

The Mhisper

June 2012 CIRCULATION: 1,255

Wamboin Community Assn: www.wamboincommunity.asn.au www.bywongcommunity.org.au 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 July 2012 issue the deadline is Sunday, 24 June 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.asnau
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 133		
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

TOCHO ENTREMENDO										
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



Properties Recently Under Offer/Sold by Sutton Real Estate

UNDER OFFER - 83 Malbon Street, Bungendore - \$399,000

UNDER OFFER - 123 Hazeldell Road, Via Bungendore - \$549,000

SOLD- 53 McCusker Drive, Bungendore - \$555,000

SOLD- 1133 Bungendore Road, Bywong - \$425,000

SOLD- Lot 2 Warramunga Close, Wamboin - \$425,000

SOLD- Lot 26 Collector Road, Gunning - \$220,000

SOLD - 16 Birch Drive, Bungendore - \$457,000

SOLD- 8322 Kings Highway, Via Bungendore - \$515,000

SOLD - 4 Moses Street, Bungendore - \$540,000

SOLD - 38 Duralla Street, Bungendore - \$639,000

SOLD- 77 Mount Fairy Road, Mount Fairy - \$620,000

SOLD- 1 Moses Street, Bungendore - \$549,000

SOLD- 334 Weeroona Drive, Wamboin - \$650,000

SOLD- Lot 2 Hadlow Drive, Bywong - \$130,000

SOLD- 27 Pony Place, Carwoola - \$1,000,000

To join in our success call our office on 6238 0999.



Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Macs Reef Road WTS — I have been advised that, following discussions with the local Aboriginal Land Council, the Native Title claim that was holding up processing of the Development Application for the new waste transfer station on Macs Reef Road has been withdrawn. The DA process will still take several more months to complete, due to the nature of the development. Construction should nonetheless begin early in 2013, to be completed later that year.

Off-Road Motorbikes — I've had a few queries from residents in the last month about off-road motorbikes in Kowan Forest. It seems that while the ACT police have done a good job to discourage 'recreational trail bike riding' in Kowan Forest, certainly in the vicinity of the Wamboin residents whose properties border the forest, some of us have not been keeping an eye on our own back yard.

It seems that there are some younger members of our community who are perhaps not aware of the fact that:

- Recreational motorcycle riding is not permitted in the Kowan Forest area;
- Motorcycles (in fact, any motor vehicle) ridden on any crown land, formed road or otherwise, must be registered, and the rider must hold a current license;
- Very few people, especially those who move to more rural settings such as our own, appreciate having someone ride a poorly muffled motorcycle up and down their boundary.

Let's all be good neighbours. Consider others before you, or before you let your kids go off on a bit of a recreational trail bike around the neighbourhood. If you really are intent on testing how long the arm of the law is, it's probably wise to do that as quietly as possible.

Curry Recipes — Keep those curry recipes coming in to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au. And remember, the annual Wamboin Curry Night is just around the corner...

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)

WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way.

A very cold frosty morning greeted us for the May markets, this was probably why not many ventured out to our market! The stallholders all came prepared rugged up in their warm gear. With lovely hot coffee, warm sausage rolls, and hot soup available, this all helped to keep warm.

Next market is our last for the winter break, and will recommence again on the third Saturday in September. Hope to see you at the next market on -

JUNE 16, 2012

CAKES – SLICES - HOT/SAUSAGE ROLLS - GARDEN PRODUCE - PLANTS - NATIVE PLANTS - EGGS - NUTS LOLLIES - DRIED FRUITS - CARDS - JEWELLERY - KNITTED ITEMS - SOAPS - JAMS - RASPBERRY PRODUCTS - GROUND COFFEE - ETC

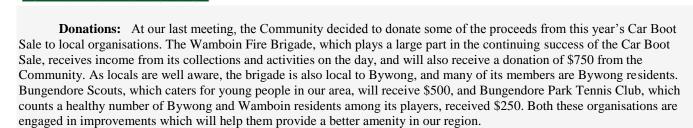
*** Please note no more jewellery stalls are required at present.

Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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





The Community is happy to look at assisting projects which seek to make our area a better place to live in, and invites proposals from local groups working on such projects.

Elections: Palerang Council elections are looming on our not-too-distant horizon, and it's time to start thinking about how our interests are to be represented through the coming term. Our understanding is that a majority of present Councillors will not be standing for re-election. While the Community traditionally does not endorse a particular candidate, it is anxious to see strong representation from our area, and urges locals to think about standing for Council. We see advantage in having a spread of councillors from all over Palerang.

Much of the Community's activity revolves around dealing with Council matters of local or wider concern. So in following up Community concerns, some of our members have experience of Council, or have had direct contact with its operations, and would be happy to chat with anyone interested in standing. Alternatively, if you want to see what goes on, join the public gallery at Council meetings — many of us do - and get a feel for what our representatives do and how they go about it.

Community Coffers: The meeting decided to change its bank account to the Bungendore branch of the Bendigo Bank, in the light of that Bank's demonstrated interest in the activities of local groups.

Constitution: Further discussion took place on efforts to simplify our Community constitution. Our main efforts were directed toward making it easier to join and take part in Community activities and discussions, without saddling members with unnecessary requirements or joining formalities. Within any new framework we have to satisfy State Government requirements for incorporation of our organisation.

Grass: No, not the smoking sort, but the really valuable stuff that we have on the ground. Our last report on the Car Boot Sale noted that we had managed to save wet areas of Bywong Hall grounds by fencing them off. The grounds have limited opportunities to regenerate with the constant use and are still delicate and vulnerable after rains, so please help us, the Pony Club and other regular users by not riding on the grounds when they are wet. These grounds are a valuable but vulnerable asset which we must preserve.

Next Meeting: The Community's next meeting is on 11 June at 7.30 pm in Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road. All local residents are welcome to attend.







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



The Wamboin Firefighter

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

http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au

THE OFFICIAL BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED

Outside the declared bushfire danger period a Fire Permit is not required to burn off in the open. If, however, you do plan to light a fire in the open, you need to notify:

- o your neighbours, and
- Queanbeyan Fire Control Centre on 6297 1840 during weekday business hours at least 24 hours before you light the fire.

Your thoughtfulness will help minimise neighbour anxiety and unnecessary brigade call-outs.

Management, including containment of a fire originating on your property, is your responsibility. "If you own the fuel you own the fire. " If the fire escalates to become more than you can handle, don't hesitate, <u>ring Triple Zero (000)</u>.

TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

HOW TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY

Call '000' in an Emergency

Knowing how to call Triple Zero (000) for a fire emergency can be the difference between life and death, or a building or other property being saved or destroyed.

