

The Whisper

February 2012 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 March 2102 issue the deadline is Sunday, 26 February 2012, 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	Contact	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 3030	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
Jordan Brown	babysitting	0414-907-921			

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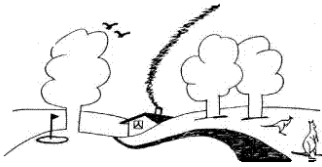
Ross Hincksman is an award winning sales agent with over 12 years experience with two major franchises. Ross is excited about opening his very own First National franchise. "It is our mission to provide good old fashioned service with the latest technology & marketing techniques." If you are driving through Sutton, call in and say hello.



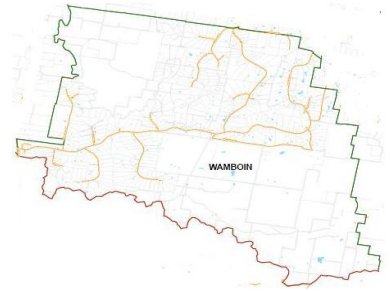
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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Community Hall Recycling Station — Based on reports I receive at Council, the recycling station at the Wamboin Community Hall is one of the best maintained in the shire. It may come as a surprise to some to discover that this is not because of efforts by Council but due to a small number of dedicated people within our community who actually take the time to remove non-recyclable material from these bins, to collapse cardboard boxes so that they don't take up an excessive amount of space, and to generally keep the bin area tidy. This is a big part of the reason why our recycling station continues to operate, while others have become filthy dumping grounds and have had to be removed.

It is important that everyone in the community take responsibility for the waste they generate. We currently have free access to a tip (several actually), in addition to the convenience of the recycling station at the Community Hall. It should be clear to all, however, that the station at the Community Hall is for **RECYCLABLE ITEMS ONLY, AS DEFINED BY THE NOTICE AT THE SITE.**

Everyone should be aware that, if contamination (i.e. any non-recyclable item) is discovered in any of the bins as they are being emptied, the whole load is contaminated and must be taken to landfill, defeating the entire purpose of recycling and undermining the efforts of our community in this regard.

Some things that periodically find their way into these recycling bins, like general household waste and soiled nappies, are obviously not recyclable and demonstrate a complete lack of consideration on the part of a small number of individuals. Even our most dedicated community members have trouble fishing some of these items out of bins.

Other items are perhaps not so obviously non-recyclable. Plastic bags, even if they are neatly tied and contain only recyclable materials, are not recyclable and constitute contamination. Similarly, reusable household items, wooden shelving, children's toys etc., while **REUSABLE**, are **NOT RECYCLABLE**. These items should be taken to the 'revolve' area at one of the Council tips, not left at a recycling station. If left at a recycling station, they constitute contamination (see note above).

Another example of potential misuse occurred recently when someone turned up with a trailer load of recyclables—they appeared to be genuine recyclables, but the load would have filled most of the bins immediately. The Community Hall recycling station is intended for 'casual use' by local residents. If you're doing a spring clean, or generating large amounts of rubbish, think about other users and take your load directly to the recycling bins at the tip.

Cardboard boxes cause a special problem. Cardboard is certainly recyclable, but a cardboard box is mostly empty space. When leaving cardboard boxes at the recycling station, please remove any foam packaging (it's not recyclable) and flatten the boxes. If you can't do this, please consider other users and take your load directly to the tip.

If you're in doubt as to whether something is recyclable or not, please take the time to read the comprehensive description of recyclable items that is displayed on the notice at the recycling station, and do the right thing—take anything that's not listed there directly to the tip.

Telstra Mobile Phone Tower — Telstra's DA was approved on 11 January, and works have commenced on the construction of the new mobile phone tower (on Denley Drive) to provide improved service throughout the Wamboin and Bywong areas. Anyone who missed the details that were provided in October's Whisper can find them on the WCA website, in the News & Events section.

Local History — I've had a number of enquiries over the past couple of years from people interested in the early history of the Wamboin area. Following Lofty's series of articles shouting about the Whisper, and in conjunction with our endeavour to digitise old editions of The Whisper, we have started to formally compile the details that have been collected to date. Our initial efforts simply amount to reproducing a series of articles prepared by our illustrious Whisper editor, Ned, back in 1997, so for the time being, you can find this information in The Whisper section of the WCA website, under Feature Extracts>Local History. As we work through and augment the material we have, we will update this section of the website so, if you're interested, keep an eye on our progress. If you have anything that you think might be of interest, please let Ned, our history coordinator Jenny Richards (Jenny.Richards@wamboincommunity.asn.au) or me know.

Curry Recipes — Keep those curry recipes coming in to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au. We've got two now!

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.

On behalf of the WCA, I would like to wish all readers the very best for the festive season.

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


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

by Robyn Robertson

2011 rainfall ... 694.25mm
Jan rainfall to 29/1 ... 22.75mm
Average Feb rainfall ... 56.8mm
Wettest Feb ... 170.75mm in 2010
Wettest Feb day ... 49.5mm on 14/2/10
Coldest Feb day ... 15C on 12/2/09

(yearly average ... 698.9mm)
(Jan 2011 ... 90.5mm)
(Feb 2011 ... 123.75mm)
Driest Feb ... 1mm in 1986
Hottest Feb day ... 37C x 6 times
Coldest Feb night ... 5C on 17/2/98

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Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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



Clean Up Australia Day. We are still cleaning up! A bit of a drag, but doesn't it look great when we've finished! And we find people greatly appreciate the good fellowship generated during the day.

Clean-up time is Sunday morning 4th March, and we're hoping for an even better turn-out than last year, when we picked up record amounts of rubbish. It's no comfort to believe that the rubbish is not ours, but unfortunately it gets dropped where we live. So swallow your indignation and join in on the day. Those who turn out to help will share a great spirit of community pride with those working beside them. We find that groups of family and neighbours working together do a great job.

Volunteers can register for CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA by going to the web site <http://www.cleanup.org.au/join>. Search on Palerang and then select the site at which you prefer to assist. For Bywong, both Macs Reef Road and Bungendore Road are registered. Alternatively, volunteers can register with the site supervisor on the day. Community supervisors will be Darryl Burke for Macs Reef Road, and Merle Ketley and Lyn Cooper on Bungendore Road.

