

The Whisper

May 2013 CIRCULATION: 1,273

Wamboin Community Assn: www.wamboincommunity.asn.au
 Bywong Community: www.bywongcommunity.org.au
 Fire Brigade: <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION that started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981, and continues to own it. The newsletter is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin, Bywong and to Palerang Council residents southeast 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 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 May 2013 issue the deadline is Sunday, 26 May, 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	Jenny Richards, President	6238 1329	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community	Darryl Bourke, President		president@bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade	David Cochrane, Captain	0409 991 340	
Palerang Councillor	Pete Harrison	0427 711 028	cr.pete.harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au
Palerang Councillor	Keith France	0427 365 715	cr.keith.france@palerang.nsw.gov.au
Wamboin Markets	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	
Sutton School Playgroup	Johanna Bradley, Convenor	0406 399 713	johannabradley@dodo.com.au
Landcare	Roger Good, Secretary	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	Leanne Quick, Club Captain	6238 3435	
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Katarina Biondic, contact	0421 859 917	
Wamboin Play Group	Emma Auzins, Convener	6238 3974	cotsell@moraguy.net
Bywong Hall Bookings	Guy Cotsell, contact	6230 3523	
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 Wmen of Wmbn	Gail Ritchie Knight, Contact	0416 097 500	whirlwind@argonite.com.au
Lake George VIEW Club	Pauline Segeri, contact	6238 1996	
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	Genevieve Phipps	Babysitting/ petsitting	6238 1660



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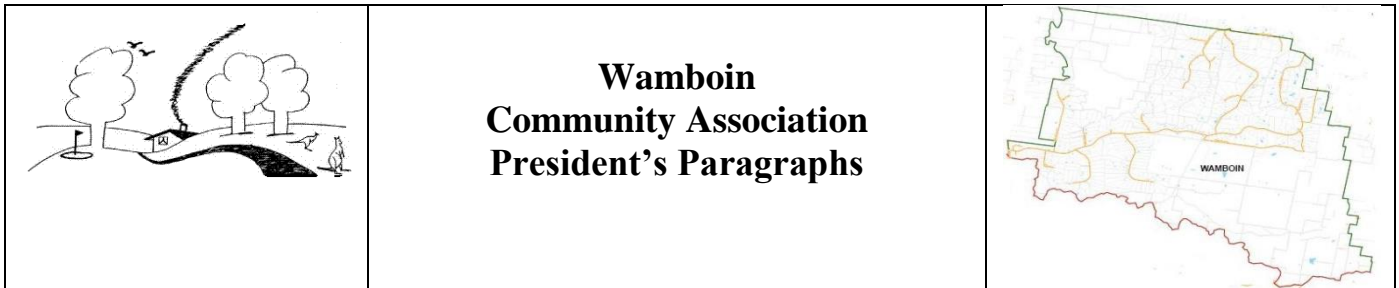
We would like to thank you Kim for the work and effort you put into selling our home. We found you very professional and always so bright and cheerful. It was indeed lovely to deal through you. We would always recommend you to anyone needing to sell or buy property

Hi Daniel, I had originally purchased the house through you and I was impressed at the time with the friendly and professional way you handled that process, so I had no hesitation in asking you to be my agent when it came time to sell. You accomplished a quick sale, at the price I wanted and made the process easy from start to finish. It was a pleasure to deal with you and I would have no hesitation in recommending you to others

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Hello everyone, welcome back. It seems that April was as busy a month as March was.

Guest Speaker's Visit – Tuesday the 16th was our April meeting. We were fortunate to welcome a guest speaker; Angus Taylor, the endorsed liberal federal candidate to it to speak with us. Naturally Angus preferred to concentrate on federal issues particularly those relating to our local areas of Wamboin and Bywong. We had an excellent turn out of interested people and I think everyone who made the effort to come and meet Angus and talk with him. There are some issues of a local nature that are currently concerning some people but our meeting of Tuesday 16th was to primarily gain a perspective on **federal** topics because that is, after all, the arena where Angus hopes to represent in. I'm sure everyone who came did gain some insight into some of those federal issues.

Wheels of Wamboin – Saturday 20th April saw the inaugural Wheels of Wamboin event. To say it was an outstanding success is to put it mildly. All sorts of motor vehicle were arranged on the oval for people to admire and inspect. A full report on this event (which promises to be an annual fixture on our calendar) is located further on in The Whisper. I will merely content myself with thanking all those people who participated to make the event a success and it's organiser, Pete Evans, for getting it established.

Monthly Produce Market – The same Saturday (20th April) was also our monthly market day. The Wheels of Wamboin were planned to coincide with our regular market day and both events helped to bolster each other with mutual success. A full report on the market will be located further on in The Whisper but it was a busy and successful day.

Art Competition For Our Youngest People – Finally a sincere call to all our tiny artists out there. Our editor (Ned) and I are keen to get a competition underway for any 3, 4, and 5 year olds in our area. The topic is anything that they like, see, relate to, about Wamboin or Bywong. Prizes will be offered in each age group and **all** entries will be scanned into The Whisper although only the electronic version will display colours. For full details please see the ad further on in this issue of The Whisper and please consider submitting your young artist's work to either Ned Noel (editor) or myself.

- Jenny Richards (President)

NOTICE
The Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade
2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on
Tuesday 11th June 2013
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

Lighting a fire - Quick Facts

A quick guide to your responsibilities when lighting a fire or undertaking activities that may result in a fire

There are significant penalties if you light an illegal fire, or if your fire escapes and causes damage to property or the environment.

It is therefore essential that you are aware of the legal and safety requirements before you conduct a burn or use equipment that is likely to ignite a fire.

When lighting any fire you should ensure that you are wearing appropriate clothing, have a water supply available on site and that

you have a cleared area around the perimeter of the fire. You must also use all practical means to prevent or minimise air pollution.

The following table provides a general guide to what you need to consider before lighting a fire.

If you require any further information, please contact the NSW Rural Fire Service or Fire & Rescue NSW.

	General Requirements	Total Fire Ban Days
Can I light a camp fire in a NSW State Forest, National Park or Regional Park? (for cooking or recreational purposes)	<p>Only in some situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forests and National Parks may place restrictions on the lighting of fires in parks and reserves. Check with your local National Park or Forestry office to determine their requirements. 	<p>No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All camp fires are banned on Total Fire Ban days.
Can I light a camp fire on my property? (for cooking or recreational purposes)	<p>Yes, as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are burning dry, seasoned wood; and You have cleared an area of at least 2 metres around the perimeter of the fire. 	<p>No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No fire is to be lit in the open on Total Fire Ban days.
Can I light my own portable gas or electric BBQ in a NSW State Forest, National Park or Regional Park?	<p>Only in some situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forests and National Parks may place restrictions on the lighting of BBQs in parks and reserves. Check with your local National Park or Forestry office to determine their requirements. 	<p>No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portable gas/electric BBQs are banned in NSW State Forests, National Parks or Regional Parks on Total Fire Ban days. <p>Note: In some cases you may be able to use gas or electric BBQs constructed by the NSW National Park or State Forest in specified picnic areas.</p>
Can I light a gas or electric BBQ on my property?	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes, as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is under the direct control of a responsible adult; and The ground within 2 metres of the barbecue is cleared of all materials which could burn. <p>As well as the following additional requirements for gas BBQs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is on a residential property within 20 metres of the house or dwelling; and You have an immediate and continuous supply of water available.

This document is intended as a guide only. Exemptions may apply in some circumstances. If an approval or permit is in place, their conditions will take precedent over the above and following information.

