



April 2016 CIRCULATION: 1,299

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

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association 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](mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au) or to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the deadline for the May 2016 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, April 25. 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](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au).

**LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial Triple Zero (000) All Hours**

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**LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS**

Wamboin Community Assn	Jenny Richards, President	6238 1329	<a href="mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au">president@wamboincommunity.asn.au</a>
Bywong Community	Anne Goonan, President		<a href="mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au">president@bywongcommunity.org.au</a>
Fire Brigade	Geoff Foster, Captain	0409 991 340	<a href="mailto:captain.brigade@wamboincommunity.asn.au">captain.brigade@wamboincommunity.asn.au</a>
Resident Palarang Councillor	Pete Harrison	0427 711 028	<a href="mailto:cr.pete.harrison@palarang.nsw.gov.au">cr.pete.harrison@palarang.nsw.gov.au</a>
Resident Palarang Councillor	Keith France	0427 365 715	<a href="mailto:cr.keith.france@palarang.nsw.gov.au">cr.keith.france@palarang.nsw.gov.au</a>
Wamboin Markets	Lance and Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	<a href="mailto:Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com">Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com</a>
Sutton School Playgroup	Emma Harriden, Convenor	0448 478 953	<a href="mailto:ce.harriden@bigpond.com">ce.harriden@bigpond.com</a>
Landcare	Kathy Handel, Secretary	6238 3596	<a href="mailto:khandel@bigpond.net.au">khandel@bigpond.net.au</a>
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison, Bungendore	6238 1333	
NSW SES	NSW Call Centre	132 500	For assistance in storms and floods
NSW SES Bungendore	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	For non-urgent assistance and advice
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	Cameron Smith, contact	0419 449 747	
Wamboin Play Group	Linda Uzubalis, Convener	0410 294 420	<a href="mailto:Linda.uzubalis@gmail.com">Linda.uzubalis@gmail.com</a>
Scouts	Pete Harrison	6238 3525	
Bywong Hall Bookings	Ann Sloan, contact		<a href="mailto:lrrhallbywong@gmail.com">lrrhallbywong@gmail.com</a>
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	<a href="mailto:joan.mason@internode.on.net">joan.mason@internode.on.net</a>
Church - Anglican	Robyn Robertson, Warden	6238 3202	
KYB Bible Study Group	Yvonne Barrett, contact	6230 3539	
Golf	Peter Greenwood, Golfer	6238 3358	<a href="mailto:p.greenwood2@bigpond.com">p.greenwood2@bigpond.com</a>
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare, Helpline	6299 1966	
Wonderful Wmen of Wmb	Gail Ritchie Knight, Contact	0416 097 500	<a href="mailto:Whirlwind1@argonite.com.au">Whirlwind1@argonite.com.au</a>
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	childpet&homesttg,oddjobs	6238 3059
Jordan Brown	baby sitting	0414-907-921	Ethan Laver	Outdoor Jobs	6236 9809
Rebecca Purdie	pet/horse sitting	6238 3343	Sammi Quick	Petsitting & good w. horses	0438154840
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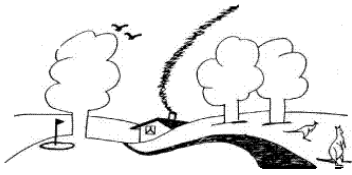


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## Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Hello and here we are in April. The hot days seem to be behind us at last and winter is beginning to look real.

**Clean Up Wamboin**– On the first Sunday of the month, i.e. the 6th March, we held the annual Clean-Up Day. A nice sunny day ensured a good turn-out of people willing to lend a hand and a little time to make our local area tidy. Approximately 21 people registered but actual numbers helping on the day may well have been more. The aim of the day was to get as much of Norton Road cleaned up as possible and our volunteers ensured that we managed to do a fair bit of it. Other roads in Wamboin also received attention and were duly tidied up of their rubbish. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their morning to clean our area.

**Telecommunications Problems** – So what's new I hear people ask? Sadly nothing. At our last meeting some concerned residents raised telecommunications problems which can be broadly divided into four separate focus areas:

a) land line difficulties and outages; b) exchange problems c) ADSL problems; d) Mobile reception.

It was agreed at that meeting that items would appear in this edition of the Whisper suggesting people whom residents can contact to register their problems and voice (hopefully) their dissatisfaction with the status quo. Please look for these items further in this edition of the Whisper to see what this is about.

**Wheels Of Wamboin** – Don't forget that this month we host the increasingly popular Wheels of Wamboin on **Saturday 16th April**. Vehicles of all descriptions are promised along with stationary engines so come along and see what's on the oval on Saturday 16th.. Since this event runs concurrently with the Monthly Produce Market there should be plenty to eat and drink as well as the vehicles to admire.

**AGM/GM Meeting** – Lastly this month is our **AGM**. As always all positions will be thrown open and all financial members of the Wamboin Community Association have the right to vote. The meeting starts at **7:30 pm** on **Tuesday 19th April** and will be held at the **Community Hall**. If you wish to download membership forms these are available on our website.

Forms should be returned to the Secretary and a fee of \$2 to the Treasurer makes you eligible to vote.

Well as mentioned ALL positions will be thrown open including mine. This will be my last President's Notes as I will be stepping down as President at the upcoming meeting and (presumably) someone new will be taking my place. My time as President has been interesting, busy and often challenging but definitely rewarding. Thank you to the members of the Community Association who granted me the opportunity to “see what I could do,” and even more thank you to the members of the Committee and the Executive who supplied unceasing support and assistance. Thank you to Ned (the Editor) who has put up with more late deadlines than anyone will know and thank you to all of you for reading my Notes each month and attending the events that the Association organises and enjoying what our community has to offer so much. But most especially, thank you to my family; Stephen, Anita, Neryssa, Zoe and Skye; who tolerated all sorts of disruptions to their lives with good humour and loving, sound advice. I wish the incoming President all the best of luck and I know you will all welcome him or her as you did me. And so that's it from me.

Good bye. -- Jenny Richards ( President)

### **Wamboin 15 years ago – from the Whisper, April 2001 Circulation: 900**

This first appeared in the Whisper in April 1986 – a piece of Wamboin history should soon be celebrated.

“Golf – Wamboin Style” I believe if enough people were prepared to set up a couple of fairways on their own properties, and enough people were prepared to ‘have a go’ we could have a fun golf day right here in Wamboin. The start would be at the Hall with maps and briefing. Play the holes and travel by car as required. The 18th being a ‘nearest the pin’ back at the Hall. Thence to the 19th and perhaps a barbeque. Entry fees would pay for the trophies etc, and all profits to our Sports Area fund. The date for such an event is obviously unknown, but the sooner the better. Might not suit the pro golfer, but could be lots of fun. If you are interested in making it a go, contact Joan or me at your earliest convenience. -- Lofty Mason”

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bywong Community News</b> <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Anne Goonan, President</b> <i>This News Put Together by the Bywong Committee</i></p>	
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**2016 Car Boot Sale Summary:** The 2016 Car Boot Sale on March 20 was a resounding success with over 80 stall holders divulging themselves of surplus pre-appreciated items. The Les Reardon Reserve was full of people looking, haggling, trying to make up their minds or generally chatting with friends and acquaintances not seen for a while. Stall holders set up shop early in the day, and were then promptly descended on by “bargain hunters” - both from the local area and further afield. The event was so well attended that at one point the overflow parking area was overflowing .

Overall over \$2,200 was raised by the Bywong Community Association which will help fund most of the activities for the coming year. In addition the Wamboin Fire Brigade, the Geary’s Gap Pony Club and other local organisations raised money from the sale of sausage sandwiches, Devonshire teas and so forth.

