

WAMBOIN



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

March 2012 **CIRCULATION: 1,248**

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 April 2012 issue the deadline is Sunday, 25 March 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 Assn	Peter Harrison, President	6238 3525	president@wamboincommunity.asn..au
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	Johanna Bradley, Convenor	0406 399 713	johannabradley@dodo.com.au
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	
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	
Golf	Peter Greenwood, Golfer	6238 3358	p.greenwood2@bigpond.com
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare, Helpline	6299 1966	
Wonderful Women of Wmbn	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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Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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



Conundrum: What fire provokes a full turnout of Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade but never spreads more than a meter from its centre? The answer of course is the Brigade's barbecue fire at the unquenchable Bywong Car Boot Sale, which even last year's showers didn't dampen. The Fire Brigade, as everyone knows, does not discriminate on grounds of locality when it comes to putting out fires, and most people know that the Brigade also belongs to Bywong, which provides many of its members. The Brigade continues to be a major ingredient in the success of this great annual event, and the Brigade Captain David Cochrane took part in the planning operation at last month's Community meeting.

Boot Sale: At its February meeting the Committee was able to check that preparations were going according to plan. This year we plan to move more of the Community presence into the Hall enclosure, and ensure that suitable locations are provided for our community supporters such as Landcare, Gearys Gap Pony Club, Wildcare and the Rural Fire Service.

Other traditional attractions will also be present, including entertainments for children, riding displays, fire equipment display, opportunity for children to climb on the fire engine (under supervision!) and, most hallowed of all, those traditional and valuable collections of priceless goods which the owners are prepared to give away for a song. A barista will provide professional espresso.

Be there on Saturday 25 March at the Community Hall on Birriwa Road. Gates open for sellers at 7 a.m. and for buyers at 9 a.m.

Clean Up Day: Just in case we can get the Whisper into your letter boxes and you see this page before the event - don't forget that Sunday March 4 is Clean Up Australia Day, and that we in Bywong always attempt to clean up our own bit of the country. Register on line <http://www.cleanup.org.au/join> or register with Community supervisors on the day - Darryl Bourke in the Macs Reef Road area and Merle Ketley or Lyn Cooper for the Bungendore Road area. After 12 midday we invite participants to join us at a barbecue at the Bywong Hall in Birriwa Road - food provided.

Donations: At its February meeting the Committee approved a further donation of \$500 to the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade, and this was acknowledged with gratitude by the Captain. The Community to here to support community efforts and groups, so it's always worth and ask if you are looking for assistance for a local community project.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Committee will take place in the Bywong Hall at 7.00 pm on Monday 12th March.

Bywong Community
bywongcommunity.org.au

Car Boot Sale

Sunday March 25th

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 your surplus "stuff". People selling can set up from 7 am on the day, and the great buying public can roll up from 9am.



Wanted Properties for Sale



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

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

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

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

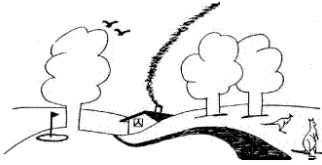
This is all factored into a FREE appraisal of your property & differentiates the price between yours and a neighbour's property.

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

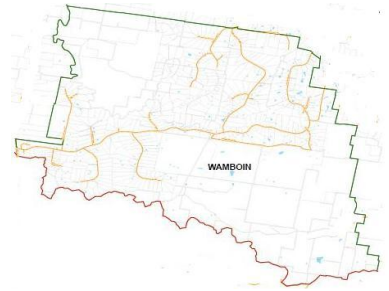
Jan Ladmore Ph: **0407 890 527** 7 Days

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

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



Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



President's Paras

It may be a leap year, but I reckon that's the shortest February ever—it certainly seems like I was writing my President's Paragraphs for the February Whisper only yesterday!

Clean Up Australia — For those of you who receive your Whisper 'early', remember that Sunday 4 March is Clean Up Australia Day. As usual, Lofty Mason will be coordinating the WCA effort from the Community Hall in Bingley Way, from 9.00 am – 12.00 pm. It even looks like there's half a chance that the weather might hold up for us. Please come along and lend a hand, even if you can only spare half an hour—every little bit helps.

Wamboin Community Association AGM — The March General Meeting of the WCA, on Tuesday 20 March 2012, will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting. Everyone with an interest in activities within the Wamboin community is invited to attend. The primary purpose of the AGM is to elect the 2012 Executive and Committee. Nominations for all positions should be made in writing, signed by two members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate, to the WCA Secretary, in person or by mail to 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin NSW 2620, by 19 March 2012.

Curry Recipes — Keep those curry recipes coming in to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au.

