN: Ph 6238 3208					
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Bill Owen	Cooper Rd.	26
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Stuart Whitten	Canning Close	17
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34	Alan Rope	Sutton Road	30
278 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:					
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Drive	17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona, Norton to Majors	31
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	David Anderson	Weeroona, Majors to Denley	35
Ned Noel	13 PalarancN cl+41 Advtsrs	55	Penny Evans	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			
227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: Ph 6238 3489					
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20			
Deb Gordon	Yalana East	41	Rob Gorham	South End - Clare Valley	38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	11	Axelby Family	North End - Clare Valley	42
Lyle Monetessin	Forrest Road area	60	Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10
196 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: Ph 6238 3590					
Sheryl Barnes	Denley/Kestral to End	26	Brian Higginson	Deley/Birchmans – Kestra	112
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	7	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef /Nwngtn to Bankers	12
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26	Morag&Guy Cotsell	MReef /Newington/Harriot (A)	30
Nora Stewart	Rovere Lane	7	Sandra Favre	MReef /Newington/Harriot (B)	20
Joan Milner	Birriwa & MacsR to Harriot	30	Ian & Esther Rudd	Mreef/Bankers to Fed Hwy	26
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Lane	6			
216 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609					
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	21	Snowdon Family	Hogan Drive	28
Kevin Anderson	BungRd – McRf to Smmhl	33	Diana+Keith Gascoine	Snow Gum Road	23
Kerrie Gougeon	BungRd – FedHy to Smmh l	25	Thelma Martin	Shinglehouse & Millyn	20
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	17	Judith Miller	Wyoming and Doust Rds	25
TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1083			David Featherston	Summerhil / Creekborough	24

## The big mistake

### By Nicky Craze - Bywong and Wamboin Short Story Competition winner – Year 5

On a hot summer's day in Wamboin in 1999, there was a boy named Billy, who was 8, a brother Tom, who was 13, and Tom's friend Brad, who was 13. Billy's and Tom's house was right in the middle of the bush. There were trees everywhere you looked, one here, one there, one everywhere. Tom and Brad were really naughty and mischievous. They were always doing naughty and silly things.

Tom and Brad lit a fire to burn all of Billy's toys in front of him. He was tied up to a chair. When they finished burning Billy's toys, Billy was crying. Tom told Brad to go and get some water from the garage to put out the fire. He got a big heavy can. He poured it on the fire. BOOM! It was oil.

The fire got bigger and bigger. It was burning the trees. They were screaming for help. Tom's Mum heard them and called the fire brigade. Trees were falling. Billy was screaming for help. Tom went and untied Billy just before a tree crashed down on the chair.

Billy spotted a small pond in the distance. Billy said, "Look over there." They ran as fast as they could and jumped into the pond. SPLASH!

The fire brigade came and saved Tom, Billy and Brad and put out the fire. Tom and Brad were in big trouble for burning Billy's toys and for starting the fire anyway. Brad and Tom had to buy Billy new toys and plant back all the trees they burnt down.



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Charlie Montesin  
 (NSW Lic: 166627C)  
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 Fax: (02) 6238 3165

**A Breakdown of the Electoral Roll  
for the Palerang Local Government  
Area by Locality  
by Ned Noel**

**Based on the copy of the Roll supplied to all Groups and Candidates  
Adrian Kerr of The Media Contact Unit for Elections NSW  
Verified that this Summary of the Roll Can Be Printed in the Whisper**

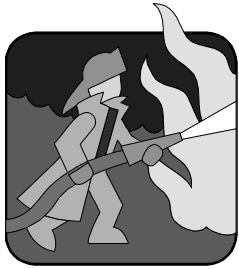
Locality	Persons on Roll
ARALUEN	83
BACK CREEK	4
BALLALABA	21
BENDOURA	20
BOMBAY	67
BORO	46
BRAIDWOOD	1094
BUDAWANG	17
BUNGENDORE	2114
BURRA	467
BYWONG	776
CAPTAINS FLAT	418
CARWOOLA	602
CHARLEYS FOREST	32
COLLECTOR	18
CORANG	1
CURRAWANG	73
DURRAN DURRA	37
FARRINGDON	13
FORBES CREEK	49
GOOGONG	44
HAROLDS CROSS	42
HEREFORD HALL	10
HOSKINSTOWN	125
JEMBAICUMBENE	35
JERRABATTGULLA	21
JINDEN	21
KINDERVALE	23
KRAWARREE	34
LAKE GEORGE	41

