

August 2014 Wamboin Community Assn: Bywong Community: Fire Brigade: CIRCULATION: 1,287 www.wamboincommunity.asn.au www.bywongcommunity.org.au http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION which started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981 and continues to own it. The newsletter comes out at the start of each month, except January. It is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin, Bywong and of Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. On contentious matters the Community Association will strive to maintain a balance. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for the next issue of The Whisper is always 7 pm on the last Sunday of the month, so for the September 2014 issue the deadline is Sunday, 31 August, 2014, 7 pm. Instant Colour Press in Belconnen will then multiply one copy into almost 1,300. Then the new issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the new month and is also available at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au .

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

		LUCA	L FACILIIII	LS AND CON I	ACIS			
Wamboin Community	Assn	Jenny Richards, President		6238 1329	presider	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au		
Bywong Community		Darryl Bourke, President			president@bywongcommunity.org.au			
Fire Brigade		Geoff Foster, Captain		0409 991 340	captain.brigade@wamboincommunity.asn.au		asn.au	
Resident Palerang Cou	ncillor	Pete Harrison		0427 711 028		cr.pete.harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au		
Resident Palerang Cou	ncillor	Keith France		0427 365 715	cr.keith.france@palerang.nsw.gov.au			
Wamboin Markets		Meriel Shultz, contact		6233 3309				
Sutton School Playgroup		Johanna Bradley , Convenor		0406 399 713	johanna	johannabradley@dodo.com.au		
Landcare		Kathy Handel, Secretary		6238 3596				
Community Nurse		Heather Morrison, Bungendore		6238 1333				
NSW Emergency Services		NSW Call Centre, Staff		132 500	For assistance in storm or flood emergency			
NSW Emergency Svcs Adm		Colin Brown, Controller		6238 0222	For non-urgnt help, answd by local volunteer			
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		Tony Holland		6238 3762	hollandfamily@rockyhill.com.au			
Justice of the Peace		Jill Sedaitis, JP		6236 9559				
Wamboin Pony Club		Leanne Quick, Club Captain		6238 3435				
Geary's Gap Pony Clul	0	Natasha Gates, contact		0412 008 777				
Wamboin Play Group		Emma Auzins, Convener		6238 3974	emauzins@gmail.com			
Scouts		Pete Harrison		6238 3525				
Bywong Hall Bookings		Guy Cotsell, contact		6230 3523	cotsell@moraguy.net			
Wamboin Hall Bookings		Meriel and Lance Schultz		6238 3309	Imsconsulting@bigpond.com			
Church - Anglican		Robyn Robertson, Warden		6238 3202				
Christian Prayer Group		Steve & Imelda Taylor, cntacts		6238 3220				
KYB Bible Study Group		Yvonne Barrett, contact		6230 3539				
Golf		Peter Greenwood, Golfer		6238 3358	p.greenv	wood2@bigpond.com		
Injured Wildlife		Wildcare, Helpline		6299 1966				
Wonderful Wmen of Wmbn		Gail Ritchie Knight, Contact		0416 097 500	whirlwi	nd@argonite.com.au		
Lake George VIEW Club		Pauline Segeri, contact		6238 1996				
Wamboin Book Group		Alice Scott, Secretary		6238 3178				
		,	YOUNG ENT	REPRENEURS				
Alana Stenning Pet sittin				Jess Smith		pet sitting, house sitting	6238 3115	
Fiona Skea baby sittin				Ashleigh Caird		baby sitting	6238 0746	
		ng/pet sitting 6238 1660				6238-1335		
Mara Sutcliffe pet sitting				Jack&Matilda Whitney child,pet&home sttg,oddjol				
Jordan Brown baby sitting			0414-907-921)			
Jordan Drown Judy Sittin		0						

Editor's Note: Canberra Equine Hospital Pays for this Page at Advertising Rates and Provides its Content

Hendra Virus - Deadly to Horses & Humans

There are lots of excuses to find for not vaccinating your horses for Hendra Virus. Commonly we are told that people don't want to vaccinate because Hendra has not been reported in this region, they have not seen bats over the paddocks, the horse does not go anywhere, they are waiting for it to be mandatory and it's too expensive.

As veterinarians, we have been placed in the unfortunate situation on a number of occasions where we have been presented with a horse with unusual signs which are consistent with Hendra and that animal is not vaccinated. When there is human exposure to this animal and we ourselves have to handle it and its

body fluids, the situation becomes difficult, to say the least. <u>All we can ask is that horse owners act</u> <u>responsibly and vaccinate for Hendra so this never need be an issue.</u> Vaccinating for Hendra Virus should be considered an essential part of horse ownership, for the protection of your horse, yourself and others.

Below is a segment from the most recent media release about Hendra by the AVA:

"Following the latest Hendra case in Gladstone, the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) says that all horse owners must have their horses vaccinated to prevent the deadly Hendra virus."

President of Equine Veterinarians Australia, Dr Nathan Anthony said, "It's not enough to cross your fingers when it comes to the Hendra Virus. Hendra kills horses and it kills people. Every death from Hendra virus is now preventable.

Hendra virus infection in horses can happen anywhere, at any time. If horse owners want guaranteed veterinary care when their horses get sick then they must get them vaccinated."

