

The Whisper

November 2014 CIRCULATION: 1,287

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 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 Palarang 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 December 2014 /January 2015 issue the deadline is Sunday, 30 November, 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

Wamboin Community Assn	Jenny Richards, President	6238 1329	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
Resident Palarang Councillor	Pete Harrison	0427 711 028	cr.pete.harrison@palarang.nsw.gov.au
Resident Palarang Councillor	Keith France	0427 365 715	cr.keith.france@palarang.nsw.gov.au
Wamboin Markets	Lance and Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
Sutton School Playgroup	Johanna Bradley, Convenor	6236 9035	johannabradley@iinet.net.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	Jill Sedaitis, JP	6236 9559	
Wamboin Pony Club	Leanne Quick, Club Captain	6238 3435	
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Natasha Gates, contact	0412 008 777	
Wamboin Play Group	Emma Auzins, Convener	6238 3974	emauszins@gmail.com
Scouts	Pete Harrison	6238 3525	
Bywong Hall Bookings	Guy Cotsell, contact	6230 3523	cotsell@moraguy.net
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	joan.mason@internode.on.net
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.greenwood2@bigpond.com
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare, Helpline	6299 1966	
Wonderful Wmen of Wmb	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

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Fiona Skea	baby sitting	6238 3290	Ashleigh Caird	baby sitting	6238 0746
Genevieve Phipps	Babysitting/pet sitting	6238 1660	Gabrielle Simpkin	baby sitting/ pets sitting	6238-1335
Mara Sutcliffe	pet sitting	6238 3228	Jack&Matilda Whitney	child.pet&home sttg.oddjobs	6238 3059
Jordan Brown	baby sitting	0414-907-921	Lydia Milos	Babysitting, petsitting	6238 3559

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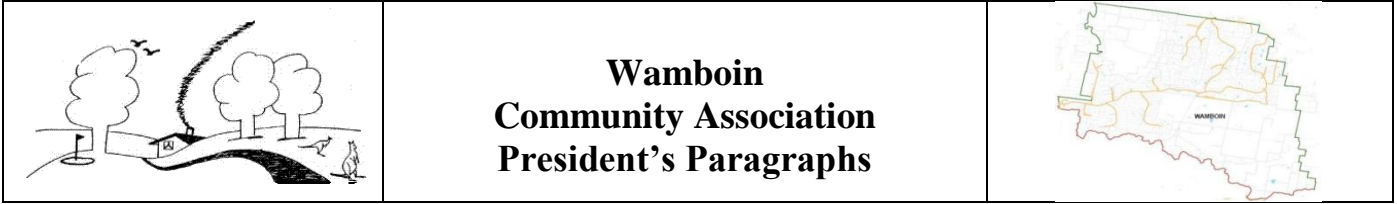
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Hello and welcome to November. The days are finally getting warmer and everything is getting busier.

Neighbourhood Safer Place – Last Saturday 25th October the RFS held an open day at the Wamboin Fire Shed and at the Community Hall to formally open the new Neighbourhood Safer Place. Those of us who attended were able to see the sprinkler systems in action and the telemetry of the weather station which provides local weather updates. Both the fire shed and the community hall have now become safer, and more valuable assets thanks to the tireless work of local Superintendent Tim Carroll. However if you have any questions regarding this new *safer place* you should contact our local fire brigade. They can help provide answers about the systems and also about the weather station whose data will shortly be available to all residents. I believe that there will be a full write up in the Whisper on this event which was run and organised by the Fire brigade.

Weeds – It was raised at our last general meeting of the WCA that certain weeds were either becoming a problem or out of control around Wamboin. (Please see the article in this Whisper by a local resident). In response to local concerns we have decided to invite the local council's weed expert out to our **December Market Day, Saturday, December 20th**, so that any one with weed questions or concerns can bring both them and the weeds to the markets for the weed man to examine.

Annual Christmas Carols Night – Christmas is a lot closer than you may want to believe (I certainly don't want to believe it) and that heralds in our last big event on the WCA yearly calendar – the annual Christmas Carols Night. The Carols are scheduled for **Friday the 19th December** at the Community Hall and starting at **7:00 pm**. It is usually a great night so please mark it in your diaries. I organise the Christmas Play so if any parents would like their child or children to take part in our play please contact me on **62381329**. A bigger write-up will occur in next month's Whisper but please contact me any time

-- Jenny Richards (President)

WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15TH 9AM TO 12 NOON

Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 62383309

The October market had to compete with the Murrumbateman Field Day. Despite this we had a good number of people through the doors and for the first time ever, the famous egg and bacon rolls sold out and our coffee baristas were kept extraordinarily busy!

This month we started some recycling at the markets. Bring along your used egg cartons and clean jam jars on the day and leave them in the marked bins. Those who bring eggs to the markets or make jams and preserves will be very welcome to take cartons or jars home to fill up for the next markets.

Our Christmas market will be held on Saturday 20th December – *some music would be good – any local buskers out there?* Contact us if you would like to contribute.

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Acupuncture for Horses

By Dr. Natasha Hovanessian



The Australian Veterinary Association accepts acupuncture, which is a component of Eastern Medicine, as a valid treatment modality and is recommended to be used in conjunction with Western Medicine. A diagnosis of the underlying problem is essential before treatment can begin.

The basis behind acupuncture is balancing the body's energy or **Qi**, which runs along **meridians**, or channels, throughout the body. In Chinese medicine, an imbalance of **yin and yang** leads to pain or illness, and essentially blocks the flow of Qi. Stress, trauma and many environmental factors can cause imbalance in any animal (or human).

There are 14 primary meridians in the body and acupuncture focuses on points along these channels. Stimulation of these points heals by reducing inflammation and pain. Needles are placed into the acupuncture points along meridians to stimulate and open the flow of Qi, subsequently relieving the blockage or **stagnation**.