Music and general commentary was enabled by Rick Magus of Rick’s PA Hire, and this help and expertise is gratefully acknowledged.

The first CBS was in 1997 and the 2017 event will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this important local fixture. Hopefully this will be an especially memorable Boot Sale and any suggestions or ideas for inclusion in 2017 would be most welcome. The BCA would also welcome any offers of help in running the event.

If you have any enquiries or suggestions please email us at [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au)

**Other Projects and Activities:**

**Children’s Playground for the Hall.** This project is proceeding with further development now waiting for finalization of detailed plans and Council approvals.

**Clean Up Australia:** This year the clean up has been postponed till Sunday 29 May 2016 to avoid excessive heat and to mitigate the possibility of encounters with snakes.

Again any suggestions or offers of assistance should be addressed to - [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au)

On the topic of cleaning up and recycling, it has been noticed that the recycling facilities at Macs Reef Transfer Station have been used to dump all manner of non-recyclable items including dead toasters and live kittens.

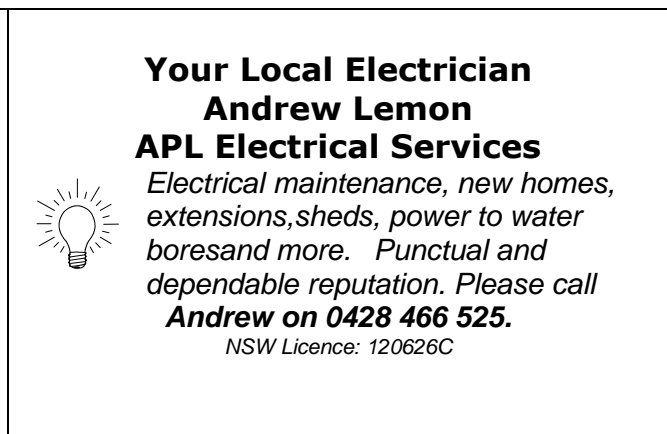
Clearly a bit of common sense is called for when using this facility and it is not hard to work out what is true waste and what is really recyclable. So far as animals and other unwanted pets are concerned, surely residents don’t have to strain the brain to arrive at some appropriate solution. Dumping the unfortunate animals in the recycling skips IS NOT AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION!

**Next Bywong Community Association meeting:** Monday 11 April at 7.30 pm.



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## The Empowerment of Women

Lake George Day Bungendore Evening and Queanbeyan VIEW Clubs recently hosted an International Women's Day Lunch. The theme, was "Empower A Women – Empower A Nation", that is, the influence educated women can have on family, country and the world,

The plight of refugees in our world today is constantly broadcast by the media, so it was fitting that one of our speakers should be a refugee who settled in Australia and has taken advantage of the opportunity of education Ms Christine Debu was from South Sudan. Christine painted a picture of life in her country for girls, namely, brothers, sisters, step siblings and parents in small house. School was held under a tree, no paper or pen so wrote in the dust. A girl had monetary value, no rights with early marriage, little or no education possible either. Brought up strictly, caning and domestic violence was usual. A woman was expected to bear as many children as possible.



During the civil war torture and rape, often resulting in HIV AIDS meant many children were born with this so many died. Social support was nil and starvation was rife as crops were destroyed.

Her family lived in these squalid conditions in a tent at a refugee camp. Then they had the good fortune to come to Australia in 2005. At first she found it very cold with everything being so strange, such as looking people in the eye and in education being expected to ask questions. However Christine took advantage of education, even though the language was difficult to understand! She is currently studying for a Degree in Psychology and works. She is bringing up her daughter and two sons alone. She feels that her greatest achievement is being a role model for

her daughter.

Dr. Kamalini Lokuge is a medical doctor with an international law degree. She migrated to Australia from Sri Lanka aged two, studied medicine in Tasmania and is a member of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF/Doctors Without Borders). Dr Kamalini gave an account of how she has used her education.

Firstly in Afghanistan, during the Taliban rule. A twelve year old girl, now head of her family, brought her mother to the clinic in a wheelbarrow. The mother had a breast tumour which, without attention, had eaten into the stomach wall. Too late for surgery and without drugs, she could only clean the wound and give Panadol. The child came every week with her parent, even through bombing, for the simple treatment. Dr. Kamalini was reluctant to leave the family but was sent elsewhere.

2007 saw her in Uganda during an Ebola outbreak. The doctor arrived at the medical centre to find few staff and many dead in the wards. Her helper was aged eighteen and had no idea what the disease was. With no running water or equipment, it took three months to vanquish the disease with the help of the girl who had been abandoned/exiled from her family for fear of the disease.

Finally, she recounted her 2012 work on a project in PNG. Here she found a high rate of sexual violence on children. A four year old girl was raped by relatives and an eleven year old boy gang raped.

Clinics have been set up to help families, and often the children and parents are taken to the clinic for counselling at the private expense of the staff. The Doctor obtained funding from Australian sources which has helped to set up the clinic in PNG. Communities in PNG are helped to work out the problem. The women have been a great force in solving problems and displayed great strength of mind and purpose.

The last speaker The Venerable Tenpa Bejanke Duim is an ordained Buddhist nun. Her journey to being a nun was a path through a childhood in a dysfunctional family involving sexual and domestic violence and a broken marriage. Her son, has been brought up to see that work is all important.


Throughout her early life she was in constant search of a belief. Her strict Dutch Grandmother took her to church once, but never again! Someone invited her to a small garage for meditation and thus she became a Buddhist.

The Venerable, has at times had a rocky journey with Buddhism but is still a nun fourteen years later. She follows the Dalai Lama and the direction- 'work with what you know.' Buddhism is very male orientated and dominated, and some Monks have no idea how to treat or interact with women, though the saying is that every woman should be treated as a mother. Having sold her house, the Venerable came to Canberra to find out what she needed and undertook a three and a half year silent retreat on an estate. A friend would collect a list of things required, leave them at the gate to be collected and did this regularly. She has learned to follow the tradition that one should see people as they truly are and bring them into your heart. She has been educating herself to follow this precept. Is currently studying a Bachelor of Theology and a degree in Dementia Care.



Her pastoral work at John James Calvary Hospital is doing what women do best, supporting others. Sometimes patients are apprehensive because in her Buddhist dress she looks different. A nun must support herself, so learning is important. Some go to work in ordinary dress and change on coming home. Her life is ruled by the precept, KINDNESS, LOVE and COMPASSION. – Maureen Boss

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## St Peters, Sutton and St Andrews, Wamboin

### Church Notices

At the recent AGM of St Peters and St Andrews (SRMD) it was pleasing to note just how active the two churches, and individual members of the two congregations are in all facets of the community. On Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup>, St Peters grounds and facilities were made available as a “comfort stop” for over 100 cyclists from the Vietnam Vets, organised in conjunction with the Sutton Fire Brigade. Meanwhile, other members of the congregation were at the Sutton School Country Fair involved with the “plant in a painted pot” stall, aware that many a cherished creation is destined for some lucky mum on Mothers’ Day. The general response to both of these events reflects the spirit and depth of goodwill in our local, “can do” community. The next big event is the Community Bonfire in the grounds of St Peters towards the end of May.

Kids Club will be in recess for the NSW school holidays, but will resume for the new term, meeting every Friday from 5.30 to 7pm at St Andrews, corner Poppet and Norton Roads, Wamboin. Come along, join in the games, songs and Bible story and conclude the session with dinner. There are big kids and little kids and they all have fun together. Parents are always encouraged to participate.