Car Boot Sale. Preparations are well advanced for the 2012 Bywong Car Boot Sale, scheduled for 25 March. This has now become a major annual event in the region, and the Community looks forward to seeing even more locals enjoying this free and easy day out. Or even turning a profit by taking a spot (only \$15) and selling off their surplus junk. People selling can set up from 7 am on the day, and the great buying public can roll up from 9am. More details elsewhere in this issue and in next month's edition.

Next meeting. The Community's next meeting is on 13 February at 7.30 pm in Bywong Hall in Birriwa Road (off Macs Reef Road). All residents are welcome to attend.

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Bywong Community Association presents the 2012 Car-Boot Sale on Sunday March 25

**7.30-1pm, Birriwa Road Bywong - \$15.00 per site - Support the Wamboin Bush Fire Brigade
by Pauline Chambers**

This authentic Annual Car Boot Sale is a local institution. So fill up your Car, Trailer, Ute or truck and bring it along. Buy. Sell. Trade, and have a great day out as well. Everything sells, from clothes, to cosmetics, small electrical items, tools, garden stuff. Furniture and Bric-a-Brac. So here's a few tips that may help you get rid of those unwanted things that take up space in your shed, your garage and your home. Its Time to De-clutter!

The idea is to sell everything, take nothing home, and make some good money to buy what you want today. Expect to bargain, that's part of the fun of buying and selling. So price to sell and be prepared to reduce the price as the Car Boot Sales come to the climax with the Giant Raffle Draw at 1pm.

Clothes. Jeans and designer items do the best as do children's clothes. However if you want to get the best price possible, wash & iron them and try and get them onto a clothes rack.

Perfumes & Cosmetics. Unwanted presents such as shower gels, moisturisers, perfumes sell well. However it is worth presenting them in a nice basket or tidy display.

Small electrical items also sell well. Be sure to check the items are working and if possible show them working to potential buyers. However if you can't, sell them as "sold as seen" and drop the price.

CD's PC games, DVD's and records. Most sellers sell their old ones for a couple of \$ or less. Don't sell copied ones...its illegal.

Collectables. There will always be potential buyers for collectables at car boot sales, especially dealers. Collectable items can range from \$1 to \$100. be sure you know the value of your item. If you are unsure what an item is worth then check out similar items on eBay or Google them. If you do bring valuable items, put them where you can keep an eye on them.

Jewellery & watches. Hand made. A top seller, though try and group them according. Junk jewellery is miscellaneous stuff, beads bracelets etc that have no real value. Put them in a box or a tin for sellers to rummage through. Costume jewellery, the better stuff, period pieces with non precious metals and stones, display a bit better, e.g. in boxes. However fine jewellery-check items for hallmarks will signify gold or silver, these will sell for much more. Display separately and carefully.

Musical instruments. Guitars, flutes, recorders keyboards, they are all sold at the car Boot Sale. There are always enthusiasts, and first timers looking for musical instruments. However display them well, pack them carefully and expect people to pick them up and try and play them.

Farm Tools & Garden tools and all garden stuff. Always a winner. Check that any tools are working and fit for purpose. Some antiques tools are worth quite a bit, so check the value out first. Decent plant pots, plants, shade cloth sell very quickly.

Furniture & Bric-a-Brac and Books.

Tables & chairs, cupboards and even the kitchen sink all will sell. People love to find a special piece of furniture or knick-knack that they can "do up" for the home, kids bedroom or veranda. So don't worry if the piece is not perfect. Bring it along. People are always roaming for that "special book" so put them all out and watch them sell.

Toys. Kids books. Get the kids involved and get them to sort out & sell their old unwanted toys for cash so they can buy themselves some new ones. This is a great incentive for them to earn some pocket money and clear up at the same time.

What to do & what to bring:

- Plenty of small change in a "bum bag"
- Bags and wrap
- Price things clearly or price each box to sell, it's a waste of time taking it home again.
- Consider giving things away right at the end or sell for a gold coin, rather than packing them up and taking them home again.
- Come early 7.30 and set up to sell.
- Bring the family and get everyone involved in the Bywong Boot Sale.
- Bring a clothes-rail, display boxes, tables and chairs if required.
- Bring a "dust sheet" or plastic sheet to lay your things out cleanly and tidily.
- Bring some shade, hat, sunscreen and water with you.
- There will be plenty to eat and drink. A BBQ from the Wamboin Fire Brigade, real coffee from a local Barista, cold drinks, cakes and biscuits from the Pony Club.

Last but not least, if you have some good quality saleable "stuff" you want to get rid of but can't be bothered to do it yourself, then consider giving it to a charity to sell it. For example Wonderful Woman of Wamboin, View Club who raise money for local charities.

Remember, "One person's trash is another's treasure". For further details. Contact Greg on 6236 9841 A/H

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

Dene Evans of Gallagher Crescent has been delivering about 20 Whispers to Gallagher Crescent and adjacent areas at the west end of Norton Road between Sutton Road and Campbell Place for more than a decade. I want to thank him for carrying out this task for so many months over so many years.

Fay Kelly of Proud Place has generously offered to take a turn delivering these Whispers.

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

Fay Kelly	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 Nwngtn & Harriott	30
Sandra Favre	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn & 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

TOTAL 1,246

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Wamboin Flickr Site

by Alan Nicol

http://www.flickr.com/groups/wamboin_bywong/

A place for the residents of Wamboin and Bywong to share photographs of the landscape, nature, portraits, pets, artistic experiments, or anything else you've documented photographically. (not necessarily of Wamboin/Bywong)

Hopefully, it will bring together people in the local area who know the joy of photography, from novices to experts, and allow for the sharing of images, conversation, friendship, ideas and knowledge.

One of our three members, just won the Canberra Times Summer Photo Competition.

Please consider making the site better by adding any photos you would like to share.

For more information phone me on 6236 9566 or email to carlan9@bigpond.net.au



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QUESTIONS FROM THE IGNORANT

We moved to Wamboin from the city (Sydney via Canberra) last September. Every day we've seen, smelled or heard something new in this gorgeous landscape. And every day we have a new question about the animals, vegetables and minerals of the area. So we're seeking advice from experienced Wamboin & Bywong residents.

