

WAMBOIN



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

September 2010 CIRCULATION: 1,202

Community Assn: wamboincommunity.asn.au Fire Brigade: brigade.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 either nednoel@optusnet.com.au or whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or mail them. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the October 2010 issue Whisper the deadline is Sunday, 26 September, 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	Peter 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.
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

It is on again!

**Wamboin Community
Association's
Annual Bonfire and
Fireworks Display
By
*Fireworks Australia***



**Wamboin Community
Centre,
112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.**

Saturday 25th September 2010

**Food stalls from 5.30
Bonfire lit at 6.33 and
Fireworks light-up 7.03 precisely**

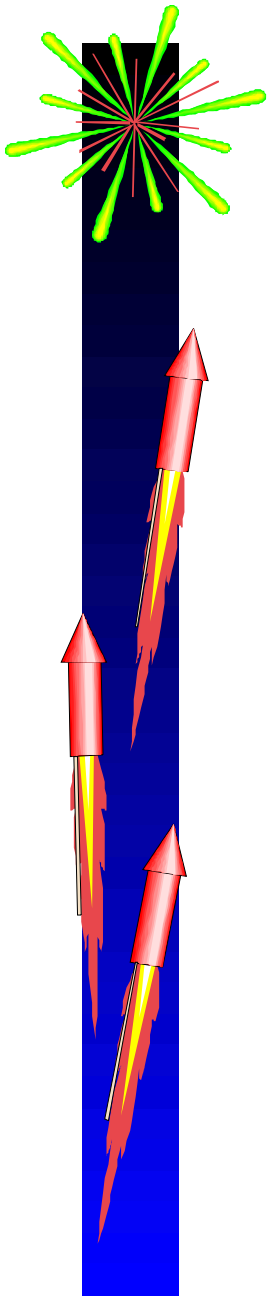
**Support local community groups,
including Wamboin Community Association,
Church, Fire Brigade, Wonderful Women of
Wamboin, Pony Club, Play Group, Sutton School -
with their traditional Stalls of
Hot Dogs, Gluhwein, Soups, Chips,**

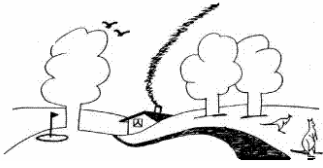
**Steak Sangers, Bacon Egg
Sangers, Pies, Baked Spuds, Curry
Platters, Glo Sticks, Soft Drinks, Tea,
Wagonga Coffee and other Beverages.**

**Adults \$5, Children \$2 or
Family \$10**



**Please note: by law the only fireworks allowed will be
the display by 'FIREWORKS AUSTRALIA'.**





Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Curry Night — For anyone who hasn't heard about it already, the Great Wamboin Curry Night was a huge success. If you missed out, mark the third Saturday in August in your 2011 diary now!

Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Display — The next big social event, for young and old(er), is the annual bonfire and fireworks night. Check out the announcement later in this issue for all the details.

Home Produce Market — After the winter recess, the Home Produce Market is back again in February. Look for Joan's announcement later in this issue.

Upcoming Events — For those who may not be aware, information on upcoming events ("What's on in Wamboin") is provided on the WCA website. Just go to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au> and follow the relevant links for more details on any event of interest. If you belong to a local community group and would like your event(s) included, please email details to the WCA Webmaster at webmaster@wamboincommunity.asn.au.

Household Chemical Clean Out Day — A free community service to all Palerang residents, Palerang Council will hold a Household Chemical Clean Out Day at the Macs Reef Landfill, Macs Reef Road, Bywong, on Sunday 26 September from 8.00 am to 2.30 pm. For more details, see <http://palerang.local-e.nsw.gov.au/events/pages/12348.html>

Local Government Referenda — Everyone should have received an information brochure on a proposal to consider holding two referenda at the next local government election in 2012. The two referenda in question are related to dividing the council area into wards, or ridings, for the purpose of local government elections, and to the manner in which the mayor is elected. This is just the first step in determining whether or not a referendum on either issue is warranted. Ultimately, the decision will be made by Council vote, depending on the level of interest shown within the community.

