

# WAMBOIN

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COMMUNITY  ASSOCIATION

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## The Whisper

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July 2010    CIRCULATION: 1,095

[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. Contributions from residents are valued and the main content. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions 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 August 2010 issue Whisper the deadline is Sunday, July 25, 2010, 7:00 pm, and it will go to deliverers 5 days later.

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

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

#### WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	Pete Harrison	President	6238-3525	wamboincommunity.asn.au
<b>Bywong Community Assn</b>	Nora Stewart	President	6230-3305	bywongcommunity.org.au
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Andrew Dunn	Captain	0409-991-340	bh 6238 1849 ah
<b>Wamboin Markets</b>	Joan Mason	Contact	6238 3258	
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Rosemary Semecky	Convener	6230-3807	
<b>Landcare</b>	Roger Good	President	6236-9048	
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333	
<b>Breastfeeding Assoc.</b>	Belinda Dennis	Community Educator	6236 9979	
<b>Emergency Services</b>	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500	
<b>Emergency Services Admin</b>	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Keith France	JP	6238-3596	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Margaret Fletcher	JP	6238-1211	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Jill Sedaitis	JP	6236-9559	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Tony Holland	JP	6238-3762	
<b>Wamboin Scout Group</b>	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525	
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472	
<b>Gearys Gap Pony Club</b>	Katarina Biondic	Contact	0421-859-917	
<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>WonderfulWomenOfWambn</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	

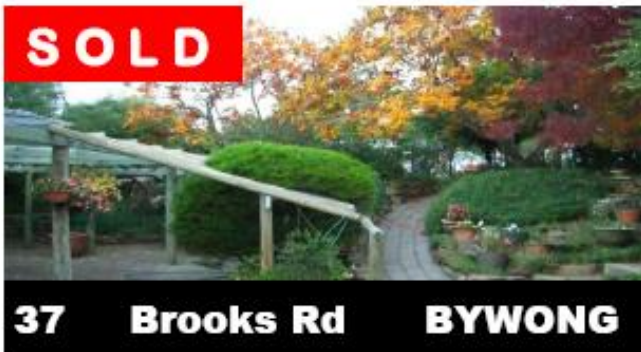
#### THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

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



## Wanted Properties for Sale

Hi, my name is JAN LADMORE. I am the Area Sales Manager for Horizon Real Estate at Bungendore and I live in Wamboin.



I have recently SOLD these properties in your area and achieved a very good price for them. If your thinking of SELLING call me!

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**I'm keen to help you Sell your Property!**

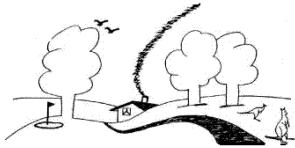


- I'm happy to hold "Open for Inspections"
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- We can also organize Auctions and Tenders

**Jan Ladmore**

Ph: **0407 890 527** 7 Days

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



## Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs

**Produce Markets** — The Produce Market is now in its winter recess. The next Market will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

**Curry Night** — A brief reminder that the annual Curry Night is coming up in August. Check the main notice elsewhere in this edition of The Whisper, or the WCA website (<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/newsandevents/#curryNight>) for full details.

**Annual Fireworks Night** — And another reminder to set aside Saturday 25 September for the annual fireworks night. Once again, the WCA website (<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/newsandevents/#fireworks>) will be updated as details become available.

**Motor Bike Noise** — Following on from my comments in last month's Whisper, ACT Parks, Conservation & Lands (PCL) has advised that they are introducing several measures designed to curb the activity of unauthorised motorbike use in Kowen Forest. In addition to new signage, the closure of access points and an education campaign directed towards recreational motorcycle riders, they have promised increased ranger and Australian Federal Police presence. PCL has implemented an interim buffer zone for authorised motorsport events, and will continue to refine this. All event organisers are also required to letterbox-drop Wamboin residents on adjoining properties and to signpost access points. Noise from both authorised and unauthorised use of Kowan Forest has been a problem for some years now and the WCA will continue to work with PCL to resolve this issue.

**Macs Reef Road WTS** — The 2010/2011 Palerang Management Plan & Budget was adopted at the June 24 meeting of Council. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Cr Branson, and more recently Cr Goonan, and many community members, this Plan includes funding for the initial phase of the Macs Reef Road WTS. The new facility is due for completion in 2012, and the current landfill will remain in operation until this time.

**Waste Collection Services** — According to the waste management survey conducted last year, around 20% of residents are still in favour of using a waste collection service. The survey also revealed that many of these residents were not aware of the fact that O'Sullivan's Rural Waste will collect your household waste at a cost comparable to that proposed by Council, but with much more flexibility. In addition to collecting bins from your residence, rather than the roadside, you also only pay for the collection frequency that suits your needs. If you would like to avail yourself of a collection service, contact Dave O'Sullivan on 6230 3548.

