

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

March 2011

CIRCULATION: 1,239

Wamboin Community Assn:
Bywong Community
Fire Brigade:

www.wamboincommunity.asn.au
www.bywongcommunity.org.au
<http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION that started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981, and continues to own it. The newsletter is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin and Bywong (plus other localities in our fire brigade's area) at the start of each month, except January. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and are the main content of the newsletter. The 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 of The Whisper is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the April 2011 issue the deadline is Sunday, 27 March 2011, 7 pm. Instant Colour Press will then multiply 1 copy into more than 1200. Then the new issue will go to the volunteer deliverers 5 days later.

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LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assoc.	Peter Harrison	President	6238 3525
Bywong Community	Darryl Bourke	President	6230 3055
Fire Brigade	Andrew Dunn	Captain	0409 991 340 or 6238 1849 ah
Wamboin Markets	Joan Mason	contact	6238 3258
Sutton School Playgroup	Toni Moore	Convenor	6238 3669.
Landcare	Roger Good	President	6236 9048
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238 1333
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	6238 3525
Wamboin Pony Club	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238 3472
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Katarina Biondic	contact	0421 859 917
Wamboin Play Group	Emma Auzins	Convener	6238 3974 or 0417 464 517
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	contact	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
Wonderful Women of Wamboin	Claire Ayling	Convenor	6238 3347
Lake George VIEW Club	Lydia Zielinski	contact	6230 3488
Wamboin Book Group	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Deanne Brucic	• babysitting/ petsitting	6238 1884	Jess, Ellen & Nicole Smith	• petsitting (incl horses)	6238 3115
Fiona Skea	• babysitting	6238 3290	Ashleigh Caird	• babysitting	6238 0746
Rebecca Purdie	• petsitting	6238 3343	Gabrielle Simpkin	• babysitting/ petsitting	6238-1335
Elena Sutcliffe	• petsitting	6238 3228	Jack & Matilda Whitney	• pet care	6238 3059
Alana Stenning	• petsitting	6238 3030		•	

Bywong Community
Car Boot Sale
SUNDAY MARCH 20

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- Ellie Merriman
- Bungendore News
- Canine Communications
- Your Beauty Spot
- Bungendore Landscape Supplies
- Balance Clinic
- Tulip Top Gardens
- Bungendore Village Leather
- The Lake FM

- Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare
- Cuts on Gibraltar
- Wicked Cackle Nursery
- Foodworks Bungendore

Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

Darryl Bourke, President
This News Put Together by the
Bywong Committee



Mad March Hares. Believe it or not, it's time for the sixteenth Bywong Car Boot Sale. Every year this event brings out the best and worst from peoples' sheds, but only the best from their natures. And every year it gets bigger and better. The date is Sunday 20 March and the venue Bywong Hall in Birriwa Road.

The February meeting of the Community Committee commended the sterling work being carried out by coordinators Pauline Chambers and Kerrie Gougeon and endorsed a number of new features which they have introduced. (See separate feature elsewhere in the Whisper for details.)

Jazzing up our Hall. The Community has succeeded in its application for a government grant to refurbish and improve the facilities of Bywong Hall at the Les Reardon Reserve. The application for the grant was made by the Community in its status as a community organisation, but proposals for the grant were made in conjunction with the Hall Committee, which is the committee of Council charged with running the Hall. The grant, amounting to \$10,443 is for the refurbishment of the kitchen, principally through the installation of a new stove and larger size cooktop and for a variety of works to enhance the structure and grounds and improve the performance of the septic. The Community, which is a regular user of the Hall, will carry out the work jointly with the Hall Committee.

A Cleaner Home. By the time this hits the mailboxes, we hope that our efforts on Clean Up Australia Day will have borne fruit, and that Bywong will be a better and cleaner place. This year three Bywong sites were registered with Clean Up Australia – at Macs Reef Road, Bungendore Road and the Old Federal Highway. This arrangement linked our community to the wider national effort, and enabled volunteers to register on line.

GROWing our Greenways. GROW, a group organised under the auspices of the Community to promote, enjoy and extend our local greenways, will be conferring with Council's S.355 Greenways Committee to integrate the activities of the two organisations.

Weeds On Road Verges. The Committee considered a proposal from a local resident that the Community should sponsor a programme for local residents to join in spraying weeds on verges outside their properties. The Secretary advised that Council has reservations on Occupational Health and Safety grounds about non-insured residents using spray and working on verges adjacent to connecting roads. For these reasons, the Committee regretfully decided it could not support the proposal, and will advise the resident accordingly.

Meetings. The next Committee meeting is on 14 March, and local residents are welcome to attend. The AGM is scheduled for 10 October.

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WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
&
BYWONG COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
MEET THE CANDIDATES

8pm 23 March 2011

Wamboin Community Hall
112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.