In the coming months, Council will be holding information sessions to provide more detail on these two matters. It is important that these information sessions are well attended, as this will be the measure of whether or not there is sufficient community interest to warrant the expense of holding a referendum. We are assuming that one of these information sessions will be held at the Wamboin Community Hall, and we will advise the date and time through The Whisper, the electronic noticeboard and the website as soon as it is known.

The WCA website includes background material on both of these issues, and on local government referenda in general (<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/referenda>).

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 News

by Nora Stewart, President



www.bywongcommunity.org.au

_____ Apologies to anyone who has tried to email me at president@bywongcommunity.org.au. There appears to have been a glitch with the forwarding and I have only just received some email messages. This glitch has now been fixed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Weeds Information Day

19th September 2010 from 12.30 pm – 3.00pm.

Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare group, conjunction with Palerang Council Environmental and Weed Control Officers, will hold a *weeds information day* at Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road on Sunday 19th September commencing at 12.30pm.

The catalyst for this event has been the routine weed inspections by Council Officers on properties in our area and the Landcare group felt that it was an opportunity for those officers to present more detailed information on the vital need for weed control by all landholders.

Presentations by Neville Plumb and Micheal Pearce will cover identification, landholder responsibilities, and weed control methods, and will allow landholders the opportunity to ask questions on these and related topics.

A wide variety of publications, leaflets and other printed matter from Palerang Council, Dept. of Industry and Infrastructure [NSW] { ex DPI}, University of New England and Molonglo Catchment Mangement Authority, will be available, along with some samples of the worst of the weeds in our area for participants to inspect and reflect upon.

For established landholders, a social occasion as well as the chance to bring themselves up to date, but for newcomers an important opportunity to learn about their responsibilities in weed management and control.

Contact the Secretary, Geary's Gap Landcare Group – Ph 62369189 or chrisft@spitfire.com.au for more information.

Information Night – Road Information and Plans for Bywong and Wamboin

Monday 18th October 7.30pm at Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road in Bywong.

Join us for an informative night to get a clearer picture about the road planning process for our area, upcoming plans and also the roles and responsibilities of the key players in funding, regulation and planning. Gordon Cunningham, Director of Works for the Palerang Council will be presenting.

OTHER NEWS

Greenways Renewal project

The Greenways Renewal project group (GRoW) is making good progress in the following areas:

1. A new graphic map showing all the current Greenways with photos and descriptions of the area, is currently being developed and should be available soon.
2. A number of Greenways walks are being planned as we move towards warmer weather.
3. Members of the group are discussing the legal status of the Greenways and how they might be enhanced by the current Local Environment Plan (LEP) being formulated by Palerang Council:
4. A revised vision and purpose of the Greenways, revisiting the initial purpose, is being drafted for comment.
5. Archive material on the history of the Greenways has been located and uploaded to the Bywong Community website.

I would like to thank the GRoW group for their excellent work so far. We also have formed Friends of the Greenway (FROG) group. If you would like to become involved as a volunteer or a supporter or would just like to know more about the Greenways, please contact Nora Stewart at the details at the end of this article.

Communities solving mobile phone blackspots?

There is an emerging possibility for communities to solve mobile phone blackspots for themselves. ABC Radio National Bush Telegraph program had an interview with Dr Paul Gardner-Stephen. He is a South Australian computer science lecturer has invented a world-first system that allows mobile phone access without using telecommunications towers or satellites. The system could help the many thousands of people living in network blackspots in rural Australia but could also be used in disaster zones where infrastructure has been damaged. Bywong Community Association would be interested to get

feedback from people if there is interest in pursuing this as a community.

