

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

# The Whisper

December 2012 / January 2013 CIRCULATION: 1,274

Wamboin Community Assn: [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au)  
Bywong Community: [www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://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, Bywong and to Palerang Council residents east of the Federal Highway 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](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or [whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto: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 February 2013 issue the deadline is Sunday, 27 January, 7 pm. Instant Colour Press will then multiply 1 copy into more than 1200. Then the new issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the new month.

**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	
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	whirlwind@argonite.com.au
Lake George VIEW Club	Lydia Zielinski, contact	6230 3488	
Wamboin Book Group	Alice Scott, Secretary	6238 3178	

## YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Alana Stenning	pet sitting	6238 3030	Jess Smith	pet sitting, house sitting	6238 3115
Fiona Skea	baby sitting	6238 3290	Ashleigh Caird	baby sitting	6238 0746
Rebecca Purdie	pet sitting	6238 3343	Gabrielle Simpkin	baby sitting/ pets sitting	6238-1335
Mara Sutcliffe	pet sitting	6238 3228	Jack & Matilda Whitney	child, pet & house sttg, odd jobs	6238 3059
Jordan Brown	baby sitting	0414-907-921			



**Get ready!**  
The 2nd annual  
**MAILBOX DECORATING  
EVENT**  
is coming for Christmas

Involve children and grandchildren, and your own inner child.  
Have fun and show what a spirited community we are.

**Any mailbox in the local area can win!**

Residents of East Sutton, south of the Federal Highway  
please contact Gail to register.

1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded

**Deadline: Sunday 16 December 2012**

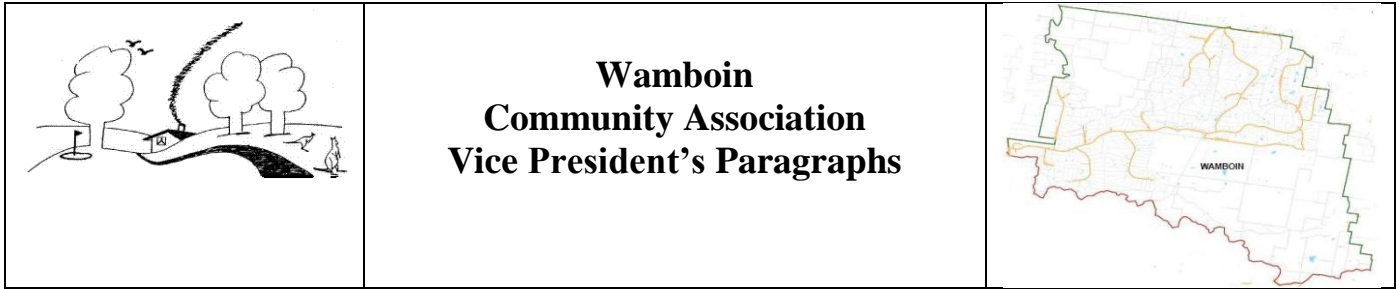
**Monday, 17 December:** The Wonderful Women of Wamboin (WWOW) will journey during the day through every street of our communities and photograph every decorated mailbox.

**Thursday, 20 December:** Winners will be notified by a visit from the Christmas elves bearing prize baskets of goodies prepared by the WWOWs.

Photos will be displayed on the community websites for all to see.

Contact Gail on 0416 097 500 or  
[whirlwind@argonite.com.au](mailto:whirlwind@argonite.com.au)





Hi there. As most of you will know Pete Harrison, the current President of the Wamboin Community Association, has gone on to a larger sphere as the new mayor of Palerang Shire and so I've agreed to step up and fill his position at least until next March when we hold our AGM. Pete, we all thank you sincerely for the tireless efforts you have put in as President over the past (almost) three years and I thank you personally for your continued support and sound advice.

**Telstra Presentation** — On Tuesday 20 November the Community Association hosted a guest speaker from Telstra with the view of discussing issues such as the proposed mobile phone tower, coverage issues with telecommunications, the roll out of the NBN and much more. Chris Taylor, Telstra Capital South East Region General Manager, spoke to us at length. It was an enlightening discussion which is outlined in detail further on in The Whisper. Chris, we thank you for your time and hope to see you return to Wamboin sometime next year to keep us updated on developments.

**Wamboin Community Christmas Carols** — Come and join all of us at the Community Hall in Bingley Way on Friday 14 December at 7pm to take part in the annual Wamboin Carols. It is a great family night and any children are most welcome to join in our Christmas play. Any parents of children wishing to take part in the play are more than welcome to contact me on 62381329.

**Mail Box Decorating Event** — It's easy to see Christmas is almost here. The Wonderful Women of Wamboin are once again judging the best decorated mailboxes in the local area. The deadline for getting your mailbox decorated for this event is Sunday 16 December.

**January Reminders** — Just a quick reminder that there will be no Whisper published during the month of January and likewise the Association will not hold a January meeting. Both The Whisper and the Community Association's monthly meetings will resume in February 2013. The Home Produce Markets however, will operate during January 2013.

**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.

Finally I'd like to take this opportunity (even is slightly premature) to wish all the readers of The Whisper a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

-- Jenny Richards (vicepresident@wamboincommunity.asn.au)



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Bywong Community

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**3 March 2013**

WHY NOT VOLUNTEER TO HELP ON THIS ANNUAL EVENT BY CLEANING UP A SELECTED SECTION OF ROAD IN YOUR AREA. VOLUNTEERS WILL BE TREATED TO A BBQ AFTER THE EVENT.

Contact Merle on  
62380417

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA**

**COMING EVENTS IN 2013**

COME TO OUR ANNUAL GIANT CAR BOOT SALE WHERE YOU CAN BOOK A SITE TO SELL OR MAYBE BUY THINGS YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT. FUN FOR KIDS TOO!

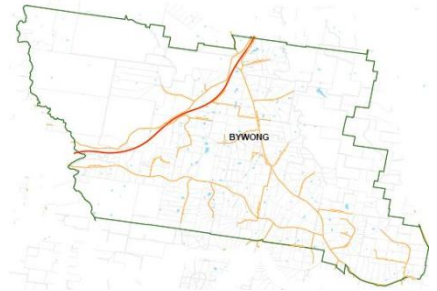
Contact Greg Gougeon on 62369841  
or email to [bywongbootsale@y7mail.com](mailto:bywongbootsale@y7mail.com)

**24 March 2013**

## Bywong Community News

[www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au)

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



**Bywong Blessings.** We can't think of a better place to be at Christmas than Bywong, so enjoy it! We from your Community wish you all the best, and hope you will join us for some or all of our activities in the coming year. We hope you will also join us in making some of them happen – or suggest to us new activities we could undertake which might be of interest to you and your family.

