

# WAMBOIN

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COMMUNITY  ASSOCIATION

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## The Whisper

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March 2010 CIRCULATION: 1,178

[wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://wamboincommunity.asn.au)

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 and Bywong at the start of each month, except January. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Contributions from residents are valued and the main content. Please email them to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or mail them. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the April 2010 issue Whisper the deadline is Sunday, March 28, 2010, 7:00 pm, and it will go to deliverers 5 days later.

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

**Bungendore Police 6238 1244 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre 6238-3396 Ambulance Bookings 131233**

**WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS**

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	Helen Montesin	President	6238-3208 wamboincommunity.asn.au
<b>Bywong Community Assn</b>	Nora Stewart	President	6230-3305 bywongcommunity.org.au
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Andrew Dunn	Captain	0409-991-340 bh 6238 1849 ah
<b>Wamboin Markets</b>	Joan Mason	Contact	6238 3258
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Rosemary Semecky	Convener	6230-3807
<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>	Jill Sedaitis	JP	6236-9559
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Tony Holland	JP	6238-3762
<b>Wamboin Scout Group</b>	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472
<b>Wamboin Play Group</b>	Kristin Skinner	Convener	6238-1201
<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>	Yvonne Barrett	Contact	6230 3539 or 0409 951 388
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966
<b>Wonderful Women Of Wambn</b>	Claire Ayling	Convener	6238-3347
<b>Lake George Day VIEW Club</b>	Lydia Zielinski	Contact	6230-3488
<b>Wamboin Bookgroup</b>	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
Elena Sutcliffe, petsitting .....	6238-3228
Jack and Matilda Whitney, pet care .....	6238 3059

**SUNDAY 28 MARCH 9AM-1PM**



# **BYWONG COMMUNITY CAR BOOT SALE**

Proudly supported by

Flames Fitness

Café D'Lish

Koonaburra Wines

Southern Cross Computing

Tulip Top Gardens

Ellie Merriman (Ray White Bungendore)

The Lake FM 88MHz ([www.bywong.com.au](http://www.bywong.com.au))

Tender Edge Printing

Langley & Pino Eyecare

O'Sullivan's Waste

Lambert Vineyards

\*Sausage sizzle

\*Refreshments

\*Entertainment

\*Monster raffle

\*Treasures

\*Cakes \*Plants

\*Books

\*100s' of stalls

\*Collectables

Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road.

(off Macs Reef Road)

Follow signs from Sutton Road or Federal Highway

**FREE Entry for Buyers**

gates open for sellers at 7.30am

Car or Ute \$15, Larger \$25, Trailer \$5 extra.

**Call Bernie 6230 3165**

## Bywong Community News

by Nora Stewart, President

**Keeping Bywong Beautiful -- Sunday 7th March:** It's the annual clean up day and we're **STILL**



**LOOKING FOR volunteers** to remove rubbish from areas along the Macs Reef Road, the Bungendore Road and surrounds. We would also appreciate donations of bags, please. There will be a *Thank-you BBQ* for all volunteers at the Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road at midday. There will also be a competition for the most unusual item found during the clean-up. *Please call Nora Stewart on 0431862853 or email [nora@setdancing.com.au](mailto:nora@setdancing.com.au) to register your interest in taking part.*

### **Bywong Car Boot Sale - Sunday 28 March 9-1pm:**

Come support your local community and find some local treasure! We also have entertainment including local pony club events and see the flydogs flying!! A sausage sizzle and a vast cake stall will provide refreshments and demonstrations from the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade.

**Gates will open for sellers at 7.30am, & the event will be in full swing at 9am. FREE Entry for Buyers; Car or Ute \$15: Larger \$25: Trailer \$5 extra. More information if you want to hold a stall call Bernie 6230 3165**

### **THIS YEAR THE CAR BOOT SALE IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:**

- Flames Fitness
- Tender Edge Printing
- Café D'Lish
- Langley & Pino Eyecare
- Koonaburra Wines
- The Lake FM Radio 88MHz
- O'Sullivan's Waste
- Southern Cross Computing
- Lambert Vineyards
- Tulip Top Gardens
- Ellie Merriman (Ray White Bungendore)

**The Local Environment Plan (LEP) – Why should you be interested?** The LEP is the going to be the master control planning document for future development in Palerang and will have an influence on the size of blocks here and therefore most likely the population, the nature of the development allowed and it should also be responding to protect the environment and enhance our social and economic prosperity in the area. It's early days but better to get in early - Palerang Councillors are currently considering a **WORKING DRAFT** plan, put together by the Council staff and they will develop a final draft that will be certified by NSW Government and then put out for formal comment and consultation. *Bywong residential areas have been given a zoning called Environmental Living (E4), which has a range of proposed objectives and development controls.* To look at the original working draft LEP, go to our website under the *TAB Local issues to Council* and look at *LEP 2010* folder:

[http://bywongcommunity.org.au/local-issues-to-council/local-environment-plan-2010/extord2010\\_02\\_11.pdf/view](http://bywongcommunity.org.au/local-issues-to-council/local-environment-plan-2010/extord2010_02_11.pdf/view)

Council is meeting every **second and fourth Thursday of the month** until they have a draft plan completed.

**Why is the Macs Reef Road So Dangerous??** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Public Information Night, Bywong Hall  
Put this date in your diary for an informative and lively night! More details to follow.

[www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au)



**Bywong  
Community**

Check our **NEW AND REVISED WEBSITE** for more local and updated information about issues that affect you!!