ABC RN PODCAST LINK TO HEAR THE PROGRAM

http://mpegmedia.abc.net.au/rn/podcast/2010/08/bth_20100825_1106.mp3

More information: <http://www.servalproject.org/>. You can find a map of G3 coverage at <http://www.telstra.com.au/mobile/networks/coverage/state.html>

The Association thanks it's regular supporters....

- Lake FM radio – 88FM- www.bywong.com.au
- Yless4u for hosting our website- www.yless4u.com.au
- Koonaburra Wines- www.koonaburra.com.au
- Wagonga Coffee- www.wagongacoffee.com.au
- Lamberts Wines – www.lambertsvineyards.com.au
- The Wamboin Whisper – www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

Nora Stewart, President, (02) 62303305, president@bywongcommunity.org.au, www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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1 large tin trunk \$80, Vintage Bakelite 5 piece dressing table set \$80, 3 x full length Driza-Bone sizes 6, 7 and 10 excellent condition \$50 each, 1 x electric hostess trolley \$60, 1 Ford 4110 tractor + several attachments \$14,000, 1 x Red Roo Chipper/Mulcher model CMS-80-T in excellent condition \$3500, 1 x Ride on Toro Lawn Tractor fully serviced last week \$1700, 1 x Kawasaki All Terrain Quad bike KLF 250 with trailer \$3000. All prices negotiable. Please phone Lynn on 62383455 or 0408622154.
K2C Biodiversity & Farming Fair to be held on Sunday, 10 Oct 2010 in Bredbo village. We expect a huge turn out of landholders. Please contact me for more info or go to www.k2c.org.au for the program of events. Lauren Van Dyke, Project Facilitator, Kosciuszko to Coast Project , facilitator@k2c.org.au , Ph: 0411 402 978.
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
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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.
Beekeeping 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
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
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.



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Pumps and Rural Maintenance



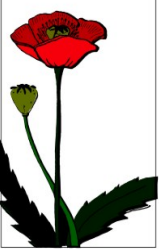
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TIP OPENING HOURS

(from www.palerang.nsw.gov.au on 1-Dec-2009)

Bungendore Tip

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

Macs Reef Road Tip

Friday to Monday, 7.30 am - 5.00 pm
(please note the tip is closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
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Class duration: 1 hours Cost: \$100 per dog for 6 weeks. Class limit: 5 people

Please call Heike Hahner on 4842 7143 or email hhahner@bigpond.com

Canine Communications Dog Training & Behaviour Consulting.

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. - Ned Noel, Volunteer Editor


159 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)	31	Alan Rope	Sutton Road	30
276 CO-ORDINATED BY TRISH RICE: Ph 6238 3791					
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	48	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Drive	17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona, Norton to Majors	31
Trish Rice	Majors Close	18	David Anderson	Weerona, Majors to Denley	35
Ned Noel	13PlmgCncl+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
342 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	John Taubman	Sutton South East	60
219 CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON 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	27
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	18	Richard Holding	Wyoming and Doust Rds	25
Phil&Pam Dawes	Donelly Rd & Lane	20			
TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1,202					



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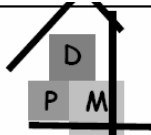
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News from WWOW
The Wonderful Women of Wamboin -- 29 August 2010
by Sally Saunders

August got off to good start as a number of WWOWs head off to the Canberra quilt and craft fare at EPIC (5-7 August). There were reports of lots of purchases and awed descriptions of some of the quilts.

On Sunday 8 August, the WWOWs and their partners enjoyed a shared bring-a-plate luncheon at Jane and Lawri Nock's place in Sutton. Tours of farm and construction equipment fascinated many, as did the top of a lighthouse. The 'collection' almost overwhelmed the beauty of 2 collector's Bentley's and 2 collector's Rolls Royce. It was a great feast as well.

Several WWOWs returned from Europe, Africa and the USA. There were many stories to share as well as photographs of new grandchildren. Three members shared their stories of how and why they came to Wamboin/Bywong region. One story traced a life begun on the land, one was an insightful story of an immigrant, and a third a story of overseas adventures before marriage and family. We are gathering a wonderful portrait of interesting lives and the diversity of our community.

