

# WAMBOIN

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COMMUNITY  ASSOCIATION

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## The Whisper

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May 2010    CIRCULATION: 1,146

[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 June 2010 issue Whisper the deadline is Sunday, May 30, 2010, 7:00 pm, and it will go to deliverers 5 days later.

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

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**WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS**

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	Pete Harrison	President	6238-3525	<a href="http://wamboincommunity.asn.au">wamboincommunity.asn.au</a>
<b>Bywong Community Assn</b>	Nora Stewart	President	6230-3305	<a href="http://bywongcommunity.org.au">bywongcommunity.org.au</a>
<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>	Pete 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

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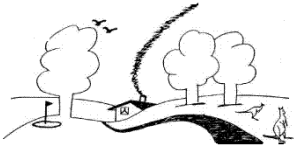
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## Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs

It's been a relatively quiet month. Council has adjourned deliberations on the LEP until May 20, and Telstra's DA for the construction of a mobile phone tower on Millpost Hill has been put on hold pending the outcome of a Native Title claim on crown lands in Palerang.

**Traffic Issues on Norton and Macs Reef Roads** — Following representations from a concerned community member, the WCA wrote to the local police requesting a greater presence on our roads. This has been evident in the past couple of months. Given that much of the criticism relating to speeding vehicles has been directed at through traffic from Canberra, it might interest people to know that half of the infringement notices that have been served have involved local residents, and that the five highest speeds recorded have all been for locals.

**Wamboin Locality Sign** — It was a little disappointing to see council's new Wamboin locality sign vandalised recently. While there was a degree of controversy surrounding Council's decision to erect a sign so close to our own 'Wamboin Wall', this was hardly the best way to deal with the situation. The WCA is negotiating with Council to have the sign moved to a more appropriate location, and to have a 'Wamboin' finger board positioned on the Sutton Road sign post.

**Annual Fireworks Night** — A great effort by our treasurer Keith France has secured the services of an interstate 'pyrotechnical engineering firm' to support the annual Wamboin Fireworks Night, following the demise of much of the local industry in the wake of the change in ACT laws relating to the sale of fireworks. The grand event will be held, as has become the tradition, on the last Saturday in September. Details will be provided in coming issues of The Whisper, and on the WCA website (<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au>).

**Council Matters** — Keep abreast of the WCA's current Council activities through the WCA website at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/lep> for LEP updates and <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/waste> for progress with the Macs Reef Road WTS.

**WCA Electronic Noticeboard** — The WCA electronic noticeboard is a convenient way to keep up with community activities. Subscribe by visiting the WCA website at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard>

-- Pete Harrison ([president@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au))



### NOTICE

#### **The Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade** **2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held on

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010

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.

-- John Taubman, Secretary, 6236 9794



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# Bywong Community Association News

**URGENT!!! Macs Reef Road (MRR) Waste Transfer Station is still in jeopardy!!! Please contact your Councillors....** There is strong evidence that council management and some councilors do not want the MRR waste transfer

station to go ahead and are currently active in persuading those who support the WTS to change their minds.

This is all part of the push to quash the replacement of the tip to a waste transfer station and get residents in Bywong and surrounds (3,700 people) to use the Bungendore waste transfer station, as the only council-supported facility, and not have a local option.

Councillors who have voted AGAINST

Please contact these Councillors and **urge them to change their minds about voting against** the Macs Reef Road Waste Transfer Station and **indicate that it is against what the majority of people in this area want;**

- o Councillor Walter Reynolds (Mayor) [Walter.Reynolds@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Walter.Reynolds@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Richard Graham [Richard.Graham@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Richard.Graham@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Howard Crozier [Howard.Crozier@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Howard.Crozier@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Ian Marjason [Ian.Marjason@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Marjason@palerang.nsw.gov.au)

Councilors who have voted FOR

Please contact these Councillors and **offer support for their vote** for the Macs Reef Road Waste Transfer Station and to **encourage them to stick with their original decision.**

- o Councillor Anne Goonan [Anne.Goonan@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Anne.Goonan@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Catherine Moore [Catherine.Moore@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Catherine.Moore@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Paul Cockram [Paul.Cockram@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Paul.Cockram@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Terry Bransdon [Terry.Bransdon@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Terry.Bransdon@palerang.nsw.gov.au)
- o Councillor Judith Turley [Judith.Turley@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Judith.Turley@palerang.nsw.gov.au)

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**Greenways Renewal:** More than 30 people attended a meeting on 20th April to share information about the existing Greenways network in Bywong and Wamboin and to discuss what could be done about improving the network and potentially expanding it. There were many excellent contributions from a wide range of participants and the overall mood and outcome was extremely positive.