**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))

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# Bywong Community Association News

by Nora Stewart, President

**Bywong Trivia Challenge 2010**, Saturday 24 July at **7.00pm**, Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road, Bywong . We invite all residents to the **Bywong Trivia Challenge 2010** which will be held on Saturday 24 July at **7pm** at the Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road Bywong (off Macs Reef Road). *Please note that this is **EARLIER** than previous years.*

Come along and join your friends and neighbours to make tables of 6-8 to compete for the Trivia Shield. The entry fee is \$10 per person and a supper of soup and rolls with tea/coffee will be supplied toward the end of the evening.

**Please book early:** we will have **fewer** tables than in previous years to make for a more comfortable evening. For information and bookings, please call Kerrie Gougeon on 6236 9841 or email at [dragonfloss@inet.net.au](mailto:dragonfloss@inet.net.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](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au) or Bernie Greethead at [info@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:info@bywongcommunity.org.au)



## Want to know what is happening with Macs Reef Road Tip?

We have developed a list of questions and answers about this issue. Some of these are:

**When will the Macs Reef Road tip close for good?** The Macs Reef Road tip will close only when the new waste transfer station opens at the site and this is likely to be from January 2012. The plan is to have part of the landfill open whilst the waste transfer station is being built.

## When will the Macs Reef Road waste transfer station open?

Design and approval processes for the provision of a waste transfer station at Macs Reef will be completed during 2010, with construction of the facility planned for 2011/12 and operation from January 2012.

## So, what are the transition arrangements for the waste facility between now and when the new waste transfer station opens? What has been agreed is the following:

1. As at 1 July 2010, tip passes will be checked for all users of the Macs Reef Road tip.
2. When the new Bungendore Waste Transfer Station opens (expected May 2011), the Macs Reef Road tip will be treated as a waste transfer station, despite that it is still a tip. This means that waste will be charged for as per the list of charges, and some waste will no longer be accepted.

**What is a waste transfer station?** A waste transfer station is a drop-off point or staging post for a range of waste, that will then be taken from Macs Reef Road to the Woodlawn facility outside Tarago.

## What waste will I be able to take to the waste transfer station?

Recycling	Household Waste	“Revolve” items – small items only
Engine oil (up to 40 litres)?	Mobile phones	Electronic waste (computers, etc)

## What waste will I NOT be able to take to the Macs Reef Road waste transfer station? Materials that will no longer be accepted include:

Green waste	Commercial waste	Industrial waste
Construction and demolition waste	Earth and fill	Tyres
Mattresses	Car bodies	White goods and large scrap metal
Large items including furnitur	Asbestos	Chemicals
Dead animals		

For more questions , answers and information on costs, see our website <http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au/local-issues-to-council/waste-management>



# 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

**Brigade Annual General Meeting:** The Brigade Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June at the Fire Station. The following were elected to the positions indicated:

<b>President</b>	Peter Greenwood	<b>Captain</b>	Andrew Dunn
<b>Vice President</b>	Ian Coillet	<b>Senior Deputy Captain</b>	Darrell Tipton
<b>Secretary</b>	John Taubman	<b>Deputy Captain 1</b>	Dave Cochrane
<b>Treasurer</b>	Larry King	<b>Deputy Captain 2</b>	Keith Wrench
<b>Support Crew Coordinator</b>	Richard Evans	<b>Deputy Captain 3</b>	Col Prest
<b>Community Safety Officer</b>	Geoff Foster	<b>Deputy Captain 4</b>	Cliff Spong
<b>Equipment Officer</b>	Tim Barter	<b>Deputy Captain 5</b>	Bruce Stewart
<b>Brigade Training Officer</b>	Keith Wrench	<b>Deputy Captain 6</b>	Brad Arrowsmith

Two Deputy Captains, Geoff Foster and Richard Hobbs stood down at the AGM, this allowed for the election of three new Deputy Captains, Col Prest, Bruce Stewart and Brad Arrowsmith. We thank Geoff and Richard for their many valued years of service as Deputy Captains.

Wendy Downs also stood down from the role of Support Crew Coordinator after five years in the position, we thank Wendy for her efforts in leading and managing the Support Crew. Richard Evans has stepped up to the role of Support Crew coordinator – welcome Richard.

Contact details for all Brigade Officers are available on the Brigades web site.

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

### WINTER PRECAUTIONS

Although winter provides a respite from the risks and dangers of bush fires, it does present new risks in the home due to the increased use of stoves, ovens, heaters, clothes dryers and other electronic equipment.

*A fire can take hold in 3 minutes  
but it only takes seconds to prevent one.*

*A recent advertisement shown on television demonstrates how quickly a fire can take hold (in 3 minutes), and how easy it is for a fire to be avoided. Along with this advertisement (which you can view [online](#)), comes other information and advice about how to reduce the risk of a fire in your home this winter.*

Visit the "[It only takes 3 minutes](#)" website to find out more about what you can do to keep your family safe.

