

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

# The Whisper

**June 2009 CIRCULATION: 1,143** (last issue said June 2009 but should have said May 2009)

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 July 2009 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, June 28, 2009, 7:00 pm. The Whisper always goes to deliverers by the following Saturday, which is almost always the first Saturday of the new month.

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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	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 Markets</b>	Joan Mason	Contact	6238 3258
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Laura Taylor	Converner	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>Justice of the Peace</b>	Tony Holland	JP	6238-3907
<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>Wamboin 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>KYB Bible Study Group</b>	Amanda Axelby	Contact	6238-0871
<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	Contact	6238-1996
<b>Wamboin Bookgroup</b>	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

**THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS**

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Deanne Brucic, babysitting & petsitting .....	6238-1884
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Macs Reef Tip Hours 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon (to 7 pm Sat - Sun in daylight saving time) closed Tue-Wed-Thurs



Dear Sutton Real Estate

I am pleased to be writing to you to express my appreciation at the great job you did in selling our vacant land. You provided an excellent service at a very competitive price and either you or one of your team members was always contactable. The team approach you take at the agency is very obvious and a great strength... Believe me I say this type of service is not available at other real estate agencies. You provided us with well considered and realistic advice that at the end of the day proved correct, there is no better judge of the quality of advice than hindsight.

Best wishes  
Alex Wells

Dear David & Ben

*We are slowly getting settled into our new home and I would like to thank you for all for all your help and patience during the months I spent looking for this place. I have dealt with many real estate agencies over the years, but I have never come across one with such friendly and polite people as Sutton Real Estate. You made the process of buying and selling as painless as possible. I believe that there were many occasions when you went 'above and beyond the call of duty' with the assistance you gave. If I ever decide to sell again I will seek your assistance with the process and I will recommend you to anyone who asks. Thankyou again and I wish you all the best.*  
Wendy Eddy

To Whom it May Concern

We found Sutton Real Estate to be tops. Even if our house had not been sold we would still be convinced that Sutton Real Estate are a million miles ahead of other agents (whom we have dealt with) who attempt to service this region. Their professionalism and methodology is very refreshing! Their guaranteed colour weekly advertising in the Canberra Times is a key factor.

We were told by another agents that we should accept a certain offer as we would not get anything better. About two weeks later Sutton Real Estate sold our home for an additional \$25,000.

In our view none of the other agents we have experienced even begin to compare with Sutton Real Estate.

Peter and Ronke Cunningham

Dear David, Ben & Robyn,

Sale of "Westwood" 913 Bungendore Road, Bywong NSW

We would like to thank you all for assisting us in selling our home. We faced a number of challenges during the process and the professionalism demonstrated by you all and your staff was exceptional, and aided us in making informed decisions about the sales of our home.

Two points in particular come to mind in our dealings with Sutton Real Estate:

1. **Considered Sales Approach:** The sales approach took into account both the recognition of the improvements and features invested in our home, and also importantly the promotion of the unique lifestyle offered by our home combined with a strong understanding of rural property: and
2. **Comprehensiveness and Consistency in Sales Support and Communication:** Throughout the sale period the energy and commitment by Sutton Real Estate did not waiver. Indeed every challenge was taken on constructively in an effort to sell our home. We also appreciated the ongoing and candid communication to keep us informed of purchaser interest and issues arising related to the sale of our home, especially given that we had moved interstate early in the sales period.

Carolyn & Glen Stroud

Dear David,

I am writing to thank you and your staff for the very professional way you conduct your business. We certainly don't find it too often in the big smoke.... many thanks for a job well done and we hope we can put some business your way in the future.

Regards  
John and Gwen Hammond

Dear Ben,

Thank you for your card and well wishes. Harry and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your understanding and help during what was a difficult sale and a traumatic experience for us. Please convey our thanks to all at Sutton Real Estate. Good luck in the future, you deserve to make lots of sales.

Joan and Harry Holland

"The Sutton Real Estate team of David, Ben & Robyn with their professional and considered approach made the selling of our long standing family home as painless as we could expect. It was a pleasure doing business and we wouldn't hesitate to reengage with Sutton Real Estate should we return to the Canberra rural region"

Charles and Lee Guscott

## Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs

**Waste Management** – There have been some positive developments in the Waste Management issue which are covered in articles later in the Whisper that you should read. I won't reiterate them here, except to say that it is vital that you all complete and return the waste management survey when it comes. It is necessary for Council to get community wide views on this very important issue which will affect us all in the future. If we don't tell them what we want/need, we will get what Council wants and we will have to put up with it and pay for it!

**Braidwood & Bungendore Community Bank Donation for New Heater at the Hall** – The WCA has just received a very welcome grant of \$3200 from the Braidwood & Bungendore Community Bank (Bendigo Bank in Bungendore and Braidwood) for the purchase of a new wood heater for the hall. We are really thankful to the Community Bank for their donation which will help make the hall warmer for the many groups who use it over winter.



As you can see from the photo, the old heater is well and truly overdue for replacement. Special thanks also go to Lofty Mason and Alan Donnelly who worked hard over the last year or so to make the grant a reality. Over the next few weeks, Lofty will purchase and install the heater, with his trusty band of helpers. These types of community grants are only possible if residents support the Community Bank – the more people bank with the Community Bank the more profits they can donate back to the community!

**Emergency Management Information Session** – Members of the Lake George Local Emergency Management Committee conducted an information session at the May WCA meeting. It was a very useful community education exercise and feedback from the residents who attended has been very positive. For those residents who were unable to attend, they have kindly offered to write some articles for the Whisper over the coming months. I would like to thank Gordon Cunningham, Paul Basista, Peter Weatherstone, Vlad Bohden, Kevin Anderson and Colin Brown for their generosity in taking the time to come and share their knowledge with us.

**Wamboin Community Association** – The next WCA meeting is on **16<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm at the Wamboin Community Hall**. Everybody is welcome to attend.

**Wamboin Produce Markets** – The final markets before the winter recess will be on **20<sup>th</sup> June** from 9:00am till noon at the Wamboin Community Hall. So come along and enjoy the last of the autumn produce and all the other goodies.

**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 July's Whisper, please contact John van der Straaten (ph: 6238 3590).