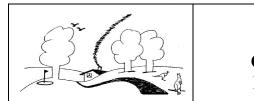
Here are some FACTS ABOUT HENDRA VIRUS:

- Hendra is classified as Bio-Safety Level 4 Hot Agent, meaning it is in the deadliest category of diseases on earth because there is NO human vaccine and NO treatment.
- Over 50% of people who have contracted Hendra from horses have died and the survivors are left with chronic, debilitating conditions.
- There are bats POSITIVE for Hendra across ALL of Australia, including Canberra.
- Many of the properties with Hendra positive horses have not had bat sightings. Horses do not have to travel to be exposed to Hendra, it comes to them.
- Researchers do not know the environmental conditions which would cause Hendra to occur somewhere other than Queensland or Northern NSW. Little is known about the transfer of the virus from bats to horses.
- Infected horses shed the virus for 5 to 21 days before showing clinical signs. This means the horse can be infecting people and other horses without anyone realising. There is no effective treatment and it is CONTAGIOUS between horses and from horses to humans.
- The vaccine is safe with few side effects, it costs the same as a shoeing and is VERY EFFECTIVE. Essentially, a horse vaccinated for Hendra cannot replicate and shed the virus and so if exposed to the virus, will not die from Hendra and cannot infect a human.
- The <u>public liability implications</u> for horse owners with unvaccinated horses whose horse gives Hendra to a human when it could be prevented by a simple vaccination are potentially massive and devastating.

For more information on Hendra visit the DPI website:

<u>http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/horses/health/general/hendra-virus</u>. Please arrange for your horse to be vaccinated before it's too late, by calling us at 6241 8888.

CANBERRA Equine Hospital



Wamboin **Community Association President's Paragraphs**



Granite.

Pebble

Welcome back everyone. It's August already and that means a number of important messages. Curry Night – The annual Wamboin Curry Night will be held this month on Saturday 16th August. The night begins at 7:00 pm at the Community Hall. In recent years this event has become increasingly well patronised so bookings before the event are essential. To book contact Dave Hubbard (the organiser) via email at **dave.hubbard@bigpond.com** thank you.

Bonfire Night – Another event that is fast approaching is the annual Wamboin Bonfire Night. As most of you will know this is a major community event. As of now we are calling for anyone who wishes to deposit green waste onto the oval at the Community Hall to do so to build the bonfire. However there are a number of restrictions! The waste **MUST** be green waste. Log sizes should not exceed approximately 150 mm in diameter and please no pallets or furniture or tyres! The WCA sponsors this event with the co-operation of our local fire brigade and both organisations will be working closely together to ensure that the bonfire reaches a safe, maximum fuel load. When either the WCA or the fire brigade believe that level has been reached we will post signs up on the website, the electronic noticeboard and the chalkboards around Wamboin asking people to desist bringing in more fuel for the bonfire. I thank you for your co operation in this matter but for now please feel free to begin building our bonfire in preparation for a great night on September 20th.

Thats all for now. -- Jenny Richards (President)

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS NIGHT – BONFIRE FUEL WANTED

The 2014 Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Night is planned for Saturday the 20th of September. Now is a good time to start to reduce the fire hazards on your property by clearing unwanted stumps, logs, prunings and brush. By delivering suitable material to the Bonfire site at the Community Centre, Bingley Way, you will help make the night a memorable occasion.

Please do not mix in: treated timber, old carpets, metal fittings, large green logs or other non-burnable materials because volunteers have to separate and dispose of these items. We are often disappointed to find a load of this rubbish that has to be taken to the tip. For obvious reasons we would appreciate if you threw your material as high as you can on the pile, which for safety reasons is situated further east on the oval this year. Bonfire Night is a major, and sometimes only, fund raising activity for our Community groups who run the food & drink stalls. -- Lofty Mason. Phone 6238-3258.

THE GREAT WAMBOIN CURRY NIGHT

It's on again. The Great Wamboin (bring your own) Curry Night. Saturday the 16th of August is the date to remember. There is a gold coin donation per person to offset the hire of the Hall. From 7pm all diners bring along their prepared curry dish, side dishes, nibbles etc. The dishes are displayed with descriptive labels and are then on offer to all curry munchers from 7.30. Prizes will be awarded to the 3 best dishes selected by a secret (no bribes) judge. Tables, chairs and a warm Hall are provided. BYO drinks, plates & cutlery. For more information contact Dave Hubbard on 62383308. Bookings, essential, to dave.hubbard@bigpond.com.





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Let the Sun Shine In: Bywong is privileged to host an information evening on solar power for the home. The evening will cover technical advances, changes to the electricity landscape, and a round-up to help you decide if photo-voltaic panels are right for your Bywong home. Keynote speakers include Melinda Hillery, (Executive Officer, Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability); John Thomsen (Grid Connected Systems) and Martin Payne (CJ Solar). We are also hoping to have with us a representative from an electricity utility. The date is **18 August** – 7.30 p.m. at the Bywong Hall in Birriwa Road.

The solar discussion will follow a brief AGM meeting which will elect Community office-holders for the coming year. So **note the changed date**, and please remember to change your diaries and **not** to come looking for the AGM on 11 August.

Of Mice and Men: The Community's trivia night held last Saturday night was the most successful ever. It must also be unique as the only occasion for an audience to spontaneously break into the Mickey Mouse song – it happened as Master of Ceremonies Jeremy Shearmur donned a Mickey Mouse cap to introduce a round entitled "Of Mice and Men".

A capacity crowd turned up to participate in a night of quizzing and opera with extra entertainment like magic tricks and fascinating revelations about locals who have brushed with the famous.

The highlight of the night was the appearance of well-known soprano Theresa Rayner, whose singing included one of the questions as well as an operatic offering. This innovation was a huge hit with both opera fans and trivia addicts. In a closely contested night, redoubtable Bungendore team "XX" returned to the winners' podium by carrying off first prize.

Popular features which define Bywong's Trivia as a notable regional event were again in evidence. Jean-Pierre repeated his famous technique of displaying all questions and answers as entertaining screen projections, and players enjoyed a variety of soups produced by Community members and accompanied by Peter Zimmerman's crusty rolls.

As this year's Car Boot Sale had to be cancelled, the raffle was drawn at the end of the Trivia evening and lucky ticket holders enjoyed winning prizes to a total value of several thousand dollars. The evening was such a success that the Community has decided to hold another one in late November. Watch our notice

The evening was such a success that the Community has decided to hold another one in late November. Watch our notice boards and book early if you want to get in! It will be another night to remember. Any profits go the local community.