For further information visit [www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au) or [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

### WINTER PREPARATIONS

While the Fire Season is some way off, **now** is the time to start preparing your property and home for the upcoming season. The following are some of the things that you should consider:

- Inspect your property and buildings identifying any defect or improvements that you need to make before the fire season.
- Inspect and test all fire fighting equipment.
- Service all fire pumps (one at a time if you have multiple pumps).
- Remove excess ground fuels and combustible material (long dry grass, dead leaves and branches) for a distance of at least 20 metres around all buildings.
- Clean leaves, twigs, bark and other debris from roof and gutters.
- Trim low lying branches 2 metres from the ground.
- Enclose open areas under your decks and floors
- Install fine steel wire mesh screens on all windows, doors, vents and weep holes.
- Seal all gaps in external roof and wall cladding.
- Make a detailed list of the tasks to be carried out and tick them off as they are completed.
- Brigade officers are only too happy to assist with this process, please contact the Captain if assistance is required.

### PROPERTY FIRE ASSESSMENT

We have still only received 150 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.** A simplified electronic version of the questionnaire will be available shortly on the Brigade's website. This will be for ongoing use for updates from existing residents and fresh information from new residents. Questions regarding the questionnaire should be addressed to Richard Hobbs (6238 3505) or at the Brigade's monthly market information stall (see below).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- *September* - The Annual Wamboin Bonfire & Fireworks Night 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

### 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. The next market day is September 18<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**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.**

## **TAYLOR MADE PUMPS YOUR PUMPS NOT PUMPING? PUMP REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES OF PUMPS**



- New Pumps Supplied and Installed
- Home Pressure Systems
- Bore and Irrigation Pumps
- Bore, pump and power packages
- Water, Bore Drilling Rig in local area - on site surveys
- Fire Fighting Pumps - Sales and Repairs
- Windmill Service, Repairs and New Sales
- Water Softener Repairs and Water Quality Analysis
- Premium Quality Water Softener Salt at Rural Prices

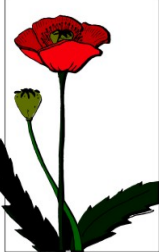


**Don't run out of water - call a Local Bloke for mobile Sales & Repairs**

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**NEW CLASSIFIEDS**

**FOR SALE:** Blue and fawn, Mini Lop baby rabbits for sale \$25, to loving homes, great pet just need secure hutch. Please ring Lisa Whitney 0408-260-796 or 6238-3059.

**Horse Float for Hire.** We have a sturdy double horse float for hire with portable yards which can also be hired out separately. The float has electric brakes, is easy to tow, weatherproof, capable of carrying 2 large horses and is available to hire from four hours up to a weekly hire rate. Should you require, we are also happy to negotiate a rate to tow the float for you within a 100km radius. For enquiries and to receive a schedule of very reasonable rates, please contact Sarah 0402 422 298 or Vicky 0403 069 018.

**For Sale.** Brand new 600mm wide vanity cupboard with solid wooden doors. This item is surplus to requirements. New price was \$586, and to clear quickly it is now only \$200. Please call the Holland's on 02 62383762 or 0417 575537.

**For Hire.** Have you ever hired the Wamboin Community Hall and then had to cart all the dishes, glassware and cutlery etc. We live nice and close and to help locals make the hiring of the hall that much more convenient we have gathered a selection of items for you to hire for your next event. We have enough dinner plates, desert plates, glasses and cutlery for around 80 people. We also have water bottles, salt and pepper shakers, milk jugs and wine glasses. We will deliver the items to the hall and pick them up after the event at no additional cost and table cloths will also be provided free for any hire. Please call Vicky Holland for more information on 02 62383762 or 0403 069018.

**FOR SALE:** Pine bedside chest of drawers (raw - \$20). IBM 300GL Pentium II computer in working order (running Windows 2000) (\$10), Artec AM12E Plus Scanner in working order (\$10), Epson Colour Printer Model P954A in working order (\$10). Assorted plants in pots which we purchased/acquired but not longer plan on including in our garden. Including Camellia 'Beatrice Emily' (\$7), Rhododendron (unknown variety \$5), Pittosporum 'Silver Song' (6 small (\$4) and 4 large pots (\$7)). We also have some plants we are removing that would be suitable for transplanting - Photinia Robusta (2 at 1.5 metres tall - \$10) and Forsythia - these plants would need to be dug out by purchaser. Please phone Stephen on 0405 118 676 for further details.

**LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS**

Mobile Natural Horse Care and Gardening - Not enough hrs in the day / week? Away on weekends or holidays? Need someone to feed, rug, groom, clean up and care for your horse/s? General gardening, weed, mow, mulch and tidy. Other pets included and mail collected. Unable to ask neighbours / friends again? Call Cheryl - on 62369373 or 0402201491

South Durras holiday house - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double carport, close to shop and 5 minute walk to beaches. Dog friendly, fully enclosed yard. Available now. Please phone Karen on 0428 148 500 for further information.

**FIREWOOD.** Mixed hardwood. You load 6 X 4 box trailer \$100. 6 X 4 box trailer delivered \$130. Larger loads delivered by arrangement. Saturdays and Sundays only. Ph 6238-3164.

Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC Video to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$12 per Video and from \$12 per Record or Cassette. Phone Vicky or Tony Holland 62383907 or 0403 069018.

**MATHS & SCIENCE TUTORING,** K-6, 7-10 and 11 & 12, & 1st year university. Encouraging, expert coaching. Judy Shellard BSc(Hons), Dip Ed, David Shellard (3rd year Mathematics ANU). Please contact Judy. Phone 6238 3050

**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>

**CHOOKS WANTED** - Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.

**Beekkeeping Services, Beeswax & Local Award Winning Honey.** Prompt removal of swarm bees and hives that are no longer wanted. We can also remove feral hives depending on location. Fee charged depending on distance travelled and the type of job required. Pure bees wax candles, beeswax blocks and award winning local honey for sale; available bottled or in bulk. Phone or see us each month at the markets! Call John or Tricia - Ridgiedidge Apiary 6238 3791. [www.ridgiedidge.net.au](http://www.ridgiedidge.net.au)

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](http://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](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au)

**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.

## NEWS from WWO2 -- The Wonderful Women of Wamboin -- 27 June 2010

by Sally Saunders

In June, Yvonne and Steve Barret organised a bus for a trip to the annual Quilt and Craft show at Darling Harbour. Steve voluntarily drove the bus to Sydney full of WWOWs—very brave of him to agree to more than six hours of cacophony. The following Monday, those who went all exclaimed it was much fun. And there was even a report that Steve was willing to do it again. (Well, that's what Yvonne said.)

During June, the WWOWs enjoyed two more personal stories as members explained how their lives brought them to Wamboin and surrounds.

On 21 June, Jill Gregory came out to Wamboin to speak with the WWOWs about the work she does, through Catholic Care, to help settle refugees in Canberra. Many refugee families who come to the ACT are from Burma and the Sudan, and can join small communities here. On average, these families have been in refugee camps from 10 to 20 years – some of the younger refugees were born in camps. Catholic Care is the ACT-based organisation authorised to implement the national settlement program managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

While the refugees are given basic furniture and clothing, they all need curtains, linens, cooking equipment. If anyone in Wamboin has such items in good nick, and is willing to donate them, please contact Sally Saunders at 6238 3131 and she will arrange to pick them up.

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

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## Hibernating Blue Tongue Lizard Wakes To Flood Nightmare

by Ned Noel

On the evening of Friday June 25, as a car exited our home it broke a water tap supplied by a tank. The tank contained several hundred litres of water, which flooded out over a dry stone wall made of loosely connected stones. The next morning



my wife noticed a blue tongue lizard, about 25 cms long, lying on its stomach on the ground at the foot of the wall. For years blue tongues have lived in the spaces between the rocks. We came back a few hours later and noticed the animal was on its back. It was writhing in an unhealthy looking way.

We phoned Wildcare, who said they would contact a local member. Lesley Machin phoned us a few minutes later. She asked us questions about the lizard's condition. We live within a few hundred metres of each other. She asked us if we could put some cloth in the bottom of a shoebox, lift the lizard into it, and bring it to their home.

We did this. I drove up their driveway and was initially greeted by three geese walking around guarding the property. Phil Machin came out and welcomed me. We took the blue tongue into their home. Lesley examined it. It was

writhing around, its eyes had sunken into its head and it looked distressed, but there were no other obvious injuries. Lesley thought maybe it had received spinal damage, but it appeared to have feeling and movement in its four feet. I thought the exiting car might have run over it, but wasn't sure.

Lesley decided to hang onto the lizard and have it checked out by a vet the next day. If it continued to live, they would place it with another Wildcare carer who had space and also looked after these animals.

A few hours later Lesley called to say that the blue tongue seemed much better. It was placed on a heat mat and quite quickly it seemed to settle and its eyes opened. She said that perhaps what had happened was that the flood of cold water had washed it out of its place of hibernation. Suddenly woken from a deep sleep by the torrents of cold water, perhaps it had gone into shock. Waking from hibernation in this unnatural way could have been the reason for its odd behaviour. Lesley mentioned that normally when hibernation is interrupted these lizards are unable to start a new hibernation the same winter. If it survives it will be kept alive over winter and then returned to us because blue tongues live in family groups.

I spoke with Phil a week later and he said the blue tongue was still alive. A vet had checked it out, and had given it antibiotics just in case. Now the only thing to do is to wait and see if the animal survives to see the spring and to go back into its family home of holes in the wall.

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## Map Showing the Bywong and Wamboin Boundaries

The map on the next two pages has been produced by the Geographical Names Board of NSW. The Board has given permission for the map to be printed in the Whisper. Bob Knight of Bywong contacted the Board about May 11. The Board quickly produced this map in response to his request for the official boundaries of Bywong and Wamboin. The Board extracted this map from a larger map. The extracted map, which has some components in colour, is available with the colouring at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au). Subsequently Pete Harrison worked to make a greyscale version for the Whisper with darker property boundary lines and with names of adjoining localities added. - Editor



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## Wamboin Conversations about Religion

It is appropriate to keep many matters private. But others cry out for public discussion. Subjects like national security, the economy and education. And for some of us, the Christian religion falls into that same category; it ought to be argued about so that those who are misled might be put right. The trick is to discover who is in error.