The 2011 NSW State Election is scheduled for Saturday 26 March. At this stage, Steve Whan MP (ALP), John Barilaro (Nationals) and Paul Cockram (Greens) will contest the seat of Monaro at this election and have indicated that they will attend this meeting. This is your opportunity to see who might be your representative!

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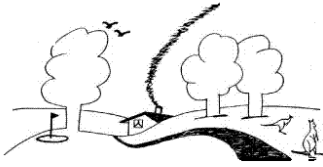
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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Wamboin Community Association AGM – The March General Meeting will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting of the WCA. Everyone with an interest in activities within the Wamboin community is invited to attend. The primary purpose of the 2011 AGM is to elect the 2011 Executive and Committee. Nominations for all positions should be made in writing, signed by two members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate, and should be delivered to the WCA Secretary, in person or by mail to 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin NSW 2620, by 9 March 2010.

Clean Up Australia Day — If you are reading your copy of The Whisper before Sunday morning (March 6) it's not too late to lend a hand and help clean up our roadways. The local clean-up exercise is again being coordinated by Lofty Mason, between 9.00 am and noon Please come along and help, even if only for half an hour.

Meet the Candidates — Candidates for the NSW state seat of Monaro have been invited to address local residents and take questions on matters of concern in the upcoming NSW state election. At present, candidates from the Greens (Paul Cockram), Labor (Steve Whan) and National (John Barillaro) parties have all confirmed that they will attend. This is your chance to meet your aspiring representatives, at the Wamboin Community Hall, Wednesday 23 March, at 8.00 pm. Tea and coffee will be provided after the meeting for those who would like to chat in a more informal environment.

Council By-Election — For those who might not be aware, the recent resignation of Cr Terry Bransdon will result in a by-election for the vacated seat on Council. The election date has not yet been confirmed, but will most likely be in the April-May time period. While no formal announcement can be made before the election date is announced, I intend to nominate for the position. More details will be provided in next month's Whisper.

Upcoming Events — Information on all upcoming events within the community ("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.

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>

The Whisper On-Line — Remember that copies of The Whisper are available on-line at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/whisper> on the first Sunday of the month. The Web Committee has also commenced the task of digitising older copies of The Whisper and making all regular Whisper articles available on their own website pages (see Feature Extracts on the Whisper page). -- Pete Harrison (president@wamboincommunity.asn.au)

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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 Hall: A 4 Burner, Hooded BBQ with side burner. Half cast iron plate and half grill plus temperature gauge. \$50 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond. Both payable on collection. Bond refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 6238 3258.

Trestles and chairs are available for hire by local residents. Hire rates are: Trestle \$10ea and chairs \$1.50 ea. Price does not include delivery or pick-up charges. Available from the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way. Must be returned in clean servicable condition. All damages are responsibility of the hirer. Equipment must be tied securely on trailer etc. whentaken (otherwise they don't go.) Time of pick-up and returned MUST be adhered to (I don't live at the Hall!) - Joan Mason, 62383258.

FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 6238 3258. Local Residents \$100, Bond \$250. Non-Resident \$150, Bond \$300. The Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st. functions.

FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on www.bywongcommunity.org.au.

The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au



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Upcoming Events

By local request - Brand New Pasta and Pizza Night every Friday from 6pm. Eat in or take away (choice of pasta or our world famous pizza dishes fresh cooked in our kitchen. Relax inside or on the deck. Draft Zierholz beer on tap. Starts March 4th.

Welcome to Autumn - Bar-B-Q Lunch – Saturday March 12th – Quality steak and snags plus salads (\$25 per person) – cooked to perfection just as you want it.

Earth Hour Candle-lit Dinner – Saturday March 26th – menu on our website - From 6pm. Lots of fun for you and interesting challenge for the kitchen staff!

Grape Harvest Festival lunch – Sat and Sunday April 2nd and 3rd – featuring the 3rd Great Wamboin Wine Stomping Competition. Dee Jay Gosper sings from 11am-1pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Local craft stalls and bouffe. See website for menu.

Mother's Day Lunch – Sunday 8th May – Give Mum something special. Flower and chocolates plus special menu – see website for details.

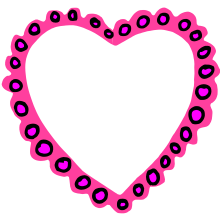
Please ring Elke on 6238 3842 or go to www.shepherdsrun.com.au

News from WWOW The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

26 February 2011

Monday mornings throughout February the WWOWs met, chatted, worked on crafts and shared stories. We also enjoyed two special events this month.

On 8 February, the WWOWs and their /partners/husbands were invited to a tour of the **wind farm** on Currendooley Station. Looking up 60 meters from below, a tower seemed to sway. We heard a bit of history, and learned why sometimes a few are turning while others are still: each has a control monitor on the top and the central office shuts down some turbines if others are more efficient given the wind direction at that time. The working towers were quieter than we expected, and we learned the blades feather as they come around the tower to reduce both sound and strain on the blades. It was a fascinating —albeit very windy—evening. And there really is water in Lake George!