We were welcomed by the cotton-ball Manchurian Pear in full bloom. We've been treated to the antics of cheeky baby Magpies and inquisitive Superb Fairy Wrens. We can waste a lot of time watching the Nankeen Kestrel hovering and diving, then feeding its family. A Brown Tree-Creeper and a microbat often spend the night on the same beam in our carport. We've photographed numerous species of other birds, fungi (including some very colourful and very poisonous fly agaric mushrooms), lizards, wildflowers and what I firmly attest are the world's largest spiders. We've stood beside an echidna as it bathed amongst the bulrushes in a small pond, half submerged with its snout sticking out of the water like a snorkel, flicking water through its spines with its back legs. And of course, there are the kangaroos.....

All these things we recognise and a few we've lived with in the city. But.....

- Should we be concerned about bulrushes which are spreading across the dam? Or will they reduce evaporation and do no harm? Has anyone made a palatable bulrush bread?
- What are the small white eggs/cocoons which appeared overnight in early December, attached to grass stems and shrubs, which have now 'hatched', leaving a remnant adhesive trace?
- Are the bronze shiny beetles, prolific in December, friend or foe? What are they?
- Whilst it has already flowered and died back as we've been focusing on manual removal of other target species such as fleabane and gorse, should we be all that concerned about Centaury when it appears next year?
- Does anyone have recipes for jam or jelly or other uses for ripe fruit of the Kangaroo Apple (believe it's Solanum aviculare)?
- What's the best source (book or website) for identification and other information on aquatic plants, to enable us to identify potential weed species in our dams?
- What's the best way to stop a male Superb Fairy Wren attacking his reflection in the windows from dawn 'til dusk? This started at precisely 7am on October 17 and continued all day, every day, sometimes joined by the female, until they adopted a reduced attack schedule in mid December. This initially provided hours of entertainment for our house-bound cat, but even she got bored after a couple of weeks. We tried early Christmas decorations, large pictures of eagles, closing the blinds – nothing would stop him. I guess all that exercise and having four babies finally wore him out because just before Christmas he lost all his tail feathers, earning him the nickname Stumpy. Fortunately, his tail plumage has grown back over the last four weeks and he, his mate and four youngsters are dutifully keeping my roses aphid free.

We are bound to have more questions as the seasons of our first few years roll around. If you have time, an email or phone call with some answers or suggestions would be greatly appreciated!

- Jenny Warren & Peter Reid, Ph: 6236 9560, E: Jennywarren63@yahoo.com

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The Australian Brush-turkey in Bywong: who'd have thunk it?

By David McDonald & John-Pierre Favre

Many readers will be familiar with the Australian Brush-turkey *Alectura lathami* (also known as the Scrub Turkey) from travels in places along the Queensland and northern/ mid- NSW coasts and coastal ranges with dense, wet vegetation, particularly rainforest. It is a large bird, about the size of a chook, though about half the size of the turkeys of North American origin that people eat at Christmas-time, and it is in the same order (though a different family) as those turkeys. As the Birds in Backyards website explains, 'The Australian Brush-turkey has a mainly black body plumage, bare red head, yellow throat wattle (pale blue in northern birds) and laterally flattened tail. The Australian Brush-turkey is not easily confused with any other Australian bird' <http://biby.gaiaresources.com.au/species/Alectura-lathami>.

Its distribution ranges from Cape York to the Hawkesbury River, with rare records from the Illawarra as well. There is also an unconfirmed 1997 report from Monga National Park. It needs habitat with dense understorey. It is essentially a ground-feeding fruit-eater, though it also feeds on insects and seeds that it finds by raking through the leaf litter or by breaking open rotten logs with its large feet, as Birds in Backyards explains.

So you can imagine how surprised Bywong resident John-Pierre Favre was when, in early January this year, a Brush-turkey turned up at his place! John-Pierre wrote to the CanberraBirds email list canberrabirds-subscribe@canberrabirds.org.au: 'We live in Bywong... About two weeks ago a Brush-turkey turned up on our 40 acre lot. He has been seen on various properties since that day. He comes and sleeps way up a gum tree near our house. This morning he was feeding on Black Wattle seeds that are in abundance at the moment. We know little about birds of Australia and would like to know if it is conceivable that Brush-turkeys live in our district. We have put notices via email to ask if he belongs to someone but got no answers. Can anyone give us some idea about this welcome arrival?'

That extremely unexpected report led to a flurry of discussion on the birding email list! John-Pierre provided a photo of the bird to confirm that he had the right species: it looks like no other native bird. John-Pierre referred to it as 'he' but it could well be a female bird as the non-breeding males and females look the same.

CanberraBirds correspondents pointed out that the official ACT bird list discusses the Australian Brush-turkey but treats as unreliable a couple of records of them from the Canberra region in the 1800s and early 1900s. A scholarly article by Tony Howard and Isobel Crawford, however, provided evidence supporting the argument that the bird may have been in our region prior to intensive European settlement as it is likely that our area then had far more tree and ground cover than it does now (Howard, T & Crawford, I 1999, 'The Australian Brush-turkey in the ACT: further discussion', *Canberra Bird Notes*, vol. 24, no. 3, pp. 173-6, <http://cbn.canberrabirds.org.au/>). (continued on next page)



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Subsequently John-Pierre provided more details: ‘The bird was first spotted at Thelma Oberdorf’s place on Newington Road just before Christmas [2011]. He was spotted here for the first time some days later and was also seen at the Bookers’ place on Newington Road, a range of 2 km. He now seems to come to our place for the night and spends the early morning in an old chook yard near our house before disappearing. We don’t feed him as he seems to find enough wattle seeds and other stuff on our land. We’d hate to see him become dependent on us for food. You can approach him within a couple of metres before he quietly backs off.’ Picture Below: **Australian Brush-turkey at Bywong, January 2012 © John-Pierre Favre**

The question then became how did the Brush-turkey come to be at Bywong, and to be hanging around for at least a month (and was still there at the time of writing, the end of January)?