Two philosophers who think that way are Wamboin resident Dr Jeremy Shearmur, a Reader in Philosophy at ANU and Fr Peter Grundy, an Anglican priest who is pastor to the Church of St Andrew at Wamboin. They have been in enjoyable disputation about religion for some years and it has occurred to them that others might like to eavesdrop on what they are saying. Indeed, there should be scope for questions and rejoinders by those who are interested enough to participate.

So, it is proposed to conduct three public meetings this year from 7.30pm on the last Tuesday in the months of July (27), August (31) and September (28) over wine, cheese and coffee at St Andrew's church on the corner of Norton Road and Poppet St Wamboin. It is envisaged that these evenings will present a robust yet civilised environment in which, following the encouragement of Socrates, we will take the argument wherever it may lead.

Everyone is welcome; and there is no charge. Telephone enquiries may be made to Robyn Robertson on 62383202.

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**Department of Lands**

*Land Administration & Management  
Property & Spatial Information*

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	Proposed Suburb
	Suburb/Locality Boundary
	Local Government Boundary
	Property Boundary
	Road Name Extent
<b>Aaa</b>	Suburb/Locality Name
<b>Scale 1:36,145</b>	

Compiled for the Geographical Names Board.

Any inquiries, comments or amendments can be sent to:

The Secretary  
Geographical Names Board  
PO Box 143  
BATHURST NSW 2795  
Panorama Avenue Bathurst 2795  
www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

Alternatively, you can contact the secretary by:  
Telephone : (02) 6332 8213  
Fax: (02) 6332 8217  
Email: gnb@lands.nsw.gov.au

**EXTRACT OF MAP  
GNB3822  
Showing Address Locality  
Boundaries for Bywong  
and Wamboin  
PALARANG  
COUNCIL AREA**



Boundaries and Names Approved by the Geographical Names Board on 00 - 00 - 0000.

Boundaries and Names Notified in the NSW Government Gazette on 00 - 00 - 00005.

Compilation Date 11 - 05 - 2010.

Colour version:

[www.wamboincommunity.asn.au/wamboinmaps/](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au/wamboinmaps/) then “locality boundaries”

### Notes from St Andrews

Church services this month will be on 4 July (Matins) and 19 July (Holy Communion). The services begin at 9am. The church on the corner of Poppet and Norton Roads is lovely and warm, and the welcome is even warmer! Any enquiries can be directed to the Rectors Warden, Robyn Robertson on 6238 3202.

#### 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	13PlngCncl+37Advetisers/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

215 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:

Sheryl Barnes	Denley/Kestral to End	20	Brian Higgison	Deley/Birchmans - Kestral	12
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	0*	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	0*	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	* means deliverer away for July 2010 Whisper		

215 CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDRSON Ph 6236 9333

Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	David Featherston	Summerhil / Creekeborough	24
Kevin Anderson	BungRd - McRf to Smmhl	33	Diana+Keith Gascoine	Snow Gum Road	27
Kerrie Gougeon	BungRd - FedHy to Smmh 1	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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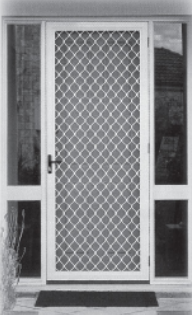
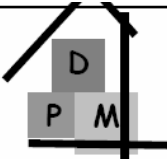

## Lake George Day View Club -- What the VIEW Clubs Are Involved In

Members of the Lake George Day VIEW Club attended the Area AA Gala lunch in Canberra. The theme was jazz and everyone wore purple. The event was accompanied by the Royal Military band which entertained the 200 VIEW Club members from around our area. The ladies were encouraged to sing along to the music and had a great time. The Zone Councilors from each zone gave their reports and National Vice Councilor Fiona interviewed a learning for life student and her mum who explained what it feels like to be on the receiving end of the work that the VIEW Clubs do through the Smith Family. This interview proved to be very insightful to the members. The young "learning for life" program recipient is on her way to university to study medicine as her way of giving back to the community that supported her through out her difficult years in primary and then secondary school.

If you are interested in being part of the Lake George Day VIEW Club and participate in the "learning for life" program your membership will be most welcomed in our Day Club and you can be of help in your local area to those who are in need. Just a reminder that 2010 is the 50th year celebration of VIEW Clubs being in existence. How many clubs can say they have been around this long? 2010 is an ideal year to become a financial member of the Lake George Day VIEW Club and join in the celebrations and the National Convention that is being held in Canberra this year. There will be a whole 3 days of VIEW events happening at the Convention Centre and other venues around ACT. It's a great opportunity to to experience VIEW first hand and to make new friendships with women from other places around Australia as attendees will be coming from all sates in Australia. To find out more about the Convention or to join the Club reply to [lgdvc@hotmail.com](mailto:lgdvc@hotmail.com) or to Lina our contact person on the front cover of the Wamboin Whisper.