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

<p><b>D &amp; K</b> <b>CONCRETING</b> 0410 021 097</p>  <p>Reliable, friendly service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- driveways</li><li>- footpaths</li><li>- garages</li><li>- house slabs</li><li>- footings</li><li>- spray on</li><li>- stencil</li></ul>
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## The Great Wamboin Curry Night

This is an early warning to book Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> of August for that popular evening: 'The Great Wamboin Curry Night'. Tables, chairs, a warm Hall and hot water are provided. Otherwise, this is a 'bring your own everything' evening. There is a gold coin entry donation to offset Hall hire charges. Families bring a dish of their favourite curry, which is labelled, 'heat' nominated and put out for shared buffet service. You bring your own plates, cutlery and preferred tipples.

On behalf of the many people who have enjoyed these evenings, we would like to thank Dave Hubbard who started this event quite a while ago and has run it every year. Last year, over 80 attended, Dave said that was his swan song but we would hate to see this traditional evening fold. -- Joan & Lofty Mason, phone 6238 3258.

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## Bush Baroque

... will be giving another of their popular concerts of baroque and renaissance music at Bywong on Saturday and Sunday June 20/21. The programme is a varied one including a Byrd motet sung by the vocal group Polifemy, a Scarlatti cantata with the tenor George Brenan and music for viols, recorders, harpsichord and organ. The concert starts at 2.00 pm on the Saturday and at 12.00 noon on Sunday. Drinks and nibbles will be served on both days with a light lunch of soup and bread on Sunday. Seating is limited so bookings are essential - phone Richard and Joan Milner on 62369212 or email to: [richardandjoan@aonet.com.au](mailto:richardandjoan@aonet.com.au) (directions to the venue will be given on booking) Entry is by a \$15 (\$12 cons) donation to Hartley LifeCare. Richard Milner, 6236 9212.

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Sylvia Shanahan, recorders and  
Joan Milner, harpsichord, organ, and viola da gamba



with  
**George Brenan** (tenor).

**POLIFEMY** vocal ensemble - Deborah Munro, Susan Antcliff, Joan Milner, Amanda Roberts, Lucy Alexander, Liz McKenzie, and Robyn Mellor.

and

**Robyn Mellor and Ann Nevile** (recorders)


**Saturday- 20 June, 2009 at 2.00 pm**

**Sunday - 21 June, 2009 at 12.00 noon**

Join us in our Bush setting at Bywong.

On Saturday drinks and nibbles will be served after the concert and on Sunday a light lunch will be provided.

Tickets \$15.00/12.00 (takings to be donated to Hartley LifeCare) - seats limited - bookings absolutely essential by ringing 6236 9212 or email: [richardandjoan@aonet.com.au](mailto:richardandjoan@aonet.com.au).



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**6258 1792**

## WAMBOIN WASTE MANAGEMENT – SURVEY & TRIAL

My article in the May Whisper raised the question of where does our community go in the face of Palerang Council's determination to impose a roadside collection service and a thin proposal to commence a series of studies appropriate for a transfer station at the Macs Reef tip site. It appears that this article together with letters to the Editor of the Bungendore Mirror from other Wamboin residents touched a nerve within the Wamboin community. A deluge of e-mails and phone calls to Councillors and Council staff supporting the case for a transfer station at the Macs Reef site resulted and Councillors rapidly became concerned over the extent of community disquiet.

Councillors Terry Bransdon and Anne Goonan met with representatives from the Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Community Associations to discuss future courses of action. They opted to introduce a Rescission Motion at the May Council Meeting and another Motion which proposed a Working Group comprising three Councillors, one representative from each Community Association and Council staff to review waste management arrangements. The Working Group would oversee a baseline survey of community views, a trial roadside waste collection service and pre-construction surveys appropriate for a Development Application for a transfer station on the Macs Reef landfill site. Although the Community Associations did not support a kerbside trial, a compromise position was adopted to ensure that Councillors became aware of the views of the communities and, if very strongly opposed by residents, might head off the \$30 000 trial. After representations at the May Council Meeting by the Community Associations and individual residents, and strong supporting argument by Councillors Goonan and Bransdon, Council agreed to both Motions without opposition.

Community Association representatives and Councillors Goonan and Bransdon quickly regrouped and drafted a baseline survey and information sheet which was presented to the formal Working Group. The draft survey and explanatory papers is on the Agenda for the June Council Meeting supported by Councillors Bransdon and Goonan, and, if accepted by Councillors, is likely to be distributed to the Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton East residents in the next few weeks.

The Wamboin Community Association recommends that all residents take the time to complete this questionnaire, and return it to Council in time. Councillors and Council staff require your opinions to obtain the information needed for meaningful decisions for a review of a waste management strategy for our communities. On many occasions Councillors have queried quoted community views and dismissed survey results as not being significant. This will be your opportunity to let Councillors and Council know what you think and what you want.

Should you wish to discuss any matters in this questionnaire, please contact Councillors Goonan and Bransdon, the Presidents of the Associations or the nominated representatives on the Working Groups, myself, Pete Harrison (6238 3525), and Jim Greehead (6230 3165).

- John van der Straaten, WCA Secretary, (6238 3590), E: jnpvds@bigpond.net.au.

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## The Burglaries Continue

by Andrew Groom

In the last several months there have been a disturbing number of break and enters in the Sutton, Wamboin, Captain's Flat and surrounding rural areas. Whether all the activity is being carried out by the same people is unknown but the Police recovered dumped stolen property from a site only last week that definitely connects two of the burglaries. The activities seem to occur during the day and often to secluded or sheltered properties where the burglars can work undisturbed and unseen. They are not particular – vehicles, guns, computers, valuables, chainsaws, tools and more.

**What do we know for sure?** The Monday after Anzac Day, a family member driving down Norton Road at about 4.30pm noticed a white, modern 4WD wagon (SUV if you prefer) with two male occupants parked at the entrance gate of 187 Norton Road (that is just down from Fernloff). From there, it is possible to check for activity around our house at 192. On the following Thursday, probably just before 2pm, the burglars cut the chain at our entrance with bolt cutters and then ransacked the house and garage. They probably took upwards of an hour to finish their work. In the process they drove across a grassed area which was softened by the rain and left deep tyre impressions. Although it is possible that the vehicle may have had modified tyres, the wheel tracks match the standard dimensions for only two brands of 4WD - Toyota (Prado, GX, GXL, VX, Grande and GRJ Landcruiser) or Nissan (Pathfinder and Navarra). There are some dual cabs that also match and there is some suggestion they may be also driving one at other burglaries. This in no way excludes other vehicles.

Unless these people are caught, they will be back in our area once they think our vigilance has waned.

**How can you help?** Apart from appealing to you to secure your own properties and to look out for your neighbours and rural friends, I am asking for help.

