



The Whisper

June 2016 CIRCULATION: 1,299

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 Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. On contentious matters the Community Association will strive to maintain a balance. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the deadline for the July 2016 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, June 26. 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.

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LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Wamboin Community Assn | Jenny Richards, President | 6238 1329 | president@wamboincommunity.asn.au |
| Bywong Community | Anne Goonan, President | | president@bywongcommunity.org.au |
| Fire Brigade | Geoff Foster, Captain | 0409 991 340 | captain.brigade@wamboincommunity.asn.au |
| Resident Palerang Councillor | Pete Harrison | 0427 711 028 | cr.pete.harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au |
| Resident Palerang Councillor | Keith France | 0427 365 715 | cr.keith.france@palerang.nsw.gov.au |
| Wamboin Markets | Lance and Meriel Schultz | 6238 3309 | Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com |
| Sutton School Playgroup | Emma Harriden, Convenor | 0448 478 953 | ce.harriden@bigpond.com |
| Landcare | Kathy Handel, Secretary | 6238 3596 | khandel@bigpond.net.au |
| 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 | Linda.uzubalis@gmail.com |
| Scouts | Pete Harrison | 6238 3525 | |
| Bywong Hall Bookings | Ann Sloan, contact | | lrrhallbywong@gmail.com |
| Wamboin Hall Bookings | Joan Mason, contact | 6238 3258 | joan.mason@internode.on.net |
| Church - Anglican | Robyn Robertson, Warden | 6238 3202 | |
| 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 | Whirlwind1@argonite.com.au |
| Lake George VIEW Club | Pauline Segeri, contact | 6238 1996 | |
| Wamboin Book Group | Alice Scott, Secretary | 6238 3178 | |

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Alana Stenning | Pet sitting | 6238 3030 | Lydia Milos | Babysitting, petsitting | 6238 3559 |
| 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 |
| Laura Worden | baby/pet/house sitting | 0458788486 | | | |

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Behaviour Problems in Horses – PART I:

By: Cassie Duddy of CEH



Most people during some stage of their horsey career will have seen horses carrying out such strange activities like that of; cribbing, wind sucking, weaving, wood chewing or stall walking. These are all what you would call stereotypies or vices, which are basically thought to be domesticated, negative behaviour's, that are usually damaging and unhealthy habits repeated over and over throughout the day. Studies have been carried out to confirm that these abnormal behaviours tend to occur to a higher incidence in horses that are stabled all day, more than horses that spend most of their time out in paddocks. This however does not mean that a horse that has already learnt the habit, does not take it out into the paddock to practice.

Cribbing and wind sucking are terms used interchangeably, however are thought to be separate behaviours. These habits involve grasping a horizontal surface with the front teeth where arching and flexing of the neck can be seen, whilst a strange noise is emitted from the horse. It has been suggested that endorphins are released when this strange maneuver is practiced, stimulating the pleasure center of the brain. It becomes an addictive habit which is generally incurable without intervention by using wind sucking collars or eliminating sources that the horse and habit rely on (e.g., any flat hard surface or object; stable doors, fences, water feeders, wood stumps, the list goes on). You will notice these horses with worn down front teeth and enlarged muscles along the lower lateral area of their necks.

Here are some first time easy ideas you should try if you happen to have a horse that displays some of this behaviour at times - **1.** Make sure your horse has a view of other horses in the same stable block or a view of other horses outside. **2.** Increase the amount of roughage given as feed but supply it at frequent intervals throughout the day. **3.** Make sure your horse has plenty of exercise, whether it be hand walking, lunging or riding.

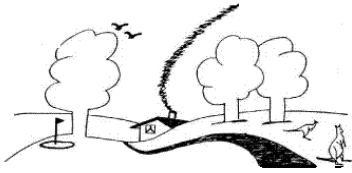
By helping to keep your horse's mind stimulated and body worked, these ideas will hopefully help to reduce the amount of abnormal behavior that occurs during their time in the stables.

Stay tuned for the next part of 'Behavioural problems in horses – PART II'.

If you would like further information or veterinary advice or have any other concerns with your horse, please contact Canberra Equine Hospital on 6241 8888 or by email on equine@canberravet.com.au.

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Wamboin Community Association Vice President's Paragraphs



Winter is here a bit early this year and it seems autumn has missed us altogether with the unusually warm and very pleasant days of April and May. I do love the colder months in Wamboin with a good crisp frost and blue sky day. It's a real chance to don a thick jacket and a beanie and do all those things about the paddocks with a much reduced chance to seeing a Joe Blake. It is beautiful to see the shining silver wattle in the car headlights at night and smell that wood fire smoke in the air.

The WCA AGM – It seemed a majority of the committee had escaped to warmer northern climates or far way places around the world for the recent AGM and hence we are waiting for the flock to return to finalise a number of positions on the executive. These activities will be sorted and announced shortly. The AGM did however highlight the many successful events and community groups during the year including the Home Produce Market, Wheels of Wamboin, the local Rural Fire Brigade, the Wonderful Women of Wamboin, the fireworks and bonfire night, Wamboin Pony Club and the Wamboin Golf Club. This is just a small sample of the many events and clubs within the community and on behalf of the Wamboin Community we thank all the groups and individuals that make Wamboin such a wonder place to live.