The July meeting of Lake George Day VIEW Club will be held at the Lake George Hotel on July 20 at 11.30 for a 12 noon start. Cost is \$20pp for your meal. RSVP to June on 6236 9136 by Friday 16 July. August finds the LGDVC celebrating our Sixth Birthday. Mark August 17 in your diary and be part of the birthday fun.

- Lydia Teodorowych, President LGDVC

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There are so many of you that have contributed in so many ways. I don't dare mention names as I am bound to leave someone out. Thank you to those that attended on the day. I hope you enjoyed yourselves. Those that were not able to attend, Thank you. You made sure you gave a donation in one form or another. Thank you everyone, YOU made it possible. Your generosity and support before, during and after the event has raised \$4540.30.

With deepest gratitude, thank you. - Pauline (Polly) Segeri

## THE GREAT WAMBOIN CURRY NIGHT

The Curry Night will follow the very successful format set in place several years ago by Dave Hubbard. There is a gold coin donation requested to offset the hire of the Hall. Saturday, August 14 is the date and from 7pm all diners bring along a prepared dish. The dishes are displayed and then on offer to all curry munchers from 7.30. A prize will be given to the dish as selected by a secret (no bribes) judge. Tables and chairs are provided and it is a case of BYO drinks, plates and cutlery. Lofty and Joan Mason. 6238-3258.



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**Wamboin 15 years ago, from the Whisper, July 1995, Circulation: 500**

**From: Yarrawlumla Council News, by Peter Greenwood, Councillor**

"Rates: It seems that I wasn't the only councillor concerned with the determination of rates in NSW local government areas, which I discussed in last month's Whisper. Huge outcries from ratepayers and councils alike dominated the front pages of the major Sydney daily newspapers and the NSW Government quickly saw the light and revised the rules.

Following this, the Yarrawlumla Council has had some minor reconsideration of our proposed rates specifically relating to the Farmland category. This, in my opinion, was going to cause the greatest concern in this Shire. Whilst I am still not totally happy about the equity of the system, the majority of the Councillors and senior staff believe that it is the best we can achieve, with all aspects being considered. Generally residence rates in Wamboin for a 20 acre property will be about \$420. "

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## MUDHOOKS WIN TOUGH GRAND FINAL REPLAY

by Peter Evans

The Bungendore Mudhooks won 15-10 against Boorowa, last year's competition premiers in a tough but entertaining match at Bungendore.

The Mudhooks started aggressively and scored a clever try only six minutes into the match after Adam Gowan cut back inside the opposition and then gathering his own kick to score a great meat pie out wide. Unfortunately the conversion kick missed (at least it was out wide and not in front like Git's)...

Boorowa came back strongly with a series of strong pick and drives which the Mudhooks found it hard to effectively control. Half way through the first half Boorowa kicked a penalty goal from in front and then very soon after scored a try as a result of some very classy work by their half back. This try was converted and the Mudhooks were trailing 10-5. The Mudhooks surged back with a huge counter attack that culminated in a strong scrum five metres from the line that produced a push over try to Jason Brodrick.

The second half started with Boorowa putting tremendous pressure on Bungendore, pinning the Mudhooks down inside their 22 for most of the second half. However, the Mudhook defence remained very strong, and despite the sustained attack from Boorowa where they threw everything they could at the Mudhooks, the visitors could not cross the Mudhooks' white line.

The Mudhooks scrum was dominant and five tight heads were taken off the Boorowa Goldie's (what sort of a name is that for a football team). After another Bungendore try was stopped by some desperate Boorowa defence on the try line, the fortitude of the Mudhooks was finally rewarded with a penalty goal to Brett Watson two minutes from full time.

The next home game is against the Royal Military College Duntroon on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July. This will also be the Bungendore Mudhooks Ladies Day. All are welcome to come and support our local Preschool with a fun day at the rugby in sunny Bungendore.

A marquee will be filled with fabulous food and a selection of local wines to enjoy. The \$15 cost covers all food and drink and a portion of profits will go to the Bungendore Pre School. For further details Please contact Kristi Payten 0439 496 534 or Stacey Beggs 0438 382 363

Hope to see you soon at the "Coop of Pain".

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## Geary's Gap Wamboin Landcare Group

Nursery session – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August – 39 Birchman's Grove, Wamboin, Ph: 62369158 or email [gbu22182@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gbu22182@bigpond.net.au).

Continuation of our cuttings programme. You must contact Geoff if you plan to attend or bring cuttings.

**Dams** We have agreed with Alison Elvin at Natural Capital that she will make a presentation talk to us later in the year, similar to the one that she recently gave at Sutton landcare.

**Weeds** We have been in touch with Neville Plumb at Pelarang Council, and agreed that we would run one of these days with their support, at the Bywong Community Hall grounds in late September. I am waiting for a response from Neville on a date that suits council.