**Clean Up Bywong.** We have a good record for the annual scouring of our roads for rubbish left by passers-by who do not share our pride in country. Make sure your diary for next year reminds you of the clean-up on 3 March next year! The Community will also be looking at giving a boost to re-cycling by offering cash payments for containers recycled at the March Car Boot Sale. We hope that this might help to increase public awareness, and even lead to bigger things in the future.

**More Rubbish.** Just in case you were wondering, the answer is Yes" – our tip is back into recycling paper as well as bottles, even though this is not spelled out in the notices. Both are collected together, so all recycling can go into any bin in the recycling area, but it would be helpful to concentrate the paper recycling in the yellow-lidded bins, as this will protect it from becoming soggy when it rains. And if you're recycling cardboard boxes, crushing or folding them is going to be necessary to make best use of the bins.

While we're on rubbish matters, community members have been appalled to see locals arriving to dump their household rubbish in bins at the Bywong Hall. Similar anti-social behaviour has already resulted in the withdrawal of other bins in the Shire. The Hall Committee, after considering various alternatives, has reluctantly decided to remove the bins after consultation with the Pony Club, which pays for them. Hall users will in future be asked to take their rubbish home.

**More local records?** We now believe that Macs Reef Road holds the record not only for the highest traffic flow in the Shire, but also for the greatest number of potholes. Wamboin Community Association member Keith France, who attended the last Bywong meeting, found support for a joint approach by Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton to try and achieve some action on this growing problem.

**Not All Roses.** Apart from potholes, Bywong appears to be suffering from other problems, two of which were aired at the Community's last meeting. One was the deterioration in the Australia Post parcel service, now offering minimal or non-existent home delivery services and unsatisfactory pick-up arrangements due to uncertainty between Bungendore and Queanbeyan and restricted opening hours in Bungendore for working people. Bungendore Post Office shares our concern. Complaints should be directed to Australia Post. Other residents have been bothered by shooting near their houses, which we may need to address on the general wider front of special rules for rural residential areas.

**Local Tourism?** We read with interest the proposals for public access to the Stonehenge type temple on Macs Reef Road. Might this be the future of the area – tourism "light". We admit that we do have relatively few places to visit in our local area, although we notice the Greenways are beginning to attract a few more walkers and joggers. In the absence of any local regular meeting event in Bywong (apart from our annual and iconic Car Boot Sale), why not venture the extra kilometre and visit the Wamboin market days, where you can buy produce and other goodies, have a leisurely breakfast or morning tea, and talk to fellow citizens of Wamboin and Bywong. Market days are well advertised in the Whisper, and we're sure the organisers are open to additional sellers.

**Next Meeting.** Our next meeting is on 10 December at 7.30 in Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road. Everyone is welcome.





### I like living in Wamboin because...

... we have lots of oxygen because we have tonnes of trees. We have zero robbers. We have a lot of friends like the Clarks and Pearses and lots of space. I love living in Wamboin. - by Nicholas Coote, age 8.

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*'Did somebody mention that Santa is on his way?'*

## 'SHUT THE .. STABLE DOOR!'

by Ian Collet

An occasional piece

For many it is now the lead up to year's end where one takes time out to be with family and friends; to celebrate or acknowledge certain rituals and possibly eat and imbibe well or to excess.

A topic of some delicacy about this has been bothering me lately. The Gen X'ers and Gen Y's out there could be better



placed than an baby-boomer to expound on current The subject matter I concerns or more directly 'farting'. Now, assemble hands on preparation for spleen either at me



ageing expand and trends etc. speak of 'flatulence' stated before you hips in venting for raising the Ed for its typically anyone, QI and its has grown. was panel 'Do

such a distasteful subject in this column, or Ned allowing content of The Whisper to plummet from stratospheric standard, if you are going to target direct your venom at the ABC and the TV show host Stephen Fry for it is from there that this seed On Wed 21 Nov, the theme for QI on the night 'Discoveries' during which Stephen Fry asked the kangaroos fart?' Setting aside the initial kerfuffle, the short answer, it seems is, yes, they do (fart). Even more interesting, though they eat the same food as cows, i.e. grass, unlike the former, roo farts appear to not hasten global warming. It appears that kangaroos don't expel methane in their 'vapours' or 'morning thunder', 'botty burps', 'duck calls' or howsoever else one might prefer to describe flatulence. A brief check of the wonderful world of the web throws up an explanation that, instead of expelling the gas into the atmosphere, a roo will reuse the methane and convert it into energy. Apparently scientists are excited at the prospect of translating this ability from a kangaroo into cows that are one of the biggest contributors of methane into the atmosphere. I know not what contribution human 'duck calls'



are to global warming but I'm sure the Gen Y's and certainly Gen Z's ie the iGeneration will soon have a handle on that, if it is not already known. Given his 9.63 secs for the 100 metre sprint at the 2012 Olympics, perhaps Usain Bolt has already learned how to bottle and convert his 'vapours'?!  
Once again I need to prevail upon the learned readership. Is there a lepidopterist out there who can throw some light on the little cutie above. I can't recall seeing the



like of this little guy before. Perhaps it is commonplace or a newy; possibly even an immature version of a known model or part albino or result of an earlier dalliance with a cabbage moth.

**HAVE A RELAXING, SAFE, 'DUCK CALL' RESTRAINED HOLIDAY PERIOD --- From the management and staff of this intergalactic occasional column**

Remember, you can view this and previous Stable Door articles and photos in living colour on-line at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/whisper>



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**Summary of a Presentation  
by the Telstra Manager  
for the ACT and Southern New South Wales, Chris Taylor,  
at the Wamboin Community Association General Meeting on 20 November 2012**

**Created through a joint effort by John van der Straaten, Ned Noel, Pete Harrison, Peter Evans and Daryl Bourke**

For several years, Telstra has considered building a new mobile phone tower in Wamboin. This has involved considerable interaction between Telstra and the Wamboin Community Association and Palerang Council. Several years ago, a Development Application (DA) for a tower on Millpost Hill was withdrawn after problems arose. A more recent DA, for a tower on the property on the southwest corner of the Denley Drive/Birchman's Grove intersection, was approved by Palerang Council in January of 2012.