Queanbeyan /Palerang Council Amalgamation (take over) - Well it happened and it pretty much seemed that the die was cast from the start. There was no way Palerang was going to be allowed to remain as is and it was only a matter of how to carve it. In the end the total takeover (err sorry amalgamation) by Queanbeyan was probably the best result from a number of poor options. The delegate process was a total farce and waste of time. The way the whole process was undertaken was deplorable and an excellent lesson in dumb politics. Pete Harrison has more on this in this month's edition.

Meet the Candidates Night – Yes, a Federal election has been called and we will be now bombarded by political ads and robot phone calls until July stating promises that may or may not be broken. To meet your local contenders the WCA is to hold a **“Meet the Candidates” night at 7.30pm Thursday 16 June at the Wamboin Hall**. All Eden-Monaro candidates for the impending Federal Election will be invited. They will speak to a time limit with a Q & A session once they have all spoken. Candidates will then mix with the community informally over light refreshments. It is your opportunity to raise with them, face-to-face, any matters which you might feel strongly about or warrant a serious answer.

A New Residents Welcome Pack is available either from Committee members or from the WCA stall at the Home Produce Market. Giving one to a new neighbour is a good way of breaking the ice and getting to know them. They are full of useful local information.

The next General Meeting of the Community Association will be at 7.30pm Tuesday 21 June 2016 in the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. We welcome new members and Lofty will ensure there will be a warm fire! Peter Evans & John van der Straaten

Wamboin Community Association ~ Bywong Community

Meet The Candidates

The Wamboin Community Association and the Bywong Community are inviting all nominated candidates for the Federal electorate of Eden-Monaro to a **‘Meet the Candidates’** event.

WHEN: 7:30pm, Thursday, 16th June 2016

WHERE: Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin

All residents of Wamboin and Bywong are invited. After the candidates' formal presentations, audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates during a 'Q&A' session, and later informally over light refreshments.

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**Bywong
Community News**
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Anne Goonan, President

**This News Put Together
by the Bywong Committee**



The amalgamation of Palerang Council with Queanbeyan will have some ramifications for many community groups in the new shire. The issue of s355 Council sub-committees (set up under Section 355 of the Local Government Act) was on the Agenda in the first combined Council meeting (19th May) in Bungendore. The Administrator stated that they will continue to function as previously and was supportive of the committees and the work undertaken. So it appears to be “business as usual”.

Children’s Playground for the Hall: The BCA received a small shock on obtaining quotes for the necessary play equipment for the development. This equipment must meet approved standards, and accordingly the commercially available swings, cubby houses etc. are much more expensive than anticipated. Nevertheless, the BCA will provide plans (kindly prepared by Jennie Curtis of Fresh Landscapes) for council (via the s355 committee) specifying some play items that can be accommodated within our existing budget (roughly \$15,000) and with the proviso that several more expensive items will be incorporated at a later date as funding is secured. These items may include a cubby house or ‘multi-play’ facility. This proposal involves changes to the Les Reardon Reserve which is managed by the S355 committee, so it is possible that obtaining the necessary approvals may be slowed a little as staff work their way around new processes.

Clean Up Australia: In the May Whisper the BCA announced that this year’s clean up effort would be postponed. However, in the intervening period it was discovered that large roads previously worked on by BCA volunteers such as Macs Reff and Bungendore Roads may now be classified as ‘arterial’, and this has thrown some doubt on necessary insurance cover and other liabilities. Consequently the BCA is holding off on this effort until these issues are clarified with the Clean Up Australia administration and other relevant organizations.

The project will be coordinated by Steve Walker and all offers of assistance and/or suggestions are welcome and should be addressed to Steve at - cleanup@tacadv.com

2016 Trivia Night: This is scheduled for 7.30 pm on Saturday evening of 16 July 2016. A nominal charge of \$10 per person will be asked, but this is a small price for what has traditionally been a very entertaining and informative event. If you would like to book a table or perhaps join an existing one please ring Greg Gougeon on 6236 9841.

As usual the plans and themes for this event will be developed by J.P. Favre, and further advertising will be placed in the Whisper and the Bungendore Weekly. We’d welcome donations of a large pot of soup to give the same ladies a rest! Every year for the past six or so years the same six people have done this- so changes would be welcome!

2017 Car Boot Sale- Preparation:

The BCA committee is continuing forward planning for the 20th anniversary event in 2017. Hopefully this will be an especially memorable Boot Sale and any suggestions or ideas for inclusion in 2017 would be most welcome. All offers of help in running the event would also be welcome.

If you have any enquiries or suggestions regarding the 2017 event please email us at - president@bywongcommunity.org.au

BCA website/wiki: Committee member and IT savvy Steve Walker has set up relevant web pages. Hosting is free (donation from Steve) and will contain the BCA minutes and other relevant information.