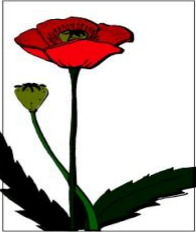
Upcoming Events — Information on all upcoming events within the community ("What's on in Wamboin") is provided on the WCA website. Just go to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au> and follow the relevant links for more details on any event of interest. If you belong to a local community group and would like 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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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

Fay Kelly	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Bill Owen	Cooper Rd	26
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Hank Berlee	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40

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

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	48	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Dr	17
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
Trish Rice	Majors Cl	18	David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	35
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45)	59	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	24
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			

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

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

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

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

140: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425

Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	63	Jenny Bryce	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton Park Estate	48	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	18

202: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	25
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	35	Diana & Keith Gascoine	Snowgum Rd	26
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill)	25	Chris Fowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds	20
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	21	Richard Holding	Wyoming & Doust Rds	25

TOTAL 1,248

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One off sale of Plants from local nursery. Leighton Green 1-1.5m high \$15.00ea. Pyrus 1.5m high \$30.00ea. Mop Top Robina's 2nds \$20.00ea and Snow gums 1.5m \$25.00ea. These prices are only available on the stock we have at present, if interested please contact us to make an appointment to view the plants. email info@coolgreenhorticulture.com.au

House-sitting. We have a lovely 4 Bedroom house (sleeps up to 10 in beds), good (if not slightly annoying cat) and beautiful border collie looking for someone to look after them from 9 July until approx 10 October 2012. We have pool (not that you'd want to use it over winter) and tennis court and are located at the Queanbeyan end of Norton Road. If you have extra house guests over Christmas or just want to treat yourself please give Fiona a call on 0411-212-276.

Casual Gardener: We are looking for a casual gardener to help keep on top of our gardens. Must love roses! Am thinking of one full day per month approx – but happy to discuss once you have seen what needs doing. We are located at the Queanbeyan end of Norton Road. Please give Fiona a call on 0411-212-276.

Inkjet Cartridges for Sale - brand new - suitable HP Inkjet Printer I have just bought a new Inkjet Printer. It uses different inkjet cartridges from my previous HP printer. Accordingly, I have a small stash of brand new HP 02 cartridges and Calidad branded equivalent cartridges that I no longer need. Standard colours and black. All brand new in original packaging. Sell at cost. Enquiries - please call Ian on 6238 3425.

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Councillor's Corner

LEP Maps — I have recently augmented the LEP section of my website (<http://peteharrison.id.au/lep>) with updated drafts of the various maps that are used in conjunction with the Palerang LEP. There are also a couple of new ones there, including: Flood planning, Heritage, Land acquisition, Watercourse. At this stage, the Flood Planning and Land Acquisition maps only apply to the Bungendore area, but the Heritage map identifies all of the built and natural heritage throughout the shire that is controlled through the Local Environmental Plan. With the increased interest in water conservation, the Watercourse map also identifies all of the watercourses and reservoirs that are recognised in Palerang in this context.

Dual Occupancies — There's been another change on the Dual Occupancy/Secondary Dwelling front. It turns out that the provisions surrounding Secondary Dwellings were primarily intended to simplify the approvals process for 'granny flat' style developments, and were inappropriate for the full blown style of second dwelling that Council had embraced with their recent changes to the relevant clauses of the draft PLEP.

Following advice from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Council has essentially reverted to the previous arrangement of allowing Dual Occupancy development, but now with an additional clause that restricts subdivision of such developments in the rural and environmental zones, including the E4 zone that will be applicable to rural residential areas. The size restriction that previously applied to Dual Occupancy developments has also been removed.

The Palerang Blog—Entries added to my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) in February include: PLEP Maps (Update), Dual Occupancy (Update)

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)

WAMBOIN 15 YEARS AGO From the Whisper, March 1997 Circulation: 500

From the Wamboin Community Association President's Report: "WCA members, along with Council staff and Councillors attended a site meeting at the hall on 17 February. The intention of the meeting was to identify problems and discuss improvements in the areas of works, services, planning issues, etc. Residents will be pleased to hear of the following improvements scheduled for Wamboin: sealing of the last gravel section of Norton Road before winter, an extension of the upgraded gravel surface of Fernloff Road, sealing at the intersection with Norton, and adding the Wamboin oval to Council's mowing programme for spring '97. Council has made available \$5,000 to the Pony Club. A further \$12,000 is available to the Wamboin Community Hall for capital improvements, this amount being the last of the Section 94 funds."