Locality	Persons on Roll
LARBERT	60
Address Suppressed	76
MAJORS CREEK	133
MANAR	42
MARLOWE	3
MAYFIELD	15
MONGA	16
MONGARLOWE	82
MOUNT FAIRY	112
MT FAIRY	1
MULLOON	58
NERINGLA	16
NERRIGA	50
NORTHANGERA	19
OALLEN	31
PRIMROSE VALLEY	88
REIDSDALE	89
ROSSI	43
ROYALLA	337
SNOWBALL	3
SUTTON	418
TARAGO	46
TINDERRY	16
TOMBOYE	20
URILA	81
WAMBOIN	1150
WARRI	21
WILLIAMSDALE	34
WOG WOG	3
WYANBENE	14
Total	9425

 <p align="center"><b>Dad's Property Maintenance</b> Bungendore &amp; Region Building &amp; Property Maintenance Ph: 6238 1071 <a href="http://www.dadspm.com.au">www.dadspm.com.au</a> Mob: 0417 494 283 <small>Qualified carpenter NSW Lic: 191297c NSW M/L: 490419717</small></p>	<p align="center"><b>Special</b> <i>5% OFF all Security doors, Screens &amp; Roller shutters with this voucher. Offer ends 30 Nov 2008</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Maintenance</li> <li>• Security doors, and screens</li> <li>• Energy Efficiency modifications</li> <li>• Window Pelmets</li> <li>• Decks and Verandahs</li> <li>• Aged &amp; Disabled Access Modifications</li> <li>• Chimney Cleaning</li> <li>• No Job Too Small</li> </ul>

<b>NEW CLASSIFIEDS</b>
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Open fireplace copper hood complete with flue and period hearth brickwork. Due to be dismantled Sep/Oct. View in-situ beforehand. \$250. Phone Richard or Clare (02) 6238 3505
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House Cleaner required on Joe Rocks Rd. Please phone Val on 0413-126109 or BH 61280802 or AH 62380808.
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This is the ideal package for anyone looking to get mobile with their horses at an affordable price. 1985 HJ60 Toyota Landcruiser - 6 cylinder 4.2 litre Diesel engine. 5 Speed Manual gearbox. This vehicle is a real workhorse, never misses a beat and has been serviced every 5,000km in the 13 years we have driven it. Inside and out it is in good condition. It has a large bullbar and spotlights fitted. The Cruiser is registered in NSW until mid October 2008. Call 0427 383 115 – asking price \$3,000.
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<b>WCA Electronic Noticeboard</b> – 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 <a href="mailto:Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au">Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au</a> . The Whisper is available for downloading on the noticeboard, and also from <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org">www.bywongcommunity.org</a> and at <a href="http://www.thewhisper.freehosting.net">www.thewhisper.freehosting.net</a>
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<b>ADVERTISING RATES:</b> 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
<b>FOR HIRE</b> 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 to (I don't live at the Hall!) -Joan Mason, 62383258.
<b>FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL.</b> Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 6238 3258. Local Residents \$75, Bond \$250. Non-Resident \$130, Bond \$300. The Hall in not available for teenage or 21st. functions.
<b>FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL.</b> Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a> .
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 <a href="mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au">nednoel@optusnet.com.au</a> . And thanks if you have already done so.





# The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled by Cliff Spong with help from many members of the Brigade

**THE FIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED.  
BURNING OFF IN THE OPEN WILL BE PERMITTED, BUT PLEASE ENSURE  
YOU NOTIFY YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND YOUR BRIGADE CAPTAIN AT  
LEAST 24 HOURS BEFORE YOU LIGHT THE FIRE.  
RING 000 (Zero-Zero-Zero) TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS.**



## From the Captain's Desk

Last month was busy for many reasons. Your brigade had several incidents to deal with, our brigade training program rolled on, several brigade members took part in training programs at the Zone level, the Community Education Group began the planning for our street meetings, the field officers continued the work in developing risk management plans for our brigade area and we found time for a productive working bee at the fire shed.

It is always a sad task to bring our reader news of fires in our area, especially so when the news involves someone's house or property. Unfortunately late one Sunday evening we were called to house fire in Bungendore Road. Although considerable damage resulted, it was restricted to part of the house. The situation could have been much worse if it had not been for alert neighbours who raised the alarm. It is on these and other occasions involving fires when you have to think that this could happen to any of us. Understanding the risks and taking reasonable precautions is not difficult. It is that knowledge that gives us greater control over the consequences of these incidents. Being prepared for that critical 30 to 40 minutes before emergency services can arrive at where we choose to live is a crucial factor in limiting the aftermath. Installing smoke detectors, limiting the sources of fuel for a fire to get a hold, be it vegetation, debris in roof gutters, piles of firewood, or flammable liquids are all things we need to be aware of. The list of risks can go on. There are many strategies all of us can use to reduce these risks. In so doing we can reduce the impact on our properties if the event of a fire or other emergency. Helping spread this knowledge and understanding in our community will be a major focus for your brigade over the next few months.