For further information contact
 NSW Rural Fire Service - 1800 679 737
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Fire & Rescue NSW - (02) 9265 2999
www.fire.nsw.gov.au

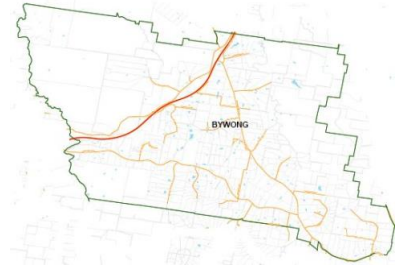


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Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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



Imminent Trivia. It may seem a long way off, but it sneaks up on us. This year's trivia night is Saturday 13 July, which is closer than you think. We already have one team with an academic flavour. Will they turn out to be threatening mature intellects or just old fuddy-duddies? To make sure of seeing them in action and testing yourselves, make your booking soon. The electronics will be even more spectacular than last year, and we promise you won't be obliged to sing. See our ad elsewhere in this issue, and book early with Greg Gougeon. Soups will be as gourmet as ever!

On the map. For those of you who have missed important community events through not being able to find the Bywong Hall (!), we are now about to acquire an address. The hall is to receive a standard street number under the rural addressing system. We may even install a post box!

The Community has contributed from time to time to hall improvements and maintenance, and has recently also provided some additional amenities. We can now supply a gas bottle for the barbecue which we donated some time ago, and the technical wizards on our committee have also installed a screen and projector. These facilities, however, do not necessarily come with hire of the hall, and their use should be requested from the Community.

The hall bookings officer apologizes to those who have recently been unable to access the availability calendar for the hall through the Community website. A technical glitch has now been remedied, and a click on the leads on our website's home page will take you straight there.

Blockade runners. We are now well into the Age of Inconvenience sparked by the closure of the hill on Macs Reef Road. Early days saw a number of motorists still trying to drive through, despite the signage, but the periodic night attendance of a police car, which resulted in a number of on-the-spot fines with automatic demerit points, seems to have damped enthusiasm. Most people are now aware that the road is only open to the ten local residents and their visitors. Council has clarified this arrangement by replacing the "Local Access" signs with "No Through Traffic". We shall all be pleased when the closure ends, but most of us still feel it has been better than a much longer period of one-way traffic with long delays.

Meetings. The Community meets monthly in the Bywong Hall. All Bywong residents are welcome to attend and times and dates are published in the Whisper. Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Monday 13 May. We would hope that greater local attendance at our meetings might avert the rush of activity that occurred in the final period for comment on Council's Draft Local Environmental Plan, to which we drew attention in our last report. While this draft plan has been 'in the making' and open for comment prior to 2010, with regular reporting by the local press, other matters can arise in a shorter time frame and with less fanfare. We encourage locals who have items of interest or concerns affecting our community to bring these to our meetings. We are happy to host information nights and promote open discussions, such as the recent Council information sessions about the Macs Reef Road project.

ANNUAL
CONTEST FOR
THE BYWONG
TRIVIA
CHALLENGE



TRIVIA CHALLENGE 2013




SATURDAY 13 JULY - 7.00pm
AT THE BYWONG
COMMUNITY HALL

- FORM YOUR OWN TABLE (MAX 8) OR ASK US TO INCLUDE YOU IN A TABLE
- WE PROVIDE A CHOICE OF SOUPS, PLUS- ROLLS, TEA & COFFEE
- BYOG AND NIBBLES
- ONLY \$10 PER PERSON. MONEY RAISED IS RETURNED TO THE COMMUNITY DURING THE YEAR
- LIMITED TABLES
- TABLE AND INDIVIDUAL PRIZES
- THIS YEAR'S TRIVIA WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF GRAPHICS PROJECTED ON OUR LARGE SCREEN
- THERE WILL BE 10 ROUNDS OF 8 QUESTIONS EACH DESIGNED FOR YOUNG AND OLD. BE PREPARED FOR SOME UNUSUAL QUESTIONS


BOOKING WITH GREG GOUGEON
PHONE 6236 9841 OR EMAIL
jungle44@inet.net.au

You can get more information about this and other events by going to our website
www.bywongcommunity.org.au
The 'Wamboin Whisper' is also available on the website

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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin - 38-year statistics from the Robertsons

April rainfall to 28/4 ... 7.5mm	(April 2012 ... 31.5mm)
2013 rainfall to 28/4 ... 146.25mm	(2012 to 30/4 ... 430.25mm)
Average May rainfall ... 48mm	(May 2012 ... 31.25)
Wettest May ... 171mm in 1995	Driest May ... 1mm in 1985
Hottest May day ... 20C x 3 times	Coldest May day ... 3C on 25/5/00
Coldest May night ... -5C on 28/5/01 and 15/5/11	

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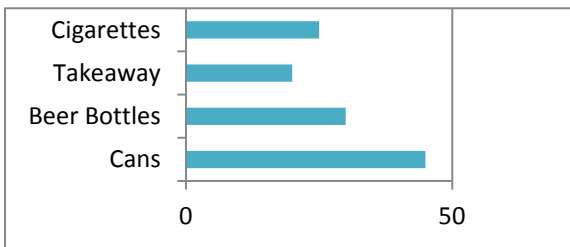
Sutton Real Estate - 62380999

Kid's Corner

My Endeavour
by Elizabeth Gregory

On the morning of the 30th April, my brother, my grandmother and I were driving along Norton Rd. The cool air was refreshing but the smell and the sights were absolutely disgusting! Rubbish scattered all over the road, and I thought to myself, gosh people these days are revolting! Later we decided to do something about it...

With bags in hand and determination on our faces, we marched down Canning Close, picking up bits of rubbish here and there, but there wasn't much.... Until we hit Norton Rd, and everything changed... It was a dump, aside from the smell of rubbish; the amount was enough to take your breath away! We started to find fast food takeaway items like Mc Donald's, which was the biggest fast-food polluter, KFC, Hungry Jacks, Pizza Hut and even an Eagle Boy's pizza box. Along with that we found over 30 beer bottles, even a full 6-pack came along and my brother (Will) smashed one on a rock! To top it off we found about 40-50 cans! The most common can was Coca-Cola and mixed alcoholic drinks were popping up everywhere! Most astonishingly, we found 25 empty packs of cigarettes! We found a couple of kangaroo crime scenes and William picked up some hubcaps and a smashed rear view mirror! In the end we actually ran out of bags, and had to go home, but not without 11 bags of rubbish, all full to the brim! I had lots of fun! (Who knew?)



So next time you drive along a road and think, gosh, people are foul these days, don't just talk about it, do something!

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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

Wamboin Community Hall

112 Bingley Way.

OUR NEXT MARKET -

SATURDAY 18 May 2013 9AM-12 NOON

This is the penultimate market before our 2-month winter break.

April market and The Wheels of Wamboin proved very popular which brought lots of people supporting both. Stall holders were very pleased with their extra takings, and those who had never been to our Market thought how wonderful it was.

Our markets have a good array of fruit and vegies available (in season) all locally grown. To ease your hunger we sell hot coffee, scones, egg and bacon rolls, sausage rolls etc. Interesting stalls sell jewellery, dried fruit and nuts, cards, books, soaps, plants and perfumes etc. If you wonder what the etc. cover, come along and check for yourself. Entry for customers is free.

We have the stalls; we need the customers.

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Name: Pauline Segeri (ID 13760), Thursday May 23rd

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How The Whisper Gets Delivered Each 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.

Thanks to each of you. - Ned Noel, volunteer editor

170: 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	35	Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40
172: 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
Kathy Handel	Norton (Weerona to Hilltop)	18	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	26
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
205: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333					
Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	28
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	Majors Close	18	David Anderson	Weeroona (Majors to Denley)	36
Advertisers & Misc	(Out of area mailouts)	41	Palerang Council	Council Offices	14
TOTAL 1,273					

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SHEPHERDS RUN AT WAMBOIN

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone for their patronage of Shepherds Run over the past 5 years. In particular thanks to our regular customers who have been such a support. We have made many good friends and we will be staying in the Wamboin community.

The heavy workload is getting to be too much, so it's now time to call it a day. We will be closing our doors at 4pm on Sunday, 12 May 2013.

We would love to see you before we close, so feel free to pop in and say hi.

