

WAMBOIN

COMMUNITY  ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

June 2010 CIRCULATION: 1,138

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 or mail them. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the July 2010 issue Whisper the deadline is Sunday, June 27, 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

Wamboin Community Assn	Pete Harrison	President	6238-3525 wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community Assn	Nora Stewart	President	6230-3305 bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade	Andrew Dunn	Captain	0409-991-340 bh 6238 1849 ah
Wamboin Markets	Joan Mason	Contact	6238 3258
Sutton School Playgroup	Rosemary Semecky	Convener	6230-3807
Landcare	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
Breastfeeding Assoc.	Belinda Dennis	Community Educator	6236 9979
Emergency Services	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
Emergency Services Admin	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
Justice of the Peace	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
Justice of the Peace	Margaret Fletcher	JP	6238-1211
Justice of the Peace	Jill Sedaitis	JP	6236-9559
Justice of the Peace	Tony Holland	JP	6238-3762
Wamboin Scout Group	Pete Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
Wamboin Pony Club	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Katarina Biondic	Contact	0421-859-917
Wamboin Play Group	Kristin Skinner	Convener	6238-1201
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
KYB Bible Study Group	Yvonne Barrett	Contact	6230 3539 or 0409 951 388
Golf	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966
WonderfulWomenOfWambn	Claire Ayling	Convener	6238-3347
Lake George Day VIEW Club	Lydia Zielinski	Contact	6230-3488
Wamboin Bookgroup	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

Ashleigh Caird, babysitting	6238 0746.
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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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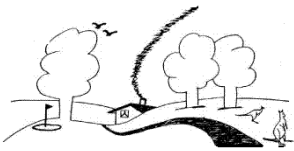
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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs

Produce Markets — This month's Markets will be the last before the winter break. Take this opportunity to replenish your stocks of local produce for your winter hibernation, or just come along for a cup of coffee, scones and a chat.

Curry Night — Coming up in August. Check Lofty's update elsewhere in this issue.

Annual Fireworks Night — The date has been set for Saturday 25 September. Details will be provided in coming issues of The Whisper, and on the WCA website (<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au>).

Motor Bike Noise — Some residents have expressed concern over the noise generated by the growing number of recreational trail bike riders in Kowan Forest. Stephen Alegria from the ACT Dept of Parks, Conservation and Lands has advised that he will be contacting residents on the Kowan Forest boundary to organise a meeting to discuss how best to deal with this problem. If you would like to be involved in this discussion, regardless of where you live, please contact Stephen on 6207 2547, 0429 995 173 or via email at stephen.alegria@act.gov.au

Local Government Referenda — Some will recall our campaign to have Council hold a referendum on the establishment of wards within our shire. A basic information sheet has been prepared and will be included with your 2010/2011 rates notice, usually posted out in July. This will be followed by a series of public meetings, at times and places to be advised, after which Council will decide whether or not there is enough interest within the community to justify the cost of holding a referendum.

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)

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Bywong Community Association News

Bywong Trivia Challenge – Saturday evening 24th July

Trivia lovers and socialites, put this date in your diary! The annual event will be on again with some new quiz masters. Please watch the website for more details as they become available – www.bywongcommunity.org.au

ROADS PUBLIC MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED until October

The public meeting “Why is the Macs Reef Road So Dangerous?” has been postponed until our October meeting. We hope it will be an informative and useful meeting. If anyone would like to assist with preparing for this meeting or is interested in attending, we would like to know! Please contact Nora Stewart at president@bywongcommunity.org.au or Bernie Greethead at info@bywongcommunity.org.au

Donations made on behalf of the community

Following another successful car boot sale, the committee has made the following donations to local organisations and individuals:

- Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade - \$750 : to support their ongoing preparation and work in the locality;
- Les Reardon Reserve and Bywong Hall - \$1,000:- \$500 equipment donation for the Hall, and \$500 contribution toward a matching grant for work to the reserve.
- Ryan Cox - \$200 - to support his trip to South Africa for the first southern hemisphere Mounted Games Championships.