**Paddock Plants** . This extract from a recent message from Jacinta Christie at DPI [NSW] will give you some idea of what to expect from the field day. If anyone thinks they have a property that meets some, or all, of the requirements, and which they are prepared to offer for the day, please let me know. Jacinta will need to make a quick inspection to complete a species survey for the folders which are given to each participant. We need a minimum of ten landholders, and are proposing to hold the day on a weekend , probably in Oct/November.

*“If you like, please have a chat to your Landcare group and ask them their preference for days (weekend or during the week) and month and also to suggest possible venues. It is generally good to select a site that has a good diversity of grasses and broadleaf plants (native and introduced) and which is typical of the area. This ensures that all participants can find relevance in the session and take the information back to use on their own properties.*

*I have also sent a copy of this email to Tony Cox who is our project officer with Box Gum Grassy Woodlands Project, and Kimberley Beattie who is the Community Woodlands Officer at Wagga Wagga. Both Tony and Kimberley are involved on the paddock plants days with Tony presenting further information on the Box Gum Grassy Woodlands Project and Kimberley discussing tree identification and management.”*

**Murrumbateman Field Days.** The Yass Area Network of Landcare Groups will be having it's own 'marquee' this year, and Geary's Gap/Wamboin will provide demonstrations of propagation techniques along with a variety of activities from other groups. Roger Good [[rgo03227@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rgo03227@bigpond.net.au)] will be co-ordinating the people needed for this. More on the proposal later in the year.

**National Tree Day 1<sup>st</sup> August.** Inclement weather meant a delay to our completion of the Birchman's Grove tree planting project, which has now been re-scheduled to this day. More details later, but put it in the diary.

**Landcare book.** The Landcare book – “Look after your Natural Assets”, in which our group has a close interest, has now gone to the printers. The full number of copies that we will be responsible for distributing, has yet to be decided but should be known before the final print run. - Chris Fowler, Secretary , Ph: 62369189; 0438591098



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## Results from Wamboin Golf, 6th June 2010 from Peter Greenwood

A very pleasant day for golf brought out the players and a host of first time golfers and visitors for the June Stroke



competition kindly sponsored by Steve Lambert and Lambert Vineyards in Wamboin.

Long drive and nearest the pin winners were; John Whitney x4, Jack Whitney x2, Jason Beckett, Keith France, Paul Griffin and Logan Beckett.

Junior winners were Jack Whitney in the 18 hole competition and Logan Beckett in the 9 hole competition. In the 9 hole event the winner was Jason Beckett from Peter Greenwood second and equal third Lofty Mason and Steve Miners.

The 18 hole competition was won by Tim Barter with Paul Griffin second and Larry King third.

In the Golf Club versus Fire Brigade challenge first time golfer Matt O'Brien from the Fire Brigade with his newly acquired set of "bats" straight out of the Macs Reef Road Tip turned in a true cricket score and took home the NAGA award. Other than Matt the other furies were already members of the

Golf Club so the challenge was a draw.

Photo shows Matt O'Brien accepting the NAGA trophy from sponsor Steve Lambert. A bottle of fine wine from Lamberts was a wonderful prize for Mat to take home.

Enquiries: Peter Greenwood 6238 3358

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## ANNUAL FIREWORKS NIGHT

The Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Night, coordinated by the Wamboin Community Association, is planned for Saturday, the 25th of September. This night is the major, and sometimes the only, fund raising activity by our Community Groups. The scheduled lighting of the Bonfire is 6.33pm and the Fireworks display will begin at 7.03pm. The Fire Brigade control parking and the bonfire. This is a heads up for Community Groups who intend to run fund raising stalls on the night. You will be contacted for details. August Whisper will call for suitable bonfire fuel. Contact Pres. Pete Harrison on 6238-3525 or even Lofty on 6238-3258.



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## Wamboin Community Association Website Online Businesses Directory

The Community Association has inaugurated a trial online Business directory at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au). At present there are about ten businesses listed. All businesses wishing to list are urged to do so. There is a form on the website for requesting a listing. Listing is free for any business which has advertised in the Whisper in the past 12 months, and will be retained for 12 months from the last advertisement by the business. Businesses wishing to be listed but not wishing to advertise in the Whisper are asked to pay \$20 to the Wamboin Community Association for a year's listing.

As online advertising increases it seems reasonable for the Community Association to add advertising to its website as a service to residents. The Whisper costs about \$800 per issue to print and takes in around \$950 per issue in advertising revenue. Any surplus after printing costs goes to projects voted on at the WCA meetings, such as the stone sign at the west end of Norton Road and the addition to the Community Hall at its western end. The Community Association produces both the Whisper and its website through the work of volunteers in an effort to benefit residents.

Whether and how Whisper advertising and online advertising on the WCA website evolve over the years to come is ultimately up to the preferences of residents and the willingness of advertisers to use each medium. The approach outlined in the above two paragraphs is a trial solution for the present.