Your brigade was also called to the scene of an early morning accident along Sutton Road involving a B-Double semi-trailer which had come to grief and caught fire. Luckily the driver was not injured but the fire destroyed the prime mover and the first trailer.

Strangely at roughly the same time on consecutive Sunday nights during the past month seemed to be the time for car accidents or call-outs to reported car accidents. Your brigade responded quickly to provide assistance on each occasion.

During the month a number of members successfully passed several different training courses. Darrell Tipton is now a qualified Prescribed Burn Supervisor. Jake Blight has qualified as a Village Firefighter and Keith Wrench as a Rural Fire Driver. John Taubman also passed his course in Senior First Aid. On behalf of the brigade I would like to congratulate them all.

I cannot help but feel that I need to have my calendar replaced with a different version or at least adjusted. I heard someone this morning welcoming everyone to the first day of Spring! It almost seems that this new season came round quite unexpectedly this year. I appreciate that it means the warmth will be returning soon and many of us will be grateful. However it also means that the fire danger season will be on us again at the beginning of NEXT month!

As our reader is aware there are many sources of information available to help us all understand fire prevention and be better prepared for emergencies. There is the NSW Rural Fire Service website, our local fire control centre in Queanbeyan, the many people in your local brigade. There is a great deal of information available. Brochures, booklets, website information are all out there. To add to these helpful sources your brigade has established a Community Education Committee to develop and organise a number of street meetings in our area over the coming months. This way, with your participation and help we will



be able to meet many residents to directly present what we hope will be useful suggestions and ideas that will be of help in being better prepared for bushfires and other emergencies. The first of these meetings will be held on September 21 for residents in Gallagher Crescent, Proud Place and Campbell Road. While we believe the meeting will be useful and informative for the residents in that part of our brigade area, we are keeping the first meeting small so we can ensure the messages we deliver and our presentations are helpful. More meetings will be planned and presented in the brigade area.

During last month it appeared that we had decided that on one of the coldest days for some time we should hold a working bee at the fire shed. Our intentions were very noble when the suggestion was made several weeks ago but it seems our order for good weather must have been held up somewhere! Despite the cold many members helped on the day in many ways and much was achieved. All the fire trucks and the equipment on them and in the fire shed were all checked to make sure everything was working properly and where it should be. The picture opposite shows Beth Wrench directing some of the activities while Darrell Tipton, Nev Schroder and Bob Pearson are engaged in checking the equipment from Wamboin 1 Bravo.



It seems that space in last month's article was a bit limited and prevented me from including a mention of a fun and informative time for our local scout troop in July. At our regular Tuesday night training session the members of the troop and their leaders were shown around the fire shed, the fire fighting vehicles and equipment. Later in the month the troop returned for some hands-on practice with some of the portable fire fighting pumps. We would like to make this a regular event for all those potential fire fighters of the future as well as helping them earn their fire awareness badges. The picture opposite shows Beth Wrench helping Cassandra Fisher use one of the specialised hose nozzles direct water being pumped from the dam.

Finally, if you need any advice about fire protection around your property please call 0409 991 340.

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

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Corner of Barton and Federal Highways, Lyneham



Dear Ellie,

We are packing the house up - the trucks will be here in two days, Ella is helping as only a two year old can and Teleah is sleeping peacefully as only a new born can! This will be our last chance to say thanks for your persistence and extreme patience; we got to where we needed to be. People told me having the house for sale would be really stressful especially in this tough market but your constant feedback and support helped keep things on track. We are really happy with how everything worked out so thank you so much.

Jo and Simon Puglisi  
5 Hyland Drive  
Bungendore

**For the right advice call  
Ellie Merriman 0402 117 877**



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Bungendore 6238 1900

## Wamboin Pony Club News (by The President)

Thank you to all those members of the Wamboin Community who came along on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August to help Wamboin PC celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Bush Dance was a fantastic success – a huge amount of fun (and exercise) was had by all who attended. The lucky ticket prizes donated by The Feed Shed, Lamberts Winery, Shepherds Run Winery, Queanbeyan Golf Shop (Rod Kildey) and the Worden Family (Jeni's fabulous fudge) were a huge hit with all the winners – horse fanciers or not!

Last Whisper we wished our three Mounted Games Teams well as they headed off to the Zone 16 Championships. Well it proved to be a fun and successful championships for all three of our teams. The Wamboin Warriors were again the Champions of the top junior division for the second year running. The Wamboin WHIPS showed great skill improvement and also won Champion of their junior division, improving on their 2007 result by 2 places. The Wamboin Wicked Witches were not going to be left out and they too rode with great control and skill to also win the very youngest junior division, improving on their 2<sup>nd</sup> place from 2007. So it was three champion teams, who after 2 long days of riding and competition, travelled wearily but happily back up Smith's Gap on the Sunday afternoon.