We are still supporting St Benedict’s pantry, some donating fresh produce from over laden fruit trees in recent weeks, and several of us assist with meal preparation in Queanbeyan on a regular basis. We always need more helping hands. Services are held at St Andrews on the first and third Sunday of each month, and at St Peters on the second and fourth Sunday.

All services are at 9am, followed by a chance to catch up on local happenings, engage in some serious discussion if that is your want, and enjoy a sumptuous morning tea. For further information, perhaps about a proposed wedding or baptism or for any other queries, please contact any of the numbers listed below.

Pastor: Ven Dr Royce Thompson 62303558, Robyn Robertson 62383202, Bronwyn Elliott 62383359, Alan Rope 62383224

## Centenary - Australians on the Western Front – 2016

### BUNGENDORE - ANZAC Day Dawn Service - Monday 25th April 2016



Muster at 05:45 for a 06:00 start at the War Memorial, Gibraltar Street, opposite the Post Office. To be followed by Gunfire Breakfast at St Philip's church hall, catered by 1<sup>st</sup> Bungendore Scout Group, all welcome.

**ANZAC Day March Monday - 25th April 2016** - Muster from 09:30 for a 10:45 step off - at the bottom of Gibraltar Street, opposite the Gunna Doo bakery and march to the War Memorial.

**ANZAC Day Ceremony Monday 25th April 2016.** Muster at 10:45 for a 11:00 start at the War Memorial, Gibraltar Street, opposite the Post Office. This is Navy’s turn to 'host' the ceremony, so you will see a predominance of serving and ex serving Navy personnel. There will be a Flypast.

**ANZAC Day Social Activities Monday 25th April 2016.** Commence at both hotels and other village locations on completion of the ceremony and march from the War Memorial.

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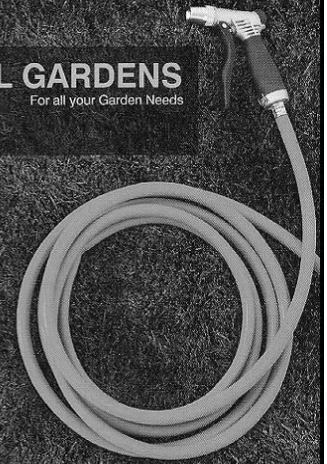
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## Landscape Rehydration Means Improved Landscape Function

The next Sutton Landcare meeting will be on Tuesday 12 April at Sutton School, commencing with an AGM at 7.30pm. At 8pm, our guest speaker, Mr Peter Hazell, will talk on the importance of landscape rehydration to improve the resilience and function of the landscape.

In 2006, Peter Andrews and Tony Coote repaired an eroding 3km section of Mulloon Creek on Tony's property near Bungendore. Such was the success of this venture, called the Mulloon Creek Natural Sequence Farming demonstration, that now all of Tony's neighbors are participating in a major expansion of the original project.

Called the Mulloon Community Landscape Rehydration Project (MCLRP), it now covers an area of 23,000ha over 40 km of creek and should dramatically improve the environment and agricultural output of the whole Mulloon catchment.

The Mulloon Institute, a non-profit research, education and advocacy group founded by Tony Coote has contracted former upper Shoalhaven Landcare Coordinator and Australian Government NRM Facilitator, Peter Hazell, to work with the Mulloon landowners in rolling out the MCLRP.

The Mulloon Institute is also working with the NSW Government, ANU, University of Canberra and University of Wollongong to set biophysical, economic and social benchmarks so that system level changes can be measured. At our meeting, Peter will share some key insights that make these projects work and can be applied anywhere.

This promises to be a fascinating presentation and all interested persons are welcome to attend. The Mulloon Institute is regarded as a leader in large-scale landscape regeneration. It has been selected by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network as one of five global contributors to tackle the challenges of sustaining global agricultural systems. Further details can be obtained from Sutton Landcare Secretary, Tony Redman on ph 6230 3266.

-- David Vincent (President)



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*6258 -1792*





The Brindabella Motor Sport Club would like to notify all residents in the Wamboin area that the

**Kowen Forest will be CLOSED to the public from 5pm Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May to 12.01am on Sunday 29 May 2016. The forest will be closed due to a high speed car rally.**

Kowen forest will be closed for the running of the "National Capital Rally". The Rally is the second round of the East Coast Bullbars Australian Rally Championship; the NSW Rally Championship and the Techworkz Automotive ACT Regional Rally Series.

The forest will be chained up on Thursday night 26<sup>th</sup> May in preparation for the event. We will be locking all gates; Styes and horse cavaleties. Notices will be put up before the event advising of the forest closure. "Forest Closed" signs will be put up when we chain up the forest.

There will be **NO PUBLIC ACCESS** via Seven Mile Road.

The Brindabella Motor Sport Club requests that residents do not enter the forest from the Wamboin side – as this will endanger you and the competitors.

The Forest will be re-opened after the event, and open to the public for Sunday morning. We will open the forest as early as possible to let the early risers in for their Sunday walk!

There will be a spectator point at the old Kowen Forestry Settlement – entry only via Kowen Road. Please join us, to see some of the best Australian and local rally talent.

We are always in need of volunteer officials to help us run the event over the weekend. If you are able to assist, please register your details at [www.nationalcapitalrally.com.au](http://www.nationalcapitalrally.com.au)

Competitors will be conducting reconnaissance on Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> May between 7.30am and 5.00pm. The forest will be open to the public – however, Wamboin residents should be aware that there will be increased traffic.

If you have any questions, please contact ACT Forests - 6207 2486 or

Adrian Dudok – 0417 251 011 or via email: [cofc@nationalcapitalrally.com.au](mailto:cofc@nationalcapitalrally.com.au)

**Already it's April**  
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 Sunday April 17th 9am - 3pm  
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## ***Wamboin Home Produce Markets***

**Saturday 16 April 2016 (9am to 1pm)**

**Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 62383309 or 042 261 4304**

**Email: [lmsconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com)**

We welcome new stall holders from the local area, aiming for home produce from your garden, paddocks or kitchen, as well as craft items. We are also happy to provide free space for charity stalls. March markets were very quiet as there were several competing events on the same morning. This market will combine with **WHEELS OF WAMBOIN** so come along and do your shopping, have a coffee or a soup and stroll through all those fascinating cars!

***We will be judging the sign competition at 11am.***

***Bring your entry any time before 10.30am please.***

***A last reminder of the competition rules!!***

### **WANTED - NEW SIGNS FOR WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKET!**

Our signs are getting old and we need more than the 3 we currently use.

**We challenge you to design us new signs** around the theme of home produce from the garden and kitchen as well as craft.

Remember we also have a great café at the markets each month.

Enter as an individual or as a group. One entry per entrant only please (although you may provide one as an individual and one as part of a group if you wish).

Winning entries will be photographed and prepared as laminated signs for display on community noticeboards in the area and on A frames on Sutton Road and Macs Reef turn off from Federal Highway.

#### **Size:**

- For Notice Boards: 90cm wide x 50cms high
- For A frames: 60cm wide 90cms high

**Medium:** Any – photo, collage, painting, computer art work etc. Can be on paper or art board.

**Wording:** Must display the words in black font with letters ***no less than 6cms high***

- **Wamboin Home Produce Market**
- **Saturday 9-12**
- **Community Hall Bingley Way**

**Age categories:** up to 12 years; 13-18 years; Adult.

***Great Prizes from Wamboin companies, Inland Trading and LMS Consulting See you at the Markets!***

## **District Bulletin Reader Survey And Prize Draw**

**Strong, independent regional journalism in Palerang and Queanbeyan: *The District Bulletin's* reader and stakeholder survey. We would like your input and feedback.**

The survey will take just 5-10 minutes of your time. Please CLICK on this link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DistrictBulletin> to complete it.