We also met our local Tupperware sales representatives, Emily Montesin (0403 765 803) who gave a great presentation and patiently listened to our stories of long-owned Tupperware. We bought more Tupperware to add to our collections. We can recommend Emily if any of you need or just want more organised cupboards, freezers and pantries.

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.

OAKLEIGH BERRY FARM

We hope all our customers have survived the cooler weather and look forward to seeing you at the markets this month.

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Horizon has a very good brochure that is a guide called 'Steps to Buying Your Home' in NSW & ACT. This offers advice for both the Seller & Buyer. If you would like a copy sent to you contact Jan Ladmore



The Wamboin Firefighter

For further information visit the brigade's website at
<http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

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.

2009 VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES ROYAL COMMISSION FINAL REPORT

The 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission presented its Final Report to the Victorian Government on 31st July 2010. The report extends to 4 volumes:

- (Vol 1) - the fires and fire-related deaths
- (Vol 2 Pts 1 & 2) - fire preparation, response and recovery
- (Vol 3) - establishment and operation of the Commission
- (Vol 4) - the statements of lay witnesses.

It is important to note that the Commission was engaged by the Victorian Government and therefore its Report/s including any recommendations are to the Victorian Government although some commentary and recommendations address national issues e.g. building codes/ standards/ bushfire research.

In a Media Release of the same date, under the banner 'Victorian bush fires a lesson for all', the NSW Minister for Emergency Services, Steve Whan said NSW 'will carefully review the final recommendations from the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission'. Steve Whan mentioned that NSW had already introduced a series of reforms and initiatives to boost the community's bush fire protection in the wake of the 2009 fires and the interim Royal Commission recommendations (released in Aug 2009). He also noted that 'The Black Saturday bush fires were a shocking tragedy and it is incumbent on us all to learn from that terrible event'. He said that 'these (reforms) include the introduction of the nationally-agreed system of Fire Danger Ratings, including the new categories of Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic which provide clearer information and trigger points for the public before a fire starts. NSW has also adopted a new graduated system of Advice, Watch & Act and Emergency Warning messages to warn the community during a fire.' NSW has also 'introduced the nationally-consistent position of Prepare Act Survive, which focuses on preparation, having a properly prepared plan and the decisions around staying to defend a property from a fire.'

Naturally, Wamboin brigade members have also been monitoring the proceedings and outcomes of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. As this brigade is part of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSWRFS) we look with interest to any further announcements that maybe forth coming by the NSW government and relevant fire and emergency authorities. The 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission Final Report can be found at:

<http://www.royalcommission.vic.gov.au/Commission-Reports/Final-Report>

Given the size of the Final Report, we thought it might be useful to provide you with a 'synopsis' of the conclusions reached by the Royal Commission. The information below is largely from the (42 page) Final Report 'Summary' document and principally from page 4 to 8 inclusive. NOTE: due to space limitations for this article in The Whisper, the information presented below is limited to what we felt would be of particular interest to residents in the brigade's area i.e. residents of Wamboin, Bywong, Sutton Park, Bidges Rd and Eagle Hawk localities. Readers who wish to understand and view the entirety of the Royal Commission's Final Report are encouraged to do so by reading or otherwise accessing or obtaining copies of the Report via the Commission's website.

Wamboin Brigade 'synopsis' of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission observations/ findings is as follows:
On 7 February 2009, the Black Saturday fires in Victoria resulted in the death of 173 people - two thirds of these victims were inside their homes. Broad classifications of these deaths have been made by the Royal Commission.

- 113 people died in their homes, seven in other buildings and a further 27 outside but near to their home. In total, death from 'staying' accounted for 85 per cent of total deaths on that day.

- The remaining 26 people died outside of buildings, including: 11 in vehicles; 10 near vehicles or on roads; one on a reserve and 4 away from locations of the fires.