Pony Club Successes: Kerry Cox reported the Gearys Gap Pony Club held a rally day on 13 July. About 30 riders attended, including some visiting riders from Bungendore Pony club. The riders, aged from 3 to 22, enjoyed a variety of disciplines including show jumping, dressage, cross country time trial and mounted games. Riders have been out and about representing the club at a variety of events. On 6 July 9 riders from Geary's Gap attended the Wamboin Mounted Games Competition at Bungendore. Wamboin put on a great competition with 22 teams competing. The riders and the spectators braved the cold weather conditions and enjoyed the friendly atmosphere that made for a great fun day. Our associate riders placed second; our junior team (with one associate rider) came third in Division B and one rider rode with a team that she met on the day and came first in Division B under 12's. It was great to see the coaching from the older riders and the riding skills and friendships develop over the day.





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Wonderful Women Of Wamboin

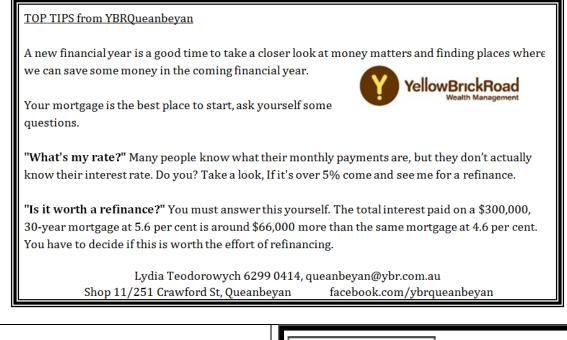
On 14th July, after a lunch at the National Gallery, our own Sally Saunders guide par excellence conducted some of our members on an instructive tour of the Bali Exhibition. For those who d have not heard of the Exhib., it is a feast for the eyes of carvings, old manuscripts 19th and 20th century textiles as well as paintings of ancient tales and myths. A team entered the Trivia contest at Bywong the other day. It is with great pride we are able to announce the team came third!!!, a wondrous achievement after coming next to last at the previous encounter. All who partook praised not only each other but the whole evening.

For August various things are planned, for example, on the day war broke out 4th August, a talk on the work women in England undertook in World War1. -- Maureen Boss.

Wamboin 15 years ago – from A.C.T. Minister Brendon Smyth's letter in reply to a letter from Libby King, President of the W.C.A., expressing concern at the condition of the Sutton Road from the A.C.T. border to Pialligo Avenue

"Thank-you for your letter of 14 June 1999 regarding the condition of the Sutton Road from the ACT border to Pialligo Avenue: The ACT is aware of the condition of this section of the regional route to which you refer and undertook a study in 1998 to identify the necessary remedial treatment, That study recommended a range of improvements to the geometry and width of the road, and my Department is now progressing design work for the various improvement options, including resolution of environmental issues. The first stage of what is expected to be a multi-million dollar project is currently included in the draft Capital Works Program for 2002/03."

From 1999 to 2002/03 to make a start – when will it be finished? - Robyn Robertson



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Awesome August

the market @ bungendore

Sunday August 17th 9am - 3pm at the War Memorial Hall

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

jewellery giftware soaps & lotions local art & craft garden products toys & models cakes & pastries tea & fresh coffee guitars & amps





mosaics homewares greeting cards beads & findings pottery & ceramics local grown plants prints & paintings fruit & vegetables clothing & footwear

The Naming of Poppet Road

The Lofty Mason (boring) version

First a note on surveying.

Survey work, and mapping, was initially done by triangulation. Two triangulation points (trig points) were set up in known positions at a measured distance apart. The angles were measured between this base line and a further point. These figures would then give the distances (and thus position) to the new trig point. It is of interest that all measurements were done as a flat survey therefore if your property has hills and gullies you have more pasture (?) than if it was level.

When survey work was done in this area the point now known as Poppet Hill was selected as a trig point because of the large area of coverage from that site. (Would planners of mobile phone towers please take note). Because of the trees, a tower (a 4 legged structure similar to a poppet frame built above mines) was constructed over the trig point. This is why Poppet Hill trig point was so named. When constructing a road running towards Poppet Hill what better name than Poppet Road?

How Poppet Road Got Its Name

By L. A. King

Come back with me to the Wamboin of the 1830s to hear the sad story of how a forgotten hero was consigned to the basement of history in error.

The year is 1839. It is some time since Sir George Braidwood - after whom the lake and the township are named - first explored the region with the assistance of his Aboriginal guide, Weeroona (or Wyagiba as he was sometimes known). Settlers have moved out from Oueanbeyan and Bungendore to eke a living from the poor soils of the Wamboin valley. It is a lawless time as ne'er-do-wells, bushrangers and footpads prey on the good folk of the locality. Among them were the notorious Evans Gang who took up land in the area now known as Gallagher Crescent. The gang was led by their patriarch, Desperate Daniel Evans, known as *El Supremo*. The worst of the lot was a Norwegian emancipist, Anders Larsen, Larsen took to crime because, as he said at his subsequent trial, he was "too tired to work". So they called him Weary Anders - but that's another story. The Wamboin Settlers' Association, under the Chairmanship of Shorty Mason, petitioned the Governor in Sydney to send a detachment of troops to protect the populace as they went about their lawful business. Governor George Gipps could not spare a detachment and, instead, sent a lone policemen, Constable Phineas Petersen. Nevertheless, Petersen was a dedicated and able man and with the help of local deputies set about reducing the crime rate by the expedient of regular patrols of Norton Road and shooting down all known enemies of the Crown. The culmination of Constable Petersen's campaign was the famous Battle of Norton Ridge which pitched him and his deputies in a desperate do-or-die fight against the remnants of the Evans Gang. Ironically, like Trafalgar 34 years before, Petersen's force was victorious but their leader himself was fatally wounded. He was buried near where St Andrew's now stands. Unfortunately, efforts to find his grave have proved fruitless. The grateful residents successfully sought the financial support of a leading citizen, Ebenezer Harrison, to erect a suitable monument to the dead constable. It was agreed to name a road in his honour in the rapidly expanding region to the East of Sutton Road. Harrison commissioned a local stonemason, Silas Argaet, to do the work (powder-coated metal road signs being things of the future). The mason set to work with the intention of duly chiselling the following legend: PO (i.e. police officer) P. PETERSEN. But because the rock was too small or his chisel too large all he could fit in was PO P. PET. And the rest is history [Author's note: a copy of this article was shown to the descendants of the Evans, Mason, Harrison and Argaet families who all said that it did not contain a word of truth]





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) and Bungendore (along and west of the Lake George escarpment).