There is a lot of traffic on Norton Road outside of peak hours. Someone will have seen the vehicle parked near 187 on the Monday afternoon and someone will have seen a 4WD entering or exiting 192 on Thursday, 30 April, between 2pm and ,say, 3pm or later. I know it has been a month, but even if you have a vague recollection or impression from a quick glance of even a small detail, it will help. Colour of number plate; model of vehicle; number of occupants; rear mounted spare tyre or not – it all goes some way to ending the thieves careers sooner rather than later.

Secondly, please write down the number plate of any vehicle seen in suspicious locations or entering rural properties and giving lame excuses for being there. Record all the detail you can.

For all suspicious activity please phone the Bungendore Police on 62381244 straight away and they will do a quick check on the vehicle and follow up. Yes, you can call 000 for burglaries in progress. Don't feel you are being a nuisance – it will help.

If you are reluctant to call the Police for any reason then please ring me on 0429 991766 or email me at [fisc@grapevine.com.au](mailto:fisc@grapevine.com.au). I will pass on the details to our very helpful constabulary.

The only way to allow these cretins to prosper, and to ruin our lives in the process, is for good people to do nothing. I would not wish our experience on anyone.

## Dancing For Everyone

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Keep warm this winter with social dancing in Bywong



Dancing in couples, triples, circles and squares, this is a fun way to forget your troubles, meet your neighbours and get some dancing in at the same time. This dancing is firmly focused on socializing and will also cater for those who have little or no dancing experience, building on basic waltz, jig and hornpipe steps. Suitable for all from 8 to 80 years.

**When:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June & Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 4.00-5.30pm.

**Where:** Shearing shed at 41 Rovere Lane Bywong

**Cost:** \$5 including tea/coffee and (Irish) refreshments...

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## Perhaps a Better Service, a Better Price, and a Better Use of Land – Worth Giving It a Fair Go?

For about a fortnight in May, I and other Palerang Councillors received some aggressive emails from residents of Wamboin and Bywong; about 26 in total by my count. They were about waste service matters – the tip, waste transfer station and roadside collection. Aside from the aggression, what was next most notable about the emails was the high degree of misinformation they were based on.

One writer was appalled that council was “imposing an expensive wheelie bin collection onto Wamboin and Bywong”. Another asserted that “councillors don't listen and lack the courage to stand up for what the community really wants”. Many were concerned about having to / being able to drag wheelie bins hundreds of metres up and down their driveways. While another stated a general theme that “going to the ‘tip’ once a month is one of the enjoyable (if not smelly) routines that we [residents] do quite happily” which council is trying to take away.

Other misinformation they had heard included: council would only pick up from paved roads; property side collection would be more expensive than a WTS; and future charges would rise unchecked. The notion of ‘dragging a rubbish bin up the driveway’ was most galling to some writers, but ironically dragging it to the tip was fine.

It wasn't until I read several articles in the last edition of Whisper that I began to understand the source of the upset and biased information.

I took the opportunity to engage in a detailed exchange of correspondence with the first 10 or so writers. What came out of that was generally a surprise on the part of the writers that Council's position wasn't so polarising or unreasonable as they had heard. Council had passed a resolution, which I moved, to continue to develop its proposals for future waste management arrangements for Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton by undertaking further investigation into the “Provision of Small Transfer Station and Recycling Facility at Macs Reef”, as well as trialling the workability and acceptance of property by property rubbish collection, including recyclable collection. It allocated money to begin the groundwork necessary to implement a small waste transfer station at the Macs Reef Road tip site, while at the same time allocating money to a trial.

The business papers and the record of the April Council Meeting show, that a driving motivation for this approach, particularly the trial of property by property waste collection was the assessment by professional staff, that this form of collection would be no dearer for the resident's wallet, than would be a small local waste transfer station that they would have to travel to. Moreover, the property side collection would save over \$500,000 in capital outlay to build a small WTS. Those facts, plus a 2006 survey that showed a reasonable number of residents were interested in property side collection, tipped the scales for the majority of the councillors to act prudently and approve the trial, while concurrently doing the groundwork for a local WTS in case the residents' experience of the service was totally unacceptable.

In May I seconded Cr. Bransdon's resolution which (in effect) attached to the April resolution the need to establish a baseline survey before the property side collection trial begins. This should provide a measured comparison of before and after trial expectations and experiences.

Rural collection of this type is very successful across NSW, and fears of wildlife and mischief makers spending their nights overturning rubbish bins are not the norm. I believe some people have tried to make this issue a cause-celebre by invoking the old chestnuts of west Palerang verses east Palerang. It would appear that some of these people have or had political ambitions, and stirring up community anxieties suits their strategies.

However, when looked at objectively, and confident in the fact that there is no geographical disrespect going on, then perhaps giving the trial of property side collection a fair go is worth doing. The upsides to a successful outcome include lower costs to the residents and a greater degree of service. It would also then open the opportunity as the MRR tip is decommissioned, to turn that land into a beautiful new community amenity, such as a park or recreation ground.

-- Cr Richard Graham, Independent Councillor for Palerang

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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.

158 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:				
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Bill Owen	Ph 6238 3208
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Stuart Whitten	Cooper Rd. 26
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34	Alan Rope	Canning Close 17
				Sutton Road 30
284 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:				
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45	Margaret Heleimin	Ph 6238 3463
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Anne Gardner	Merino Vale Drive 17
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	David Anderson	Weeroona, Norton to Majors 31
Ned Noel	13 Palerancncl+47Advetisers	60	Penny Evans	Weerona, Majors to Denley 35
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19		Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley 25
228 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:				
TBA	Valley View Lane	4	Deb Gordon	Ph 6238 3489
Coleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Rob Gorham	Yalana East 42
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	12	Lyle Montesin	South End - Clare Valley 38
Axelby Family	North End - Clare Valley	42	Bungendore Shop	Forrest Road area 60
256 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:				
Sheryl Barnes	Denley/Kestral to End	20	Brian Higgison	Bungendore 10
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	7	Rhett Cox	Ph 6238 3590
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26	Morag&Guy Cotsell	Deley/Birchmans - Kestral 12
Nora Stewart	Rovere Lane	7	Sandra Favre	Macs Reef /Nwngtn to Bankers 12
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton/Goolabri Area	40	Phil&Pam Dawes	MReef /Newington/Harriot (A) 30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Lane	6	Joan Milnor	MReef /Newington/Harriot (B) 20
Ian&Esther Rudd	MacsReef (Bankers-FedHiway)	26		Donelly Rd & Lane 20
217 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON				
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Snowdon Family	Birriwa & MacsReef(GmFlt-Harr) 30
Kevin Anderson	BungRd - McRf to Smmhl	33	Diana+Keith Gascoine	Ph 6236 9609
Kerrie Gougeon	BungRd - FedHy to Smmh 1	25	Thelma Martin	Hogan Drive 28
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	17	Richard Holding	Snow Gum Road 25
			David Featherston	Shinglehouse & Millyn 20
				Wyoming and Doust Rds 25
				Summerhil / Creekborough 24
TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1,143				



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Charlie Montesin  
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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 ENDED.

