

The Whisper

October 2011

CIRCULATION: 1,246

Wamboin Community Assn:

www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

Bywong Community

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

Fire Brigade:

<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 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 November 2011 issue the deadline is Sunday, 30 October 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.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial Triple Zero (000) All Hours

Bungendore Police: 6238 1244 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre: 0409 991 340 Ambulance Bookings: 131233

LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assoc.	Peter Harrison	President	6238 3525		
Bywong Community	Darryl Bourke	President	6230 3055		
Fire Brigade	David Cochrane	Captain	0409 991 340		
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	Gail Ritchie Knight	Convenor	0416 097 500		
Lake George VIEW Club	Lydia Zielinski	contact	6230 3488		
Wamboin Book Group	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178		
YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS					
Alana Stenning	petsitting	6238 3060	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
Mara Sutcliffe	petsitting	6238 3228	Jack & Matilda Whitney	pet care, baby sitting, odd jobs	6238 3059

Join in Our Success



Beralston Rd, Gundaroo \$260,000



Millynn Rd, Bywong \$1,050,000



Camp St, Sutton \$570,000



Rosamel St, Gundaroo \$480,000



Gibraltar St, Bungendore \$640,000



Harp St, Gundaroo \$649,000



Mathews Pl, Bungendore \$429,000



Cullulla Rd, Tarago \$219,000



Bywong St, Sutton \$540,000



Bungendore Rd, Bywong \$475,000



Mathews Ln Bungendore \$460,000

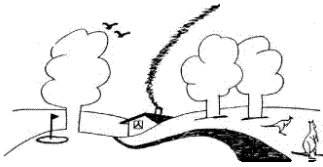


Malbon St, Bungendore \$425,000



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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Bonfire & Fireworks Night — The threat of inclement weather did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of around 1200 spectators who attended the annual WCA Bonfire and Fireworks Night. This year's great display (it gets better every year!) was provided by Martin Brady, from local company Fireworks Australia (Ph. 4845 1051; <http://www.fireworksaustralia.com.au> – gotta give 'em a plug, 'cause Martin does a great job for us!). It is rare these days, to be able to be so close to a fireworks event, to see how it all operates, and to not just watch, but 'feel' the display.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the various community groups that provide the catering, the local businesses that donate prizes for the raffle, the Wamboin RFS crew that provides logistical support, and the many 'nameless' people who chip in to help make this community event such a great success.

Mobile Phone Services — Following the presentation by Telstra representatives at the September general meeting, details of their proposal for another mobile phone tower in the area are provided elsewhere in this issue of The Whisper. The topography of the Wamboin/Bywong area means that there is no simple solution to the problem of mobile coverage, and it was evident from their presentation that Telstra took note of previous community input when developing the present proposal. If you have anything to say on the matter, now is the time.

Home Produce Markets — The Wamboin Home Produce Markets are now back in full swing, with the October market on Saturday 15.

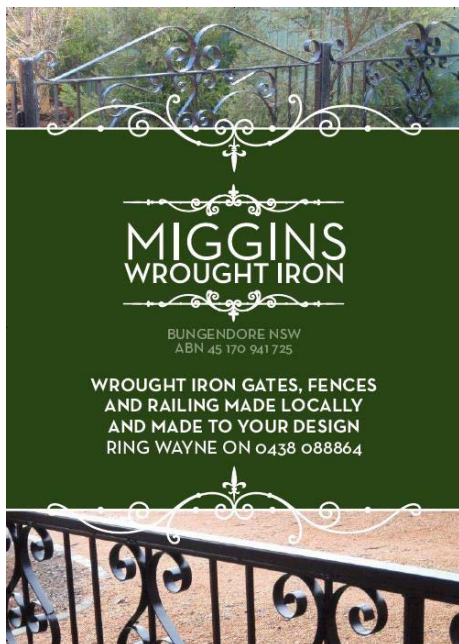
Curry Recipes — Keep those curry recipes coming in (I've only received one so far!—thanks Colleen) to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au.

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.

-- Pete Harrison (president@wamboincommunity.asn.au)



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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

WAMBOIN 15 YEARS AGO from the Whisper, October 1996

By Robyn Robertson (Circulation was 500)

Excerpt from: ABORIGINALS IN WAMBOIN, Based on an interview with Philip Boot, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Archaeologist and with Paul Packard, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Forest Archaeologist, written down by Ned Noel

...."The tribe living in this area at the time of white settlement was the Ngunnawal tribe. They were widely dispersed and mobile. In highland areas like Wamboin there most probably would not have been the quantities of game, starchy roots and other food to support large groups. Hence the Aboriginal people here at the beginning of the last century would probably have moved in small family groups. They would have tended to stay in areas near running water, such as the Yass River or Brooks Creek. They would camp where kangaroos, wombats or other game could be found. They might well be in the area in the first place because they were on their way to larger seasonal gatherings of several hundred persons at spots on the Queanbeyan, Molonglo, or Murrumbidgee rivers that could support such larger groups. In the local Ngunnawal Community there is an oral tradition about gathering places on the Queanbeyan River.

.....
In the Wamboin area, with white settlement the Aborigines were soon alienated from the land. Smallpox, measles, influenza and other diseases brought by settlers caused many deaths. Cattle and sheep farmers moved in and made traditional Aboriginal life difficult. But this was only the most recent phase of Aboriginal activity in Wamboin. Most likely, because it is true of surrounding NSW, Aboriginal people - men, women and children - would have lived, camped and moved through the Wamboin area for tens of thousands of years before the present."



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Sunday afternoons, 5:00- 6:30p.m, from 16th October-11th December.

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Email: lilyfield_yoga@live.com.au

LOCAL KART RACER TO RACE IN DUBAI

by Keith Knight of Ryan's Road, Wamboin

Michael Stewart of Bungendore Road, Bywong was born in Canberra and grew up in Evatt. Now 16, Michael has been a member of the Canberra Kart Racing Club and driving Go Karts competitively since he was nine. During his first tentative year Michael watched, listened to, and learned from his more experienced peers. By his second year he was applying this knowledge and was able to hold his own on the track.

Michael is a naturally gifted driver and it was not long before he placed on the podium - regularly. Michael has not looked back and over the years and has won all of the titles available to him at the local Club. The highlight of his local career occurred in 2010 when he was awarded the Mark Weber Trophy. In recent years he has also raced at interstate meetings with considerable success. Michael is held in very high regard within the karting community for his driving skill as well as his professionalism on and off the track.

Each year Rotax, the manufacturer of the engines used on the majority of competitive karts, sponsors karting challenges throughout the world including several in Australia. Throughout the year racers earn points at the national Challenges that count towards their eligibility for selection to represent their respective nations. The series of national challenges culminate with the international Rotax Max Challenge at the end of each racing season. This year the Rotax Max Challenge will be held at the Al Ain Raceway in Dubai from 19th to 26th November 2011.

Eleven Aussie racers have earned their positions in the three classes represented by this year's Team Australia. Michael has earned one of three places in the Max Junior class. Michael and his support crew will travel to Dubai in mid November.