FOR <u>ALL</u> EMERGENCY CALLS, ring triple zero (000)

TIME FOR ACTION

It's barely two months away! October 1st marks the official start of the statutory bush fire danger period. Yes, we've had a sprinkle of rain these past few weeks but so far it's also been a very mild winter. The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) is predicting a drier and warmer than normal August to October period this year. As we prepare this newsletter, a quick look at the fire activity map on the NSW Rural Fire Service website shows there's already the odd grass and bush fire popping up elsewhere in the State. History indicates that as we move through the tail of winter and into spring and the hotter period beyond, bush and grass fire activity can be expected to increase. It is easy to ignore the fact that we live in a bush fire risk area. But bush fires are a constant and unpredictable threat. All people living in or near the bush are in danger of experiencing a bushfire. The NSW RFS will not always be able to protect each individual property threatened by fire. We all need to understand what to do to prepare and plan to survive. Now is an opportune time for all residents to be cementing their plans and making preparations for the coming bush fire danger period. People who do not have a Bushfire Survival Plan are putting themselves, their family and their property at risk. Completion of such a plan should at least mitigate the effects of impact by fire.

The (new) NSW Rural Fire Service Website

The NSW Rural Fire Service has recently introduced its new website. Key features include:

- new, updated design to make it easier to find the information you need
- more easily accessible information about current fire incidents in NSW
- new features such as the ability to filter incidents on its *Fires Near Me* map
- a mobile and tablet friendly website so you can get information wherever and whenever you need it.

We encourage you to explore the website which is at <u>http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au</u> where you'll find practical and helpful information to assist you prepare against the threat of bushfire, including:

- provision of a Bush Fire Survival Plan template that you can download and complete (including tips about writing & practising your plan)
- understanding bush fire behaviour (characteristics and behaviour of bush fires which are influenced by vegetation, topography and climate)



- recognising days of high fire danger (bushfires can be more dangerous on certain days so learning to recognise the characteristics and terminology of these days is important)
- o acting on days of high fire danger (putting your preparation and plans into action on days of high fire danger)
- preparing your home and property (even if your plan is to Leave Early)
- o creating a Bush Fire Survival Kit (keeps all things together and accessible)
- considering your physical and emotional preparation (be realistic about what you can and can't do).

It's important to consider each of these key points when thinking about how you will respond to bush fire.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts

The Brigade was called out on three occasions during July. On Saturday July 19th at approximately 4pm, the brigade was responded to assist the Bungendore Rural Fire Brigade following a report of bush alight at Lake Road on the edge of Lake George. Almost immediately the request for assistance was called off and the Wamboin crew were re-tasked to attend a motor vehicle accident near Eaglehawk involving a mini bus that had left the Federal Highway and overturned ending up in bush in the median strip. Given the presence of several fire-fighting appliances including from the ACT, the five members of the Wamboin crew were released from the scene and returned to the Station. On Sunday July 20th at approximately 2.20pm, the brigade was called to a vehicle fire on the Federal Highway. Seven members in two tankers attended the scene and teamed up with other agencies to help extinguish the fire. On Sunday 27th July at 10.04pm, the Brigade was requested to attend a motor

vehicle incident involving a bus on the Federal Highway, north of Collector, that had resulted in a large oil spill. Four members in one of the brigade's heavy tankers responded but were turned back not far short of the scene after a crew from another brigade from the Collector region made the scene safe. Our crew returned to the Station at 11.20pm.

Training

Brigade training during July focused on navigation and area familiarisation with crews and tankers out and about in the Sutton Park/Eaglehawk, Wamboin/Bywong and Bungendore locations in the brigade area.

Wamboin Brigade: 30 Years Young



As mentioned last month, the Brigade is celebrating its 30th anniversary. In July 1984 the Wamboin brigade was established as an independent brigade, having previously having

been part of the Sutton brigade. In those early days the Wamboin brigade occupied a two-vehicle shed in Cooper Rd Wamboin. Through thirty years of dedicated work by the Wamboin volunteers and community support, the brigade now enjoys a purpose-built shed with training and communication facilities, a workshop and garage for the fire tankers. The milestone was marked with a short cakecutting ceremony on Tuesday 1 July (coincidentally a Brigade 'Training' Night). Long-time members Peter Greenwood and Dave Hubbard were asked to cut the cake.



CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS FOR RESIDENTS

Saturday 20 th September	Brigade Information 'Shopfront' (9am-12noon) adjacent to the Wamboin Home Produce Market, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.
900 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100	WCA Bonfire & Fireworks Night @ Wamboin Community Complex, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.
Saturday	Community-wide (Are You Bushfire Ready?) Information and Demonstration Session @ Wamboin
18 th	Community Complex, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. Registration from 11am. Session time 11.30am - 1pm.
October	For the benefit of <u>all</u> residents in the brigade's area.