The Bywong Community Association would like to invite **other local** organisations and individuals who wish to be considered for a small allocation of funds, to apply to the Association. We would be particularly happy to support projects that support groups of young people on a long-term basis. If you or your organisation wishes to apply, please outline your project or local work and indicate how you could use the funding. All genuine applications will be given due consideration. Please email Nora Stewart at president@bywongcommunity.org.au or send us a letter to Bywong Community Association, PO Box 486 Dickson ACT 2602.

Waste Transfer Station for Macs Reef Road

Council promises that the waste transfer station will be built by January 2012, and there will be no gap in facilities at Macs Reef, as the tip will operate whilst the new transfer station is being built.

The working group for the waste transfer station has also raised the issue of trucks dumping large amounts of waste at the tip, particularly those with ACT registration. Council has also agreed that from 1 July 2010, tip passes will be checked before access will be granted, and those without tip passes will not be allowed access unless they have a pre-paid ticket. This arrangement will stay in place until the new Bungendore Waste Transfer Station opens, and from then, the Macs Reef Road tip will be treated like a waste transfer station, charging fees for all waste except those that are accepted free.

For more detailed information about fees, charges and answers to other issues, go to our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on our website www.bywongcommunity.org.au/local-issues-to-council/waste-management/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-waste-transfer-station-at-macs-reef-road

Locality signs

Hurray! We finally have two locality signs, as do Wamboin.

Boo! Hiss! One of ours is not in the right place (at the corner of Bungendore Road and Macs Reef Road), and Wamboin appears to start at the beginning of Denley Drive. The Association is currently taking this up with Palerang Council and hope we can have the signs correctly located. -- Nora Stewart, President – www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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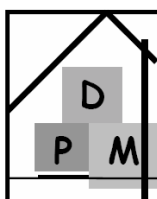
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During daylight saving, Friday and Monday,
7.30 am - 5.00 pm
Saturday and Sunday, 7.30 am - 7.00 pm

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,
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Exciting Young Violinist to Appear in Concerts at Bywong

by Richard Milnor

Lathika Vithanage is establishing herself as a leading baroque violinist in Australia by playing with such ensembles as Salut! Baroque, Orchestra of the Antipodes and Ludvicos Band. A graduate of the Sydney Conservatoire, she is soon to spend two years in Italy undertaking postgraduate study with Stephano Montanari in Milan. One of her last concerts before going to Italy will be with Bush Baroque in Bywong on Saturday and Sunday June 19/20. One of the works she will perform is a virtuosic sonata by Fontana, an early baroque Italian composer.

In a concert called "Triple Treat" she is one of the treats, the others being the a capella female vocal group, Polifemy, and another exciting young talent in Emma Jenvy, soprano. Polifemy will be singing sacred music by Palestrina, Monteverdi, Byrd and Vinci, while Emma will be singing cantatas by Handel and Telemann.

Richard and Joan Milner both play the viola da gamba, an instrument rarely heard today but popular in England and Europe between about 1450 and 1700. Derived from the Spanish guitar, it is a bowed instrument with 6 strings and frets. The bass and tenor instruments will be heard when they join with Lathika in trios by Giovanni Coprario (as he liked to be called however his real name was John Cooper!) and Emma in sacred pieces by Byrd.

These concerts are held in the Milners house and all proceeds go to Hartley LifeCare Inc who assist disabled people in the Canberra region. It is essential that you ring (62369212) or email (violsaustralia@gmail.com) to book and details of the venue will be sent out to you. Drinks (Lamberts Vineyards donates the wine) and nibbles are served after the concert on the deck overlooking a large dam. The concerts will start at 1.30 on both days and go for about an hour and half.

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Profits from sales will be donated to Wildcare, Landcare and Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade.

Nature Notes - May 2010

Jo Walker

The last week of May has brought us more rain than the rest of the month – 23mm so far in my rain gauge and it's raining gently this morning. The landscape is still green and so far there have only been one or two light frosts. There has been a good germination of grasses over the last month or two – tiny threads of bright green are beginning to cover patches of bare earth in damper areas. It seems that the grass seeds need soils to stay moist for a while before they germinate, as the shallow soils that dry out quickly after rain are still devoid of seedlings.

The Little Dumpy Orchids (*Diplodium truncatum*) have just about finished flowering, the best display in a long time. These little greenhood orchids can survive years without flowering, their presence indicated only by patches of green rosettes growing flat to the ground. The rains earlier this year must have fallen at just the right time, and, for the first time in over 15 years, they have flowered abundantly, their large white and green hoods appeared in dense groups - a beautiful sight after such a long absence.