Naturally the first suggestion was that it is an escapee from someone in the local area who keeps unusual birds, though it is an offence to keep, without a permit, native birds taken from the wild. Its relative tameness—recall John-Pierre’s observation of how approachable it is—suggests to some that it is an aviary escapee. On the other hand, anyone who has picnicked in national parks within the Brush-turkeys’ normal range will confirm that they are quite confiding, happy to stroll around picnic areas, feeding, largely ignoring the human picnickers.



So, a totally unexpected addition to the Wamboin/Bywong bird list! John-Pierre had what we hope will not be the final word on the topic: ‘We hope that the many foxes that roam around this area will not get him for the Thanksgiving party’. Either author will welcome any additional information that readers may have about this bird, or about other records of Australian Brush-turkeys in our area.

Such an unusual observation led one of the CanberraBirds correspondents, Geoffrey Dabb, to put pen to paper about this unusual Bywong bird:

<p>Once a jolly tourist Paused at a roadside stop, Up in the State of the great Bunya Tree. Along came a turkey, red-headed native kind, Cocky and bold, and jaunty and free. Up jumped the tourist And stuffed it in his tucker-bag You’ll come a’waltzing matilda with me.</p> <p>Back home in Can-berr-a That tourist had worries now, How would it go, on his bar-beeee? Back into the ute he hopped, Singing to his tucker-bag You’ll come a’waltzing matilda with me.</p>	<p>Off drove the tourist Through rows of hobby farms, Seeking a home for that turk-eeee. And out in alpaca-land By a large wattle-stand, Out of the bag came the re-leas-eeee.</p> <p>And that bird may be heard if you drive by those hobby farms, Who’ll come a’waltzing matilda with me.</p>
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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.

A big new year's welcome to you from all of us here in your local rural fire brigade. I know we may appear to have been harping a little on the subject over the past several months but the big concern this fire season is the threat of serious grass fires. Given the long holiday break and, no doubt, changes in residential property ownership in the past couple of months we, however, see a need to continue to reinforce some key messages in relation to bush and grass fire awareness and safety.

GRASS FIRES

Just in case you were unaware, the pointy end of the bushfire danger period in our area is typically February/ March. The recent rain experienced across many parts of New South Wales including our local region has been welcome – but it's also brought an unwelcome threat for many people. The rain has led to increased grass growth across many areas and as this grass begins to dry out, there's an increased risk of grass fires. Grass fires can be especially dangerous because they can start quickly and spread rapidly, catching people off-guard. They can be very hot and produce large amounts of heat which can kill anyone caught out in the open.

Preparing for grass fires

There are things you can do now to protect yourself from grass fires. The first step is having a Bush Fire Survival Plan. This will help you not only understand the level of risk in your area but also help you and your family prepare for it. Everyone's Bush Fire Survival Plan will be different, so it's important to talk about it with your family and ensure everyone in your house knows what your plan is and where you might go during a fire.

You should also prepare yourself by ensuring you have an Emergency Survival Kit, which you can use or take with you if a fire starts. Things you might want to include are a battery powered radio, a torch, spare batteries, first aid kit, candles, woollen blankets, emergency contact numbers and a bag for valuables. You can then add items like clothing, money, ATM cards and medicines if you need to leave before or during a fire.



Once you've prepared yourself, you should prepare your property. Things to consider include:

- Having well maintained firebreaks mowed, ploughed, slashed or even grazed along fence lines or around your home, shed and storage areas which can slow a fire's spread.
- Have a well maintained area around your home, such as lawns, paths or gardens. Keep the grass cut.
- Seal under floor spaces to stop embers entering under your house.
- Make sure you've got water for firefighting, in case a fire is on your property. Have water tanks filled and connected to a pump.
- Install a diesel pump. Electric pumps won't work during a fire if the power goes out.
- Store things like fuel or woodpiles well away from your house.
- Check the access to your property. Ensure cattle grids or bridges can hold the weight of a fire truck.

- Make sure you've got adequate levels of insurance for your home, contents, machinery and crops or stock. Machinery such as tractors, slashers, harvesters, welders, chainsaws and grinders can start grass fires. To help reduce the risk of fires starting or spreading:
 - Check machinery is free from any faults and mechanical defects which could start a fire.
 - Ensure machinery is fitted with an approved spark arrestor.
 - Carry a working water fire extinguisher or knapsack.
 - Limit the use of equipment during hot, dry and windy conditions.
 - Slashers shouldn't be used unless conditions are mild or are accompanied by an independent means of suppressing a fire.
 - Grinders shouldn't be used unless conditions are mild or the surrounding area is dampened down to prevent an ignition.

These are just some of the things you can do to reduce the risk of a grass fire on your property.

What to do during a grass fire

If you see a fire, report it immediately to Triple Zero (000). This means the right resources like firefighters and trucks can get there as quickly as possible. The earlier you report the fire, the earlier brigade resources can get to it and start protect you and your community. The safest place to be during any fire is well away from it but because grass fires can start and spread so quickly, it's important you know what to do if a fire starts. Grass fires can generate large amounts of heat, so make sure you protect yourself by covering up all exposed skin with protective clothing like:

- Long sleeved shirt and pants, made from a natural fibre such as cotton.
- Sturdy leather boots and woollen socks.
- Leather gloves.
- A wide-brimmed hat.
- A face mask or towel to cover your mouth or nose.
- Eye protection such as goggles.

Make sure you drink plenty of water to keep hydrated and be aware of your level of physical fitness, heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn. If a fire starts, follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Monitor your local radio station for updates and check the RFS website for advice and information at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. Also, if you have an iPhone, you might consider downloading the official (free) iPhone/iPad application of the NSW Rural Fire Service 'Fires Near Me NSW'.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY during December/January

Callouts: Since the last newsletter the brigade has been responded to 3 emergency callouts.

#1: Friday 13 January – at 1.53pm the brigade attended a motor vehicle accident on the Federal Highway, Bywong that also involved a small amount of hazardous material leaking from the vehicle. Four crewmembers attended in one of the brigade's heavy tankers.