The very next weekend it was back to the Bungendore Showgrounds for the Bungendore Pony Club's One Day Event. It was a friendly, fun & well co-ordinated event attended by 13 riders from Wamboin. Congratulations on the following results achieved by our riders:

Ceilidh Armer - winner of the A Grade and closest to Optimum Time for A Grade also.

Casey Ivey - 4th in A Grade & Highest Dressage Percentage for that Grade also.

Lauren Slater - 5th in C Grade and closest to Optimum Time for C Grade also.

Penny Slater - 6th in C Grade

Katie Slater - 10th in C Grade

Gabrielle Simpkin - 16th in C Grade

Nicole Smith - 9th in D Grade Division 1

Ally Durr - 8th in D Grade Division 2

Jessica Baldwin - 11th in D Grade Division 2

Craig Simpkin - 9th in D Grade Division 3

Tyla Harris - winner of the E Grade and closest to Optimum Time for E Grade also.

Brodie Worden - 3rd in E Grade

Laura Worden - 4th in E Grade (and through the water - Hooray!!!!)

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of August we were meant to host the annual Wamboin/Geary's Gap Challenge Shield, a long standing friendly challenge between the two local pony clubs. But if you recall, it snowed that day, so the Challenge has been postponed until the 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August – yes another event, this time the Zone 16 One Day Event Championships, held at Equestrian Park, Curtin. Wamboin had 16 riders from our small club entered to compete – just amazing numbers for a club our size. Once again Wamboin riders put in solid performances across all grades at the Zone 16 ODE to achieve the following results:

### A GRADE

1st - Ceilidh Armer riding Calvin Klein Interluck

4th - Casey Ivey riding Valhalla Infinity

### C GRADE

7th - Lauren Slater riding Willberg Corvette

8th - Penny Slater riding Wesswood Ashes

### D GRADE Division 1

2nd - Nicole Smith riding Kriket

12th - Katie Slater riding Condamine Preview

14th - Amy Evans riding Zac

### D GRADE Division 2

13th - Craig Simpkin riding CD-Rom

14th - Ally Durr riding Pepper

### E GRADE

3rd - Brodie Worden riding Galaxy

4th - Jack Durr riding Fred

8th - Tyla Harris riding Kirra

11th - Victoria Evans riding Coco

15th - Laura Worden riding Annie



And in the teams competition, run just like the Olympics where the best three scores out of a team of four are counted, Wamboin WHITE came in 4<sup>th</sup>. That's them in the photo above: Left to Right: Brodie Worden, Lauren Slater & Ceilidh Armer.



## WOMBAT DENNIS RESCUED

Wildcare doesn't rescue too many large adult male wombats, but a couple of weeks ago, on a very cold wet and windy morning, it did just that. Denise, a property owner off the Federal Highway, had noticed a large wombat struggle up the hill from the creek and disappear under one of her sheds. The wombat was wobbly on its feet, hunched up and it was in the middle of the morning when all good wombats are supposed to be underground sleeping off the exertions of the night before. Clearly something was wrong. Denise called Wildcare and on closer inspection it was very clear why Dennis was feeling in a bad way. Half his back had been savaged and opened up creating a large and ulcerated wound down to its bone. Even though he was a big boy at over 30 kilograms, it's likely the damage was done by another more dominant wombat, but a stray dog could also have been involved too.

It took two Wildcare volunteers to pick up, transport and take Dennis into care to see if he could be fixed-up. Safety is the number one priority and wild wombats can be quite vicious. After some sedation, his wounds were cleaned up, including removing maggots, ticks, dead skin and infection. He was given antibiotics and treated for lice. Later a veterinarian cleaned the wounds more thoroughly. Currently, Wildcare carers are keeping the wound clean and moist to allow it to heal slowly and to limit scarring. This means Dennis has to live in a secure rubber tub to keep him away from too much dirt. He's lost a lot of weight through this period, both due to his weakened state and being stressed out by being in care and locked up. As Dennis progresses and his wounds start to close over, he will be put into an outdoor enclosure to recuperate and get strong again before going off to a safe release site. Fingers crossed that all goes well and Wildcare carers can make him into a good-looking wombat again.

It's great that Denise was so observant and took the time to contact Wildcare. For any wildlife help and advice, telephone Wildcare's helpline 6299 1966.

Photo: Dennis worse for wear.