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The Wamboin Firefighter

For further information on the brigade or fire-related issues visit the brigade's website at

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

WE ARE NOW IN THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD

(1 September - 31 March)

THERE IS A REAL RISK OF UNCONTROLLED FIRES IN OUR AREA

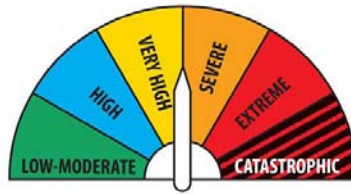
A FIRE PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR ANY FIRE IN THE OPEN. PLEASE PHONE THE BRIGADE CAPTAIN FOR ADVICE ON OBTAINING A PERMIT ON 0409 991 340

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

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

BUSHFIRE PREPARATIONS

<p>PREPARE.</p> <p>You must make important decisions before the fire season starts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your <u>Bush Fire Survival Plan</u> is one of the best ways to help improve the safety of you and your family before the impact of, or during a bush fire. Preparation is not just about cleaning up around the house and having a plan. It is also about making sure you consider your physical, mental and emotional preparedness. <u>Prepare yourself and your family</u> for bush fires. Regardless of your decision to Leave Early or Stay and Defend, you still need to <u>prepare your property</u> against the threat of a bush fire.
<p>ACT.</p> <p>The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous the conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of knowing what to do is knowing the <u>Bush Fire Danger Ratings</u>. The Fire Danger Ratings should be your first trigger for activating your <u>Bush Fire Survival Plan</u>. The safety of you, your family and your home may depend on it. During periods of increased fire danger and when there is a bush fire in your area, it's important that you <u>stay up to date</u>. Information can be found in a variety of places and formats. For more details on what information is available visit the RFS <u>information during bush fires page</u>.
<p>SURVIVE.</p> <p>Fires may threaten without warning so you need to know what you will do to survive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The levels are Advice, Watch and Act and Emergency Warning. These <u>alert levels are used as a fire spreads</u>. During a fire, you need to follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan. That means you should have already decided if you are going to <u>Leave Early or Stay and Defend</u> your home. The safest option for you and your family during a bush fire is to leave early. Sometimes, things don't go to plan. That's why you need a backup plan. <u>Neighbourhood Safer Places</u> have been introduced for this reason. You should check if there is a <u>Neighbourhood Safer Place</u> near you and note it in your <u>Bush Fire Survival Plan</u>. During a bush fire, it's important you have ready access to items which may save your life. Find out what you should put in your <u>Emergency Survival Kit</u>. The heat from a bush fire can kill you. That's why it's important to wear clothing that will not only protect you from the heat but also from smoke and embers. <u>Know what to wear during a fire</u> to have the best chance of survival. During periods of increased fire danger and once a fire starts, you need to stay up to date. <u>Know where you will get information during a fire</u>. Note: At present there are no 'Neighborhood Safer Places' in the Lake George Zone.



Fire Danger Rating	Sample Messages - Potential Fire Behaviour and Impact
CATASTROPHIC (CODE RED) FDI 100+	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving – flames will be higher than roof tops. • There is a very high likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die or be injured. Thousands of homes and businesses will be destroyed. • Well prepared, well-constructed and defended homes may not be safe during the fire. Construction standards do not go beyond a Fire Danger Index of 100. • Thousands of embers will be blown around. • Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 20 km ahead of the fire. • Leaving and doing so early is the best option.
EXTREME FDI 75-99	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving – flames will be higher than roof tops. • There is a likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die and be injured. Hundreds of homes and businesses will be destroyed. • Only well prepared, well constructed and actively defended houses are likely to offer safety during a fire. • Thousands of embers will be blown around. • Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 6 km ahead of the fire. • Leaving and doing so early is the safest option for your survival.
SEVERE FDI 50-74	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires will be uncontrollable and move quickly – flames may be higher than roof tops. • There is a chance people may die and be injured. Some homes and businesses will be destroyed. • Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. • Expect embers to be blown around. • Spot fires may occur up to 4 km ahead of the fire • Leaving and doing so early is the safest option for your survival. Your home will only offer safety if it and you are well prepared and you can actively defend it during a fire.
VERY HIGH FDI 25-49	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires can be difficult to control – flames may burn into the tree tops. • There is a low chance people may die or be injured. Some homes and businesses may be damaged or destroyed. • Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. • Embers may be blown ahead of the fire. • Spot fires may occur up to 2 km ahead of the fire. • Your home will only offer safety if it is and you are well prepared and you can actively defend it during a fire.
HIGH FDI 12-24	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires can be controlled • Loss of life is highly unlikely and damage to property will be limited • Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire. • Embers may be blown ahead of the fire. • Spot fires can occur close to the main fire. • Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes
LOW-MODERATE FDI 0-11	<p style="text-align: center;">If a fire starts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires can be easily controlled • Little to no risk to life and property. Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes • Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.

FIRE DANGER RATING

The Fire Danger Rating (FDR) is an early indicator of potential danger. It is an assessment of the potential fire behaviour, the difficulty of suppressing a fire, and the potential impact on the community should a bush fire occur on a given day. The FDR is determined by the Fire Danger Index (FDI). The FDI is a combination of air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought. When a FDR is advised, you need to take it seriously and be prepared to act. It should act as your first trigger for action. The Fire Danger Rating signs for our area are located near the intersections of:

- Norton Rd and Sutton Rd (Wamboin),
- Macs Reef Rd and Harriott Rd (Bywong),
- Bungendore Rd and Joe Rocks Rd (Bungendore),
- Bungendore Rd and Summerhill Rd (Bywong), and
- Federal Hwy Service Rd and Goolabri Dr (Sutton Park).

The Fire Danger Rating for our area can also be viewed on the brigade's website at: <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

BECOMING A BRIGADE MEMBER

The brigade is continually in need of new 'blood' i.e. new, active members. If you are interested in becoming a member and bringing existing or wanting to learn new skills to help out in the brigade's support crew or as an active firefighter, don't hold back; come along to any of the set training sessions for a look and a chat. You'll be made very welcome. Alternatively, feel free to give our Secretary a call on 6238 3153.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 15 Oct Brigade Information 'Shopfront' adjacent to the Wamboin Home Produce Market (9am-noon)

November Community Workshop – 'Firefighting for Non-Firefighters'
Venue - Wamboin Fire Station (date & time tbc)

BRIGADE ACTIVITY LAST MONTH

CALL OUTS: The brigade was responded to four Triple Zero (000) calls since the last issue of the Wamboin Firefighter.

Wednesday 31 August @6pm – a single motor vehicle accident on Sutton Road approximately two kilometres north of Norton Road. A heavy and light tanker from our brigade and the A.C.T. Fire Brigade attended the scene. The vehicle was fully engulfed in flame and totally destroyed.



Saturday 3 September @4pm – the brigade's quick response vehicle was dispatched to assist a property owner in Clare Lane, Wamboin, after embers from a registered pile burn had escaped into surrounding grass. A wet line was put down and the fire was quickly contained.

Friday 9 September @1.35pm - involved a single motor vehicle accident of a slightly more unusual nature on Weeroona Drive in Wamboin. Once extracted by a tow truck the driver continued on with his deliveries, albeit somewhat delayed.

Saturday 18 September @circa 3pm – the brigade was called to a report of a grass fire on Sutton Road between Norton Road and the Federal Highway. We understand the grass was set alight by still hot ground below a pile burn conducted by a resident some 5 weeks previously. Wamboin brigade dispatched its two heavy tankers and a light tanker. Appliances from Sutton and Wamboin combined to 'jump' on the fire before it became a far more serious situation.