The Triple Zero (000) service is the quickest way to get the right help from emergency services and should be used to contact Police, Fire or Ambulance services in life threatening or time critical situations.

Calls to '000' are free and can be made from mobile phones, home or work phones or payphones.

The simple steps in making a Triple Zero (000) call to report a fire:

- o Stay calm and call Triple Zero '000' from a safe location.
- o Telstra operator will ask you if you need Police, Fire or Ambulance. Say 'Fire'. If you are calling from a mobile or satellite phone the operator will ask you for other location information.
- o You will be connected to an Emergency Services Operator to provide more details.
- o Stay on the line, speak clearly and answer the Operator's questions.
- o Give them details of where you are including:
 - o Street number
 - Street name
 - o Nearest cross street
 - Locality

0

- In rural areas it is important to give the full address and distances from landmarks and roads, not just the name of the property.
- o If travelling on a Motorway or on a rural road, know the direction you are travelling and last exit or town you passed through to assist services to correctly locate the incident.
- o Do not hang up until the Operator has all the information they need.
- o If possible wait outside a pre-arranged meeting point or prominent location for Fire Services to arrive to assist them in locating the fire

Other things everyone should know in an emergency:

- o If a person is unable to speak English, if they call Triple Zero (000), say "fire" and leave the phone off the hook the call will be recorded and traced and a fire engine will be sent to that address.
- o Record the Triple Zero (000) emergency number beside the telephone at home and work.
- o Take time to teach children and overseas visitors how to make an emergency call.
- Callers with hearing or speech impairments can call the one zero six (106) text-based emergency call service using a textphone.

In an emergency fire situation DO NOT call:

- o A NSW RFS District, Team or Zone Office
- A Fire Control Centre
- o A Rural Fire Brigade
- o Any volunteer members

This action could lead to a delayed response or inappropriate resource being sent.

(The material above has been extracted from the NSWRFS website.)

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts:

As was the case in the newsletter last month, brigade member pagers during May have thankfully been very quiet. There was just the one emergency callout and this was late in April on Sunday 29th at 6.25pm to a motor vehicle accident involving two vehicles on the Canberra-bound lanes of the Federal Highway between Bungendore and Macs Reef Rds. Three Wamboin appliances attended along with vehicles from several other agencies including Police, Ambulance and Fire and Rescue. The Canberra-bound lanes of the Federal Highway were blocked for several hours requiring re-routing of general traffic. Brigade members returned to the Fire Station around 10.30pm.

Training:

Training activities in May focused on navigation skills including map and compass reading with a theory night early in the month followed up by 'out and about' practical scenarios in the brigade area with members and fleet from the ACT Rural Fire Service Rivers Brigade.







WHEN WILL YOUR NUMBER BE UP? (a follow up on last month)

At least one resident in the community has acted following our urging in last month's article for everyone to ensure their street or road number is easily visible from the roadside to help the fire brigade and other emergency services easily identify your property in an emergency. Brilliant. We're impressed. Thank you.





NOW

Then

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.

ABOUT 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 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.

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

Tues 12th
June
Sat 16th June

<u>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade AGM – Fire Station, 7.30pm</u> Brigade's Community Info 'Shop Front' at the Fire Station



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 *'Fire box to tinder box – Prepare. Act. Survive'* The Wamboin Fire Station and 'Shop Front' are open each Wamboin Home Produce Market day (3rd Saturday in the month) from 9am – 12noon. The next market day is Saturday 16th June. You'll find us in front of the Fire Station happy to answer all your questions.

At any other times, if you have a query 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



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

NOTICE



The Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Tuesday 12th June 2012 Wamboin Fire Station 112 Bingley Way Wamboin.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm.

The AGM is the Brigade's most important formal event of the year.

All Brigade members are encouraged to attend.

Nominations for all Brigade positions are welcome.

Nomination forms are available from the Secretary.

Aspiring members, families, and other visitors are welcome.

The Brigade's area covers Wamboin, Bywong, and Sutton south of the Federal Highway.

John Taubman Secretary 6238 3153

PHOTOSHOP TUITION

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP AND PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

One-on-one tuition or small groups, at your place or mine. From beginner to advanced, learn all the skills required to turn your happy snaps into impressive images for printing, web distribution, or simply sharing with friends.

I can also help with other digital photography and image enhancing skills.

Phone Christine on 0412766682.

Check out my website at www.krysiabphotography.com



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		Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)		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)		Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
Trish Rice	Majors Cl		David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	35
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45)		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
232: CO-ORDINATED	BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: ph	6238 3	3590		
Sheryl Barnes	Denley Dr (Kestral to sthn end)	20	Brian Higgison	Denley Dr (Birchmans to Kestral inc)	12
Don Malcolmson	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat)	7	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers)	7
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	28	Morag & Guy Cotsell	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwgtn& Harriott	30
Nora Stewart	fora Stewart Rovere Ln		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/Orana Dr/Yuranga Dr	35
140: CO-ORDINATED I	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 933	33			
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 1,255					

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FOR SALE

Locally grown Native and Exotic shrubs and trees, suitable for this area. 150 mm (6") pots \$5.00 200 mm (8") pots \$9.00 Fresh Cut Flowers



Kleenheat Gas Dealer, Wamboin, Sutton and Geary's Gap Area. - Rural Services WIYAGIBA TRADING - Dave and Jane Hubbard 37 Poppet Road, Wamboin Ph/Fax 6238 3308



LAMBERT VINEYARDS

Café: Thursday - Sat Dinner Friday - Sunday Lunch Takeaway: Thursday & Friday evenings Cellar Door: Friday - Sunday 10pm-5pm & most public holidays, other times by appointment



Enjoy our award winning wines or indulge in a fabulous lunch or dinner, featuring regional produce, overlooking our picturesque vineyard.

810 Norton Rd, Wamboin, NSW, 2620 P: 02 62 383866 F: 02 62 383855 E: functions@lambertvineyards.com.au

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OPEN 10.30am ~ 4.30pm Weekends and Public Holidays

> Or by Appointment Ph: 6238 3284

LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS

MATHS TUTORING: K-6 and 7-10, Encouraging and expert coaching by Judy Shellard BSc(Hons.), Dip Ed. \$25 per half hour (time, duration, and location negotiable). Please ring to discuss your child's needs. Judy Shellard 62 383 050 or jshellard@bigpond.com

GARDEN MAINTENANCE. After all this rain let me help you with cleaning up and improving your garden: turf and fertilising advice, hedge and shrub trimming, spraying, mowing, edging, irrigation, green waste removal, whipper snipping, planting, mulching, tree and branch removal, sleepers and paving. Minimum of two hours and then negotiable. Have own equipment. Qualified in Turf Management and currently undertaking further studies in landscaping. Ring Michael on 0408 400 740.