## Gearys Gap Pony Club Celebrates 30 Year Anniversary

by Nat Zalucki

Gearys Gap Pony Club (located at Les Reardon Reserve, Bywong) is celebrating their 30 year anniversary this year. As well as this, Zone 16 Pony Club (which encompasses NSW & ACT pony clubs) will be holding their 50 year anniversary. The two events will combine on Saturday September 13 by holding a dinner/dance at the Bungendore Showground. The weekend of the anniversaries, Zone 16 will hold a two day competition to showcase pony club activities - a great opportunity for members old & new (as well as potential members) to get together and also for those who are just interested in horses to come together and have a look and see how much fun kids have with their horses. Phone me for details regarding the Geary's Gap 30 year anniversary on 6236 9503 or 0428 381 317.

## Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin

33 year statistics from the Robertsons

Aug rainfall to 31/8 -- 34.25mm(Aug 2007....16.25mm)	2008 rainfall to 31/8 -- 348.25mm (2007 to 31/8....374.5mm)
Av Sept rainfall -- 63.3mm	Driest Sept -- 6.00mm (1994)
Wettest Sept -- 146.00mm (1978)	Wettest Sept day -- 48.00mm (19/9/85)
Hottest Sept day -- 24 C (18/9/81)	Coldest Sept day -- 5 C (4/9/82)
Coldest Sept night -- -2 C (4/9/2000)	

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## So who do we vote for at the Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Council elections?

As your former representative as a Councillor on the old Yarrawlumla Council for over 16 years, and a member of the Wamboin Community Association for over 25 years, I would like to offer a few ideas on the coming election. This is not a paid political advertisement but simply some thoughts to assist you in making your vote count. Remember voting is compulsory and the local booth will be at the Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way in Wamboin.

What we desperately need on the next Palerang Council are representatives with honesty and integrity who will genuinely represent the rural residential areas of the Shire and be totally fair to all ratepayers of Palerang.

We need people who have demonstrated a long time interest in our area through the Community Associations and other community activities and have sat through countless Council meetings on your behalf making representations to Council on our concerns. They must have a thorough understanding of the operation of Local Government and won't make promises they can't deliver.

With the formation of Groups and "Above the Line" voting, it is realistic that only the first and possibly the second place on any group ticket will have a real chance of election. Quite often those nominating after the second position are showing their support for the group and in many cases will be positioning themselves for subsequent elections in four or more years time. If you are intending to support our local groups I believe that it is simpler to vote above the line where preferences will be distributed the way the group desires.

Some members of the Wamboin and Bywong Community Associations have joined forces to put up a joint Group ticket for the coming election; this is the "Progressive Palerang Group". One other group with some candidates from Wamboin and Bywong is the "Get the Balance Right" group lead by Terry Bransdon who has been in Local Government for about nine years. There are also a number of individual Independent candidates worthy of consideration.

However, I believe that we should be supporting the group which totally represents our local Community Associations and hence our local communities of Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton. The Progressive Palerang Group (**Group D on the voting paper**) is lead by Judith Miller, past President and Secretary of the Bywong Community Association and John van der Straaten, long time Secretary of the Wamboin Community Association (WCA). They will be supported on the group ticket by Ned Noel, our hard working editor of the Wamboin Whisper, Helen Montesin, current President of the WCA and Pete Harrison, Vice President of the WCA.

I know that all of these people have been vitally interested in Palerang Council activities over the last four years and have put in thousands of hours preparing submissions to Council in regard to Council planning issues, budgets, environmental plans and particularly the rating system debacle. They are deserving of your vote. I strongly recommend that we all support the Progressive Palerang Group. (**Group D**)

Written and authorised by Peter Greenwood, Poppet Rd., Wamboin, NSW 2620.

