

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

# The Whisper

December 2008 - January 2009 Combined Issue

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 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 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 February 2009 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, January 25, 2009, 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

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	Nora Stewart	Acting President	6230-3305 or <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a>
Fire Brigade	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 ah
Wamboin Playgroup	Angie Matsinas	Convener	6238 0334
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	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Leigh-Anne Barlow	Secretary	6238-3376
Play Group	Angie Matsinos	Convener	6238-0334
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
WonderfulWomenOfWambn	Claire Ayling	Convener	6238-3347
Lake George Day VIEW Club	Pauline Segeri	President	6238-1996
Wamboin Bookgroup	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

## THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

Ashleigh Caird, babysitting .....	6238 0746.
Deanne Brucic, babysitting & petsitting .....	6238-1884
Jess, Ellen and Nicole Smith, petsitting (experienced with horses) .....	6238-3115
Fiona Skea, babysitting .....	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, petsitting .....	6238-3343
Gabrielle Simpkin, babysitting and petsitting .....	6238-1335
Matilda Whitney, pet care .....	6238 3059

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## WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION -- President's Paragraphs

**Christmas Carols** – The annual Community Carols Evening will be held on **19<sup>th</sup> December** (see the notice later in the Whisper). It will include performances by local children, as well as the usual singing of carols, and will be followed by a visit from Santa and a sausage sizzle. There will be a Giving Tree for Christmas gifts and non-perishable food items which will be distributed by the Salvation Army to those in need. The proceeds from the sausage sizzle will also be donated to the Salvation Army. A lot of people are struggling in the current economic crisis, so please be as generous as you can.

**Wamboin Community Association** – Many thanks to Senior Constable Mick Brown from Bungendore Police for coming to our last meeting. It was a great opportunity for residents to discuss their policing concerns with him and for him to acquaint himself with Wamboin. The final meeting for the year will be a social get-together, with drinks and nibbles on **17<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm**. Everyone is most welcome to attend. The WCA doesn't meet in January, so the first meeting for 2009 will be on 17<sup>th</sup> February.

**Wamboin Produce Markets** – The final market for the year will be on **20<sup>th</sup> December** from 9:00am till noon. The Christmas markets are always a real treasure trove of delights for the festive season, as well as a chance to catch up with friends over a cup of coffee and yummy food. So be sure to get there early, so you don't miss out. The January markets will be on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

**Wamboin Locality sign** – The locality sign on the corner of Norton and Sutton Roads should be complete by the time you read this. Many thanks to Dave Argæet and his team for all their hard work. It looks great and is a fitting entrance into Wamboin!

**Palerang Council** – Unfortunately, Judith Miller has had to resign from her position as a councillor due to ill health. I hope she has a speedy recovery and would like to thank her for all the hard work she put in during the election campaign and since her election. There will probably be a by-election early next year. The WCA recognises the importance of Wamboin and Bywong having local representation on Council and would like to facilitate this. If you are interested in standing for election, or would like to support the election campaign of a local candidate, please contact Helen Montesin (ph: 6238 3208).

**Australia Day Awards** – I have received a letter from the Palerang Cultural Development 355 Committee seeking nominations for 2009 Australia Day awards. The categories are Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year. The nominations need to be in by 31<sup>st</sup> December. If you would like to nominate a local person or event, please contact Helen Montesin (ph: 6238 3208).

**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 Lofty 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 February's Whisper (there is no January Whisper), please contact John van der Straaten (ph: 6238 3590).

**I hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas and all the very best for 2009.**

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

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## Bywong Community News

### Christmas Drinks – 6<sup>th</sup> December 6-8pm at the Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road

Bywong Community Association invites all residents to our Christmas celebration drinks - to meet and socialise with neighbours you know and neighbours you are yet to meet. Let's celebrate the rejuvenation of our Association and the spirit of community at Christmas.

*Bywong's Koonaburra Wines will be there to show off their wines.* Bring a plate with nibbles/ finger food to share and your sense of humour. It would be worth letting us know if you intend to come by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December (if possible) – to give us an idea of numbers. Contact Nora 62303305.

**Kangaroo shooting** There have been a number of reports of kangaroo shooters in the area, shooting without notice at close range to houses in Bywong. Shooters are legally required to have a registered firearm and a valid firearms licence issued by the NSW Police. Those shooting kangaroos commercially need to have a current firearms accreditation for kangaroo trappers and also have completed a TAFE certificate on meat hygiene and handling.