The outcome of the meeting was to form two groups - the Friends of the Greenways to support Greenways maintenance and potential development, and to have a smaller Greenways Renewal Working Group to develop a clear strategy for maintenance and possible development of the Greenways.

For more information about Greenways Renewal including maps of the Greenways, see our website at [www.bywongcommunity.org.au/about/bywong-greenways](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au/about/bywong-greenways)

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**Burglars active in Newington Road:** On Thursday, April 22, a house in **Newington Road** was been burgled and other properties had visits from a suspicious car. Keep your eyes open and report anything suspicious to police.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Why is the Macs Reef Road so dangerous?** Public meeting date will be moved from Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June to another date in June. If you are interested in this issue and would like to assist with organising this meeting, please contact Nora on 62303305 or email [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au)

-- Nora Stewart, President, Bywong Community Association, [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au)

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During daylight saving, Friday and Monday,  
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Saturday and Sunday, 7.30 am - 7.00 pm

### Macs Reef Road Tip

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## WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

April Home Produce Markets were quieter than usual. Plenty of stallholders but a shortage of buyers meant there were plenty of bargains up until mid-day. We plan 2 more Markets before the July/August break.

These Markets are held at the Hall in Bingley Way on the third Saturday of the month. The Markets run from 9am to noon. Local garden produce sells out quite quickly so you need to come early to get your pick of the best. The markets are a great place to socialise. Try 'The Olde Coffee Shoppe' for coffee of your choice. Tasty jam and cream scones are on sale. For more substantial fare the egg and bacon rolls hit the spot.

For more information contact Joan Mason 6238 3258

Entry is free to customers. - Stall holders \$5. So mark your diary:

**SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010**  
**9AM – 12 NOON**



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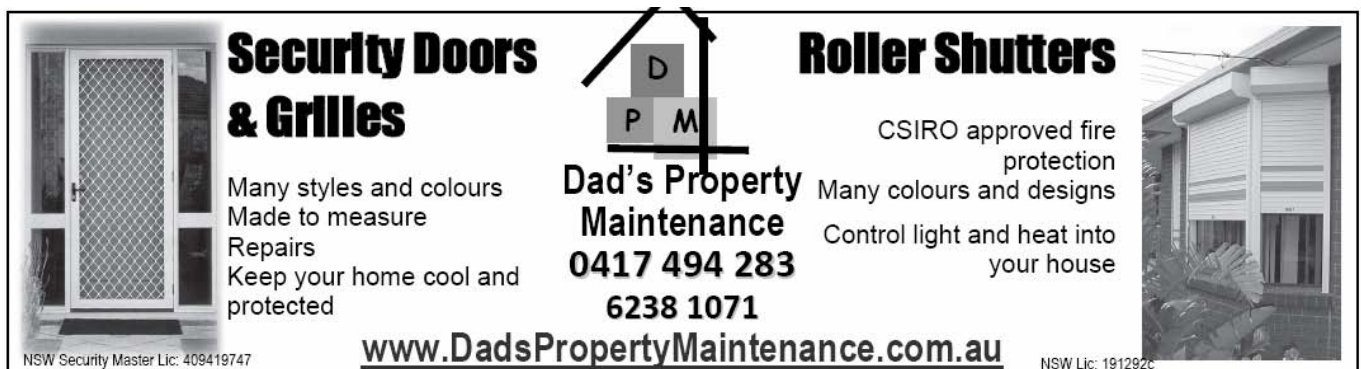