CELEBRANT - Weddings, Civil Patnerships, Namings, Vow Renewals, etc -- Lorraine 62303321

PHOTOSHOP TUTOR and PHOTO RETOUCHING. One-on-one tutoring in Adobe Photoshop CS or Photoshop Elements. Or if you need help improving your digital images, scanning old photos, or any other digital photography tasks, contact Christine on 0412-766-682.

Mobile Natural Horse Care and Gardening - Not enough hrs in the day / week? Away on weekends or holidays? Need someone to feed, rug, groom, clean up and care for your horse/s? General gardening, weed, mow, mulch and tidy. Other pets included and mail collected. Unable to ask neighbours / friends again? Call Cheryl - on 62369373 or 0402201491

FIREWOOD. Mixed hardwood. You load 6 X 4 box trailer \$100. 6 X 4 box trailer delivered \$130. Larger loads delivered by arrangement. Saturdays and Sundays only. Ph 6238-3164.

Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC Video to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$12 per Video and from \$12 per Record or Cassette. Phone Vicky or Tony Holland on 6238 3762 or 0403 069018.

CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.

Beekeeping Services, Beeswax & Local Award Winning Honey. Prompt removal of swarm bees and hives that are no longer wanted. We can also remove feral hives depending on location. Fee charged depending on distance travelled and the type of job required. Pure bees wax candles, beeswax blocks and award winning local honey for sale; available bottled or in bulk. Phone or see us each month at the markets! Call John or Tricia - Ridgiedidge Apiary 6238 3791. www.ridgiedidge.net.au

Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for details.

ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements pay printing and Community Association Projects. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$120 Half Pg - \$60 1/3 Pg \$40 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/8 Pg - \$20

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

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

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

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

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



Local riding instuctor available for beginners and more experienced riders. I will come to your property, or have sand arena available. Improve your dressage, jumping or just increase your confidence. Available weekends or weekdays.

TEACHING IN WAMBOIN FOR OVER 10 YEARS

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Mobile 0412 211 798 Ph: 6238 0068 Email: christianlodi@gmail.com

"Rest a while" at Bywong by Joan and Richard Milnor

Bush Baroque (Richard and Joan Milner) are delighted to welcome back the soprano Emma Griffiths and countertenor David Yardley for their next Hartley LifeCare Benefit concert on the weekend of Saturday, June 30, and Sunday, July 1. The music will include consort songs with viols by Coperario and Dowland including the popular "Rest a while you cruel cares" by Dowland which gives us the title for the concert. The concert will highlight the viola da gamba (viol), an instrument popular in Elizabethan England and held between the knees like a cello. It is played with a bow but has 6 strings and frets revealing its origin in the early Spanish guitar, known as the vihuela. A consort of treble, tenor and bass viols will play two fantasies by Byrd.

In the Baroque part of the programme, the two singers will be joined by two recorders, bass viol and pipe organ for a sublime setting of the *Miserere* by Charpentier. A cantata by Bononcini and a motet by the little known composer Bertali will be sung by Emma and David respectively. Instrumental sonatas by Fasch and Gabrieli complete this varied programme of music from England, France, Germany and Italy in the late Renaissance and early Baroque periods.

Sponsorship for this concert has been kindly provided by Buywell Classical Music and by Lamberts Vineyards. The concerts will start at noon on both days and a light lunch of soup and bread will be provided to go with the wine from Lamberts. Bookings (\$20 and \$15) are essential – phone 62369212 or email violsaustralia @gmail.com. All proceeds go to assist handicapped people through Hartley LifeCare Inc.



Emma Griffiths



David Yardley



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The Current Upgrade of Sutton Road between 2700 metres north of Fairbarn Avenue and its Meeting at 4531 metres north of Fairbarn Avenue with the Previously Upgraded Section

Based on Drawings and Information Supplied by the ACT Government

(via ACT Govt Shared Services, the Project Manager)

Written Up by Ned Noel

In early May work began on the upgrade of another section of Sutton Road. It starts about 2700 metres north of its intersection with the junction of Yass Road and Fairbairn Avenue. It ends at 4531 metres north of the Yass Road and Fairbairn Avenue junction, at the southern limit of the upgrade completed in 2006. Part of the cost was acquisition of some land required to allow road widening. The majority of the funding will be about \$2,000,000, provided under the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery program. The ACT Government may also be contributing some funds if the project's cost exceeds the Roads to Recovery funding.

There were a number of bids for the contract. Hewatt was selected to be the main contractor, with their bid judged to offer the best value for money. The project will also include some improvements to the water and telephone and water services running beside the road in the section south of the 2700 metre point. This work this will facilitate the planned but not yet scheduled upgrade of that next section. At best the project will take 12 weeks, completing in early August. Weather or other factors may push out this date. If more funding should become available during the project, it might be extended further south, below present southern end near the 2700 metre point.

The purpose of the project is to rebuild, widen and smooth the pavement so as to provide a smoother and safer ride. This will be done by "munching up" the existing pavement. Lime will be mixed into the rebuild to stabilise it to a depth of 300 mm. The lime helps to bind the materials together, increasing overall strength.

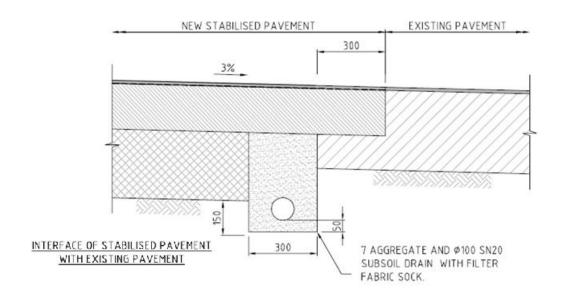
On top of this 300 mm subgrade will be a road base of 200 mm, and above this will be the top seal. The road will be widened to have a 3500 mm traffic lane in each direction, a 1000 mm shoulder in each direction, and a 1500 mm verge in each direction. The verge width will vary somewhat where safety barriers are installed.