Shooters also require permission from a landowner, who must also have a valid commercial kangaroo licence issued by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife.

Shooters are recommended to notify local police and landowners of their activities, but it is not an actual requirement of the law: merely a guideline. There is also a lack of clarity around the distance to housing that shooters are legally allowed.

If you are concerned about shooters near your property, you should ask them to produce all their license and accreditation documentation, and also the name of the landholder. You can verify the firearms documentation with the Bungendore Police - 02 6238 1244 - and the kangaroo licence information with the Queanbeyan office of the National Parks & Wildlife – 02 6883 5343.

The Association would also appreciate hearing your concerns about this OR any other issue you have.

**2009 event dates:** Bywong Car Boot Sale 29 March 2009  
Bywong Trivia Night 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009  
Bywong Christmas Drinks 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009

-- Nora Stewart, President, 6230-3305 or [nora@setdancing.com.au](mailto:nora@setdancing.com.au) OR [www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au)



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## **News from Sutton School**

**by Gay McNeil, Teacher Librarian**

Students from Sutton and Gundaroo were recently entertained by the Musica Viva group Ensemble Troika. This trio playing clarinet, cello and piano, presented music in a wide range of styles from the Classical and Romantic eras to jazz of the 1900's and the contemporary styles of today. Thanks to the hard work of previous school parents we are fortunate to have the facility of a warm, comfortable, roomy hall for such performances.

The Learn to Swim Program for Kindergarten to Year 2 students will be held over ten sessions at Dickson Aquatic Centre starting on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Students will be individually graded and taught by Austswim qualified instructors.

Our Christmas scripture program will culminate with church services to be held at St Peter's Anglican Church on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Thanks to all the volunteer scripture teachers.

With the recent rain the school's gardens are looking fantastic and students are getting used to playing within the newly landscaped areas near the front gate. With help from parents, Year 5/6 students have established a vegetable garden with tomatoes, strawberries and snow peas already ripening. As part of their *Plants* science unit, I took Year 1 students to check out the garden. We spent time identifying the many plants and discussing which part of each was edible. The only plant Year 1 could not recognise was rhubarb (maybe I'll cook them up a pie).

Our end of year Presentation Assembly will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 10am. This will be followed by a BBQ lunch then our Annual Play commences at 12 mid day. This year the play is written and produced by our Year 1 teacher Bruce Scott. Ex-students and community members are welcome to attend these events.

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## TAWNY OWL FAMILY RESCUED

by Philip Machin

A *Wildcare* story to brighten your day. Recently a property owner came across an adult tawny frogmouth at the base of a tree with an injured wing. She realised the bird needed expert help and she contacted *Wildcare*. However, the property owner also noticed the adult tawny had two young chicks nearby, so they came along with mum too.

As Lyn, one of *Wildcare*'s expert carers said "Once in care the injured bird was taken to a vet surgery for examination, which revealed an injury to the outer edge of the wing and a more serious one underneath. Fortunately there were no breaks.



The wound was cleaned and antibiotic cream prescribed to be applied twice daily for two weeks.

"The injured tawny is to be held until her wing has healed and then she can be returned to her home territory. Interestingly, for the first five days in the aviary the injured tawny spent her days not far off the ground on a branch she could get to by hopping on a log. But after two weeks she has worked her way up to higher branches and is able to fly.

"As for the two young ones, they have been joined by another orphaned tawny that was found alone elsewhere. This orphan immediately became accepted by the other three and they are all getting along together. Over the last three weeks the youngsters have visibly grown and have appetites to put teenagers to shame. These birds will be released back into the wild as a group and there is no reason why they won't have a great life with no ill effects from their brush with humankind." For any

wildlife help and advice, telephone *Wildcare*'s helpline 6299 1966.

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We have also added to our group of Asian items including snuff bottles, figurines, egg shell china and clay pipes, and we have a beautiful range of Shelley, Bunnykins, Staffordshire, Meakin and Aynsley.



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## WAMBOIN PRODUCE MARKETS

by Joan Mason

The December markets will be very busy leading up close to Christmas. There will be lots of Christmassy things for those late gifts for you to purchase: too much to mention so you will have to come down and see for yourself!