- Ned Noel, on behalf of the WCA web committee, which also includes Steve Richards and Pete Harrison

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## PONY TALES - Goings on at WPC June 2010

As you're pulling this month's Whisper from the letterbox the Wamboin Pony Club riders will be making final preparations for the Zone Mounted Games Challenge I mentioned last month, being held at Bungendore Showgrounds over the weekend 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> July. On finals day, Sunday, there will be some fast furious riding competition and Wamboin will have a number of teams there. So come along and cheer. Wamboin riders spent their last rally day practicing hard, through wind and mud (usual Wamboin winter fare), red cheeks were the order of the day, and that was just on the horses!!.... I'll give a full report of how our teams go at Mounted Games next Whisper. But this month I thought we could look at another aspect of horse riding which you can get some experience in at Pony Club.

It could be seen as a little more serene than the rough and tumble of Mounted Games but still requires great skill. That being "Dressage"...it's a French term which pretty much means "training" - This is the style of riding you might have seen at the Olympics where horse and rider work together performing a variety of movements around a rectangular arena. You'll remember it as the riders are in coats, top hats and look quite grand. To those of us not madly into horses and riding (er me?) dressage can be looked at being a tad dull...however if you're a rider who is training your horse to do the many complex dressage moves it is a great riding challenge and the skills involved should be appreciated by those watching from the sideline. A dressage rider appears to be doing very little? They sit as still as possible looking straight ahead, the horse below seeming to know where it is to go and what to do. From walk to trot to canter, extension of leg or half pass where the horse will be moving on a diagonal line both forward and sideways to many more complex moves as you progress. This is where the real skill and hard training come together. You see a dressage rider needs to spend many hours, days, and even years training a horse to do the correct moves especially to get to the higher levels and although it is not supposed to be obvious to the spectator the rider is using subtle movements of leg and or reign to make the horse do what is required. A good dressage horse can be worth thousands and when moving correctly you have got to appreciate the work a rider has put into this more challenging aspect of horsemanship. If you think these moves aren't what a horse does naturally dressage is in fact training devised to develop a horse's natural ability and willingness to perform which can make it a better riding horse.

Pony club riders learn dressage moves and will do various levels of dressage tests (the term for a dressage routine). From beginner to more advanced these tests last around 5 minutes, rider and horse perform set moves around the arena and in a competition there will be a judge at the top end who will mark a score for each move and give written comments on how a rider might have done. Riders do dressage tests on our Gymkhana days and the other week some of our club riders competed at the Zone Dressage competition in Canberra winning a couple of ribbons. Dressage is just another form of riding you can learn about at Pony Club. Our club has a good sand dressage arena (recently re-fenced - thanks Steve) so most Pony Club days will involve a lesson on "the flat" developing those sometimes complex dressage moves.

Remember if you are aged 5-25. Have access to your own horse and want to learn lot's about riding and doing it safely with a great bunch of people come along and join your local Wamboin Pony Club. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month at our grounds at the end Canning Close. For more information go to our website [www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au](http://www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au) or contact our Senior Instructor Robyn Slater on 6238-3472. See you at "The Mounted Games." - Steve Quick



**Dressage gals!**



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## Wamboin Muse

by Jill Gregory

I met someone a few months ago who said, "I know where you live. It's the house of roses!" Well, I'm sorry to destroy her illusions, but it is the "house of roses" no more. I've finally given in, I've accepted defeat, and I'm wielding the mattock and pulling out the rose bushes.

For years I battled the vagaries of the weather and tried to be philosophical about the creatures that munch in the night. I've mixed magic rose potions and sprayed the bushes to gently discourage black spot and aphids. I've drowned the massed thorns in sea weed sprays and lavished more magic beneath to encourage spring growth. I've pruned them when the moon's been full and tried again next year with the waning moon. I've sanitised secateurs and been torn to shreds, bent double beneath the grasping claws as I've tried to make the perfect cut. Once I was trapped, pinned down by spikes, and only made my Houdini escape by divesting myself of jumper and hat. I've caged them in chicken wire and spoken kindly to them, but it's too late!

I must admit that they weren't helped by the enthusiastic pruning a Queensland peanut farmer friend gave them one particularly cold July. He thought he'd give me a surprise. He was right... and I think the rose bushes were surprised, too, because they never recovered. And to be honest, there have been times when I have been a trifle ad hoc in my gardening approach, but overall, rose growing has just been one long uphill battle. When desperately needed rain finally came, black spot followed quickly in its wake. The aphids departed but only so the crickets could move in, and never did the predicted rain eventuate after carefully timed fertilising. And all the time the lone wallaby and kangaroos were eroding my efforts, stripping leaves, breaking stems and leaving their calling cards to replant the garden to their liking.

However, if you think getting rid of roses is a "walk in the park", think again! Old roses are tough and defiant. Their roots are huge and if they get into clay they're away. And once the roses are removed, suddenly the hardy plants that stole in during the drought are revealed...and they didn't survive without enormous roots, either.

I wouldn't live anywhere else....and perhaps I'll take up aquaculture when my hands begin to thaw... and buy myself a bunch of roses.

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