Most often in horses we use acupuncture to **relieve musculoskeletal pain** (e.g. lameness) for improved performance and comfort, and to **decrease inflammation** in the body (e.g. laminitis). Acupuncture may also be recommended for back pain, hormone and metabolic imbalance, or for respiratory, neurologic, gastrointestinal and reproductive disorders.

Most animals respond well to the needle placement and even appear relaxed or sedated. Often in horses we perform **aquapuncture** which involves injection of vitamin B12 to stimulate a point. Usually four or more acupuncture treatments, given one to two weeks apart, are required. Similar to humans, some horses respond well to maintenance care with regular monthly visits. Chronic conditions may need multiple treatments before seeing improvement. Some conditions will improve quicker when coupled with western medicine modalities.

To discuss whether acupuncture may be of benefit in your horse, please contact Canberra Equine Hospital on (02) 6241 8888 or equine@canberravet.com.au.

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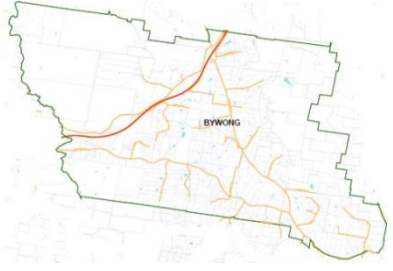
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Bywong Community News www.bywongcommunity.org.au</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Darryl Bourke, President</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">This News Put Together by the Bywong Committee</p>	
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November Trivia: Still a few places left for our second trivia night of the year, which is on Friday November 28. Book with Greg Gougeon on 6236 9841 or email jungle44@iinet.net.au. The musical presentation which has proved so popular will continue, with an encore performance by operatic soprano Theresa Raynor and some questions sung by Ian and Ros, whom you may have seen in a Canberra winter production of ‘Cabaret’. If you can add to the fun of Jean-Pierre’s “Brush with Fame” segment, give him a ring (0458 510 953). Question presentation on the big screen will again be part of the fun, and we shall be serving cake with tea or coffee.

Free Drinks, and Veterans on Show: Sounds too good to be true? The occasion is our Christmas drinks gathering, which will take place after work on Friday 5th December (any time after 6 pm) at Bywong Hall. If you live in Bywong (or even Wamboin!) you will be welcome. We shall also be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of building our Hall, which is much admired and used by a number of local bodies, as well as for weddings and other private local events. Our veterans are members of the team of local volunteers who did the actual building work, and who we hope will be able to make it to the Hall for the event. Please drop in on the way home.

Pony Club Continues to Grow: Geary’s Gap club is continuing to grow, with riders of all ages and abilities regularly attending rally days on the second Sunday of the month. Rally days cater for all levels and offer a variety of disciplines. At the October rally day the Club held an inter club competition with Wamboin Pony Club. This is a friendly annual competition where the two clubs compete for the Wamboin Shield. Approximately 40 riders attended and enjoyed a fantastic day of ring events, handler classes, show jumping, sporting and a fancy dress Halloween competition. The Geary’s Gap riders did us proud and won the competition. On a higher level, our riders out competing at State events have represented their club well and achieved some good results.

Home invasion: Following the recent home robbery in Bywong, a resident has written to suggest that one of our information evenings be devoted to this type of event. We think this is a good idea and shall be talking to the police in the New Year with a view to hosting a discussion on what we can do to protect ourselves and our property.

Dates for 2015: Make sure you’ve got the following dates in next year’s diary: Bywong Car Boot Sale Sunday 22 March; Trivia Night Saturday 8 July; AGM Monday 10 August; 2015 Christmas Drinks Friday 4 December. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Community will be in the Hall in Birriwa Road at 7.30 pm on Monday 9 February (there is no January meeting). All are welcome.

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VOLUNTEER WITH THE BUNGENDORE STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

Jan Smith, Publicity Officer

Bungendore SES will be commencing a program of training for volunteers new to the SES in November. Training is held Monday evenings commencing at 7 pm every Monday at the Bungendore Emergency Services Centre. If you are looking for a way to serve your community and gain a variety of skills and qualifications please give the Unit Controller, Jan Smith, a call on 0429310932.

The unit is also looking for someone who would be interested in developing and managing our website, facebook and twitter account which might suit someone with an interest in ICT but not necessarily in the other training offered by the organisation.

What is the SES? The Bungendore SES unit provides assistance to the local community in the Bungendore, Wamboin and Bywong areas in the event of storms and flooding. Assistance includes help with temporary repairs to save life, prevent injuries, preserve property and prevent further damage. We can also assist by providing advice on prevention measures. The unit also provides assistance to other emergency services, such as the Rural Fire Service and the Police. We are also involved in community activities and render assistance to other community organisations.

Location of headquarters. The Bungendore SES has its headquarters in the Bungendore Emergency Services Centre, corner of King/Ellendon Street, which is a shared facility with the Bungendore Rural Fire Service Brigade

How can I help? The Bungendore SES welcomes new members. Membership gives you the chance to assist your community in times of need. We have a need for people with a wide range of skills and abilities. Roles range from providing assistance in the field during storm operations, assistance with communications and operations control in the operations centre, assistance with providing welfare, catering and logistical support. We can use almost any willing volunteer, regardless of your current skill level, age or fitness. We need fit able bodied members to undertake activity in the field, while people who are less fit or who may have disabilities can be utilised in a range of activities in the operations centre.

Nationally Accredited training. The Bungendore SES also offers a range of nationally accredited training in areas such as first aid, flood boat operations, storm damage operations, land search, chainsaw operations and more. The unit also offers the opportunity to meet new people (in the unit and from other SES units) and to become engaged in different and challenging activities.

Feel free to drop in and see us!

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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.