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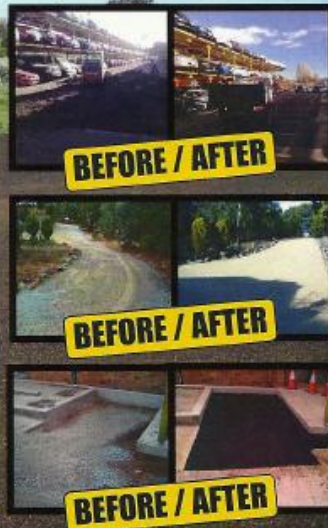


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The Wamboin Firefighter

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

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

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 on 0409 991 340 for advice on obtaining a Permit.

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

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

So far, so good.....

Fortunately, the weather during the fire danger period in our area has largely followed that of last year – a cool, reasonably damp summer devoid of hot and strong prevailing winds. The 28-day forecast suggests a probability the conditions experienced generally across the Southern Tablelands these past couple of months might continue for a little while. That said, in our region, historically March is the most dangerous period for bush fire for this is when the fuel load i.e. grass, bush and leaf litter is at its driest. Our message therefore is - *do not become complacent*. Fire in the bush and in grassland can happen at any time and anywhere. As residents living in a bush fire prone area it is important that we all remain vigilant, and maintain and follow our individual Bush Fire Survival Plans.

SEVEN KEYS TO SURVIVAL

Understanding bushfire behaviour

It is important to understand the characteristics and behaviour of bushfires, which are influenced by vegetation, topography and climate. What do you know about bushfire behaviour?

Recognising days of high fire danger

Bushfires can be more dangerous on certain days. Learn to recognise the characteristics and terminology of these days. Do you know the signs?

Preparing your home and property

Even if your Plan is to leave early, a well prepared home is more likely to survive a bushfire. How prepared is your property?

Creating Bushfire Survival Kits

Kits keep all the things you will need together and accessible. Create: Relocation Kits (what to take with you); Survival Kits (what you need to help survive the day); and Recovery Kits (what you need for the 24–48 hours following a fire). What would you pack?

Considering your Physical and Emotional preparation

It's important to be realistic about what you can and can't do. Ensure you and your family understand fully what a bushfire can mean in terms of fear, stress and threat to personal life. How prepared are you?

Acting on days of high fire danger

Put your preparation and plans into action on days of high fire danger. What will you do on a day of high fire danger?

Writing and practising your Bushfire Survival Plans

Your plan is central to your survival. Have you got a Plan?

The above 'Seven Keys to Survival' is an extract from the CFS Fact Sheet 1.2. The messages are equally applicable to us all.

ADDITIONAL TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

<p>PREPARE. You must continually reassess your 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.

NSWRFS AIDER PROGRAMME

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

Assist Infirm Disabled and Elderly Residents Programme (AIDER Programme)

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

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

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts:

It has been a quiet period since our last newsletter with the Brigade being called out on one occasion.

On Thursday 2 February, just after 2pm, members' pagers were activated; two brigade appliances were despatched to a motor vehicle accident involving two vehicles on Smiths Gap – above Bungendore.

Community Safety/Education:

Following on from the successful "Fire Fighting for Non-Fire Fighters" community information session at the Fire Station in November a second workshop was held on February 4. Widely publicized with promos in the two previous editions of the Whisper and information on the community and brigade websites, WCA Electronic Notice Board and community blackboards, plus leaflets to targeted areas, the workshop was fully subscribed with 40 people pre-registering.

Again, Jenny Filmer from the NSWRFSLake George Zone office was the key presenter supported by members of the Brigade including the Community Education team. Jenny's presentation drew on her personal experience and her more than 40 years of active bushfire volunteering. She addressed things residents need to know when they live and travel in a bush fire prone area and provided basic practical information to help improve resident resilience and be better equipped against the impact of bush and grassfires during the summer.

Following a short break, under the tutelage of brigade members, residents moved to the oval and spent time familiarizing themselves with basic fire-fighting strategies and techniques and operating several working examples of pumps, hoses, nozzles. Greg Simms from Bungendore Rural Supplies (BRS) was again on hand with a generous static display of pumps, hoses and nozzles and other fire-fighting products. He was kept very busy fielding questions and offering advice and suggestions to residents.

Several residents availed themselves of the Brigade's offer to visit their property to discuss their approach to property preparation and answer questions specific to their particular situation.

Thanks go to all involved including Jenny Filmer, the Brigade Support Crew and Community Safety/Education team and other members present on the day or who had loaned their mobile pump displays, Bungendore Rural Supplies and, of course, the 40 or so residents who elected to attend the workshop to soak up all on offer and share their experiences, ideas, and concerns.



Jenny Filmer demonstrating the McLeod tool i.e. rakehoe



Senior Deputy Captain, Col Prest, discussing the 'ins/outs' of various pumps (above and below)



Greg Simms of Bungendore Rural Supplies (top right) discussing fire-fighting equipment and accessories with residents.