The Gang Gang parrots have been much in evidence recently, noticeable by their loud, creaking calls. After that flush of flowers on the Red Stringybarks (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*) that brought in the Lorikeets two months ago, a lot of seed capsules are forming and these seem to be one of the favourite foods of the Gang Gangs. The Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos are still paying an occasional visit, tearing chunks of wood out of the wattles in search of grubs. A less acceptable activity of these large birds is their habit of collecting pine cones in Kowen Forest and carrying them into Wamboin to tear to pieces in search of the seeds – some of which drop to the ground to produce unwanted pine trees.

Some 20 years ago when I first came to live here, there was a permanent family of White-winged Choughs who used to feed near the house. The family grew and divided into two amicable groups, but a third, very aggressive group came in and caused disturbance for a while until all three groups left. Since then, a few have occasionally turned up, but, yesterday, a large flock of seventeen birds, followed soon after by another ten, flew over from a neighbour's property. Nice to see a healthy, thriving flock still around.

A few of the Noisy Miner flock, which until now has commanded a territory at one corner of my land (noisily mobbing any intruder, including snakes) have decided on change of location and have been feeding on the slope below the house for several days. Although they are honey-eaters, they also feed on insects and have spend considerable time turning over rocks with their beaks to find a tasty snack.

A pair of Rose Robins made their appearance this month amongst the shrubbery under the stand of Candlebark trees (*Eucalyptus rubida*) along the creek. They are birds of moist gullies and they are usually seen in the wetter forests, but seem to spend time in this area during autumn or winter.

The rain is still falling, and a group of Galahs are hanging upside down from a long tree branch close by, screeching and with their wing flapping, enjoying and making the most of a wet day.

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The Wamboin Firefighter

THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED

For the present a Fire Permit is not required to burn off in the open but if you plan to light a fire in the open you must notify:

1. your neighbours, and
2. the Brigade Captain on 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

On Saturday 8th May just after 6 am, the Wamboin Brigade attended an 'horrific' motor vehicle accident (MVA) involving a motorcycle and a utility at the intersection of Bungendore Rd and the Federal Hwy. Brigade members in our two largest fire-fighting vehicles assisted at the scene for nearly 5 hours. The accident was extensively reported in the general media.



On Friday 14th May at 4:15 pm, the Wamboin Brigade was called to a vehicle fire on the Federal Hwy. Sutton Rural Fire Service (RFS) also responded. The first arriving units found a car fully engulfed in fire and a small grass fire adjacent to the scene. The Hwy had to be closed for about 30 minutes. The fire proved to be difficult to extinguish and required a considerable quantity of water and foam.

On Monday 24th May at 10:15 in the evening, Wamboin Brigade responded to another MVA this time at Smiths Gap (on the escarpment above Bungendore). Wamboin's Captain was first on scene. He attended the driver until an ambulance and the police, plus the NSW Fire Brigade and Bungendore RFS arrived. While en-route to the Smiths Gap accident, Wamboin brigade's 2 heavy tankers were re-tasked to a second reported MVA involving a vehicle on fire and persons trapped near the intersection of Harriott Rd and Macs Reef Rd. Crews in each of Wamboin's 2 heavy tankers attended the incident along with police, ambulance and NSW Fire Brigade's Queanbeyan's pumper. All these services had been responding to the initial MVA at Smiths Gap. Bungendore RFS was tasked with managing the Smiths Gap incident.

The vehicle fire on Macs Reef Rd was quickly extinguished by the NSW Fire Brigade supported by the Wamboin brigade. The vehicle was in fact unoccupied.

Setting aside the circumstances of this case which we understand from the police involved a stolen vehicle, and turning to a more general point, it is not unknown for vehicles not involved in an accident to catch on fire, eg, through an electrical or mechanical fault or long grass becoming entangled around an exhaust pipe etc. It has long been generally recommended that every car should carry a fire extinguisher for use in an emergency. While extreme care must be taken, if you are ever involved in an accident, proper and safe use of a fire extinguisher may save your life or the life of a loved one.