Whisper 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 - \$130 Half Pg - \$65 1/3 Pg \$43 1/4 Pg - \$33 1/6 Pg - \$28 1/8 Pg - \$22

Editor's Note: Wamboin 15 Years Ago and Wamboin Temperatures and Rainfall will not appear this month but will be back next month. Robyn Robertson's father died this month and she has only just returned.

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WAMBOIN OCTOBER GOLF

This article should be headlined “Vandal Attacks Community Hall – Damage Bill Rises”, but more of that later. Meanwhile, as me old mate, Chuck Dickens, used to say “It was the best of times. It was the worst of times”. It was the best of times because Sunday 5 October turned on a “pearler” - just about the perfect weather for golf – a beautiful Spring day in the mid-20s. (Some visitors were surprised by the strong breeze but we Wamboinians tend to scoff in the face of anything less than gale force.) It was the worst of times because there was clearly a bit of “handicap maintenance” going on before the Open next month. Tsk, tsk! That is not golf, I tell you! And, of course, there was the damage to the Hall, but I’ll get to that. The day was sponsored by L +L King who provided the prizes and edible refreshments and we thank them for it. The sponsors nominated stroke play with a minimum of 14 clubs per bag but no one had anything near 14 clubs and one player didn’t even have a bag. This was overshadowed by the damage to the Hall, which I’ll come to in a bit.

At the 19th we welcomed our visitors – Phil Moran (one more appearance and he will have to join the club), Geoff Leeper, Paul Clough and John Clough. Kevin Rowe, feeling his oats after returning from foreign climes, won the googly ball for – brace yourselves - *hitting the door of the Community Hall*. Following inspection, it was deemed unnecessary to call in the builders or charge Kevin with malicious damage– we’ll just have to live with the ugly mark on the door (as we have lived for over 20 years with somebody’s dog’s footprints in the concrete floor). Steve Miners got the Dummy Spit award after being outdriven on the second hole by both his kids, neither of whom reach his shoulder. The encouragement award went to his daughter, Amy. Ball winners were Lofty Mason, Neville Schroder, Tayler “Minor” Miners, Michael Fileman, Kevin Rowe, Steve “Major” Miners, Paul Clough and Phil Moran.

The junior comp over nine holes was won by Tayler Miners with 44 off the stick for a net 21. The seniors nine hole comp results were: 3rd Phil Moran 46/34 (OCB from his father-in-law, damn and blast it!), 2nd Michael Fileman 46/30, 1st Debra Fileman 63/24 (hmm...). Results of the 18 hole comp were: 3rd Pete Harrison 110/74, 2nd Paul Clough 83/72, 1st Kevin Rowe 112/67. Welcome back, Kevin.

The November golf day will be the renowned Wamboin Open on Sunday 2 November. See you at the Hall at 12.15pm for a 12.30pm tee-off. At this stage I cannot confirm that Sam Burgess will be presenting the prizes but it is unlikely because of recent facial surgery. I can confirm that the Prince of Wales will not be wearing his fox hat. Join us at Wamboin on the 5 November. As Chuck said, golf keeps you humble despite great expectations. - Larry King, possible golfer



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St Andrews, Wamboin, and St Peters, Sutton

Church Notices

Someone was seen in the church garden at St Andrews, on bended knee, deep in silent meditation, perhaps praying, but most definitely weeding! No doubt there are many of us in our gardens at the moment, savouring a period of quiet as we weed. What a glorious spring, and this is reflected in the beautiful flowers that appear in both churches each week.

Sadly we have had to farewell Bill Owen, who has reluctantly left his bush block in Wamboin to move into smaller quarters in town. Bill, an ex RN and RAN submariner, has performed his fortnightly Sunday gig on the organ for many years, and was a familiar face on the keyboard at the Community Christmas carols. We wish him well as he adjusts to his new bunk, and begins penning his memoirs. We also trust that he will visit often for guest performances.

Kids Club, at St Andrews in Poppet Rd, is thriving and there is a growing teenage presence. Last Friday evening while the big kids were playing table tennis on the grassed area, the younger ones were inside involved with craft, before a story, songs and a yummy dinner. If you would like to come, or need more information, call any of the numbers listed below.

We welcome Robyn Robertson, back from Melbourne, following the recent death of her beloved father in his 106th year. Robyn has supported so many people over the years in times of bereavement, and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to her and her family.

Don't forget the Blessing of the Animals service at St Peters at 9am on Sunday, 9th November. We usually have an assortment of cats and dogs, but with the pasture at St Peters, larger animals are encouraged.

Services are held at 9am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at St Andrews, and on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at St Peters. Come along. You'll find a warm welcome, a thought provoking sermon and enjoy a chance to chat over morning tea.

Contacts: Robyn Robertson 62383202, Bronwyn Elliott 62383359, Alan Rope 62383224



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Wildcare in Spring

by Phil Machin

Spring is a lovely time of the year and it's not just our gardens taking off – so is our wildlife. It is an absolute delight to watch a joey kangaroo take its first hops and to listen to the ever demanding baby birds calling out to be fed. It's also a busy time for Wildcare with a steady stream of orphaned and injured animals coming into care, such as, abandoned baby birds; turtles with cracked shells from being run over; lizards with puncture marks from dog attack; orphaned wombats and kangaroos from road accidents; and a growing number of calls for Wildcare's snake handlers to relocate snakes that turn up in the wrong place.

But you don't have to belong to a wildlife group to help wildlife and with new people moving into the area it's good time to remind ourselves what we can do to help out. Reptiles come onto our roads to get warm and motorists must keep a wary eye open to avoid them. Ideally if you see a turtle or lizard on the road, and if it is safe – stop the car and move them off in the direction they are headed. It helps to have a towel in the boot of the car to cover and pick up small animals and birds. For snakes, just stop and let them pass by (including in the garden), whilst alerting others.