An example of how one resident has set up his mobile domestic fire-fighting pump arrangement.

In the coming months the Brigade's Community Education team will be exploring other possible initiatives that complement and build on our existing programs all of which are aimed at strengthening community resilience against fire. Your thoughts and suggestions are always welcome.

BRIGADE TRAINING

The set brigade training sessions are 3 times a month:

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

All training begins at the Fire Station. Aspiring members welcome.



BECOMING A BRIGADE MEMBER

We are always in need of new members. If you are interested in becoming a member and would like to explore the possibilities and advantages of what is involved and what it would be like participating in the brigade's support crew or becoming an active firefighter, come along to any of the set training sessions for a look and a chat. Alternatively, give our Secretary a call on 6238 3153. Either way, you'll be made very welcome. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

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 during the past 12 months include: safety induction, bush fire support, bush firefighter, advanced firefighter, village firefighter, crew leader, first aid, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and rural fire driving.

UPCOMING EVENTS

25 th March	<u>Bywong Community Car Boot Sale</u> . The brigade will again be facilitating car parking, hosting a series of community education activities and providing its much sought-after BBQ and refreshment offerings.
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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 and grass fire preparations. You'll also find the brigade's history, interesting photos and other fascinating material on the Brigade's site at

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

Brigade Information 'Shop Front'

The theme this month will be *'Bush Fire Survival Plan- End game in mind: Tasks for Autumn'*.

The Wamboin Fire Station and 'Shop Front' is open each Wamboin Home Produce Market day (3rd Saturday in the month) from 9am – 12noon. The next market day is Saturday 17th March. You'll find us in front of the Fire Station happy to answer all your questions.



February's Theme: *Grass Fires – High Speed Threat.*



Residents discussing bush fire-related issues at the Brigade Shop Front.



A selection of helpful Fact Sheets and brochures and Bush Fire Survival Plan documentation.

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.

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Scholarships Open for Local Artists

The Veolia Mulwaree Trust is now calling for expressions of interest from local artists for the inaugural Veolia Creative Arts Scholarships. Two scholarships valued at \$3000 each are available for 2012. The scholarships are on offer to local creative artists working in any arts discipline, including but not limited to, visual arts, music, theatre and writing. The closing date for expressions of interest is 21 March 2012. Further information and application forms for the Veolia Creative Arts Scholarships are available on the Trust's website www.mulwareetrust.org.au or by phoning 02 4822 2786.

Do you love reading?

You may be interested in joining our small, friendly group of men and women who enjoy relaxed discussions about a range of books. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at members' homes in the local area. If you would like more information, please contact:

Colleen Foster 6238 1109 or c.foster@geebung.id.au or Leonie Ruth 6238 0032 or LeonieRuth@bigpond.com



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| • The Magic of Donkeys | 28 th April |
| • Feltmaking Alpaca & Llama Fleece | 15 th April, 6 th May |
| • Learn to Spin using the Roberta Electronic Spinner (3 x 3 hour classes) | starts 5 th May to be advised |
| • Needle Felting, Knitting & Crocheting | 28 th & 29 th April |
| • Camelid Dynamics (Llama & Alpaca Training) | |

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Locals BEWARE!

This creature was sighted in a dam in Majors Close. Maybe it was swept down from Queensland with the floods and has now found a home in Wamboin.
- Tricia Rice Editor's note: This item is printed in the March issue because next month's issue comes out too late in the month.



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WAMBOIN GOLF

by local rural correspondent John Whitney

The February event was conducted under wonderful Wamboin blue skies, warm conditions, with the usual gathering of accomplished golfers and their husbands. The days proceedings started at 12:30 from the community hall in Bingley Way and concluded with snacks, nibbles and riveting conversation at the said address.

An excellent field of 24 golfers turned out with the days stroke event being sponsored by the Whitney's of Wamboin. Our golfing visitors today were Trisha Ziebell, Cody Love and Tony (Wagonga) Smith.

Grinners: Our handicapper will certainly welcome him back (under review of course) but visitor Cody Love took out



this months encouragement award - well done Cody. The Googly ball winner was Lofty Mason, but for some reason we are not privy to why - email or phone Lofty for enlightenment. The Dummy Spit award passed frequently between members during proceedings, so we should not mention names ... but you all know who you are!

Winners: The Junior event winner this month was Logan Beckett, with Rachael Schroder only one point behind. Prizes also went to Jarrod, Maddison and Alex.