RESIDENTS APPRECIATE SEPTEMBER'S

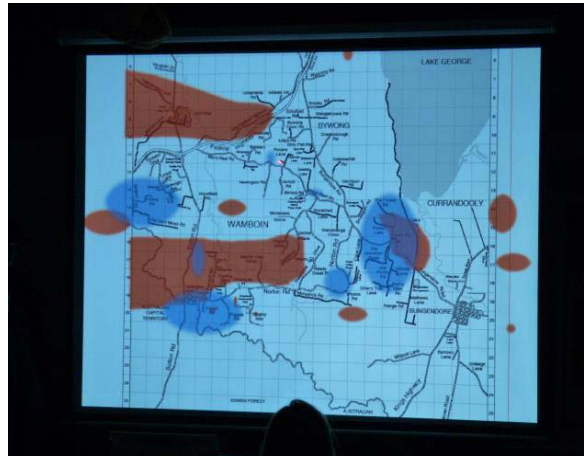
BUSH/GRASS FIRE INFORMATION SESSION:

From the feedback we've had it appears the community-wide bush and grass fire preparation/awareness information session offered by the brigade on Saturday 17 September at the Wamboin Fire Station that we promoted extensively in The Whisper, on the brigade and community websites and on community chalkboards and elsewhere across the region, was much appreciated by

the residents who attended. Topics addressed during the session included: the threat (local fire history; areas of particular concern; fire danger ratings; fire behaviour); survival plan preparation; keeping informed; decision-making and actions. There were also several working examples of different mobile/trailer-mounted fire-fighting pump/tank/hose and nozzle set-ups brought along by residents for display and for session attendees to 'play' with.



Example of the several signs dotted around the region promoting the event.



Snapshot of the largest and lesser fires to have impacted the region from the 1980's onwards.



3 of the working examples of mobile pump and tank configurations on display

Next Community-wide Information Session

Our next set information session for the community is in November. It will build on previous sessions such as the one in September and focus on practical, down to earth guidance for people without fire fighting skills wishing to improve their knowledge about fire fighting tools and techniques.

BRIGADE TRAINING

The set brigade training sessions are:

- 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

All training begins at the Fire Station. Visitors including aspiring members welcome.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Wamboin Brigade Website:

The site 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. You'll also find the brigade's history, some pretty interesting photos and other fascinating material on the site.

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

Brigade Information 'Shop Front' at the 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 15 October. If you are coming to the market, which is located in the Wamboin Community Association's Hall in Bingley Way, Wamboin, you'll find us in front of the Fire Station happy to answer all your questions. This month's theme is fire fighting hoses, nozzles and fittings for rural/residential properties. We'll have a sample on display for you to look at. At any other times, if you have any queries on a fire-related issue including preparing yourself, your family and your property for a bush, grass or house fire, please contact the Brigade on 0409 991 340.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

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

by Robyn Robertson

Robyn went away before month end and could not provide the month figures, provided the averages. - Editor

Sept. rainfall to 25/11 ... 15.5mm
2011 rainfall to 25/9 ... 421.75mm
Average Oct rainfall ... 62.6mm
Wettest Oct ... 199mm in 1996
Driest Oct ... 5.5mm in 2006
Coldest Oct day ... 9C X 3 times

2010 to 30/9 ... 76.5mm
2010 to 30/9 ... 647.75mm
Oct 2010 ... 89.5mm
Wettest Oct day ... 59mm on 16/10/76
Hottest Oct day ... 31C on 27/10/97
Coldest Oct night ... 1C X numerous times

BONFIRE NIGHT – WCA Raffle Winners

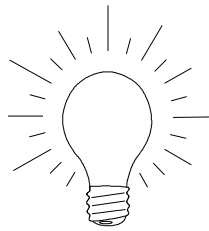
by Lofty Mason

Don't even think about it! All prizes have been collected.

\$50 Lambert's Voucher	Margareth
\$50 Shepherds Run Voucher	Brett
\$40 Meat tray	Paul
\$40 Meat tray	L Mills
2 Bottles Wine	Sam Brentnall
Organic Vegies	Purdie
Wamboin Coffee Beans	Robyn
Wamboin Coffee Beans	Jack Munston
2 Doz Pendon eggs	Ben Mutawdadzi
Roses	Monica Bailey

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Takeaway: Thursday & Friday evenings

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Or by Appointment
Ph: 6238 3284

Annie's Collectables will be closing from 25 September and will have a grand reopening on 19 November - hopefully with all the bargains we have sourced from the antique markets in Amsterdam and London

Mitch Rodgers
0408 211 516

John Rodgers
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How The Whisper Gets From the Printer To Your Mailbox Month After Month

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

168: CO-ORDINATED HELEN MONTESIN: ph 6238 3208

Dene Evans	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33
Hank Berlee	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32

283: CO-ORDINATED BY TRISH RICE: ph 6238 3791

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	48
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32
Trish Rice	Majors Cl	18
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45)	59
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19

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

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4
Colleen Foster	B'dore Rd to Nrtn Rd	22
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12
Dominica Lorima	North end Clare Valley	42

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

Sheryl Barnes	Denley Dr (Kestral to sthn end)	20
Don Malcolmson	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat)	7
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	26
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6

140: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425

Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	63
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton Park Estate	48

202: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	35
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill)	25
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	21

Bill Owen	Cooper Rd	26
Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40

Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Dr	17
Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	35
Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	24

Deb Gordon	Yalana East	42
Rob Gorham	South end Clare Valley	38
Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	60
Bungendore Foodworks	Bungendore	10

Brian Higgison	Denley Dr (Birchmans to Kestral inc)	12
Rhett Cox	Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers)	7
Morag & Guy Cotsell	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwgn& Harriott	30
Sandra Favre	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngn& Harriott	20
Joan Milnor	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	30
Tony Bond	Hogan Dr	28

Jenny Bryce	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	18

David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	25
Diana & Keith Gascoine	Snowgum Rd	26
Chris Fowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds	20
Richard Holding	Wyoming & Doust Rds	25

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Councillor's Corner

It has been my intention since the May by-election to make a regular contribution to The Whisper, discussing relevant matters that come before Council.

At present, there are usually two formal meetings of Council each month, the monthly General Meeting, on the first Thursday of the month, and the extraordinary meeting to work on the Palarang Local Environmental Plan (PLEP), on the third Thursday of the month. While most of these meetings are held at the Council chambers in Bungendore, they are periodically held in other locations. Members of the public are welcome to attend any of these meetings, and to address Council on any subject.

The annual mayoral election was held at the September meeting and, with the vote tied between Crs Cockram and Raynolds, the successful nominee was drawn from a hat, with Cr Raynold being re-elected mayor. Cr Cockram was subsequently elected as deputy mayor.

At the same meeting, it was also decided to move meeting times, for at least the next 12 months, back to an evening time slot, to provide better access for members of the public who have daytime commitments. All general meetings (first Thursday of the month), and meetings to deal with matters relating to the preparation of the PLEP (third Thursday of the month), will now begin at 5.00 pm. Also, in line with efforts to make meetings more accessible throughout the shire, the October general meeting of Council will be held in Captains Flat.

Council staff have begun the process of verifying the details of the draft PLEP with the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure, which will be responsible for the final approval of the document. The September LEP meeting was largely devoted to changes to individual clauses that have been requested by the Department to avoid conflict with other planning instruments.

One change that may be of interest to local residents was the requirement to remove Dual Occupancy dwellings from the list of allowable land uses in the rural and environmental zones, including the E4 zone that will be applicable to rural residential areas. This requirement arose because the planning instruments that will underpin the new PLEP assume that a Dual Occupancy development will be accompanied by the subdivision of the property in question. Subdivision, however, is generally not permitted in current rural residential areas. The regulations applicable to a Secondary Dwelling development, which is still allowed, have, however, been refined to embrace what would previously have been identified as a Dual Occupancy development.