Injured reptiles can be placed in a box, kept cool and then seek help. Echidnas can be difficult to pick up, but a towel or other material can help to avoid their spines, as you wriggle your fingers underneath the shoulders to lever them off the ground. In the garden, try to keep dogs and cats under control and inside at night. If you discover a lizard in the dog run, then move it somewhere else nearby. Check that bird netting is off the ground to avoid snakes getting tangled up. And keep the land around your house clear and well tended, so you can see what is around.



If you come across a baby bird on the ground, just keep an eye on it for a day, as it might continue to be fed by its mother. Only if it looks like it has been permanently abandoned do you need to pick it up and hand it over to Wildcare. A rescued bird can be placed in a box with material at the bottom to hold it secure and then kept in a warm place. Often baby birds end up on the ground, as they learn to fly and haven't quite got the knack. They can also be carefully placed back in a tree – in a container if you cannot reach the nest.

At this time of the year there are less kangaroos coming into care, as there is a lot more grass around for them to eat in safety – but as you know, there is still a risk in coming across them on our rural roads during dusk and over night. Driving slower will give you more time to react to the unexpected.

With wombats, be aware that they have a habit of stopping, listening, deciding what's coming towards them and then moving – often too late if your car is travelling too fast. So don't expect them to rush off the road. It is important to check injured animals to see if they are still alive and whether there is a Joey onboard or hiding nearby.

Lastly, make sure birdbaths and ground-level containers are topped up with water – and enjoy seeing what comes along to have a drink or splash. It's great to see people helping our

wildlife. Contact Wildcare on 6299 1966 for help (put it in your Mobile). And catch Sunny (pictured – he has just been released into the wild) in the Native Animal Rescue Group 2015 calendar.

Empathy with “A Zen Moment” columnist

By Alan Rope

When reading last months *The Whisper* I could not help but share the emotional shock (trauma these days) that Larry King must have suffered when he too, flipped to the back page. No *Wamboin Muse*, what has Jill done to us, can we survive without it. No offence to Jo Walker (your column we read second, Jo), but when we do not have a January issue, at least we have Christmas/New Year celebrations to keep us going. But in October!

Now I know that I am not a Wamboin resident as far as Australia Post is concerned (they have me in Sutton), I am still in the Wamboin Furies area. So I can still quote JG and say “wouldn't want to live anywhere else”. However, I live next door to the Captain, and over the road from the President of the Sutton Furies (to both I deliver a copy of *The Whisper*). So if the Sutton residents reading this make the presumption that I am claiming to be a Wamboinian and it causes offence, because they feel I should be a Suttonian, then consider this. I am living on all the Wamboin soil washed down the hill over the years, and I am controlling the volume of creek water sent down to Sutton. Therefore, I am a local, so.....”I wouldn't want to live anywhere else”.

Please Jill, next time Richard says “Get in the car we are going to Queensland for a few weeks”, put your foot down and say “NO, I must stay and write the *Wamboin Muse*, because I have at least two readers”.



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 which includes the localities of Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton (south of the Federal Highway) and Bungendore (along and west of the Lake George escarpment).

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS, ring Triple Zero (000)

WE ARE NOW IN THE BUSH FIRE DANGER PERIOD

**The Bush Fire Danger Period runs from
1 October to 31 March**

THERE IS A REAL RISK OF UNCONTROLLED FIRES IN OUR AREA

FIRE PERMITS NOW REQUIRED

A Fire Permit is required for burning activities in the open during the Bush Fire Danger Period. Fire Permits help ensure fire is used safely and minimise the danger to you, your property and the community. Penalties for a range of infringements have recently been doubled; they are hefty and are being enforced.

IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN READY - BE PREPARED



Now is the time to prepare or refresh your Bushfire Survival Plan.

We all enjoy living in our beautiful bushland setting but that means living with the risk of bushfire. Knowing the risk of bushfire means we all have an obligation to be prepared and to be aware.

We need to be self reliant and ready for the threat of fire. So now is the time to dust off and review your Bushfire Survival Plan. If you don't have a Bush Fire Survival Plan now is the time to make a plan for your family and property. As the TV ad tells us 'planning to make a plan is not a plan'.

When you develop your plan consider the triggers that mean it is time to act on your plan. These triggers may include:

- Fire danger ratings - they are an early indicator of potential danger
- Predictions of extreme weather including days of hot, dry and windy conditions
- Advisories have been issued regarding extreme weather and the risk of bush fires
- Alerts or warnings have been issued for bush fires occurring in the area



Now is also the time to prepare your property. The weather is still mild, an excellent time to clear the gutters, mow the grass around your house and sheds, remove overhanging branches, and clear away the wood pile beside the house or that pile of prunings you didn't get to burn during winter.

A rushed clean-up the night before a 38°C day is never a good idea. There is no better time to prepare than now.

BURNING OFF – FIRE PERMITS REQUIRED

During the bushfire danger period fire permits are required before burning off. Fire permits are free and for properties in the Brigade area (see banner above) can be arranged by contacting the Captain on 0409 991 340 or email: captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au

A request for a Fire Permit should be made at least a week before you intend to burn since we must inspect the burn site before one can be issued. There are also notification requirements you must address.



NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACE



On Saturday 25 October the Mayor, Cr Pete Harrison hit the button that set in motion the deluge system at the Wamboin Community Hall. Over the past several months the Wamboin hall and adjacent RFS fire shed have been commissioned as a Neighbourhood Safer Place. The project has involved ember proofing the complex, installation of a 150,000 litre water tank, generator and pump, and a deluge system that covers both the hall and fire shed.

There will be more about the Neighbourhood Safer Place in coming editions of the Wamboin Fire fighter.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts

Since the last newsletter the Brigade has been called out on five occasions.