Unfortunately, funding for the construction of this tower has not yet been allocated. By January of 2012, Telstra was dealing with heavy and increasing loads on its mobile network nationwide and had made the strategic decision to focus its budget on upgrading existing infrastructure to meet user demand and to keep network integrity. As a result, since mid-2011 very few new towers have been constructed and no funding is expected for new towers this financial year. Nonetheless, since Council has granted development approval for a tower at the Denley Drive site, and Telstra has adjudged the tower to be a viable investment, it is expected that it will be high on the priority list when funding is made available for new infrastructure construction.

With Telstra's strategic direction set for the current financial year, there is not a lot more that can be achieved by lobbying Telstra to support our case. Letters to politicians, however, or Telstra CEO, David Thodey, may assist our cause. While there are cases where local organisations have contributed to the construction costs to help override Telstra's budget priorities, these costs are around \$500,000 and the problem of a budget for on-going operational costs remains. A point that is often overlooked is that, since privatisation, Telstra has no obligation to provide mobile phone services to anyone. Telstra, like all other telephone service providers, provides services on a purely commercial basis. There is also no obligation, on Telstra, or any other service provider, to provide coverage for emergency services. Where they provide coverage, a service provider is obliged to provide emergency access to their network, but there is no obligation to extend a network simply because coverage for emergency services is not available in a particular location. It is not a "right" to have guaranteed mobile phone coverage.

Chris Taylor made a number of other points during his presentation. He also spent considerable time answering questions. The remainder of this article attempts to summarise these points and provide some additional information.

**ADSL:** The Telstra ADSL facilities, which serve parts of Bywong and Wamboin, are being upgraded to support ADSL2+ in December 2012. ADSL2+ 'land line' services can support transmission speeds of more than 20Mbps (ADSL supports speeds of around 8Mbps). The actual speed of the service, however, will depend on many factors, primarily on the distance from the exchange or RIM (Remote Integrated Multiplexer) (the length of the copper wire between your house and the exchange/RIM), dropping from over 20Mbps within a kilometre, to less than 10Mbps at 3 km, on a 'good' line. (continues)

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**(continued from previous page) In-building Mobile Phone Coverage:** For residents with a serious need for mobile phone coverage, a \$800 Smart Antenna can be purchased for your home. It can significantly boost a marginal mobile phone network signal. If you live in the northern part of Wamboin or the southern part of Bywong and if you are interested, phone Telstra on 132200 to receive assistance in assessing whether your location can benefit from this device.  
<http://telstra.com.au/mobile-phones/coverage/network-information/smartantenna/index.htm>

**4G:** Telstra will be rolling out its 4G network in the Canberra and Queanbeyan areas in 2013. The 4G network targets more heavily populated areas, supporting much higher data service loads, the primary growth area in mobile services. Currently Telstra's 4G is a data-only product. Voice over 4G is not yet part of the equation.  
<http://telstra.com.au/mobile-phones/coverage-networks/network-information/4g/>

**National Emergency Warning System:** Location-based mobile telephone warnings are sent using mobile telephone network data that locates the active mobile handsets in a geographical area defined by an emergency service organisation. Mobile telephone carriers issue the warning provided to them through Emergency Alert. Telstra customers will have access to the Australian emergency alert system this summer.  
<http://www.zdnet.com.au/emergency-sms-alerts-ready-for-australia-summer-7000007431/>

**Telstra Help Lines:** Telstra realises that locating its call centres off-shore has some drawbacks for users. However, nationally Telstra gets 7,000,000 calls a day, so the offshore call centres were the only practical/economical option. About 99% of these calls are handled satisfactorily by these overseas call centres, with only 1% requiring referral back to Australian Telstra officers.

**Blue Tick:** Mobile phones with the Telstra "blue tick" certification perform better in marginal areas like Wamboin and Bywong. An example of a new phone with the blue tick that has proven to be good in regional areas is the Telstra Smart Touch Phone. It is available currently at the Queanbeyan Telstra shop.

**Wamboin Phone Disruptions:** Lightning strikes are a fact of life in rural areas, and copper wire, where ever it is, attracts lightning. There have been cases where lightning strikes have literally blown hundreds of metres of copper wire out of the ground, not to mention the impact on the exchange equipment/RIM connected to this wire. Heavy rain also plays havoc with the ageing copper cable infrastructure. As the network migrates to optical fibre and wireless transmission technology, the impact of bad weather and lightning strikes will diminish.

**NBN:** The NBN is coming, but it is still unclear when it will reach Wamboin and Bywong, and whether optical fibre or wireless technology will be deployed in these areas. Across the country, in populated areas where optical fibre is used to provide NBN services, the copper wire network will eventually be removed. In areas where NBN services are provided via wireless or satellite technology, Telstra's copper network may stay but will only be used for voice services. Under the current arrangement with NBN Co, Telstra cannot provide any competing broadband service using its own infrastructure if NBN infrastructure, fibre, wireless or satellite, is available in a given location.



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## Merry Christmas from Wamboin Pony Club

Wow another year is almost over where have the months gone. This year has been busy for the local Wamboin Pony Club. Our small band of riders have spent the year enjoying all types of riding experiences. The winter months found us competing in numerous mounted games events. Throughout the year our riders have competed in many varied events around the local Canberra area. Show jumping, Dressage even Polo Cross pony club offers many riding experiences. This month the local Wamboin Pony club had it's annual trail ride into Kowen Forrest something different to a normal rally day event. Over a dozen of our riders and families made their way into the forest with their horse floats and horses. Also luckily as it was a nice sunny day. Riders headed off around the forest trails enjoying the great outdoors. A BBQ lunch and another short ride in the afternoon topped off the day – great fun for all involved.

So if you have access to your own horse and are aged from 5-25 come along and enjoy the company of other riders and see what Wamboin Pony Club has to offer. You get the chance to improve and learn many horse riding skills in a safe environment. Rally days are a great social day out. Not only do you have fun riding, there is always a BBQ lunch for you and the family to enjoy as well. Our club has dedicated volunteer instructors who will not only help your riding improve but make the day enjoyable. Wamboin Pony club usually meet's once or twice a month on Sunday's at our grounds near the end of Canning Close.