Nearest the pin and longest drive ball winners: Cody Love (x3), Len Ivey (x2), Tony Smith (x2), Matt O'Brien, Jason Beckett and Nev Schroder. The 9 hole event was won by Peter Greenwood on count back from Deb Gordon with 51/30 and third was Joan Mason with a 44/32. The 18 hole event could easily

have been won by one of the sponsors with a breathtaking 76/62 but, as is tradition, this sponsor declined the award.

Len Ivey took out first with a 82/67, second was Matt O'Brien with 98/68 and third place was awarded to Tim Barter with a 82/70.

Picture: Cody Love and Jack Whitney enjoying a drinks break at the Mason's.

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

by Robyn Robertson

February rainfall to 27/2 ... 112.5mm

2012 rainfall to 27/2 ... 159.5mm

Average March rainfall ... 55.3mm

Wettest March ... 303mm in 1989

Wettest March day ... 160mm on 15/3/89

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

(Feb 2011 ... 123.75mm)

(2011 rainfall to 28/2 ... 214.25mm)

(March 2011 ... 43.5mm)

Driest March ... 3mm in 1986 and 1998

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

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



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Managing Our Native Vegetation -- Free Workshop for Local Land Managers

by Nicole Maher, Monaro Landscape Connectivity Project

Are you a land manager in the Bungendore-Carwoola-Hoskinstown-Captains Flat region? Do you have native vegetation on your property? Would you like support and funding to help manage this native vegetation? If the answer is YES, then this opportunity is for you! The Monaro Landscape Connectivity project team wants to work with land managers to improve the condition, extent and connectivity of native vegetation across the Monaro region, in the Murrumbidgee catchment. Interested land managers are invited to attend a free workshop on **Monday 30th April 2012**, in the local area.

The workshop will provide land managers with advice on how to improve the condition, extent and connectivity of native vegetation on their properties. Each person at the workshop will be provided with an aerial photograph of their property, to show the location of native vegetation in their area and help plan on-ground works. Participants will also learn about Indigenous land management principles, and there will be opportunities to apply these practices at sites on individual properties. This project is being delivered in partnership between Kosciuszko to Coast, Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc, and the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority, with funding from the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country program. To register for the workshop, or receive further information about the project, contact Felicity Collins (Murrumbidgee CMA): 64 524 150, or felicity.collins@cma.nsw.gov.au. Please RSVP for the workshop by **Friday 30th March 2012**.

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Peacocks Sighted Again

by Ian Coillet and Ned Noel

Last month three persons (including the two of us) reported on the presence of one or more peacocks paying a visit to properties on Dec 29 around Majors Close and on Jan 1 one strutting northward along Weeroona Drive.

On 6 Feb Bernadette Boss of Birchman's Grove phoned Ned to say said they had a young (no developed tail) male



peacock that disappeared in January of 2011, a year ago. She said it escaped when there was a storm and the gate to his pen blew open. She said they assumed it was taken by a fox. She said the story in the Whisper made her wonder. She realizes it may not be the same one, and that even if someone sees it again, it would be hard to identify as the same one and hard to catch.

Following our article an email came to Ian from Judy Paul on 8th Feb to say she spotted 3 peacocks loitering at the entrance of a particular property in Norton Rd down the on Clare Valley end. She supplied the photo reproduced here as proof. Maybe the family is reunited, after all it would be just a short

trip from the Weeroona Drive. Judy recalled that a few years ago, the petrol station near the Antill Street roundabout used to have peacocks frequenting the garage. "I thought at that time they came from somewhere around Clancy's. Who knows?"

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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

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February was a terrific market! A nice variety of fresh garden produce was available once again. On entering the hall, the waft of egg/bacon rolls being prepared by Charlie, hot sausage rolls from Sally, hot coffee from Nancy, delicious jam & cream scones from Helen, together with tasty individual cakes and slices from Allison, one had a big decision of what to get first. 'The Olde Coffee Shop' was packed out with happy customers. Thanks to our new stallholders Sally, Allison and Leonie with their homemade cakes, biscuits and sausage rolls.

It was nice to see a great crowd supporting the markets. We look forward to seeing you at our next market on –

SATURDAY MARCH 17, 2012 9am – 12 noon 112 Bingley Way.

*** Please note no more jewellery stalls are required at present.

Future PLANS News

The Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability (PLANS) was formed by residents of Palerang in 2011 as a community project of Sustaining Our Towns. We provide secretariat support for sustainability initiatives. For our free email Updates see

<http://www.sustainingourtowns.org.au/local-projects/palerang/> or contact Mel Hillery melophorus@bigpond.com or 0427 440 335.