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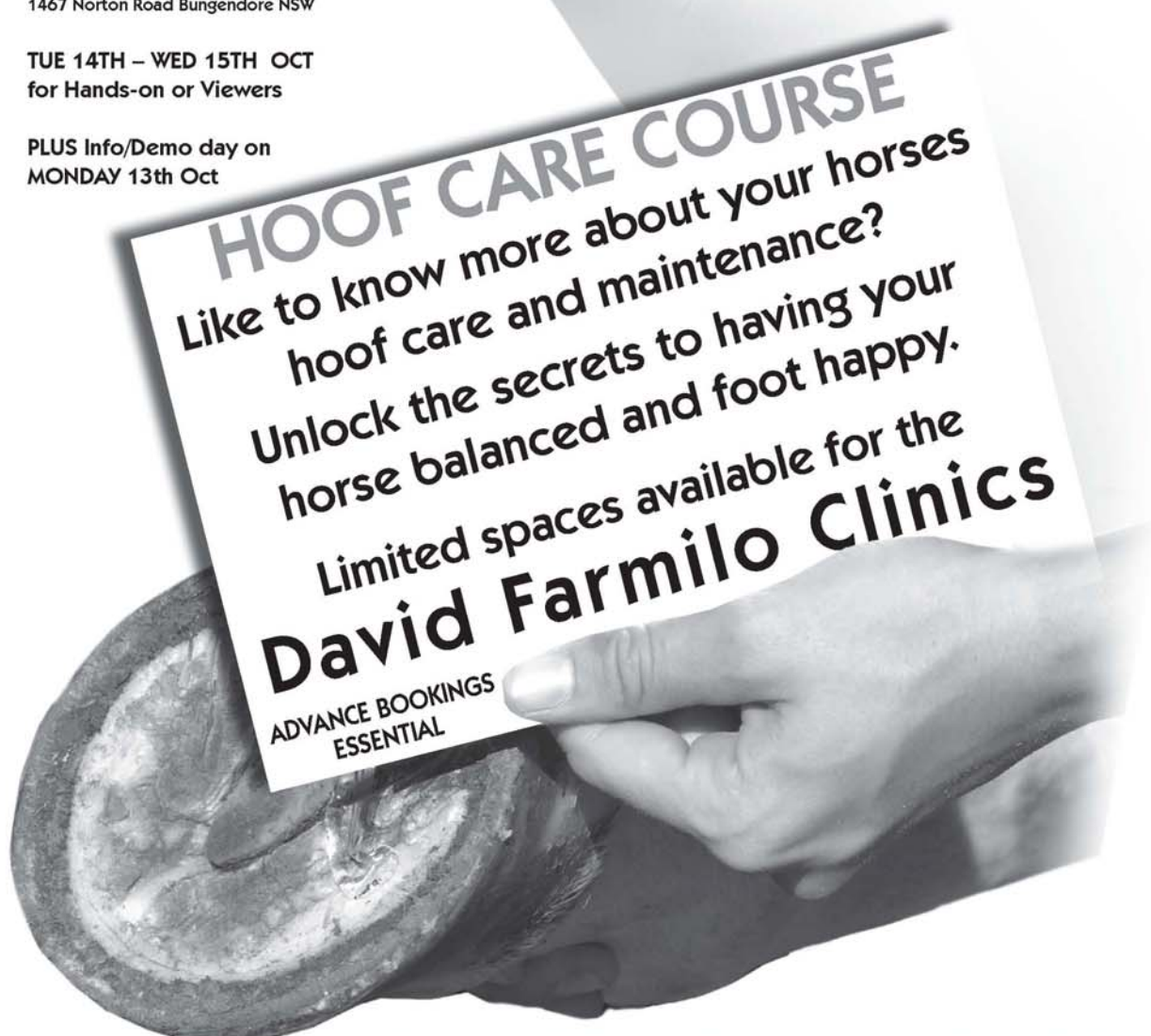
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## Nature Notes – August 2008

Jo Walker

As I'm writing this, on the last day of winter, the rain is falling steadily outside – a lovely sight after a month in which evaporation had so far exceeded rainfall.

Spring seems to be well on the way. The local wattles – *Acacia dealbata* (Silver Wattle), *A. rubida* (Redleaf Wattle) and the little, spiky Ploughshare Wattle (*A. gunnii*) – are brightening up the countryside, and, this morning, I found the first Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*). Another sign of spring was a Shingleback Lizard basking in the sun a few days ago.

The birds are busy too, with a couple of magpie nests under construction and other birds chasing intruders away from their territory. Honeyeaters seem to be the most aggressive – Red Wattlebirds, White-eared Honeyeaters and Eastern Spinebills seem to spend as much time chasing as they do feeding. I haven't found any Honeyeaters' nests yet, but one pair of White-eared Honeyeaters is presumably sitting on a clutch of eggs by now: a couple of weeks ago, there was a joey lying in the sun near the house when one of these birds landed on him and attempted to pluck out some fur. The joey swatted it away with a forepaw, but it was a very persistent bird, and, on the fourth try, managed to pluck out a beakful of soft fur. I've heard of White-eared Honeyeaters taking hair from dogs too, but was surprised when a friend told me he'd had one land fleetingly on his thatch of white hair and snatch a bit for its nest. I've had some close encounters with Grey Fantails as they've attempted to catch bushflies that were bothering me, but so far haven't become part of someone's nest!