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## Eagle Hawk Hotel



### A Big Thanks to our Community

Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> the Brittlejack Band with the Eagle Hawk Hotel held a night to say thanks to a great mate Peter Apps who tragically passed away on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and let his family and the band know that the community was there to support them through this tough time. The pub was bursting at the seams to see Brittlejack bravely perform for the first time since their lead singer's death. They were determined not to let the emotions of the night effect their usual fun filled performance. They were great, just as Pete would have insisted. Peter's family, wife Megan and children Ashlee and Jake showed great strength to be present for the evening. Ashlee beautifully sang a song and Jake belted out a couple of songs on the drums. Dasher and Toby sang a ballad usually sung by Peter, there wasn't a dry eye in the house. As MC for the evening I stood at the microphone after the bands first bracket overlooking the full house, speechless with pride of this community support. Peter's brother Rodney told me that he was overwhelmed by the turnout, a credit to Pete's obvious popularity. You didn't only turn up to this event but your generosity was mind blowing. I am still trying to take in the enormity of some peoples hearts. It feels so good to know that our community is prepared to give so much to help each other. Since the night I have spoken to many locals who feel the same as I do. We are so fortunate to be part of this great big family community.

-- Congratulations to all, Mark Everson, Eagle Hawk Hotel

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## **PONY TALES - Goings On at WPC**

by Steve Quick and Robyn Slater

Have you driven down Norton road in old Wamboin and seen the sign on Canning Close – **Pony Club** What's down there in the cul-de-sac you wonder? Well it's the "Wamboin Pony Club."

Yes like much of the rest of Wamboin there's a lot of rocks, dust, wattle... and more rocks and a few more rocks but at the end of the road there's a little place where a bunch of kids, young adults and some pretty dedicated volunteer instructors and parents gather a couple of times a month to learn lots of horse riding skills.

Pony Club has been around for many years and Canberra and its surrounds has numerous clubs – the Wamboin Pony club has recently celebrated 25 years! not quite as old as the "Whisper" you're reading but not far off.

So what's going on – well I won't bore you with the last 25 years but after a lot of hard work from many in the community over those 25 years the club has built itself a pretty decent set-up – scratched from the scrub – oh and the rocks did I mention those? We've got a Dressage, Jumping and Main Arena area.

We continue to try to build up our cross country jumping course and recently and most excitingly we are extending our club house. This is thanks to some hard work by parents but also thanks to a grant from the Veolia Mulwaree Trust.

When we meet (usually twice a month) there's opportunity to practice and learn a variety of riding skills – Jumping, Dressage, Mounted Games, Cross Country to name a few - we have riders who compete successfully in all of those areas but for the most part it's about having fun and importantly doing it safely.

I think the best thing is that kids, teenagers and young adults 5 to 25 can get together with their horses and ride in a safe environment and learn lots of new skills. Hey anyone who has been around horses will know they can sometimes be a challenge, but it's good to know that if your child joins pony club they can be with a group that will really help them improve their riding skills and don't worry because pony club has riders with all levels of experience.

Over the coming months I will tell you more of the goings on at our club but this month is really about telling those of you in the area – hey we're out here - all you parents who might have kids who are learning to ride and who would like to join our club come along (you do need your own pony or horse however).

Our rally days are usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month – next is 9<sup>th</sup> May.

If you want some more info call our club secretary Louise Baldwin (Ph: 62381509) or Senior Instructor, Robyn Slater (62383472), check out our website [www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au](http://www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au) or just pop into our next rally day and have a look. I'll probably be the bloke up on the new clubhouse roof putting on the iron along with other dad's. There'll be sausages on the BBQ for lunch and the dedicated instructors and other parents will be around the grounds enjoying the fact that their kids are having fun at our club. Remember Wamboin it's your pony club in your community – see you soon.

And hey all you business' out there we'd love your support. We're still building our new clubhouse and have plenty of other projects on the boil so help with materials or financial support would be appreciated.

Oh and thanks Steve from the "Feed Shed" Bungendore who always donates bags of feed and stuff for our rally days Good on you ! That's community.