**A FIRE PERMIT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR ANY BURNING OFF IN THE OPEN. HOWEVER IF YOU NEED TO LIGHT A FIRE IN THE OPEN PLEASE 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

The only incident your brigade has been called to since our last report was a two car collision on Macs Reef Road a short way from the Federal Highway junction late on a cold Sunday evening. By the time our brigade was dispatched and arrived at the accident scene other emergency service teams from the police, ambulance service, the NSW and ACT Fire Brigades were already in attendance. At least three people had been taken to hospital by the time the Wamboin crews arrived. The extent of any injuries was unknown. Both vehicles were extensively damaged. While the aftermath of the accident was clear, as seen in the accompanying photograph, the reason why one car had veered to the wrong side of the road was not.

The Wamboin crew remained at the accident scene until both vehicles were removed by a tow truck a number of hours after the accident occurred.

To give you an idea of the types of training activities your brigade can be involved in, this month's report includes descriptions of events held in Mt Jerrabomberra and Griffith.

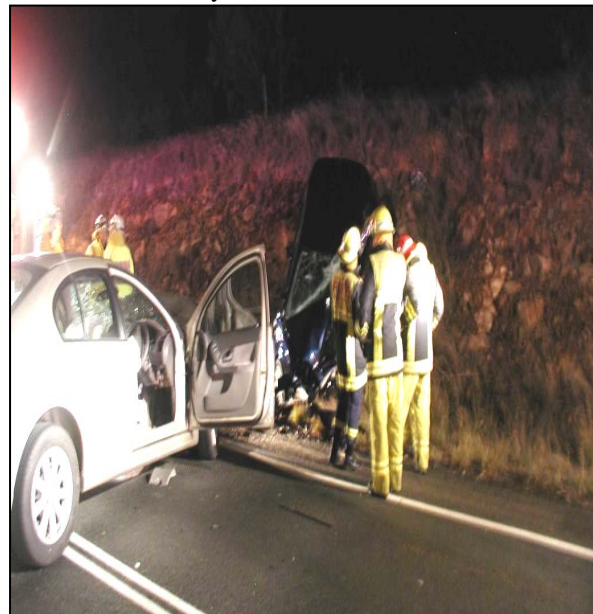
The details of the first event in Mt Jerrabomberra have been provided by Lemmi Briedis. A hazard reduction burn, attended by 6 neighbouring brigades was conducted on May 23. There were 40 firefighters, 10 fire fighting trucks and a communications bus set up as a control centre. Wamboin sent a Category 7 truck crewed by Chris Murdock, Lemmi Briedis and Ian Coillet. The crew worked from 9am until 6.00pm on a variety of tasks, mostly on a controlled burn in the north sector, some patrolling of the streets of Jerrabomberra and towing another truck which had broken down. The Wamboin crew appreciated the relative luxury of being able to refill their truck with water from water hydrants and standpipes near the urban area instead of the more usual practice of drawing water from dams, creeks or in some cases, swimming pools.

The aim of the hazard reduction burn was to reduce the fuel load in an 11 hectare area to decrease the intensity of any fire if it was to occur in the area. A reduced fuel load often enables fire fighters to extinguish a fire more quickly. It also reduces the risk to surrounding properties and other things of value. The weather conditions were favourable on the day and many of the objectives in the prescribed burn plan prepared by the Fire Mitigation Officer for Lake George Zone were achieved.

The second training event held in Griffith was more complex than the Mt Jerrabomberra hazard reduction burn and it typifies the diverse activities volunteers can be called on to undertake. The details have been provided by John Taubman.

John as Crew Leader and Grant Boore as the driver left the Wamboin fire shed in a Category 7 tanker around 4pm and arrived at the staging area near Yenda, just outside Griffith, at 9:30pm.

It is interesting to note that while 25 'teams' were registered only 16 arrived as rain was forecast for the following week. Many volunteers had no choice other than to get their crops in before the rain came and therefore could not attend. About 60 firefighters and 20 support crew attended the event.



Emergency service crews inspecting the aftermath of the two-car accident on Macs Reef Road. (Photo by Peter Greenwood)

of  
of

As is often the case in training exercises brigade members are sometimes asked to carry out roles they do not normally do. This can be used to develop extra skills and a better understanding of the complexity of jobs required for some incidents. John was asked to assume the role of a Strike Team Leader while John continued to act as the driver of the Cat 7 vehicle. This strike team was made up of two vehicles; the Wamboin Cat 7 and a Category 1 tanker from Paynters Siding. The large exercise was set up to simulate the events which could occur in a significant fire scenario. The staging area was also similar to what we would encounter in such a scenario; a mess hall, showers, toilets, communications, and 3 generators. Two water tankers were also available at two sectors.

Each sector concentrated on particular aspects of fire fighting work. The distinct advantage of this type of training exercise was that it was anticipated that not all participants had a lot of experience in all the planned activities. This approach created an extremely good learning atmosphere for all involved, irrespective of their previous experiences.

The first sector involved safe working on roofs. The operation of the equipment for this work was explained and culminated in putting a person safely on a roof. The second sector was concerned with fire investigation and how it impacted on the more traditional fire fighting roles. A real fire was used to help the participants put the lessons into practice. The third sector provided the necessary background to better understand the role of fire fighting aircraft and the use of this invaluable resource by firefighters on the ground. The next sector simulated the treatment of multiple casualties resulting from an aircraft accident. As is often the case bushfires have no regard for the time of day or night after they get established and being able to navigate at night was explained and put to the test in the next sector.

Following breakfast on the second day more events faced the still eager crews. Understanding the effects of electricity, the transmission of high voltage energy and the role of electricity authorities was next on the schedule. Following this, the next sector enabled teams to understand or test chainsaw skills. The next sector was a bit more dramatic as it showed everyone what to expect and do when LPG gas from cylinders ignites when people need to be rescued or other fires need to be dealt with. Acquainting crews with the complexities of structure fires was next on the schedule, while the last sector provided a well-presented briefing on off-road driving.