BURNING OFF – reminder for notification

Just a brief reminder to residents who intend to conduct a pile burn outside the bush fire danger period - it is a legislative requirement that you notify your neighbours <u>and</u> the local Fire Control Centre well in advance of your intention to burn, i.e. <u>at</u> least 24 hours before lighting up. It is also essential that you attend and control the fire at all times. To notify our local Fire Control Centre (it's in Queanbeyan), call 6128 0600 (weekday business hours only – no later than mid-Friday for the weekend/ closed on Public Holidays). If you would like further guidance you can ask staff at the Fire Control Centre or contact the Brigade Captain (0409 991 340). You can view or download the RFS pamphlets 'Lighting a Fire – Quick Facts', 'Before You Light That Fire' or 'Standards for Pile Burning' from the NSW RFS website at <u>http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au</u>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Wamboin Brigade Website

The Wamboin Fire Brigade website site at <u>http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au</u> will help you monitor local conditions and Brigade announcements. The **Community Information** section has useful information relating to burning-off, and links to other websites including the NSW Rural Fire Service that provides guidance for preparation against bush and grass fires and a template for a Bush Fire Survival Plan.

And finally...

Should you have any non-emergency enquiry, e.g. seeking guidance with your Bush Fire Survival Plan or you would like a brigade member to visit you to provide helpful comment on your property preparations, you can contact the Brigade directly by email <u>captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au</u> or phone 0409 991 340.

FOR <u>ALL</u> EMERGENCY CALLS



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Nature Notes July 2014

Jo Walker

We finally started to get some real winter weather in July with a few mornings of crisp white frosts and icy patterns on the dams.

A few of the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) are beginning to flower, as is the little Ploughshare Wattle (*Acacia gunnii*). The latter can be easily overlooked when it isn't bearing its profuse yellowish-cream flowers, as it is a low-growing usually compact little plant only about 20-30cm tall. It gets its name from its pointed triangular leaves.

Because of the frequent showers we've had over the last few months, there are a lot of bright green rosettes of Sundews (*Drosera peltata* and *D. auriculata*). These are the little insectivorous plants with sticky droplets along the edges of the leaves with which to catch unwary insects which they then slowly dissolve and ingest.

Another plant that is taking advantage of the damp soil is the Slender Sun Orchid (*Thelymitra pauciflora*). It isn't flowering yet, but the fleshy keeled leaves (up to 20 cm tall)are evident in a lot of soakage areas on my place. The leaves are dull green, but have a purplish red base. Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*) are also appreciating the moist soil, although I've only seen one flowering so far.

The Grey Currawongs that made an appearance last month after a long absence are still around - or at least one is. On the subject of Currawongs, someone has reported a pure white Pied Currawong out in the Bywong area - pure white with a pale beak. Bywong seems to be establishing a name for strangely coloured fauna as a totally white kangaroo and a yellow-feathered Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo also reside there!

A little group of Varied Sitellas were here a few days ago. These attractive little tree-creepers have slightly upturned tips to their beaks and search for insects under the bark of trees, travelling almost always in a downward direction along srems and branches.

Although there isn't much colour in the landscape yet, the frogs are making a racket in the dam and along the creek and some of the kangaroo joeys are already leaving their mothers' ppouches so Spring isn't far away.

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#HashTAG by Steve Richards

Viruses, Worms, Trojan horses, Spyware, and Adware... these computer programs are all designed to attack computer systems. What is the difference between them?



- Viruses self replicating, attach themselves to host system programs. Are activated when the infected host system program is executed. Can execute commands to harm computer.
- Worms self replicating, self-executing, standalone programs. Can execute commands to harm computer.
- **Trojan horses** unwanted or malicious software disguised as useful software. Hidden in a host program or inserted and hidden received files. Can execute commands to harm computer.
- **Spyware** (often a subtype of Trojan), software that enables users to obtain covert information about another's computer activities, by transmitting data covertly from their system.
- Adware (often a subtype of Trojan), software that automatically displays or downloads advertising material such as banners or pop-ups when a user is online.

These type of malicious software (or Malware), are more alike than they are different. They all have the same goal (although not necessarily the same purpose); and that is to exploit a known "vulnerability" on a computer system – ideally without the permission & knowledge of the system owner. Like parasites, Malware gain access to, and utilise the resources of the host system to accomplish their designed purpose. As a consequence Malware can also make your systems run poorly – using up memory, disc and network resources. While most people might think that a Virus is the greater danger; Spyware which can steal your personal information and violate privacy, may have greater consequences.

Who writes Malware, and why? The short answer is "Hackers". Hackers are most often individuals or else they can be organised crime; businesses, foreign governments, terrorists groups, and intelligence agencies... basically anyone with the resources, skill, and purpose to build one. Hackers are motivated to write Malware just for 'fun', or for personal notoriety, for money, political gain, espionage (stealing identities & information), and sabotage.

The traditional Malware target has been Personal Computers - most notably DOS / Microsoft Windows. Apple Macs and Linux systems are much more robust, and are less targeted. More recently Hackers are turning their attention to Smartphones & tablet devices; with a focus on attacking personal information, breaching online accounts, and hijacking the device itself. Smartphone attacks are most often Trojans.

As Malware can be cleverly concealed in just about any type of program, file or digital communication; the best means of defense against attack is to treat all new interactions as "suspect". Do not allow any program or file to run or install on your system, unless it is from a trusted source. Be aware that malicious macros and scripts can be embedded in email attachments, and you should not open email attachments until they are scanned. Do not give permission for programs to access to disc or network resources unless you are quite sure this access is required as part of normal operations. Treat all personal data as endangered; and avoid storing personal information inside program folders. If possible encrypt all online accounts and password information in a "Keystore or Password safe".

There are many Malware scanners available to protect your computer or phone. (I like AVG Antivirus - free). Scanning software works in three ways. The first is to scan your system for any known Malware. The second is to assist you with removing Malware if found. The Third is to scan all network traffic, emails, and web content. Scanning all content can have a negative impact on the performance of your systems; hence configuring and optimizing your system for maximum efficiency and protection, is time well spent. If you don't wish to run your scanner all the time, you might choose to run periodically. Running periodically is better than none at all. Stay safe.