# Sutton Country Fair & Ute Muster



**Saturday 27 March 2010**  
**10am – 2pm**  
**AT**  
**SUTTON PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
Bywong Street, Sutton



## LOTS TO SEE AND DO!

*Pat the baby  
animals*

*Browse the  
Market Stalls*

*Squeal on  
the Slide*

*Savour homemade  
delights*

*Look through  
books & CDs*

*Face Painting*

*Stock up  
on plants*

*Check out the utes*

*and much more!*

### GOT A UTE?

Enter it into the Ute Muster - Prizes for each category!  
For details and your entry form contact Cathy on 0427 771 732  
or e-mail [fuller\\_clan@yahoo.com.au](mailto:fuller_clan@yahoo.com.au)  
or check [www.sutton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sutton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

Come along, have fun & support the  
Sutton Public School's major annual fundraiser



## WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### President's Paragraphs

**The Whisper On-Line** – This edition, and archives of past editions, of The Whisper are now available from the WCA Web site at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/whisper/>

**Clean-up Australia Day** – will on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March from 9:00am till noon. Please register at the Bingley Way hall to help out with this really important community event – we need all the help we can get!

**Wamboin Community Association AGM** – The March General Meeting will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting of the WCA. Everyone with an interest in activities within the Wamboin community is invited to attend. The primary purpose of the 2010/11 AGM is to elect the 2010/11 Executive and Committee. Nominations for all positions should be made in writing, signed by two members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate, and should be delivered to the WCA Secretary, in person or by mail to 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin NSW 2620, by 9 March 2010.

**Wamboin Produce Markets** – The next markets will be on 20<sup>th</sup> March from 9:00am until noon. There is sure to be a great range of local produce and plenty of opportunity to catch up with friends over a cup of coffee/tea and scones/muffins.

**WCA Electronic Noticeboard** – The noticeboard is a great way to keep up with issues of community interest and I encourage everybody to subscribe. With the creation of our new Web site, the subscription process has been simplified. Just go to the noticeboard Web page at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard/> and click on the subscription link.

**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. All of this information, and much more, is also available on-line at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au>, in the Community Groups and Services sections.

**Calendar of events** – If you have any events that you would like included in April’s Whisper, please contact John van der Straaten (ph: 6238 3590 or [secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au)).

**Thank you** – I am standing down from the WCA presidency at the upcoming AGM and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hardworking committee for their help and support over the last 4 years. The WCA has achieved a lot over the last few years, particularly in our representations to Council. All of which wouldn’t have been possible without the dedicated and hardworking team that I have been fortunate to work with. Thank you all so much.

-- Helen Montesin ([president@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au))

 <p>Equestrian Australia NCAS COACH (Dressage)</p> <p><b>Over 25 years experience. Quiet lesson horses for all ages or will come to you</b></p>	<p><b>Karelia</b> Riding Instruction Canberra</p> <p><b>2 Clare Lane, Bywong</b></p> <p>Specialising in private lessons. Quiet well educated horses.</p> <p><i>Angela Miettinen</i> <b>0416 335 217</b></p> <p><b>teammiettinen@bigpond.com</b></p>
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## EASTER LITURGIES SCHEDULE

### St Mary's in Bungendore

Saturday 27th March - 6 pm - Vigil Mass – (Palm Sunday)  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> - 8.30am - Palm Sunday Mass- Father Peter Ryan  
Monday 29 March - 9 am - Mission Mass  
Tuesday 30 March - 7 pm - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation & Mission  
Wednesday 30 March - 9 am - Mass plus Mission  
Thursday 1 April - 9.00am Mission  
Thursday 1 April - 7 pm – Mass of the Last Supper (inc. washing of the feet)  
Friday 2 April - 10 am - Stations of the Cross  
Friday 2 April – 3.00pm – The Passion  
Saturday 3 April – 6.00pm Easter Vigil  
Sunday 4 April – 8.30am (Easter) Mass

## OAKLEIGH BERRY FARM

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(weather permitting) but get in early because we sold out quickly last month

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## TIP OPENING HOURS

(from [www.palerang.nsw.gov.au](http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au) on 1-Dec-2009)

### Bungendore Tip

Friday to Monday, 7.30 am - 5.00 pm  
(please note the tip is closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)  
During daylight saving, Friday and Monday,  
7.30 am - 5.00 pm  
Saturday and Sunday, 7.30 am - 7.00 pm

### Macs Reef Road Tip

Friday to Monday, 7.30 am - 5.00 pm  
(please note the tip is closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)  
During daylight saving, Friday and Monday,  
7.30 am - 5.00 pm  
Saturday and Sunday, 7.30 am - 7.00 pm



LAMBERTVINEYARDS

CAFÉ: Thursday, Friday, Saturday evenings Friday, Saturday, Sunday lunch

TAKEAWAY: Thursday and Friday evenings

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### Notes from St Andrews

We are now in Lent and the Rev'd Peter Grundy is running his very popular Lenten Studies group; all are welcome to come along; 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings in St Andrews Church. This will culminate in a Passover meal to be enjoyed on Tuesday 30 March. For any further information please contact Robyn Robertson on 62383202.

Our usual services of Morning Prayer will be held on 7 March and Holy Communion on 21 March. These begin at 9am. Advance notices of Easter services; Good Friday 2 April at 9am and Easter Sunday on 4 April, also at 9am.