Thank you again and farewell, Chris, Peter, Elke and the Shepherds Run Team



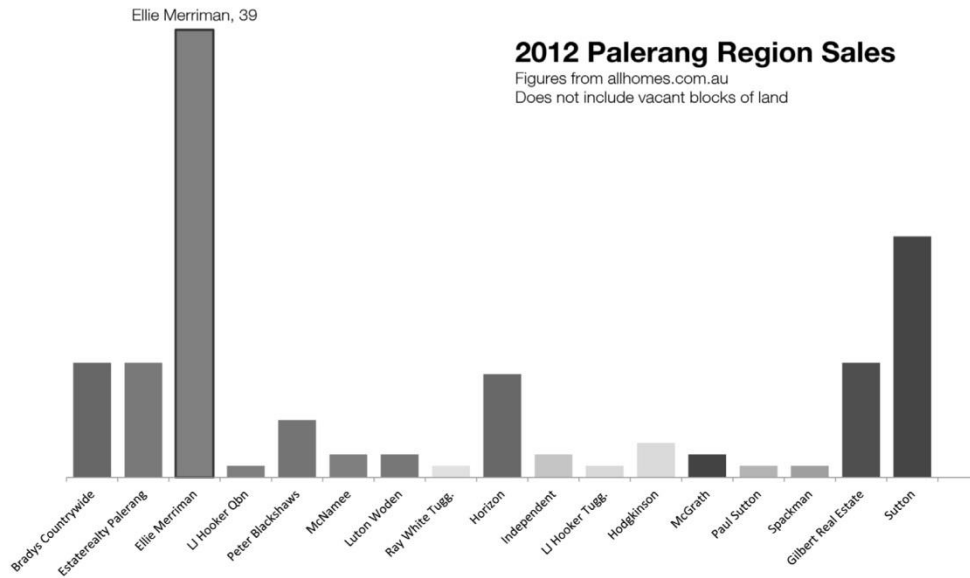
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We had a strong 2012 and are on track for getting our 2013 vendors more excellent results!



We had a busy April

- 17 Turallo Terrace, Bungendore - SOLD TO CLIENT BEFORE MARKET RELEASE
- 6 John Dwyer Crescent, Bungendore - SOLD
- 2 Keeffe Place, Bungendore - SOLD
- 19 Wild Terrace, Bungendore - SOLD
- 1765 Hoskinstown Road, Hoskinstown - SOLD
- 504 Denley Drive, Wamboin - SOLD
- 7/95 Ellendon Street, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER 1st WEEK ON MARKET
- 15 Lithgow Place, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER 1st WEEK ON MARKET
- 27 Mecca Lane, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER 1st WEEK ON MARKET
- 1135 Norton Road, Wamboin - JUST LISTED & UNDER OFFER
- 7 Birch Drive, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER
- 3 Faunce Place, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER
- 54 Forster Street, Bungendore - UNDER OFFER
- 222 The Forest Road, Bywong - UNDER OFFER
- 49 Majara Street, Bungendore - JUST LISTED & LEASED
- 71 Douglas Close, Carwoola - JUST LISTED
- 2 Hyland Drive, Bungendore - JUST LISTED
- 127 Ellendon Street, Bungendore - JUST LISTED
- 34 Collingwood Close, Bungendore - JUST LISTED

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Hello, Ellie Merriman here...

It's my job as a licensed real estate agent to present, manage and conclude a successful sale for every one of my Clients... it's also my job to make every sale as easy and successful as it can be.

We are pleased to bring you a Bendigo Bank and Ray White Bungendore initiative that may benefit you.

Any client from May 1st 2013 through to August 31st 2013, who lists their property with us at Ray White Rural Bungendore will be eligible to receive a generous discount off their next loan through Cindy at Bungendore Community Bank.

For years we've been told that Spring is the season to sell a house although more recently I've noticed a developing trend. Here are some hard facts related to Bywong, Wamboin, Carwoola and Hoskinstown sales during Winter months, as compiled from allhomes.com.au;

Bywong, Wamboin, Carwoola and Hoskinstown properties sold

2010 Winter – June July August - \$13, 000,000+ *

2011 Winter – June July August - \$10, 000,000+ *

2012 Winter – June July August - \$15, 000,000+ *

Over \$38 million in Winter Season sales over the last three Winters and if you include Bungendore, it's at least \$80 million!

These Winter figures confirm a great opportunity for those of you thinking of listing soon and with Bendigo Bank making your finance more affordable than ever – it could be good to get in early.

Sell your house this Winter when there are fewer properties on the market, serious buyers on the look out and you'll be able to take advantage of local businesses working together to make things happen.

I'm not suggesting we sold all these properties or *even could in the time* however the opportunity is obvious and I would welcome a confidential discussion about the sale of your property, just call me or drop in... of course there is no obligation or cost associated with an appraisal and chat.

Best Regards,

Ellie Merriman
Licensed Agent, Ray White Rural Bungendore
0402 117 877

*allhomes.com.au: Bywong, Wamboin, Hosinstown, Carwoola NSW Exchange Date 01/06/2010/11/12 to 31/8/2010/11/12



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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, Bywong, and Sutton (south of the Federal Highway).

THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED

Outside the declared bushfire danger period a **Fire Permit** is not required to burn off in the open. But, if you do plan to light a fire in the open, you must notify:

- your neighbours, and
- the Queanbeyan Fire Control Centre 6297 1840 (weekday business hrs)

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 the fire escalates to become more than you can handle, don't hesitate, ring the emergency number directly below.

TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS
RING TRIPLE ZERO



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL

Although the end of the Bushfire Danger Period was declared at the end of March, preparation of your home and property against the ever-present threat of wildfire is a year-round (not last minute) activity. It is your responsibility to ensure that you, your property and your family are as well placed as possible to survive bushfire. In last month's newsletter we offered several suggestions of things to do in and around the home and property that will better place you and your family ahead of the next Bushfire Danger Period. Further information can be found on the NSWRFs website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

HOUSE FIRES

Have you given your family the best chance of surviving a house fire?

Tragically, every year around Australia a number of lives and homes are lost to fire during the months. Although winter provides a respite from the risks and dangers of bush fires, it presents in the home due to the increased use of stoves, ovens, heaters, clothes dryers and other electronic

In last month's newsletter, we foreshadowed the prospect that with the night temperatures wouldn't be long before people started firing up their slow combustion heaters and open Given the smoke that's drifting from chimneys it's clear that many households are already feeling of cooler nights. In last month's newsletter we also indicated we'd provide some additional tips help you make your home winter fire safe and these are set out below.



winter new risks equipment. cooling, it fireplaces. the impact and tools to

Tips for fire safety at home:

- **Take care in the kitchen.** Never leave cooking unattended and always turn pot handles in (so they cannot be inadvertently knocked).
- **Supervise children.** Children need to be protected from fire, and from the potential for starting fires.
- **Heat your home safely.** Keep portable heaters at least one metre from flammable items such as curtains, furniture, toys, clothing and bedding. If you have a fireplace or slow combustion heater in your home make sure the chimney/flue is cleaned annually to prevent a build up of flammable material such as creosote, nests and other obstructions, and ensure the fire burns properly. Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire and close stove doors. Don't leave children or pets unsupervised in a room where an open fire or combustion heater is in use.
- **Hot ashes.** Take care and suitable precautions when disposing of hot ashes. Ashes remain warm for a long time. Residual heat deep in ashes can lead to an unplanned fire if placed on combustible material outside.