Our first Rally day for 2013 will be on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February so if you are interested come along and see all that Pony Club can offer. We would love to have some more riders' join us next year. For more information about Wamboin Pony Club and upcoming rally days contact our club secretary Jenni on 62383313 or go to our website: [www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au](http://www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au) We hope we will see you soon. - **Steve Quick**



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## **Lift for Life** **by Laura Shelley**

Qbyn Queanbeyan City Council are taking part in the Federal Government's Healthy Communities Initiative by providing the Lift for Life® program to their communities, with the aim of tackling chronic disease especially type 2 diabetes. It's no secret that people who take part in regular exercise get a real lift out of life. But when you haven't exercised for a while, often the hardest part is getting started. Some people find it difficult to get motivated and others are just not sure where to go. That's why the International Diabetes Institute, now Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, developed Lift for Life® – a unique strength training program that makes exercise easy for people with, or at risk of developing a range of chronic conditions.

The Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute has a unique operating model integrating research, education and clinical care divisions, dedicated to making a difference for people with or at risk of chronic disease. Based on medical research, Lift for Life® is perfect for people of all ages and fitness levels including those that haven't exercised in a while, and even those who may never have exercised before. And best of all, it's easy to get started.

Queanbeyan City Council is offering a limited number of free places for the initial 8 week program. Lift for Life® sessions at begin Monday 4 February 2013 at local gym Health partners. To get involved register your interest at [qparks.com.au](http://qparks.com.au)

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The Native Animal Rescue Group 2013 wombat calendar is now on sale! Better than ever. And still only \$10. Money raised helps the rescue and rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife. See *Velvet* in June (pic)! Buy one for friends, neighbours, relatives and yourself. Help to sell them too. Contact: Philip Machin 6238 3717 or [machin4@bigpond.com](mailto:machin4@bigpond.com).

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## People Who Work Month After Month to Deliver the Whisper Possible -- Is this Good?

Getting a printed copy of the Whisper to Wamboin, Bywong and East Sutton Mailboxes costs a lot – and those of you in the list below pay a big chunk this price, month after month, in time, and, unless you do this work while walking or running or biking, in vehicle running costs. It seems reasonable to occasionally ask you for your views or your vote on the Whisper's delivery system (you). The immediate trigger for this request right now is that over time some residents have pointed out that the Whisper could save your time, the environmental cost of many vehicle kilometres and 1274 x 36 A4 sides of paper required for printed Whispers by moving to a pure or partial on-line system. Residents could just use the internet to view the Whisper at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au) and, if desired, print it out.

Along with most of the Community Association regulars, I have learned to see considerable value in the current hard copy distribution system.

However, sometimes new or long simmering views about better ways to do things can be good ones. At the next Wamboin Community Association meeting (7:30 pm, Tues, Dec 18) moving more on-line distribution system will be discussed. Melody Black of Norton Road has offered to be the “devil’s advocate” against the current system or, more positively, the “angels’ advocate” for a change. If you have a view, especially if you work to deliver the Whisper, write for it, advertise in it, or, more generally, read it, like getting it in your mailbox or don’t really want to get it, is welcome to come. If you aren’t up to coming but have a view, please send it before Dec 18 to [whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au) or post your view on the Wamboin Community Noticeboard. All these emails and Noticeboard postings, unless the author requests otherwise, will be printed out and distributed at the meeting and also made available through the WCA website and/or electronic noticeboard.

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.

Thanks to each of 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
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40

### 177: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 6238 3596

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
Diana Griffin	Majors Cl	18	David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	36
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45)	59	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	26
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			

### 232: CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: ph 6238 3489

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	44
Colleen Foster	B’dore Rd to Nrtm 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

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

Sheryl Barnes	Denley Dr (Sth End 1/2 way2 Kestral)	15	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 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)	33	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
Kevin Beier	DenleyDr (Kestral2 1/2 way 2SthEnd)	15			

### 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

### 203: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	26
Kevin Anderson	B’dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	35	Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	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

### 109: CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 6238 3484

Diana Griffin	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25	David Anderson	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	25
Advertisers & Misc	Recipients outside area	45	Palerang Council	Council Offices	14

**TOTAL 1,274**

## Nature Notes November 2011

Jo Walker

The welcome rainfall of more than 50 mm towards the end of the month has spruced up the vegetation. And, with a bit more dampness forecast, it's likely we'll have a green landscape for Christmas.

Black Wattle trees (*Acacia mearnsii*) have been flowering along Sutton Road and, slightly later, into Wamboin. They are flowering so well this year that two trees I planted near the creek are mostly hidden in a cloud of cream flowers. This is a strange wattle, as it starts producing seed-pods from the previous year's flowering when in bud for the next season. The trees have produced more than the usual crop of seed-pods this year, but there won't be many left to ripen as the Sulphur-crested Cockatoos evidently find the green fruit delicious. The Gang-gangs feed on developing wattle seed-pods too sometimes.

Another planted tree, the red-flowered *Eucalyptus leucoxylon*, is providing a feast too at present, with Noisy Friarbirds and a host of Red Wattlebirds squabbling over the nectar-filled blossoms. But, it wasn't a good month for all of the birds. A pair of Magpies built a substantial nest in a large eucalypt near the house and were sitting on their eggs or guarding the nest for about a week. Then they were gone, after a few cursory inspections of the nest one day before it was abandoned. There are several Currawongs around and, recently, the occasional Raven has turned up, so I suppose one of them took the eggs.

The golden flowers of the Sticky Everlasting Daisy (*Xerochrysum viscosum*) are brightening up our roadsides, looking especially attractive where they are growing amongst the taller white-flowering Cauliflower Bushes (*Cassinia longifolia*). Unfortunately, seasons that are good for our native plants also favour some of the prevalent introduced weeds. This year, Centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*) has come up everywhere. One of its common names is Pink Stars. It's an attractive little plant with heads of bright pink flowers – but it's not one of ours and I'm spending hours pulling it out right now before it flowers. The hours of stooping and pulling have had one advantage though. I've found several patches of *Polygala japonica* in damp grassland areas after not having seen it for several years. It grows almost hidden amongst the grasses and has tiny purple flowers. It is in the same family (Polygalaceae) as the twining blue-flowered creeper, *Comesperma volubile*, which also grows here, and, at the moment, is covered in small green seed-pods.

One of the Eastern Grey Kangaroos here seems to have adopted a joey. Her own joey was one of the first to leave the pouch this year, and was already semi-independent. Then her mother appeared one morning with a small, paler furred joey peering out of the pouch. One of the other does, one of her sister in fact, seems to have lost her joey. So it looks as if it might have been rescued by its aunt. Wamboin is full of interesting happenings!