November Market was again a great time, it was the biggest and the busiest we have had, with lots of goodies, lots of chatter, friends altogether having a good time, enjoying coffee and food to eat. **There will be markets in January on Saturday, 17.**

Thanks to all the stall holders who make this market what it is - great for our Community. Entry: Free. Stall holders \$5. The next markets are:

**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008**  
**9AM – 12 NOON.**



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### Notes from Lofty Mason

I picked my first ripe tomato on November 30. Just had to tell someone!

**Markets.** Due to numbers at recent markets we plan to set up 'Ye Olde Coffee Shoppe' in the Hall extension. Please let Joan know how you think this works out.

**Locality Sign.** Long-term residents swear that rocks grow in Wamboin but nothing like the Locality Sign that Dave Argæet and his gang, ably assisted by Charlie Montesin, have nurtured at the Norton/Sutton Road intersection. After promised Council finance evaporated this project was undertaken by the Community Association. With one exception all comments have been more than favourable. We have had the promise of a supply of suitable plants so the finished product will be great.

**Hall Heater.** The Bendigo Bank has accepted a request to sponsor a new heater for our Community Hall. That is good news now and promises great comfort for future cold days. The WCA and the Hall Management Committee have supported the branch of the Bendigo Bank at Bungendore from the outset and it is rewarding to realise that a Community bank actually does support a local community.

**Hall Extension.** We are continuing with the shower area at the Hall. Due to the confined space the working bees are confined to 1, 2 or 3 people. Thanks to Don Evans, Hank Berlee and Charlie Montesin we are now up to wall cladding and floor tiling. On the problem highlighted by the recent rain, by the time you read this, suitable drainage will be installed to drain the mini flood walkway between the toilets and the fire shed.

*My second tomato is almost ripe. I'm sure you appreciate this information!*

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## Lake George Day VIEW Club

by Lydia Teodorwyeh

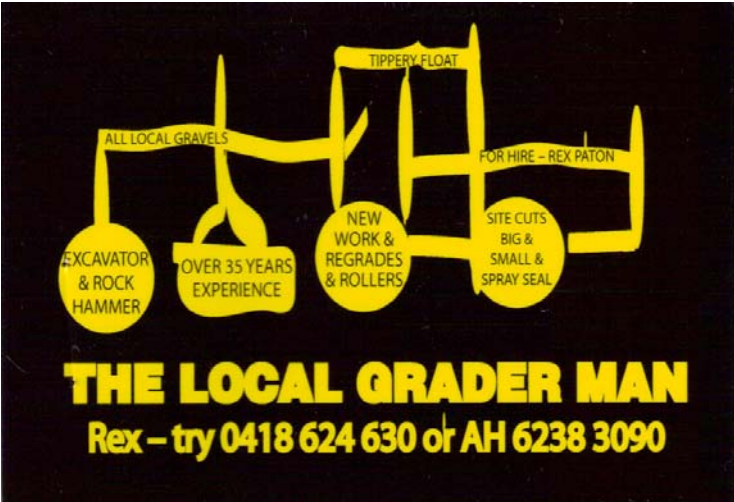
The club is holding the final luncheon meeting for the year at Logan's Cafe, Gibraltar St Bungendore on Tuesday 9 December 2008, 11.45 for a 12 noon start. Cost \$20. Enjoy the festivities and Christmas spirit at the luncheon. We have a special surprise for those attending in the guise of special Christmas entertainment. Be prepared to laugh a lot! We also ask you to bring along a \$5 Chris Kringle and plenty of Christmas cheer.

The president and committee of the LGDVC would like to thank all our members and supporters for their generous support of the VIEW Club and the Smith Families Learning for Life Program. We would like to wish everyone a festive season filled with joy and a safe and prosperous New Year. Our next luncheon meeting will be held in February 2009. We hope to see new members joining the club and share VIEW friendship.

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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

## THE FIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS STARTED.

A FIRE PERMIT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ANY BURNING OFF IN THE OPEN. EVEN IF YOU ARE ISSUED WITH A PERMIT WILL ALSO NEED TO 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

Before I get too far into this month's article, I should warn our valued reader that you may need a smaller cup of tea or a smaller usual beverage to aid your reading this month. I have given some of the journalistic real estate to include an important invitation. The event could be of value to you. Please have a look and do your best to come along. The event is in response to many enquiries since we started our "Street Meetings".