Both of these training events provided different but extremely valuable experiences for all participants. It is a continuing demonstration of the determination our volunteers display in maintaining skills or learning new ones.

I would like to invite all residents of the Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Park communities to join us at our annual general meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at the Wamboin Community Hall and Fire Shed starting at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

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

<b>THE CAPTAIN'S LIST</b>	<b>Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade</b>	
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## The Lake George Day VIEW Club by Lydia Teodorowych



Lake George Day View Club members and discerning guests attended the May luncheon at the Carrington Inn Bungendore honouring women who have the courage to dare to "be". Being a woman today is not an easy task. There is so much advertising on the TV as to how the "perfect" woman should look, what she should do, and how she should behave and the reality of the matter is, to be the media's view of the plastic model of life is unrealistic, unsustainable and down right insane if women are to be the carers and nurturers of their families and inturn of civilisation as this is the reality of what we do as women.

So, in the spirit of rebellion, of taking a step out of the media norm, we decided to reconnect with our spontanaety and feed our child within.

It's time to grab the red hat, put on some purple clothes and acknowledge being yourself.

The beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears,  
The figure that she carries, or the way she combs her hair.  
The beauty of a woman must be seen within her eyes, because that is the doorway to her soul,  
the place where love resides.  
The beauty of a woman is not in a facial mole or the latest 'playgirl' of the month picture.  
The true beauty of a woman is reflected in her soul.  
It is the caring that she lovingly gives, the passion that she shows,  
And the beauty of a woman with passing years only grows

Our June meeting will be held at Logan's Cafe Bungendore on Tuesday June 16. 11.30 for a 12 noon start. Cost \$20 for main meal, sweets and tea or coffee. There will be no speaker as we will be discussing the direction of the LGDVC and what our visions are for the future.

Raffle tickets and door prizes are a regular feature of our meeting.

RSVP your attendance by Friday 12 May to Pauline on 6238 1996.

Come along and bring a friend! If you would like to join our Day club, it's never too late to sign up!

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### Notes from St Andrews

I have just returned from a combined service with St Peters in Sutton. It was a truly memorable service as the Preacher and Celebrant was the new Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Stuart Robinson. The church looked magnificent in the evening light and it was a full congregation who were privileged to see the Bishop with all of his regalia, who spoke movingly on this Day of Pentecost.

This month we have services on 7 June (Matins) and 21 June (Holy Communion) . The services begin at 9am and everyone is most welcome to come along.  
For any added information please call our Rectors Warden, Robyn Robertson on 62383202



## SHEPHERDS RUN

### *Christmas in July*

*\$50pp for a three course Buffet style dinner*

Menu

*Nibbles to start*

Main course

*Full Roast dinner of beef, chicken and ham with roast vegetables, gravy and other condiments*

Dessert

*Chris' family recipe Christmas pudding with cream  
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*Tea and coffee included*

*Saturday evening 4 July 2009 starting at 6:30pm  
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### *Formal Dinner/Dining Night*

When

*Expected to be Sat evening 20 June*

What

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The gourmet meal would include:  
Pre-dinner canaps with drink  
Special entree, main, dessert  
Wine with the meal  
After dinner port*

Dress

*Black tie or dress uniform*

Cost

*\$145 per head*

Interest

*If you or a friend are interested in attending please contact HQSR on 6238 3842 ASAP  
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Horizon has a very good brochure that is a guide called 'Steps to Buying Your Home' in NSW & ACT. This offers advice for both the Seller & Buyer. If you would like a copy sent to you contact Jan Ladmore  
Phone: 0407 890 527 or E-mail: [jan.ladmore@bigpond.com](mailto:jan.ladmore@bigpond.com)

## WWoW Whispers

We have just had a really busy month with lots of extra activities going on. We have had two craft workshops where we were fortunate enough to have a prize winning tutor in quilting and beading; Fiona Hammond. Twelve ladies spent two days on a quilting project and on Friday 14 ladies worked on a magnificent beaded brooch. We also had four of the group who brought along their spinning wheels – the talent seems endless.

To show that we are NOT just a craft group we also enjoyed a morning where Nora Stewart came along and we enjoyed a morning of Irish social dancing. The laughter could be heard all around Wamboin and I can recommend everyone to go along and join Nora and Martin on their Sunday social dancing classes.

One of the nicest events of the month was the invitations which came from the Lake George Day View Club. We were invited to their monthly lunch and also the Biggest Morning Tea in aid of the Cancer Council at Pauline Segeri's house. What a wonderful community we have in Wamboin and how wonderful it is for the groups to be growing and joining each other for community events.

This month we are off to Sydney for the Quilt and Craft Show – joining up with the Sutton Sew and Sews. We also hope to have a couple of guest speakers and who knows what else will eventuate! We welcome all new people who would like to come along and meet some of the community – it's a rare day now when we have less than 35 along on Mondays, and it's lovely to see friendships and sub groups forming as like-minded people meet each other.

We meet on Monday mornings between 10am and midday in St Andrews Church on the corner of Poppet and Norton Roads. For any further information or ideas or requests please call Claire Ayling on 62383347.

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## Wamboin Fishing & Outdoors Club

I am looking for people in the Wamboin area who are interested in forming a Fishing and Outdoors Club. It will benefit members by sharing costs for trips. I will also try to get discounts at various fishing and outdoor stores for members

The first thing will be to get together and talk about how we would like to set the club up. I have arranged to have the Fire Station Hall, on Bingley Way open to us on Sunday 14th June, at 1pm.

Hope to see you there. -- Chris Byrne of Hogan Dr.

## Wamboin 15 Years Ago -- from the Whisper of June, 1994

by Robyn Robertson

Nothing notable was recorded. Wamboin life proceeded busily and peacefully.

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## PROTECTING WILDLIFE THIS WINTER

by Phil Michin

Local wildlife groups, such as Wildcare and the Native Animal Rescue Group, do their best to pick up the pieces when wildlife is injured or orphaned. But the real secret is to stop animals coming into care in the first place – or worse having to be euthanised when they are badly injured. Photo: Spud was rescued by a good Samaritan.