The 'Prepare, Stay and Defend or Leave Early' policy commonly referred to as 'stay or go', remains the corner-stone of bush fire safety policy. However, for this policy to be effective, every household must have a Bush Fire Survival Plan. The plan must be capable of dealing with the fact that every fire is different and weather conditions can change quickly.

The following principles are applicable:

- leaving early is the safest option.
- 'vulnerable people' (less than 12 years or more than 70 years or people who are suffering from acute or chronic illness or disability¹) must leave early, preferably the evening before.
- emphasis on preparation, whether staying to defend or leaving early.
- staying and defending is still a sound choice in less severe conditions and fires, providing you have a plan and the property is well prepared.
- consider how your bush fire plan will be effected if bushfire threatens on a work day, during school holidays or if you had other plans (such as a party).
- to stay and defend there must be at least two able-bodied, fit and determined adults present who are physically and mentally strong enough to cope with the demands of a sustained fire fight.
- a fall-back plan is in place if the primary plan fails.
- protection of pets and livestock needs to be considered.

Our community lives in a bushfire prone area. Year in, year out, your fire brigade has been encouraging residents to understand, appreciate and prepare for the risk of fire (including bushfire); many long-time residents have experienced a bushfire through their area. The information provided by the NSW RFS and by your brigade via the 'Wamboin Firefighter' newsletter, letterbox drops, street/ shed meetings, the brigade's information stall at the Wamboin Local Produce Markets, and more recently via the brigade's website, will only assist you if you act on it. Dealing with the risk of bushfire is a shared responsibility. If you haven't visited the brigade's website, please do so, or ring the Captain, if you have any queries. Web and telephone contact details appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Finally, the NSW RFS advises that:

- Everyone living in a bush fire risk area must have a Bush Fire Survival Plan.
- Preparation is the key to survival.
- Understand the Fire Danger Ratings.
- Act on bush fire alerts and warnings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 25th - Annual Wamboin Bonfire & Fireworks Night.
- October 1st - Commencement of the 2010/2011 Bush Fire Season

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 18th 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).

¹ Over half the deaths in the Victorian bush fires were in this category

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Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare - September

Think global, act local

by Chris Fowler

The Landcare newsletter struck a major problem with ISP spam filters in the past month, and the previous method of distribution had to be abandoned. The group is grateful for the assistance of the Wamboin Community Association [in particular President Peter Harrison] and for their permission to use the process 'Mailman' through the WCA website to enable us to continue distributing Landcare news.

We have an interest in working closely with both the WCA and the Bywong Community Association in all matters and both Peter and Norah Stewart have also offered to add items of interest to the respective Landcare pages on both websites.

Existing subscribers to Landcare will already have received a 'Welcome to the Landcare list' but should you wish to be added to the list, contact the administrator -Landcare-owner@wamboincommunity.asn.au. General information about this mailing list is at http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/mailman/listinfo/landcare_wamboincommunity.asn.au If you ever want to remove your address from the Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare newsletter distribution list, simply send a blank email message to Landcare-unsubscribe@wamboincommunity.asn.au

Currindooly Water Treatment area planting : We have reached a co-operative agreement with Palerang Council to plant this area for them. Some 200 trees and shrubs will eventually be put in the ground. By the time The Whisper arrives in your letterboxes a start will have been made. We are pleased to be able to work with Council on projects such as this one.

Nursery Session – Saturday 11th September 2010: This session may already have taken place by the time you read this. The nursery is running reasonably well at the moment albeit with fewer plants than we have been able to produce in past years. This session will be divided between more cuttings and re-potting those that are ready. Remember to contact Geoff Butler [Ph: 62369158 gbu22182@bigpond.net.au] if you plan to attend.

Murrumbateman Field Days 15th – 17th October 2010: The Yass Area Network of Landcare groups will be mounting a major presence at the field days this year, to which we will be contributing two 1 hour sessions of propagation demonstrations on the Saturday and Sunday. Roger Good [rgo03227@bigpond.net.au] is co-ordinating the sessions and will be looking for 3 or 4 people on each day to offer help. You do not need to be an expert demonstrator to do this, but please do not leave it until the last moment to contact Roger.