**Why?** During the past five years *The District Bulletin* has become a successful regional community news and features publication, and website, while operating on a not-for-profit shoestring as a community voice, at a time when other local media outlets are pulling back. Instead of pulling back we, the editorial and production team at the *Bulletin*, believe that our regional communities and our democracy will continue to need the strong, independent, inquiring and solution-focused approach to journalism that we strive to provide. It is time to move ahead, including the possibility of expanding regionally and digitally with more resources. We want to engage your thoughts and welcome your input to help shape the future of the publication. **We urge you to do so by completing our brief online survey about how you use *The District Bulletin*, and your ideas for its future.**

**PRIZES:** WITH THE SURVEY you have the opportunity to go in a draw for some GREAT PRIZES from our local business partners! \$100 gift certificates from: Foodlovers Market *or* Miss Ruby's Bookshop *or* Bungendore Wood Works Gallery \$100 cash District Bulletin Two free tickets to a show of your choice for the 2016 season at The Q Gift voucher Cleanseeds 'Grow Green' organic fertiliser.

For more information on *The District Bulletin*, or on this survey, please contact Maria Taylor, editor and publisher

Email: [media@districtbulletin.com.au](mailto:media@districtbulletin.com.au), Tel: 0418 731 691, Bulletin Website: <http://districtbulletin.com.au/>

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# The Wamboin Firefighter



FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

## We Got Through It!

Summer has come and gone and again the Wamboin and Bywong district has got through this fire season with very few fires and none of any significance. This is great news and the result of many factors including weather, preparation and for those couple of fires that did eventuate, a quick response by brigade crews.

Two fires that did occur were the result of ignition from lawn mowers. Either the heat from the mower and compacted grass underneath the machine or the blades sticking rocks were the source of the ignition. Two salient reminders of the value of mounting an extinguisher or knapsack on your mower, or keeping one nearby.

---

## Fire Season Has Officially Ended and Now What

The Fire Season ended at midnight on 31 March. This means permits are no longer required however you must still advise your immediate neighbours and the Queanbeyan RFS at least 24 hours before lighting up. The advance notification will ensure our pagers are not fired up and a big red truck doesn't arrive at your property. We don't enjoy dropping everything and getting the trucks rolling when a simple call to Queanbeyan RFS office could have avoided the callout.

The number for the Queanbeyan RFS office is 6297-1840. If you are calling on a Friday please do so before 12.00pm.

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[www.southernharvest.net.au/market.aspx](http://www.southernharvest.net.au/market.aspx)



Of course now the fire season is over its time to plan for any fuel reduction that you were thinking about on that 38° c day when that hot NW wind was raging. Remember that day when you looked out your window and thought I must ..... before the next bush fire season.

---

### Community Engagement

On April 16 at the Wheels of Wamboin display the Wamboin RFS support crew will be again selling their fine steak sandwiches, sausages and other fine fare. Come along buy a steak sanger and have a chat with one of our members about reducing fuels loads or other bushfire related issues that might be occupying your thinking as we enter the cooler months. The Wheels of Wamboin display will be at the [Wamboin Community Hall](#) held in conjunction with the home produce markets.

---

### BRIGADE ACTIVITY

#### Call Outs

Thursday 3 March. At 1.50 pm a tanker with a crew of five left the shed to attend a fire in the Bywong area. It was a grass fire started by a mower which was destroyed in the process. The crew was back in the shed by 2.45pm.

### USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

- Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade**      <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>
- NSW Rural Fire Service**      [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)
- Wamboin Brigade Captain**      [captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au) or 0409 991 340
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### Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin – 41 year statistics from the Robertsons

March rainfall to 27/3 ... 22.75mm	(March 2015 ... 15.75mm)
2016 to 27/3 ... 178mm	(2015 to 31/3 ... 155.25mm)
Average April rainfall ... 46.6mm	(April 2015... 109.25mm)
Wettest April ... 174.5 in 1989	Wettest April day... 70mm on 19/4/84
Driest April ... 5mm in 1997	Hottest April day ... 28C on 3/4/86
Coldest April day ... 8C on 27/4/12 and 22/4/15	Coldest April night ... 0C x 4 times

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## Clean Up Australia Day Report

By Lofty Mason

Pleased to report that 28 volunteers registered for Clean Up Australia Day. Our thanks to Tom Clouston for cleaning up all of Poppet Road previous to the day. The Gordon Family and Keith France, although busy on Sunday, also rang in reporting areas cleared.

The main focus on the Sunday was on Norton Road and Weeroona Drive, both of which are through roads carrying the major amount of traffic. Due to the number of volunteers we were able to clean up both sides of 25k of roadway with about 3 one-tonner loads of rubbish collected. Pete Harrison won the biggest collection prize by clearing both sides of Sutton Road from Norton Road intersection to the border. Don Evans parked his 2 tonne trailer (with hungry screens) at the Hall and took his load to Bungendore where the Council had arranged free drop off. Palerang Council also loaned 10 Hi Viz jackets and 4 warning signs. The Council offered \$70, which was used to supply drinks, nibbles and sunscreen to the workers.







Once again, just 2 days later, at least 5 new pieces of rubbish were thrown out in Norton Road between Bingley Way and Sutton Road. These were items from takeaways. Please note the Council are interested in any reports of people throwing out rubbish, which constitutes illegal dumping

## Polly Puts The Kettle On For 2016 So Please Save The Date For, Thursday 26 May

Morning Tea, followed by spit roast lunch, to support research for better cancer treatments for people. Lucky door prizes, Major raffle, chocolate wheel, silent auction, noisy auction, Bingo games and much more. Looking for your support for this worthy cause. Please phone Pauline on 6238 1996 or email [psegeri@bigpond.com](mailto:psegeri@bigpond.com)

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—JOEY WORTLEY



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## Let's Help Each Other Try To Get Better Land-Based Telecommunications

Are you experiencing outages for your telephone or your ADSL internet connection? Have you been told you can't get ADSL? Many of us are experiencing the problems all across Wamboin and Bywong. Why? Because many of us are connected to the very old rural exchange at Amungula Place off Norton Road. It does not have enough ports and the ports are old technology. If we all work together as individuals, we can bring pressure onto Telstra's technicians and their costs and try to get an exchange upgrade. So please help.

1. Every time you have an outage:
  - a. Write down the date, time and duration of the outage
  - b. Call the Residential Fault Line – 13 22 03 – and register the outage. When there are five complaints on an exchange, the technical centre has to track that exchange. We already have more than five registered. Please also consider submitting complaints to offices that can put pressure on Telstra.
2. If you feel that after contacting Telstra, you have not had resolution to your problem, you can complain to the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman.
  - a. [www.tio.com.au](http://www.tio.com.au)
  - b. 1800 062 058
  - c. 595 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000
3. Write to Peter Hendy, our Federal MP for Eden Monaro (Yes, we have all been transferred out of Hume and into Eden Monaro and it looks like Hendy may be up for re-election in July.)
  - a. [www.peterhendy.com.au/contact-peter-hendy](http://www.peterhendy.com.au/contact-peter-hendy)
  - b. (02) 6284 3977
  - c. 1/21-25 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 (PO Box 214)
4. Write to John Barilaro, our state representative for Monaro
  - a. [www.johnbarilaro.com.au](http://www.johnbarilaro.com.au)
  - b. (02) 6299 4899
  - c. 110-112 Monaro St, (PO Box 998) Queanbeyan NSW 2620
5. Write to the Minister for Communications, the Honourable Mitch Fifield
  - a. [www.mitchfifield.com](http://www.mitchfifield.com)
  - b. (02) 6277 7480
  - c. PO Box 6100, Senate, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Key points you might include in complaints and letters:

- Phone outages mean we have no ability to contact help in emergencies such as fire, snake bite, heart attack, or major accident.
- Lack of ADSL means our children cannot complete homework and other school requirements.
- ADSL outages interrupt those of us who work at home, or do significant volunteer work from home, and are dependent on the internet.
- We live about 30 kilometres from our Federal Parliament, yet suffer telecommunications service that exclude many of us from 21<sup>st</sup> century requirements and services.