For newcomers to the area, St Andrews Anglican Church is on the corner of Norton and Poppet Roads. Any enquiries can be answered by our Rectors Warden, Robyn Robertson on 62383202

## D & K

### CONCRETING


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**Jan Ladmore**  
Bungendore  
Ph 0407890527  
E-mail: [jan.ladmore@bigpond.com](mailto:jan.ladmore@bigpond.com)

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Kingston Office: 0262953211  
[www.horizonrealestate.com.au](http://www.horizonrealestate.com.au)



## Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin – 35 Year Statistics from the Robertsons

February Rainfall ... 170.75mm  
2010 rainfall to 28/2 ... 176.25mm  
Average March rainfall ... 55.3mm  
Wettest March ... 303mm in 1989  
Driest March ... 3mm in 1986 and 1998  
Coldest March day ... 13 degrees C on 14/3/94

Feb 2009 ... 13.75mm  
2009 to 28/2 ... 75.25mm  
March 2009 ... 10.75mm  
Wettest March day ... 160mm on 15/3/89  
Hottest March day ... 35 degrees C on 8/3/83  
Coldest March night ... 3 degrees C on 28/3/99

<b>Fencing Problems?</b>	For all your <b>RURAL, COMMERCIAL OR DOMESTIC FENCING</b> needs...	Call: <b>NIC CLANCY</b> <b>0409 866 970</b> or <b>4845 8235</b>	Preferred supplier for Environment ACT. Landcare & Greening Australia contacts for grants.
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 <b>Dad's Property Maintenance</b> 6238 1071      0417 494 283 <a href="http://www.dadspm.com.au">www.dadspm.com.au</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Home Make-overs</li><li>• General Maintenance</li><li>• Security doors, Screens, Locks</li><li>• Energy Efficiency Modifications</li><li>• Decks and Verandahs</li><li>• Aged &amp; Disabled Access Modifications</li><li>• Big and Small Jobs</li></ul> 
<small>NSW Lic: 191292c NSW M/L: 490419747</small>	<b>FREE Insulation</b> (Conditions Apply) Through the Commonwealth Governments Energy Efficient Homes Package

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ladmore1@bigpond.com      **JAN: 0407 890 527**

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<b>Ph 6238 0460    Open 7 Days 36 King Street    Bungendore</b>	

<b>NEW CLASSIFIEDS</b>
Small area pasture slashing [back in business], up to 2 ha. Ph 62369189
Trailer, 2.1 x 1.2, dolly wheel, 900mm [h] cage, heavy duty axle. Minor rust, otherwise good cond. \$550.00 Ph: 62369189
<b>HOUSESITTER(S) Wanted</b> for 2-3 months mid 2010 for small block with no animals. Own transport, ability to negotiate stairs and references essential. Phone 0439 383 428.
<b>LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS</b>
Mobile Natural Horse Care and Gardening - Not enough hrs in the day / week? Away on weekends or holidays? Need someone to feed, rug, groom, clean up and care for your horse/s? General gardening, weed, mow, mulch and tidy. Other pets included and mail collected. Unable to ask neighbours / friends again? Call Cheryl - on 62369373 or 0402201491
South Durras holiday house - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double carport, close to shop and 5 minute walk to beaches. Dog friendly, fully enclosed yard. Available now. Please phone Karen on 0428 148 500 for further information.
FIREWOOD. Mixed hardwood. You load 6 X 4 box trailer \$100. 6 X 4 box trailer delivered \$130. Larger loads delivered by arrangement. Saturdays and Sundays only. Ph 62383164.
Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC Video to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$12 per Video and from \$12 per Record or Cassette. Phone Vicky or Tony Holland 62383907 or 0403 069018.
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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> .
<b>CHOOKS WANTED</b> – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.
<b>Beekeeping Services, Beeswax &amp; Local Award Winning Honey.</b> Prompt removal of swarm bees and hives that are no longer wanted. We can also remove feral hives depending on location. Fee charged depending on distance travelled and the type of job required. Pure bees wax candles, beeswax blocks and award winning local honey for sale; available bottled or in bulk. Phone or see us each month at the markets! Call John or Tricia - Ridgiedidge Apiary 6238 3791. <a href="http://www.ridgiedidge.net.au">www.ridgiedidge.net.au</a>
Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for details.
<b>ADVERTISING RATES:</b> Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements pay printing and Community Association Projects. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$100 Half Pg - \$50 1/3 Pg \$35 1/4 Pg - \$25 1/5 Pg - \$20 1/6 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 6238 3258.
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. whentaken (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 \$100, Bond \$250. Non-Resident \$150, Bond \$300. The Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st. functions.
<b>FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL.</b> Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a> .
The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email <a href="mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au">nednoel@optusnet.com.au</a>

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- Ongoing repairs and maintenance of your property by our qualified tradespersons.
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- Direct deposit of your rental income plus comprehensive monthly/yearly statements.
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# The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled  
by the Executive Committee, with help from many members of the Brigade

## BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD

A FIRE PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR ANY FIRE IN THE OPEN. PLEASE PHONE THE BRIGADE  
CAPTAIN FOR ADVICE ON OBTAINING A PERMIT ON 0409 991 340

RING TRIPLE ZERO TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS.



## BRIGADE ACTIVITY DURING THE PERIOD

Thankfully, it has been a very quiet month with no fires or motor vehicle accidents to attend to. Perhaps the benign weather conditions and the end of the holiday season were factors in this great result. The very welcome and considerable rain in the second week of February was fantastic. Many properties received 100mls or more and this has helped to substantially boost the much depleted dam levels in the region. Surprisingly, there was little serious flooding across the brigade area (Bywong, Wamboin, Sutton Park and Eaglehawk localities) and, fortunately, no damage requiring brigade assistance. Some interesting photos of the recent rains in the area appear on the Wamboin Community Association website at

<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/>

While the number of incidents the brigade has had to respond to is down, we have been busy on other fronts (apart from regular training and general maintenance activities).

A Community Engagement presentation was held at the Goolabri Country Resort on Saturday morning 30<sup>th</sup> January for residents in the localities of Sutton Park, Bidges Rd and Eaglehawk. Under the theme of *Prepare. Act. Survive.* attendees learned more about the:

- risk and history of bush fire in the region;
- new fire danger ratings;
- key components of a Bush Fire Survival Plan that each household needs to prepare; and
- preparations required as part of the 'Stay and Defend' or 'Leave Early' decision-making and actioning process.

Many in the audience took the opportunity to ask questions and seek advice. Two people brought along their trailer-mounted fire-fighting pumps together with fire hose and water crate for others to see.