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## Geary's Gap Pony Club - Another Successful Year!

by Natalie Smith

As we draw to the end of 2012, Geary's Gap Pony Club is celebrating another successful year with riders succeeding in several events including Canberra Royal Show, Zone (regional) Showjumping, polocrosse, mounted games, sporting and Show riding. GGPC also participated in demonstration rides for the Bywong Car Boot Sale and a Musical Ride for the official naming of Urriara Village. In addition we have had several members selected as representational riders in state and national teams in sporting, mounted games, polocrosse, and dressage. We thank the community for supporting our members throughout 2012 and wish you a very merry christmas and safe new year and we look forward to working with you in 2013.

To ensure our riders continue to have access to equipment to advance their equestrian skills, and even more importantly ensure our rally days remain a great success we will be holding a fundraising event 'The Gappers Great Ride' on 9 December 2012. Currently we are seeking to raise funds to purchase a trailer to store show jumping equipment to increase the equipment's life span and prevent further loss of equipment; we are also seeking to further develop the cross country course on the grounds.

The Gappers Great Ride event will operate similar to a school walkathon with riders seeking small donations to complete a 2 hour ride that will require team work, horsemanship, and a demonstration of riding skills through a variety of activities. If you wish to sponsor a rider or make a small donation contact Nat Smith at [majestic.pines45@gmail.com](mailto:majestic.pines45@gmail.com) or more information can also be found on the Geary's Gap Pony Club website <http://www.gearysgap.pcansw.org.au/>.

Geary's Gap Pony Club also welcomes new members, members of the comuity seeking information of pony club and members of the community that wish to volunteer some time to assist in furthering our young riders equestrian knowledge. Our rally days are generally held the second Sunday of the month at the Les Reardon Reserve, Birriwa Road Bywong. GGPC will also be holding our annual camp at Bungendore Showground 3-6 January 2013 that is open to all financial members of GGPC, anyone that is interested is welcome to watch our riders and have a friendly chat with member families.

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Children are very welcome to the classes, however please discuss with us if your child will need help from an adult throughout the lessons. Class duration: 1 hours Cost: \$135 per dog for 6 weeks. Class limit: 6 people

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# The Wamboin Firefighter

The Wamboin Firefighter newsletter is produced by the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade for the benefit of residents and property owners in the brigade's area i.e. the localities of Wamboin, plus Bywong and Sutton (south of the Federal Highway).

## **WE ARE IN THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD**

(1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> March)

### **THERE IS A REAL RISK OF UNCONTROLLED FIRES IN OUR AREA**

TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS  
RING TRIPLE ZERO



#### **FIRE PERMITS**

With few exceptions, during the declared Bushfire Danger Period a fire permit is required for any fire in the open. For further advice and to seek a Fire Permit, contact the local Fire Control Centre (Lake George Zone FCC in Queanbeyan) on (02) 6297 1840 during weekday business hours. To contact the Wamboin brigade directly, email [captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au) or phone 0409 991 340.

## **PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

### **THE THREAT AND DANGER OF GRASS FIRE**

The threat of fast-moving intense grassfires is a major concern this fire season. The fire brigade has warned residents of this risk on several previous occasions including in earlier newsletters, the community-wide information session the brigade held at the Fire Station in September and the monthly Brigade Information Shopfronts at the Wamboin Local Produce Markets. There is mounting evidence in our region, and elsewhere in NSW as well as in the other States that grass fires are problematic this year.

Grass fires can be especially dangerous because they start quickly and spread rapidly, catching people off-guard. They can be very hot and produce large amounts of heat that can kill anyone caught out in the open.

#### **Preparing for grass fires**

There are things you can do now to protect yourself and your property from grass fires.

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

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

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

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

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

These are just some of the things you can do to reduce the risk to your property. If you haven't already prepared a Bush Fire Survival Plan, the NSW RFS has a booklet that includes a template that you might like to have a look at. The booklet can be viewed and downloaded from the NSW RFS website at <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au>

#### **What to do during a grass fire**

If you see a fire, report it immediately to Triple Zero (000). This means the NSW RFS can get the right resources like firefighters and trucks there as quickly as possible. The earlier you report the fire, the earlier local brigades can get to it and start protecting you and your community.

The safest place to be during any fire is well away from it but because grass fires can start and spread so quickly, it's important you know what to do if a fire starts.

Grass fires can generate large amounts of heat, so make sure you protect yourself by covering up all exposed skin with protective clothing like:

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

Make sure you drink plenty of water to keep hydrated and be aware of your level of physical fitness. You should also be aware of the risk of heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn during a grass fire.

If a fire starts, follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Monitor your local radio station for updates and check the NSW RFS website for advice and information at <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au>

A short (2min) video on Grass Fires has been prepared by the NSW RFS. You can view it on You Tube – just punch 'PrepareActSurvive – Grass Fires – YouTube' into your search engine.

## **BRIGADE ACTIVITY**

### **Callouts**

The brigade has been called to one emergency incident since the last newsletter. On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November just before midday the brigade responded to a report of a grass fire on a property in Macs Reef Rd. It appears the fire had been triggered while a resident was cutting grass on a ride-on mower. Although on this occasion the brigade's quick response vehicle was on scene within 12 minutes of the brigade being advised, the fire had quickly spread. The relatively benign conditions meant that the fire remained within the boundaries of the property but had conditions been windier this might have been a different story. With the later arrival of one of the brigade's heavy tankers (28 mins from time brigade first advised) and support from Bungendore Rural Fire Brigade, the fire was quickly extinguished.

While mowing or slashing grass is a good way to prepare your property, we ask that you be mindful of the risks associated with mowing. In a generally dry environment as exists at present, grass can easily ignite by friction if caught around moving or hot parts of a ride-on mower or slasher, or from sparks from an exhaust or the cutter blades in rough and rocky terrain. It is important to also consider prevailing weather conditions and the time of day you undertake mowing activity. Finally, there is a requirement under NSW Rural Fires Regulations to carry on the machine, or have in the vicinity, prescribed fire safety equipment i.e. a knapsack spray pump of 16 litre minimum capacity filled with water, or a fire extinguisher (liquid type) of 9 litre minimum capacity, or a dry powder type extinguisher of 0.9 kg minimum capacity.

### **Hazard Reduction**

During the month three members of the Wamboin Fire Brigade and members from several other brigades in the Zone assisted Captains Flat Rural Fire Brigade with a critical hazard reduction burn on one of the hilltops overlooking the Captains Flat township. The aim of the exercise was to reduce the fuel load and risk of ember attack on the village in the event of a wildfire.