Where's Fido?

Last month, Wildcare wrote about cats, possums and wildlife. But what about our pet dogs? Not a week seems to go by without seeing a 'lost dog' message appearing on our community notice boards or a heartfelt plea in the Lost & Found columns. Wildcare often picks up the pieces from dog chases and attacks against our wildlife.

We love our dogs, but without good control they can be a total menace. It's not a good idea to let your dog chase a kangaroo and think there is no harm being done. Kangaroos will be terrified and the stress may cause cardiomyopathy and other forms of myopathy. This can, and often is, a death sentence long after the dog has given up. The kangaroo may not die immediately, but within a day or two it could well keel over. When chased, kangaroos can trip over and through fences to get away and this can cause significant injury, such as a broken leg. During a chase, a joey can be ejected from a mother's pouch and be left alone. When chased into a dam there is a danger a dog will be drowned, as the kangaroo defends itself.

Dogs left outside to freely roam around a property or garden will be at a greater risk of discovering all sorts of wildlife, including lizards and venomous snakes. Wildcare receives a number of injured lizards into care during the year with many having puncture wounds and crush injuries from dog bites. In winter the risk of a dog encountering a snake is low, but during



and crush injuries from dog bites. In winter the risk of a dog encountering a snake is low, but during spring through to autumn, if Fido is allowed to wander wherever it wants to, it may well sniff out a brown or tiger snake – some of the most venomous snakes in the world. Whilst snakes are shy, reserved, creatures they will defend themselves if they feel threatened.

We always think the best of our pet, but left to it's own devices it can be a total pest in the neighbourhood. Unbeknown to an owner, they can slink away to chase, catch and kill neighbours' ducks, geese and other animals. Dogs are seen feasting on dead animals on the roadside and this can be a danger to them too. Farmers routinely report domestic dogs harassing stock animals causing distressing injuries. Each year there are graphic stories of dogs killing and mauling stock animals in

our rural districts.

The answer is to bite the bullet. Our dogs will feel a whole lot safer in a secure dog run and they would not disappear over the horizon in search of mischief. Better still, get them trained to be obedient and not chase after anything but everything that moves. Some dog owners have even trained their dogs to ignore and move away from slithery snakes. But to reduce the risk of you're dog escaping, and to lessen the risk of it sniffing out wildlife and stock animals – build a secure dog run! Don't be a distraught lost-dog owner, do the right thing and keep Fido safe.

Wildcare's 24-hour native species rescue line (6299 1966) is available to give advice and rescue injured and orphaned wildlife – it's manned by volunteers every day of the year. - Philip Machin, 62383717



Wamboin Covered Play Area To Be Opened 20 September

by Fiona Laverty

The children of Wamboin and surrounds will be protected from the damage of the summer sun, and perhaps even shielded from Wamboin's annual winter snow, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Wamboin community and the Bendigo Bank.

The Wamboin Playgroup will officially open its new playground shade cover at 10am at the next Wamboin Markets, to be held at the Wamboin Community Hall on Saturday 20 September.

The shade cover, which has been erected to provide sun shade for children using the playground equipment at the Community Hall and during the weekly Tuesday morning playgroup meetings, was jointly funded by generous donations of the Bendigo Bank, the Wamboin Community Association, the Wamboin Community Hall Management Committee, and the Wamboin Playgroup.

The Convener of the Wamboin Playgroup, Mrs Emma Auzins, said the shade cover was only possible thanks to the joint efforts of the Wamboin Community Association and the Wamboin Community Hall Management Committee. "Our playgroup at Wamboin is not large, and doesn't have the resources of playgroups in cities. Yet I found the playgroup vital for me as a first time mother to get out and meet people and have my children mix with their neighbours. Now with my third child at playgroup, I find it invaluable," Mrs Auzins said.

"We're a group of parents who want our children to be outside as much as possible. We organise the playgroup activities to have the children play freely in the yard on the Community Hall play equipment.

"In the summer heat, we wanted sun protection for our kids. The donations and support of Bendigo Bank, the Community Association, and the Hall Management Committee has made sun shade possible," Mrs Auzins said.

The playgroup, which meets every Tuesday from 10.30am during school term at the Wamboin Community Hall, is open to parents and their children yet to commence school. Children range in age from new born to school starters, and mums, dads, extended family members and carers are all welcome each Tuesday.

Members of the Wamboin community are warmly invited to attend the shade cover opening on 20 September, where there will be face painting, balloons, and cakes for children and grownups alike.

For more information on joining the Wamboin Playgroup, or to inquire about the 20 September official opening of the sunshade, contact Emma Auzins on 6238 3974.

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Councillor's Corner

Waste Management — Having dealt with rates (to some extent) and roads in recent columns, I thought I'd round out council's three 'R's with a few words on rubbish. It's a bit of a dirty subject in several ways, not least because of the costs involved.

Most readers will be aware that new waste transfer stations are under construction at both the current Bungendore and Macs Reef Road tip sites. The works that are under way in both locations are plain to see. Both facilities are due to come into service on 4 December 2014. At this time, the associated landfill areas will be closed, and Palerang Council's waste management model will change, most significantly in that residents will be charged at the gate of the new facilities to dispose of rubbish.

At this point it is important to note that the disposal of recyclable items, primarily paper, plastics and glass, will continue to be free, as an incentive for residents to separate as much of these materials from their general waste stream as possible.

Further, the regional waste transfer stations, like the Macs Reef Road facility, will be limited in the range of materials that can be deposited. Many items, such as tyres, white goods, scrap metal and dead animals, will not be accepted at the regional centres, and will need to be taken to the Bungendore facility. The regional facilities will, however, accept smaller recyclable items like batteries and waste oil, along with the traditional recyclable waste streams of paper, plastics and glass. Full details, of what will and will not be accepted at the various facilities, will be circulated by Council as we transition to the new processing model.