On 14 February, the WWOWs and partners celebrated **Valentine's Day** with an evening gathering for wine and the usual overabundance from the "just bring a plate of nibbles" request. The party was a great place to launch the publication of Russ Ferrett's latest book for 9-12 years olds—*Great Cities of the World*—with photographs and information that make it a must-have gift for the grandchildren.

Coming Up: International Women's Day. Palerang Council has again asked WWOW to host lunch for International Women's Day-- the 100th anniversary. International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8th across the world. IWD is a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women in the past, present and future. It is a day when women are recognised for their achievements, regardless of divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. The Palerang International Women's Day lunch will be held on Monday, 7 March, at noon at the Wamboin Community Centre. All women of the region are welcome.

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 Bungendore, Bywong, Gundaroo, Sutton, and Wamboin, with a few from ACT and Queanbeyan.

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Sutton Country Fair & Ute Muster

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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

(Joan Mason 62383258)

A very busy market last, with lots of produce, that's what the Wamboin Markets are all about. Lots of happy customers last month enjoyed our markets. all looking to buy lovely fresh home grown produce at good prices. Produce such as:- potatoes, beetroot, capsicum, garlic, rocket, squash, onions, beans, cucumbers, rhubarb, eggs, smoked trout, bottled fruit, golden nugget pumpkins sausage rolls, cakes, preserves, jams, nuts, dried fruit, fresh raspberries, native plants, and Lofty's one-tonner full of colour-full plants,, jewellery, glass products, cards, hand knitted items, soaps, goodness, the list goes on, and much more. You will just have to come along and see for yourself. Purchase your supply of fresh roasted coffee beans from Tony, and enjoy a cup of coffee together with a plate of freshly baked scones with jam and cream in "The old coffee shop". Egg and bacon rolls are also available. Come for breaky – its all available!

The Wamboin Home Produce Markets are held at the Wamboin Hall, Bingley Way on the third Saturday of the month. Entry fee is free to customers, and \$5 per table for stallholders. Come along and enjoy our markets on:

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH, 2011
9AM – 12 NOON

Results of the February Wamboin Golf

We had excellent numbers and good weather for the February stroke event sponsored once again by the Whitney family, active members of the Wamboin golfing fraternity. Visitors Kyle Griffin, Daniel Monie and Tony Harrison all went home with a complimentary golf ball and enjoyed the experience of Wamboin golf.

Encouragement awards were presented to juniors Logan Beckett and Taylor Miners.

Nearest the pin and long drive ball winners were Kyle Griffin, Tim Barter, Ken Gordon, Jack Whitney, John Whitney x2, Keith France, Jason Beckett and Larry King.

The 9 hole competition was won by Keith France 38/30 from Nev Schroder 38/31 and Steve Miners 43/34.

The 18 hole event was a draw between Jack Whitney 81/59 and Tim Barter 74/59 with John Whitney in third place with 75/61. Both John and son Jack, being the sponsors, donated their prizes to 4th placed Matt O'Brien 101/62 and 5th placed Larry King 93/63. And a great day was had by all. -- Golf enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358



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Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare

Think global, act local

Car Boot Sale – Sunday 20th March 2011. GGW/W Landcare group will have a stall at this popular annual sale with the usual great variety of local trees and shrubs for sale. The monthly nursery session has been moved to Saturday 19th March to prepare for the sale. The AGM earlier this year featured a discussion on the future of this group. It resulted in a resolution to ask David McDonald to facilitate an evening at which the issue might be expanded, perhaps even resolved. This is the result:

Invitation to participate in a discussion of the future of our Landcare Group

- What does our Group do now?
 - What are our strengths, our resources?
 - What shared values do we bring to the Group?
 - What needs do we have, or do the broader community and environment have, that we can fulfil?
- So...what should be our goals for the next couple of years, and what do we need to do to attain them?

These and related questions were briefly touched upon at our 2010 AGM. Participants agreed that it would be useful for our Group members to have a structured discussion to sort out some of these issues. Geoff and Jean Butler have kindly agreed to host the discussion at their place:

When: Thursday 17 March, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. **Where:** 39 Birchmans Grove, Wamboin. **Discussion facilitator:** David McDonald

For this session to be successful, we need to have a fair number of members present, able to contribute diverse views on the topics discussed. Please come along and contribute to planning our Group's directions and activities for the next couple of years. If you will be able to participate, it would be helpful (though not essential) if you could let David McDonald know: phone 6238 3706 or email david@dnmcdonald.id.au.

Please don't hesitate to give David a call, or drop him an email, if you would like to express a view, or clarify anything, prior to the meeting. And if you can't make it on the 17th, what about passing on your ideas to David who will be able to take them to the meeting on your behalf?