It's interesting to see new wildlife and plants still turning up here. A few weeks ago, a wombat tried to build a tunnel in four places along the creek before finally moving on, presumably to somewhere with fewer rocks in the soil. Another little animal has been raiding the compost heap for vegetable and fruit scraps – possibly a Brushtail Possum, although the droppings it's leaving are not really typical of that species. Several bird species have come and gone over the years or visit intermittently, but the Crested Pigeons that came in about ten years ago now seem firmly entrenched. Plants are still turning up, though. Last year, I noticed *Juncus fockei* (a rush) and a moisture-loving grass, *Lachnagrostis avenacea*, growing in a small pond below the dam, and more recently found one of the Kangaroo Apples (*Solanum linearifolium*) along the creek. The native *Solanum* is in the same family as potatoes and tomatoes (*Solanaceae*) and has beautiful purple flowers followed by yellowish fruit similar to small tomatoes. Although they don't seem to be generally favoured as a food source, this plant most probably arrived via bird droppings – the most likely route for a lot of new plant arrivals.



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The Brindabella Motor Sport Club would like to notify all residents in the Wamboin area that the Kowen Forest will be **CLOSED** to the public from **5pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September to 12.01am on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September.**

**The forest will be closed due to a high speed car rally.**

Kowen forest will be closed for the running of the "Caltex Airport StarMART Rally". The Rally is a round of the PCD Engineering ACT Regional Rally Series and the NSW Clubman Rally Series.

The forest will be chained up on Friday night 26<sup>th</sup> September in preparation for the event. We will be locking all gates; Styes and horse cavaleties. Notices will be put up two weeks before the event warning of the forest closure. Red "Forest Closed" signs will be put up when we chain up the forest.

The Brindabella Motor Sport requests that residents do not enter the forest from the Wamboin side – as this will endanger you and the competitors.

The Forest will be re-opened after the event, and open to the public for Sunday morning. We will open the forest as early as possible to let the early risers in for their Sunday walk!

There will be a spectator point at the old Kowen Forestry settlement site (Entry via Kowen Road only). Please join us, to see some of the best local rally talent (including a few Wamboin boys!) There will be **NO ACCESS** via Seven Mile Road.

If you have any questions, please contact ACT Forests - 6207 2486 or Martin Holberton - 0412 399 425 or via email: [mfholberton@hotmail.com](mailto:mfholberton@hotmail.com)

Thanks, Martin Holberton



## A special Anniversary

by Lydia Teodorowych

In 1960 under the direction of George Forbes, the then General Secretary of the Smith Family, the first VIEW Club in Balgowlah in Sydney was formed. The VIEW Club was formed at a time in our history when women were not permitted to join clubs (yes, this was only in 1960) such as Rotary, Apex, Lions or other service clubs. It was a time when women were restricted by legislation and regulation about where they could go and what they could do. George Forbes realised social isolation of women exacerbated many family concerns and would be eased when women were able to meet regularly with other women. Women value their female friends and confidants whether they are single or married, parents or grandparents, pursuing a career or working from or in the home.

There are not many women who have been in the VIEW Club for as many years as Lorraine Goldsmith. This year Lorraine is celebrating being an active member of VIEW for 40 years.



Lorraine has been a member of a number of VIEW Clubs in Sydney serving on committees and previously as Zone Councillor and National Councillor. She is still an active member of two clubs, as has the role of secretary of the Lake George Day VIEW Club and member of the Bungendore Evening VIEW Club. At the Gala held in Ainslie Lorraine was honoured with a 40 year badge presented by past National

President Barbara Murray and Singapore orchids.

In the photo the President of the Lake George Day VIEW Club Pauline Segeri is standing on the left, Lorraine Goldsmith in the middle and President of the Bungendore Evening VIEW Club Debbie Hudson on the right.

If you would like to join your nearest VIEW club or would like to venture further afield check this link

<http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/viewol/web/OnlineClubs2.html> or visit our blog:<http://lgdviewclub.blogspot.com>

## Wamboin 15 years ago

by Robyn Robertson

from the Whisper September 1993, circulation 340, From the Mayor's report of Yarrawluma Shire Council:

**"Government Consultation.** Not only are we consulting with local communities but we are also taking every opportunity to raise concerns with both the State and Federal Governments. I take every opportunity to meet with the Federal Member, Jim Snow, and likewise with our local State Member, Peter Cochran.

Over recent months we have had visits and meetings with a number of State Ministers including the Roads Minister, the Emergency Services Minister, and the Minister for Small Business and Development. Shortly we will be hosting a visit from Wendy Machin, the Minister for Consumer Affairs and Assistant Minister for Roads. We are also hopeful of meetings with the Local Government Minister and also Robert Webster, the Minister for Planning. With all these representations I am hopeful of continuing to raise the awareness of our Shire with the State Government."