On Sat 20<sup>th</sup> February, the brigade again set up its bush and house fire information stall at the monthly Wamboin Home Produce Market in Bingley Way to help residents with fire-related enquiries including preparation of a Bush Fire Survival Plan. More than a dozen residents took the opportunity to visit the brigade's stall in front of the fire station and obtain information and advice from the community engagement team.

Over the past several months, in addition to encouraging and assisting residents to develop their bush fire survival plans, the brigade has continued to gather data on properties and other features in the area. Most recently, as an insert to the February edition of The Whisper, you will have received a letter from the Brigade attached to which was a Property Fire Assessment questionnaire seeking details of your property. This is part of a much bigger effort to better understand what infrastructure is in our area, where it is located and any potential hazards. In one of the fastest growing regions such is ours, keeping abreast of property and infrastructure development is important to residents and the brigade.

Concurrently we have also been engaged in a major task to assist in the correct identification of inhabited rural addresses that will eventually be linked to the information contained in the responses to the Property Fire Assessment questionnaire. It is anticipated that this will enable firefighters to be better prepared before they arrive at a property. It will also assist the control staff to assign the most appropriate fire fighting vehicles to an incident. To put this into effect Brigade members have been to the gate of each property in the Wamboin, Bywong, Sutton Park, Bidges Rd and Eaglehawk localities to determine, among other things, the exact location of property entrances, and any limitations presented by the size and features of the entrance and driveway. The information you provide in the Property Fire Assessment questionnaire you have been asked to complete and return to us will complement this information. Apart from helping you consider features of your property that may assist you with your Bush Fire Survival Plan, the information you provide will help us on those occasions where, in the event of a (bush or house) fire or other incident on your property, the crew responding can be briefed as to what to expect.

For example, your property may be one of an increasing number of homes/ other structures that have some form of solar electricity; this provides special challenges to firefighters in that isolation of power can be more difficult and it is not always obvious that the property has got solar power. Being aware of this and the location of isolator mechanisms ahead of time can be advantageous for crews when responding to an emergency call.

### **Some things that you can do to help us:**

- Make sure your property is correctly identified using the rural numbering system. The rural numbering system was implemented some years ago in order to make properties easier to locate in the event of an emergency. Make sure your number is clearly displayed and visible from the likely brigade approach side.
- Please remove old RMB numbers as they only confuse the situation – and not just for the fire brigade.
- Displaying the property name (if there is one) and the owner's name also assists in identifying a property.
- We have noticed that some of the reflective number signs have already deteriorated – please upgrade them to minimise confusion. It is quite possible that a fire fighting vehicle from an adjacent brigade will attend your incident, especially if breathing apparatus is needed. They will not be familiar with the area.
- The first place we check when arriving at a property under threat is the electricity meter/ switch box. Please place here a sketch map of your block showing key fire fighting features eg dams, pumps, outlets, sprinkler systems and valves. Any additional information that can be easily read and quickly understood can be invaluable to us eg how to operate a fixed sprinkler system or how to isolate your solar electricity system. When preparing your fire plan it is useful to draft it from the point of view of the reader being a total stranger.
- If you have a solar electricity system it needs to be clearly marked and identified with instructions on how to isolate it.
- You should not include in your meter box any personal or sensitive details, unless you consider them to be important. If you need further advice, please contact the Brigade Captain.

An issue we also ask you to consider: Can a fire brigade tanker access your driveway? Brigade tankers require a clearance that is 4 metres wide and 4 metres high. Does your driveway provide this clearance for its entire length? If not, it is unlikely that a large tanker will be able to access your property.

Please take the time to complete the Property Fire Assessment questionnaire (referred to above) that was included with the last Whisper and return it in the stamped self-addressed envelope that accompanied it. Include as much relevant detail as possible; and please include a plan of your block and key fire fighting features in the space provided on the reverse side of the questionnaire. The information you provide remains confidential and it is only available to a very limited number of RFS personnel.

### **Upcoming events**

- Sat Mar 20 – brigade's fire-wise information stall for residents outside the Wamboin Home Produce Market.
- Sun Mar 28 – the brigade will be at the annual Bywong Car Boot Sale so, apart from picking up a bargain from a seller's car boot, come and have a chat with us about anything fire-wise and attend one of the several educational demonstrations we have planned for the morning.
- March – April - we will be looking for willing helpers to assist members, family and friends in this year's grape pick in Wamboin. Helping with the harvest is a key fundraiser for the brigade. Timing of the pick varies a little each year but typically it's late March and April. If you are not a member of the brigade and can spare a morning or two on a weekend and would like to help out, please contact Ian Coillet at [lodestar@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lodestar@ozemail.com.au) or ph 6238 3425.

## BUSH FIRE PREPARATIONS



### PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

**PREPARE.** It is your responsibility to prepare yourself, your family and your home for the threat of bush fire. Every home must have a Bush Fire Survival Plan encompassing the decision to either “Leave Early” or to “Stay and Defend” to ensure you are prepared and know what to do in the event of a bush fire.

**ACT.** You need to act decisively in accordance with your Bush Fire Survival Plan when bush fires threaten.

**SURVIVE.** Your survival depends on your preparations, and the decisions you make.

Regardless of your decision, you must prepare your property to give you, your family and your home the best chance of survival. The RFS has produced guidance on the preparations and actions that you need to take in order to survive a bush fire. This advice can be found at: [http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file\\_system/attachments/Attachment\\_PrepateActSurvive.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/Attachment_PrepateActSurvive.pdf)

### New Fire Danger Rating Signs



An explanation of the new ratings can be found at:

[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file\\_system/attachments/Attachment\\_FireDangerRating.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/Attachment_FireDangerRating.pdf)

### The Wamboin Brigade website

The Brigade’s website will enable you to monitor local conditions as well as brigade announcements. The Community Information section has particularly useful information and links to other websites that provide guidance regarding bush fire preparations. <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

### Brigade Information Stall at the monthly Wamboin Home Produce Market

The Wamboin Fire Station and information stall is open on Wamboin Home Produce Market days (3rd Saturday in the month). Brigade members are happy to listen and offer advice to residents pertinent to their particular situation.