Yass Landcare will be hosting a Gullies Field Day on 27th March to look at two innovative projects aimed at reducing gully erosion, rehydrating and enhancing soil health and and to improve the quality of the water in the Yass River catchment. Dr John Williams, Commissioner of the NSW Natural Resources Commission will give a talk on the two projects and he will be supported at the Field Day by John Franklin, Coordinator of the Yass office, MCMA. Contact Jan Grubb [Jan.Grubb@anu.edu.au] Secretary of Yass Landcare or myself for more details. - Chris Fowler, Secretary, Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare Group, Ph: 62369189; 0438591098

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The Wamboin Firefighter

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

THIS IS THE BUSH FIRE DANGER PERIOD (1st October – 31st March)

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

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

BUSH FIRE PREPARATION/AWARENESS INFORMATION SESSIONS

On Saturday Feb 19th the Brigade ran the final of a set of three information sessions conducted over this bush fire danger period. The sessions are designed to inform the community on the serious business of being bush fire aware and prepared. The first two sessions were held in November and December last year. It was a keen audience at the February event, none of whom had attended before and roughly half of whom were relatively recent arrivals to the area. Members of the community who attended the sessions now know more about:

- the bush fire threat/history of fire and the high risk areas in our region;
- what the Fire Danger Ratings are, what they mean, and how you should respond;
- how to prepare for bush fires;
- bush fire decision-making;
- how to act in the event of a bush fire; and
- myths versus reality.

We've been running these information sessions for the past several years now so if you haven't taken the opportunity to come along to at least one of them we trust it is because you and your family are well versed and prepared for the eventuality because we all live in a bush fire prone area.

Please take great care

In case you were unaware, the brigade has already responded to two grass fires during the current fire danger period. Fortunately, both fires have been contained and dealt with quickly. Given the high and now very dry grass this year, a couple of warm days and some wind could create an environment conducive to a potentially nasty fire danger condition.

RFS AIDER Programme

RFS Help For Aged and Disabled Residents To Reduce Bush Fire Hazards: Aged residents and residents with disabling conditions in particular are more vulnerable to the impact of bush fires. Where someone does not have the capacity or support to reduce bush fire hazards, the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) may be able to help.

AIDER Programme (Assist Infirm Disabled and Elderly Residents (AIDER) - helping aged and disabled residents: The RFS 'AIDER Programme' (Assist Infirm Disabled and Elderly Residents) is a one-off free service, supporting vulnerable residents to live more safely and confidently in their home on bush fire prone land. AIDER work is one-off and includes such things as clearing gutters, thinning vegetation, removing leaf and tree debris, trimming branches from around and overhanging the home, mowing or slashing long grass.

AIDER referrals: If you know someone who could benefit from the AIDER Programme, ask them to contact the Brigade on 0409 991 340, or email secretary@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au or visit the RFS website http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=1977

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VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Are you interested in learning more about what bush fire fighters do? Want to become a bush fire fighter?

We are looking for people who are:

- 18 years or older;
- reasonably fit and agile;
- interested in becoming an active fire fighter or member of the brigade's support crew;
- keen to learn new skills or contribute existing skills;
- a team player; and
- interested in contributing to the benefit of the community.
-

Involvement can include:

- attending incidents e.g. fire fighting, motor vehicle accidents;
- communications;
- restocking fire vehicles upon return from the fire-front;
- management;
- minor maintenance;
- catering; and
- project management

Now is an ideal time to consider joining the Brigade as most of our individual training is conducted in the 'off season'. If you would like further details please contact the Brigade Secretary, John Taubman on 6236 9794 or at secretary@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au.



Arson it's a CRIME committed by CRIMINALS! You can reduce your own risk and the risk of others around you by helping us fight arson. **Fact:** Many of the bush and grass fires in NSW are most likely caused by human ignition. Whilst not all of these are the result of arson, deliberately lit bush fires cost the community millions of dollars each year and have the potential to destroy property, cause injury and even kill people.

How Can You Help?

- Ensure your property is kept clean and tidy and free from 'easy' targets like piles of flammable debris or abandoned vehicles.
- Lower levels of available fuel not only reduces the potential for opportunistic fire lighters, but also greatly reduces the size of any potential fire which, in turn, reduces the 'reward' that arsonists often seek from lighting a fire.
- Ensure your family and friends are well aware of both the dangers and consequences to themselves and others of inappropriate fire lighting.
- Be aware of any unusual increase in the frequency of fires in your area.

If a fire does affect your neighbourhood try to:

- Note the description of any people you observed entering or leaving the fire scene prior to the fire.
- Record the registration and a description of any vehicles you observed entering or leaving the fire scene prior to the fire.
- Play your part, report suspicious activity to CRIME STOPPERS on 1800 333 000 or www.crimestoppers.com.au

The NSW Rural Fire Service is committed to the reduction of deliberately-lit fires and works closely with NSW Police Force and Fire and Rescue NSW (formally NSW Fire Brigades).



Wanted Properties for Sale



Jan has been receiving solid enquiry from prospective purchasers for all types of property. She has many disappointed buyers that missed out on the recent properties she has sold who are cashed up and ready to buy. Please do not hesitate to call for a FREE APPRAISAL anytime!