The residents in and around Joe Rocks Road joined many brigade members on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November at the Street Meeting to better understand what faces us prior to and during the fire season. The attentive and appreciative audience found the two-hour presentation worthwhile. No doubt the enjoyable refreshments provided by Wendy Downs and her

magnificent Support Crew members helped everyone share experiences and learn more helpful tips and ideas. The photograph below shows the informal approach which is a hallmark of this program.



Last month the members of your brigade were busy as usual. Many members spent a weekend getting into some very worthwhile training at the annual NAVEX exercise. It was held in the Burra area this year and from all accounts it was valuable, informative and enjoyable for all our participants. I would like to publicly thank Col Prest for his patience, determination and considered guidance in organising things for our contingent and looking after our team during the weekend.

On another weekend in November, I, along with 5 other brigade members, attended a first aid course in Braidwood. On the first day of the course our brigade contingent was late. Luckily for us one of the course instructors was also late for the same reason. We experienced first hand some of the issues facing motorists negotiating the Kings Highway. A large truck and trailer tried in vain to avoid colliding with a utility. Spectacular as the resulting collision was, and as far as we know, both drivers survived. We didn't get the opportunity to practice any of our first aid skills however as we were about a kilometre from the crash site. The Southcare helicopter team and a road ambulance crew were there though.

Early in the day, before many people in area who work in the ACT could enjoy a day off on Canberra Day last month, your brigade was called to a fire in Sutton Park. When we arrived the bulk of the firefighting work had been taken care of by the NSW Fire Brigade appliance from Queanbeyan and the Sutton Rural Fire Brigade. The crews of Wamboin's Category 1 tankers helped blackout the smouldering remains at the scene. It is possible that the fire started because of a faulty battery charger but as can be seen from the accompanying photograph the two cars will need a lot of attention and patience to make them roadworthy again!



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## The Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade invites **YOU** to the Fire Shed

To help you get prepared for a bushfire the brigade will lead a discussion about:

- the stay and defend or leave early decision
- property preparedness
- personal protective equipment.

***This meeting is for those who may have missed, or not yet had, their street meeting***

Do come along to:

- have your questions answered
- talk about these issues with your neighbours, and
- receive the NSW Rural Fire Service Farm Firewise checklist and plan

**Time: 10.30am start – 12.30 pm**  
**When: Saturday, 20 December 2008**  
**Where: At the Fire Station**  
**112 Bingley Way, Wamboin**

Refreshments will be provided, and a chance to win a very helpful lucky "door" prize.  
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**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE IN THE PARISH OF BUNGENDORE**

by Pauline Segeri, Parish Secretary

**St Mary's** - 6 December - Vigil Mass at 6pm followed by Christmas Party on the premises  
BBQ - Meat supplied by Parish. BYO salads and drinks

17 December - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation from 7pm to 8pm

21 December - Christmas Carols with St Philip's at St Mary's 7pm to 9pm

23 December - 1st Rite of Reconciliation 9.30am to 10.30am

24 December - Vigil Mass at 6pm on the ground of St Mary's (weather permitting)

25 December - Christmas Mass 8.30am at St Mary's

**St Joseph's Gundaroo** - 24 December - Vigil Mass at 8pm

**Sts Peter & Paul Hoskinstown** - 14 December - Carols at 6pm

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Comments from our first gathering showed a strong, collective interest in continuing to meet. In the words of one of our local, famous golfers, 'A good time was had by all.' There was even a suggestion of a military dinner (dinning-out/in). I, for one, am pretty well book between now and New Years, so I would like to propose we again gather at Shephard's Run on Friday, 16 January for a TGIF. They are open from 16:30 to 19:00 ish. Thanks to all those who attended, for Elke's contribution, and hope to see those who were sorry they missed our first TGIF. - Bill Gillespie

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## COMMUNITY CAROLS

Friday, December 21 @ 7pm

Wamboin Community Hall

The theme is 'Community, Carols & Kids'

by Lofty Mason

Helen Montesin, our WCA president will be MC with Pam Barker organising the Christmas tableau. Adam Conroy and Bill Owen are providing the music. There will be a decorated Giving Tree under which we request you place suitable toys and packaged food. These will be handed on to the Salvos for distribution. The Play Group kids will perform. **If we sing loud enough, Santa will make his entry!** He has booked a Fire Truck to save the feet of his reindeer on the hard Wamboin rocks. After Santa leaves for other places the famous **free Montesin Sausage Sizzle** will be ready to feed the hungry. Yes, it is free however a donation box is on hand and all proceeds of the evening are passed on to the Salvation Army. Drinks will be available to sooth the après singing vocal cords. No need to book - All welcome.