SPREAD THE WORD: Share this message with any local groups you participate in, as well as with your neighbours. If we all work together, we can send the message to Telstra. -- **Sally Saunders, Norton Road**



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## Telstra – Problems

Representations were made to the Wamboin Community Association (WCA) at the March general meeting from members of the Wamboin community, relating to problems that are being experienced with Telstra and its infrastructure. After a wide ranging general discussion on the main issues, namely:

- Telstra's Amungula Place exchange

- **faults with the existing landlines**

- unreliable internet service

- lack of mobile coverage over most of Wamboin and the Federal Government Blackspot Program,

...it was agreed that Ms Sally Saunders would draft an article for the information of the community and to encourage individuals to make representations to the Minister for Communications, Telstra and other relevant representatives. Sally's article has been made available through various social media channels.

The WCA committee is in the process of making representations to the people listed below.

Should no substantive and timely response be received from the Ministers and some local representatives, the WCA will consider making our representations and any responses available to the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman.

While the WCA will be making representations on behalf of the Wamboin community, it is generally recognised that individual representations, especially in large numbers, could influence the outcomes, especially in the lead up to a federal election.

All related correspondence will be made available on the WCA website.

– **John van der Straaten, Secretary, WCA**

Mr Andrew Penn  
Office of the CEO  
Telstra  
Locked Bag 5639  
Melbourne Vic 3001

The Hon. Dr Peter Hendy MP  
Member for Eden-Monaro  
PO Box 214  
Queanbeyan NSW 2620  
E: peter.hendy.mp@aph.gov.au

Mr Chris Taylor  
General Manager  
ACT & Southern NSW  
5/490 Northbourne Ave  
Dickson ACT 2602  
E: [capitalsetcw@team.telstra.com](mailto:capitalsetcw@team.telstra.com)

The Hon. Angus Taylor MP  
Assistant Minister for Cities & Digital Transformation  
PO Box 6022 House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
E: angus.taylor.mp@aph.gov.au

Senator The Hon. Mitch Fifield MP  
Minister for Communications  
PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
E: minister@communications.gov.au

Senator The Hon. Fiona Nash  
Minister for Regional Communications  
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## NBN in Wamboin and Bywong

by Paul Brugman

Most of the people in Wamboin will have experienced the poor internet speeds, continual dropouts and general lack of consistent services from Telstra.

After fighting with Telstra for 11 months, contacting the Communications Ombudsman on 3 occasions, having multiple visitations from Telstra technicians, finding out what the weather is like in Manila and for security reasons, regurgitating my birthday, name and address at last count 87 times before even being considered a valid Telstra client, my computer checked multiple times, ensuring the phone line was plugged in (at least 30 times), had I gone to the Telstra web page and diagnosed the issues, (dahhhhh no.....I don't have any internet), had I done any speedtests (dahhhhhh no.....the internet is so slow, the speedtests timed out). I'm now best friends with several technicians who drop in most Fridays for an afternoon beer and natter about the good old days and the benefits of analogue technology, and can now speak fluent Filipino, ( I would have preferred Spanish but there's no help desk in Madrid).

A short term fix was draping new line some 50 metres from a junction box over my fence, over and through several trees and bushes and then back into the ground. This worked well until a kangaroo entangled itself and made of with the new line. I eventually had my phone line replaced with new 10 pair line, my router was replaced, and the sun was shining in Mecca.....WHOAAAA..... 10 Mb/sec, Netflix here I come ,..... I can watch Netflix on my laptop, my smart TV, my phone and my Ipad all at once, ..... I can download all my updates, some of them 2 years old. I can upload, download even sideload (something that only people with 10 Mb/sec can do). I must ensure that I take up all the bandwidth, don't want the neighbours getting uppity and thinking they can also download stuff.

Yes to good to be true, after several months my linespeed is back to its old self ( less than 1500 Kb/sec) so I started ringing Telstra again. The comment I received from the help desk..... a battery needed replacing in the exchange! I'm just astonished. Watched some ads on the telly from NBN Co, "Ring your provider, request NBN", so I enquired about NBN. There will be NO, NONE, NIL, ZERO, ZILCH NBN optic fibre in Wamboin, ever, ever, ever unless some falls of the back of a truck. I can see Telstra tower from my place, my property is <15km as the crow flies from the capital city of Australia and I cant get reasonable internet let alone NBN.

Good news, the company I work for in Wamboin has a new Telstra Accounts manager. The information she provided: Wamboin has been targeted as NBN via Satellite Currently, the NBN via satellite is fully subscribed – there are no spare ports. What needs to happen next, is the customer needs to register their interest with the NBN CO – see following link. <http://www.nbnco.com.au/connect-home-or-business/information-for-home/satellite.html>. Once the NBN CO have enough interest, then they'll deploy another satellite.

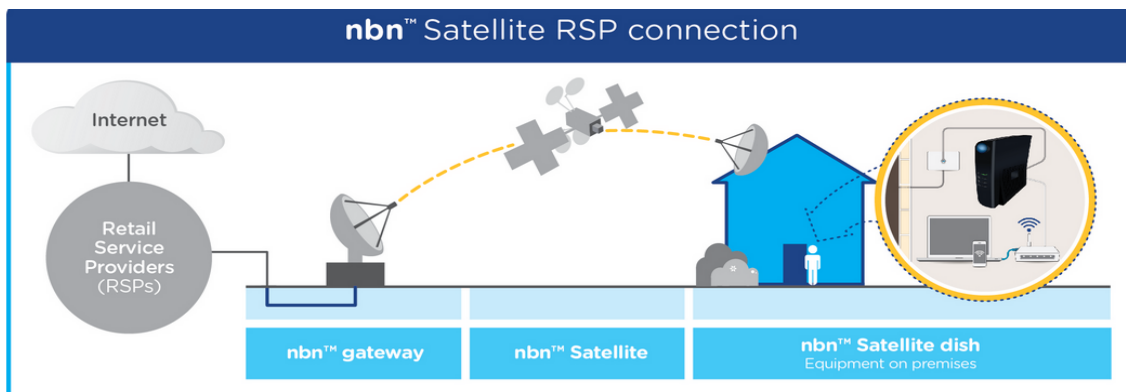
What do you mean oversubscribed? Has anyone in Wamboin been notified that they should subscribe? Further queries have indicated that if we can get at least 50 people registering interest, then we are considered a VALID NODE. NBN Co will then deploy another satellite. Furthermore your name will go into the draw for Australian of the Year. At \$100 million dollars per satellite, what are the chances. And as the name given to this satellite NBN technology is called SKY MUSTER, your new title ON YOUR PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE will READ: VALID NODE-SKY MUSTERER FIRST CLASS "Bill Smith" REGION-REMOTE

Yes, that's right, NBN CO have nominated the Wamboin area as "REMOTE", thank god we don't live way out in BYWONG (do they have electricity even?). Note the region on the screen capture when registering

On a more serious note, please register for NBN at the above link, even if you never intend to use it. I'm hopeful one day to be considered a "VALID NODE" and get my PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE. By the way, this all has to be in place by 2020. This is better than the VFT proposed by Julia Gillard... 53 years by her estimation wasn't it.....not joking. OK I LIED ABOUT GETTING IN THE DRAW FOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE IS NO JOKE.