#2: Tuesday 17 January – at 7.25am the brigade was called to a single vehicle accident involving a utility with trailer attached leaving the road as it travelled in a westerly direction down the big hill on Macs Reef Rd, Bywong. The brigade's Quick Response Unit and a heavy tanker were dispatched. In all, 7 members of the brigade participated in the callout.



#3: Saturday 28 January – at 10.14pm brigade member’s pagers were activated and the brigade was called to a report of a car on fire and surrounding bush alight on vacant land on Sutton Rd approximately one kilometre north of Norton Rd. With the assistance of the Sutton Brigade Captain who was nearby and first on scene, one of Wamboin’s heavy tankers and the two light tankers were guided some 600 metres into bushland to deal with the situation. The car appeared to have been dumped and set alight. The fire destroyed the vehicle. Fortunately, given there was little wind at the time, flames in the surrounding bush were quickly contained and the area blacked out. Ten members of the brigade participated in the callout.



Christmas Party - Tuesday 6 December

Despite the long journey and having been buffeted by headwinds on the Queanbeyan-Wamboin stretch Santa arrived almost on time and to the squeals of delight of the Captain and children of much younger age. In all some 80 adults and children soaked up the fun and fine food at the Brigade’s family and community Christmas Party. Once again, members of the Brigade’s Support Crew were doing their magic cooking up the steak, sausages and onion plus obligatory eggs and bacon and other delicacies.



Santa alighting his sled the RFS-way.



Santa was a big hit with the kiddies.



The Captain in deep discussion with Santa possibly about the merit of adding ailerons to the Santa’s sled.



Max, the Support Crew’s BBQ supremo passing on some good advice



Santa finds his long-lost cousin.

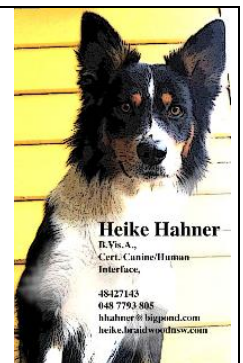
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Children are very welcome to the classes, however please discuss with us if your child will need help from an adult throughout the lessons. Class duration: 1 hours Cost: \$110 per dog for 6 weeks. Class limit: 6 people

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Brigade member receives Australian Fire Service Medal

It is our pleasure to note that a member of our brigade, Chris Powell, featured in the 2012 Australia Day Honours. Chris was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal for his distinguished service as an individual member of the NSW Rural Fire Service. He has been a very dedicated and effective RFS member on many levels in local, regional, state, national and international environments. There are many among us who can attest to his leadership, dedication, commitment, achievement and promotion of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

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.

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.

BECOMING A BRIGADE MEMBER The brigade is recruiting. We need new 'blood' i.e. new, active members. Training courses begin in the first quarter this year. If you are interested in becoming a member and bringing existing skills, or wanting to learn new ones 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, give our Secretary a call on 6238 3153, he's always happy to talk to aspiring members about the 'ins' and 'outs' of joining the brigade and what you can expect.

Acquiring new skills and building on existing skills is an important part of being active in the community's volunteer fire brigade. Some of the core RFS courses brigade members have participated in this year include: safety induction, bush fire support, bush firefighter, advanced firefighter, village firefighter, crew leader, first aid application, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and rural fire driving.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>25th March</p>	<p><u>Bywong Community Car Boot Sale.</u> Keep a look out on the Community Association websites for updates. Traditionally, the fire brigade is involved in this event on a number of levels including facilitating car parking and a series of community education activities.</p>
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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 at <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

Brigade Information 'Shop Front' at the Wamboin Home Produce Market: Theme – Grass Fires and Your BFSP

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 18th February. 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 grass fires.

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.

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS – ring TRIPLE ZERO (000)

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Nature Notes January 2012

Jo Walker

January began with a few typically very hot summer days, but then cooled to more bearable temperatures for the rest of the month. This was a bit overdone on the twelfth day of the month when the overnight temperature dropped to 2 degrees at the Airport – the coldest overnight temperature on record we're told.

Some of the eucalypts have put on a good display of flowers this summer. There were two *Eucalyptus rossii* (Scribbly Gums) along Sutton Road that looked like pale clouds amongst the other foliage. Right now, the Yellow Box trees (*E. melliodora*) are carrying a substantial load of delicately scented flowers that are attracting the bees. The cream flowers of the Hickory Wattle (*Acacia implexa*) are also noticeable – there are several of these trees on Norton Road on both sides of the hill leading down to Sutton Road.


Years ago, I planted a group of *Eucalyptus leucoxylon*, a South Australian species with large red or white flowers. This year, they carried masses of flowers very attractive to the local honeyeaters. Several Noisy Friarbirds and a horde of Red Wattle Birds descended and fought noisy battles over the booty for several weeks. At the same time, the Burgan (*Kunzea ericoides*), which is now a dense corridor of vegetation along the creek, was laden with white flowers full of nectar - and the smaller honeyeaters, such as the Eastern Spinebills and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters, seemed to favour that habitat. Interestingly, since a lot of low-growing or medium-sized shrubs have come back on my place over the years, populations of small birds (notably Superb Fairy-wrens and White-browed Scrubwrens) have increased to the point that they seem to be present in every patch of shrubbery.

One much less common visitor was here last week – a Yellow Thornbill. Seen from below, this dainty little bird is entirely pale yellow. It inhabits areas with vegetation that has needle-like or feathery foliage – when I saw it, it was searching for insects (successfully) on a Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*). It is an uncommon species and I've seen one here only once or twice before.

For many years, although there were quite a few different species of lizards on my place, Bearded Dragons seemed to be absent. Not any more. Two years ago, I saw one laying her eggs in an excavation in my garden and perhaps the Dragon that has taken up residence among some rocks and logs near the house this year is one of her offspring. A few days ago, it caught a large beetle and rested almost at my feet while it munched contentedly on its meal. Another lizard, a large Cunningham's Skink, spends a lot of time in my garage and the little bore shed, occasionally startling me when I open the door with something else on my mind.

We really are very lucky in Wamboin to live in close proximity to the natural world where such encounters are possible.

Be prepared...
for new adventure!