Finally, if you have any queries, please contact the Brigade’s Captain (Andrew Dunn) on 0409 991 340 or (02) 6238 1849 (ah).

## PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

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## Wamboin Fishing Club

Hi, the last meeting was productive. We have decided to have an annual members fee and do some fund raising. This has initiated the need for a membership card, which I am working on for us. Fees are to be \$25 Family and \$15 Single, 2010 fees are due the end of March. The cards carry the club name, member name and member number on the front. On the back: The Wamboin Fishing Club is a not for profit organisation. All money gathered will go to the benefit of members. Members are responsible for their own insurance at club events. Members are asked to act in a way as to ensure the club's good name. This has come about over the last few meetings, if you have not been able to attend these. Please attend the next meeting on 17th March, at The Eaglehawk Hotel 5.30 pm. All new members will always be welcomed.

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- **Friday Night Delight** every Friday from 6:00pm. Main & Dessert + coffee for only \$25.
- **Sat 10 & Sun 11 April - Canberra District Harvest Festival.** The KarismaKatz duo, grape stomping competition, fun events, special menu, make a day of it!
- **Takeaway pizzas**, breads, chips, soft drinks & wine. **Starts Friday 5 March.** Menus will be delivered to letterboxes or pop in & pick one up.
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Fax: (02) 6238 3165

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

The 50 people below each spend time each month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong residents own and receive a free community newspaper. Last month they 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. - Editor

#### 160 CO-ORDINATED HELEN MONTESIN: Ph 6238 3208

Dene Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	20	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

#### 279 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE: Ph 6238 3463

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	Weerona, Majors to Denley	35
Ned Noel	13 PalerangCncl+47Advertisers	55	Penny Evans	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			

#### 228 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: Ph 6238 3489

TBA	Valley View Lane	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	42
Coleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20	Rob Gorham	South End - Clare Valley	38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	12	Lyle Montesin	Forrest Road area	60
Axelby Family	North End - Clare Valley	42	Bungendore Shop	Bungendore	10

#### 296 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: Ph 6238 3590

Sheryl Barnes	Denley/Kestral to End	20	Brian Higginson	Deley/Birchmans - Kestral	12
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	7	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef /Nwngtn to Bankers	12
Mindi Hughes	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
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton/Goolabri Area	40	Joan Milnor	Birriwa & MacsReef(GmFlt-Harr)	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Lane	6	Tony Bond	Hogan Drive	28
Ian&Esther Rudd	MacsReef (Bankers-FedHiway)	26	Carol&Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd - Bankers to FHwy	32

#### 215 CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDRSON Ph 6236 9333

Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	David Featherston	Summerhil / Creekborough	24
Kevin Anderson	BungRd - McRf to Smmhl	33	Diana+Keith Gascoine	Snow Gum Road	27
Kerrie Gougeon	BungRd - FedHy to Smmh l	25	ThelmaMartin/ChrisFowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn	23
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	18	Richard Holding	Wyoming and Doust Rds	25
Phil&Pam Dawes	Donelly Rd & Lane	20			

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**Bing is Back**  
**by Philip Machin**

For all wildlife lovers this is a great story. In early December, whilst Graham was out walking, he noticed a medium sized Eastern Grey kangaroo staggering around on the verge on Bingley Way, Wamboin. He thought the kangaroo had been hit



earlier that morning by a passing car – and he was probably right. Unfortunately the motorist didn't contact *Wildcare* at the time and so it was lucky Graham came across the animal a few hours later. With the help of Graham, the injured animal was relocated. It was a hot day and interestingly he had found a cool place to lie down in the neck of a drainage pipe under the road – who says they are not intelligent? The kangaroo seemed healthy in every respect, but it had an injured face and it was stressed. Rather than euthanise the animal a more experienced wildlife rescuer was called upon for a second opinion and to see whether there was hope of a successful recovery. Rosemary felt it was worth giving the animal a chance to get better and it was transferred to her property for rehabilitation.

Quickly named 'Bing' after Bingley Way, Rosemary said, "I had to sedate him to settle him down and to reduce the stress. It was then a question of making an assessment of his injuries. Suspecting a head injury of unknown severity it was largely a matter of wait and see as to how things would progress. Advice and examination from a veterinarian was arranged too."

Over a few days and then weeks it was clear that Bing was improving and his concussion slowly disappeared. Rosemary said, "There were some

worrying times early on when Bing would charge around the enclosure bashing into the fences and a tree, but he survived. Today he is back to full health and is ready for release back into the wild."

Bing is lucky. Graham took the time to contact *Wildcare* and the initial rescuer stopped short of euthanising him there and then. More importantly he landed on Rosemary's patch and she has extraordinary skills and a great success rate in recovering badly injured kangaroos.

If you hit a kangaroo or any other animal on our roads, please take time to stop and check what can be done. Seek help or advice about wildlife from *Wildcare* - 6299 1966 or the Native Animal Rescue Group (Braidwood area) – 4846 1900.

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## Lake George Day View Club

The first meeting of the Lake George Day VIEW Club was held at Logans Cafe, Bungendore in February and a new committee was sworn in for the year by Zone Councillor Margaret Gooch. The committee for 2010 is as follows: President-Lydia, Secretary-June, Treasurer-Brenda, Delegate-Helen, Program Officer-Lina. We are running with a committee that is half of what it should be but the ladies involved are most talented and can multitask!



We would like to welcome Anne and Judy who signed up on the day to become our first new club members for 2010.