### Selected address

Address	Lot 30, Norton Road, Wamboin, NSW
NBN Co Location ID	LOC000012312406
Access technology	Satellite
Service class	7 - The address is planned to be serviced by satellite, but is not yet serviceable.
Planned serviceability date	Not available
Region	Remote





## Living at the Interface

A few acres (or a backyard) - a bit of peace and quiet - a place for the children to grow up healthy - a place for the dog to run around - maybe a few chooks, a horse for the daughter and a quad bike for the son. It all sounds rather idyllic until the day you find a snake on the front porch; or a kangaroo hanging in one of your fences; or a resident possum in the attic. That's when you confront the reality of living at the interface between the human and the wild world we live in.

That visceral fear felt by people for snakes is unnecessary. They are shy creatures who, given the chance, will slide away as fast as they can from the large threatening two-legged creature in front of them. Snakes come around human habitation in search of two things, water and food. If they are lucky, humans will build lovely rock gardens with lots of cool crannies to sleep away the heat of the day.

When it comes to avoiding snake 'problems' there are some basic rules - keep the grass in areas of human activity short and clear away rubbish; keep pet and stock water well away from the house and fix dripping taps; take care around potted plants with in-pot water; get on top of any rodent problem in chook and stock areas; (snakes hunt rodents); seal feed bins; check water tank filters to stop thirsty snakes falling in; and if you accidentally come across a snake, stand perfectly still and silent until he moves on his way.

If your fences are mesh, topped by two strands of wire, remove the lower one, as this will limit the chances of a kangaroo getting caught. Replace barbed wire with straight wire, as barbs cause lacerations to flesh and tendons in kangaroos and also snag sugar gliders, flying foxes, bats, birds and possums - often so badly that these beautiful creatures die of their injuries.

If you use netting in the garden, keep it off the ground to avoid trapping snakes and choose a cotton net rather than a synthetic one. Synthetic net causes more significant injury to entangled animals - bats, flying foxes, possums, gliders and snakes. Similarly, do not leave coils of wire on the ground that act as a hidden snare for reptiles and kangaroos - and your ride-one mower when you drive over it.



Cats do a lot of damage to wildlife and they need to be kept in especially at night. Contain dogs in a secure house yard and walk them on a leash - you might think it good exercise for Fido to chase wildlife, but it can be a death sentence to kangaroos due to the effects of myopathy. And left to roam, there is more chance of a dog sniffing out a venomous snake.

Natives with thick foliage can be planted, a few with spikes or thorns, to encourage and protect birds like wrens and thornbills. Plant lots of eucalypts, wattles, grevilleas, correas etc to provide food and nectar for birds, gliders and ringtail possums. Place short lengths of poly pipe under hedges to provide hideaways for blue tongues, bearded dragons and skinks - these reptiles prey on snails and insects that invade your garden, so look after them. In hot weather, put out water on raised stands for birds and possums and at ground level in sheltered areas for reptiles. Possum boxes can be placed in old trees to provide accommodation for brushtail possums and use leaf litter mulch to encourage echidnas. *Photo and caption: Wildcare caters for all wildlife, including the echidna*

There is much we can do to coexist and help our wildlife. Then sit out on your verandah in the evening and enjoy avian Evensong and the piping of microbats. Watch kangaroos quietly grazing by your dam and know that moving to, or visiting, the bush is the wisest thing you ever did.

Get advice about injured and orphaned wildlife from Wildcare on 6299 1966.

- Philip Machin

### Woodbridge

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\* Gutters and Downpipes

\* Water filters (under sink or whole house)      \* Blocked Drains      \* Hydronic heating  
(Radiators)

\* Maintenance for the above

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## Nature Notes March 2016

Jo Walker

For the first fortnight of the month, temperatures hovered around and mostly above 30 degrees. With those high temperatures and only about 20 mm of rain March has left the countryside rather dry, especially on the steeper hillsides.

My dam is slowly evaporating and has a red algal bloom on its surface. But the damp muddy edge of the dam is beginning to disappear under patches of plants that tolerate inundation and re-appear to grow again when the water recedes. Most are prostrate like the ground-hugging, greenish-flowered Spreading Sneezeweed (*Centipeda minima*) and Mud-mat, one of the *Glossostigma* species with tiny white flowers. The most noticeable of these prostrate plants is probably *Isotoma fluviatilis*, the Swamp Isotome. Its pale blue, slightly asymmetrical flowers with a dark blue band in the centre, can form a carpet of colour in a good flowering season. A taller moisture-loving plant flowering still is the pink-flowered *Gratiola peruviana*. On the edge of my dam there are also several extensive patches of the bright green Water Milfoil, *Myriophyllum variifolium*, which grows to about 20 cm and bears its narrow, toothed leaves in whorls along the stems.

In the drier areas not much else is flowering, although a few of the prostrate Ivy-leaved Goodenias (*Goodenia hederacea*) are carrying a few bright yellow flowers.

A visitor to the dam for the last two days (seemingly undeterred by the algal bloom) is an Australasian Grebe. This morning it was giving a high peeping call, but it seems to be on its own – except for the Long-necked Turtles, that is. There are quite a few in the dam at the moment. I saw five in the fairly shallow water recently – two large adults, a medium-sized one and two very small young ones which would indicate they are still breeding here.

A few days ago, I heard a young Sulphur-crested Cockatoo loudly begging for food from a parent. The flock that

visits here seems to produce very few young considering the number of adult birds – it's usual to see only one or two new additions each year. But the noise I could hear turned out to be two young siblings being fed by one parent bird. There have always been Bronzewing Pigeons here, usually a pair or at most three birds, but recently there were five of them feeding fairly harmoniously in the front garden. A small flock of Silvereyes are flying around here at the moment and I've recently seen two Yellow Robins and a pair of Rufous Whistlers.

There are lots of little Grass Skinks still skittering around amongst the leaf litter, many of them tiny newly-emerged ones, but the larger lizards seem to be decreasing in number – although I did find the shed skin of what must have been a very large Shingleback Lizard a few days ago.

There seems to have been very few spiders around this summer – not much dodging of webs between bushes. There were some large Wolf Spider holes in the ground in places, but web weavers were few and far between. There is one little Scorpion-tailed Spider (*Arachnura* sp.) on a bush near the house. It now has a string of seven soft brown egg cases which it huddles against in its web. Each case can contain up to sixty eggs so hopefully there might be a few more around later. In the past, it wasn't uncommon to see a shrub covered with webs of twenty or more of these little spiders. This may be one indication that the slow drying out and warming of the countryside is already having an effect.



### Under New Management

**We are looking to recruit a motivated and enthusiastic Diploma or cert 3 to join our wonderful little preschool in Sutton, NSW.**

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We are a small 30 place Centre that runs a preschool program for preschool aged children 3yrs to 5yrs old.

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Holds an Early Childhood Diploma or Cert 3 (Early Childhood that is approved by ACECQA)

Knowledge of Early Years Learning Framework & National Quality Framework

Plan and implement a developmentally appropriate curriculum

Good communication skills both written & verbal

Experience in leading and managing a team

First Aid Certificate

Holds a current Asthma & Anaphylaxis certificate or willingness to undertake

Able to work 5 days a week

**The successful applicant will be required to undergo & pass a Working with Vulnerable People Check.**


If you can tick all of these boxes, we would love to hear from you!