1st Wamboin Scout Group OPEN DAY
(In conjunction with the Wamboin Home Produce Market)
8.00 am – 12.00 pm on Saturday 18 February

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Annual Bywong Community Car Boot Sale on

Sunday, March 25, 2012 9 am till 1 pm

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December 19 2011

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Yours sincerely,
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Councillor's Corner

Road Reserves — I've had a couple of queries of late relating to road reserves. Misunderstandings surrounding the limitations associated with crown road reserves in particular have caused some grief. Crown road reserves are generally parcels of land that were set aside for road access to land allocations at the time they were originally surveyed, sometimes back as far as the 1800s. Roads have indeed been built on many of these reserves, but many are also just vacant crown land.

Problems can arise for the unwary when purchasing parcels of land that appear to be accessible via a crown road reserve. It is important to understand that while the intention might have been to provide access to all parcels of land that were surveyed, much of the early planning was done in Sydney, without the use of appropriate contour maps. Road reserves were often just straight, interconnecting lines, drawn with no regard for the prevailing terrain. The result is that, while a crown road reserve might exist on paper, it may be impractical or even impossible to actually build a road on the reserve. Note also that it is the relevant planning authority that decides whether or not it is practical to build a road—not the property owner.

The bottom line is that the existence of a crown road reserve does not guarantee access via that route to a parcel of land. It's a case of 'buyer beware', and it's important that prospective purchasers of virgin lots ensure that the access to the lot is both legal and *practical*.

The absence of practical access via a crown road reserve is often overcome through negotiation with a neighbouring property owner. Ideally, a road is constructed via a practical route and the road reserve is adjusted accordingly, either through the Department of Lands or simply via purchase of the relevant parcel of land from the neighbour. In these cases, however, it's important to settle such matters prior to, or at least in conjunction with the purchase of the land requiring said access. Coming to a gentleman's agreement with a neighbouring property owner, for access through their property, may seem like a friendly and perfectly satisfactory approach at the time, eliminating all the fuss associated with adjusting property boundaries, but history shows that relationships can change, for all sorts of reasons. And unfortunately the courts are not interested in gentlemen's agreements, or the fact that a falling out with a neighbour means that you no longer have practical access to your property.

When purchasing a property that uses a right of way through the property of a third party, it is possible to be granted legal access to that right of way, in perpetuity, but this must be written into the purchase agreement or subdivision plan for the property at the time of purchase. This will, of course, require the consent of the relevant third party—it's not just a case of getting 'the court' to grant you access.

The upshot of all this is that it is very important for any buyer, especially of a lot in a rural area, to ensure that they have *guaranteed* legal and practical access to the lot prior to finalising any purchase agreement.

The Palerang Blog—Entries added in December/January include:

Wards
Council Community Committees
Heritage Listing
Road Reserves

If you are interested in receiving advice of Council meeting dates and times, and other Council notices, you can subscribe to the Palerang Council News and Events Mailing List through the Council website at <http://palerang.nsw.gov.au/site/pages/subscribe.html>.

Council's General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month, commencing at 5.00 pm, although there is traditionally no meeting in January. Members of the public are welcome. The meeting location varies—check Council's website (<http://palerang.nsw.gov.au>) for details. Meeting Business Papers are also available on Council's website on the Friday preceding the meeting.

-- Cr Pete Harrison (Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au)



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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Collet

An occasional piece

'Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.' – Robert Brault

Christmas/New Year à la Wamboin – a few days in between festivities soaking it up on home turf.



Ducklings - first there were 5 plus Mum and Dad



A week later... mmmm down to 3 chicks



Alas, now just the one, but gratefully, it thrives



7am Christmas Eve - joie de la vie



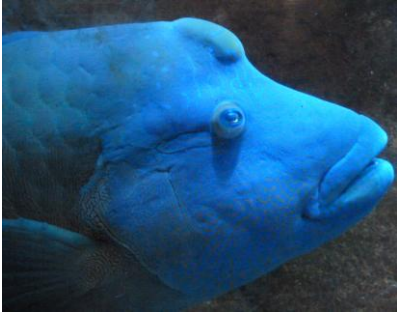
and (don't tell the neighbours) - lots of colourful magic in the whispering pines next door



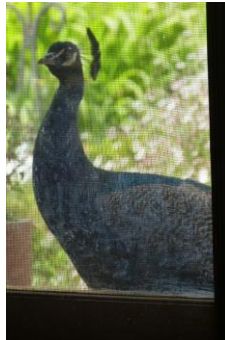
Christmas morning



Boxing Day - sleeping off the excess of yesterday's treats @ the National Zoo and Aquarium



Back in Wamboin - a surprise visitor cruised past the bedroom window @ 6.45am New Year's Day



The visiting peacock certainly got the dachshunds attention.'



Wamboin Golf for December

by John Whitney

The Christmas Cup, proudly sponsored by Ted and Judith Evans this time each year, was held on Sunday 4th December with another good attendance in ideal golfing conditions. This months visitors to our monthly challenge were Brendon Booker and Kevin Hanley.

Griners: The Googly Ball was contested by at least three golfers, but it appears that Nev Schroder's backward shot on the par 3 "Short & Sweet" won the day.

The young guns, namely Logan Beckett, Rachel Schroder and Alex Gordon received Encouragement awards with the Special Encouragement awarded going to Jarrod Beckett who, not only played his first game on this wonderful course, returned a very respectable score – well done Jarrod.

Winners: The 9 Hole Event: 1st Lofty Mason with 46/31, then Jason Beckett 45/32 and Peter Greenwood 45/33 (record books may have to be checked, could this be one of his many "first" awards)?

The 18 Hole Event: 1st Matt O'Brien with 94/63, followed by Nev Schroder 77/64 and Paul Griffin on 90/65.

The Longest Drive and Nearest the Pin awards went to Ken Gordon (2), Tim Barter, Jason Beckett (2), Joan Mason and Nev Schroder.

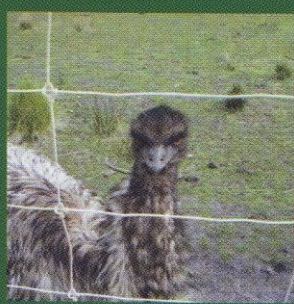
Don't forget that January's event is a 2:15pm for a 2:30pm start.