I encourage ladies who have not been to a VIEW Club meeting to attend, bring a friend and join the Lake George Day VIEW Club in 2010. We are a club that caters for all ages of women who would like to meet other women in the area, strike up new friendships, enjoy a meal cooked by somebody else and support the Smith Family. These are four great reasons to join the LGDVC, so come and join us at our March luncheon meeting.

The next meeting of the LGDVC will be held 11.30am for a

12 noon start on Tuesday 16 March 2010. We will have a speaker from the rural fire brigade to speak to us about how to protect our rural properties from fires in the coming fire season so we have time to do this in the cooler winter months when snakes are less active and we are more active. RSVP Friday 12 March to June on 6236 9136. Lunch is \$17 for a delightful smorgasboard of salads, kebabs and delicious dessert prepared by our chef Diane at Logan's Cafe. As usual we will have a door prize and raffle to raise money for the Smith Family "Learning for Life" program.

Remember 2010 is the VIEW Clubs pf Australia 50 year celebration and the Australia wide Convention is being held in Canberra, so this is a prime opportunity to join your local VIEW Club or renew a lapsed membership and be part of VIEW Club history.

Another date for your diary is March 8- International Womens Day. VIEW Clubs in Area AA will be attending a breakfast by Lake Burley Griffin at the Carrilion at 8am, byo brekky. For further information ring 6238 3254.

If you are interested in taking on a committee role please let me know or if you have any skills that you would like to volunteer without taking on an 'official' committee role but want to help out please email me with what you are interested in helping out with. As always if you want to know whats going on in our club then visit our blog-

<http://lgdviewclub.blogspot.com> - Lydia Teodorowych, President LGDVC, (m) 040099 1871



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## Nature Notes – February 2010

Jo Walker

What an amazing transformation since last month. When I wrote the Notes in January, the hot, dry and windy weather had parched the landscape to a depressing extent. And then the rains came – a storm in the first week of February and then several days of sustained rainfall during the next week, 125 mm in all at my place. The grasses grew with incredible speed, and, within a few days, the countryside underwent a green transformation. What a wonderful way to end the summer!

Although I hadn't noticed field mushrooms here for several years, the recent combination of moisture and warm days must have been just right for them. Several large circles have come up so far. There are similar, but poisonous, fungi in this area, so I don't include home-grown mushrooms on the menu. In addition to the ground fungi, there is also a large white plate fungus protruding from high on the trunk of an old Red Stringybark (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*) along the creek.

This year, some of the Stringybarks are flowering profusely, and the flowers are full of nectar. A group of these trees grow not far from my house, and, a few evenings ago, the air was heavy with the scent of honey. I haven't noticed many native insects on the flowers, but the honey-bees have certainly found them. The honeyeaters, too. The White-eared Honeyeaters were getting very excited, calling loudly to each other as they flew from tree to tree. They were sharing the feast with Eastern Spinebills, Red Wattlebirds and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters. This abundance of food may have brought in other visitors too. While I was collecting the newspaper a few mornings ago, two small flocks of small green parrots passed me and flew rapidly up the road. They were moving at such speed that it was impossible to get a good look at them, but I think they were probably Swift Parrots. I hadn't seen them here before, but they are nomadic and move around seeking areas where eucalypts are flowering.

Apart from the Stringybarks, not much else is flowering at present except for the little Native St. John's Wort (*Hypericum gramineum*) and *Cassinia quinquefaria*, one of the daisy bushes. The pyramid-shaped clusters of silky greenish cream flowers of the *Cassinia* are also strongly honey-scented, although this seems to vary a bit from plant to plant. During the recent drier years, these and other species of *Cassinia* have proliferated and provide a favoured habitat for some of the smaller birds, particularly the little Superb Blue Wrens and White-browed Scrub-wrens.

Standing by the edge of the dam recently, watching a turtle surface, I knocked a large piece of bark from a small Candlebark tree and was surprised to find a group of five Peron's Tree-frogs clinging to the smooth stem. The frogs seem to be surviving well in spite of the drought, judging by the number of different frog calls emanating from the dam after the recent rain.

Eastern Water Skinks (*Eulamprus quoyii*) inhabit the coast and coastal ranges, so we don't see them here. But they're not too far away. Some friends and I had an intriguing interaction with one when we were walking in Monga National Park, east of Braidwood, recently. We'd sat down on some fallen tree trunks for lunch when a Water Skink darted out from under a log and sat watching us. Although they eat tadpoles, beetles and other insects, and probably any other small thing that moves, they include native berries and fruits in their diet. We didn't have any of these, but flipped a few pieces of banana the lizard's direction and it pounced on and swallowed them. When someone stood up, it dashed onto the log and picked up some crumbs and chewed them. And, as we were leaving, the Water Skink dropped to the ground, picked up a piece of cooked chicken that had dropped out of a sandwich and took off with it. A chance meeting that gave us – and probably the lizard – a day to remember!

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## Geary's Gap /Wamboin Landcare Group.


by Chris Fowler

The April nursery session will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 9am – 11am at 38 Birchman's Grove, Wamboin. After that we will be changing to the winter schedule of an evening session propagating cuttings, but depending on the work load could still have a nursery session on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Our annual stall at the Car Boot Sale, 28<sup>th</sup> March will need a number of volunteers to help load and move the plants, and to 'man' the stall. This is an important part of our distribution of plants in the local region, which underpins our success as a Landcare group. Contact the Secretary – Chris Fowler, Ph: 62369189, or Convenors Roger Good, Ph: 62369048, or Geoff Butler, Ph: 62369158.

The recent beneficial rain has brought forth a lot of weeds that have not been seen for a while. So it is timely to remind you about this website - [www.molonglocatchment.com.au](http://www.molonglocatchment.com.au) – which has a very good list of declared weeds along with excellent [downloadable] information leaflets about each one.