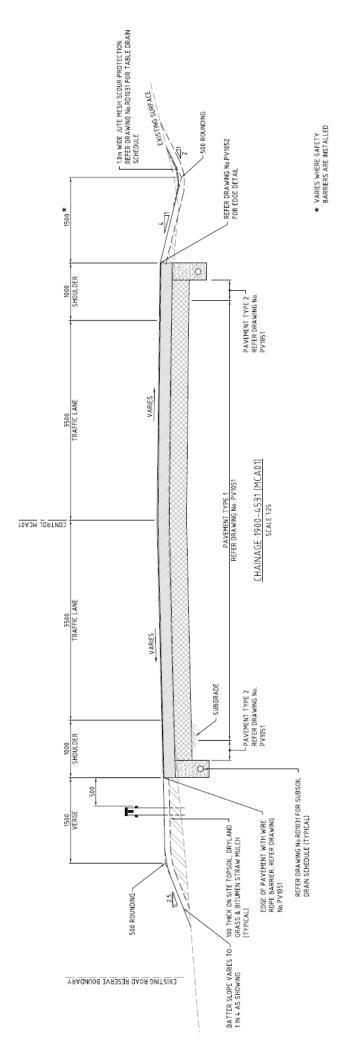
In a number of portions the road will be improved by adding material to remove existing dips. At about the 3000 meter mark the existing round stormwater pipe under the road will be replaced by a box culvert.

The upgrade when completed will still have an 80 km/h speed limit.

During the course of the work there will be inconvenience to motorists, as sometimes traffic will be limited to one lane, requiring traffic lights or traffic controllers. Road users are asked to obey the construction speed limits, to show patience, and to help keep the situation safe for road users and for road workers.

The drawing below shows how the new section will be joined to the previously upgraded section at the 4351 metre mark and, simultaneously because the technique is the same, how it will be joined to the existing pavement near the 2700 metre mark. The aerial photo in the centrefold on the next two pages show the extent of the work, including the not included section further south, down to the 1500 metre mark, which is retained in the drawing to make it easier to visualise the project's geographic context. The drawing shows a typical cross section of the new pavement.







THE GREAT WAMBOIN CURRY NIGHT

This is a reminder that 'The Great Wamboin Curry Night' is scheduled for Saturday the 18th of August. Make sure you have this special night marked in your calendar and further information will be covered in later Whispers. - Lofty Mason

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WANTED: ENCLOSED VEGE GARDEN OR CHICKEN RUN. Do you have an enclosed vege garden or a chicken run you no longer use? Have you been thinking that you really should take it all down, but just haven't got around to it? We've recently moved in to the area and need to establish both of these enclosed spaces, so would like to hear from you. Peter Reid Ph: 6236 9560.

WANTED: UTE 2WD, diesel or petrol, to replace one of our 'city cars', good mechanical order & must be registered. Please call Peter Reid on 6236 9560.

Does anyone have a common myrtle bush (Myrtus communis) growing in their garden? I plan to grow a hedge of them and would like to take cuttings from an established bush if possible. Please contact Elisabeth Taylor on 6236-9896 or elisabethtaylor@bigpond.com



DIGITAL RADIO RECEPTION IN WAMBOIN AND BYWONG

Below Are Excerpts from a Dialogue on the Wamboin Noticeboard Reprinted with Permission Given by the Authors - Editor

Thu 3/05/2012 11:41 AM: Hi, has anyone tried out a digital radio in Wamboin? If so, how good is the reception of the Canberra signal, how strong and clear is it? Thanks - David McDonald, Norton Rd

Thu 3/05/2012 12:56 PM: I'm also interested in this as I was thinking of buying one, and then a friend suggested one of these... http://www.kogan.com.au/shop/kogan-wi-fi-digital-radio-dab-iphone-docking-delux/ which gives you FM, DAB and access to over 15000 internet channels (using WiFi) and an iPod/phone player.

- Leslie and Alan Nicol, Weeroona Drive

Thu 3/05/2012 1:53 PM: I have tried a DAB+ radio with no success (Norton Road near Weeroona). this was indoors with no external antenna. Would love to hear if anyone has had success and what they used. Cheers, - Nev Schroder

Thu 3/05/2012 2:04 PM: Hi all I had the same experience as Nev with DAB+radio+no external antenna, ie no reception. This was at a high point on Bingley Way. Cheers, - Leigh Glover

Thu 3/05/2012 5:37 PM: We have a small Philips digital radio. It works very well with just the small aerial like a telescopic car radio aerial. We mostly listen to 666 or the main commercial stations but it picks up quite a few other channels. We are on Denley Drive with a line of sight to Black Mountain Tower, I don't know if that makes any difference. - Phil and Cheryl.

Thu 3/05/2012 8:50 PM: One of ours came from Target. We are on Norton Road, quite high. It is brilliant, reception very clear in rooms where other radios don't pick up even ABC 666. And has a dock for my iPod. Only use at home the aerial wire it came with. Only problem is that one station, 2CA, doesn't seem to be on-air all the time, or fades out. I have a different type at work; don't recall where it was purchased, and the same fading-out happens with 2CA but not 104.7, so guess it is not just signal-fade for 2CA, just periodic on-air broadcasting, perhaps? I use the telescopic aerial it came with, at work. I like that there are so many more stations to tune into. - Judy

Fri 4/05/2012 11:50 AM: I purchased one and tried it at the Bungendore Road end of Norton Road and I was unable to pick up any digital transmission; so I ended up returning it to the store and getting a refund. Following that experiment, I wrote to the federal Department of Broadband, Communications and ther Digital Economy in July 2011 regarding digital coverage in Wamboin, and have attached a copy of the reply that I got. - Errol

(Editor's Note: The noticeboard doesn't support attachments. Errol provided to me a copy of the letter he mentions. It is from the Commonwealth Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. It may be out of date, as it was sent in 13 July 2011. I left till too late a check with the department to get permission to reprint the letter. It seems reasonable to paraphrase some of its content here. It says that the May 2007 legislation allowed for the introduction of digital radio (AM and FM) in a staged manner. This started in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney in June 2009. The legislation also allows for trials in other areas, and the these have commenced in Darwin and Canberra. The Canberra transmission is from Black Mountain on VHF Channel 10 and is currently operating on a relatively low transmission power to avoid interference with analog television services transmitted in Golburn. It says that Errol's property is on the eastern boundary of the Canberra RA1 radio licence area. It says that for this reason "reception of the current trial service is likely to be problematic if you have terrain obstruction between your property and Black Mountain". It gives a phone number at the department to call – 1800 254 649 and a website: www.digitalradioplus.com.au .)

Mon 7/05/2012 6:26 PM: Looks like we have a mixed bag. I too am in Bingley Way with no reception last time I tried (a couple of months ago). I do get limited (ABC Jazz and Dig plus I think an SBS channel or two) digital radio through my digital TV and I also got it through my set top box when that supported my analog TV. And thanks David for your contribution on the wedge tail eagle. I've not seen them but and fascinated by the beauty of large birds soaring through the skies. - Jenny

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Rocks and Other Distractions

by Gail Ritchie Knight

I've read that you could build a no-dig garden on concrete. Esther Dean said so way back in the 1970s. So we shouldn't have a problem growing vegetables out here, should we?