On Wednesday 26 May the Brigade was called to a slow combustion heater overheating and causing concern to the owners. Darrell Tipton and Matt O'Brien were very quickly first on scene. They opened the door on the stove which helped to slow the fire and then using a hand held misting spray out of the kitchen, they were able to further cool and slow the fire fairly quickly until it was back to normal. The roof space inside the house and the area immediately around the exterior of the house were checked several times and declared safe.

Lessons learnt:

- Opening the door of a slow combustion heater will generally slow a fire, but you need to be well aware of the operation of your own heater.
- A simple misting spray (water spray bottle) can help cool the fire without creating a mess.
- Most importantly, as the owners did, call Triple Zero (000) if you have any concerns at all or there is the slightest smell of smoke.

PROPERTY FIRE ASSESSMENT

We have only received 148 responses to the RFS Property Fire Assessment questionnaires distributed in Feb/Mar; I.E. just over 12%. **To strengthen the Brigade's position to provide a high level of service to all residents we really do need many more to be returned – please.** This month we will start developing a simplified electronic version of the questionnaire for the Brigade's website. This will be for ongoing use for updates from existing residents and fresh information from new residents. Watch this space for developments. Questions regarding the questionnaire should be addressed to Deputy Captain Richard Hobbs (6238 3505) or at the Brigade's market stall (see below).

OTHER 'FLASHING LIGHT' NEWS STORIES

The Grape Pick: 13.285 tonnes! That's the haul of grapes picked by members and friends of the brigade on Saturday 10 and 17 April at Lambert Vineyards which is a 'mouth-watering' 700kg more than 2009. The financials are not to hand at this stage but the additional funds will be very useful for brigade operational purposes. Many, many thanks to all who participated.

Smoke Alarms: Mentioned the importance of these last month. Well, a family in the ACT have their smoke alarms to thank after escaping a house fire in the early hours of Saturday 22 May. Although the house was extensively damaged the family was woken by the smoke alarms and were able to evacuate the house safely.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June** - Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting Tuesday 8th 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. Assistance with completing your RFS Property Fire Assessment questionnaire can also be obtained here.

FINALLY, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ON A FIRE-RELATED ISSUE (INCLUDING PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING BUSH FIRE SEASON) please contact the Brigade's Captain (Andrew Dunn) on 0409 991 340 or (02) 6238 1849 (ah).

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

PONY TALES - Goings on at WPC

Cold winds, grey sky and even some rain. Yep winter's arrived in Wamboin and for some reason it always seems that little bit colder out here than in town? If it isn't poring with rain however the intrepid Wamboin Pony Club riders battle on through the elements (whilst parents shiver at the sidelines).

I must admit this month's rally days have actually been blessed with a little sunshine and not too much wind (for some reason everything in Wamboin seems to be on the top of a hill?), and although it's more the weather for staying inside by the fire - tis the season to prepare for the yearly challenge of: The Zone 16 Mounted Games (bugle call pls)..... The teams have been organised, the riders are practicing and the coaches are hard at work honing their small group of different sized riders on different sized horses into some sort of competitive team (can be a challenge!).

Mounted games are one of the many activities you can be involved with at Pony Club and there are various competitions throughout the year. A number of our Wamboin riders have been very successful recently - right up to the levels of State and even the Australian team.

Our club as a whole is focusing on practicing their mounted games skills at the moment as in July our Zone Mounted Games Challenge will again be held in Bungendore. This event gives our teams a chance to compete with other club teams in the area and for a chance to be selected for the State championships also being held in Bungendore this year!

Mounted games for the uninitiated are a series of very fast races which are exciting for both participants and spectators. Riders need to show a great deal of athletic ability, good riding skills and hand to eye coordination. Events are timed and a team will race each other through such games as Five Flag, where flags are put into and retrieved from witches hats by horse and rider or Stepping Stone where the rider has to race up on their horse, dismount, run across a number of stepping stones and vault back onto their horse....this can be interesting as a spectator as the better riders will really fly through this event. Their horses won't stop and watch out if a rider misses the mount up - becomes a scene from a Hollywood western! No matter how old a rider is they all have a great time at a mounted games day and those watching have fun too as it can be a real visual spectacular.