Motorists, who drive through wildlife-rich areas, know all too well of the dangers in coming across a kangaroo or wombat on the road. But most drivers don't hit wildlife because they are vigilant and drive slowly where they know animals hang out and cross the road. And if you want the best chance in avoiding an expensive bump, then reduce speed to give time to react, avoid 'tunnel vision' and look around much more. Know where wildlife crossing points are and take extra care at dawn and dusk and through the night, as that is when animals are moving around. If you come across a wombat on the road don't expect it to run away. As Lesley, a Wildcare carer says "On hearing an oncoming car or truck, the first instinct of a wombat is to stop and crouch. It will not move away until it understands what the noise is, but by that time it is often too late. If you have avoided a wombat on the road, you can stop, go back and chase the animal off the road - but do it safely. We are also moving into that time of year when female kangaroos may have a Joey onboard, so please check-out animals that have been injured or recently killed and call your local wildlife group for advice and help"



At home take care in tackling a wood pile or fallen tree, as there may be lizards hibernating, or an echidna tucked away. Last winter Wildcare took into care a family of blue tongue lizards that had been disturbed by a chain saw! Dead trees that are standing also provide homes for small mammals, birds and possums, so you can help protect creatures by leaving these trees alone. Some property owners are happy to leave large areas undisturbed to give wildlife a chance to get on with life.

By now most snakes in our area would have moved into hibernation. And winter is a great time to have a spring clean around the backyard. Why, because by having a tidy space around the house you will deter snakes from approaching and you will have a better chance in seeing them. Feed and animal sheds are ideal spots for snakes to hunt for mice. But if these areas are tidy and mice populations reduced, there will be less danger next spring.

Wildcare can be contacted on 6299 1966 and the Native Animal Rescue Group (Braidwood and Majors Creek area) is on 48461900.



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## Waste Management Facts & Figures

Council is proposing a roadside collection service for all Bywong/Sutton East/Wamboin residents when the Macs Reef Road tip closes. Community groups have opposed this impost and requested instead that a transfer station be built at the Macs Reef Road tip site, to be operational by the time the tip is closed. Note that **Council is now considering three options:**

1. **A council operated roadside collection service** (for which all residents will be charged, whether they use the service or not);
2. **A transfer station at the Macs Reef Road site;** or
3. **Nothing** (i.e. local residents use the Bungendore tip/transfer station).

The current commercial service will still be available if council does nothing or provides a transfer station, but may not survive if council implements its own roadside service.

The costing provided in the original report provided by Council suggested that all other waste disposal options were at least 50% more expensive than the proposed roadside collection service. The figures assumed that residents travelled 10km to the tip with household waste every fortnight (in a vehicle that cost \$0.75/km to run), and with a one tonne truck load of general waste three times a year. I have prepared the adjacent table of what I consider to be data more representative of a local resident, one who visits the tip every couple of months with a ute load of rubbish (household waste, recyclables and general waste). There should be enough information for you to estimate your own costs (I have endeavoured to identify the sources of all my data), and you can decide for yourself which is the most economical option for you. The greatest variation for individual residents will be in vehicle running costs. This component will be more significant for residents who live closer to the Macs Reef Road site, and further from Bungendore. Note also that, according to Council's 2008/2009 Fees & Charges schedule (see [http://www.palerrang.nsw.gov.au/files/6514/File/fees\\_charges\\_adopted.pdf](http://www.palerrang.nsw.gov.au/files/6514/File/fees_charges_adopted.pdf)), the deposit of recyclables at a transfer station is free (Fee J6.1), and the gate fee for general waste is as low as \$1.50 (Fee J7.1), although more typically \$5.00 (Fee J7.2), for a 140 L bin of general waste.

I think it is also important to note a critical distinction between the alternatives being presented.

1. **A roadside collection service would be funded entirely by local residents** (whether or not they use it), through a Domestic Waste Charge;
2. **A transfer station**, like all other transfer stations in Palerrang, **would be funded through the General Waste Charge**, which is paid by all Palerrang ratepayers;
3. Doing nothing won't change any existing Council fees or charges.

The simple fact is that a roadside collection service, with no local transfer station, will effectively reduce council waste fees for all ratepayers outside of the Bywong/Sutton East/Wamboin area, but dramatically increase council waste fees for Bywong/Sutton East/Wamboin residents. Council claims that this increase would be offset by savings in vehicle running costs and transfer station gate fees. My analysis suggests that this would not be the case.

Thanks to the tremendous response from members of our community, Council has agreed to survey the views of residents before proceeding with a trial of their proposed roadside collection service. The survey form should appear in your letterbox towards the end of June, or early in July. **When it arrives, please take the time to complete the survey form and return it in the reply paid envelope as soon as possible.**

Pete Harrison (Ph. 6238 3525; Email: [Pete.Harrison@internode.on.net](mailto:Pete.Harrison@internode.on.net)), Vice President, WCA



### NOTICE

#### **The Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade** **2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held on  
Tuesday 9 June 2009  
Wamboin Fire Station  
112 Bingley Way Wamboin.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm.

The AGM is the Brigade's most important formal event of the year.  
All Brigade members are encouraged to attend.  
Nominations for all Brigade positions are welcome.  
Nomination forms are available from the Secretary.  
Aspiring members, families, and other visitors are welcome.

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

Ian Collet  
**Secretary**  
6238 3425



The following table identifies some comparative costs for the waste management options that are being considered. Naturally, the further a resident lives from Bungendore, the more value they will see in the proposed Macs Reef Road transfer station. The figures in the table represent the cost to a resident who lives 10km from the Macs Reef Road site, and 20km from Bungendore. This resident visits a transfer station three times a year if there is a collection service (to dispose of items other than household waste), or six times a year (to dispose of all their waste) if there is no collection service. The basis for all figures is provided in the Notes that follow the table.

The three Options presented in the upper part of the Table are those specifically being proposed by Council—a roadside collection service, a transfer station at the Macs Reef Road tip site, or neither (in which case residents would have to use the main transfer station at Bungendore). The three options in the lower part are provided for comparison. They represent the costs associated with using the existing commercial collection service on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis, with and without the Macs Reef Road transfer station.