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CORRUGATED IRON for sale - about 50 sheets of second hand corrugated iron for sale at \$2 per sheet. Also some long length unused colourbond sheets. Please phone John 62383465.
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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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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
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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.
FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. 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.
FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. 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 nednoel@optusnet.com.au. And thanks if you have already done so.

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## Showgirl Search on Again

Marion Whalan, Publicity Officer, Bungendore Show

Bungendore Show is again searching for a representative to act as an ambassador for the rural area.

Entry to the Bungendore Show, which is held on 25 January 2009, can lead to representation at Sydney's Royal Easter Show, according to competition co-ordinator Suzanne Clubb.

"The Showgirl competition aims to find a young woman to act as an ambassador for her rural region in NSW, with her role involving official duties at the local show and possibly leading on to the Sydney Royal Easter Show," she said.

"Every year Bungendore Show has the privilege of selecting a young female between 18-23 years of age to represent the town and show society as the Miss Bungendore Showgirl. In 2009, our Bungendore Showgirl will travel to Cobargo to be part of the Zone 3 final on 7 March 2009."

Contestants are judged on personality, confidence, ambition and life goals, general knowledge, rural knowledge, presentation and speech. Finalists are also asked to demonstrate knowledge of their local community and current affairs and apart from their potential ambassadorial qualities, contestants are also judged on their involvement in and experience of rural affairs. The competition is now in its 46<sup>th</sup> year.

The 2008 Bungendore Showgirl, Caitlin Brewer from Wamboin, went all the way to the Royal Easter Show as a representative of Zone 3, which is the geographic region that includes Bungendore. Caitlin said that not all the entrants came from a farming background.

"They all have a rural or agricultural interest, they are confident but most importantly we are all out there to promote rural NSW," she said. "The equine influenza called a halt to my show jumping in 2007 and when I was approached to be part of this competition, I thought why not! The whole experience has made me want to encourage other young people to enter and push themselves out of their comfort zones. This is a great area we live in and the experience certainly improved my skills in public forums and helped me with other roles, such as my Vice President role at Geary's Gap Pony Club."

Any young woman from Bungendore and the surrounding region who is interested in being part of the 2009 Showgirl Competition should contact Suzanne Clubb on mobile 0427 408 513 or email [suzanne.clubb@bigpond.com](mailto:suzanne.clubb@bigpond.com).



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**Rainfall and temperatures in Wamboin**  
**33 year statistics from the Robertsons**

<b>2008</b> 2008 rainfall to 30/11      532.5mm 2007...to 30/11      497.5mm)		<b>November</b> Rainfall to 30/11      106.25mm Nov 2007      81.25mm Wettest was 1986      146.00mm	
<b>December</b> Av. rainfall      57.4 mm Driest      0 mm in 1979 Wettest      164 mm in 1988 Hottest day      37 degrees C on 21/12/99 Coldest day      13 degrees C on 13/12/87 Coldest night      3 degrees C on 9/12/99		<b>January</b> Av. rainfall      62.2mm Hottest day      39 degrees C on 19/01/1998 Coldest day      17 degrees C (twice) Coldest night      7 degrees C on 02/02/03 Wettest      197.5 mm in 1995 Driest      6.0 mm in 1979	

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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 PalerancCn cl+41Advtrs	55	Penny Evans	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			
227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:					
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Ph 6238 3489		
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:					
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



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## Nature Notes – November 2008

Jo Walker

Coming into summer, the landscape is still pleasantly green after more than 40 mm of recent rain. With the current warm weather, you can almost see the grass growing.

The golden flowers of the Sticky Everlasting Daisy (*Xerochrysum viscosum*) are evident all through Wamboin at the moment. When I first came to Wamboin, over twenty years ago now, there were only half a dozen of these plants on my place – now there are some sizeable populations here, and, on a neighbouring property, these daisies are forming swathes of gold amongst the white-flowering Cauliflower Bushes (*Cassinia longifolia*).