It has been recognised from the outset that the imposition of gate fees is controversial. One view is that the user should pay, the other that this will simply lead to illegal dumping. Either way, council has an obligation to discourage the production of waste, and charging on the basis of 'usage' is the most obvious solution. Even so, the charges that will be levied (around \$5 for a 140L bin or \$16 for a trailer load of general waste) in no way cover the cost of operating our WTSs, and much of the basic operational cost will still be levied through a general Waste Programs Charge.

Council's overall general waste charging system is complicated by the geography of, and also to some extent by the demographic distribution within our shire. The imposition of GST on landfill operations adds another layer of complexity to the charging structure.

Council endeavours to recognise that some areas in the southwest of the shire have more practical access to waste management facilities in the ACT or Queanbeyan, and some charges for residents in these areas are reduced accordingly. All residents, however, pay a Waste Programs Charge that covers the cost of delivering general waste management services such as clean-up programs and the management of illegal dumping. In the relevant areas, this also covers the capital cost of establishing, and the basic cost of operating the new waste transfer facilities.

A recent tax office ruling requiring councils to apply GST to charges associated with landfill operations has resulted in a separate Waste Services Charge. While this increases the complexity of the waste charging system, splitting this component out of the Waste Programs Charge minimises the associated GST increase that is levied on residents. This charge will disappear when our landfills are closed.

Council also provides general waste and recyclables collection services in our towns and some rural residential areas. These services are charged separately through Domestic Waste Charges.

Under the new waste management model, general waste will ultimately be transferred from the new facilities to the Woodlawn Bioreactor, near Tarago. While recyclables are currently transferred to the Mugga Lane facility in the ACT, alternative options that provide a better return to council are under investigation.

Details of the Palerang Council Waste Management Strategy and the new Macs Reef Road WTS are available on the WCA website at http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/waste.

The Palerang Blog—New or related entries in my councillor website Blog (http://peteharrison.id.au/blog) include: Waste Management (Jul 2014) Waste Management Surveys (Mar 2013) Macs Reef Road WTS (Jan 2013)

Council's General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (excluding January), 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

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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		Bill Owen	Cooper Rd								
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd		Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17							
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40							
176: 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)		Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31							
Kathy Handel	Norton (Weerona to Hilltop+Wirndra)	22	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	26							
238: 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 Nrtn Rd	23	Rob Gorham	South end Clare Valley	38							
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	65							
Dominica Lorima	North end Clare Valley	42	Bungendore Foodworks	Bungendore	10							
253: CO-ORDINATED	BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: pł	ı 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 Nwgtn& 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	42							
Rhonda&Neville Parnell	DenleyDr (Kestral2 1/2 way 2SthEnd)	15	Misc		1							
	BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425											
Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	66	Jenny Bryce	Wattle Flat Rd	11							
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton Park Estate	48	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	18							
Ian Coillet	Grove Road	7										
179: CO-ORDINATED												
Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	27	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	26							
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	35	Richard Holding	Wyoming & Doust Rds	25							
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill)	25	Chris Fowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds	20							
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	21										
121: CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 6238 3484												
Diana Griffin	Majors Close	18	Will Noel	Weeroona (Majors to Denley)	36							
Advertisers & Misc	(Out of area mailouts)	41	Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	Snowgum Road	26							
TOTAL 1,287												

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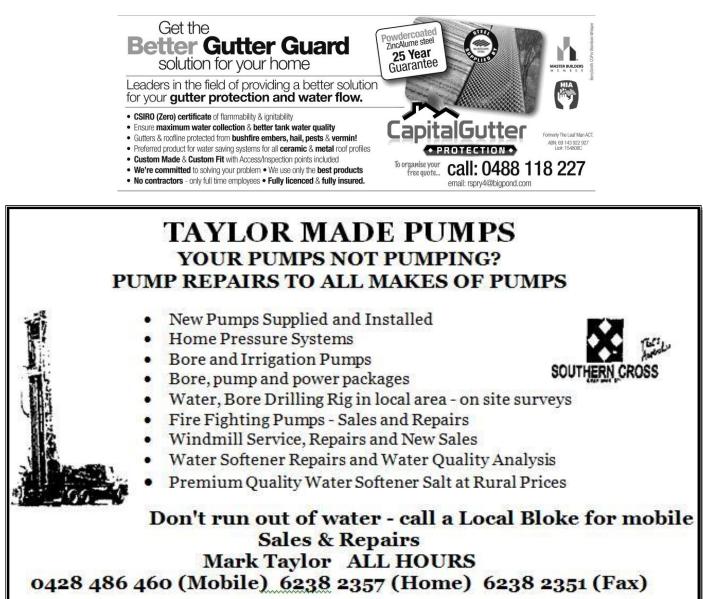
Church Notices St Andrews, Wamboin, and St Peters, Sutton

There's a little church with a big heart, in a green paddock, in the village of Sutton, and it's been there in one form or another since 1907. At first it was a timber structure, but the white ants had their way with its timbers and a new building was constructed to replace it. In September 1925 the foundation stone was laid and within a few months this simple, rough cast building was debt free. Over the years it has witnessed the patterns of everyday life; baptisms, marriages, funerals and social gatherings. Stained glass windows were installed in memory of pioneers who had worshipped, lived and died in this district. Many of the old family names are still prominent in our area today. Last month a garden shed was erected in the grounds and next month you should see this little church with heritage status gain a new, insulated roof. Things are happening. At St Andrews we held a "Christmas in July" dinner with a superb meal in the old tradition, minus the menace of blow flies and the soaring mercury. Our two congregations support those less fortunate through Benedict House in Queanbeyan, and at the dinner we raised funds to donate to their pantry.

On Sunday, 31st August, there will be a service in St Andrews at 6pm, the fifth Sunday of the month, followed by warming soups and snacks. It is very special to have the occasional evening service, and a warm welcome is extended to all.