Tuesday 30 September – five firefighters in one of the brigade's heavy tankers departed the fire station at 2.30pm (a sixth brigade member remained at the Station on standby) following a reported smoke sighting near the northern end of Bungendore Rd. No smoke could be located. Tanker and crew returned to the Station at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 1 October - the Brigade pagers were activated at 12.37am requesting a heavy tanker to assist at a house fire in Burrows Lane Bungendore. The tanker and its two crewmembers provided an additional water resource for the NSW Fire & Rescue Pumper to assist it contain and extinguish the fire. Two Wamboin firefighters who had remained at the Station with a second heavy tanker at the ready were stood down – not needed. Crew and tanker returned to the Station at 3.57am.

Friday 3 October - at 10.19pm the pagers were activated for a motor vehicle crash on Sutton Rd between Norton Rd Wamboin and the Federal Highway. Four firefighters in Wamboin 1A arrived on scene at 11.11pm to find a badly damaged vehicle. It is understood that the driver had been transported to Queanbeyan by the Police. There being no risk of fire, the Wamboin tanker and crew returned to the Fire Station at 11.29pm.

Saturday 11 October - during a hazard reduction burn elsewhere in the Brigade area the brigade was requested to investigate a report of smoke at a property at Merino Vale Drive Wamboin. The crew in Wamboin 1A responded and established that the smoke was coming from a smouldering pile which appears to have self-combusted, presumably through a composting process. A timely example of how easy it is for fires to start.

Saturday 25 October - at 8pm the pagers were activated in response to a reported grass fire in the vicinity of Bidges Rd and the Federal Highway. Four firefighters in Wamboin 1A scoured the area along with crews in 2 tankers from the A.C.T. but nothing was found. The brigade members who had remained at the Fire Station on standby were stood down and the crew in Wamboin 1A returned to the Station a short time later.

Hazard Reduction Burn

On Saturday 11th October crews from Wamboin RFB and Bungendore RFB assisted the owner of a property on Mountain Rd with a Hazard Reduction burn on a western sloping section of the property. It was a whole-of-day activity involving the entire Wamboin fleet i.e. the four tankers, PC and the Quickfill (trailer pump), plus 3 tankers from Bungendore. In all 31 firefighters were involved, 18 from Wamboin and 13 from Bungendore.



Training


Training during October continued a focus on pumps and pumping and included a night exercise requiring the shipping of a designated quantity of water over a long distance from one water source to another.

Community Engagement

Saturday 18 Oct – ‘Get Ready!’ - Bush Fire Information Session

Just 8 members of the community attended the ‘Get Ready!’ – Bush Fire Preparations Tips & Tools community-wide information session at the Wamboin Fire Station. Those who came along enjoyed a mix of information and guidance to assist them with their Bush Fire Survival Plans including property preparations. Many thanks to the Brigade’s presenters and Support Crew, plus the several other members who put considerable work into this event. Thanks also to Greg Simms from Bungendore Rural Services (BRS) who again was on hand with a display of fire-fighting equipment suitable for local properties. Feedback on the event has been very positive.

CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>Tuesday 2nd December</p>		<p>Fire Brigade Community Christmas Party</p> <p>Fire Station, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.</p> <p>From 5.30pm. Santa arrives at 6pm.</p>
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USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade: <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

The Brigade website provides information on local conditions, including the current Fire Danger Rating and Brigade announcements. The **Community Information** section includes useful information and links to other websites including the NSW Rural Fire Service.

NSW Rural Fire Service: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

The NSW Rural Fire Service website provides an electronic copy of its **Bushfire Survival Plan guide** which you can download and complete. You can also access its **MyFirePlan** smartphone apps. in both iOS and Android versions.

Wamboin Brigade Captain: captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au or 0409 991 340

If you would like a hard copy of the NSW RFS Bush Fire Survival Plan booklet or have any other non-emergency enquiry, e.g. need 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, please contact the Brigade directly by email or phone.

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Message for Denley Drive Residents, Especially Horse, Pony, Donkey and other Livestock Owners

This is just to alert you to the small growth of Paterson's curse weed growing along the roadside in Denley Drive near properties 270, 320, 327, 332, 339 and 429. The number of plants is small at the moment and I am sure you know how fatal they can be for horses and other livestock. Before they spread into the paddocks, they can be quite easily dug out. Palerang Council have been told about the weeds but because they are currently dealing with an outbreak of Capeweed, have not the finances to deal with Paterson's curse and have removed it from 'their' noxious weeds listing. They do realise its problems if it should spread into horse areas.

If you don't know the weed, it grows to about 30 cm high, has a purple flower similar to a snap dragon, while the leaf is small on the tall stem and at the ground, the leaf pattern is larger and flat. The root is a thick central tap root. Anyone seeing the plant who could give assistance to remove it at this early stage would be most appreciated and would protect the lives of our precious animals. - R. Parnell



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www.facebook.com/heike.hahner



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*****WEEDS***WEEDS***WEEDS***WEEDS*****

Do you have weeds this year you've never seen before? Don't know your Capeweed from your St John's Wort? Think Paterson's curse is a poem by Henry Lawson?



Capeweed

Capeweed can cause toxicity to horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. It can survive periods of drought better than most common agricultural species, so a dry period following good germinating rains increases the proportion of capeweed.

Palerang Council and the Wamboin Community Association have arranged for a weed expert to attend the December Home Produce Market. Come along and find out all you ever wanted to know about our local plant pests; bring plants for identification; learn why some weeds flourish one year and not the next – which weeds are toxic to animals and humans; practical & safe weed control solutions...

ASK -> LEARN -> CONTROL !

WHEN ?

Saturday 20 December, 9am-12 noon

***WHERE? Wamboin Home Produce Market
Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin***

BRING: Photos of weeds flowering now and/or plant samples - wear gloves when picking unfamiliar plants!