Wamboin club training was helped this month by some useful games tips from Dave Harris the Australian Mounted games coach who came along and gave all our teams some valuable pointers. You know some of these games might look easy but they're not - imagine you're on a horse which doesn't like the idea of you sitting on it's back holding a long pole, racing up too a bunch of balloons in order to pop them! you're in for a challenge. Even just getting a horse close enough to a pole to grab an upturned mug sometimes isn't easy. Most riders could do with longer arms or shorter ponies in these events but when a rider does masters their games skills it can be very satisfying and the races get faster and faster....yeeehaaa!

Other goings on at our club, well we're still working on the clubhouse extension, we've got most of the roof on now and we hope to have some wall's going up soon. Riders continue to get good use out of our great jumping arena and the new fence around the dressage arena has made it a much nicer area to improve riders flat work. Remember if you're a rider between 5 and 25 and have access to a horse come along to our next rally day and see what we're up to, or contact our senior instructor Robyn Slater on 62383472 for more info. You can even check out our website www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au

The next rally day is Sunday 6th June. By the way if you feel like watching a bit of the excitement of the Mounted Games at Bungendore Showground pencil the 3rd/4th July into your diary. Wamboin will be there, just bring you're winter woollies as it's usually freezing but fun to watch. You can warm up by jumping up and down and cheering! - Go Wamboin!!

- Steve Quick



Hang on !! Photo: Catherine Daniel



Nice movement !! Photo :Peter Baldwin



The Jumping arena !! - PB



Dressage Arena - Love that new fence -PB

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- WCA Electronic Noticeboard** – 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 Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au.
- CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.
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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 1/5 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 www.bywongcommunity.org.au.
- 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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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

June Home Produce Market is our last market until September. That means a 2 month break in activities so take this opportunity to stock up on supplies. Although excess garden produce will be scarce we are assured of a good supply of the dried fruits, nuts and sweets as sold by Alan and Eleanor Rope. Add to this the jewellery, locally baked bread, cakes, sausage rolls, slices, jams, local honey, preserves and..... best come along and check things out for yourself.

The Markets run from 9am to noon. They are a great place to socialise. Try 'The Olde Coffee Shoppe' for espresso 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:
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NEW CLASSIFIEDS

We (2 adults, 1 young child) have recently purchased a block of land in Wamboin and will be building in the next twelve months, and in the meantime are **looking for a rental** in the area. If you have something available, or will in the near future, it would be appreciated if you could contact either Chris (0402 474 825), Kath (0400 323 969) or after 7 pm on 6238 3389.

Wanted: **peahen/s for our lonely peacock**. Call Elspeth on 02 6238 2479.

Holiday house available for holiday rental in Surfside. Close to beach. 3 bedrooms 1 bathroom. No pets allowed, and no smoking. Please contact Sandra on 6238 3314 for rates , availability and any further details.

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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

262 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	7
Connie+Hans Bachor	Denley to MacReef + BirchmansG	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	29			

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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Local Riders Selected to Compete in South Africa

by Kerry Cox

Rebecca Purdie (Wamboin), Ryan Cox (Bywong), Patrick Beer (Queanbeyan) and Hazel Fertier (South Australia) have been selected to represent Australia at South Africa's First Southern Hemisphere Mounted Games Championships.


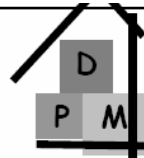

Mounted Games are a series of very fast races, exciting for participants and spectators alike, performed by young people on ponies. They require a high degree of athletic ability, good riding skills, hand-to-eye coordination, general determination to see things through to the end no matter what, and a competitive spirit which nevertheless requires an ability to work together with other riders and to be willing to help one another.



Mounted Games were the inspiration of H.R.H. Prince Philip. When Col. Sir Mike Ansell was Director of the Horse of the Year Show, Prince Philip asked if he could devise a competition for children who could not afford an expensive, well-bred pony, and in 1957 the Horse of the Year Show, staged the first Mounted Games Championship for the Prince Philip Cup - it was an immediate box office success and International Mounted Games now has members all over the world.

The riders will depart for South Africa on 26th May and return on 8th June. The competition is to be held at the Royal Show Grounds in Pietermaritzburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal. The countries that are competing are Australia, Botswana, New Zealand and South Africa. The team have been

actively fundraising and are grateful for the sponsorship and support they are receiving from local businesses. If you are able to provide sponsorship or support for the team please contact the team manager, Maureen Purdie on 6238 3343.