Jan was bought up on the land & appreciates the amount of time, expense & care that goes into any farming operation – no matter how big or small the property is.

Dams, bores, animal shelters, sheds, fences, tanks, pumps etc are all important attributes that can't be overlooked in any inspection and must be pointed out to any potential buyer.

Because of her background in farming she understands your efforts & will not miss important infrastructure that is commonly overlooked by people with less farming knowledge.

This is all factored into a FREE appraisal of your property & differentiates the price between yours and a neighbour's property.

Please don't hesitate to call her for an honest appraisal of your property.

Jan Ladmore Ph: **0407 890 527** 7 Days

E-mail: **jan.ladmore@bigpond.com**

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

TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

<p>PREPARE. You must continually reassess you bush fire plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know and understand your bush fire risk. • Prepare yourself, your family, your home and property for bush fires. • Prepare a Bush Fire Survival Plan.
<p>ACT. The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous the conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know the fire danger rating for your area and what you need to do. • Put your preparations into action – don't wait and see. • Check your Bush Fire Survival Plan.
<p>SURVIVE. Fires may threaten without warning – know what you will do to survive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safest place is away from the fire – your survival is the highest priority. • Follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan and make decisions to protect you and your family. • You need to know what to do if you are caught in a fire. You may be threatened by a fire without warning. • Know the bush fire Alert Levels, monitor conditions and keep up to date.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 20th – Bywong Car Boot Sale (further details on the Wamboin Community Association web-site)
- Advance notice – Annual grape picking in Wamboin.

Join in the fun and help Brigade members and their families secure funds for the brigade. Weather and other conditions influence the timing of the harvest but the call is likely to go out for help between the end of March and late May. If you'd like to join in the fun and haven't done so before, flick an email to our coordinator, Ian Coillet, email: lodestar@ozemail.com.au or ph: 6238 3425 and we'll make sure you are kept in the loop.

BRIGADE TRAINING (all sessions begin at the Fire Station)

- 1st Tuesday of the Month 7:30pm to 9:30pm
- 2nd Saturday of the Month 1:30pm to 4:30pm
- 4th Sunday of the Month 8:30am to 11:30am

In addition, several Brigade members meet at Eaglehawk Hotel on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7pm for dinner. We'd love other people in the community to come along and join in the fun. You might even be a winner in a raffle.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Wamboin Brigade Website: will help you to monitor local conditions and Brigade announcements. The Community Information section has useful information including 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) from 9am – 12noon. The next market day is Saturday March 19th. If you are coming to the market, you'll find us in front of the Fire Station only too ready to answer all your questions.

If you have any queries on a fire-related issue including preparing yourself, your family and your property for a bush or grass fire and can't make it to a Shop Front, then please contact the Brigade's Captain on 0409 991 340).

Be alert, be safe during this bush fire danger period.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

WAMBOIN 15 YEARS AGO

From the Whisper, March 1996 -- Circulation 500

There was a buzz of activity in Wamboin early in 1996 with notices re Clean Up Day, training for the Bushfire Brigade, a Car Rally in Kowen Forest, the Sutton Trash and Treasure Sale, Geary's Gap Car Boot Sale, the Golf Club, Girl Guides, Landcare, Playgroup, St. Andrew's Church, Wildcare. What a busy place!

Councillor Greenwood's Yarrolumla Council News included the following: "**Sutton Quarry** The Sutton Hall was packed for Council's Environment and Development Committee meeting on 6 February at which consideration was given to a proposal to develop a massive hard rock quarry on Mt. Bywong just east of Sutton. The developers did not bother to turn up to the meeting but the Sutton and Geary's Gap Community Associations certainly did. Their combined presentation to Council, based on their written submission, was extremely well thought out and presented in a very professional manner. It covered legal aspects, social implications, financial/commercial matters, plus environmental and geological aspects."

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Any Houses to Rent? As a local Wamboin family we know how great the lifestyle is out here. We have friends who currently live in Gungahlin who would like to find a suitable home to rent in the Wamboin/Bywong area. They require a 3 or 4 bedroom home on a long lease and have one lovely little girl and a cute tiny little dog. If anyone has anything available or knows of something that may be coming available in the near future we would appreciate you making contact with us and we can then arrange for them to contact you. Many thanks and best wishes, Tony and Vicky Holland, 02 62383762 0403069018 (V) 0417 575537 (T) or email to hollandfamily@riockyhill.com.au

Do you have 35mm slide boxes, shoeboxes, or old photo albums, full of precious, but seldom seen photos? I can scan them for you so they are in digital (jpeg) format. Then share them with family and friends, display them in digital photo frames (or possibly on your TV), make digital slide shows on your computer, print extra copies if you don't have the negative, but most importantly - have a compact, back-up, digital copy of your precious memories on CD or DVD. I can even fix them up a bit if they have a few scratches etc. Call Alan on 6236 9566

KNITTING AT THE PROVINCIAL PANTRY IN BUNGENDORE. Come learn to knit or crochet while you enjoy a coffee or tea from the Pantry. If you already know how to knit, I can help you get to the next level, work out a problem with a project started, or just get you going again. I have some exciting books to share, and some finished projects to inspire.