Wamboin Golf for January

by special correspondent Nev Schroder

Due to recurring hot conditions for January golf in Wamboin, this year the competition was restricted to a 10 hole stableford event, starting at 2:30pm to take advantage of the cooler part of the day. As is customary for the Wyagiba Trading day, it was a three stick event with a shotgun start. Seventeen players contested the event.

Not to be outdone by the players hitting the tee-block with their drives in December, Peter Greenwood won the googly ball for a startling ricochet off the front of the tee on Ron's Dam Hole. The day was won by Shannon Mould. Second was Lofty Mason, followed by Matt O'Brien, Neville Schroder. Stephen Miners, Jason Beckett and Dave Hubbard. The Junior event was won by Rachel Schroder. The Ball winners were Ian Picker, Joan Mason(2), Nev Schroder(3), Keith France, Jason Beckett, Tim Barter.

 <p>DEANE FENCING</p> <p>Michael Deane</p> <p>PO BOX 525 Jamison ACT 2624</p> <p>Ph: 0414 525 525 Fax: (02) 62303088</p>	<p>DEANE FENCING</p> <p>Jamison ACT 2614</p> <p>Phone: 6230 3088 Mobile 0414 525 525</p> <p>Email: deane.fencing@hotmail.com</p> <p>Specialises in Road, Bridge, Carpark Safety Barriers and Fencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guard rails - Wire rope (flex fence) barriers - Isolator concrete barrier - Thriebem guardrail - Work zone barriers - Pedestrian barriers
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Peacock

by Ian Coillet and Ned Noel

On Dec 29 Matt (surname not given) posted on the Wamboin Noticeboard his sighting of a pair of male peacocks near the top of Majors Close. Ian spotted a single male peacock, again near the top of Majors close, on January 1. On January 3 Ned spotted a single male peacock on the verge of Weeroona Drive about 1 km north of Majors close. No one replied to any of the postings on the Wamboin Noticeboard to claim ownership. See this month's Stable Door for photos.




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9am till noon





On Sunday the 4th of March the Wamboin Community Association will be organising the Wamboin 'Clean up Day'. We plan to clean up roadside rubbish in the Wamboin area. We can't do this without your assistance. For insurance reasons, volunteers should go to the Bingley Way Hall at 9 to register and be allocated an area. Since Norton Road is our central road it is high on our priority list. Where possible you will be given an area in your neighbourhood. Good footwear and a sun hat are a must.

The WCA, CUA, and Palerang Council will provide drinks, chewy bars, sunscreen, gloves, bags and high visibility vests. These gloves, bags and HV vests are in limited numbers so you are encouraged to bring your own. Traffic warning signs will be positioned on the day and the Fire Brigade will assist with traffic control, handing out drinks and nibbles and the pickup of rubbish bags. We call it quits at midday.

Enquiries to Pete Harrison: 6238 3525 or Lofty Mason: 6238 3258.

New Tower on Poppet Hill by Ned Noel

The Manager of Parks and Rural Lands for ACT Parks and Conservation Service responded to my inquiry about the new tower on Poppet Hill. He says "It is a ham radio operators tower which we approved the construction of last year. All necessary permits have been granted."

 <h3>BUNGENDORE SES</h3> <p>is looking for volunteers.</p> <p>If you're interested in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serving your community during floods, storms and other emergencies. • Being part of a great team. • Receiving nationally recognised training. • Learning new skills. <p>Then the SES may be for you!</p> <p>To find out, come to the information night.</p> <p>MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2012 – 7.30PM</p> <p>Bungendore Emergency Centre Corner of Ellendon and King Street</p> <p><small>For more information, contact Bungendore SES Unit Controller, Jan Smith on 0429 310 932, or visit www.ses.nsw.gov.au</small></p> <p><small>For emergency help in floods and storms, call the SES on 132 500.</small></p>	<h3>Media Release</h3>  <p>Bungendore SES Telephone: 0429 310 932 Corner Ellendon and King Streets Email: jan.smith53@hotmail.com</p> <p>Bungendore NSW 2621</p> <p>Issued at 11.55am 17 January 2012</p> <h3>BUNGENDORE SES NEEDS YOUR HELP</h3> <p>The State Emergency Service, or SES, is the emergency service responsible for responding to floods, storms and tsunamis. The SES is also available to assist the other emergency services and the police.</p> <p>'This wide range of roles makes the SES the most versatile and widely used emergency service' said Bungendore Local Unit Controller Jan Smith. 'To ensure that we are able to respond to any emergency, the Bungendore SES is looking for new volunteers' she said.</p> <p>To showcase the work of the SES, and what it means to be a volunteer, the unit is holding a new member information night at 7.30pm on Monday 6 February 2012 at the Bungendore Emergency Centre, Corner of Ellendon and King Street, Bungendore.</p> <p>'Whilst there are many jobs in the SES, from administration and catering to flood rescue operator, we really need people that are interested and physically able to complete the General Rescue and Storm Damage training' said Ms Smith.</p> <p>Anyone interested in finding out more about being an SES volunteer is encouraged to attend the information night or go to the website, www.ses.nsw.gov.au.</p> <p>For emergency help in floods and storms, contact the SES on 132 500.</p> <p>For further information contact: Jan Smith Unit Controller, Bungendore SES Ph: 0429 310 932 E: jan.smith53@hotmail.com</p>
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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

January market went well (I believe). I, together with Libby and Tony were very busy with the egg & bacon rolls, and didn't get much time to look up and see all the people. My thanks to Libby and Tony for their help on the day. Charlie will be back again for the February market. Because of the holidays, a few of our regular stallholders were away, but I believe they will be back again in February. A couple of ladies showed interest in having cakes, slices etc at our next market, so hopefully, this will eventuate.

Items available at the markets –

**GARDEN PRODUCE PLANTS NATIVE PLANTS EGGS NUTS LOLLIES DRIED FRUITS CARDS
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PRODUCTS, ETC**

Tasty egg & bacon rolls, scones with jam & cream, delicious cups of coffee, all available. We have a new 'Coffee Lady' - makes a great cup of coffee (just like Tony) – who is helping out on the coffee stall. Thanks Nancy.