Paterson's curse

Paterson's curse contains alkaloids that act on the livers of some animals, especially horses and pigs. Sheep, goats and cattle are affected, but not as badly. If grazing animals consume much of the weed, many weaken, some die.

Weeds are most effectively controlled when they and their numbers are small – a little weed control work today will save many dollars and days of work in years to come.

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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
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)	32	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 Nrtm 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: 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 Nwgtm& 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
150: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425					
Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	66	Louise Baldwin	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 BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333					
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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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IN THE CHOOKHOUSE

by Phil Elliott

For the past four years, in springtime, as if an alarm clock had gone off inside her, our very elderly chook, Lottie, (I dare not mention a lady’s age, but it exceeds 10 years!) has become broody. To the detriment of all else within the chook house she has commandeered a nest, taken over whatever eggs have been laid there and settled in for motherhood. And each year, prompted by Lottie, we have acceded to her maternal instincts and provided her with just what she needs – chickens. The procedure goes like this. Lottie announces her broodiness, seemingly increases her size by about 50 percent, and pecks any hand, or other bodily part, within pecking distance. At this stage we commence the countdown – 21 days or thereabouts, depending on the chicken delivery schedule at Bellchambers. For the next three weeks we tip-toe around her, as do all the other chooks, as we retrieve the girls’ daily offerings.

Come the delivery day, we journey to Fyshwick and collect the newly arrived ‘day-olds’ although, in truth, they are

somewhat older, and spirit them home in an old wine carton. They are then fed, watered and rested in the laundry until darkness has overtaken the land. We do not handle them lest our smell announce the deception to Lottie.

We approach the chook house with the stealth of an SAS commando: wife carries the torch and I carry the wine carton. In through the door we go, on goes the torch to give just enough light to work out where Lottie is. A quick dive under her and my hand retrieves one of her eggs. I whip that out, stuff it in my pocket and just as quickly grab a chicken and place it where the egg had been. I repeat the procedure and by now there are stirrings from Lottie.

We retreat quickly and silently from the chook house leaving Lottie chuckling contentedly as the chickens burrow in under her wing feathers for a warm nights sleep. We then retire to our house leaving Lottie content in her motherhood, fully accepting the miracle

that has just befallen her and contemplating next morning, “I had the funniest dream last night!”




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Nature Notes October 2014

Jo Walker

A few well-spaced rainfall events have kept the grasses growing and the landscape green – even though we've already had one or two rather hot days.

Yellow is the commonest colour amongst the wildflowers at the moment. The golden-yellow flowers of Sticky Everlasting daisies (*Xerochrysum viscosum*) are adding a bit of colour to the roadsides. Billy Buttons (*Craspedia variabilis*) have been flowering for a while, some of them growing unusually tall this year due to the good conditions. And another yellow daisy, the tiny Austral Sunray (*Triptilodiscus pygmaeus*) is still adorning large areas with its small globular flowerheads.

And then there are the white daisies. Several roadsides in Wamboin now sport quite large stretches of Hoary Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans*). This species, in the past, was listed as uncommon but seems to be increasing its range locally. A yellow-flowered form of this species grows on roadside areas on the Kings Highway towards Braidwood and on the Bungendore-Tarago Road.

The yellow Spur Velleias (*Velleia paradoxa*) are also flowering at present. There is a good patch of them on Sutton Road close to some *Leucochrysum albicans*. And stands of Bulbine Lilies (*Bulbine bulbosa*), with yellow flowers on tall upright stems are making a good show. Some of the Buttercups (*Ranunculus lappaceus*) are already forming heads of seeds, but still bearing masses of golden flowers too,

There are some larger plants flowering as well as the plethora of herbaceous species. The foliage of *Pomaderris angustifolia* is disappearing under clouds of pleasantly scented cream flowers. And some of the Bundy (*Eucalyptus goniocalyx*) are bearing exceptionally large loads of flowers this year.

The birds are all busy nesting. Early in the month, I watched a large male Kangaroo grazing nonchalantly while a White-eared Honeyeater perched on its back for some time industriously pulling out tufts of soft fur to line its nest. By the time the bird flew off, it had a beak full of fur and looked as if it had grown a sizeable beard!

A Boobook Owl was calling from somewhere close by several times this month. There was a resident pair here for many years, but I only hear them sporadically now. Another visitor was a very large Grey Currawong which was soon being harassed by a pair of Pied Currawongs.

There seem to be quite a lot of Australian Admiral butterflies (*Vanessa itea*) about at the moment. Their larvae feed on plants in the Nettle family (Urticaceae) and, although I don't have any Nettles growing here, there were five butterflies feeding on the nectar of a flowering Mint-bush in my garden recently.



The 2014

MAILBOX or GATE DECORATING EVENT

Any mailbox or gate in Bywong or Wamboin can win!

Prizes for 1st and 2nd will be awarded

Special commendation to the best entry by a child under 13

By 8pm Sunday 14 December: Submit a photo of your mailbox or gate, along with your name, age if under 13, address and telephone number to sally.saunders1@bigpond.com.

Judges will visit the short list up to 20 entries.

Friday 19 December the winners will be notified by Christmas elves bearing prize baskets prepared by the Wonderful Women of Wamboin.



Involve children and grandchildren, and your own inner child.

Have fun and show what a spirited community we are.

Photos of the shortlisted 20 will be displayed on the community websites for all to see.