**Shrub & tree seed collecting workshop:** Graham Fifield from Greening Australia will provide a repeat performance and instruct attendees on how to safely collect, treat and store seed from our unique woodlands. Seeds collected on the day will be returned to the region to repair and extend the critically endangered Box-Gum woodlands. **DATE:** Sunday 14 March **VENUE:** Scottsdale Reserve, Bredbo **TIME:** 9am to 12:30pm (BBQ lunch provided). Prior registration is essential to Heidi Fisher - T: (03) 8610 9102 / E: [volunteer@bushheritage.org.au](mailto:volunteer@bushheritage.org.au)

<p><b>TREVOR BARKER &amp; ASSOCIATES</b> SOLICITORS</p> <p>Trevor J. Barker Solicitor    Mike Cramsie Solicitor    Caroline Bragg Property Clerk</p> <p><b>General law practice Canberra &amp; NSW</b></p> <p>379 Weeroona Dr via Bungendore &amp; Second Floor, Dickson Chambers, Dickson Place Dickson ACT 2602</p> <p><b>PH: 6248 8085</b> <i>Your local Legals.</i></p> 	<h2>The Feed Shed- Bungendore</h2> <p>Supplying Quality Lucerne &amp; Pasture Hay Good Range of Bagged Feed and Chaff Steel Cattle and Horse Yard Panels Stock and General Transport Open 7 Days Locally Owned</p> <p>Steve Hughes    Ph 62380900 0408 481 664 32 King Street Bungendore</p>
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**Wamboin 15 Years Ago – from the Whisper. Circulation 400**

**From Wamboin Whisper, March 1, 1995, page 2: Wamboin Community Association Report :** Congratulations to everyone who put in submissions and came along to meetings to voice their opposition to proposals for further development in Wamboin in the next five year period. At last week's meeting of Council it was decided to go ahead with Royalla but not Wamboin at this stage. In fact the Mayor prefaced the discussion by saying that he personally was against going ahead in Wamboin because of strong opposition to the plan which had been expressed by the local community. It was a good example of just how committed to public consultation this council appears to be and that community associations and individuals can have an impact if they choose to voice their opinions. Thanks also to Peter Greenwood, our local councillor, who spoke very strongly about the unacceptable pace with which development in this area has been proceeding and of the need for a period of consolidation. He also expressed concern about any further pressure on Norton Road and suggested that the creation of an alternative access route be a precondition to further development in the area. -- Pip Deveson, President



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## News from WWOW

### The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

28 February 2010

by Sally Saunders

#### WWOWs in the Media

Someone said we all get 15 minutes of fame. In February the WWOWs got what we are all hope is just the first of many. A young reporter for 666 ABC chose WWOW for the first of a series of radio spots about community groups around the ACT. She visited WOW on 15 February to meet and interview members. On 22 February, at 11:30, Alex Sloan of the 666 ABC morning show played the WWOW story including interviews with Claire Ayling and several members. The WWOWs all listened intently at the morning meeting.

The reporter, Lucy Nash, was quite taken with a gathering of more than 30 trauma teddies being prepared for delivery to Queanbeyan ambulance. The photo below even made the 666 ABC website. She also admired quilts, knit rugs and the finished appliquéd pot holders that were started in January.



**Learning about Cyber Crime:** On 22 February the WWOWs learned about cyber crime and fraud from Alistair McGibbon – an international expert who is part of our Wamboin community.

Did you know that 50% of Australian PCs have no virus protection? WE ALL NEED TO ACQUIRE AND UPLOAD VIRUS PROTECTION NOW! We also need firewalls to close off the open ports that malicious searchers can get into. Alistair provided brochures about McAfee, one source of protection. We also learned about sex offenders, identity fraud and other key issues. The fundamental lesson: USE COMMON SENSE. And if anyone you have never met in person asks you to send money via Western Union, beware: more than 90% of all fraudulent scam artists use Western Union.

All women are welcome at WWOW -- Mondays, 10 AM to 12 NOON at the Anglican Church on the corner of Poppet Road and Norton Road in Wamboin. The Convener is Claire Ayling, 6238-3347, and members come from Sutton, Gundaroo, Bywong and Wamboin, with a few from ACT and Queanbeyan.

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## Notes from the First Public Meeting About a potential Wamboin Festival

A meeting was held on 17 Feb 2010 at Shepherds Run Wines to discuss ideas for an annual Festival in Wamboin. The meeting was well attended and with much animated discussion about possible events and ideas. Some notes from the meeting are as follows:

- Investigation into the best time of year to hold the event. All four seasons were suggested but we still need to find out more about what's going on in the district and the type of festival we'd like to hold. Will it be an indoor Winter event or based more on events held outdoors in Spring or Summer? Will it be one weekend or a week of special events? Can we co-ordinate it with the fireworks display and/or the Wamboin markets? A small group of people will investigate and report back to the next meeting.
- A map of the area. A Map Committee was formed to start work on creating maps of the area including businesses, community associations, trails and other interesting things to do here. These could be placed at the ends of the roads leading into Wamboin/Bywong.
- Marketing. There needs to be a focus on marketing with the idea of having a 'face' of Wamboin. We need to stress that Wamboin is not far from Canberra and show the character of the area. Promote any event through the websites here and other local publications.
- The next meeting will be held at Nico's Café at Koonaburra Wines on 5 May 2010 from 7:30pm. Thank you to everyone who attended
- In the meantime please call Elke on 6238 3842 for any comments or information.

-- Elke Davies, Meeting secretary, 20 February 2010

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## Whisper Advertising Rates to Increase as of May, 2010

by Ned Noel, Editor

Due to slight increases in Whisper printing costs over the years, Advertising Costs will go up as of the May 2010 issue. The new costs, based on the fraction of an A4 page used, will be:

**1/8 Page -- \$20    1/6 Page \$25    1/4 Page \$30    1/3 page \$40    1/2 Page \$60    Full Page \$120**

The last rate increase was in February, 2002, when the price of a 1/8 page ad was raised to \$15, a half page to \$50, and a full page to \$100.