The cuckoos seem to have calmed down a bit now. For several weeks, there was a Pallid Cuckoo calling here from before dawn to after dusk, its series of piercing notes on a rising scale hard to ignore. The beautiful little Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo is still around, and yesterday I heard a Brush Cuckoo – another one with a series of loud notes, but, in this species, on a descending scale. A Koel made a brief visit at the beginning of the month but hasn't been heard for a while.

Down by the dam recently, a Kookaburra was finding a food source that was keeping it busy. It perched in a wattle close to the water's edge, and, every now and then, dived into the shallow water amongst the rushes and returned to the tree to swallow its prey. I couldn't see what it was eating, but it was obviously nutritious or tasty because the bird was busy there for some time. This morning, the Wood Ducks had taken possession of the dam again with eight fluffy little ducklings showing their parents that they really didn't need any lessons in getting around in the water.

There were a couple of interesting interactions with the local wildlife recently. I saw an echidna ambling over the open ground at the top of the hill and stood still as it was heading in my direction. It lifted its head and sniffed the air when it was about a metre away, then continued to approach. When it reached me it spent a minute or more pushing its nose under my boots to see if there was anything edible there!

A few days later, a Bearded Dragon was digging in a garden area close to the house. She (it soon became evident this was a female lizard) seemed very intent on excavating a cavity under the edge of some rocks. This was a laborious process as the lizard gouged out soil and small rocks with her front feet, occasionally using her back feet to clear the pile of rubble. After half an hour or so, she turned around and I thought she'd given up on the project. But no – she backed right into the space she'd dug and began to lay her eggs, every now and then moving her back legs presumably to position the eggs. When I went out later, the nest had been filled in and the soil neatly smoothed. This was the first Bearded Dragon to turn up here for some years, so it's good to know the population is in for a boost if these eggs hatch successfully.

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## Wamboin Open Golf Championship

The 23rd annual Wamboin Open Golf Championship was run and won on the 2nd November.

We had excellent numbers playing for the "coveted trophies" in fine weather and a good time was had by all.

Winners of the nearest the pin and long drive prizes were; Dave Argæet, Tom Argæet x3, Jack Whitney, Tim Barter, Len Ivey, John Whitney, Neville Schroder and Peter Greenwood.

Our 2008 Junior Champion is Tom Argæet with a great score of 88/60. Tom is about to have a birthday which will take him into the senior ranks and probably also into A Grade.

Our encouragement award for an up and coming junior went to Rachel Schroder.

This year's Eclectic was won by Tim Barter and the 9 hole championship was won by Peter Greenwood 39/32 from Lofty Mason 48/37.

B Grade championship was won by Charlie Montesin 84/60 with Paul Griffin 91/67 second.

A Grade championship was won by Steve Miners 80/61 from Nev Schroder 77/62.

The Ladies Open Championship was won by Matilda Whitney with 116 leading her mum Lisa into the clubhouse.

The 2008 Wamboin Open Champion is Len Ivey with the winning score of 76. Our congratulations to all the winners.

Our thanks once again to Joan Mason, with shopping help from Rob Gorham, for the provision of the traditional after game snacks (banquet!)

Congratulations to all winners.

Golf has been played on our 18 hole very playable private golf course on the first Sunday of every month since October 1986. Enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358.

Photo: Winners are grinners.

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## Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare

Think global, act local

In 2009, we will have only a few meetings and instead, we will have a range of other activities such as field days and rambles, and we will extend the propagation sessions to include education on plant identification (especially weeds), propagation methods and other topics of interest.

**Propagation sessions** are held on the first Saturday of each month at Geoff Butler's place, 38 Birchman's Grove, Wamboin, 9am – 11am; enquiries to Geoff Butler on ph 62369158, or [gbu22182@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gbu22182@bigpond.net.au). The next session will be on **6 December 2008**. Serrated tussock will be discussed at this session while we pot up successful cuttings and seedlings.

On **7 December 2008**, there will be another planting session at Birchman's Grove for one hour only, starting at 9am.

On **January 11 2009**, starting at 8am, there will be a **weeding blitz** to kill gorse near the Yass River where Macs Reef Rd goes over it (i.e. just before you reach the Federal Highway). Bring sturdy clothes, gardening gloves, secateurs and/or mattock.