### Training

We have already had a number of grass and scrub fires this season. It is in these circumstances that fire over-runs or burnovers most often occur. Training activity during November focused on the issues of safety on a fireground particularly in the context of fire over-runs. The brigade conducted safety drills involving all the vehicles. There was a thorough revision of the crew safety equipment on each vehicle including operation of the crew protection spray bars. Each vehicle's equipment operates differently. Over-run drills were conducted on each vehicle.

### A trip to 'The Henge'

Residents who live along Macs Reef Rd and others who travel it no doubt have observed the strange but familiar grouping of rocks on a property at the junction of Macs Reef Rd and the Federal Highway. The property owners generously invited all residents along Macs Reef Rd and the fire brigade to a sausage sizzle on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November for a closer look at the rock formation. Naturally, many residents and members of the brigade's Community Engagement Team accepted the invitation. According to reports, more than one hundred people came along and what a great few hours it was for all marvelling and wandering among the rocks and meeting each other. Many of the residents also took advantage of the brigade's presence to discuss issues and receive advice and printed materials to assist them with their bush fire preparations. The brigade would like to acknowledge and thank the visiting residents and the owners of the property for the gold coin donations which were passed to the brigade to help fund its operations.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Brigade Information ‘Shopfront’ outside the Fire Station adjacent to the Wamboin Home Produce Market (9am-12noon).
Sat 19th January 2013	Brigade Information ‘Shopfront’ outside the Fire Station adjacent to the Wamboin Home Produce Market (9am-12noon).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### Wamboin Brigade Website

The site will help you 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>

As always, if at any time you have a query about a fire-related issue including preparing yourself, your family and your property for a bush, grass or house fire, please contact the Brigade directly by email [captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au) or phone 0409 991 340.



## SEASONS GREETINGS

The Brigade would like to wish the Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton communities south of the Federal Highway a happy and safe holiday period. This is our last article for the year. We hope you have found our monthly articles during the year helpful and informative. We will be back in February with another edition of the Wamboin Firefighter. Back copies of the Brigade’s articles can be viewed on the Wamboin Community Association’s website at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/>

### FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



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## **Properties Recently Under Offer/Sold by Sutton Real Estate**

**UNDER OFFER** - 66 Dolomite Drive, Via Bungendore - \$285,000

**UNDER OFFER** - 18 Sorrell Close, Bungendore - \$595,000

**UNDER OFFER** - 43 Wyoming Road, Bywong - \$999,000

**SOLD** - 64 Morning Street, Gundaroo - \$565,000

**SOLD** - Bungendore Road, Bywong - \$495,000

**SOLD** - 1478 Bungendore Road, Bywong - \$810,000

**SOLD** - 81 Majara Street, Bungendore - \$580,000

**SOLD** - 2 Hyland Drive, Bungendore - \$615,000

**SOLD** - 3 Lithgow Place, Bungendore - \$640,000

**SOLD** - 20 Birch Drive, Bungendore - \$610,000

**SOLD** - 130 Sugarloaf Ridge Road, Carwoola - \$544,000

**SOLD** - 8 Eyre Street, Bungendore - \$618,000

**SOLD** - 419 Back Creek Road, Gundaroo - \$910,000

**SOLD** - 111 Weeroona Drive, Wamboin - \$870,000

**SOLD** - 2 Larmer Street, Bungendore - \$537,500

**SOLD** - 15 Pony Place, Carwoola - \$930,000

## 27th WAMBOIN GOLF OPEN

by John Whitney

On a rather warm and sunny Sunday afternoon a field of twenty plus golfers gathered at the Wamboin Rural Golf Course to contest the 27th Wamboin Golf Open. As is tradition, a stoke event is played over this rugged and challenging terrain with competitors choosing to play either the 9 or 18 hole course. At the end of the day, another tradition took place - the gathering of players and spectators to witness the trophy presentations and partake in plentiful eats and refreshments. Today's visitor trophy went to Casey Ivey who shared a round with her not so famous golfing dad, Len.

**Winners:** Long drive and nearest the pin winners were Joan Mason, Ken Gordon x2, Neville Schroder, Rob Gorham x2, Dan Monie and John Whitney. Club Champions for their net score were: 9 holes Deb Gordon first, Jason Beckett second and Peter Greenwood third. 18 hole Club Champions for 2012 were Len Ivey first, John Whitney second and Tim Barter third. Eclectic Champions being Nev Schroder for the 18 holes and Ken Gordon for the 9 competition. Junior Encouragement Awards went to Maddy, Phoebe, Alex, Jarrod and Logan - well done kids.

**Open Champions:** The 2012 Junior Champion is Rachel Schroder. The 2012 Ladies Open Champion (9 holes) is Joan Mason. The 2012 Wamboin Men's Open Champion is Dan Monie.

Don't forget next month's event is our Christmas Trophy. Come along to the Community Hall in Bingley Way on Sunday 2nd December at 12:30, all welcome.



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## Wheels of Wamboin -- Claiming the day - 20 April 2013

At a recent Wamboin Community Association meeting it was suggested that we hold a motor show to coincide with a market day.

I am sure there are many unique vehicles hidden away in sheds around Wamboin and Bywong that the owners would love to bring out for the day. It does not have to be expensive, shiny or bright it just has to be special to you. So fire up your old, interesting, collectable, classic, special or rare set of wheels and bring them down to the Wamboin Community Hall. All welcome no matter what condition. All cars are conversation starters.

It would be great to have an assortment of other machinery from stationary motors to tractors, trucks and motorbikes as well. Also happy for swap meet tables to clean out those sheds. Hopefully we can make this an annual event.

Entry will be by gold coin donation and swap meet tables at \$5 each. All proceeds to the Community Association.

For any further information please contact Peter Evans on 0427 699 118 or at [peter.evans@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:peter.evans@wamboincommunity.asn.au) More info closer to the event in February Whisperer.

When: Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 from 9.00am

Where: Wamboin Community Hall Bingley Way Wamboin

*"There wasn't a moment where I got into cars. It wasn't a conscience decision or something that came later, it was there since I was born. I just love It". Eric Bana*

## Wamboin 15 Years Ago From the Whisper, December, 1997 Circulation 600

**St Andrew's Church:** As the building of the Church nears completion, the people of St Andrew's thank the Wamboin Community Association for generously allowing us to use the Community Hall for our services. Some of our present congregation were on the WCA committee at the time of planning and building the Hall; our association has been a long and happy one. Our first service was in the Hall on January 20th 1985, so we are among the earliest users.