Peter Greenwood, Mayor

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## Notes from St Andrews

by Claire Ayling

Our little church is looking more beautiful by the day - I was looking at the photographs taken during the building process - and notice that more and more the building is looking settled and part of the Wamboin landscape. Not only does the sound of worship echo around on Sundays but also other members of the community have grown to enjoy the building with the WWoWs meeting there on Mondays.

Over the winter months I heard that my church of my childhood in the UK burned to the ground after standing proudly in the village for over 1000 years. The news really upset me, although as I thought hard about it I came to realise that the building was only part of the church - the greater part of it are the people who enter it and worship there. Wamboin is not a traditional village with pub,shop and village green but the church, community hall and fireshed provide focal points for us all to use and provide us with the feeling of community.

If anyone would like to join us at St Andrews , the services are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month beginning at 9am. The congregation is growing which is wonderful and visitors and newcomers to the area are most welcome to join us. The annual Blessing of the Animals is coming up in November and will be sure to be an 'Interesting' occasion - with all four or two legged friend with fur or feathers invited along.

## WWoW Whispers

by Claire Ayling

As I wrote the above I realised that the word WWoW and Whisper don't really go together, as anyone who passes the church on Mondays will realise that the noise generated is probably many decibels more than a whisper!

I have been away for a time over winter so have been unable to provide articles for Editor Ned, but the WWoWs continue to grow and have a great deal of fun as well as providing a focus for hidden talents and interests. Each month we now have a guest speaker and also try to have a project to work on - at any one time there are knitters, quilters, embroiderers, rug makers, lace makers, beaders,leather workers all busy working on some wonderful creation and most weeks there is a show and tell with a finished item proudly displayed.

Last month Dr Tash Yates came along to talk about her month spent with her family in a remote Arnhem Land community as a locum doctor - the group had made some beanies and gloves to send ( apparently the locals feel the cold even up there!) . and it was really interesting to hear about her work. We plan to help in any way we can in the future. We have also sent beanies to communities in Alice Springs where they were part of the annual Beanie festival and apparently there is a truck driver based in Alice now sporting a very fetching baby blue creation!!

The WWoWs have their second birthday in a couple of weeks and we will be celebrating with lunch at Shepherds Run, which is turning into a very convenient lunch venue for post WWoW meetings - thankyou Elkie!!

At the annual Bonfire Night on the 27th September the WWoWS will be serving curry and rice.

Also advance notice for Christmas - the WWoWs will be having a stall at the Wamboin Produce Markets in November - a chance to purchase gifts from this very talented group.

If there are any ladies who wish to join us please come along to St Andrews Church at 10am on Monday mornings- it is an excellent way to meet neighbours and fellow Wamboiners. Any queries please contact Claire Ayling on 62383347



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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Glorious golden wattles and daffodils have appeared to lift our spirits just as winter was becoming worn and grey. The days are growing longer and ending in pink and grey galah sunsets. The birds have come back and I am hearing calls that I had almost forgotten. I've seen a family of gang gangs and a king parrot and heard the blackbird and whistler. Spring is on its way.

Ornithologists may disagree, but I think Wamboin chooks are migratory birds. Some succumb to the seductive call of Frank and seek permanent refuge with him, but the more adventurous are frequently on the move. Whenever their hosts take off, they take flight. Sometimes their stay is short, sometimes they are forgotten and need a nudge to go home, and some of them never return. Our flock moved around a bit, as we did, but mostly returned. Then one grey, drizzly night they were gruesomely wiped out. We had to start all over again. Our new girls, however, were career women and soon burned themselves out, except for one. Eventually all that was left was a museum piece, a frustrated young blade and the workaholic. It was decision time. Were we to summon Frank, pray for a grey, drizzly night or bite the bullet and begin again? It was then, just when life was at its most complicated, that there appeared a notice on that dreaded notice board. "Twenty chooks...free to good home." We were one step ahead of Frank and suddenly we were playing host to twenty or so feathered friends. And what a delight!

I have no trouble leaping out of bed, even on the chilliest morning, to let them out and feed them. They run towards you with glee, hands clasped behind their backs, and greet any scrap as if it has come from a cordon bleu kitchen. And then to show their gratitude, they lay eggs! Chooks are the best time wasters! There are cheeky chooks and diffident chooks, considerate chooks and selfish chooks. Some are loners, others are party girls, some are adventurous and others are timid. Each day, if I can beat the grandchildren, I collect a basket of eggs and carefully date them. I keep and dry the discarded shells, crush them and feed the grit back to the hens. However, I've noticed tiny pieces of shell scattered on the ground often with a number still visible, written in my hand. Now these new girls are a smart bunch. I expect that it won't be long before they suddenly realise that they're being fed a giant jigsaw puzzle and start producing eggs with the date already stamped. I'll keep you posted.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....

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