Time: Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30. First Weds. is 23 March, last Weds. is 25 May. Cost: \$5.00 per week

Questions? Call Lindsay at 6230 3125, or email sewlindsay@yahoo.com.

Female university student needs work. I can do baby sitting, pet sitting, house keeping, washing, ironing, weeding, watering, Vietnamese language teaching, and house sitting. Please contact Na on 0457 123 491 or 6238 3200.

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How The Whisper Gets From the Printer To Your Mailbox

The 50 or so 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 or help out. 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

165: CO-ORDINATED HELEN MONTESIN: ph 6238 3208

Dene Evans	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Bill Owen	Cooper Rd	26
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Hank Berlee	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	37

279 CO-ORDINATED BY TRISH RICE: ph 6238 3791

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	48	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Dr	17
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
Trish Rice	Majors Cl	18	David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	35
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (15), Advertisers/ Misc (40)	55	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	24
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			

230: CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: ph 6238 3489

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	42
Colleen Foster	B'dore Rd to Nrtn Rd	22	Rob Gorham	South end Clare Valley	38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	60
Axelby family	North end Clare Valley	42	Bungendore Foodworks	Bungendore	10

222: CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: ph 6238 3590

Sheryl Barnes	Denley Dr (Kestral to sthn end)	20	Brian Higgison	Denley Dr (Birchmans to Kestral inc)	12
Don Malcolmson	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat)	7	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers)	7
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	26	Morag & Guy Cotsell	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn & Harriott	30
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Sandra Favre	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn & Harriott	20
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	29	Joan Milnor	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6	Tony Bond	Hogan Dr	28

121 CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425

Michael Deane	FedHwySvcRd/Bidges/Hickry/Gold	62	Jenny Bryce	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Robt & Marz Luton	Sutton Park Estate	48			

222: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Trevor Kirk	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to B'dore)	20	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	24
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	33	Diana & Keith Gascoine	Snowgum Rd	27
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill)	25	Thelma Martin/Chris Fowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds	27
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	18	Richard Holding	Wyoming & Doust Rds	28
Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	20			

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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin - 36 year statistics from the Robertsons

February Rainfall to 27/2/11... 123.75

(February 2010 ... 170.75)

2011 Rainfall to 27/2/11 ... 214.25

(2010 Rainfall to 27/2/ ... 176.25)

Average March Rainfall ... 55.6

(March Rainfall 2010 ... 67.4)

Wettest March ... 303mm in 1989

Wettest March day ... 160mm on 15/3/1989

Driest March Day ... 3mm in 1986 and 1998

Hottest March Day ... 35C on 8/3/83

Coldest March Day ... 13C on 14/3/94

Coldest March Night ... 3C on 28/3/99



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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Collet

(an occasional piece)

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

You live on a rural property so you've gotta give it a name! It adds 'prestige' – well that's what many in the real estate game would suggest. Our piece of heaven is called 'Wirryilka'. The name is based on that of a large outback station out Broken Hill way. Identifying the meaning and origin of 'Wirryilka' has been a long and still continuing quest. Neither the experts nor the locals out back have been able to help with the mystery. Best we've come up with is it is likely the word is an amalgam of more than one indigenous dialect.

Tootling around Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton, at a guess 10-15% of properties are named, some quite beautifully and others...well...uhuh? Wouldn't it be interesting to find out the stories behind the names of some of the properties in our area? Well, at great expense to its management, the Stable Door Intergalactic Conglomerate tasked its aspiring photographer to scour the countryside to snap a sample of the more intriguing property plaques in the area. Could it be that your property name is among the photos below? If so, and there's a story worth telling, why not include a brief note in the next Whisper?



WEEMALA



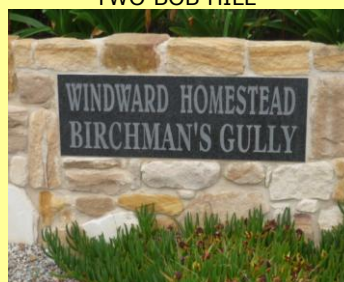
TWO BOB HILL



WANDANALONG



MOEL FAMAU



WINDWARD HOMESTEAD



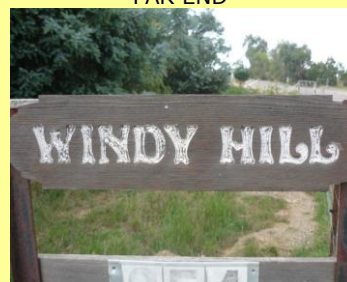
FAR END



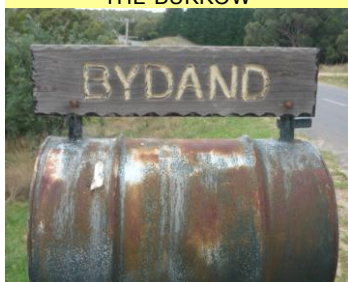
THE BURROW



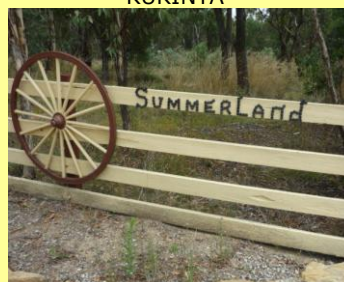
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LAST MONTH'S MYSTERY OBJECTS