Land for Wildlife meeting – 31st October 2010: Landcare supports, in principle, the objectives of this move by Phil Machin to establish interest in this scheme, and more information is also to be found elsewhere in The Whisper.

-- Chris Fowler, Secretary, Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare Group Ph: 62369189; 0438591098

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Land for Wildlife

In last month's *Whisper* I wrote asking for expressions of interest for people to come along to the Wamboin Community Hall on Sat 30 October 2010 to hear John Asquith (CEO of the NSW scheme) speak about the Land for Wildlife scheme. Unfortunately few people have shown an interest so far. You can find out more about the Land for Wildlife program at www.cen.org.au/landforwildlife/ or give me a call.



As mentioned last month, the Land for Wildlife scheme encourages property owners to commit to managing all or part of their land in an environmentally friendly way. The program is free to join and is not legally binding. The minimum size of land to register is half a hectare of native bush land. Over time the scheme not only provides refuges for wildlife, but allows wildlife corridors to be created where Land for Wildlife areas match up. It also gives us encouragement to look after our wildlife and enjoy having it around.

If you are interested in meeting John Asquith on 31 October could you get in touch with me by 22 September 2010 please? I can then decide whether to go ahead with the meeting. If there are only a few people, then we may not need the hall as a meeting place. Cheers! -- Philip Machin, 6238 3717, machin4@bigpond.com

SCHEDULE FOR ST MARY'S AND COUNTRY PARISHES

by Pauline Segeri

**MASSES: EVERY SUNDAY of the month 8.30 am AND
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TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MASS 9.00am
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Wamboin Community Spirit

By Don Evans

A couple of longstanding and loved Wamboin residents have had a hard time over the last few years. Both have been affected by illness and failing health that will soon, unfortunately, see them leave the magnificent home and garden they built in Wamboin.

Both have been active in the fire brigade, golf club and community association. The garden that they put many years of backbreaking work into needed a minor clean up as some of the natives had died or fallen over. When one of the locals suggested a working bee to "tidy up", it didn't take long for word to spread. An email was sent to "regular" community participants and within 2 days we had more than 30 starters for the following Sunday. Catering for morning tea and a BBQ lunch was organized immediately. Sunday came along quickly. Trucks, trailers, utes barrows etc were soon carting branches to the already burning bonfire and the buzz of chainsaws broke the silence of a normally quiet midmorning Sunday. Charlie's bogged truck was no deterrent and added to the fun of the day.

Within a couple of hours, we had cleaned up most of the dead timber and stood around the warm fire to enjoy morning tea with Anzacs, cakes and other delicacies cooked by some of the group. Despite a local shower, we all returned for a final clean up and then enjoyed a BBQ followed by a glass of red donated by Lamberts Vineyard.

No one deserves special mention as we all did something special.

We drove home with a great deal of pride from what we had accomplished in only a couple of hours. This is why we all live here. The Wamboin community spirit still lives on!

Sutton Public School Trivia Challenge!!

by Louise Griffiths

Saturday September 11th 2010 School Hall

Registering teams from 1st August to 3rd September

\$10 person teams 8-10 people

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Gather your trivia heads together and theme your team for the best fancy dress, best esky, greatest hat, loudest heckler and more!!

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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

(Joan Mason 62383258)

The Home Produce Markets, which are held at the Wamboin Hall on the third Saturday of the month, are on again on the 18th of September. I welcome all stallholders and customers along so that we continue to make these markets a social success. Entry is free to customers and \$5 per table for stallholders. Unfortunately the bread man won't be along as he is taking time off to assist with a new little one. He plans to return in the future. Another change is that Tony Smith has sold the Wagonga Coffee business however he plans to run our coffee stall (with assistance) and also to sell beans etc. at future Markets. Your decision is whether to have an egg and bacon roll, scones, cakes or biscuits to go with your delicious coffee. Difficult decision; however I hope to see you at our next market which are on:

SATURDAY 18th September 2010

9AM – 12 NOON

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Golf



The August golf game at the Wamboin Golf Club was run in pretty bad conditions with players forced to shorten their game.