Some Monday meetings will be replaced with field trips, mostly at members' homes to see what has worked and to look at problems (like serrated tussock). The first one will be at Kathy Handel's place on February 9 at 6pm.

**Membership is free.** Activities are notified to members via email and also advertised (where possible) in the Whisper. If you would like to be added to the email list, please send a message to the secretary, Chris Fowler, [chrisft@spitfire.com.au](mailto:chrisft@spitfire.com.au). Likewise, if you would like to be removed from the email list, please send a message to the secretary.

*Planting/propagation tip:* Make sure that roots are going downwards, not wrapped around the inside of the pot or bent upwards or sideways. When planting out or potting up, cleanly cut off the ends of wayward roots with sharp scissors or secateurs.

-- Kathy Handel, Ph 6238 3596, email: [kukinya@bigpond.com](mailto:kukinya@bigpond.com)

## We Did It For Another Year

Ned Noel

For the past year we've had a Whisper at the beginning of each of the 11 months from February to December. As editor I often hear from people who they like the Whisper. Our little newspaper is good only because so many residents put in pieces of time and effort and money to create and deliver each issue. Around 50 people do the work it takes each month to distribute copies to 1000 or so homes in Wamboin and Bywong. Many others take the trouble to prepare announcements or articles or regular features that make each issue worth having. Instant Colour Press in Belconnen works each month for a price that is small beside the reliability and quality they provide. Numerous businesses pay these printing costs by running ads, some I suspect as much to keep the Whisper going for another month as to keep themselves running. Thank you.



## SHEPHERDS RUN

### At Wamboin

### Christmas Events

We will be open as normal up to and during the Christmas holidays for wine tastings and sales, breakfasts, lunches and light meals

**Please ring Elke on 6238 3842 for details.**

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**Wamboin 15 Years Ago**  
**by Robyn Robertson**

From the Whisper, December 1993-January 1994, Circulation:360 From the Yarrawlumla Shire News:

"Wine for Fire Brigade. On behalf of the Yarrawlumla Shire Council I wish to congratulate the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade for its outstanding success in the Shire's Field Day held at Sutton on 21 November. The teams almost cleaned up in many of the competitions which demonstrated the dedication and high level of skills of the members. These are the 4 skills which will be needed next time the big one comes again; remember 1985, and please support your Brigade"

-- Peter Greenwood, Councillor.

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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Barely a month ago I was despairing at ever finding anything in the garden for my weeding therapy sessions, but the tables have turned. Now everything is leaping out of the ground with almost audible vigour. I have no time to slump on the inside couch. I'm much too busy with my outside therapy. Amongst the weeds and in the damp earth there are slugs and snails. They have returned after a long, much appreciated absence, but there are still few worms to be seen. The recent storms have given us the most beautiful rain, but the creek remains a series of puddles. It hasn't flowed for a long, long time. Exactly how much rain we've had remains a mystery, as my rain gauge was borrowed by a small, curly haired boy who was visiting, to augment the sand pit toys, but it has been enough to make me feel comfortable. It has grown into a most beautiful spring. And with summer officially here, the sounds and sights of Christmas are in evidence.

For some, shops festooned with plastic fir trees and piped carol music may signal Christmas, but for me, the monotonous bleating of the baby galahs is the first signal that I should be thinking seriously about the festive season. And there are more signs that Santa is on his way. Our generous Council has bestowed early gifts. Our now short, straight road, previously blessed with reflective guide posts on each side lest we be inclined to stray, now has a sparkling new sign to tell us that the road will shortly end. At the other end, there is an equally sparkling sign to tell us that we are approaching a T junction, just in case we miss the significance of the huge black and white stripes ahead across Norton Road. I was well brought up, and taught to accept gifts graciously, but perhaps I would have preferred Santa to spend his money on something else!

The year is drawing to a close, and I admit I will be glad to see the end of it, but it has shown us a little of the Wamboin of old. The recent rain has been the best Christmas present ever. I wouldn't live anywhere else....Happy Christmas, and happy holidays!

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**TREVOR BARKER  
& ASSOCIATES**  
SOLICITORS

Trevor J. Barker Solicitor	Mike Cramsie Solicitor	Caroline Bragg Property Clerk
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