If you wish to have a stall, please contact me.

*** **Please note that no more jewellery stalls are required, we have sufficient!**

**Next market - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18 2012
9am – 12 noon.
112 Bingley Way.**

WAMBOIN 15 YEARS AGO - from the Whisper, February 1997 Circulation 500

A bit of nostalgia - this was the first "Wamboin 15 years ago", from the Whisper (no 3), March 1982:

'ROAD SAFETY: The Wamboin Community Association has been in contact with the Shire through Councillor David Robertson and it is pleasing to report that funds have been appropriated in its 1982/83 budget for proper construction of the Sutton/Norton Road Intersection.'

NEW CLASSIFIEDS

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Full size Pool Table - antique and beautiful with all accessories, including cue rack and scoring board . Only \$2,500 for the lot. Folded and ready for you to take to your home. Call Maria 0409447181 work hours or Tony 62383296 after hours.

Wanted - Fill for landscaping in Wamboin. We are looking for some fill for backfilling/landscaping. The fill can contain some rock, etc. Would prefer it to be delivered, if possible. If you have fill you need to get rid of, either large or small quantity, please contact Bruce on 0447 254 174 or Tarina on 0408 020 088.

Wanted: Road/Racing bicycles and parts. I collect and restore good quality old racing bikes (60s. 70s and 80s). If you have any parts or bikes you no longer ride or need, please give me a call on 0434474049. Thanks. -- David.

WANTED - Garden tools and general small-farm requisites. We have just moved to Wamboin from a regular city garden and we need to improve our garden and property maintenance tool selection. We're not fans of new tools, wishing instead that we'd inherited more of Grandad's old faithfuls. So if you're moving, downsizing or simply decluttering the shed, and have good old fashioned garden tools (e.g. nail or other rakes, square & round shovels, mattocks etc), garden requisities (e.g. wheelbarrow, netting for fruit trees) or fencing supplies (e.g. star pickets, rolls of fencing wire) you no longer need, we'd be happy to talk about buying them from you. Please call Peter & Jenny - 6236 9560.

Wanted to buy – Second hand show jump wings in good condition (all types considered). Rob 0431 896 196 or 6238 3595.



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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

With the tantalising aroma of freshly baked bread coming from the kitchen and the knowledge of fresh basil and some good cheese at hand, I set off for the first market of the year to buy someone else's full flavoured home grown tomatoes. All I needed were the tomatoes to complete a delicious breakfast on my return. But imagine my chagrin to find that no one had tomatoes. There were sweet juicy plums, robust bunches of swiss chard (silver beet to the uninformed!), even beetroot, but no tomatoes. Obviously I was not the only one who had produced a dismal tomato crop this year! And it was not from lack of trying.

I nurtured my tomatoes through early spring. Every morning I took them off the verandah for a dose of precious sunshine and each evening I put them back under cover, safe from icy fingers. I fed them, staked them, meticulously pinched out the laterals and finally when I decided that the frosts were over I planted them in good deep soil over the creek. Then we had another frost!! Dispirited, I allowed myself to be sidetracked and became involved in other areas of the garden. I challenged my somewhat forlorn looking tomato plants to fend for themselves. After all, it seemed a fairly benign season and I was over all this molly coddling nonsense. But while my back was turned, the six legged enemy crept in; millions of silent, unseen, sucking, boring, chewing little terrors invaded the garden and descended on anything that was green. While I concentrated on the damage around the house, I was oblivious to what was happening in the vegetable garden. My poor tomatoes! It may be the year of the dragon, but it's certainly been the summer of the insect so far.

However, it's been a comfortable start to the New Year even if the persistent cloud has tricked many of us into believing that the welcome rain late last year had persisted. The garden has become quite dry. But undeterred, my old summer favourites, the agapanthus and oleanders, put on a wonderful show of colour. They seem to thrive on neglect. And thanks to Lofty's market stall, my garden, like others around Wamboin, has been pretty with masses of pink and blue salvias, purple lavender, foxgloves, lupins and the second flush of a few hardy roses.

I spent a blissful Australia Day in the kitchen and the garden. I made banana bread with eggs from happy hens and celebrated the affordable price of Australian bananas. I picked a bucket full of nectarines and claimed victory over the cockies and parrots. I even stopped raking up the long strips of bark that the gums had flung onto the ground and paused to observe the flypast by three F18s over our house. It probably wasn't necessary just for me, but it was appreciated! And I thought of what Australia Day means to me; a story of survival, a time to reflect on our history, warts and all, and a time to celebrate. But I suspect there are some overt flag wavers amongst us who remain unaware of the significance of that date, the 26th of January.

I ended Australia Day sitting in my special summer place in the garden, a cold ale in my hand, watching the softening light through a lace work of gum leaves as it caught the darting insects, illuminating their flight for an instant. A butcher bird, bent on murder, perched above my head; a spine bill shrieked in terror; a distant cockatoo squawked a careless obscenity. All was well with the world. And in that moment I knew that I couldn't live anywhere else..... and perhaps, just perhaps, I could share my bounty with a million trillion silent, sucking critters after all!

**Fly into
February**
the market @ bungendore
Sunday February 19th 9am - 3pm
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cakes & pastries

soaps & lotions

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preserves

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beads & findings

pottery & ceramics

local grown plants

prints & paintings

fruit & vegetables

clothing & footwear



SHEPHERDS RUN
AT WAMBOIN

Upcoming Events!

- Romance is in the air so we are hosting a special candlelit dinner for **Valentine's Day** on Tues 14 Feb. Every lady receives a gorgeous flower on arrival.
- Beef & Guinness pie, Irish stew, smoked trout pate, all part of our special Irish menu for **St Patrick's Day** on Sat 17 Mar. To be sure!
- Come to our Breakfast **Pyjama Party** on Sun 1 April! If you wear your PJs you'll get a free coffee!
- Beginners **Italian Cooking Classes** will start on the evening of Thu 5 April & run for 4 weeks. Mario will show you how to make pasta from scratch, & many other delicious Italian favourites. Buonissimo!

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for all menus & other details.

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