Some of our riders + trusty steeds



The clubhouse extension



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## AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA -- POLLY PUTS THE KETTLE ON AGAIN!

by Pauline Segeri

You are invited to coffee, tea, biscuits, cake and lots of finger food. Lots of laughter and fun with guessing competition. Bring your own cup to impress and win a prize. Catch up with friends and make new ones. Lucky door prizes, Raffle and Auction. All proceeds donated to the Australian Cancer Council. My fundraising goal: \$3,500.00. Date is Thursday May 27th 2010. Open House 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Come for as little or as long as you like. RSVP: 6238 1996 or email [psegeri@bigpond.com](mailto:psegeri@bigpond.com) Can't come? Happy to take your tax deductible donation or online at <http://act.cancercouncilfundraising.org.au/personalPage.aspx?registrationID=13760>

## Wamboin 15 Years Ago: from the Whisper May 1995 -- Circulation: 500

by Robyn Robertson

There was no significant news this month. Wamboin went along busily as usual but with no major events.



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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

## THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED

A Fire Permit is not required to burn off in the open, but, if you plan to light a fire in the open please notify:

- your neighbours, and
- the Brigade Captain 0409 991 340 or (02) 6238 1849 (ah) at least 24 hours before you light the fire.

Your thoughtfulness will help minimise neighbour anxiety and unnecessary brigade call-outs.

Management, including containment of a fire originating on your property is your responsibility.

**RING TRIPLE ZERO (000) TO REPORT FIRES OR  
SMOKE SIGHTINGS.**

## BRIGADE ACTIVITY DURING THE PERIOD

After a very quiet first 3 months of the New Year, the Easter break began with an unfortunate bang with two motor vehicle accidents. In the afternoon of Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April the brigade was asked to respond to a vehicle accident on the 'new' section of Bungendore Road near Snowgum Road. This was a head on collision between two cars. One driver was trapped for over an hour and both drivers were subsequently conveyed to hospital. As traffic diversions needed to be put in place, the accident caused considerable inconvenience to scores of other people, chiefly Canberrans, heading to the coast for the long break.

In the early hours of Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, the brigade was called to a single vehicle accident involving a car that had veered off the Sutton Road and, having glanced a substantial tree, miraculously landed in a paddock some 15 metres from the road. Interestingly, the fence between the road and the vehicle was still largely intact. It appears the driver had spent some 3 hours trapped in the vehicle before being discovered by a passing motorist.

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PHONE: DAVE ARGÆT  
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On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, in the early evening, a grass fire was reported on Macs Reef Road. The brigade responded. Despite travelling the entirety of Macs Reef Road the brigade could not locate the alleged fire and the tanker and its crew returned to the Fireshed.

Fire brigade training is, of course, a year round activity. The cooler season offers brigade members the opportunity to enhance their fire-fighter skills by attending numerous professional development courses offered by the Rural Fire Service. In addition, Autumn provides an opportunity for the Rural Fire Service to conduct hazard reduction burns including a number of which are planned for our area. This provides additional opportunities for brigade members to focus on their skills.

## **FIRE SAFETY AT HOME**

Fire safety always starts with you!

Following on from last month, we are concentrating our advice in the winter period on the home with the now familiar theme 'BE PREPARED'.

Keep yourself, your family and your home safe from fire. Children are most at risk of serious injury or death in house fires. Householders need to take extra care as house fires occur more frequently during the colder months.

### **Ten tips for fire safety at home**

- **Take care in the kitchen.** Never leave cooking unattended and always turn pot handles in.
- **Supervise children.** Children need to be protected from fire, and from the potential for starting fires.
- **Heat your home safely.** Ensure your heater is at least one metre from flammable items such as curtains, furniture, toys and bedding.
- **Dispose of cigarettes safely.** Wet down cigarette butts before discarding. Never smoke in bed.
- **Take care with electricity.** Have an electrician check the electrical wiring throughout your home. Keep your home appliances in good working order.
- **Install a smoke alarm.** Smoke alarms save lives! Keep your smoke alarms clean, and test them regularly. If battery-powered, replace batteries at least once a year.
- **Plan your home escape.** Create an escape plan and practise escaping from your home.
- **Use home security that lets you get out quickly.** If your home has deadlocks fitted to doors, keep a key in the deadlock so that you can escape quickly in the event of a fire.
- **Check portable fire extinguishers.** Check the pressure gauge on the extinguisher regularly.
- **Be prepared.** Know which fire safety equipment to use, and know how to use it.