- **Dispose of cigarettes safely.** Wet down cigarette butts before discarding. Never smoke in bed.
- **Electric blankets.** Check that electric blankets are in good condition, with no frayed cords or damage. Turn them off when not in use.
- **Take care with electricity.** Have an electrician check the electrical wiring throughout your home. Keep your home appliances in good working order and don't overload power points.
- **Lint filters in clothes dryers.** Clean the lint filter of your clothes dryer each and every time you use it.
- **Install a smoke alarm.** Smoke alarms save lives! Make sure that your smoke alarms are less than 10 years old, that you keep them clean, and test them regularly. If battery-powered, replace batteries at least once a year. If you have been using April 1st (i.e. April Fool's Day) as your cue, the batteries should have been done last month!
- **Plan your home escape.** Create a home fire escape plan and practise escaping from your home.
- **Use home security that lets you get out quickly.** If your home has deadlocks fitted to doors, keep a key in the deadlock so that you can escape quickly in the event of a fire.
- **Check portable fire extinguishers.** Install a portable fire extinguisher and fire blanket in the kitchen or other areas where fire is possible. Check the pressure gauge on the regularly.
- **Be prepared.** Know which fire safety equipment to use, know how to use it all family members (if they are of a suitable age) know how to use the equipment.



blanket in the extinguisher and ensure that

Train Your Family in Evacuation Procedures:

Follow the escape plan (you do have one don't you?)

- Alert all others in the building.
- When there is smoke, crawl low to get under the smoke.
- Test for the temperature of each door by using the back of your hand; if the handle is hot do not open it.
- Close the door as you leave a room to prevent fire and smoke from spreading.
- Never go back inside the house, once out - stay out!
- Meet at the pre-determined assembly area – such as a prominent landmark.
- Make sure all the family know how to call emergency services i.e. ring Triple Zero (000); to think about what they may need to say and to speak clearly.
- If possible, meet the fire service as it arrives; you have invaluable knowledge that can greatly assist them.

Teach your children to 'Stop, Drop and Roll'

Advice to anyone whose clothes are on fire:

- Stop. Don't run as this will fan the flames.
- Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands.
- Roll over to smother the flames.

Further information on any of the above can be found by visiting the NSWRFSS website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts

Since the last newsletter the fire brigade responded to 7 incidents.

Thursday 4th April at 6pm: the brigade pagers lit up and four members in a heavy tanker (Wamboin 1 Alpha) were dispatched in response to an emergency call involving an alleged motor vehicle accident in the vicinity of the Federal Highway and Macs Reef Rd, Bywong. Despite an extensive search nothing was found. The crew returned to the Fire Station just before 7pm.

Thursday 11th April at 12.45pm: nine of the brigade's firefighters in four brigade vehicles responded to an emergency call involving a grass fire on a property in Donnelly Lane, Bywong. The fire was contained within the (well maintained) property and without damage to any structure. Last of the crews returned to the Fire Station at 2.45pm.

Friday 19th April at 10.45am: six members and two brigade tankers attended a fire call in Newington Road, Bywong and helped contain and extinguish a low-level fire working its way through ground cover in a small pine plantation.



Containing a grass fire in Donnelly Lane, Bywong.



Low-level ground fire held within pines in Newington Rd, Bywong.

Tuesday 23rd April at 7.56am: the brigade's pagers were set off and five firefighters in one of the brigade's heavy tankers (Wamboin 1 Alpha) departed en route to a smoke sighting near the intersection of Federal Highway and Donnelly Road, Sutton. Two crew in the second of the brigade's heavy tankers (Wamboin 1 Bravo) stood by at the Station. As the situation was already being dealt with on site, the need for the Wamboin tanker was cancelled; the crew travelling toward the scene was turned around and returned to the Fire Station at 8.38am.

Sunday 28th April: a busy day. As planned, the Brigade's maintenance working bee at the Fire Station got underway at 9am with members working assiduously through the brigade's fleet to ensure the vehicles and fire fighting equipment and supplies are as they should be and tackling the several other tasks identified for attention in and around the station.

All was going to plan until 11.40am when the brigade pagers lit up with news of a fire on Spring Creek Road to the south east of Bungendore. Due to the difficult terrain the brigade was requested to send its two light tankers (Wamboin 7 Alpha and Wamboin 7 Bravo) where the vehicles and crews teamed with several other brigades to help contain the outbreak that was burning in hilly bush land.

At 1.28pm, the Brigade was requested to respond to a report of a fire on a property on Macs Reef Road Bywong. Crew in one of the Brigade's heavy tankers. Wamboin 1Alpha and the Striker/Mop-up vehicle (Wamboin 9) attended along with units from the Sutton brigade, who had also been called to deal with the fire. Meanwhile, Wamboin 7 Bravo had been released from the Spring Creek Rd fire and re-tasked to Macs Reef Rd to assist.

While the Macs Reef Road fire was being dealt with, reports started to come in of a fire near the Kings Highway to the east of Bungendore. Several units were dispatched from around the district, including Wamboin 7 Alpha which had by this time been released from the Spring Creek Road fire. It was well after dark when 7 Alpha returned to Wamboin at 7pm.

With three significant wildfire incidents in our area in one afternoon, it's a reminder that while the fire season is officially over there is still plenty of fire danger for us to contend with. We all need to take especial care when working outside with tools that generate heat or trigger sparks e.g. grinders, mowers and slashers.

Hazard Reduction

During April the brigade was involved in two hazard reduction burns.

On Friday 5th April the brigade participated in a successful fuel reduction burn on a property on the Sutton Road on the edge of the Wamboin escarpment.

On Saturday 27th April Wamboin crew in two of the brigade's light tankers assisted Sutton Brigade with a burn on a property in its area.



Slow, cool fuel reduction burn on a Sutton Rd property on the Wamboin escarpment.



Senior Deputy Captain (red helmet) is obviously very pleased with progress as crews take a break for lunch.



Fuel reduction burn with Sutton Rural Fire Brigade

Weather permitting, the NSW Rural Fire Service Lake George Fire Control Centre will be conducting fuel reduction burns in the Lake George Zone in the coming weeks. In addition the Lake George Zone will be conducting a Command and Control exercise in the Wamboin Fire Brigade area over the period 24th to 26th May inclusive. This will see a number of fire trucks and command vehicles operating in the area.

Community Education

FireWise groups

On Sunday 14th April, two members of the brigade’s Community Education team accompanied members of the Old Goldmines Rd Community FireWise Group on a familiarisation tour across various member properties.

If you would like to know more about the purpose of, role, and how to set up a FireWise Group, please contact Senior Deputy Captain Richard Hobbs on 0417 483 978 or email senior@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au



Wamboin Market Day Brigade Info Shopfront

As usual, members of the Community Education team were on hand outside the Wamboin Local Produce Market on Saturday 20th April to field bushfire-related questions from property owners. With the inaugural Wheels of Wamboin event taking place, and despite the slightly coolish conditions, there were lots of people traipsing between the market stallholders and the automotive display.

New Brigade Members

We are always on the hunt for people who would like to join the community’s rural fire brigade to be involved either as a fire fighter or member of the Support Crew. Please ring the Secretary, John Taubman, on 6238 3153 or email: secretary@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au for further information and to receive a Membership Application Pack.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 18 th May	<i>Brigade Information ‘Shopfront’ adjacent to the Wamboin Home Produce Market (9am-12noon).</i>
24 th -26 th May	<i>Zone command and control exercise.</i>
Tues 11 th June	<i>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm @ Wamboin Fire Station 112 Bingley Way Wamboin.</i>

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 including the NSW Rural Fire Service that provide guidance regarding bush and grass fire preparations. You’ll also find the brigade’s history and other interesting material including photos 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 or phone 0409 991 340.

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

LfW Pushes the Boat Out

by Mel Hillery

Don't miss this! Land for Wildlife has organised an enlightening field day for its' LfW members and any Palerang property owner interested in joining the LfW network. The field day will be held in Wamboin on Saturday 11 May from 1-4pm.

Want to learn more about our local flora and fauna? We will explore the vegetation types of our region with the help of Rainer Rehwinkel (NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and local plant expert); bird watching techniques and identification with Nikki Taws (Greening Australia); and identifying reptiles and their characteristics – including living with snakes with Ross Bennet (local herpetologist). Attendance is free!