It may be of interest to some property owners to know that, whereas the current Dual Occupancy development rules restrict the size of the second dwelling on a property to just 150 m², there will be no such restriction on the size of a Secondary Dwelling development under the new PLEP. There is no provision for more than two dwelling houses on a property in the E4 zone.

As time has permitted, since the by-election, I have been adding content to my personal 'councillor' website at <http://peteharrison.id.au>. My goal is to include all of the above sort information, and more general references to Council matters on this site. I would be happy to receive feedback from the community on how best I can provide relevant information through today's electronic media. I'm not a Facebook or Twitter user, but if that's the way people want to communicate, I'll make the effort to change.

If you are interested in receiving advice of Council meeting dates and times, and other Council notices, you can subscribe to the Palarang Council News and Events Mailing List through the Council website at <http://palarang.nsw.gov.au/site/pages/subscribe.html>. -- Cr Pete Harrison (Pete.Harrison@palarang.nsw.gov.au)



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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

by Joan Mason, 6238 3258

An excellent start to our Markets in September. A good number of stalls were there for the start after the winter break, with others stating that they will be back for October and onwards.

I wish to thank The Holland family who have tirelessly cooked the egg and bacon rolls for sometime now. They are unable to continue, so on behalf of all who have tried these at the markets, we say a big thank-you. Don't despair – this stall will continue each month, couldn't be without the egg and bacon rolls!!

Items available - Eggs, jams & preserves, nuts, lollies, dried fruits, raspberry products, flowers, native plants from Jo, other variety of plants from Lofty, knitting, jewellery, soaps, hand craved wooden items, hand-made cards for all occasions, also great coffee and coffee beans available from Tony, delicious jam & cream scones to enjoy, and of course the tasty egg & Bacon rolls. So lots available, come along and enjoy .

Interested in having a stall - we need a cake/biscuit stall or two. Please contact me on 62 383 258. (We have several jewellery stalls, so do not need anymore at present.)

The markets are held on the third Saturday of each month from 9 – 12noon at the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way.

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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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Proposed Telstra Mobile Network Tower For Wamboin And Bywong

by John Van Der Straaten and Ned Noel

After the brief Wamboin Community Association General Meeting on 20th September, a Telstra team led by Rob Cusack, Telstra Program Delivery, addressed those present. Rob took numerous questions and comments over at least an hour from the audience of 40+ residents of Wamboin and Bywong. He was assisted by Liz Easton of Aurecon (town planner), and two local Telstra Customer & Commercial Service representatives, Dawn Goodburn and Kelly Lolesio.

The proposed site is on the property at 194 Denley Drive, Wamboin. Rob explained that this site is now Telstra's preferred site because it best meets the variety of appropriate criteria, including coverage, a landholder willing to offer the site, environmental considerations and access for construction and maintenance.

The tower receives and transmits wirelessly to residents' phones and other devices. It simultaneously communicates with the broader Telstra network, probably through microwave to the tower at Goorooyaroo, nearer to Sutton.

Rob said that once Telstra and the landholder had negotiated a lease for the proposed site, Telstra decided to present the initial proposal to Wamboin and Bywong residents at the community meeting. On about September 28 the initial development application has been submitted to Palerang Council. The DA process usually takes at least three months. Community reaction to the DA is invited. After this process, if and when the possibly revised DA is approved by Council, construction of the operational tower usually takes about six weeks.

The audience's questions covered a wide range of concerns, including the coverage to be expected, the levels of radiation to be expected, the community consultation opportunities, the reasons for not proceeding at the Poppet Road and Milpost Hill sites, the sorts of modelling that were carried out and the expected life of the proposed tower.

All of the photos, charts and maps about the proposed tower, appearing on the following five pages, were created by Telstra and supplied by Telstra to the Whisper for the purpose of providing information to Bywong and Wamboin residents. The superior supplied versions, in colour, are available in the online version of the Whisper at

www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

In the process of the presentation and supplying information to the Whisper, Telstra asked that the following points be made:

- The demand from our customers for Telstra mobile services is approximately doubling every calendar year
- This customer demand is led by a growing appetite for smart phones and wireless broadband devices
- Existing network base stations can cater for a finite amount of mobile traffic
- The exponential increase in demand for this finite capacity is creating the need for additional infrastructure
- This is particularly evident in areas such as Wamboin and Bywong where existing coverage levels were low
- A new base station is required to meet this growing customer demand for mobile services in Wamboin and Bywong
- Telstra has considered a large number of potential site locations in the Wamboin and Bywong taking into account technical, design, town planning and ownership constraints
- The only suitable location is considered to be at 194 Denley Drive, Wamboin
- This location offers a number of favourable site conditions including existing mature vegetation that will visually screen much of the facility and sufficient elevation for the technical requirements of the equipment to be satisfied.
- The maximum level of radio signal (EME) emitted by the site will be a small fraction of the permissible levels. Predicted levels are 0.11% of the Australian Standard which is 909 times less than permissible levels.
- Telstra met with members of the Wamboin and Bywong communities at the Wamboin Community Association meeting on Tuesday 20th September.
- Telstra plans to submit the Development Application for this project on Tuesday 27th September.
- Community members are encouraged to make written submissions to Council during the advertising period for the proposal. Dates for this period will be announced by Palerang Council in due course.
- Those interested in obtaining additional information regarding the proposal are invited to contact:

Liz Easton | Environmental Planner | Aurecon

Ph: +61 2 9465 5414 | Fax: +61 2 9465 5598 | Mob: +61 406 096 756

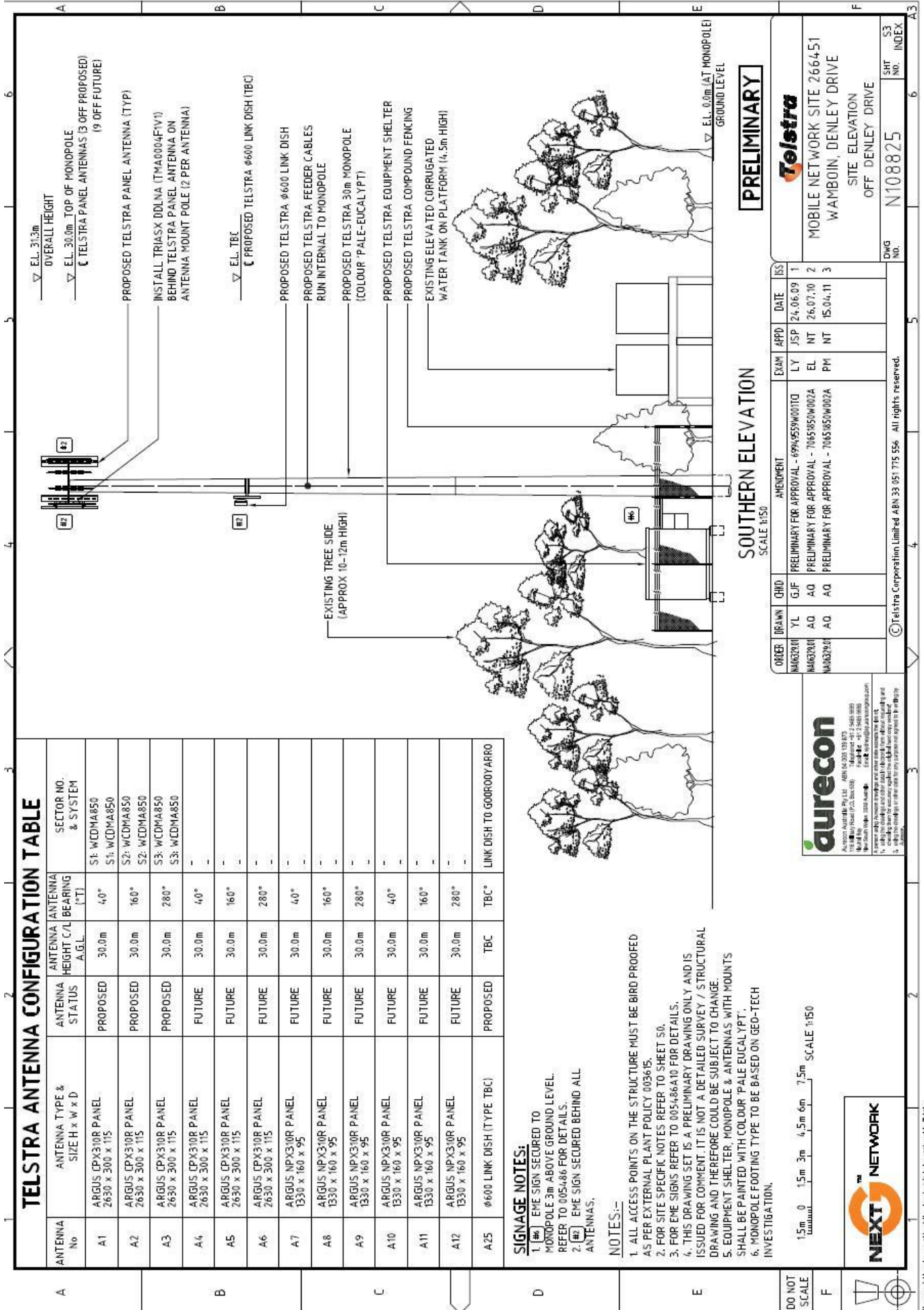
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Sources of information on general issues regarding mobile base station deployment and public health and safety include:
<http://www.who.int/en/> www.emfexplained.info <http://www.arpsa.gov.au/pubs/eme/fact9.pdf>

**Actual "Before" and Projected "After" Views
of the Proposed Telstra Mobile Phone Tower**
(Images created and supplied by Telstra)





TELSTRA ANTENNA CONFIGURATION TABLE

ANTENNA No	ANTENNA TYPE & SIZE H x W x D	ANTENNA STATUS	ANTENNA HEIGHT C/L BEARING A.G.L. (°T)	SECTOR NO. & SYSTEM
A1	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	PROPOSED	30.0m 40°	S1: WCDMA850
A2	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	PROPOSED	30.0m 160°	S2: WCDMA850
A3	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	PROPOSED	30.0m 280°	S3: WCDMA850
A4	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	FUTURE	30.0m 40°	-
A5	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	FUTURE	30.0m 160°	-
A6	ARGUS CPX310R PANEL 2630 x 300 x 115	FUTURE	30.0m 280°	-
A7	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 40°	-
A8	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 160°	-
A9	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 280°	-
A10	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 40°	-
A11	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 160°	-
A12	ARGUS NPX310R PANEL 1330 x 160 x 95	FUTURE	30.0m 280°	-
A25	Ø600 LINK DISH (TYPE TBC)	PROPOSED	TBC	LINK DISH TO GOORBOOYARRO

SIGNAGE NOTES:

- (#1) EME SIGN SECURED TO MONOPOLE 3m ABOVE GROUND LEVEL. REFER TO 0054866 FOR DETAILS.
- (#2) EME SIGN SECURED BEHIND ALL ANTENNAS.

NOTES:-

- ALL ACCESS POINTS ON THE STRUCTURE MUST BE BIRD PROOFED AS PER INTERNAL PLANT POLICY 003615.
- FOR SITE SPECIFIC NOTES REFER TO SHEET S0.
- FOR EME SIGNS REFER TO 005486410 FOR DETAILS.
- THIS DRAWING SET IS A PRELIMINARY DRAWING ONLY AND IS ISSUED FOR COMMENT. IT IS NOT A DETAILED SURVEY / STRUCTURAL DRAWING AND THEREFORE COULD BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
- EQUIPMENT SHELTER, MONOPOLE & ANTENNAS WITH MOUNTS SHALL BE PAINTED WITH COLOUR 'PALE EUCALYPT'.
- MONOPOLE FOOTING TYPE TO BE BASED ON GEO-TECH INVESTIGATION.

SOUTHERN ELEVATION

SCALE 1:50

PRELIMINARY

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MAR03/01	AQ	AQ	PRELIMINARY FOR APPROVAL - 7065850W002A	EL	NT	26.07.10	2
MAR03/01	AQ	AQ	PRELIMINARY FOR APPROVAL - 7065850W002A	PM	NT	15.04.11	3

DWG NO.	N108825	SRT NO.	S3	INDEX
MOBILE NETWORK SITE 266451 WAMBOIN, DENLEY DRIVE				
SITE ELEVATION OFF DENLEY DRIVE				

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NEXT NETWORK



The materials and contents of this document to be held confidential by Telstra



This picture shows the location of existing Telstra mobile phone towers that already service areas in and around Wamboin and Bywong, and the proposed new site on Denley Drive. The pentagon (enlarged on the next page) denotes the general area where existing coverage would be increased by coverage from the proposed new tower. For the superior colour version, see the Whisper at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