Last month I included photos of two mystery objects, a fly-like insect and a worm-like creature, both of which I'd encountered here at home and invited y'all to help identify them.

Well, John Wolf was very quick off the mark with the insect identifying it as a Robber Fly. He went on to say they are hunters and catch insects in flight then drain the victims of its fluids using their Proboscis. He says Robber flies love hanging around a flowering bush or where there are lots of prey such as flies and bees. It appears John is a very keen photographer – if his photos are any indication. He has taken some fine shots of these cool insects at his place in Wamboin. John is happy for anyone to have a look at them on his flickr page (see below).

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/wwwjohnboy69photos/5243603498/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/wwwjohnboy69photos/4547743180/in/set-72157617631834570/>

More recently long time resident and authority on our local flora and fauna, Jo Walker, contacted me. She also identified the fly-like insect as a Robber Fly.

As for the second object in last month's Stable Door, i.e. the annelid or worm-like creature, it continues to be a mystery. Seems The Whisper's readership is a little stumped by this one. I reckon I'll have to bottle the next worm-like thingy to appear on the pathway and head off to the ANU School of Entomology.

NED KELLY - ON THE ROAD AGAIN

And finally, looks like that Irish-Australian bushranger who, depending on your view, is either a cold-blooded killer or a folk hero - is making a comeback. The Stable Door's intrepid photographer discovered that Ned is bunkered down at the eastern doorstep and, at the time of our photographer's visit, was just settling in near the western perimeter of our region. Excellent news!! Exact locations are being withheld – to protect the innocent and the guilty.



All of the photos above can be viewed in living colour if you go to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/> then click on 'The Whisper' and call up the March 2011 edition.

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BUNGENDORE MARKETS

by Lyn Randall, speaking for a group of local artists and craftpeople

The current operator of the Bungendore markets is not able to continue past March. A group of local artists and craftspeople are going to take over the operation from April.

It is our intention to revamp the markets in order to draw more stallholders and customers. We believe Bungendore and its environs is rich in artistic talent and that many others excel at their pursuits of growing, craft and collecting and need a local venue to show and sell their wares.

The new venture will be called **the market @ bungendore** and it is intended that it will be a quality market which displays a variety of goods and showcases the local talent, drawing interest from our community and the surrounding area.

Any money made will be ploughed back into promoting and improving the market and venue for all concerned.

The grand opening market will be on 17 April - just in time for Easter and that will be the theme.

We would like to hear from anyone in the district that would be a potential stallholder.

Please contact the market@bungendore, c/o 85 Gibraltar Street, BUNGENDORE, NSW 2621 or email to **themarketatbungendore@hotmail.com** for more details.

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PONY TALES – Goings on at WPC February 2011

by Steve Quick

Is it March already? Where has the year gone? I blinked and three months had sped by..... February saw the riders from the Wamboin Pony Club dust off the saddles again for 2011. Members got back together for another year of horse riding experiences and challenges.

For those of you around Wamboin who aren't aware the Wamboin Pony Club grounds are at the end of Canning Close. We have riding and jumping arenas, as well as a cross-country jumping course that we've scratched out of the Wamboin rocks and dirt over the past years. There's a growing number of riders and parent helpers and a recently extend clubhouse.

Our riders are aged from 5 to 25 and come along twice a month to gain more riding experiences. Everyone has fun while being able to improve his or her riding skills safely. There are also a number of competitions throughout the year that bring together riders from other Pony Clubs in the area.

Pony club aims: (1) To encourage young people to ride and learn to enjoy all kinds of sport connected with horses and riding. (2) To provide instruction on riding and horsemanship and to instill in the members the proper care of their animals and (3) To promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self discipline.

Wamboin Club welcomed some new riders last rally day and we are hoping there might be more of you out there interested in coming along for the experiences Pony club offers. Last rally day was a good opportunity to practice some show jumping in our purpose built jumping arena as well as working on some flat work. This is learning the various techniques to control your horse, useful for day to day riding. Those of you who may not know a lot about horses might think you can just throw on a saddle, jump on, shout yeehaa! and off your horse will go.....the reality is a horse is an animal with it's own mind and personality. Some aren't as cooperative as you might think. That's why pony club can be so beneficial, especially for younger riders. The experience of the Pony club instructors as well as the other riders in the club can help a struggling young rider with a difficult horse to gain the confidence to become a much better rider.