Telecommunications: Meet with the Pollies: Sustaining Our Towns and PLANS will co-host a Public Meeting on Wednesday 28th March 7pm at Bungendore Council Chambers with Dr Mike Kelly MP and Mr John Barilaro MP (subject to approval of parliamentary leave) attending.

This meeting will be the launch of the SOT/PLANS Report on Remote Work Options around the ACT. Residents at Captains Flat will be able to join the meeting via a Skype link. Contact the Captains Flat Community Association for further information.



Travelling cinema coming to a hall near you: From May through to October 2012 PLANS is finalizing the logistics to bring three programs of films with the theme 'Cool Futures' to community halls throughout Palerang. The first program which we hope to run in April-May is a family-friendly series of animations and short films. We have already agreed to work with the community associations in Wamboin and Captain's Flat to co-host the Travelling Cinema and are looking for interested community groups in other locations throughout Palerang to co-host with us. Portable projection equipment will be provided along with the program of films, hall fees and advertising. We just need help to host the evening in your community. The Travelling cinema will be at Wamboin community hall Bingley Way on Friday 4th May at 6pm. Entry by gold coin donation.

PLANS is the Land for Wildlife Regional Provider: Land for Wildlife is a non-binding agreement for a landholder to aim for best management of their native vegetation, with support provided by the program, with membership indicated by a green diamond sign on the property gate. In 2011 we had a successful trial of the program in Wamboin and Bywong with fifteen properties joining the program. We have just confirmed funding to continue the program into 2012 in Bywong and Wamboin, and will be considering a second area within Palerang to initiate the program in. We would be interested in hearing from Landcare or other community groups who think there may be a significant interest in their area.

DIY Home Energy Monitoring Kits in Palerang libraries: Sustaining Our Towns and PLANS have provided Do It Yourself Kits to Braidwood, Bungendore and Queanbeyan libraries for borrowing. The kits include a simple appliance energy consumption monitor that plugs into a power point between your appliance and your supply. There is also an infra-red laser that you can use to identify hot/cold spots around the house (gaps in your insulation?), and a room-by-room guide to ways to cut your home energy bill.

Sustaining Our Towns and PLANS are funded through the NSW Government's Environmental Trust.

DEANE FENCING

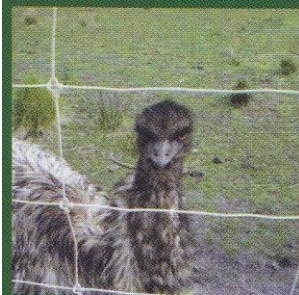
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LET'S SHOUT ABOUT THE WHISPER

By Lofty Mason

Continuing my efforts of looking back at the beginning of local Wamboin groups as recorded by the first 8 copies of The Whisper.

The Community Association (WCA). I stress that the following information as regards The Wamboin Community Association is made with sole reference to the first eight copies of The Wamboin Whisper.

The first Whisper, dated July 81, reported that 'the next meeting of the Wamboin Community Association is planned for Wed 22 July'. This was followed by a request for any resident who has 'any points which need to be raised' should contact either Ray Pennay or John Finn.

The second Whisper dated October 81, reported a meeting which was held at the Fire-shed in Cooper Road. A committee was elected to represent community matters and to take action as required. The first committee members were: James Armstrong, Ross Clay, John Finn, Derek Gough, John Geenwell, Hugh Logue, Ray Pennay, Bob Shelley and Ian Woonten.

No. 3 Whisper dated March 1982 noted that the WCA had successfully requested for the improvement to the Sutton/Norton Road junction. Also reported was the decision to hold a public meeting at the Bingley Way Community Site on 3 April 1982. As well as being a social occasion the new Constitution would be circulated and an election of office bearers would take place.

No. 4 dated August 1982 stated in the heading that The Wamboin Whisper was '*The official organ of the Wamboin Community Association*'. The WCA were fairly busy, organising a tree planting in the recreation area and working on plans for the funding and construction of a Community Hall.

No. 5 dated December 1982 invited all residents and friends to the Bingley Road Site for Carol Singing. The evening being to support the Salvation Army. The selling of pine Christmas trees to raise funds for the WCA was also suggested. A New Years Eve get together at the Woontons was also advertised.

No. 6 dated February 1983 spelled out the aim of the Whisper. '*To promulgate matters of mutual interest with particular reference to what your elected Community Association Executive is doing on behalf of all of us to further our common interest and welfare*'. (Sounds good to me. LM).

The elected members of the WCA were as follows: President: John Finn, Vice-Pres: Derek Gough, Secretary: Ray Pennay, Members: Ross Clay, Bob White, Jim Braidwood, Cheryl Shelly, Robin Heron, Ian Woonten, Pam Padovan, James Lorimer and James Armstrong.