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Horse(s) Sense in the Dark

Last Friday night (28th May) I was coming home along Weeroona Drive, it was only 5.50pm but it was quite dark. As Weeroona Drive is notorious for Kangaroos I had my lights on high beam. As I turned into the wide mouth of three driveways I was startled to see a horse in my headlights between the car and my gate. I was lucky to be able to stop quickly. As I got out of the car I heard a least one other horse on the far side of my car its hooves clattering as it moved away. The horse and its rider that I had first seen was quickly moving up the cutting on the side of the driveways. I called out to the rider, "You should be carrying a light, I couldn't see you" the only reply I got was a laugh. It wasn't a laughing matter, if I hadn't been almost stopped to open my gate, it might have been much more serious. Horse or rider might have been injured. Please take more care to be visible when riding in the dark! - Diane Royal



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Note you will need a yoga mat or thick towel, a blanket and warm layers including socks.



THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Coillet
An Occasional Piece

LETTER BOXES – What do they say about their owners? (Pt2)

Got a best seller here!!! ‘Give me more!’ Whisper readers scream. So, hot on the heels of Pt 1 (last month) is a second offering of stylish letterboxes that adorn the gateways to our homes and arguably enrich our region. And, hey, if you want to view the artistry in living colour, you can check out these reflections of our cultural diversity on the WCA’s website by going to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/> then click on ‘The Whisper’ and trawl through the May and June editions. Enjoy.





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Chooks Romp Home in the Mud

by Peter Evans

The Mudchooks had a convincing 45-0 win against the Tuggeranong Vikings on Saturday 29 May in the first wet weather conditions that they have played in at home from nearly two seasons.

The Vikings are a new team in the Monaro Second Division competition this year, and having won three of their first games, the Mudchooks club members were a bit apprehensive about how competitive this unknown opposition might be. But in the end there was no need to worry because, despite the slippery conditions, the Mudchooks scored seven unanswered tries and dominated the Vikings for most of the game in every facet of play.

The game got off to a terrific start with Peter Sturgiss scoring first only two and a half minutes into the game. Captain Hayward (Woody) Fraser scored next and then scored again mid way through the first half as a result of his powerful attacking runs through the Vikings defence. Rodney Clarke scored the next try just before half time after a blistering run along the side line to chase down a long kick ahead from Brett Watson.

The second half started in fine fashion with Jeremy Taylor intercepting a Vikings pass and then sprinting 80 meters to score under the posts. However, the Mudchooks then became a bit over excited by their success and allowed their ball handling to deteriorate to a certain degree with a number of unforced knock-ons occurring. Coach Shane Botham called for the team to settle down and get some structure back into their game, and the boys did just that with some powerful driving mauls and again took control of the game.

At the 24 minute mark Peter Sturgiss scored his second classy try and then, just before full time, veteran back rower John Turner made a welcome return to the side diving over for a try from the back of a maul on the try line. Brett Watson was in fine form kicking five conversions and only narrowly missing the other two.

Tymlock 3 points went to Woody Fraser for another outstanding captain's game leading from the front. Bungendore Rural Supplies 2 points went to Morne Ferreira who was aggressive at the breakdown and worked hard all game. Royal Hotel 1 point went to Jason Brodrick who jumped exceptionally well in the line outs stealing many Vikings throw-ins. The Botham Fencing Coach's award went to Morne Ferreira whose game has improved immensely this season and the Chick's Pick was given to speedy fullback Jeremy Taylor for playing another fast and furious game.

Next week the Mudchooks are playing at home against their old foe the Taralga Tigers with a 2:30pm kick-off.



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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 23rd April.**

ALSO....

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

Have you been on a waiting list to start Yoga in Wamboin or keen to start Yoga, but too busy with family or work commitments throughout the week? Then this class may suit you! A wonderful way to start your week! Beginners are very welcome to all classes.