Please forward a covering note, resume and 2 referees to our Centre Director at:

[countrybumpkins@countrybumpkinsnsw.com.au](mailto:countrybumpkins@countrybumpkinsnsw.com.au)

Or contact Melissa on 02 62303280

**WAMBOIN AND BYWONG CLASSIFIEDS**

	<b>Wildcare training.</b> Wildcare rescue & orientation training course on Sat 30 April, 9.00 a.m. - 4 00 p.m., at the Wamboin Community Hall. New members welcome. For details - contact Laurel, Tel. 6297 8806
Mums and Dads learn BABY MASSAGE. Great benefits for baby. Contact Judy Shellard (Certified Infant Massage Instructor by IMIS (baby massage.net.au)) 62 383 050. <a href="mailto:judyshellard@gmx.com">judyshellard@gmx.com</a> , 0417-130-052.	
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Animals tended - big and small. I will tend to your pets and livestock while you are on holidays, bring in your mail, and other small jobs to increase your peace of mind. You might just need a hand short term or longer term. Horses tended whether you have one horse or are an agistment/riding school outfit. Mature, responsible, reliable, employed person. Call Carolyn, 0414 738 365.	
<b>Tutor Available:</b> Experienced local high school teacher is available to tutor privately in mathematics (all levels), physics (all levels) and science (to year 10). I am a registered teacher with police clearances in both NSW and the ACT. I have been teaching and marking external exams for 10 years and am an experienced tutor. \$50/hour. Rates are negotiable for groups. This is a great time to start exam preparation. Phone 0421 323 428.	
WCA Electronic Noticeboard: The WCA electronic noticeboard is a convenient way to keep up with community activities. Subscribe by visiting the WCA website at <a href="http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard">http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard</a>	
Exploring essential oils. Learn how to use Young Living oils to enhance health and well being. Join me to find out more. Contact Lynne 6238-1997 <a href="mailto:lynne@heavenacts.com">lynne@heavenacts.com</a>	
Pro-Window Cleaning. Need your windows professional cleaned inside & out. Call Or email Vic for a free quote 0457 005 144 <a href="mailto:vic_tacon@hotmail.com">vic_tacon@hotmail.com</a>	
Civil Marriage Celebrant. Dorothy Skea. Mobile No: 0403 215 336 (easier to get a hold of me on my mobile). Ph: 6238 3290. E-mail: <a href="mailto:dorothyskea@outlook.com">dorothyskea@outlook.com</a>	
Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC Video to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$14 per Video and from \$14 per Record or Cassette. Please contact Tony on 0412-507-594	
For hire - paddock vac. Picks up manure and can be towed by a ride on mower. For further information contact Helen on 6238 3030.	
FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a> . or email Ann Sloan at <a href="mailto:lrrhallbywong@gmail.com">lrrhallbywong@gmail.com</a> .	
FOR HIRE:- from Wamboin Community Hall - 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, - <b>Trestles and chairs.</b> All damages are the responsibility of the Hirer. Must be securely tied during transportation - or they don't go!	
FOR HIRE :- from Wamboin Community Hall - <b>Gas BBQ'S</b> x 2. Hire cost and cleaning Bond applies. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258	
FOR HIRE: - <b>WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL.</b> Bookings arranged by Joan Mason, 62 383 258. Please note: Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st birthday functions.	


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# Wheels of Wamboin 2016



## **Saturday 16 April - 9.00am to 1.00pm** **Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way Wamboin**

All sorts of automotive machines including old, new and interesting cars, motor bikes, trucks, stationary engines and even tractors are welcome. Tell your friends to get prepared for a great day out at the wheels of Wamboin. Here's the opportunity to see all those machines both great and small and reminisce of yesteryear when things were made by man, and steel and chrome were the main components. When Australia had a car industry and European cars were exotic and American cars were plain raw muscle. When it was always exciting to take a British car on a road trip and the excitement was actually making it to the destination, it was all about the journey.

Display entry is a gold coin donation (to Wamboin RFS) and swap tables are \$5 (remember to bring your cash as there is no EFTPOS). A bonus on the day is the opportunity to pick up some healthy bargains at the monthly home produce markets. There will also be freshly brewed coffee and a sausage sizzle.

Come and join fellow enthusiasts and enjoy the joy of automotive dreams.

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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. - Ned Noel, volunteer editor.

**170: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 6238 3178 email alicehscott@bigpond.com.au**

Fay Kelly	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Robyn Robertson	Cooper Rd	26
Mario Larocca	Fernloff Rd	35	Jill & Richard Gregory	Canning Cl	17
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40

**174: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 6238 3596 khandel@bigpond.net.au**

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	44	Margaret Hekeimin	Merino Vale Dr	19
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
Kathy Handel	Norton (Weerona to Hilltop+Wirndra)	23	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	26

**233: CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: ph 6238 3489**

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	45
Colleen Foster	B'dore Rd to Nrtn Rd	23	Rob Henry	South end Clare Valley	41
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	65
Dominica Lorima	North end Clare Valley	42			

**259: CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: ph 6238 3590 jnpvds@bigpond.net.au**

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	35	Daryl Bourke	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn& Harriott	30
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Sandra Favre	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn& Harriott	20
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	33	Joan Milnor	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6	Tony Bond	Hogan Dr/Orana Dr/Yuranga Dr	42
Rhonda&Neville Parnell	DenleyDr (Kestral2 1/2 way 2SthEnd)	14	Misc		1

**152: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425 lodestar@ozemail.com.au**

Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	66	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Glen Dorahy	Sutton Park Estate	48	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	20
Ian Coillet	Grove Road	7			

**197: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333 email anderson@yless4u.com.au**


Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	27	David Featherston	Summerhill to B'dore Rd to CreekB Rd	26
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	37	Ken Steinman	Wyoming & Doust Rds	34
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy)	32	Chris Fowler	Millyn Rd	20
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	21			

**1114: CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 6238 3484 email nednoel@optusnet.com.au**

Diana Griffin	Majors Close	18	Will Noel	Weeroona (Majors to Denley)	36
Advertisers & Misc	(Out of area mailouts)	33	Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	Snowgum Road	27

**TOTAL 1,299**

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## Wamboin Golf – March 2016

Sunday, 7 March 2015. Despite an outside temperature which would melt the heart of a Cardinal, a reasonable number of golfers from the south eastern side of this desirable and hotly disputed shire gathered at the Wamboin community hall for the Mad March Hare Stableford, sponsored the Ken and Deb Gordon whom we thank for the bountiful spread and the prizes. This month we were honouring the memory of local accountant George Pell (not to be confused with that other chap). Not that our George is dead – far from it. He’s alive and kicking and has a doctor’s certificate to prove it. It’s just that his memory seems to have packed it in. The poor guy is getting the curly-lipped treatment from the leaking ventricle end of the media for being oblivious to everything else going on around him while doing the books for a large institution in Ballarat. Your correspondent can relate to George’s predicament: for 14 years your correspondent was the treasurer of the Wamboin Volunteer Bushfire Brigade and couldn’t understand why the crews kept coming back with singed eyebrows and covered in soot. But by golly the books were in apple pie order, I can tell you!

Back at the Bingley Way Basilica we were again entertained by a golfing story from leading Queanbeyanite, Ted Evans, before the Googly Ball was awarded to Lofty Mason for a reason too embarrassing to mention. Your correspondent was given the Dummy Spit award for drawing attention to the tardiness of the prize presentations then leaving before the end. (He was roundly condemned for this churlish act.) The encouragement award went to Raelene Beckett – mother of the month - who took the kids around the course while her layabout husband mollycoddled a so-called “injury”. LD and NTP ball winners were Charles Guscott X 3, Pete Harrison X 2, Paul Griffin, Joan Mason, Larry King and Tim Barter. Junior comp winners were Logan Beckett from sister Phoebe. Nine hole comp placegetters were Lofty Mason, first on 17 Stableford points from Joan Mason 16 points and Larry King 8 points (a lesson to us all: you don’t have to be able to play golf, to play golf). The 18 hole comp went to Tim Barter 39 points from Charles Guscott 36 and Pete Harrison 35.