No. 7 dated July 1983 reported that following a request from the WCA the Shire Council had agreed to provide two bus shelters. The WCA also formed a building sub-committee to work on the building of a Community Centre. The initial grand plan worked out to a cost of \$80,000. Since only \$12,000 was available it was obvious considerable variations would be required.

No. 8 dated December 1983 reported a successful Carols night at Wamboin Park and an invite to a New Years Eve Party at the Armstrongs. The construction of a Community Hall was again on the agenda. A 60 X 30 steel shed with a full-length veranda and concrete floor was the favoured solution. The repair and connection of an existing toilet hut was also mentioned.

(Next Whisper I plan to précis the notes on the Pony Club)

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LAKE GEORGE DAY VIEW CLUB --- President's Report for 2011

As outgoing President of the Lake George Day VIEW Club having served two years in this role it is my privilege to present this report. 2011 was a year that had many activities and much innovation in not only our VIEW Club but also in all VIEW Clubs across Australia.

In 2011 our Club made the decision to self cater at the Bywong Community Hall. This brought with it the added responsibility of members to not only provide the food but also set up the tables and chairs, cutlery and crockery, keep food warm then washup and put away all items and sweep the floor. The Bywong Community Association was very helpful in providing us with heating in the Hall, new crockery, new stove and a space to keep our items in sealed plastic storage boxes. All the members contributed to the catering and hall upkeep activities. Having the meetings in this informal setting allowed members to socialise more freely and get to know each other on a closer level and to keep our luncheon costs to a minimum. This was also the year that we embraced a new operating structure put together by the National Vice President Fiona Spottiswood and a founding member of our club. The Team Structure is a way of including all members of the club in the functionality of the club and by doing so providing the experience and knowledge required in a safe supportive environment. 2011 was a year where myself and a number of club members attended a variety of VIEW functions other than just our monthly luncheon meetings. It is an integral aspect of being the President of a club to represent your club at other club functions and terrific when other members come along aswell making the attendance a fun and enjoyable way of interaction and getting to know others on a closer personal level. These are the VIEW functions that were attended:

International Women's Day events, Government House Open Day, Bywong car boot sale, Queanbeyan VIEW Birthday, Bungendore VIEW Birthday, Queanbeyan VIEW Fashion Parade, Bungendore Fashion Parade, Goulburn Day VIEW Birthday, Bungendore social teas, Zone Gala 2011, Quiche n slice @ Cooma VIEW, Melbourne Cup with Queanbeyan VIEW, Zone Craft weekend, Queanbeyan VIEW Club Xmas Meeting.

Our Club is building a rapport with local sister clubs in Queanbeyan, Bungendore Goulburn and Cooma and these VIEW club members are also supporting our own Club special events such as our Lake George Birthday by their attendance. This is the beauty of VIEW Clubs- an instant social network amongst members of other Clubs.

Book vouchers were given to 3 local schools, cards were sent, members visited, craft working bees attended and team spirit encouraged throughout the year. We had a number of speakers throughout the year talking to us on a variety of subjects from a war historian to personal fitness coaching and featuring a variety of cuisine varieties from ploughmans lunch to sauerkraut and German sausages.

LGDVC contributed to the overall direction of VIEW by voting on resolutions for convention even though this year we didn't contribute any resolutions of our own. Our Club has 22 Financial members as at August 2011 with two more ladies to sign up at the beginning of 2012. To keep our Club viable and exciting I encourage members to invite their friends to attend meetings and join our Club, the more members we have the greater the fun and socializing and the easier to share in the workings of the Club.

As you are all aware we are a club that caters for all ages of women who would like to meet other women in the area and surrounds, strike up new friendships, enjoy a meal and support the Smith Family. These are four great reasons to join our Day Club but if you can not come during the day because of work or other responsibilities, then the Bungendore Evening club provides the same type of services and meets in the evening instead. You can also join both clubs and attend a day and an evening club for greater social exposure and interaction as a number of our members already do.

Team leaders in 2011 were: Admin-June, Finance-Bernie, Welfare-Joanna, Programme-Anne W. These ladies took on the Team Leader roles with gusto and did a sterling job within a new structural system. As with any new system there are always teething difficulties but none that can't be overcome with the will to have a happy, useful and well functioning club. I would like to thank each and every Team Leader for the coordinating work that they put into their roles and each team member for their contribution for the smooth operation of their team by performing their assigned duties. Ladies, without this type of interaction nothing can be achieved in a club, so congratulations, well done!

It has been a privilege serving the Club in the capacity of President and has highlighted for me areas that I will work on in my own personal and professional development and given me the opportunity to make new friends and grow 'old' friendships to a new level aswell as provide assistance to the Smith Family in the Learning for Life programme. I thank you all for your support and friendship and wish the LGDVC continued success and growth.