Option	DWC <sup>1</sup>	Service (Disposal) Fees <sup>2</sup>	Gate Fees <sup>3</sup>	Vehicle Running <sup>4</sup>	GWC Increase <sup>5</sup>	Total Annual Cost <sup>6</sup>
Roadside Collection	\$260	Nil	\$33	\$64	Nil	\$357
Macs Reef Road TS	Nil	Nil	\$66	\$64	\$40	\$170
Bungendore TS only	Nil	Nil	\$66	\$128	Nil	\$194
Commercial Collection (240 L per <b>week</b> )	Nil	\$416 (\$104)				
Macs Reef Road TS			\$33	\$32	\$40	\$625
Bungendore TS			\$33	\$64	Nil	\$617
Commercial Collection (240 L per <b>fortnight</b> )	Nil	\$260 (\$52)				
Macs Reef Road TS			\$33	\$32	\$40	\$417
Bungendore TS			\$33	\$64	Nil	\$409
Commercial Collection (240 L per <b>month</b> )	Nil	\$120 (\$24)				
Macs Reef Road TS			\$33	\$32	\$40	\$249
Bungendore TS			\$33	\$64	Nil	\$241

- Notes:**
- DWC (Domestic Waste Charge) as per council staff report for the April 2009 meeting of Council. Note that the Council Roadside Collection cost estimate includes both collection and disposal fees.
  - Commercial collection Service Fees provided by O'Sullivan's Rural Waste, April 2009 (\$8 per 240 L bin weekly, or \$10 per 240 L bin otherwise). Collection is from residence or gate, at no additional cost. Disposal Fee is the estimated increase (\$2 per bin) in the Service Fee that will apply when Council begins charging the commercial operator to dump collected waste at a transfer station.
  - Gate Fees from Council's 2008/9 Fees & Charges—Fee J7.3 (Utility/Van/Single Axle Trailer Full Load) \$11. The gate fee for a car would be only \$5 per visit, and there is no fee to dispose of recyclables.
  - Vehicle Running is the cost of running a 1999 Rodeo Utility on Transfer Station (TS) trips, assuming 10km to Macs Reef Road TS (or, for the council Roadside Collection option when there would be no local transfer station, 20km to Bungendore TS) at a rate of \$0.53/km. For comparison however, my 2000 Holden Station Wagon costs only \$0.33/km to run.
  - GWC Increase is the estimated General Waste Charge increase required to fund the Macs Reef Road transfer station, deduced from figures provided in the council staff report for the April 2009 meeting of Council.
  - Total Annual Cost is the cost of waste disposal for Bywong/Sutton/Wamboin residents—sum of Service and Disposal Fees (where applicable), Transfer Station Gate Fees, Vehicle Running expenses and the increase in the GWC where appropriate. This total is in addition to the GWC, which is currently \$215.

The General Waste Charge funds all waste management functions other than roadside collection. To put the GWC increase (in the above table) into perspective, Council's 2005-2025 Waste Management Strategy (<http://www.palrang.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/7669/7675.html>) identifies the budget for the all currently planned transfer stations. The adjacent table lists the proportion of the current GWC that would go to funding these six transfer stations. In fact, the GWC will rise as each of these facilities comes on line, so the figures here are conservative.

Facility	GWC Amount
Nerriga Transfer Station	\$9
Majors Creek Transfer	\$14
Araluan Transfer Station	\$15
Captains Flat Transfer	\$50
Braidwood Transfer Station	\$54
Bungendore Transfer Station	\$75

## WAMBOIN PRODUCE MARKETS

The next markets are  
**SATURDAY 20th June 2009**  
9AM – 12 NOON

The June markets will be the last Wamboin Produce Markets until September. Because July and August are too cold (and no local produce) we will have a 2-month break, so June is the time to stock up on any goodies that will keep. A big 'thank-you' to all who support these wonderful markets and to all the stallholders who make it possible. An extra special thanks goes to Wagona Coffee who supply all the needs for a great coffee at the Markets each month. Special thanks goes to Cassie for all her good work over time making coffee at the markets, and to Matilda and Hanna who will continue with the coffee each month.

Check out the September Whisper when it all starts to happen once again.

For more information contact Joan Mason 6238 3258. Entry: Free. Stall holders \$5.

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## Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin

34 Year Statistics from the Robertsons

May rainfall to 31/5 ..... 6.25 mm  
 2008 rainfall to 31/5 ..... 215.25 mm  
 Wettest June .... 189 mm (1997)  
 Coldest June day .... 4c (4 times)

May 2008 ..... 17.75 mm  
 Average June rainfall ..... 59.5 mm  
 Driest June ..... 8 mm (1979)  
 Coldest June night ..... -6c (9/6/96)

2009 rainfall to 31/5 ..... 157 mm  
 June 2008 ..... 32 mm  
 Hottest June day ..... 17c (twice)

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<b>MATHEMATICS COACHING:</b> All levels and all years catered for by an experienced teacher with special expertise in high school and college levels, including the International Baccalaureate. Please contact Judy Dalla on 6236 9990.
<b>Recycle your egg cartons &amp; rubber bands.</b> Just drop them off at 413 Norton Road - In the letter box or just inside the gate is fine.
<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 nednoel@optusnet.com.au. And thanks if you have already done so.