Next month, April, is the cruellest month according to local bard, T S Eliot. Not sure what old T S meant by that – or anything else, for that matter. Nevertheless, the good news is that on Sunday, 3 April the Wamboin Community Association Mini Masters will again be staged. Join us at 12.15pm for the 12.30pm start to see if you can make the cut and wear home the Green Jacket. (Well, it used to be green but it’s gone kind of grey over the years.) Larry King, golfer. Kind of...



## Kids Club at St Andrews

### Wamboin

You may have heard of Kids Club, but perhaps know little about it. Limited space at St Andrews on Norton Road meant that there was a need for a more flexible alternative to Sunday school for children in our area, and so five years ago Kids Club was created. Since then children have met at the church each Friday during term time, from 5.30pm til 7pm.

Kids Club was originally planned to cater for very young children under the age of eight, but the little ones have grown up and stayed, and the eldest in the group is now sixteen! The programme provides for all. The younger children have craft activities, songs and games and listen to a Bible story. In the warmer months much of the activity is outside and the children play on the equipment in the lovely grounds and the older ones set up table tennis on the lawn. At the end of the session there is a home cooked two course meal.

Parents are encouraged to stay for the session and often help with the cleaning up. There is a voluntary contribution towards the cost of craft materials and story aids, and any surplus at the end of the year is made as a donation to those children less fortunate. Last year the money went towards school equipment and a goat for a third world family. Many of the children from Kids Club participate in the Christmas Eve Nativity pageant at St Andrews.

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## ***Councillor's Corner***

**Property Valuations and Council Rates** — In the last couple of months, all Palerang residents should have received a Notice of Valuation from the NSW Valuer General, so I thought it might be worthwhile going over how these valuations are derived and how they are used by Council in determining council rates.

Property sales are the most important factor considered when determining land values. Valuations are, however, effectively done 'en masse', not individually. Benchmark properties are selected within areas, sales are analysed and the benchmarks are then valued by direct comparison to the sales. Any change in the benchmark value is then applied to the whole area. Sales data is analysed every year for land tax purposes, and this data is then used in the triennial valuations.

Land is valued on its 'highest and best permitted use', but on the value of the land only (i.e. the unimproved land value—the valuation does not include the value of any dwelling or other structures or improvements).

The whole process is covered by a quality assurance program that helps to ensure a level of accuracy and consistency in the results. Errors can, however, occur and the process includes a mechanism for property owners to appeal valuations if they believe them to be inaccurate. Perhaps not surprisingly, this is one of the rare situations where appeals are generally made against too high rather than too low a valuation.

The 7,947 valuations prepared in Palerang in 2015 were based on sales data for 365 properties and showed on average a 2% increase over the last three years. Values in Bungendore and the western part of the LGA, however, were relatively flat, reflecting the state of the ACT housing market.

Nonetheless, it is important to recognise that an increase (or decrease) in unimproved land value does not necessarily result in an increase (or decrease) in council rates. Council's total rates bill is set each year by IPART, and does not increase (or decrease) as a result of changes in land valuations. Council only uses land valuations to distribute the rates burden within the Palerang LGA. As such, any changes in council rates arising from the new land valuations are due only to changes *relative to other properties* within the LGA—if there are resultant rates increases in one part of the LGA, there will necessarily be decreases in some other part.

Council's rating policy is made each year with the setting of the annual budget in June. Palerang rates are levied in the four basic [mandatory] categories—Farmland, Residential, Business and Mining. The distribution of the rate burden, or the individual Rate Yield for each category, is based on the total unimproved value of land in each category.

Note that rating categories are determined by the primary use of the land in question and as such are quite independent of PLEP Land Use Zones. A property in the RU1 (Primary Production) zone, for example, will only be rated as farmland if it is operating primarily as a farm. Hobby farms will generally be rated in the Residential category.

In Palerang, rates are calculated in all categories using a single formula:

$$\text{Ordinary Rate} = \text{Base Rate} + \textit{ad valorem} \times \text{Land Valuation}$$

In round figures, the Base Rate in each of the three main rating categories (the Mining category is a little different) is calculated as:

$$\text{Base Rate} = \frac{0.49 \times \text{Rate Yield}}{\# \text{ Assessments}}$$

where # Assessments is the number of properties in that rating category.

This has the effect of distributing 49% of the rate burden evenly across all ratepayers in a category. The remaining 51% is then distributed in line with land valuations using an *ad valorem* calculated as follows:

$$\textit{ad valorem} = \frac{0.51 \times \text{Rate Yield}}{\text{Total Land Value}}$$

where Total Land Value is the sum of all land valuations in the relevant category.

In practice, the Base Rates are rounded off, so the split is not exactly 49:51. Nonetheless, for the 2015/16 year the Residential category Base Rate was \$460 and the *ad valorem* was 0.18639 cents in the dollar, so for the for a typical rural residential property with a land valuation of \$400,000, the ordinary rate would be:

$$\text{Ordinary Rate} = \$460.00 + 0.0018639 \times \$400,000 = \$1,205.56$$

Rates based on new valuations will take effect with the making of the rates for the 2016/17 financial year.

For [much] more information on land valuations and council rates, visit the Valuer General's website at [www.valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au](http://www.valuergeneral.nsw.gov.au). The website includes a link to the new NSW Globe property information tool that uses Google Earth to locate individual properties and present a range of data, including individual property valuations.

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

Property Valuations (Mar 2016)    You and Your Rates (Nov 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

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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory


I have never needed a calendar to tell me it's the first of March. Just go outside with shorts and bare legs and the first March fly of the season will find you. They never fail. But it puzzles me...what do they do for the rest of the year?

While pondering the doings of March flies and other issues of State, I have been picking roses in the early morning, not blooms that would win first prize in the Show, but pretty and perfumed and a sign, perhaps, that milder temperatures are finally here. Certainly there is an Easter feel in the morning air! But I'm hoping the first frost won't come too soon, as poor Lena, our ancient lamb, has only just been shorn.

Each year around Christmas we have a visit from our favourite Kiwi shearer. When he's dealt with the "flock" we sit on the verandah, eat slabs of fruit cake washed down with a beer and chew the fat. But this year he didn't come, and eventually we realised that Lena's heavy woolly coat was our responsibility. I did my bit...I purchased a pair of \$10 hand shears from Bunnings and went out to lunch. When I came home there was a somewhat sheepish looking creature in the chook yard with a tousled hair cut and a husband bent double carefully nursing his back. We are both in awe of Jackie Howe's feat, shearing 321 sheep in a day before machine driven shears came into vogue.

But while our energy flags even thinking about his stamina, it is heartening to see that there is still energy in abundance in the community. As is my happy custom, I went along to the Sutton School Country Fair on a beautiful Saturday after a stormy day before. Accompanied by our grandchildren, I was suddenly back at the country fairs and agricultural shows of my childhood. People were smiling, chatting and having fun, and kids were running around, enjoying themselves without breaking their parents' bank. There was a real feeling of community, and I was amazed at the number of families from outside the area who came to the Sutton Fair because "it was a real country experience."

I sometimes feel a bit of a fraud, pretending to be a country type while living on the edge of a sophisticated city, but perhaps we are lucky to have the best of both worlds.....an empathy with those who till the soil for real and tell the month of March without a calendar, and who, like us, share a warm and energetic sense of community..... I wouldn't live anywhere else.




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