#### **Paid Classifieds**

**Alpacas For Sale.** Breeding females from \$650. Pets & guardians from \$250. Ph 6230 3311 [www.alpacamagic.com.au](http://www.alpacamagic.com.au)

**Livestock Workshops.** "Alpacas & Llamas for Fun & Profit" & "The Magic of Donkeys" "Introduction to Felting with Alpaca & Llama Fibre". Check our website for dates etc [www.alpacamagic.com.au](http://www.alpacamagic.com.au) or Ph 6230 3311

**Donkey Clinic - About Breeding and Showing Donkeys.** Also becoming a qualified Donkey Judge. Instructor is a highly respected Judge from the USA. 7th & 8th Nov at Pegasus, Holt. To book Ph 6230 3311. [www.donkeyallbreedsaustralia.org](http://www.donkeyallbreedsaustralia.org)

## **Train Your Family in Evacuation Procedures:**

Follow the escape plan (you do have one don't you?)

- Alert all others in the building.
- When there is smoke, crawl low to get under the smoke.
- Test for the temperature of each door by using the back of your hand; if the handle is hot do not open it.
- Close the door as you leave a room to prevent fire and smoke from spreading.
- Never go back inside the house, once out - stay out.
- Meet at the pre-determined assembly area – such as a prominent landmark.
- Make sure all the family know how to call emergency services (ie ring Triple Zero).
- If possible, meet the fire service as it arrives; you have invaluable knowledge that can greatly assist them.

## **Teach your children to 'Stop, Drop and Roll'**

Advice to anyone whose clothes are on fire:

- Stop. Don't run as this will fan the flames.
- Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands.
- Roll over to smother the flames.

## **GRAPE PICKING AT LAMBERT VINEYARDS:**

### **Fundraising for the community's Fire Brigade**

During April, members of the fire brigade assisted by their families, friends and members of the general community cruised their way through a few hours of grape picking on consecutive Saturdays to help with the 2010 harvest at Lambert Vineyards which is nestled smack in the heart of Wamboin. The group secatoured their way through the pinot noir, merlot and shiraz vines with much aplomb. As always, Steve and Ruth Lambert in amongst it all, sleeves rolled up, facilitating a smoothly run harvest. Final harvest figures are not to hand yet but given those heavily laden merlot vines, initial reckoning is 'we done good'. For people in the community who are unaware, since 2001, the brigade has received a donation from Lambert Vineyards based on tonnage picked paid at commercial picking rates. The wonderful Lambert hospitality including the much anticipated morning teas and the opportunity to sample past vintages once tools are down for the day are a great bonus.



To the circa 60 people who helped out on the two Saturdays – thank you very much for your assistance and company especially from those of you who are not members of the Brigade.



For other general members of the community who are not on the 'Friends of the Brigade' email list and who would like to help out in 2011, please email Ian Coillet [lodestar@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lodestar@ozemail.com.au) so you can receive advance notice of pleasurable activities such as grape picking. Alternatively, keep your eyes peeled in The Whisper or the Wamboin Community Association's website around early March when the Brigade will again seek community assistance for its grape picking fundraising activity.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May – Hazard reduction burns - to be confirmed. (Subject to weather and other conditions.)
- June - Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm, at the Wamboin Fire Station, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### 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 'Shop Front' 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. If you would like your fire plan reviewed then please bring it along.

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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<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> .
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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.
ADVERTISING RATES: 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 - \$120 Half Pg - \$60 1/3 Pg \$40 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/6 Pg - \$25 1/8 Pg - \$20
FOR HIRE from the Wamboin Community Association: GAS BBQ - Party Size, Portable, \$30 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond, both payable on collection. Cleaning bond will be refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 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.
FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. 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.
FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a> .
The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au

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## Climate Drivers of South East Australia: Why Does It Rain or Not Rain?

The next meeting of Sutton Landcare Group will be held on Monday evening May 31 in the Sutton School Library. Our business meeting will commence at 7.00 pm. At 8.00 pm our visiting speaker, Mr Clem Davis, a well known expert on weather forecasting, will address the meeting on the above topic. Clem Davis has university degrees in Physics and Maths, Science, and Oceanography and Meteorology. He is currently a visiting Fellow at the Fenner School of Environment and Society at the Australian National University where he is carrying out research into local climate change, preparing climate reports and supervising honours students.