Please direct all enquiries to:

**Roxane Atkinson.
Phone: 6238 3892**

May rainfall to 30/5 ... 68mm
2010 rainfall to 30/5 349.25mm
Average June rainfall ... 58.9mm
Wettest June ... 189mm in 1997
Hottest June day ... 17C (twice)
Coldest June night -6C (9/6/96)

May 2009 ... 6.25mm
2009 ... 150.75
June 2009 ... 41.25
Driest June ... 8mm in 1979
Coldest June day ...4C (4 times)

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

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FAIRY MUSHROOMS

First up you will have to look up the June Whisper in the WCA website to get the full colour of these photographs. <wamboincommunity.asn.au>.

Jill Gregory's May Muse sparked this input on these fungi or toadstools. We have several hundred growing in rings and clusters mainly to the southern side of our pine trees. We have been living here for 28 years and to date have only seen isolated examples however this year they have popped up continually over the past few months. No, I haven't been eating them and we are yet to see any Fairies. Lofty M.



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Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare

Think global, act local

by Chris Fowler

Nursery session – Saturday 5th June – 39 Birchman's Grove, Wamboin, Ph: 62369158 or email gbu22182@bigpond.net.au. Continuation of our cuttings programme. You must contact Geoff if you plan to attend or bring cuttings. These are held on the first Saturday of every month. We are currently engaged in preparation of cuttings from shrubs for plantings this coming spring. You must contact Geoff Butler if you plan to attend or bring cuttings.

Maintenance work on the very successful **planting on Smith's Gap** has been scheduled for Sunday 27th June at 9am. Bring saws etc. Ring the Secretary if you think the weather might be a bit "iffy" on the day.

Paddock Plant Field Days. *These field days are good value. At the time of writing, a date and a site for our area has not been set, but it will be some time in June. It is most important that you register your interest to the Secretary as soon as possible, so that numbers can be forwarded to the organiser. Equally, if you think you have a property that meets some or all of the criteria, and you would like to offer it for consideration as a field day site, that too, should be mentioned at the same time. Please send your address [if offering a site] and phone numbers for registration.*

NSW Department of Industry and Investment, through the Box Gum Grassy Woodlands Project, has some funds to offer **free Paddock Plants** information days around the Yass District.

Paddock Plants days help land holders to:

- identify and name the important plants in their paddocks
- identify which plants are useful and for what purpose
- tell the difference between native and introduced grasses and understand the strengths and weaknesses of each
- understand what plants tell you about your paddock or landscape. Why do some plants grow where they do and others do not? What is this telling you about your soils? ie. what do these plants indicate about fertility or other characteristic's of the landscape. The days are run by District agronomists and Community Woodlands Officers and generally run for about 3 hours in the paddock. All participants receive a 'Paddock Plants' folder with coloured photos, descriptions and management advice on each of the plants (trees, herbs, grasses) discussed on the day.

In terms of site selection for the day, we need areas that have box trees (white, yellow, blakely's) with 20-50% canopy cover with a grassland understorey. Tree regeneration is fine in the area but not shrubs/wattles etc.

These days are usually run during the week but may be organised for a weekend in areas where the majority of land holders also work off-farm. Days can be run at any time providing there is enough of a variety of grass, herbs, trees to discuss. Organisation for the day, generally requires an inspection of the site, taking note of which species are present for folder preparation, and returning the following week or fortnight for the Paddock Plants day.

Here are a couple of useful tips. [The 'old hands' of the district will already be familiar with them]

- Tree guards can be easily made from those thousands of animal feed bags that litter the district.
- Seedling watering for up to several days can be achieved using any number of 5 or 10 L containers and fitting an adjustable irrigation dripper. Alternatively, just open the bung [by 'one drip'?] on a 20L container.

Land and Water Australia. If you are interested in LWA publications for your own or organisational use as a reference and information source, a DVD compilation of all Land & Water research reports and publications (1990-2009) can be ordered free of charge (including postage) from the following website: <http://lwa.gov.au/products/pn30333>

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Golf

Fine and warmish weather brought out the golfers for the May stableford competition sponsored by The Old Salt, Tim (Sparrow) Barter and The Old Aviator, Paul (Orville) Griffin. The Griffin family, with some help, produced a magnificent feast for the day's "nibblies"!

Nearest the pin and long drive winners were Jason Beckett, Jack Whitney x4, Tim Barter x2, Len Ivey, Ken Gordon and Nev Schroder.