With great enthusiasm we resolved to create our very own source of organic vegetables. The idea grabbed our imagination. We would enjoy a far more diverse selection. We'd be saving a substantial amount of money in food costs. But also our wastage would be drastically reduced because we would harvest on demand, no longer needing to make the big weekly shop. I cannot count the number of times I've thrown out rotting, slimy, smelly, unrecognisable masses of fruit and vegetables. We would come home from shopping, fill our fruit bowls and Admire the still art gracing our kitchen bench. Then slowly as the days progressed we would witness the withering of our beautiful bounty only to replace it next time we went to town.

But I digress. We have made the decision. We will build a vegetable garden. The question was where? Around our house there is hardly any flat ground, certainly not enough to accommodate six beds plus a fence to keep out the marauding local fauna. While the spot we chose has a great solar aspect, it is on a slope, covered in kunzea and full of rocks. The kunzea is tough with a remarkable tenacity to remain rooted. And the rocks! We could build the Great Wall of China all over again given the quantity we dug up. Then again, I'm not telling you anything new.

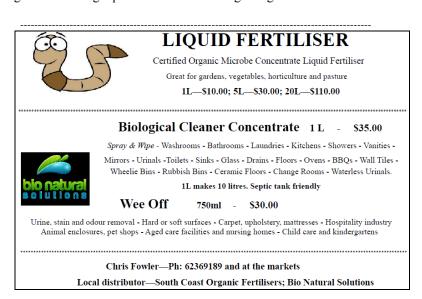
So if we're planning a no-dig garden, then why all the digging? All I wanted was a piece of flat ground and the best way we thought to achieve that was to terrace the slope. But the quantity of rock is depressing. Given my proclivity to be easily distracted it's taking far longer than I anticipated. The Wamboin Book Group is meeting again soon and the current book is a doorstop. If I want to provide a meaningful contribution to the discussion I should at least read the blinking thing.

I'm also learning to knit. One or the members of local knitting group the Knit Wits is teaching me a two-needle method of casting on. Apparently it gives a better edge. Well, if I've done it once I've done it a dozen times. I don't know what I'm doing wrong. I seem to lose a stitch and can't get past three rows. I haven't quite learnt how to go backwards yet so I simply undo it back to the first solitary slip knot and start all over again. And the wool is getting more ragged with every attempt. Maybe if I concentrate I'll get to ten rows tonight.

Then someone told me of a lead lighting course. There was one spot left in the class. It had to be a sign. I was meant to enrol. So I did. Not happy to try my hand with a small piece, I've jumped in with both feet and am doing two full-length windows to go by our front door. They are going to look stunning.

Someone asked me the other day on the progress of our vegie patch. I said it's coming along.







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 Hall. I have a personal interest in the building of the Hall as my Holden one tonner was being used as a work platform when the Hall framework collapsed. The imprint of a fast fleeing Hank Berlee's boot was still evident on the bonnet of my one tonner when sold.

The 3rd Whisper, dated March 1982, was the first mention of the intention to erect a Hall and Toilet Block on the Community Reserve in Bingley way. At this time meetings were held in the Cooper Road Fire-shed.

No. 4 dated August 1982 stated that 'Your Association is working on plans for the funding, design and construction of a Community Hall and Recreation Centre on our Recreation Reserve in Bingley Way.' Encouraging support for the project had been received. A full report was to be given to the next Community Association meeting.

There was a period of set back where plans exceeded available finance however the project was up and running again as reported in the following Whisper.

No. 7 dated July 1983 noted that Council had voted \$1000 for material for a septic tank, water tank and pipes for toilets. A working party was to be formed. It was also recorded that there had been a bore sank free of charge by a firm of drillers. The lining of the bore was to be paid for by residents. (An interesting off shoot was that these drillers were workers from the mines the other side of Lake George. They were only available to drill bores on weekends as they had 'borrowed' the drill rig. Although the Company didn't know about the moonlighting use of the rig they did notice the excess usage of fuel and so this little side earner came unstuck).

As reported the grand plan for a brick building came to a cost of \$80,000 plus labour. Council had considered a grant of \$12,000. The Taj Mahal concept was lowered and the idea to purchase a large metal farm shed and modify the structure to form a suitable Hall was adopted. Fund raising had started, as the Community would be responsible for all the required upgrades.

No. 8 dated December 1983 reported that a proposal had been put to Council for the funding of a 60foot by 30foot colour bonded steel farm shed (including a concrete floor and a full length veranda). The intended completion date was March 1984. Also noted was that a toilet hut was now in location but in need of repair and sewer connection.

Now some personal notes. The toilet hut was a reject from a building site. However, with some sheets of fibro and a couple of coats of paint, we had a toilet block, which did the job until the present cement-block toilets were built. There was quite a delay before the shed package was delivered. A large working bee on a Saturday soon had the columns, trusses and wall purlins erected. The structure being braced at one end by the roofing purlin timbers plus ropes. Unfortunately there was quite a bit of wind so the bracing purlins were taken away to put in the roof to stop the trusses from swaying. Suddenly the whole structure came down in a slow, elongated concertina slide. Hank took away the only column that could not be repaired on site and soon had a new one welded up. The cut-out section from the twisted column is mounted in the Hall as a memento of the occasion. By dusk (after reading the instructions which said the wall cladding must be fastened in place before the roof purlins are fitted) the framework was finally erected. Another working bee on the Sunday saw the farm shed fully completed and then the task of turning the shed into a Hall began.

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Cub Scouts in Wamboin

by Elizabeth Taylor

The Wamboin Scout group has been dormant for a number of years for want of leaders. Several families with children between the ages of 8-11 (Cub Scout age) have expressed an interest in revitalising it. Melinda Hillery, Craig James and I are prepared to share the job of pack leader(s). However, before we invest the time and effort required to qualify, it would be useful to have a show of hands from anyone else who might be interested in getting involved.

We need enough children in the 8-11 age group to form a viable pack (at least ten). We also need parents who would be willing to help from time to time with testing and badge-work as well as camps and excursions. Ideally, we also need another leader (preferably a man) to share the load. Peter Harrison has programmes and resources in place which will lighten the burden for leaders considerably.

For those who are unfamiliar with Scouting (as I was, until recently), the aim of Scouting is to encourage the physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual development of young people so they may play a constructive role in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local and international communities. This aim is achieved through a strong and active program that inspires young people to do their best and to always be prepared. For more information you can refer to the Scouting NSW website at www.nsw.scouts.com.au

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Councillor's Corner

Referendum on Wards — In last month's column, I indicated that a referendum on whether or not to introduce wards for the purpose of local government elections would be held in conjunction with the September Council elections. At Council's May General Meeting, however, the night after The Whisper went to print, that idea was scuttled yet again.