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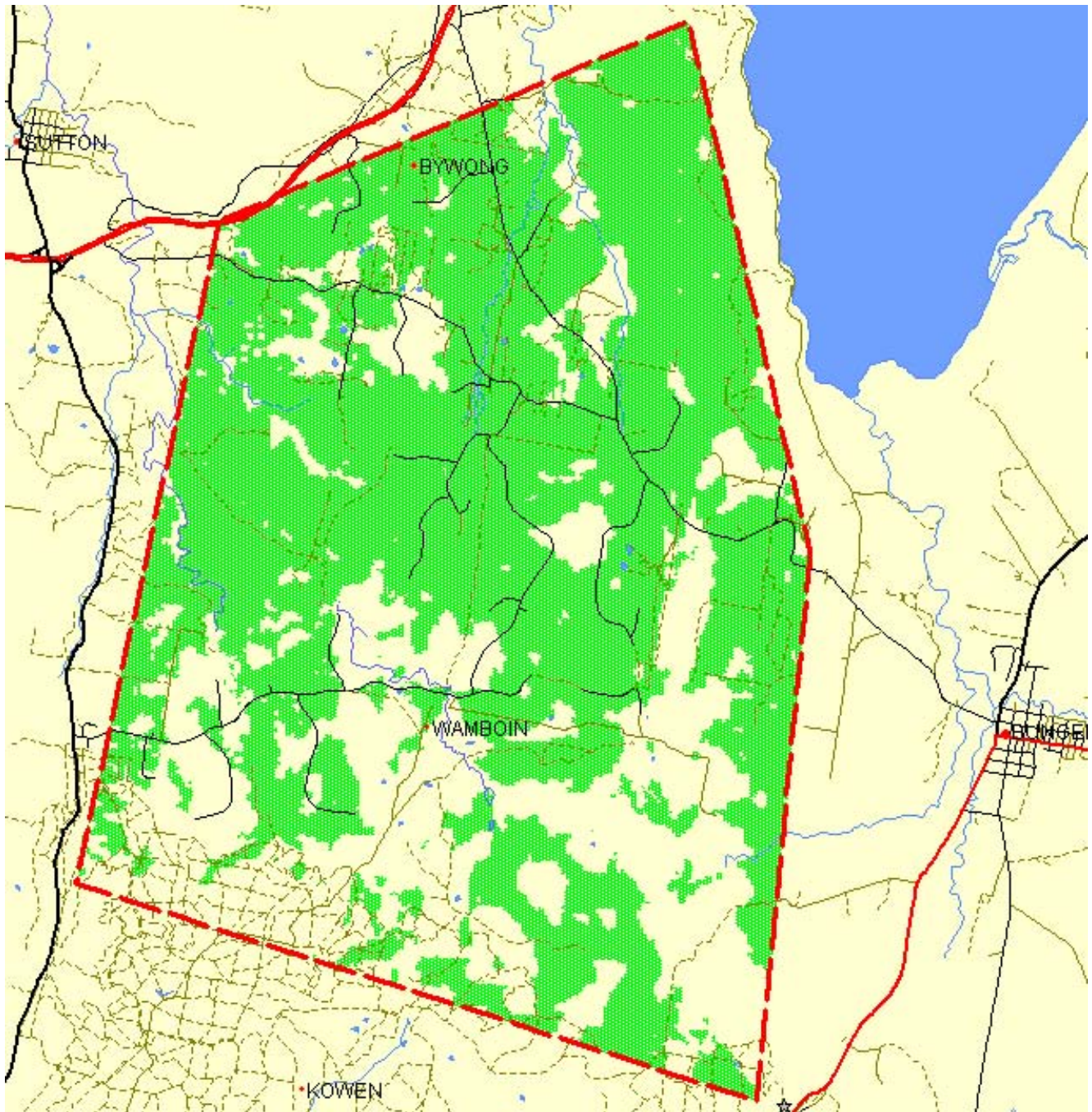
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About this drawing Telstra explains: "The plot depicts new coverage from the proposed facility only. The green (darker) shaded areas are areas that are predicted to obtain high quality in building coverage from the new facility. There may be coverage improvements of a lesser degree to areas that are not shaded but it is not possible to further qualify this in this format." The pentagon (also indicated on the previous page) denotes the general area where existing coverage would be increased by coverage from the proposed new tower. For the superior colour version, see the Whisper at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Coillet

An Occasional Piece

It was one of those sublime still sunny mornings – I’m sure you know the kind. The sky is that magnificent blue, clarity and colour everywhere; the birds are singing as they go about their business and the two dachshunds are flat on their backs with feet in the air soaking up the sun. As for me, cup of tea in hand, I was doing a wee bit of daydreaming out the window. Jolted by nothing much my eyes fell on a small sculpted kookaburra on the windowsill. It was my mother’s. It sat on the window ledge in her kitchen. Monetarily, it probably didn’t cost much to purchase. More importantly it was a piece she treasured that I have always loved. Mum died in 2003. From that time on the little kookaburra that she got so much enjoyment from has been with me.

I like kookaburras. They’re feisty, funny and raucous just like the two dachshunds presently off with the pixies at my feet. I’ve painted kookaburras – some years ago now. They may not be up to the standard of our far more gifted artists in Wamboin but I reckon my kookaburras bear some semblance to the real thing. I also wrote a poem about a Kooka, which at the risk of embarrassing myself I thought I’d share with you. Scoff if you like. Better still; see if you can match it.



Mum’s kookaburra



Portion of my painting

The Kookaburra

By me - at State School - Grade 6 (some nearly 50 years ago!)

A kookaburra in a tree
Laughing merrily as could be
Suddenly spied on looking down
Some worms cha-cha-ing on the ground.

Aha he thought unto himself
A meal at last I’ve found myself
And spreading out his feathery wings
Prepared to catch the poor little things.

But in his haste he slipped and fell
Down with a thud into the dell.
The worms continued to dance about
For the poor old kooka had been knocked out.

THE END!

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WAMBOIN GOLF

by John Whitney

Wamboin Icons sponsor the annual silver jubilee 'Spring' trophy

Lofty and Joan Mason; pioneer settlers of Wamboin and foundation members of the popular Wamboin Golf Club hosted the 25th Spring Trophy. The stableford or stapleford event (according to Lofty) was played in fresh conditions on Sunday 4 September.

The competition was well supported with approximately 30 players vying for an assortment of prizes. Joan ably assisted by the Ladies Lounge fraternity prepared sumptuous snacks in the revamped kitchen of the Wamboin Community Hall. The Sunday roast dinner was shelved for another week!

Grinners: The Googly Ball was awarded to Ron Sheppard for the collateral damage caused to golf tee retaining wall as a result of a 'fresh air golf swing'. There was a special mention for Lee Guscott playing her first game; huge celebrations erupted when she hit a ball over the dam rather than in it! Legendary Wamboin golf willboursy; Ian Picker who attends annually to ensure he qualifies for new player status received his annual encouragement award. The MC, often going under the pseudonym of Peter Greenwood presented Ian with a 'driving range' voucher of 75 balls. Much to Peter's delight, donations had increased this award from the original voucher of 25 balls. With mathematical dexterity Peter explained this prize had tripled in value. It was ground breaking science and the golf community were in awe of this new Einstein. The Dummy Spit was not awarded; however, by default it was shared by Peter Greenwood and Rob Gorham - habitual offenders.

Winners: John Whitney who played in the 9 hole competition won the longest drive on a hole he did not officially play. He furtively accepted his ball and did his best to remain anonymous for the remainder of the presentations. Other nearest to the pin and longest drive ball winners: Lofty Mason x 2, Joan Mason, Peter Greenwood, Ken Gordon x 2, Larry King and Wamboin golf debutant Shannon Mould. The 9 hole event was won on count back by Larry King, with Ken Gordon 2nd and Len Ivey 3rd all players on 17 points. The 18 hole event was won by Steve Minors with 32 points, Tim Barter 2nd with 38 points and Paul Griffin 3rd on 32 points.

The October competition is the Larry and Libby King affair. The photo shows 18 hole winner Steve Minors receiving his award from Joan Mason.



Kindergarten Orientation - Sutton Primary School

by Leanne Birch

It was wonderful having our prospective new Kindergarten students at school recently, as a part of our Kindergarten orientation program. We also enjoyed the opportunity of meeting and introducing ourselves and school to parents/carers and look forward to meeting you all again in the near future. For those who missed this orientation meeting and are interested in finding out more what our school has to offer we invite you to contact the school on 62303215.

Our Kindergarten Activity mornings that are provided to assist children with their transition to school, will be held next month. During these mornings the children will have the opportunity to work in the Kindergarten room with their Year 5 buddies and the present Kindergarten students.

To coincide with these mornings, parents are invited to join us for some parent information sessions that have been arranged. These will be held in the school library once the children have gone into class. Morning tea will also be served.

Parent Information Sessions:

Tuesday 18th October: How do children learn to read? How to help your child with their reading. Presenter: Mrs Jill Gregory

Wednesday 19th October: Helping your child with their transition to school. Presenter: Mrs Kylie McPhee, School Counsellor

Tuesday 25th October: Understanding how and what your child will be learning in Maths in the early years at school, Presenter: Mrs Leanne Birch

Wednesday 26th October: How do children learn to read? How to help your child with their reading. Presenter: Mrs Jill Gregory

LET'S SHOUT ABOUT THE WHISPER

Memoirs by Lofty Mason.