LfW is a voluntary property registration scheme for landowners who wish to manage part or all of their property in an environmentally friendly way and for the benefit of biodiversity and wildlife habitat. It is a low-level entry scheme, free to join and not legally binding. Being presented with a sign is the final step that acknowledges your commitment.

Land for Wildlife puts you in touch with a network of people and resources for helping to manage your property. One of the great things about the LfW program is that property owners receive a plant species survey and advice as to the different plantings on your property and how to overcome problems, such as weeds and erosion, as well as how to make worthwhile improvements.

Contact Mel Hillery (0427 440 335 or melophorus@bigpond.com) to register for the field day (and to find out the location) as well as inquire about the LfW scheme. Numbers will be limited so please contact us early to avoid disappointment.

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Wamboin Wheeling

On a cool April Home Produce Market morning over fifty current and sleeping beauties made it to the Wamboin Hall on Saturday for the inaugural Wheels of Wamboin. The WCA Committee was absolutely ecstatic with the turn out as we only expected around 15 vehicles. With this much interest we will definitely look at making it an annual event.



The overall idea was to encourage owners to dust off the old cars, bikes, trucks and tractors from out of the shed for a display day. An enormous variety turned up, from a Model T to a brand new XKR Jaguar and even two TEA Massey Fergusons along with a Malvern Star dragster bike. All up we had nearly 100 years of all types of motoring history.



Jaguars were well represented on the day with a 1950's XK120, a XJ, a XK and the beautiful 2012 XKR convertible which attracted a lot of drool with its supercharged V8 and jaw dropping sleek lines. The British cars continued with a Morris Minor, a mini, a pre-war Triumph undergoing restoration, an Aston Martin DBS, a Rolls Royce Corniche Drophead Convertible, a spectacular 1926 12/50 Alvis with an aluminium ducks back body, a red 1950 Riley RMD drop head coupe and the car voted People's Choice, a superb 1955 Swallow Doretta. The Swallow is only 1 of 276 cars ever made and presented immaculately. I guess the



British can also claim the two grey Massey Ferguson TEA's on display as well.



The Europeans made a strong showing with a Beetle, a Porsche, several mint Mercedes Benz's, a BMW, a Renault Megane RS265, Audi TT convertible, a nice red Lancia HPE and a Citroën Traction Avant.



The Americans presented with a beautiful Ford Model T, three Ford Mustangs with a 67 coupe, a very original 68 390GT fastback, a very nice new Shelby GT500 convertible. A hot bright yellow Camaro, a number of Plymouth Belvederes joined the line up with a hard to miss red 56 F100 step side pickup (perfect for running Wamboin moonshine).

Our home grown cars included a nice 2 door Monaro, a couple of XC GXL's, an daily driver Escort, a Chrysler Centura, and an outstanding Chrysler Royal which had a period perfect and mint caravan attached. This bought back holiday memories to many in the crowd as kids on the family holiday. A number of early Holden's included a HD and a FB sedan along with a Vauxhall Velox and even a LTD hearse.



The home built Lotus 7's ensured long conversations with the builders (and dreamers) and hot rods were represented with a nicely rodded Model T pickup and sedan. The variety included a couple of Harley Davidson bikes and a superb Yamaha 125 road bike (have not seen one since I was a kid) with a swap meet table for motorbike parts.

Overall it was a fantastic day and the event drew a crowd of enthusiasts and onlookers from the Market Day. Many thanks go to all the owners of the cars on display who made the time and effort to bring their precious machines out for the day. They were enjoyed by all. Look out next year. -Peter Evans

Councillor's Corner

Local Government Reform — Some readers may be aware that last year, the NSW government established the Independent Local Government Review Panel (Review Panel) to undertake a review of, and to formulate options to improve the strength and effectiveness of local government. The Review Panel has released several discussion papers, the most recent last week, entitled *Future Directions of NSW Local Government—Twenty Essential Steps* (Report).

The Report draws on feedback from the previous discussion papers to propose a range of options for local government reform. The Report is substantial, so I can do little more than scratch the surface in the following paragraphs. Suffice to say that the recommendations are wide-ranging, and need to be considered in context.

The local media headlines immediately following the release of the Report, however, focused on one issue only—the recommendation for Queanbeyan and Palerang Councils to amalgamate. There is a much bigger picture here, however, and this is merely a recommendation of how one might strengthen Queanbeyan's position and create a more viable regional centre. Moreover, this is only one of many amalgamations recommended in the report, and while timeframes are provided for many, there is none provided for the Queanbeyan-Palerang proposal. It may happen, but at the moment there's no indication that it would or should happen before 2016 unless there was overwhelming support from within the respective communities.

Regardless, the initial focus appears to be the Sydney metropolitan councils. There are then 52 small regional councils [popⁿ 5,000-10,000] for which the Review Panel recommends a range of reforms, including amalgamations, targeted for implementation by 2016.

In order to encourage regional cooperation between councils, the Report proposes the formation of new regional County Councils. These would be more multi-purpose bodies than the existing County Councils, comprising clusters of Local Government Areas (LGAs) with a strategic regional focus. The current proposal would have Yass Valley, Upper Lachlan, Goulburn-Mulwaree, Wingecarribee, Palerang and Queanbeyan LGAs in the Capital County Council.

Included under the Review Panel's terms of reference was the consideration of the financial sustainability of each LGA, as assessed by TCorp (the central financing authority for entities in the NSW public sector) in a report released earlier in April. The TCorp report determines a Financial Sustainability Rating (Very Strong, Strong, Sound, Moderate, Weak, Very Weak, Distressed) and Outlook (Positive, Neutral, Negative) for the 152 LGAs in NSW. A rating of Moderate or better, with an outlook of Neutral or better is considered to be sustainable.

Palerang was given a Moderate rating, with a Negative outlook, while Queanbeyan was given a Weak rating, with a Neutral outlook. Only 34 of 152 councils in NSW had a rating higher than Moderate, and only five councils had a Positive outlook, with 73, almost half, rated Negative. A large part of the Negative outlook for regional councils is related to the infrastructure 'black hole', the inadequacy of funding for the maintenance of infrastructure like roads and bridges. In considering the TCorp findings, the Review Panel assessed that 70 councils in NSW were 'at risk' with respect to ongoing financial sustainability. Palerang is not one of these councils.

This is merely the tip of the local government reform agenda iceberg (without wanting to draw any analogies involving a steamer of dubious reputation). There are still as many questions as there are answers, and the answers that are there are still a bit rubbery.

I will endeavour to provide more detail as it comes to hand.

PLEP — Just a quick comment in response to claims made in a letter in the April Whisper. Anyone who has taken an interest in the activities of the WCA and read The Whisper regularly during the development of the draft PLEP will be aware that the subject of alternate land use zones for our area was first raised locally by Cr Goonan in 2010 (following a discussion paper released by Council in 2008), with a letter printed on p.23 in the April 2010 Whisper (check The Whisper Archives on the WCA website). Details of the different zoning options were added to the WCA website at the time and are still there today (see reference on p.14 of the April 2010 Whisper). The subject was also discussed at length at WCA meetings. Any claim that this matter has been hidden from residents ignores the information that is readily available to anyone who has a genuine interest in facts.

And, for the record, of the more than 3000 [council] emails I have received this year, by my count a grand total of 32 residents, from across the entire shire (pop. ~15,000), have contacted me directly in relation to the draft PLEP. There were 446 individual submissions made in response to the exhibition of the draft, and council is now considering their content.

The Palerang Blog—New entries in my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) since my last update:

Local Government Reform

Financial Sustainability in NSW Councils

Much Ado About Nothing

Lost in Translation

ILGRP Futures Report (Apr 2013): <http://www.localgovernmentreview.nsw.gov.au>

TCorp Report (19 Apr 2013): http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/dlg_index.asp

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, Website: www.peteharrison.id.au

Autumnal Cluttering

by Pahn Shearmur

(editor's note: The photos will be easier to see in colour, at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au)

It's that time again – mulch – as much as you can get, we might have acreage but soil – that's another matter. We had a



15m load delivered before summer and now it's that much cooler we are getting serious about getting it down. I don't do the bulk of it but what I do is my way of getting back into some sort of exercise – well, it's a start!