Before that he had a long career of 33 years working in the Bureau of Meteorology, mainly in the operational forecasting area in Perth, Alice Springs, Darwin and Canberra. He was Officer in Charge of the Canberra Office for 10 years from 1996 to 2005. The meeting promises to be of considerable interest to all those wanting to better understand the reasons behind why it does or does not rain in our part of the country. Further details of the meeting can be obtained from Gay McNeill (62303569) or David Vincent (62303584).



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Announcing Knit Night at the Lake George Hotel. A great way to learn to knit or crochet while enjoying an evening out. If you already know how to knit, this is an opportunity to learn more. I'll guide you through a project you have been afraid to tackle. Bring a friend! Tuesday evenings at the Lake George Hotel from 6-8 pm. Fee is \$4.00 per session. Begins 27 April through 15 June. Questions? Call Lindsay @ 6230 3125

For Sale: **Brand new vanity cabinet** 610mm wide with solid time doors and white basin. The new cost was \$569.00 and it is now surplus to requirements. \$320 ONO. Please call Tony or Vicky on 02 62383762 or 0417 575537.

**FOR SALE – Outdoor SPA** -- 5 Seat outdoor SPA, with lockable cover -- Free delivery in Wamboin to your driveway – you unload and place in selected location -- Comes with Chemigen water treatment system as detailed below and a selection of chemicals -- Approximately 3 Years old -- Original new price with Chemigen was \$9000 -- **Delivered price in Wamboin \$5000 or close offer** -- The Chemigem DM52 is a unit designed specifically for the domestic pool and spa owner. This is the smallest model and is built to withstand wide variations in water condition, climate and environments.

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Wanted - Handyman, gardener. 7 hours a fortnight - \$20.00 an hour. Phone - 0408.979337

We are looking for an enthusiastic, caring and energetic person who loves working with children. We require in home care 1 ½ days per week (approx 30 hours per fortnight) for our 2 and 3 year old boys and, after school, for their twin brothers who are 10. Position is in Robertson Road, Wamboin. Prior experience (and/or child services study) with young children, first aid training (or willingness to undertake) and own car essential. Nice home and nice kids! Prefer Early Education, Teaching or Childcare students. To start from 10 May. To discuss please contact Fiona on 6238 3488 or by email on [Fiona.jolly@bigpond.com](mailto:Fiona.jolly@bigpond.com) to arrange interview asap.

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

The 50 people below each spend time every month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong homes own and receive a free community newspaper written by residents. 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

**273 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	13PlrngCncl+37Advertisers/Misc	50	Penny Evans	Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley	24
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

**270 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
Carol&Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd - Bankers to FHwy	32	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			

TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1,146



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## WANTED: GOLFERS

- To be more precise: Hitting, Flogging, Swearing Players.

The Wamboin Golf Club has been running for over 20 years. The Club was started by the Fire Brigade to maintain team fellowship throughout the year. The 18 fairways are spread over 5 properties with 2 at the Hall. All 'greens' are sand scrapes and the Hall serves as our Clubhouse. We meet at the Hall at 1230 to register (\$5 entry fee) on the first Sunday of the month and if 18 holes are too demanding we also run a 9-hole competition. At the completion of your round it is back to the Hall for tall stories, refreshments, nibbles and presentation of prizes. We have had as many as 32 players on the day.

Unfortunately the player numbers are dwindling and the work of people preparing the course is out of proportion to the number of users. Our invitation is to anyone who would like to have a go at hitting a little white ball. You don't have to be an experienced golfer. You can be matched with a member to show you the course so getting lost is no excuse.

Interested? Give Peter Greenwood a call or just front up on the day. -- Lofty Mason.



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## THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Coillet  
An Occasional Piece

### LETTER BOXES – What do they say about their owners? (Pt1)

No doubt you knew that last year was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Australia's postal service?

Yes, it was in 1809 that the first Postmaster of NSW was appointed. Unsurprisingly I guess, it was a bloke, indeed an ex-convict; his name was Isaac Nichols. Isaac took the post operating from his home in George Street, Sydney. His main job was to take charge of letters and parcels arriving by ship, to avoid the chaos of people rushing onto the ships as soon as they berthed at Sydney's wharves. Apparently, many would purport to be important people, or to have the authority to act (and therefore receive mail) on their 'master's' behalf.