Wamboin Pony Club – October

Your local Wamboin Pony club had a busy month this October. It was time again for the Wamboin Geary's Gap Challenge shield competition. Riders headed to the Geary's Gap club grounds for a day of friendly competing. This annual event brings these two local clubs together and the winning club takes home the Shield trophy. The riders from Wamboin put in a good effort running through various flat work events and a jumping competition. This year Geary's Gap came out ahead in the points tally so will hold the trophy for the year. Wamboin thanks the Geary's Gap club for organising this year's event, all the riders had a fun day. Our second rally day was last Sunday and a small group spent the morning working on jumping skills and more flat work. Congratulations also to Wamboin Associate riders Lauren and Katie

Slater who competed in the recent State Mounted games event in the Zone 16 Masters team. The team won 9 out of 10 races at the competition and were the Associate Champions well done to both our riders and the team. If you are interested in joining a small but friendly local Pony Club and have access to your own horse you can come and try out at our rally days and see if you like it. Our riders are aged from 4 -25 so come along to enjoy the company of other riders and see what Wamboin Pony Club has to offer. Rally days are a great social day out. Not only do you have fun riding, there is always lunch for you and the family too. 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 at our grounds near the end of Canning Close from 10am - 3pm. The next club Rally day will be on Sunday 9th November. So if you are interested come along and see all that Pony Club can offer. If you would like some 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 we hope we will see you soon.

- Steve Quick

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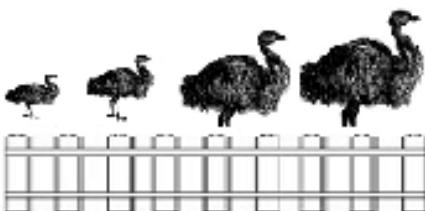
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Lizards

By Will Gregory (age 10)

Jacky lizards, shingle backs, blue tongues. From the smallest garden skink to the ginormous Komodo dragon. I love them all. I started off liking lizards when one of my good friends had told me on the school bus home that he had caught 2 Jacky lizards, and so I asked him if I could have one. He said no. No not one of his but he would try and catch me one. So on the following days that I caught the bus we talked about heat rocks, lizard hides and types of lizards. A few days later I got a phone call from him saying that he had caught me a lizard. Later that day he came and dropped it over; It was a small garden skink. I named him Bob.

It can be hard or easy to keep lizards. It depends on what type of lizard you keep. A big Komodo dragon (not recommended) you would constantly have to feed it large buffalos. As keeping a garden skink you would just have to give it a piece of carrot every day (watch it doesn't go moldy.)

When you are catching a lizard, you need to be very quiet and be very quick when you catch them, but if you are just catching a big fat shingleback, then take your time. When you have caught your lizard you will need a tank and probably a heat rock and lamp seeing the temperatures in Wamboin get so low. My grandma got me my tank last Christmas.

It is 90cm long by 40cm high and 40cm wide. Before I got my big lizard tank I was keeping the lizard in a small plastic tank (highly recommended for people beginning to keep lizards.)

I have two lizards. Their names are Frank and Charlie. They are both shinglebacks. Frank was recently caught and has already settled in. He was caught when dad was running along in the Kowen forest. He saw a small shingleback basking in the sun and so he decided to pick it up. He handed it to me and guess what it weed on me but dad said it was all worth it. Grandma and Grandpa caught Charlie along Canning Close. At first he was a science experiment so I could see how much he grew but then I started to really like him and kept him. Charlie is now 20cm and Frank is 15cm long.

Sometimes going down Cooper Road we see 3 big bearded dragons. Dad has a hat he calls his "lizard catching hat" he throws it over the bearded dragons so they can't see and then picks them up. I try to catch them but as dad says "I don't have a good enough hat". They are way too fast to just try and grab (and they also bite).

In the end I have loved lizards for a very long time and I hope you will start keeping them like me.

PS I think that Frank is a boy and Charlie is a girl, man I am going to have more lizards on my hands.

News from WWOW

By Gail Ritchie Knight

The Wonderful Women of Wamboin (WWOW) continue to meet every Monday for a cuppa and a chat. Many of us live on acreage while some of us live in a village, but still with a rural atmosphere. Wherever we live, most of us still find it difficult to bump into the locals down the street let alone have a chat over the neighbour's fence. Without shops and cafes in the area, it's highly unlikely we'd run into anyone. And that's why WWOW was set up — to provide a means for women in the area to meet. And it works. If I hadn't joined then I don't think I would have made so many new friends. And guess what? There's no formality, no committee, no agenda. We're just a group of women who meet over a cup of coffee or tea for a couple of hours once a week.

Every year we set ourselves a challenge and this year it was to transform a white T-shirt. The shirt could be any style, any size. A few weeks ago some of us showed the result of our efforts. Some were embroidered, painted or screen-printed. Some were embellished with buttons, ribbons and even knitted flowers. We had fun in the doing and wonder what next year's challenge will be.

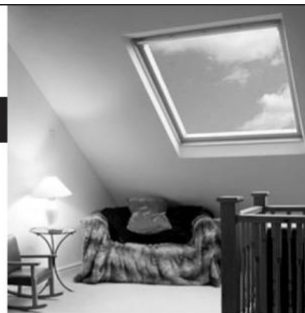
Every year we also run the mailbox or gate Xmas decorating competition and this year is no different. There will be prizes for first and second plus a special commendation to the best entry by a child under 13 years of age. Deadline is Sunday 14 December. See the ad elsewhere in this newsletter for further details.

All women are welcome at WWOW to share stories, news and skills. We meet on Mondays, 10am to 12 noon at St Andrew's Anglican Church on the corner of Poppet Road and Norton Road in Wamboin. For more information contact Gail Ritchie Knight 0416 097 500 whirlwind@argonite.com.au.

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Bungendore to Experience the Modern Middle Ages

by Alice Balnaves-Knyvett, Bingley Way

On the weekend of the 29-30 November the current Middle Ages will descend on Bungendore and the Bungendore Showgrounds will be transformed from modern showground to high medieval tournament field.

The Barony of Politarchopolis, which is the local group of the SCA (or Society for Creative Anachronism Inc, a non-profit, educational organization whose aims include re-creating the arts and crafts of the pre-17th century world), will host its annual event Politarchopolis' Fields of Gold.