As I have pointed out previously, by law, the decision on whether or not to introduce wards can only be made by the [relevant local government] electorate, through a referendum, and Council is bound by that decision. Council can, however, decline to hold such a referendum if the Council majority want to maintain the status quo.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the support for a referendum seems to waiver when individual councillors start to think more about their own chances of re-election than about the constitutional relevance of a referendum. The debate over whether or not to seek the opinion of the electorate very quickly deteriorates into a debate over the pros and cons of a ward system, and individual councillors then take it upon themselves to decide that the electorate is probably not capable of making an informed decision on the matter. The result, of course, is that the Council majority then decides that it would be better not to ask the question than risk getting an answer that may not be to their advantage.

I'm sure that many of you will find this a shocking revelation...

Private Transport — Here's a good one for all you (genuine) trivia buffs! I was asked at a recent Community Association meeting whether or not there were any restrictions on landing a helicopter on a property in the rural residential zone.

I can advise that, from a Council planning perspective no consent is required for ad hoc visits. In fact the Land and Environment Court has ruled that the use of a helicopter as private transport for social reasons or for commuting is ancillary to the use of the land for residential purposes (and therefore no separate consent is required). In this regard the helicopter is the same as a car.

Details of one of the cases is available on the Australasian Legal Information Institute website at http://www.austlii.edu.au/. Enter a search requrest for "helicopter for private transport" (include the quotes in your search string—i.e. search for the entire string— or you'll end up with thousands of hits)—it's the first item that's returned.

There are certainly civil aviation restrictions on where you can fly helicopters and if noise became a problem Council might take action under the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act, but there are no planning consent issues.

The Palerang Blog—New entries in my councillor website Blog (http://peteharrison.id.au/blog) this month: Palerang Community Strategic Plan; Waste Management Surveys

Council's General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month, commencing at 5.00 pm. 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, Ph. 6238 3525, Email: Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au, Website: www.peteharrison.id.au

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For appointments or further information please phone Brian

6258 1792

News from WWOW -- The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

WWOW continue to meet informally once a week over tea and coffee enjoying each other's company and meeting new friends. Some of us bring along a craft activity eg knitting, cross stitch or beading.

Over the years WWOW have undertaken projects and raised money in support of local, interstate and international communities. Our recent activities include:

- Volunteering at Home in Queanbeyan once a month preparing lunch for about 40 residents. Home in Queanbeyan is an organisation that helps those with mental health problems.
- A few of us also continue to knit trauma teddies for the Queanbeyan ambulance station.
- We answered a request to make drainage bags for breast cancer patients post surgery and delivered 69 bags to Calvary Hospital.
- We also made 28 snake bags for Wildcare including 20 made by one of our members at home.

We are a diverse and innovative group and as such are inviting members of the local community to come as guest speakers at our Monday morning sessions. Contact Pauline at paulinechambers@yahoo.com.au for details.

We still keep in touch with our founder Claire Ayling who has moved to Goulburn and continue to foster her vision of creating a sense of community in an area where there are no shops or cafes.

All women are welcome at WWOW — Mondays, 10 AM to 12 NOON at St Andrew's Anglican Church on the corner of Poppet Road and Norton Road in Wamboin. Members come not only from Wamboin but also Bungendore, Bywong, Gundaroo and Sutton, as well as a few from Canberra and Queanbeyan. Contact Gail Ritchie Knight 0416 097 500 whirlwind@argonite.com.au.

Are You Looking For Funding For Your Community Group?

Are you from one of the following?

- Sporting Groups Rural Fire Brigades
- Service Clubs
- Schools Preschools
- Progress Associations
- Community Health Services
- Churches
- Any other non-for-profit organisation which complies with the Veolia Mulwaree Trust guidelines?

Are you located in one of these local government areas?

- Goulburn Mulwaree 0
- Palerang
- Shoalhaven
- Oberon 0
- Wingecarribee
- Upper Lachlan

Grant and Donation Funding
The Veolia Mulwaree Trust has provided \$4 million of funding of since 2005 to support projects for the benefit of the local community and for charitable purposes.

Guidelines and application forms for the 2012 Community Grant and Donation Program are available from:

- www.mulwareetrust.org.au
- email: mulwaree.trust@goulburn.nsw.gov.au Phone: (02) 4822 2786

The next Veolia Mulwaree Trustfunding round closes 6 June 2012



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Land for Wildlife (1)

M/s Cramsie has a point Eastern Grey Kangaroos do compete for introduced pasture; do have rapid population build ups in response to available forage; have quite a prolific reproduction rate and can be an element reducing grazier's income. So why make corridors for the movement of wild species and why not consult with landholders who might be affected? In fact input by interested parties was sought for consideration of corridors; see www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-corridors/index.html

Input ceased mid April this year. However the ACT has conducted its own investigations a copy of the 2009 report for consultation being in the ACT public library 599.222 ACTK. Wide ranging it considers farmed as well as native pastures and the part the local populations may play in pasture composition growth and continuance as well as considering the cost of kangaroos to the community. This is estimated as around 70 million a year with 30 million dues to traffic accidents. As well as being concerned as to how to reduce this figure it also concerns itself with how to hold population levels to a figure that can be sustained and is not too damaging to graziers income. The conclusion is by culling for which a licence is needed in the ACT, NSW I do not know.

In the short term E.G. Kangaroos are or can be a pest their numbers responding to the amount of forage so why not just get rid of them all? "Short Term" is the key. In the longer term longer than the income cycle for most of us, actions we take, and we are now the dominant pest, can result in damage to the ecology which is detrimental to our production of wealth. Wild life corridors are to allow movement in a habitat increasingly fragmented by human activity and thus prone to populations becoming isolated inbreeding and gradually disappearing.

We want wild life beneficial to our wealth making but not damaging it. Knowledge at present is not sufficient to establish which these might be and in turn what others species their number might depend on. Thus we are stuck in the present trying to control damaging populations by culling. Mind you other life forms might see their needs as paramount also not care in the short term what happens to us or, since as myopic as us, what is the long term outcome. -- Douglas Jones, Bywong



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glass art





Land for Wildlife (2)

Land for Wildlife would like to thank Genevieve Cramsie of Bywong for her letter to the Whisper regarding our program (Whisper May 2012) as we are alarmed to have given the impression of such an intolerant agenda, and are grateful for the opportunity to set the record straight.