Sadly our Pastor, Rev Dr Peter Grundy, has moved on. He was with us in the beginning when the two churches merged, but we always knew he would not be with us forever. However, we are most fortunate to have the services, once again, of Ven. Dr Royce Thompson, a former RAAF padre, well known to the community and supported so ably by our lay preacher, Dr David McCarthy.

Kids Club at St Andrews continues to flourish on a Friday night during NSW school terms from 5.30 to 7pm. Services are held at 9am in St Andrews on the first and third Sunday, and at 9am in St Peters on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. A thought provoking sermon, robust singing and an excellent morning tea and chat afterwards can be guaranteed. – Contacts: Robyn Robertson: 62383202. Bronwyn Elliott: 62383359, Alan Rope: 62383224



WAMBOIN GST ANNIVERSARY GOLF DAY

Right. I'll try to keep this simple. There are three kinds of accountants – those that can count and those that can't. In Wamboin we have all kinds but only one who likes to celebrate the end of the financial year by marking the introduction of the highly-respected goods-and-services tax. And so it came to pass that on Sunday 6 July the golfers of this attractive local government area saddled up for the GST Anniversary day sponsored by Keith France and Kathy Handel (that's Kathy in the photo with the winning team. Keith like all accountants is shy and self-effacing). The competition was based on the Ambrose system for teams of two. In keeping with the day's theme 10 per cent was added to players' handicaps. Those little pencils with the rubber on the end came in very handy. It was a bright, clear day but cold as a well digger's knee. Nevertheless, a fair crowd including some new golfers took the field. Back at the Community Hall we all wrestled with our score cards over tea and cake thoughtfully provided by the sponsors. Visitors included new golfers Rob and Penny Gibson. Also playing her first game on the peerless Wamboin course was local identity, Deborah Fileman. Scott Mason (now living in Cairns but grew up in Wamboin) appeared with daughter Leila in tow. Scott now sports a beard to avoid being mistaken for a close blood relative.

The Googly Ball went to the person who locked the keys in his car and therefore wishes to remain anonymous. He also won the dummy spit award. Ball winners were Neville Schroder X 2, Paul Griffin X 2, John Whitney, Keith France and Pete Harrison. There was no junior comp so the prize was given to Leila Mason. The 9 hole comp winners were the team of Ken Gordon and Larry King with a net score of 29.775 from second placegetters Lofty and Scott Mason on 33.017. A creditable third place was taken by newcomers Rob and Penny Gibson with 35.375. The 18 hole comp was taken out by the team of Nev Schroder and Pete Harrison with 57.2667. We understand that Nev did all the work with Pete's contribution being is handicap. Second were John Whitney and Paul Griffin on 59.825. from Tim Barter and Charles Guscott on 60.817 in third place.

Next month's golf day will be held on 3 August. It is known as Tradies' Day and is sponsored by clever, practical chaps such as plumbers, electricians and mechanical engineers. Join us at the Hall at 12.15pm for a 12.30 pm start. You know it makes sense. -- Larry King, golfer *pro tem*

Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin – 39 Year Statistics from the Robertsons

July rainfall to 27/7 ... 22.25mm 2014 rainfall to 27/7 ... 374.4mm Average August rainfall ... 54.4mm Wettest August ... 170mm in 1984 Driest August c... 5.5mm in 1994 Coldest August day ... 5C x 11 times (3 in 2013) July 2013 ... 45.5mm 2013 to 31/7 ... 313mm August 2013 ... 29.75mm Wettest August day ... 35mm on 7/8/85 Hottest August day ... 20C on 31/8/82 Coldest August night ... -5C on 18/8/2010



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Wamboin Muse by Jill Gregory

Last night, as I sat snugly beside the wood fire, I resolved to get up early in the morning and take the dog for a walk. Silly me! This morning, like so many mornings of late, was blotted out by thick, wet fog. Fog that just sits, breathlessly, revealing an occasional tree stencilled onto a cold grey landscape close to the house. But I did eventually rouse myself, grabbed my coat and gloves, harnessed the dog, and was dragged off for my walk. And then, as if someone had flicked a switch, the air changed and the sun appeared.

It was on a morning like this, as I was trying to restrain the dog long enough to admire the golden wattles and note the different fungi tucked amongst the leaf litter, that I witnessed an incredible sight...a squadron of dashing white cockatoo fighter aircraft attacking a lumbering squadron of black cockatoo bombers in an air battle over Canning Close. As the battle raged, a disoriented raven strayed into enemy air space and was swiftly dispatched. But the sluggish bombers were no match for the agile fighters and were soon sent on their way, licking their wounds and protesting loudly. To my disappointment, the dog didn't seem to share my fascination with the sky. She had a mob of kangaroos in her sights. I recalled the recent conversation

I'd had with an earnest young man from overseas who'd asked about our "endangered" kangaroos. They might have been endangered on this occasion, but only if the dog had snapped her lead!

This spectacular morning image came back to me as I was chatting to a fellow grandmother at a school sports day. Her grandson was soon to be ten and she'd asked him where he'd like her to take him for his special birthday. Immediately I'd thought "Tidbinbilla" or "the Coast", but apparently he'd suggested the Great Wall of China, and she'd agreed! Now I had to admit that it would be rather nice to have your photo taken standing on a section of the Great Wall of China on your tenth birthday and within seconds have your smiling image appear on your friends' smart phones back home, but would it necessarily mean much more than that? Could it simply end up being a win for the seductive travel brochure and tourist agents, and another photo to be saved and forgotten? Don't get me wrong, I'm all for exploring our wonderful world, but it doesn't always have to be the exotic. Awe and wonder can begin with the little things on your doorstep.

Cockatoos, kangaroos, sparkling frosts and dripping misty walks....I wouldn't live anywhere else......but then again, perhaps even I could be tempted!