Fortunately the game was sponsored by the local Wamboin Tradies, Sparky Trent, Plumber Don and metal king Hank who saved the day with their after the game specialty of steaming pea and ham soup.

The game was a Stableford competition with the 9 hole event reduced to 7 holes and the 18 hole comp reduced to 10 holes.

Encourage award went to Rachel Schroder.

9/7 hole competition won by Joan Mason with 17 points, second was Neville Schroder with 11 points and third place went to Lofty Mason with 10 points.

18/10 hole competition was won by Paul Griffin with 22 points, second Tim Barter with 18 points and third place to Matt O'Brien with 10 points. - Peter Greenwood

Photo All rugged up for winter golf are Ken and Deb Gordon with Alex and Madison just itching for a hit.

AN IDIOTIC ACT

We know the name of the person who hurt their hands with the pins inserted into the soap at the toilets at the Hall. We wonder if the person responsible for this act is so proud of their action that they would like to let everyone know their name? It sickens us to report that someone carried out the idiotic, irresponsible act of inserting pins into the hand soap of the toilets at the Hall. With a high percentage of little kids using the Hall facilities this mongrel act defies description. We are sure no one will claim responsibility. This article is submitted to warn readers.



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Telstra's Mobile Phone Coverage for Wamboin and Bywong

Many residents of Wamboin and Bywong have been dissatisfied with Telstra's mobile telephone coverage of our properties. Representations have been made to Telstra for well over a decade by the Wamboin Community Association and individual residents. Telstra, for its part, is aware of this situation and promised to provide a better service when it installed the Next G system. This has not happened yet.

Recently Telstra submitted a Development Application (DA) to Palerang Council proposing the establishment of a station on Millpost Hill. Millpost Hill is part of the Greenway system. The WCA understands that since then there was an indigenous land claim made to the Land Planning Management Authority (formerly Department of Lands) for ownership* and there have been at least 20 submissions both opposing and supporting this DA.

The WCA discussed the DA at subsequent General Meetings and asked that Telstra meet with the community before the proposal was discussed at Council. Telstra agreed to this request.

On 20 August the WCA was informed by Telstra that the DA for Millpost Hill would be withdrawn. This decision was made after Telstra had received and investigated "feedback" from interested members of the Wamboin and Bywong communities on potential alternate site locations and had undertaken further analysis of other opportunities available in the local area. Telstra stated that it was focussing on identifying an alternative site location that delivers both the benefits of improved mobile services to the community while minimising the visual impact of the associated infrastructure. It is Telstra's intention to consult with the local community through Palerang Council and the WCA once a suitable new location and design is identified.

The WCA is aware of the different opinions within the Wamboin community about this proposal and wants a "best solution". There are a number of technical, environmental and social issues involved and Telstra regards this proposal as the most difficult it has had to resolve. Despite public statements by Telstra on consultation with community groups this has not, in fact, occurred. The WCA will continue to monitor this situation and has invited Telstra to discuss the new location and design with the community prior to submitting a new DA to Council. -- John van der Straaten, WCA Secretary

* The WCA has been informed that the Minister for Lands has not accepted the claim and that an appeal is being considered.

Wamboin 15 Years Ago from the Whisper, September 1995 Circulation: 500

From: Yarrolumla Council News: 'NO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS In an extraordinary set of circumstances there will be no Council elections on 9 September. This is due to the fact that, at the close of nominations, there were only 9 people registered to stand for Council. This fortunately consisted of three people in each of the three Council Wards.' -- Peter Greenwood. Your local Councillor.