Speaking of the experiences pony club can offer - 4 of our members just competed at the Royal Canberra Show. Each year Pony Club classes are included as part of the riding program. Can you imagine the thrill and challenge of riding at a big show? Not only are there lots of horses and riders but you have the extra noise and distractions of the noisy rides and ferris wheel, the stunt cars, motorbikes and this year even a bunch of guys on hotted up ride on mowers!... also lots and lots of people and noise. Our riders were competing in individual riding events and an event called pairs where riders and horses compete together and are judged as a team. Our pairs teams got a ribbon each so well done - just getting into the main arena can be a challenge so getting a ribbon is a great achievement - what an experience. These regional shows as well as a number of other events like mounted games and jumping events happen all through the year.

Remember if you are 5 to 25 and have access to your own horse or pony come along and see the fun you can have at your local Wamboin Pony Club. The next rally day is Sunday 13th March from 10am - if you need some more info call our chief instructor Robin Slater on 62383472 or check out our website www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au It's great fun, see you at the next rally day!





1st Wamboin Scout Group News

The 1st Wamboin Scout Group will celebrate its 27th anniversary in 2011, having provided a range of outdoor activities for the youth of Wamboin since its inception. The Group, however, has been in recess for several years now due to a dire lack of leaders for the various Sections: Joeys (ages 6 to 8), Cubs (ages 8 to 11), and Scouts (ages 11 to 14). In the coming weeks, we will need to decide whether or not to close the Group down completely, making it more complicated to activate any of the Sections again at short notice. Keeping the Group registered requires that we pay an annual registration fee, and take out insurance, even when we are in recess. Based on the number of inquiries we receive, we appear to have the numbers to make any or all of these Sections viable, if we just had the leaders. If you have an interest in helping the youth in our community, by becoming a youth leader in the Scouting Movement, please contact me ASAP to discuss this opportunity.

Pete Harrison, Ph. 6238 3525, Email: pete.harrison@internode.on.net

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Our yoga teacher farewelled the class with the suggestion to “tread lightly” this week, but I can assure you that I trod anything but lightly when I crossed the trickling creek this morning and waded through thick grass to the overgrown and neglected orchard hoping that mother nature had been generous to the undeserving this year. I wore my stoutest boots with my jeans tucked in to my longest socks and I outdid any determined dinosaur with my dinosaur stomp! I didn’t hear the grass rustle, nor did I spy anything slithering through it, but it’s amazing how a length of long abandoned irrigation hose, lying in the grass, with a slick of glistening snail trail along its length can stir the blood!! I came back, mercifully, in one piece, shoulders drooping under the weight of bags full of apples, peaches, nashis and plums. All the fruit was “certified organic”. The only fertiliser over the past few years has been courtesy of passing kangaroos, and the only pesticides, birds. How kind the season has been to us this year.

I have, over the years, tried a bit of companion planting in a less than scientific sort of way. Good neighbours support each other and create harmony in an environment. I discovered a punnet of marigolds in a nursery and vaguely recalled that they should be planted next to roses. The marigolds grew and the roses bloomed and I imagined that there were fewer aphids and black spots, but then I read that it should’ve been garlic and overnight the aphids appeared and sucked the roses dry! I planted and nurtured tomato seedlings, but suddenly rogue potatoes appeared and grew up around and through them, and I had feelings of disquiet. I was right for once, but not only had I mixed antagonistic potatoes with tomatoes, I had compounded the cultural mismatch by growing corn and pumpkins in the same bed. Fortunately our neighbours across the creek are more methodical and they grow very good vegetables, but we are still able to do some trading; a few eggs for keeping an eye on our chooks in our absence, organic apples for an armful of basil.

Good neighbours are invaluable. Robert Frost once said, “Good fences make good neighbours”, but there isn’t a fence between us and our neighbours, only a poor excuse for a creek. Over many years we have developed a special friendship. We’ve celebrated family joys, and commiserated over sorrows, swapped stories of broken pumps and septic systems, shared blackouts and battles with Telstra, prayed for rain together then prayed for it to stop, and together tried, against all reason, to create an exotic garden in the bush. But the time has come for them to pack up half a lifetime of memories and move. Wamboin is both a magnet and haven for hoarders and collectors, a “let’s build another shed” can-do type of place, somewhere to be yourself and indulge your “little ways” far removed from straight-jacketed suburbia. Our neighbours have tolerated all that from across the creek.

I can’t imagine that leaving here would ever be easy. However, nothing stays the same, and after a frightening fire, years of plenty and years of steadily worsening drought, the good times have come again and it’s time for them to move.

I wouldn’t live anywhere else....and I know one couple who will have heavy hearts as they farewell wonderful Wamboin to live somewhere else. I only hope they have trunks large enough to store all their carefully wrapped treasured memories. ...and find good neighbours waiting for them.

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