We could not split the 9 hole winners with Nev Schroder and Jason Beckett equal on 18 points with Joan Mason in 3rd with 15 points.

The Whitney family raised the interest of the handicapper once again with John winning the 18 hole competition with 47 points and son Jack coming in second with 42 points. Sponsor Tim Barter was third with 39 points but passed on his trophy to 4th placed Len Ivey on 34 points.

Next game on June 6th will be a challenge by the Golf Club against the Wamboin Fire Brigade.
Enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358



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THE GREAT WAMBOIN CURRY NIGHT

Just a heads up so that you can mark your diary for Saturday, August 14. The Hall is booked for this very successful evening of sampling various curry delights. All diners bring along a prepared dish. These are displayed and then on offer to all curry munchers. A prize will be given to the dish as selected by a secret (no bribes) judge. More information in following Whispers. Lofty and Joan Mason. 62383258.

Wamboin 15 years ago - from the Whisper, June 1995 Circulation 500 by Robyn Robertson

from the Yarrawlumla Council News: "It's 5pm on Sunday afternoon. I have written a page on rates following last week's Council meeting, and I am far from happy, not only on what I have written but also on what appeared to me to be a far too hasty decision process by Council. That page is in the bin. ... The N.S.W. Government has abolished minimum rates, but basically we are still forced to levy rates on the unimproved capital value of your property. ... It is interesting to note that although the Government has approved a rate increase of 2.2%, because of the abolition of minimum rates and some (worthy) adjustments to the farm rate, we are expecting to have rate variations this year from a decrease of about 60%, to an increase of about 15% in the residential rate. There are even greater variations in other categories. How am I supposed to explain that to the average punter??? I will get back to you! Peter Greenwood, Councillor"

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Someone asked me the other day if I spent a lot of time in my garden, and I replied, "Not much"and that's true. I don't spend endless hours digging and weeding, pruning, planting and mulching, but I do, in fact, spend most of the day in the garden. I'm there at first light through my bedroom window, I'm in it in the midst of kitchen chores and as I sit at the dining room table. I watch its many faces as the day unfolds until evening wraps it up, and then I see it bathed in soft moonlight. My garden and the bush beyond is a living, breathing thing, sometimes sluggish, sometimes defiant, sometimes restless and forever changing, and I'm in it.

I finally admitted defeat and picked all my tomatoes a week or so ago and made green tomato chutney. I dug a bucketful of potatoes, much to my surprise and delight, and gave the last of the silver beet to the chooks. I spend happy hours pulling luxuriant weeds and found mauve blue winter irises tucked away beneath their straplike leaves. I didn't rake the crunching mass of litter already on the ground, but just enjoyed the red and yellow lingering on the branches above. It's been a splendid autumn, with images that I want to save and store for the short grey days ahead, images to savour.

In days, long gone, I used to spend precious hours performing small miracles at the ironing board. This was my thinking time. It was my legitimate space to put my mind in neutral and let it wander, to think and ponder, have conversations with myself, dream and remember. I've downsized my ironing basket these days avoiding most things except quick easy squares of table napkins and handkerchiefs. I can't quite give up these relics of the twentieth century, however, I wonder if I'm missing out on something. I'm not concerned about a decline in the skills' area, simply the time to reflect and consolidate memories. In a world where we are bombarded by media words and pictures, where we feel compelled to be in touch with each other at all times, even if at arms length, where it is a sin to be idle and unproductive, and everything new is good, I wonder what we are doing to real memories. Sometimes I really want to slow down, to stopping running and start walking. I wouldn't even object to a shuffle. At the moment I am far from Wamboin, seeing majestic gorges, rugged landscapes, vast distances, feeling heat and sweat and seeing faces that were never drawn in my first reading books. I want to hang on to these images and feelings, fit them into the jigsaw of my life and recall them at another time.

This Wamboin autumn has been a treasure....and like all treasures, it is one that I don't want to bury with the map. I want time and space to remember where I put it. One day I might want to locate it again.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....and I wonder what winter has on offer.

PS: How many times have you said, "I've never seen/heard something before..." and suddenly it's everywhere. Yes, there are lots of red conical white spotted toadstools around Wamboin....I've now seen them. They're just not at home on our piece of prickle and shale!

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