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Wamboin Fishing Club

Hello. Some of our members have been doing well at the coast, and having some good trips away. One of our lady members, Cherie, has caught a nice Snapper 2.5kg(57cm). She is also the leader of our competition at the moment, leaving the blokes behind.

We will reorganise the trout fishing trip at the next meeting, as it was cancelled due to weather. One of the members made it to Grabine this year, we await his report on the action. So see you at the next meeting, at the Eaglehawk Hotel. On the 15th September, at 5.30pm. -- Chris Byrne of Hogan Drive.

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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin - 35 year statistics from the Robertsons

August rainfall to 29/8/10 ... 81mm
August 2009 ... 35.25mm
2010 rainfall to 29/8/10 ... 571.25mm
2009 to 31/8 ... 273mm
Sept 2009 ... 83.5mm
Driest September ... 6mm in 1994
Hottest September day ... 24C on 18/9/81
Coldest September night ... -2C on 4/9/00

August rainfall to 29/8/10 ... 81mm
2010 rainfall to 29/8/10 ... 571.25mm
2010 rainfall to 29/8/10 ... 571.25mm
Average September rainfall ... 63.4mm
Wettest September ... 146mm in 1978
Wettest September day ... 48mm on 19/9/85
Coldest September day ... 5C on 4/9/82 & 28/9/09

WANTED: BONFIRE FUEL

The Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Night is planned for the 25th of September. Now is a great time to kill two birds with the one stone. You can start to fireproof your property by clearing unwanted stumps, logs, prunings and brush. At the same time you can help make the Bonfire night a memorable occasion by delivering the suitable fuel to the Bingley Way bonfire site. The night is a major, and sometimes only, fund raising activity by our community groups. An advertisement for the night is printed elsewhere in this Whisper. Your load of fuel is required now. -- Lofty Mason.

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6258 1792

Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Winter is now officially over, and what a bonzer winter it has been. Certainly one for guernseys and wellingtons and knee high hand knitted socks. "Bonzer" was one of my father's favourite adjectives, signifying his quiet approval of something. I thought it had been buried with his generation, but I was appalled to catch it on TV the other night singing the praises of a hamburger. A hamburger, indeed! This has been one of our best winters for years. There are still sheets of silver water spread across the slopes, and sticky mud in gullies and tinkling waterfalls beside the road, and I have even heard the odd complaint that we have had too much rain. Never!

Of course with the soft, wet ground, some trees, affected by drought, are susceptible to losing their grip and without warning, toppling over. With this in mind, we had to look seriously at some of our trees. Two had to come down. We felt like murderers and executioners. Within a few minutes, a snarling, whining giant sized chainsaw ended the life of an ancient and noble candlebark. It fell swiftly and silently and with a dull thud it was all over. We felt numb. Gone was the high rise home to a handful of possums, hundreds of birds and millions of tiny creatures. The fledgling galahs had lost their nursery, the magpies their look out, and the cockatoos their escape route after a raid on the feedbin. Gone was the shade for the chook yard and the graceful beauty of this silent sentinel that had witnessed camp fires and hunters on the creek flat from a distant world. But as the tree came down, a startled rooster leapt over the fence, and a surprised hen popped out the first egg for the season. The long awaited egg was cause for celebration, but the escaped rooster was not! It took three nights of cunning and stealth before we outwitted our feathered friend and returned him, just ahead of a fox, to his girls.

The end of winter is a time of yellow; sunshine, wattles and daffodils trumpeting the coming of spring, and with them the sounds of birds, both sweet and raucous. It can stir poetry within and recall the words of William Wordsworth. But I wonder if he had penned his verse in bonzer Wamboin and not gentle England it might have gone something like this.....

I wandered, wet feet, as a cloud,
That rained and rained our dams to fill,
When all at once I saw a crowd
Of cockatoos snipping heads off daffodil.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....and apologies to Wordsworth..... but was he doomed....what if, with a name like that, he'd always dreamed of becoming a coal miner?

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