Some of us remember the time when community user groups were rostered to clean the Hall. We therefore realise the work involved and especially appreciate what Joan Mason and more recently, Judith Evans, do for the community. We have frequently arrived on Sunday morning to find a note from Joan asking Saturday users to leave the Hall clean for the Church, and we know she has come very early some Sunday mornings to be sure it was in good order. (Services were at 8.15am then). Joan and Judith, the St Andrew's people thank you very sincerely.

The Church is unlikely to be completely finished by Christmas, but we will have our very first service there on Christmas Eve. In addition to celebrating the birth of Christ, we shall celebrate the gift of a Church building to the community. It is your Church, please come and celebrate Christmas there."

Footnote: Following that Christmas service, attended by 196 people, the building was returned to the builder, Wamboin's Ken Kelly, who completed the work and gave it back to us in time for February's services and its Consecration by Bishop George Browning on March 8th, 1998.



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## News from WWOW The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

We are indeed a disparate group of women with many different backgrounds, yet one major factor we all have in common is our willingness to welcome everyone into our circle warts and all. No matter our faults we all feel accepted, even the likes of myself. It's true, I'm not perfect and yes, I made a mistake. In last month's *Whisper*, I incorrectly named one of our own. I reported on a talk by some stranger called Bernadette Walsh, daughter of a fictitious WWOW called Maureen Walsh. Please note, these women do not exist. In fact, the real women are Maureen Boss and her daughter Bernadette Boss. I have no explanation but do confidently plea temporary insanity, knowing that I will be forgiven for my momentary sign of weakness. Lesson Number One: check your facts not once, not twice but three times before going to print. Mea culpa.

Recently we had the pleasure of a visit by Belinda Hogarth-Boyd, newly elected member of the Palerang Council. She talked of growing up in Goulburn where her love for wildlife began. Years later as an adult living in Bungendore she undertook a snake handling course. She took it in her stride, becoming a skilled volunteer handler before moving into a coordination role. As well, we learnt of her work experiences and environmental interests. I'm sure we all feel that we now know Belinda much more as a result of her visit. It was great to meet her.

There is a buzz amongst the WWOW as we prepare for the Xmas letterbox decorating competition. We are very much looking forward to the event, particularly photographing the entries. It will be great to see just how many have taken on the challenge. So don't forget, to win a prize, have your letterbox decorated by Sunday 16 December.

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.

For more information contact Gail Ritchie Knight 0416 097 500 [whirlwind@argonite.com.au](mailto:whirlwind@argonite.com.au).




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**A BLOKE WITH A MOWER**



- Worried about the forecast for a long, hot grassfire season?
- Having trouble seeing the snakes come out to play?
- Got better things to do with your weekends than sitting on the ride-on, or pushing the Victa around the yard?
- How many times have you said to yourself "I wish I knew a bloke with a mower".

**WELL NOW YOU DO!!! And he lives right here, in Bywong!!**

**My mighty Toro mower will handle light to medium tussock (but not a paddock that hasn't seen a slash for years, with tussocks a metre tall!). Give me a holler, and I'll come and have a look before committing to the job. If the mower (or the operator!) is not up to it, I'll tell you straight and not waste your time and money. \$45 per hour, or fixed price negotiated rate.**

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**Phone Graham on 0421356666.**

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Qualified Saddle Fitter at your service. 0428 575 617 / 62381980 <a href="mailto:sam.goesch@westnet.com.au">sam.goesch@westnet.com.au</a> Independantly owned business. Saddle fit advice, evaluation and knowledge to help you achieve the best fit for you and your horse. Very reasonable rates - Not connected to a saddlery store I can help with : purchasing / refitting / flocking adjustment / changing gullets shimming and pad advice / saddle suitability / balance
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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 <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a> .
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 <a href="mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au">nednoel@optusnet.com.au</a>

**Notice to Long Term Advertisers: For the next Whisper, so as to ensure that what is printed belongs to someone who wants it printed, the long term classifieds will be empty except for any items that the owner asks to continue. You can ask by sending an email about your entry to [whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au)**

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## WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way.

A great November market. It was really nice to see so many come along and enjoy the friendly atmosphere with locals and visitors supporting the markets.

The Christmas market is December 15<sup>th</sup> Again we expect a good number of stalls for selling interesting products to buy. Alan who has been a stallholder at the markets since the start will be there with a variety of nuts, dried fruits and lollies to purchase for Christmas. Eleanor always has lovely homemade raspberry jam, and other raspberry products for that extra gift also, plus other goods to purchase. Shirley and Helen make their special greeting cards including lovely Christmas cards to purchase as well. Sally will be there with homemade cakes, sausage rolls, quiches etc. Trish and John produce tasty local honey, varying quantities in small jars up to 1kg bucket available, together with beeswax candles and other products. This is just a few of the goods available at the markets. Other stalls consist of - Eggs, Flowers, Produce – (hopefully some of the home grown vegies are becoming available) Jewellery, Knitted items, Soaps, Hand and Body creams by Linda, Books, Plants, Worm Juice.

Egg and bacon rolls, together with delicious scones with jam & cream, & hot coffee all available to enjoy. We need someone to take over the scones stall, as due to other commitments, our regulars are unable to continue. Many thanks to Helen, Marylou and Jenny for their time providing scones from month to month. Please contact me if you are interested in continuing this stall.

DECEMBER 15 is our next market. 9AM-12 NOON

The first market for the new year is\*JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> 2013

NOTE: The recent Wamboin Community Association meeting, planned that in conjunction with the APRIL 2013 MARKETS a display of 'Unusual cars/vehicles/wheels' will be on show on the oval next to the hall during market time. Further details when available.

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## St Andrews and St Peters (SRMD) Notices

With the year drawing to a close it's time to think about Christmas and the festive season. Many of you will be planning holidays, writing Christmas cards and thinking about gifts for family and friends. The churches of the Sutton Road have been doing some thinking and planning, too, to celebrate the joy of Christmas in our community.

Advent studies are being offered at St Andrews, Poppet Rd, on Tuesday evenings at 7pm on the 4th, 11th and 18th of December. The Rev Dr Peter Grundy, our Pastor, will be conducting these sessions. All are welcome. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Peter on 6248 7913.

There will be a Christmas party with carols, food and drink at 7pm at St Peters in Sutton on Sunday, 23rd December. Come with your best voices to a community event and share the Christmas spirit with your neighbours.



### January 2013 "Rest and Renew" Yoga Retreat

Step into the sights and sounds of nature.... revive your spirit....soothe your soul.....Spend a whole day completely relaxing, immersing yourself in yoga and restoring back to balance.