It seems we aren't the only ones who enjoy the mulch. A couple of weeks ago there was a whistling and a chirruping, a flutter and a flurry and 21 red eyed choughs descended. The collective noun is a clattering or a cluttering and certainly they clatter around and clutter up the garden – so well named I think.

Now I've been told by a reliable source that once the group reaches around fifteen or sixteen they divide so what are this lot doing? I guess they have split – one lot in the front of the house and the others in the back - occasionally. We don't mulch the front at the moment – it needs a lot of work before we get to that but the

back of the house is where we trundle the stuff to. Already the garden is fenced to stop the 'roos. They don't so much eat things, though the gardenia left within reach must have given someone an upset tummy, and I know that the lemons are in great need of protection not to mention the roses, some of which, unprotected, are pruned each year to good effect but there are others I'm too fond of to see what would happen. My main complaint about them is that they lay on things if allowed in.

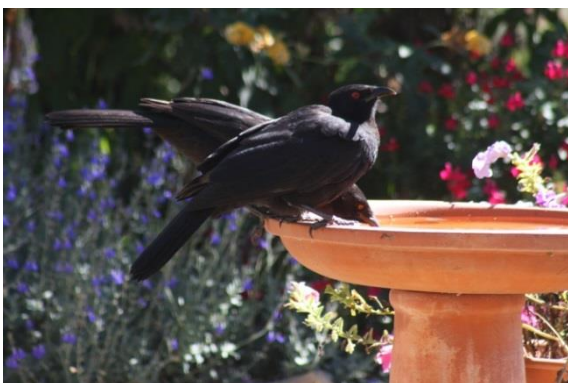
...but now it's the choughs. We all know how they behave. This woodchip tossed nonchalantly over the shoulder, those bits of sugarcane gathered in the beak and apparently spat out – and daily the gravel paths are almost indistinguishable from the garden beds and only a gentle rake and careful gathering and tossing back every couple of days keeps any semblance of order – not that my garden is that ordered anyway. Bulbs put in three weeks ago lay sadly back on top of the garden and put them back as often as I might, the next day inevitably there are more dug up – not harmed just pulled out.

The blackbirds who suddenly appeared a couple of years ago have a similar pattern of behaviour as far as the mulch is concerned but they are more solitary so the amount of tossing that goes on is rather more limited and anyway they seem to have disappeared during the current invasion.



We have found the choughs very funny to watch. They love the birdbath which now needs filling at least once a day; it needs cleaning out too. Where does the grit in the bottom come from? We love the communal behaviour, several descend on the birdbath at a time and when they've supped and bathed they adjourn to the table and chairs for what appears to be their afternoon feather inspection and clean-up. It looks for all the world like a business meeting though the business in hand seems rather serious and there is little chatter to be heard.

This afternoon we counted twenty-four of them, should I say four and twenty blackbirds – we wont bake them, we enjoy them too much and what is a bit of tossed mulch between friends? No doubt the grubs and insects they are eating would have done more harm than they have but twenty four – so Mr. Professor who told me they split up what do you make of that? This morning we heard a tapping noise which sounded a bit like the black cockies breaking open the cones for the pine nuts. Carefully following the sound I found a chough banging a very old mango seed on a rock. I disturbed him and he flew off with it but moments later he'd found another stone.



Late this afternoon I literally had to break up a fight between two of them – I took a broom to the pair and the 'victim' hopped away briefly, only to chase the aggressor straight away - stupid or what!

Usually the choughs only stay a few days at a time but we are either very privileged or very unlucky this year. However we'd be very grateful if everyone around Denley Drive would put down mulch very soon – we've enjoyed having them here and seeing their antics but now we would be very happy to see them go – PLEASE.

WAMBOIN 15 years ago: From the Whisper, May 1998 Circulation: 600

by Robyn Robertson

It was a routine month in Wamboin in 1998, but a repeat of the "15 years ago" which appeared first in the **Whisper No 7, July 1983** is perhaps of interest.

"BEEKEEPING: Quite a few residents have taken up Beekeeping to produce honey, and complain how difficult the task is. Take some comfort from the following article which appeared in the 1974 issue of 'World Crops'.

India's production of honey and beeswax dropped by 50% in 1972 and conservationists must take the blame. The fall in production reflects problems caused by the ban on the hunting of TIGERS. As a result of the ban, in 1972, no less than 29 honey and beeswax collectors were devoured by man-eating tigers which in former days would have been shot. The number of tigers in India's forests is estimated (1974) to be in excess of 2000 and doubtless their numbers will be allowed to increase until they make a meal of a prominent conservationist instead of a humble beeswax collector."

Dear dog owners of Wamboin,

Let me begin by saying that there are 3 dogs amongst the family on my property; so don't take this as me being anti-dog. It is simply not the case.

However, over the past month or so a chorus of canines has plagued the once-quiet nights in Wamboin. Surely I am not the only person aware of this, let alone bothered by it!

Being such a hilly region, it's impossible to tell where the hymn of the hounds is located and it's also impossible to get a decent night sleep while it's going on. At the very least, people need to train their beloved pets to ease up on the mutt musicals past a reasonable hour.

I am bewildered as to how the owners of the culprits can get some rest of their own if it is keeping this household awake and annoyed.

People need to be reminded that excessive barking can be reported as a noise complaint to the relevant authorities and I encourage anyone who knows an owner to alert that owner to this fact.

Please, have some consideration for your community, because that's whom it affects.

Thank you in advance.

- Joel Segart



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'SHUT THE .. STABLE DOOR!'

by Ian Coillet

An occasional column

As you'll recall, last month's article included a photo taken at the spectacular Bywong Car Boot Sale in March of a vehicle that I understand had the creative juices of a few members of the community's fire brigade verily flowing. (If you haven't got a hardcopy on hand you can check out last month's Whisper on-line). Well, talk about being on a roll!

An exhibit in the inaugural (and sensational) **Wheels of Wamboin (WoW)** at the Wamboin Community Complex



on Sat 20th April certainly complemented the M.A.S.H. like 'Captain's' vehicle (pictured at right) spotted in March. Despite being all-consumed with nervous excitement this column's roving photographer managed to steady the hands and fumbling shutter finger long enough to snap a shot of what the Brigade's Vice President (that's him in the background) and this lowly

columnist reckon would make a pretty impressive 'rapid response' fire tender. The color seemed pretty spot-on and there'd be space in the back for a brigade picnic hamper – essential when attending protracted incidents. Would need a tow bar. Coincidentally, there was a



'ready-made' fire-fighting trailer (pictured above) parked alongside, the owner of which we knew. We were confident therefore that the pump and other moving parts



would be in 'going' order (or there'd be a hammer at hand) and, secondly, he would have been happy to haggle a price. Anyway, opportunity has gone now. If you didn't get to the 'all things automotive' event, this is what the dribble above is about.

And, just to cap off this month's musings, while he wasn't at the Wheels of Wamboin, if the joy and whatnot exuding from this local chappie, pictured above, is to go by, here's another local resident obviously very happy to proclaim '*I wouldn't live anywhere else*'.

Finally, pictured just above, something for you to ponder over until next month. What and where is it?

St Peters, Sutton, and St Andrews, Wamboin Church Notices

The Rev Dr Peter Grundy's Induction as the Pastor of St Andrews and St Peters on April 12th, was a very happy and special occasion. The Sutton Community Hall was decorated with beautiful flowers and filled with well wishers. Bishop Stuart officiated and was supported by clergy from the surrounding districts. The Lord Mayor of Palerang, Pete Harrison, along with other representatives, welcomed Peter to his new role. Afterwards, the assembled crowd was treated to an excellent supper. Many people participated behind the scenes to make this occasion such an enjoyable evening. And now it's back to business as usual!