LfW is a *voluntary* and *non-binding* scheme that puts likeminded property owners in touch with each other. LfW is about managing all or part of the land for the benefit of native flora and fauna. The scheme gives opportunities for landholders to learn more about the natural values of the properties they manage and provides a range of simple actions that they can take to enhance those values (e.g. reintroducing local plants or leaving fallen timber as habitat). In most areas this will mean no change other than a sign on the gate.

LfW is a national scheme that originated in Victoria where there are over 6,000 members. In NSW there are a few hundred and growing. The Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability administers LfW in our LGA.

What is envisioned by the statement 'Eventually LfW corridors will be created to allow wildlife to move more freely across the landscape?' as Genevieve asks? The simple answer is that we want to work with those who want to work with us. In the short term, we hope to help local landholders who have an interest in improving biodiversity on their own properties to do so. The long term objective of the program is to better link all those small and scattered remnant bits of native vegetation with the larger bits, but this relies on being able to find enough interested landowners in the right places.

As Genevieve points out many different land uses have been coexisting peaceably with wildlife in this region for many years, and this is a key goal of LfW. It is hoped more property owners can help enhance biodiversity whilst utilising their land for other purposes including farming. Land for Wildlife is about encouraging a wide range of biodiversity - birds, insects, plants, mammals and reptiles - so that we don't have any particular single species dominating a landscape.

For the record, Land for Wildlife itself has not been involved in any particular public policy on stock proof fencing. Fencing standards are set by Palerang council. Land for Wildlife simply encourages its members to move towards wildlife friendly fencing.

In summary we hope we have addressed the concerns of the letter. We genuinely welcome enquiries about the project. Please contact either Mel Hillery (<u>melophorus@bigpond.com</u> or 0427 440 335) or Phil Machin (6238 3717) or check out the LfW website at <u>www.CEN.org.au</u>. Or come along to our next gathering which are always advertised in the local press.

-- Sincerely Mel Hillery, Phil Machin, Kris Nash and Jo Walker on behalf of LfW in Palerang.

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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin - 37 year statistics from the Robertsons

May 2012 rainfall to 27/5 ... 31.25mm 2012 r'fall to 27/5 ... 461.5mm Average June rainfall ... 58mm Wettest June ... 189mm in 1997 Hottest June day ... 17C twice Coldest June night ... -6C on 9/6/96 (May 2011 ... 19.5mm) (2011 to 31/5 ... 294.5mm) June 2011 ... 18.5mm Driest June ... 8mm in 1979 Coldest June day ... 3C on 9/6/2011

Land for Wildlife (3)

Genevieve Cramsie raised several issues in the May *Whisper* – mainly concerning Land for Wildlife (LfW). The Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability administers LfW in Palerang and I expect PLANS will put the record straight. However, I was particularly interested in Genevieve's views on the number of kangaroos, the damage that they do and the increase in motor vehicle accidents.

When it comes to kangaroos we either love them or hate them. It's very easy to demonise kangaroos unfairly. One thing we can do is look at the numbers more closely. Genevieve's claim that there are "so many kangaroos in the area there are ever increasing collisions" is not really supported by visual sightings, media reports or RTA published accident statistics. Acknowledging that not all accidents are reported (but that's the same for all categories), accidents in rural areas have flat lined over the last few years. Kangaroos and other animals (excluding stock animals) account for less than one percent of the causes of vehicle accidents (0.6%) in NSW. And since the drought broke there seem to be less kangaroos on the roadside.

Genevieve's complaint that kangaroos are eating her pasture-improved paddocks is a genuine concern, but hopefully the level of damage is not too great and her stock animals do OK. Certainly stock animals have a much bigger impact on the land than kangaroos.

People often claim there are hundreds of kangaroos, as if they are in plague proportions, but only if we actually count them do we know for sure. I have yet to see a mob of hundreds in our district as suggested by Genevieve. There is a lot we don't know about kangaroos. Often smaller mobs come together to form much larger groups before dispersing again – which can be deceiving as to the actual number in a region.

As someone who helped promote LfW in Palerang, I still think it is a very worthy scheme that helps protect our biodiversity for the future. Those property owners who have nurtured their properties over the years can see the difference with a growing amount of flora and fauna coming back. Many LfW members farm too and it shouldn't be seen as a threat to anyone. -- Philip Machin, Wamboin



PUBLIC FORUM ON WEST PALERANG'S WATER FUTURE: SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday 20 June 2012 6.30pm - 9pm.

Bungendore Council Chambers

Food and refreshments provided. Please RSVP 6238 8111 by Friday 15 June 2012.

In 2011 Palerang Council received funding from the Australian Federal Government under the Strengthening Basin Communities Program for the Murray Darling Basin. Council has used this funding to commission reports on water resources, water quality, population pressures and climate variability in the western catchments of Palerang. A fifth report Snapshot on Sustainability: Report on water management, institutions and issues for Palerang describes the institutional and legislative framework that water planning operates within and provides a brief summary of the other reports. (The reports will be available at http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au/.)

The Murrumbidgee catchments of Palerang include the catchments of Lake George, Yass River, Molonglo River and Queanbeyan River (including Burra Creek). This area includes the localities of Bungendore, Burra, Butmaroo Creek Bywong, Captains Flat, Carwoola, Currawang, Hoskinstown, Royalla, Urialla, Taylors Creek and Wamboin

Land owners and residents are invited to attend and participate in the forum which will communicate the results of the research so far, and consider them in the light of three planning scenarios for the next ten years. Please contact Project Manager David Anthony 0419293901 for further information.



Land for Wildlife (4)

As a neighbour of Genevieve Cramsie it grieves me somewhat to have to respond publicly to her article in May's Whisper regarding the Land for Wildlife movement. Having had our property in Bywong recently assessed by Land for Wildlife and deemed suitable for inclusion in the network I feel I can speak with some knowledge on this topic.

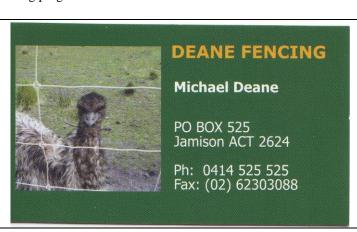
It is unfortunate that some people feel threatened by the Land for Wildlife concept and shows a distinct lack of understanding of its principles. LFW is totally voluntary, there are no legally binding contracts and therefore no imposition on people with contrary views. The overarching idea of LFW is purely to increase the awareness in our area of the importance of maintaining and enhancing native vegetation remnants on private land and where possible to link these areas together via corridors. This concept, apart from enhancing habitat for wildlife also has far reaching benefits for biodiversity, water quality and productivity within the landscape. Too often small acreage is an impediment to efforts to improve connectivity in the landscape, however all it requires is a little enlightenment, cooperation and education.