The first Wamboin Whisper, three pages long, is reproduced on the next three pages. This edition came to fruition from an idea of the Wamboin Community Association and the newly formed section of the Sutton Fire Brigade (Wamboin Area Brigade). It is dated July 81 and was edited by Derek Gough, a resident in Cooper Road. There were 120 copies printed and distributed.

Eight further issues were printed on an as required basis until June 1984. From that date on The Whisper became a monthly newsletter. These 8 issues were printed on a Roneo Duplicator and for those who came in late I will give some details of this method of printing.

The first step was to cut a template on special sheets. These sheets were like fine netting with a waxy coating. Using a typewriter you cut into the waxy covering. You could also draw lines with a special stylus. Any mistakes could be corrected by painting over with a messy purple fluid, which, once dry, could then accept the correction. The template was then fitted to the Roneo Duplicator drum which rotated while forcing ink through the template onto sheets of paper. Very messy but that is how small business did printing in those days. For anyone who doubts this method I have an electric (very upmarket) Roneo Duplicator plus several boxes of templates, inks, correcting and cleaning fluids stored in my shed. Not sure why!

I will shout more about The Whisper in later months.

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No 1

"WAMBOIN WHISPER"

July 81

Dunlop

1. Bushfire Brigade

A meeting of the Wamboin Sub-Committee met at Dave Robertson's house on 17 Jun 81 and the following resulted:

- a. Selection of Saturday 10 Oct as the tentative Wamboin Training Exercise Date to commence at 12 o'clock at the Reserve at end of Canning Close Block 50.
- b. Membership drive to ensure all Wamboin residents are financial members of the Brigade Subscriptions for 81/82 year fall due in Oct (\$15). As the Sutton Brigade have invested some \$6,000 of Brigade funds in the Wamboin area it is only reasonable that all landowners and residents are financial members.
- c. John Laker was appointed to the Wamboin Sub-Committee to look after the interests of landowners in Norton Road/Bingley Way area.
- d. A rationalization of areas of responsibility for Sub-Committee members was carried out. These are now:

Dave Evans	Gallagher Place/Proud Place Blocks 2-10, 35-41
------------	---

Denis Shaw	All blocks of Cooper Pd & Campbell Place Blocks 11-34, N18-N24
------------	--

Barry Beames	Canning Close and Norton Road Blocks N39-N62
--------------	---

Ron Jeffrey	Poppet Road Blocks N25-N38, N63-N82
-------------	--

John Laker	Norton Road and Bingley Way Blocks N83-N107
------------	--

John Finn and Dave Robertson as well as being the Wamboin Deputy Captains will also look after the Merino Vale area for the time being:

- c. A working bee to complete the fire shed in Cooper Rd was held on Sunday 21. Jun 81.

/2. Concert

- 2 -

2. Concert

A family concert is to be held at Sutton Hall towards the end of Oct to raise funds for the Hall extensions. After the outstanding success of the Wamboin Country Players at last years concert Nancye Jeffery has been asked to re-activate this group. Any budding players are asked to contact Nancye for this years auditions.

3. Pony Club

A meeting at Ross Clay's on Friday 12 Jun 81 elected a committee to commence the activities of this club. Those elected were:

Ross Clay	Anne Marnie Fairburn
Alan Brian	Carley Finn (Treas)
Margo Fairburn	Sarah Gough
	Kate Gough (Sec)
	Lane Brian

The club have decided to hold meetings on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. During winter months times for these meetings will be 1.30pm - 3.30pm. The first meeting was a working bee at the temporary ground behind John and Helen Whites on Sunday 28 Jun. Prospective members were invited to attend and to bring along a car trailer or ute, shovels and rakes. This day was devoted to filling holes in the prepared area to make it suitable for the club activities. Any useful items which could be used in construction of jumps, etc, such as timber, tyres, 44 gal drums, ice cream containers, poly conduit should also be brought along to the area at future meetings.

4. Farewells

The Whites and the Veals will be leaving the Wamboin area in the near future. To wish them well it has been suggested that a bring your own B-B-Q be held at the Fire shed in Cooper Rd on Sunday 16 Aug commencing at 12 o'clock.

5. Letter Boxes

There have been reports of interference with mail in letter boxes and damage to letter boxes in the area. Could parents remind their children that letter boxes should not be interfered with in any way and the seriousness of this matter.

6. Bus Service

Some tentative enquiries have been made concerning a bus service for the area. At this stage it would not be feasible to establish a service, however, it has been advised that a service is available from Bushland Tours who operate

/an ACT

- 3 -

an ACT school bus service for those wishing to avail themselves of this service. Details are:

Departs ACT Border 7.38am

Arrive Canberra City PO 8.50am

Departs Canberra City PO 3.10pm

Arrive ACT Border 4.45pm

Cost \$2.90 each way

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however, from 486095

7. Community Association

The next meeting of the Wamboin Community Association is planned for Wed 22 Jul. Any resident who has any points which need to be raised could they contact either Ray Pennay or John Finn.

8. Local Census

Derek Gough still awaits replies for a number of local census forms which were distributed some time ago.

9. Erection of Letter Box

To ease the effort involved in distributing notices of local interest all residents should have a letter box at either Gallagher Cres, Cooper Rd or Poppet Rd.

10. Wamboin Whisper

This first issue of the Wamboin Whisper is designed to notify residents of aspects of local interest. Residents wishing to avail themselves of this newsletter to advise others of activities, items for sale, hire of equipment, etc, should contact Derek Gough who has kindly offered to be the Editor of this publication.

SUPPORT ALZHEIMER'S AUSTRALIA'S "FIGHT DEMENTIA" CAMPAIGN

My Dad was diagnosed with vascular dementia 7 years ago. He is now 74. My Mum looks after him 24/7. They recently visited us at our new home in Wamboin. I suspect it may be Dad's first and last visit, but at least I now have that happy memory forever.

With 269,000 Australians diagnosed with dementia being cared for by 1.2 million other Australians, chances are we all know someone, either family or friend, affected by this insidious disease.

Please join Alzheimer's Australia's "Fight Dementia" campaign, including the Fight Dementia March on Parliament House in support of the case to have dementia restored as a national health priority in the 2012/13 Federal Budget.

When: 13th October 2011, registration opens 9:30am.

Where: Parliament House – Canberra. Meet at the back of Old Parliament House in Queen Victoria Terrace.

10:30am - March to Parliament House, followed by speeches from Ita Buttrose AO OBE, President Alzheimer's Australia and The Hon Mark Butler, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing. Stay for a BBQ lunch from 11:30.

The Alzheimer's Australia website, www.alzheimers.org.au, is a very comprehensive source of information on all aspects of dementia. For those without internet access, there is the National Dementia Helpline on 1800 100 500.

-- Jenny Warren, jennywarren63@yahoo.com

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Spring is sprung, the grass is riz... I wonder where dem Greenways iz?

by Nora Stewart, GROW Coordinator, www.BywongCommunity.org.au/about/greenways-renewal



The 40 or so people who walked to Millpost Hill in Wamboin on an unusually hot, windy Sunday morning are no longer in any doubt where "dem Greenways iz". The plan was for a short walk starting from Majors Close, Wamboin to head towards Millpost Hill (about 2.6km return) and for people doing a longer walk (about 10 km return) to meet up with the shorter walk on Millpost Hill. We had locals from both Wamboin and Bywong and a few ring-ins from Canberra and far away as Sydney, and we all enjoyed a small feast at the hilltop on our arrival.