Kids' Club has resumed on Friday evenings from 5.30pm to 7pm at St Andrews, corner of Norton and Poppet Roads. All children up to about 8 years of age are welcome to join in the songs, stories and activities, and share dinner. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children.

Services are held on alternate Sundays at St Andrews, and St Peters, at 9am. The service is followed by morning tea and lots of good chat.

Wardens: Peter Cartwright: 62303202
Bronwyn Elliott: 62383359
Robyn Robertson: 62383202
Alan Rope: 62383224

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2013—time for a change

The Café is now closed.
Thank you to Wamboin locals for your patronage over the past 9 years.

Cellar Door: 11 am—4 pm
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or by appointment

810 Norton Rd, Wamboin
Ph: 62383866



clink swill steep sip taste gargle drink mmm...

Cheers!
LAMBERT VINEYARDS

LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted – Person or persons to refer a buyer to the owners to purchase the Captains Flat Hotel - \$5000 is your if you are successful. Please contact Tony or Vicky for more information 0447 626 857. Full payment will be made on settlement of the sale.

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.

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

GREENWAYS RENEWAL PROGRESS - HOORAY!!

by Nora Stewart

It's been three years since 30 people met at the Bywong Hall, keenly interested in renewing interest in the Bywong & Wamboin greenway network established in the early 1990's. These public access ways will become increasingly important as the locality becomes more developed. Greenways is a generic term that includes Crown road reserves (both open & enclosed), Crown land reserves and council-owned greenways.

Action - Looking at our "action list" from our first meeting 3 years ago (see below), I am happy to say that we have resolved most of our original issues, except physical signage on the greenways. We also need to continue work on mapping & we will make these two areas priorities for the next year or so.

Walks - We celebrated the anniversary with our fifth public walk, the autumn greenways walk- thirteen hardy souls + 2 dogs ventured out along a new route to Millpost Hill via Birchmans Grove and 'twas lovely. A light twinkle of rain and rainbow met us towards the finish of our 10km walk. My thanks to everyone who came.



Our next public walk will be for the Winter Solstice on Saturday 22 June. Please see the Bywong Community.org website for more details of walks and the Greenways -

<http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au/about/bywong-greenways>

Everyone is welcome to take part, to help or propose new area for public access. Thanks everyone for being a part of it and we hope it just gets better!

Nora Stewart

Nora@SetDancing.com.au 62 303 305

Greenways Renewal Working
(GRoW) group coordinator

NOTES FROM OUR FIRST MEETING 20 APRIL 2010

Identified needs from issues raised:

1. Improve the signage at access points and at key points of Greenways trails - **TO BE DONE**
2. Clarify where all the current Greenways are exactly and mapping this accurately - **DONE & mapping is coming**
3. Establish the history and legal status of the current Greenways network - **DONE information all uploaded to Greenways page on Bywong Community website**
4. Establish the process of legal ownership between Palerang Council and NSW Government - **DONE - see above.**

Roads people expressed interest in for Greenways in Bywong/ Wamboin area at our first meeting

- End of Snowgum Road - clarify where there is a greenway currently - **DONE - there is a council greenway there.**
- Donnelly Lane/ Donnelly Road and Millyn Road – joining these up for a Greenway - **DONE - our next walk in June 2013 will be there**
- Birchmans Grove - **walked through it on our autumn walk!**
- Gumflat Lane/Bohmers Lane - clarify current situation - **DONE - locked gate in the middle but useful as greenway between Macs Reef and Bungendore Rd (North)**
- Woolshed Lane to Norton Road – clarify current situation - **DONE - new Warramunga greenway now open**
- Joe Rocks Road down to the Bungendore Showgrounds - **DONE - this will never come about as the terrain is too dangerous.**

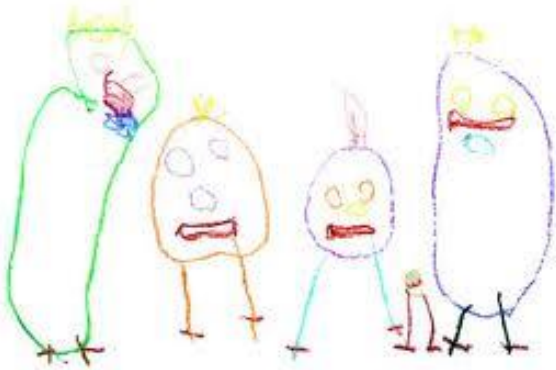
Ways forward to include in our strategy for renewal

- Using the Local Environment Plan (LEP) process as a way of confirming the current Greenways network by zoning the areas as recreation - **NOT NEEDED**
- Re-establish the Friends of Greenways group (FROG) – all present agreed to be part of this; **DONE**
- Gain support from other interested groups to help such as Landcare, birdwatching groups, ecologists, etc - **DONE with Landcare - we could always have more interest!**
- Organise walks in groups around the Greenways - **DONE - we have had 5 so far, with 3 more planned for 2013**
- Establish a Greenways Renewal Working group (GRoW), as follows - **DONE**

Request for Drawings from 3, 4 and 5 Year Olds

Do you have a 3, 4 or 5 year old person in your family? Does that person every draw or paint pictures ?

If so this artwork would be a valuable addition to the June 2013 Whisper, coming out on Sunday, May 2 . If possible, please ask the artist to draw something related to life in the Wamboin or Bywong area – perhaps a house, a tree, a moon, an animal, a car, a friend, a bird or a plane flying over or an angel or devil or hero or monster who visits here. Please ask the artist to explain the picture in a few words or sentences and please include this description and the name and age of the artist when you submit work on behalf of the artist.



Each artwork received, along with the words or sentences that describe it and the name and age of the artist, will be sized to take up between 1/8 and ¼ of an A4 page in the Whisper. Drawings or colourings or paintings can be in black and white or in colour, but the colour will only be detectable in the online version of the Whisper, which is printed in black and white. If possible, please scan the drawing and email it and the artist’s description of its content and the name and age of the artist to either:

Jenny Richards (president@wamboincommunity.asn.au , phone 6238- 1329, mailing and letterbox dropoff address 1141 Norton Road Wamboin, 2620) or

Ned Noel (whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au , phone 6238 3484, mailing and letterbox dropoff address 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin 2620

All emails received or mailbox deliveries received will be acknowledged by email or by phone. An effort will be made to print all pictures received in the June Whisper, or, if many are received, in the next few issues beginning with the June issue. Deadline for this contest is 7 pm Sunday night, May 26.

The best three pictures in each the 3 age levels (3,4 and 5 years of age) will receive a small prize purchased from a local store for artists. Three independent judges will make this decision.

If this request is successful, a later edition of the Whisper willask for art and/or stories from residents of other age levels.

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Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare

Think global, act local

The Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare group has participated in two community plantings on our local greenways, alongside volunteers from GROW (Greenways Renewal Working group), Land for Wildlife and Palerang Council. About 30 volunteers turned up to plant 300 native trees and shrubs along the Warramunga Close greenway on Sunday 17 March, and 17 volunteers planted 145 native trees and shrubs on a greenway half way along Weeroona Drive on 7 April. The Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare group propagated the plants in our Landcare nursery and supplied them to the greenways plantings free of charge.