- Lydia Teodorowych, President LGDVC 2010, 2011



Tele-communications & Remote Work Options in our Region: Public Meeting

What — Public Meeting with Dr Mike Kelly MP and Mr John Barilaro MP

When — Wednesday 28th March 7pm

Where — Bungendore Council Chambers, Majara St Bungendore ([skype link to Captain's Flat](#))

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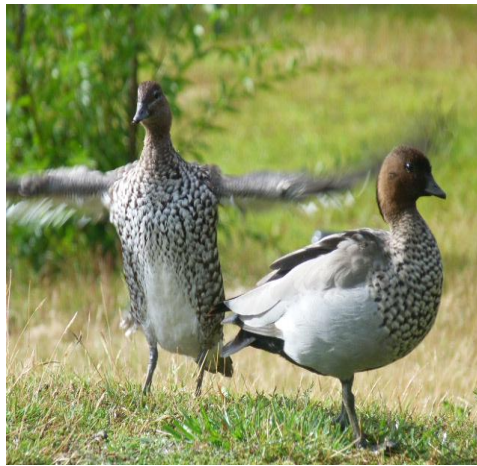
by Ian Collet

An occasional piece

Sure is verdant - pretty unusual for the area this time of the year. The grass continues to grow - at a rate it seems that the roos can't match. The huge cumulus clouds that have gathered overhead late in the afternoons have offered up a little of the wet stuff, mainly in short, sharp bursts. I've also witnessed some blistering lightning bolts though I would think they were tens of kilometres away. And then there's been the few adrenalin activating and no doubt life shortening thunderclaps. Phooooee! In our abode should either the bride or me be ensconced in a chair at the time one of those humungous thunder cracks let loose then, assuming you have remained seated and not now levitating or scraping yourself from the ceiling, pretty quick smart the two dachshunds appear, seeking comfort and a reassuring lap. Not sure who is comforting whom but strength in numbers does seem to help.

There is certainly rawness to nature that commands respect. Ignore or misunderstand it at your peril.

Clouds really add interest to the sky. In recent weeks we've seen some pretty dynamic cloud formations including anvils some even verging on dangerous and ferocious. I'm not a big fan of being outside to snap a dramatic photo of a lightning bolt stabbing into the ground though I'm more than happy to grab a shot of raindrops on the dam or a rainbow nearby and, bless their little cotton webbed socks, wild ducks shaking themselves down once the drama and the downpour have abated.



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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

There's something immensely satisfying about picking blackberries...it's a bit like fishing. I cross the creek in the early morning when the shadows are long and the grass is wet with dew, and I can pick a small bucket before breakfast. It's a time to just be, a time to listen to nothing but the tinkling rosellas against a background hum of bees; a space where you can let your mind empty before the clutter of the day. I remember with affection my country Nana picking blackberries in the gully. She'd throw a long, wide plank into the bushes, hitch up her skirts and wade in, defying the vicious, grasping thorns to emerge, triumphant, with a bucket of shining black fruit to make blackberry jam. I should make jam, but like the rest of the modern world I find it hard to defer gratification. I can't save them...they beg to be eaten straight away! Forbidden fruit always tastes better, especially when it's free.


The other day, after confidently announcing that we rarely see the noxious weed inspector, he paid us a visit. He was a very pleasant chap but we were nevertheless glad that we'd sprayed the St John's Wort and had grubbed out many of the other plants on the unwanted list. But we hadn't tackled the blackberries. The fruit was still green and shrivelled amongst the white flowers but it was full of promise. I decided on an environmentally friendly course of weed control. First I would pick as many blackberries as I could to limit the spread of this noxious weed's seed, then I'd assess what further action was necessary. I've done my best, so far, and I'll keep trying, but I'm not getting much help from my careless feathered friends.

It's a busy time of the year, dealing with the wonderful produce of our orchards and gardens. We've picked and eaten mushrooms, and recalled with a thrill the taste of real mushrooms. Our nectarines finished but then the un-netted peaches ripened. Soft, yellow and full of flavour they have been enjoyed by both us and the birds. In the days before modern netting, it must have been heart breaking to see a cash crop wiped out in one clandestine raid. Scarecrows and dangling bits of sparkle offered little defence against bird strikes.


I'm still waiting for summer to arrive, but with full tanks and a trickle of water joining the pools in the creek, I'm not feeling deprived. It's a bountiful time of the year.

I wouldn't live anywhere else...and perhaps if there'd been a few blackberry patches strategically placed around the House on the Hill to divert some of our elected representatives, their recent undignified spat may have been forestalled.

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