**Date:** Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2013.

**Time:** 10:00a.m-3:00p.m.

**Cost:** \$120.00 (Lunch included)

**Brief Overview of Retreat:** The day begins with a two-hour gentle, but active yoga practice in the morning. This is followed by lunch and an optional silent walking meditation. A restorative yoga session and yoga nidra completes the day, with a herbal tea to send you on your way.

If you are interested in joining this retreat, please book as soon as possible to reserve your place. Payment is due by Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2013.

### Enrol now for 2013 Term 1 Classes

Come and enjoy the wonderful gift of yoga in a tranquil bushland setting. Enhance your health and vitality, strengthen muscles, improve flexibility and discover new breathing techniques. Experience deep relaxation through lavender eye bags, supportive bolsters and heat packs. Enjoy a herbal tea and meet new friends.

Beginners are welcome!

Classes will be held in the cottage at 215 Norton Road, Wamboin on:

CLASS 1: Sunday afternoons, 3<sup>rd</sup> February-7<sup>th</sup> April, 5:00-6:30p.m.

CLASS 2 (NEW): Monday evenings, 4<sup>th</sup> February-8<sup>th</sup> April, 6:30-8:00p.m.

Please direct all enquiries to:

Roxane Atkinson DIP (T) HH DIP (YT)

Phone: 6238 3892

Website: [www.lilyfieldyoga.webs.com](http://www.lilyfieldyoga.webs.com)

Email: [lilyfield\\_yoga@live.com.au](mailto:lilyfield_yoga@live.com.au)

At 6pm on Christmas Eve, our local animals will be starring once again in the grounds of St Andrews at the Nativity Pageant, along with baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary, a few wise men, and a host of small angels and assembled shepherds. Bring your wings and crooks if you have them. After the Pageant there will be carols in the garden before Holy Communion at 7pm.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9am on Christmas Day, at St Peters, Sutton.

From the congregation of the SRMD, we wish you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas, and special times with family and friends throughout the holiday season.

## GREENWAYS 2013 COMMUNITY FIELD DAYS

FuturePLANS in collaboration with Palerang Council, Greenways Committee, (FROG), and Wamboin Landcare will be holding two communityfield days in early 2013. Come along and help us plant the

Greenways on Sunday, March 17 or Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (more details in February 2013 Whisper).



## Councillor's Corner

**Palerang Local Environmental Plan** — Following some minor amendments by the new Council, the draft Palerang Local Environmental Plan (PLEP) has finally been certified for public exhibition. Council is now in the process of scheduling a series of public information sessions, to be held throughout the shire to brief residents on the new planning instrument. The draft PLEP will be released for public comment on Wednesday 5 December and the public information sessions will be run in the weeks immediately following (check Council's website at [www.palerang.nsw.gov.au](http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au) for details). The exhibition period is being extended to compensate for the Christmas/New Year break, and will run until Friday 8 March. Following a review of public submissions, Council will make any necessary amendments prior to final submission of the Plan for adoption, expected to be before the middle of 2013.

Given the public nature of the process by which the draft PLEP has been developed, it is expected that document will be generally acceptable as it stands. The exhibition period, however, is the first opportunity most people will have had to review the finished draft in its entirety and thus to assess the internal consistency of the document. As such, interested residents are encouraged to download a copy of the document from the council website and submit their comments before the end of the exhibition period.

This is the first major revision of planning regulations in some parts of the shire in over 20 years. The irony of the situation is that, just as Council completes this new planning instrument, the state government has announced that it intends to introduce a completely new Local Government planning system in the next 12 months. The planning system reforms would do away with Local Environmental Plans and Development Control Plans, the current mainstays of current Local Government planning, in favour of a simplified Land Use Plan. Anyone suffering from insomnia, if I haven't cured that problem already, is referred to the Planning Review website at <http://www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au> for details on the status of the reform process.

The more cynical amongst us might suggest that, since it's taken almost 12 years to get standard instrument LEPs in place (and there are still many councils that don't have them) any new planning system is hardly likely to be adopted across the board in just 12 months. Time will tell...

**The Palerang Blog**—New entries in my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) since my last update: Developer Contributions, Lot Size Averaging Update

See also the Palerang Info Zone (<http://peteharrison.id.au/infozone/lep>).

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 3640, Mob. 0427 711 028, Email: [Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au), Website: [www.peteharrison.id.au](http://www.peteharrison.id.au)



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Experience the Christmas Story,  
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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

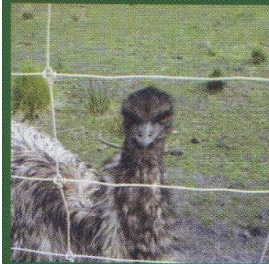
You never know what's around the corner in this life, waiting to surprise and delight you, or take your breath away, or worse, cut out the ground from under your feet, but there are some certainties like Christmas and summer, and they're both almost upon us.

I don't have to traipse to the shops to see the signs of Christmas. I just have to look outside and listen to what is happening there. The bottle brushes are starting to flower with their red and green Christmas colours, gums are beginning to blossom, the grass is turning crisp and brown, sprinklers have come out of the shed after their winter hibernation, and the fledgling galahs and magpies are rudely demanding to be fed. They do behave like spoil brats! Suddenly, underfoot, there is a fat goanna, inert and glistening black, silently cursing that it had been caught out, and a little dragon shimmers over the surface of a rock. I was about to venture outside the other day, without my regulation boots, but I'm glad I stopped to put them on. As I was scaling the chook yard fence, a sleek brown snake scratched the grass as it slid between my legs. I'd been seeing sticks masquerading as snakes for several weeks but this real live "stick" did sort of take my breath away, and reminded me that spring is past and summer is here.

It has been a beautiful spring, a surprisingly beautiful spring. My surviving rose bushes have outdone themselves, the rock roses, many self sown like the lavenders, are covered with flowers, and the bush is pretty with masses of yellow paper daisies and orange peas. I even found a tiger orchid, for the first time, on my side of the fence! But beware...some of the masses of yellow seen from a distance are not everlasting daisies, but yellow fields of St John's Wort, apparently ignorant of State boundaries!

So, with Christmas almost here, I hope that your surprises at year's end are only those that delight you, under the Christmas tree. And I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a relaxing, well earned break before we turn the corner into 2013.

Another year has come to an end....and I wouldn't have wanted to spend it anywhere else but Wamboin.



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