Advertisements are set to cover printing costs -- currently between \$500 and \$800 per month depending on the number of pages. Over the last dozen years or so advertising revenues have exceeded printing costs by about 20%, and all of this surplus goes toward projects for the community. These projects are voted on by residents at the Wamboin Community Association meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. Some projects in the last few years were the stone sign at the Sutton Road / Norton Road entrance, the community blackboards, and the metal signs and poles for the large area maps.

Instant Colour Press in Belconnen prints the Whisper each month at a very low cost relative to other printers contacted for the job. Without their generosity the Whisper would be much more costly.

The Whisper would also not happen except for the 50 or so residents who donate time to put it in their neighbours' mailboxes. Last month they also assisted the Fire Brigade, as their work carried the the Brigade's insert as well as the Whisper.

This paper also would not be possible without all the residents who take the trouble to write the notices and articles.


Equally, it would not work except for the many area businesses men and women who pay its way by running ads. When you plan to make purchases, please think of supporting these businesses who generously buy ads in the Whisper. They do so not just to promote their work but also to make possible a community owned, delivered and written newsletter for Wamboin and Bywong as well to provide some funding for community projects.

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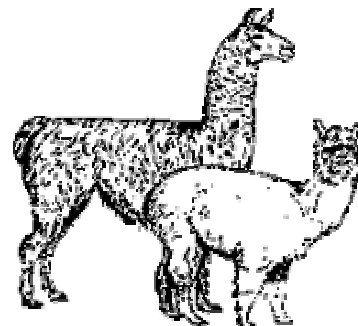
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**Jan Ladmore**

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E-mail: [jan.ladmore@bigpond.com](mailto:jan.ladmore@bigpond.com)

## Golf

Golf in Wamboin for February was a stroke competition sponsored by our keen golfing family of John and Lisa Whitney.

Young Rachel Schroder put in a good round to claim the Encouragement trophy this month.


Ball winners for long drives and nearest the pins were; Jack Whitney, Len Ivey, Nev Schroder x3, Paul Griffin, Joan Mason and Larry King.

The 9 hole competition was won by Jack Whitney 44/29 from Peter Greenwood 38/30 and Ken Gordon 39/33.

The 18 hole competition was won by Tim Barter 80/63 from Nev Schroder 79/65 and Paul Griffin 91/66.

Next game will be on 7th March sponsored by Rob Gorham and Step to Step Couriers.

-- Enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358

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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

“If you’ve never moved house you’ll never know what it’s like to be packed up in little boxes,  
Torn limb from limb, suffocated in shredded paper  
Newsprint, not even the stipulated white,”  
So, as likely as not, you’re sandwiched between Brezhnev’s death  
And “Bringing up Father”.....”

and so it went on, a poem I penned nearly thirty years ago, in Malaysia, when I was facing yet another move.

I have just returned from the other side of our vast nation, from that speck of green stretched around a sparkling river, facing empty oceans and backed by a harsh interior. This time I was there for another move. “Duty of care” demanded that my frail, 93 year old mother relinquish her little home of six years and shift to the hostel in the same garden retirement village. She’s been progressively moving from a big box to a smaller and even smaller box over the past thirty years, and now her life is wrapped up in one small room. This time, like the last, she was fiercely reluctant to move, but this time, unlike the last, my strong, determined little slip of a mother was not aided by a robust mind. One of the saddest moments was spent sifting through a lifetime of photographs recording family Christmases, anniversaries, weddings, graduations and magic moments of travel around the globe. I gave her some pretty snaps of a time she’d spent travelling with Dad in England. She tossed them aside, disdainfully. They meant nothing to her. I left with a heavy heart, wondering if there was a better way of handling the challenges wrought by ageing.

I had imagined, with all that beautiful rain, that this month I’d only be talking about happy things; a rushing, churning, milky brown torrent of water, scouring the creek bed and isolating our neighbours. I thought I’d mention the forlorn, grey and bedraggled kangaroos, with their bewildered joeys, cut off from my garden smorgasbord, and a sudden rush of water rising and swirling around trunks of great trees that had stood, only minutes before, on dry ground. And somewhere in the middle of that I thought about my favourite tree.

There is a tree that I pass on one of my walks that fascinates me. It’s a tall gum, arching gracefully, with a scar, high up, left behind after canny cockatoos peeled back the bark in search of grubs. The hapless grubs left behind empty corridors, and, in turn, an enterprising swarm of bees moved in. It’s been an active bee hive for many years. Just above the hive is a nesting hole which has been the nursery for generations of galahs. But we chanced upon another tree, the other day, which was rather special, too. It was an abandoned peach, beside the road, laden with fruit. We straddled the gutter hidden in the long grass, and like gypsies, filled our bags. With such bounty I had to make chutney, and then find jars to fill. It is a wonderful, bountiful time of the year. I am finally picking big, fat, red tomatoes and wondering if I’ll need more jars for relish. There are huge mushrooms popping up everywhere, plenty of self sown silver beet and potatoes to be dug. One of my greatest joys is to see the excitement when our little ones dig in the dirt with their bare hands and find potatoes.

And so I’m back in Wamboin, a more benign Wamboin, with green splashed across flats and rises that have been grey and lifeless for years. It was good to see the sign at the bottom of the hill, and to be home. I’m thinking of sorting through my boxes of photos. I’ve been thinking of doing that for more than thirty years. Perhaps I won’t bother. If I leave it long enough someone else may do it for me. Maybe I’ll just wander outside and pull some weeds for the chooks.

I wouldn’t live anywhere else.....

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