In regard to Genevieve's comment that LFW corridors will somehow contribute to an increase in kangaroo numbers shows a lack of understanding of kangaroo biology. It was the clearing of our forests and woodlands by those earlier graziers to whom Geneveive refers who are actually responsible for the vast increase in kangaroo numbers in this area. They, with generous subsidies from the government of the day, created the grasslands (and improved pastures) and provided the water necessary to sustain the numbers of kangaroos that we have today. Fortunately, most of us residing on small acreage do not have to rely on making a living from our land so the impact of the kangaroo is minimal! As anyone who has attempted to grow a tree or shrub in this area knows, the kangaroo is not only the bane of the grazier they are one of the main impediments to the successful establishment of trees!

Regardless of the size of the property I believe all of us have an obligation, as custodians of the land, to leave it in better condition than we found it. There is endless information and advice available from the many government agencies (DPI, Murrumbidgee CMA etc), landcare groups and Greening Australia to improve our knowledge and embrace new ideas and concepts in conservation and agriculture. In our local area we are lucky enough to have people like John Weatherstone who are gracious enough to open up their commercial farms to the public to demonstrate just how tree planting not only benefits wildlife but increases the overall health and profitability of their farming enterprise.

I strongly believe that both conservation and agriculture can co-exist and are not mutually exclusive. What we need to do is look at the big picture. Our country has been overcleared creating an incredibly fragmented landscape dominated by agricultural production. This has created a myriad of problems that is far too complex to discuss here. Suffice to say that our land and wildlife needs our help and LFW is one small step in a long process to change attitudes and long held beliefs that are stifling progress towards a more sustainable existence.

- Murray Goodridge. Bywong



DEANE FENCING

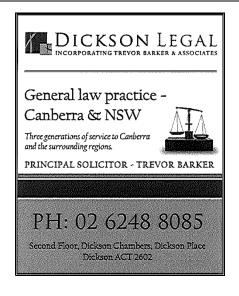
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WAMBOIN GOLF

by John Whitney

An enthusiastic group of locals ventured onto the course for the May stroke event. The weather stayed fine and as the sun set and the golfers returned to the Community Hall all were relieved that the fire was well alight.

The day was sponsored by Paul Griffin and Time Barter with Dianna being responsible for the endless wonderful eats and treats

Winners & Grinners: Young Alex Gordon won the Encouragement award along with the junior title scoring a 75/35. The 9 hole event was taken out by Rachel Schroder with a gob smacking 64/24, her dad Neville 2nd with a 39/32 and tied for third was Deb Gordon and Larry King with a net 34. It should also be noted that Rachel's par on the hole "Hall NTP" would have given her a stableford 7 for that hole - needless to say Rachel also took home the infamous Ned Kelly Trophy.

The 18 hole event would have seen Paul Griffin way out in the lead with a 91/66 but sponsors rarely take home prizes. This left the door open for Rob Gorham and John Whitney to take home trophies with 92/73 and 83/71 respectively. Ball winners were Rob 1, Larry 1, Lofty 2, Paul 2, and John 4.

Next months event will be sponsored by Lambert's Vineyard with the days proceeding starting at 12:30 3rd June from the Community Hall in Bingley Way - See you there!

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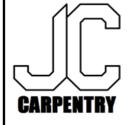
TUESDAY MORNINGS

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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Coillet



Holy guacamole, what's this!!! Proof perhaps that maybe in days of *Gondwana* the waters of Lake George lapped the upper reaches of Wamboin? Incredibly seal-like, could it be 'Phoca Lake Georgeous'?

An occasional piece



'Call me simple but don't call me stupid.' For some 16 years now I've walked, run, driven and ridden by this nuggety little fella on Weeroona Drive. Always been impressed at its resilience, hugging the embankment but otherwise fully exposed to the elements. Impressive.

Nature Notes May 2012 Jo Walker

May was a rather dry month – until the last week when we got a day and night of light but almost continuous rain that produced about 20 mm. Certainly, everything looks very green for this time of year. And, quite a few of the usually spring-flowering plants are already showing a bit of colour, particularly the golden Guinea Flowers, *Hibbertia obtusifolia*.

Amongst the grasses, lots of little plants are making an appearance – the slender new leaves of Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*), hairy rosettes of the Tall Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia stricta*) and tiny, bright green seedlings of Austral Sunray (*Triptilodiscus pygmaeus*). It may be a good year for the Purple Violet (*Viola betonicifolia*) too. There have always been a scatter of plants under a large gum tree near my gate, but this year just about every seed deposited there seems to have germinated and there is a carpet of dark green leaves.

It was interesting to read all the comments about Wedge-tailed Eagles in the last Whisper. There have certainly been a pair of these birds around for many years, one of them rather smaller than the other. They are evidently not the only eagles around. Yesterday, as I was watching something through the window, two Wedge-Tailed Eagles appeared near the house and hovered and drifted on the up-draughts. While I was marvelling at their aerobatic expertise, two others appeared just to the north! Although all four of them got closer together, there seemed to be no animosity. Perhaps it was a family group?

Another interesting sighting was a robust little Speckled Warbler – with possibly a second one with it (they were feeding amongst the grasses and leaf litter under some daisy bushes and one was difficult to see clearly). There have always been Speckled Warblers here, but it's often many months between sightings.

While the rain was falling during the evening last week, I could hear what sounded like something tapping on the windows. It was a cloud of large Swift Moths (Hepialidae Family). This used to be a common occurrence on rainy nights many years ago, but it has been a long time since they appeared in such numbers. Because they lack mouthparts to feed or drink, they only live for a day or so, often appearing in massive numbers on a single rainy night. They mate, the females scatter their eggs amongst the grasses and leaf litter and the cycle begins again with the larvae feeding on tree roots leaf litter or the bases of grasses (depending on the species of moth – there are about 500 species of Hepialid moths worldwide, with 120 of these occurring in Australia). You can sometimes see the large empty pupal cases here, protruding from the ground or exposed tree roots.

Soon after I came to live in Wamboin, I reared a little female kangaroo joey found on my place. She is still around, now 22 years old (a really good age for an Eastern Grey). Seven of her daughters and their offspring form a fair proportion of the mob here. Recently, one of the older daughters died suddenly, and rather dramatically, of what seemed to be a heart attack – and left a small at-foot joey orphaned. The little joey was old enough to survive on her own, but obviously distressed at the absence of her mother. That is, until her grandmother stepped in. They are not always together, but spend a lot of time in each other's company, often turning up and feeding together. Wild animals are seldom given credit for any sense of caring. But they do possess it and it's a lovely thing to see.