Postal services grew throughout the Australian colonies as they were established. Other key milestones include:

- A regular Sydney-Melbourne overland service began in 1838.
- Monthly steamship sea mail to the United Kingdom was established in 1856.
- In 1901, the colonial mail systems were merged into the Postmaster General (or PMG) - responsible for telegraph and domestic telephone operations as well as postal mail.
- The world's first large-scale mechanical mail sorting system was introduced in Australia (according to Australia Post), and operational in the Sydney GPO in 1967. This coincided with the introduction of the current system of 4-digit Postcodes in Australia.
- On 1 July 1975, separate government commissions were created to undertake the operational responsibilities of the PMG. One of these was the Australian Postal Commission (now Corporation), trading as Australia Post.

In a belated recognition of 200 years of mail delivery (including more than 30 years to our immediate area) I present to the reader a small selection of the wizardry gracing the roadsides in our region. I leave it to you to form your opinion of the artwork and to ponder on the likely personality or multiples thereof of each artist. Given the eclectic array of the mail receptacles dotting our locality I can only imagine the challenge that besets the poor old posties as they go about their business, although, it must make for variety.

To protect the innocent (and the guilty) I have withheld the location of the artworks. And, to be fair, my own effort is included.

I hope to bring you a few more examples of the mailbox artistry dotting the region in a future issue of The Whisper.



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## Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare

Think global, act local

by Chris Fowler

Our participation on the Bywong Car Boot Sale was as successful as ever and raised a considerable sum which will be used to further the interests of Landcare in the local area, as well as add to our list of donations to the Bungendore School library and similar organisations. Thanks to everyone who purchased plants from us.

The GG/Wamboin Landcare Group has now completed it's obligation to the roadside planting of several hundred trees in the new Birchman's Grove development in Wamboin. The work was finished on Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> April by a number of dedicated volunteers and overall will add considerably to the general ambience of the new development.

We will, in the next few weeks, be adding more shrubs and trees to the plantings in Millynn road and the Les Reardon reserve in Wamboin as well as thinning the very successful planting of trees along the roadside at Smith's Gap. We are always on the lookout for other areas, both public and private, which might benefit from a limited volunteer planting or regeneration.

Final editing is now taking place for the booklet "Look After Your Natural Assets" last produced in association with the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Coordinating Committee, Environment ACT, and the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Board in 2003. The updated version should soon be available and freely distributed in the local region. It will present a wealth of information on landcare for the bush block and small farm acreage in the Murrumbidgee catchment in which we all live. The 2010 edition will be produced with the assistance of funds made available by and ACT Government Environment grant, Cooma Monaro Shire Council, Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare Committee, Molonglo Catchment Group, Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch and ACTEWAGL.

Monthly nursery sessions will continue well into winter this year, with a good start [at the April meeting] being made to our cuttings development of shrubs and bushes. Sessions are held at the nursery at 38 Birchman's Grove Wamboin usually on the first Saturday of each month. Even if you are not on our contact list of Landcare volunteers, you are more than welcome to attend and round out your knowledge of local native plants and trees, and their successful propagation, or bring cuttings from your property. We are always on the lookout for new species to propagate, but we must know [preferably Latin] the full name of the plant. Certain plants cannot be propagated for re-sale. It is important that you contact Geoff Butler [Ph: 62369158 or email [gbu22182@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gbu22182@bigpond.net.au).] if you plan to attend or bring cuttings.

Our volunteer list of Landcare contacts benefits from Landcare's association with Greening Australia and the Yass Area Network of local Landcare Groups, as well as local Bywong and Wamboin Community associations organisations like the Joe Rocks/Mountain Road Community [who publish a delightful local newsletter]. To subscribe to the Landcare newsletter, and stay in touch, e-mail your request and e-address to the Secretary, Ph. 6236 9189, [chrisft@spitfire.com.au](mailto:chrisft@spitfire.com.au).



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Enrolments are now being taken for Term 2, 2010. Classes will be held in the cottage at:  
215 NORTON ROAD, WAMBOIN on Monday nights 6.45 - 8.15p.m, starting Monday, 19th April, as well as Friday mornings, 9.30 -11.00a.m, starting 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

ALSO....