For more information on Fields of Gold go to <http://politarchopolisfieldsofgold.wordpress.com/> and for more information on the Barony of Politarchopolis and the on SCA in general go to <http://politarchopolis.lochac.sca.org/welcome> Photo credit: Amanda Swadling (Editor's note: The Bungendore Mirror will provide further information in its next issue. The group will hold weekly practice sessions and at the Wamboin Hall during November.)

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Councillor's Corner

Palerang LEP — By the time you read this, the new Palerang Local Environmental Plan (PLEP) will have passed into legislation (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au), and many of you will have received an explanatory letter with your most recent rates instalment notice.

The primary motivation for the new PLEP has been to bring the whole of the Palerang LGA under a single planning instrument, rather than the six distinct planning instruments that have been in force since Palerang was formed. Unlike previous LEPs, many of the actual clauses in the new LEP will also be common to all LEPs in NSW, making planning regulations across the state much more consistent.

While the language has changed, and the terminology may at first be a little unfamiliar (for the avid reader of planning legislation), people should feel comfortable that, whatever rumours might have been circulating since the PLEP first went on exhibition nearly 2 years ago, for most, if not all, there will be no practical change in rural residential planning and land use practices. The more significant changes actually occurred in our 'urban' areas, as they transitioned from what were essentially rural villages to towns, with a somewhat more complex planning regime.

Nonetheless, most of the fuss locally was over the use of the E4 (Environmental Living) land use zone to replace the former Yarrawluma 1(d) zone. It should be noted, however, that the PLEP was developed over the terms of three Councils, under two different Planning Directors, in consultation with staff from the NSW Department of Planning working under two different heads (the previous Director General and the current Secretary), under two NSW State governments, one Labor and one Liberal/National, and in the latter under two different Planning Ministers. At every level in the development process, after every Council, Departmental and Ministerial review, the present E4 zoning has been recognised as the most appropriate, as it was in the adjacent Queanbeyan LGA.

The simple fact is that the E4 zone is fundamentally a residential zone, with its core objectives nothing more than to ensure that residential development remains consistent with existing land use practices, rather than the alternative, which was to encourage a more urban style of development.

From Council's perspective, working with a single LEP will simplify the task of applying consistent planning policy across the shire, although planning policy doesn't end with the LEP. The next step is the development of a single Development Control Plan (DCP) to replace the 20-odd DCPs currently in use. As I have explained in previous columns (see blog entries below for background), the DCP sits under the PLEP in the planning hierarchy and provides more detailed guidance on how specific aspects of the LEP are intended to be applied.

The Palerang Blog—New or related entries in my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) include:

- Palerang LEP 2014 (Oct, 2014)
- In the Zone (Jul, 2013)
- PLEP Land Use Zones (Jan, 2013)
- Palerang Local Environmental Plan (Dec, 2012)
- Palerang Development Control Plan (Mar, 2012)
- Planning Instruments (Nov, 2011)

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
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Mob. 0427 711 028
Email: Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.peteharrison.id.au

..Bless Them All.....

... Bring your Animals, large and small ...



**Blessing of the
Animals,
St Peter's Sutton
9.00 AM,
Sunday
9 November**



Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." This almost forgotten quote from Dickens suddenly came to mind when I sat down to write the Muse. Spring is the "best of times"; it assaults the senses with its energy and beauty, but its richness makes it the "worst of times" to write about in a few short sentences! I feel like a school kid coming back for the new term full of joie de vivre being given the task to write... "What I did in my holidays." Some teachers certainly knew how to bring you back to earth!

I arrived home in early October having barely survived two weeks of relentless chemical warfare waged by the terrorists of FNQ, kitted out as sandflies. Looking after two very lively small boys was a walk in the park by comparison. I tried to picture Wamboin, tulips and bluebells, crab apple petals falling like soft snow, fresh lime coloured leaves, glistening fat shingle backs catching you off guard and taking your breath away.... living fossils in the garden, rose bushes covered with buds, the drone of bees, the tone deaf, ever hopeful frogs, the scent of wisteria and banksia roses on the breeze, and the brilliant purple splashes of native mint. Modern technology is a marvel, and I had access to images of home, but visions of a Wamboin idyll couldn't compete with sand fly bites! No words could I pen. It's hard to wax lyrical when you're under attack. But once home, I could hardly believe my eyes. Wamboin looked like the tropics during the wet, except that the sun was shining, and then there followed wave after wave of blossoms...pink, white, mauve and yellow; each new wave surpassing the one before.

I started planting tube stocks, filling the spaces, and spreading wheelbarrow loads of compost. The rain came on cue and I had a chance to draw breath and admire my handiwork. I texted a friend to say I'd been pottering in the garden. We busy ourselves with such vital pieces of information these days! My very clever phone, however, couldn't cope with anyone just "pottering", not in a world where every second counts, so it decided it knew better and reprimanded me by sending off the message suggesting I'd been "loitering". Later, I corrected it and re-sent the text, but this time it had me "littering"! After huffing and puffing and cursing technology and my ineptitude, I came to the conclusion that perhaps my smart phone was a little more perceptive than I'd realised. There is a great deal of "littering" in a garden, especially under eucalypts after a good north westerly; and many plants just sit there, "loitering", until they decide it is time to move. Sometimes they move to most unexpected places! I've learned over the years that loitering is a plant's right. It is impossible to get a head start in a garden. Nothing happens until the plant decides that "It's Time". (Sorry Gough!)

In mid Wamboin winter I dream of gently swaying palm trees, warm, sparkling tropical waters and sand between my toes, but if I had the choice between shovelling compost or enduring sand flies, I'd opt for compost every time. Wonderful Wamboin, **this** spring....I wouldn't live anywhere else.

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