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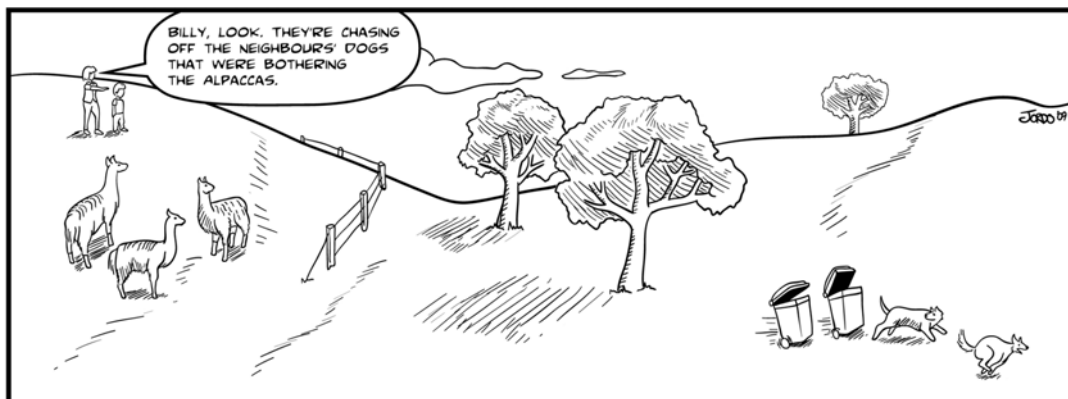
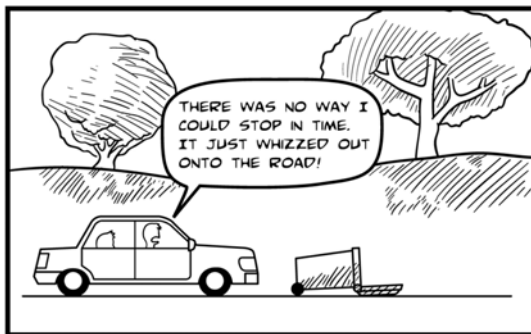
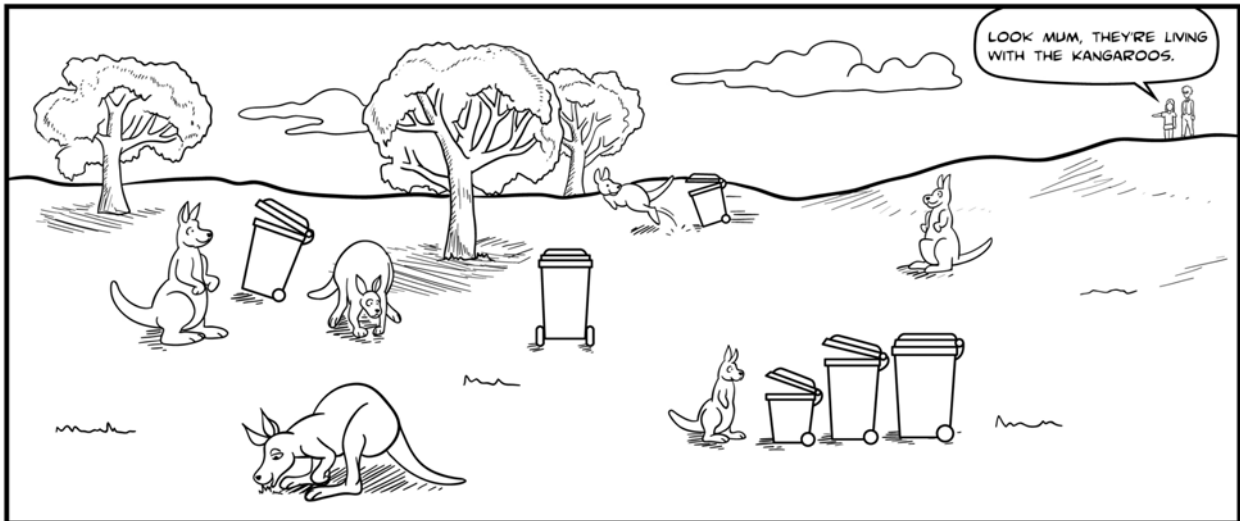
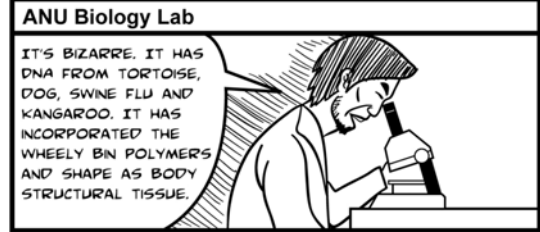
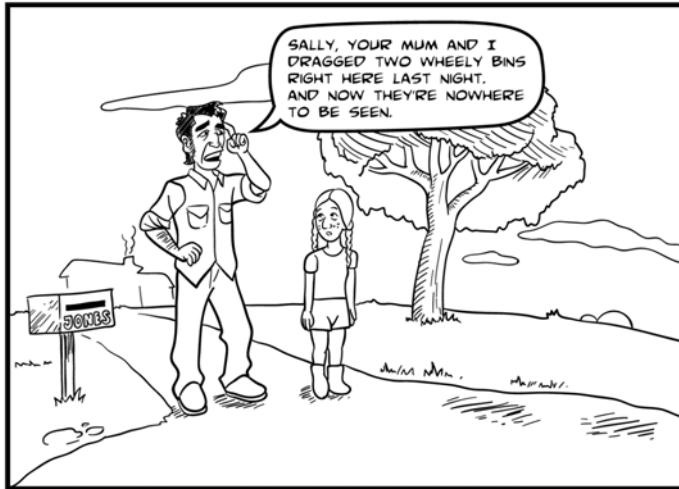
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# Wheely Bins - Trying to Forsee Possible Ramifications

Illustrated by Jordan Chic

Theme by Ned Noel





## Wanted Properties for Sale

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## **Wamboin Muse**

**Jill Gregory**

I didn't really think I'd have a chance to savour autumn, this year. I thought the prolonged dry and fierce winds would have blown the colours away before they had massed, but I was wrong. Even in my own garden the golds and reds and yellows have added a cheery spot of colour against the green and greying backdrop. The nandinas and berberis, and some of the mayas and viburnums are still red, and even a few wattles have a rusty tinge. And amongst them the golden diosmas, and behind them the Chinese elms catch the sun and glow. The elm has clung on to its leaves much longer than the ash, as if defying the onset of winter.

But I don't spend all my time in the garden. Sometimes duty calls in the guise of a dump trip. Now I'm not a frequent visitor to the dump. Usually I have to forego such pleasures because there's a crossword to complete or some leaves to be raked, but this morning I went, just to be companionable. The weather was dump perfect; misty rain, grey skies and slippery, clogging mud. I got out of the car to throw a few bags into the ether and within a few paces had grown inches taller and my shoes felt like lead. But what really impressed me was the pallet clad library near the carefully labelled bins. Once I went there and felt like royalty, with an honour guard of toilet bowls. Another time I admired a couple of blooming pot plants. It is indeed a wonderful dump. My father was a true dump crawler, and I discovered that his son in law shared the same gene pool. I admit that I've always dreaded the trailer returning with more in it than when it left, and my fears are often realised. However, I've been carefully conditioned over the years to believe that "you never know when something might come in handy". My father's shed was testament to that, and we, too, have a couple of sheds in support of that theory.

I remember the days when what little waste we had was genuinely recycled. Tins were buried in the back yard, bottles were used repeatedly for jams and chutneys or to hold a drink for school, and newspaper was crumpled to light the fire. Brown paper was carefully pressed and folded and put away until a parcel had to be wrapped for the post. There was very little plastic, and whatever came into the house was too precious to be thrown out. Leftovers were then stored in those rare containers and lost at the back of the fridge until they could be disposed of without a conscience. Any decent food scraps went to the chooks. And when you did go to the dump it was a great opportunity for trading. What my father couldn't find some use for, or repair, simply wasn't worth having.

I am very aware of the amount of rubbish we accumulate in our daily lives, and dutifully try to recycle, but sometimes I fear my measures are little more than "feel good" gestures. Our storage sheds have helped to extend the life of the Macs Reef tip. We've retrieved lots of valuable items from there and created new space, but I wonder how green that solution really is. Think of the resources used to build another shed.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....long live the tip and the recycling bins...and let me deal with the rest.

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