**NEW CLASS: Sundays 5.30-7.00p.m (starting 9th May).**

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Please direct all enquiries to:

Roxane Atkinson.

Phone: **6238 3892**



## APRIL GOLF RESULTS

The Golf Club's April competition was the timely Mini Masters. The format has a very loose regard to Master's Rules. The game is over 2 repeated rounds on a selected 6 hole course. It is an 'off the stick' competition with playoffs, green jacket etc. We also run a parallel handicap event. Players can only win one major prize.

On return to the Club House/Community Hall we run an 85m pitching competition which comprises 2 tries at four challenges: The first with both feet on a ramp; 2<sup>nd</sup> standing on a tyre; third from a high tee and the 4<sup>th</sup>, a bunker shot. This is a great spectator sport with Steve Minors recording the best result.

Paul Griffin (43.7) bolted in the Handicap prize with Dave Hubbard in second position with 49.3.

In a tight finishing Mini Masters, Nev Schroder carded a 55 to finish in third position, Len Ivey came in second with a 54. Congratulations to Tim Barter who with a runaway 51 was the clear Master's winner and, as the wearer of the Green Jacket, was entitled to an evening of free drinks. -- Lofty Mason.

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

April rain to 25/4 ... 37.5mm	(Apr 2009 ... 64.75mm)
2010 rainfall to 25/4 ... 281.25mm	(2009 to 25/4 ... 150.75mm)
Average May rainfall ... 48mm	(May 2009 ... 6.25mm)
Wettest May... 171mm in 1995	Driest May ... 1.0mm in 1985
Hottest May day ... 20 degrees C on 3 occasions	Coldest May day ... 3 degrees C on 29/5/2000
Coldest May night ... minus 5 degrees C on 28/5/2001	

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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Twelve months ago we travelled through parts of north eastern Victoria and were confronted by the dry and lifeless landscape. We returned recently to cycle the Murray to the Mountains old rail trail, and back, and delighted in a green and mellow countryside. What a difference a little rain can make! I started thinking about recreational cycling trails in our part of the world and the broken threads of the old railway line from Queanbeyan to Cooma and beyond. Old, abandoned railway lines, with their gentle gradients can be transformed into excellent cycle and walking paths...but we need means and a will.

It was while we were riding through a damp area of pines and casuarinas that I spied a beautiful conical shaped fungus, red, with white spots. It looked as if it had been lifted straight out of the English fairy story books of my childhood. I haven't seen one like that around here, as yet, but I am amazed at the number and variety of fungi that I have seen in my garden and the bush this autumn. Walking through the bush there is the distinctive smell of moulds and fungi busily working their magic above and below ground. I have picked and eaten mushrooms as big as entrée plates, obliged puffballs by kicking them with all my might and been fascinated and repulsed at the same time by "dog's vomit" and stinkhorns in my well mulched garden. There is one specimen, however, that has captivated me. It looks exquisite, a perfect, translucent glass like cap supported by a delicate stem. I think it's a Hygrocybe. This morning I saw bright orange plates stacked at the base of a stringybark. What a difference a few good months of rain can make while the ground is still warm and alive.

It hasn't really been cold yet, but I kindled a fire, nevertheless, on the eve of ANZAC day, one day ahead of the traditional fire lighting date. I didn't shiver at the Dawn service this year and lose all feeling in my feet, and I didn't dab my misty eyes with numb fingers as we soberly remembered those who would not grow old. It was a still, clear morning after beautiful overnight rain, and I stood there in silence, my eyes fixed on the Southern Cross in the inky sky as the Last Post sounded. Then, before the Reveille broke the poignant silence, a larrikin kookaburra started to chuckle. I wondered what the young ANZACs, so far from home, would have given for a glimpse of the Southern Cross and the sound of an irreverent kookaburra above the noise, fear, stench and chaos of war.

We are indeed fortunate to live in these easy times, especially now that there is a little moisture in the ground, and although few of us will ever begin to comprehend what they endured and sacrificed for their ideals, I am still glad that we gather in solemn respect on that "one day of the year" to "remember them". And long may that larrikin Aussie streak, which probably fired those young men and spurred them on, remain part of modern Australia.

I wouldn't live anywhere else....

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