Nature highlights along the way included seeing an echidna (scurrying to hide in the base of a dead tree), a shingleback lizard (ditto the scurrying) and many different birds including the White-throated Treecreeper, Striated Thornbill, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Striated Pardalote, White-eared Honeyeater, Red Wattlebird, and the Grey Shrike-thrush. There is a full listing of the 19 different birds spotted by our expert David McDonald, on the Bywong Community website (see address below), which includes photos and audio of each bird calls.

There was one lowlight, and that was meeting two large dirt motorbikes roaring along the Greenways from Harriot Road towards the Bywong Hall (I later saw them leaving the area in a ute with a Canberra registration). A number of residents had reported this to me earlier and there is some work to do on all the Greenways to ensure that motorised vehicles are limited to driveway access points only.

DOING THESE WALKS - If you would like to do these walks, **DOWNLOAD A MAP** from our website (see at the end), the longer trip from Bywong Hall followed Tracks 1 from the Hall heading South then East, then Track 3 heading South and Track 4 heading West (the latter leads to Millpost Hill). The shorter walk started from the end of Majors Close and followed Track 3 heading North, turn left at the pink tape marker and walk up Track 4 to Millpost Hill.

WHO'S WHO: This walk was organised by the Greenways Renewal Working Group (GROW), who are interested in expanding the existing Greenways network and are connected with the Bywong Community Association (Inc). The Greenways are legally owned and managed by the Palerang Council, assisted by the Greenways Management Committee, whose role it is to maintain and manage the existing Greenways. GROW liaises with the Palerang Council and their staff and committees to ensure coordination of effort.

INTERESTED? If you would like to be involved in helping to maintain, promote or expand the Greenways network, you can contact me, Nora Stewart on 62303305 or you can join our FaceBook page - *Greenways Bywong and Wamboin*.

THANKS to all in our GROW group and others who helped to make this walk a success - Mel Hillery for leading, Samantha Vine, Martin Largey, David McDonald and to Ulli Brunnschweiler for the lovely photos



Nature Notes - September 2011

by Jo Walker

Our piece of the countryside has had an interesting start to spring. The month began with pleasant warm days, leading up to the hottest September day for 30 years (27 degrees) – followed by a cold windy day including hail showers. But who would want boring predictable weather, anyway!

The local wattles have put on a magnificent display this year, especially the Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) and Red-stem Wattle (*A. rubida*) which have brightened up the hillsides with large patches of yellow.

The little white and maroon flowers of Early Nancy (*Wurbea dioica*) are blooming, but not in the abundance of last year. Most of our local plants seem to have good and not so good years when it comes to flowering, depending on the previous year's temperatures, rainfall and probably several additional factors. The buttercups (*Ranunculus lappaceus*) are having a good year though, with a scattering of golden flowers already appearing amongst the grasses.

An interesting find on my place was another *Comesperma volubile* climbing through a shrub at the top of the hill and in full flower. This is the second one to appear here, the seed probably brought in by birds. It is a very delicate creeper, but can produce a tangle of slender stems as it clambers through the foliage of other plants. Right now, it is covered in small bright blue flowers. The closely related Heath Milkwort, *C. ericinum*, is also sometimes found in this area (and there is a substantial population at Brooks Hill Reserve near Bungendore). It is a rather rigid, upright small shrub with striking pinkish mauve flowers.

Another interesting discovery was a patch of Nodding Greenhood Orchids (*Pterostylis nutans*) growing on a steep and somewhat shaded hillside at Bywong. This species flowers from winter into spring, bearing green and whitish flowers with sometimes a tinge of rusty brown on the tips of the petals.

The birds are all busy nesting or rearing young at present. A pair of Spotted Pardalotes have built a nest in the vertical creek bank just above my dam. These small birds, only about 10 cm tall, are very colourful. The male has black wings, back and crown densely covered in distinct white spots. These, with a bright yellow throat and reddish rump, make it an attractive and unmistakable little bird. The female lacks the yellow throat, but is otherwise just as colourful. These small birds build a long narrow tunnel into steep banks and construct a nest in the chamber they excavate at the end of the tunnel. The related Eastern Striated Pardalotes usually nest in a hollow tree branch.

Lizards are getting active again, too, often pausing in their journeys to soak up some warmth on a sunny stretch of road. I moved a Bearded Dragon off a local road a few days ago, but most of the death-defying lizards are slow-moving Shinglebacks. The local Shinglebacks are a uniform blackish colour, but further west and into South Australia (where I had a recent trip) they are mottled with brown and cream scales.

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

As I look back on the past month it is obvious that things are gathering pace around here. My garden has thrown off its stark, empty greyness and is becoming softer and prettier with each new day. There are viburnums with white flowers, and a mantle of pink blossom spreading over a splendid crab apple. The paths are bordered with purple blue rosemaries and fresh green leaves cover shrubs and trees; the last daffodils have faded along with the wattles. I'm busy planting, spreading compost, pulling weeds for the chooks and planning to mulch. I've even retrieved the old worm farm, long forgotten under years of fallen leaves. It's all go in the garden, but I'd love some real rain!

The first market for the new season has come and gone. As usual I came home with armfuls of plants only to discover that I'd bought a fraction of what I really needed. There are still empty spaces in the garden, and the next market is weeks away. After much deliberation, we've finally had our old concrete tank resealed and re roofed. We'd been reluctant during the drought to have any precious remaining water pumped out just in case we needed it. Now, according to the tank man we only need ten inches of rain to fill it!

Over the years I'd thought that the ability to brag about rainfall, or bemoan the lack thereof invariably stirred a conversation in Wamboin, but lately I've been hearing otherwise. Comments about rain seem to have dried up. Now we're swapping horror stories about the exploits of *Cacatua Galerita*. In my book of Australian birds, this magnificent specimen's call is variously described as "raucous, discordant, deafening, shrieking", as it "squabbles" and engages in "destructive" behaviour. This seems to describe perfectly the sulphur crested cockatoos found around here, although I could add "mindless, mischievous, cunning, cheeky and ungrateful". They snip off "hosts of golden daffodils", cut swathes through the best blossoms and rip up succulents that flourished in difficult spots throughout the driest years. If ever I admire a flower or a pot of colourful pansies that I've grown, I know that it'll be the kiss of death. Next morning there will be an empty pot or garden bed and scattered petals, torn and shrivelled. It's like being punished for false pride! And if they leave the flower beds alone, they'll shred tree trunks, peel off bark strips, slice through small branches and methodically tip prune while screeching to each other in the coarsest tones using language that would make a sailor blush. I think they're excellent mimics!! These cockatoos cut through TV cables, chew wooden window frames, and even unclip the lids and open plastic rubbish bins. Working in pairs they discovered how to use the automatic chook feeder ahead of our chooks. And while *Cacatua Galerita* is wreaking havoc in our backyards, its close black cousin, *Calyptorhynchus funereus*, is mournfully advertising rain that doesn't come in an attempt to divert our attention from the pines and hakeas it, in turn, is demolishing.

Living in Wamboin, close to nature, is a wondrous thing, but it has given me, from a comfortable distance, an inkling of the hardships the early settlers faced trying to eke out a living from this land. Today we might swap cockatoo stories and curse, but we also laugh.....it's not a matter of life or death. I wouldn't live anywhere else.....but cockatoos aside, I could still do with a little more rain!

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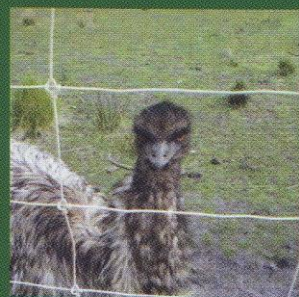


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