We did not have a stall at the Bywong Car Boot Sale this year. However, we provided a prize of plants for the raffle and we gave a \$500 donation to the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade in return for help watering the two greenways plantings. Dates for your diary:

- 12 May – planting opposite Bungendore tip – more details closer to the time
 - 18 May – sale of plants at Wamboin market
 - 15 June – sale of plants at Wamboin market
 - 17 June - Landcare meeting, 7:30pm, Les Reardon Reserve (Bywong) Hall
 - 16 Sept - Landcare meeting, 7:30pm, Les Reardon Reserve (Bywong) Hall
- If you would like to join our Landcare group, please email me or turn up at a meeting.
-- Kathy Handel, ph 6238 3596, email: kukinya@bigpond.com



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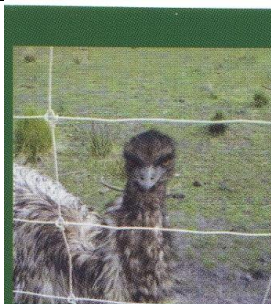
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WAMBOIN PONY CLUB - April 2013

April was a bit different for 8 of our Wamboin Pony Club members as they joined around 200 other riders + horses from our local region and gathered at Bungendore showground for the annual Zone 16 Pony Club Camp. Vicki Evans, Caitlin Hackett, Zoe & Ellie Haseler, Matthew & Sammi Quick and Ben & Sarah Williams were there and what a fun week it was. Everyone was split into troops of about 10 riders made up of members of all the local (zone 16) Pony Clubs. The days start with feeding you horse then after grabbing a hearty breakfast from the kitchen horses were prepared and the morning riding session is split into two. Riders do various lessons in jumping, flatwork, dressage, cross country 7 more, even a session in carriage driving. Guest instructors passed on some expert knowledge. After lunch there were two more sessions and that went on for 5 days so riders gain some valuable practical riding experience. Camp is an exhausting yet rewarding time, our riders and parents had great fun. Congratulations to Ben Williams and Matthew Quick who won the "Troop Person" awards for their groups - a credit to our club. Also well done to all the other Wamboin riders who gained their proficiency certificates.

Our next club rally day is Sunday 12th May. 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. Rally days are a great social day out. 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 twice a month on Sunday's on our grounds at the end of Canning Close. For information about Wamboin Pony Club and our upcoming rally days contact our club secretary Jenni on 62383313 or go to our website: www.wamboin.pcansw.org.au for information - We hope we will see you soon. - **Steve Quick**

BELOW - RIDERS AT ZONE CAMP BUNGENDORE:



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Michael Deane

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Jamison ACT 2624

Ph: 0414 525 525
Fax: (02) 62303088

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WAMBOIN GOLF - Mini Masters

by roving correspondent John Whitney

The Wamboin Mini Masters this year was a stroke event played over 12 holes on the beautiful undulating fairways at both the Masons and across the road at Shep's. Once back at the hall, an 80 metre pitching event took place for all the contestants. This consisted of 4 disciplines; *the sloping plank, the car tyre, a sand box and finally the notorious tall tee.*



The day was sponsored by the Wamboin Community Association represented by the President, Jenny Richards, with assistance from Anita, her daughter. Also a special mention to those ever reliable "tradies", Hank and Don, for assistance on the pitching course.

An enthusiastic field of golfers turned out on a beautiful afternoon with the days encouragement award going to Pete Harrison who, as we all know, needs little encouragement to partake.

Winners & Grinners: Young Jarrod Beckett earned the junior award this month with Ken Gordon and Rob Gorham taking out the prizes in the Mini Masters pitching event. The net winners on the day were Paul Griffin with a 57/49 followed closely by Jack Whitney with a 56/50 (no longer a junior as he appears taller than his dad). There were no real dummy spits on the day but it was noted in the official minutes that Len Ivey failed to finish, Charles Guscott played well below his capabilities and Larry King was not sighted until the sun had well and truly set!

The Mini Masters winners for 2013 were Tim Barter on 55, closely pipped by Ken Gordon also on 55 (on count back), with the Green Jacket going to John Whitney with a score of 53.

Don't forget next months event, turn up at 12:15 for a 12:30 start at the Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin. All welcome.

Mad in May

the market @ bungendore

Sunday May 19th 9am - 3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

All your favourite stalls
Come along for a browse
Enjoy a variety of refreshments

jewellery

giftware

tea & coffee

local art & craft

garden products

toys & models

cakes & pastries

soaps & lotions

picture frames



honey

preserves

hand knits

candles

cookies

glass art

homewares

greeting cards

beads & findings

pottery & ceramics

local grown plants

prints & paintings

fruit & vegetables

clothing & footwear



Bungendore Tigers Junior Rugby League Club

***Come along to an
NRL Backyard League Skills Clinic***

The National Rugby League (NRL) will be running a *Backyard League Skill Clinic* at the Mick Sherd Oval, Bungendore on:

Wednesday, 24th April from 4:30 to 5:30pm

Wednesday, 1st May from 4:30 to 5:30pm

Wednesday, 15th May from 4:30 to 5:30pm

The *Backyard League Skill Clinic* is open to primary school aged boys and girls who are interested in learning to play Rugby League. The *Backyard League* program encourages children to have fun and feel confident and is a safe way for children to experience Rugby League.

These sessions are **free** for the children to attend, and all participants who attend all 3 sessions will receive a free football.

These sessions are also open to our existing primary school aged players.

Player Registrations

It is not too late to register with the mighty Tigers!

We are still taking registrations interested boys and girls aged from 5 to 16 years. Opportunities still exist in all our age-groups from Under 6 to Under 16's.

For more information on the *NRL Backyard League Program* or *Player Registrations* please contact our Club Secretary at tigersecretary@gmail.com or Club Registrar at tigersregistrar@optusnet.com.au

Wamboin Muse Jill Gregory

Seventeen years ago, almost to the day, when I first set eyes on this property, fired up with visions of the good life among the gum trees, it was a very different place. The creek was running, the dam was filled to overflowing and a pretty English cottage garden rimmed the modest house. Across the creek there was a productive orchard and a fenced area for vegetables. Beyond this was the bush. The bush is still there, but the orchard has died and there are rabbits and weeds instead of vegetables. The creek has all but disappeared and the dam is shrunken. The house garden, however, has crept steadily into the bush, linked by paths. Tough native plants, like correas and grevilleas, have replaced most of the exotics of old. The house has grown, and a few sheds have sprouted. Our patch has evolved as we have learned to bend and adjust to nature's whims. But the rhythm of life continues without missing a beat.

Once again there is the whine and snarl of chainsaws. Wood smoke hangs in the still evening air, sunlight scatters morning mists and a frost leaves behind its tell tale signs. Memories of scorching summer days fade quickly as I abandon my sandals and search for woollen socks. The changing season always seems to catch me by surprise.

And there are other markers of the season. I tumbled out of bed this morning at an hour I would usually prefer to ignore, piled on layers of clothes in the cold and dark, and headed off, a lone car on a moonlit road. It was Anzac day and we were going to the Dawn Service in Queanbeyan. As always, it was a simple, home grown, distinctly Australian affair, and may it stay that way! As the freezing blackness lifted and the Southern Cross paled and sank lower in the sky, I shivered and thought of all the other similar services of remembrance occurring in country towns across eastern Australia. "We will remember them."

When I arrived home some time later and peeled off my overcoat, I was glad that it had been such a cold morning. Cold always makes the occasion seem more poignant, but this time I was glad for more personal reasons. My jumper that I had thrown on while numbed with sleep was not just on "back to front", but it was "inside out" as well!

And a final marker confirming that the more things change the more things stay the same: true to form, the ACT Government was there with its speed cameras on Sutton Road, nicely timed to catch New South Wales motorists travelling an almost empty road on their way to take part in what I hope remains a very Australian tradition...the ANZAC Day parade. Well done ACT...that's real mateship for you! ...But I still wouldn't live anywhere else..... and it might really rain one day.

DOG LOVERS

Dog Training and Behaviour course for Beginners IN BYWONG

A well-behaved dog is a pleasure to own. Spending a little time with your dog each day and knowing just what to ask of your dog is what this course will teach you. You will be learning about basic dog behaviour and psychology, as well as various obedience exercises, such as sit, drop, wait, come and walking on a loose lead. These classes will also discuss dealing with dogs and snakes and how to control dogs around livestock and wildlife, including advice on how to train your dog to avoid snakes.

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

Please call Heike Hahner on 4842 7143 or email hhahner@bigpond.com



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