Next Bywong Community Association meeting: Tuesday June 14 at 7.30 pm.

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Wildcare on the Beat

Those of us who drive in rural areas know only too well that winter has arrived – not because it’s getting colder, but because we are seeing many more kangaroos, wombats and other animals on the roads. Daylight saving has an impact and inevitably more of us are driving to and from work at dawn and dusk. This is a time when the risk of seeing animals on the verges and crossing over is a lot higher. As has been said before, there is only one way to increase one’s reaction time. To reduce the risk of hitting a kangaroo or a wombat on the road it is vital to slow down – often well below the speed limit, and be much more vigilant in wildlife rich areas.

In spring it’s baby birds that test the resources of Wildcare, but in winter it is the influx of injured and orphaned kangaroos that increase the level of activity. There are many more motor vehicle accidents involving kangaroos at this time of the year and sadly, many injured animals (not all) have to be euthanised. Kangaroos that have not been severely injured can be recovered and certainly most orphaned pouch joeys can be rescued and rehabilitated. Wildcare has good success in raising orphaned animals and releasing them back into the wild.



If you are involved in an accident with a roo, or any other animal for that matter, please stop and assess the situation. Your safety is paramount, but often you can warn other motorists and get in touch with Wildcare. If you have to leave the scene, then it is useful for the Wildcare rescuer to know exactly where an animal can be found – this might mean leaving a marker on the verge or on a fenceline.

Some people think that Wildcare is a professional outfit with paid staff and well-funded facilities, but nothing could be further from the truth. It is a community-based volunteer organisation that has about 250 members spread over a huge area of NSW. There are no paid staff, and as with many volunteer community groups, money to pay for veterinary fees, telephone, food, housing and rescue & rehabilitation equipment, all comes from fundraising, as well as the pockets of dedicated rehabbers. Fortunately, for anyone who wants to help, Wildcare has ‘charity status’, so tax deductible donations can be made. If you would like to support Wildcare, with an end of the financial year donation, just visit their website (www.wildcare.com.au).

More and more people are contacting Wildcare to get help and advice on wildlife matters. If you come across injured or orphaned native wildlife, or want information about joining up, contact Wildcare on their 24/7 helpline – 6299 1966.

Philip Machin 6238 3717 Photo: *Orphaned joey (Jackie) in care*

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Wamboin Home Produce Markets
Saturday 18 June 2016 (9am to 12 noon)
Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 62383309 or 042 261 4304
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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 charities.

We were enjoying the markets in rural Tuscany in May so many thanks to Joan Mason and Richard and Jill Gregory from St Andrew's on managing the Wamboin market for us. We hear it went very well with the return of Jon and his wonderful smoked trout to add to the mix of produce and craft stalls. As usual the coffee cart was busy and everyone commented how good it was to see the return of the egg and bacon rolls!

The June market is the last one before the winter break, so come and buy up! We start up again in September.

NOTE: BRING AND BUY WINTER WOOLIES STALL

As per last June, this month we will run a bring-and-buy stall selling unwanted winter woolies, ski gear, winter boots etc. Please bring CLEAN clothes (adult or kids) labeled with your name and a contact number and a suggested price and we will do our best to sell them for you. You get the money. Please no circa 1970s skis or ski boots.

Support your local markets!



Coming events at Sherony Park

First Aid for Equine Enthusiasts full day course
11 June 2016 8:30am to 4pm

Practical Horse Nutrition
evening seminar
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Bookings:
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Heavy Horse Heaven – Large Animal Rescue Course 19 June 2016
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| Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin – 41 year statistics from the Robertsons | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| May rainfall to 29/5 ... 60.75mm | (May 2015 ... 15.75mm) |
| (Average May 46.4mm) | 2016 rainfall to 29/5 ... 252.25mm |
| (2015 to May 31/5 ... 287mm) | Average XJune rainfall ...59.3mm |
| (June 2015 ... 60.5mm) | Wettest June ... 189mm in 1997 |
| Driest June ... 8mm in 1975 | Hottest June day ... 17C twice |
| Coldest June day ... 3C x 3 times | Coldest June night ... -6C on 9/6/96 |

Wamboin 15 years ago – from the Whisper, June 2001 Circulation 900
by Robyn Robertson

From “The Wamboin Firefighter”: The NSW RFS was established by an Act of Parliament, the Rural Fires Act 1997.....The NSW RFS is responsible for fire suppression and prevention activities in over 90% of the State, and works closely with the NSW Fire Brigades, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and State Forests who, between them, cover about 10% of the State. Each of the 2400 Rural Fire Brigades is normally supervised by an elected Captain and is supported by a number of Deputy Captains. A Brigade President, Secretary and Treasurer normally form part of the administrative framework of each brigade.

The principal component of the Service, ie the volunteers, combine to provide a range of services from fire fighting and prevention to community education and support to other emergency services. Volunteer components of the Service include communications, catering and welfare.

In the year ended 30 June 1998, the NSW RFS attended 21,566 incidents. The NSW RFS is the designated combat agency for all fires occurring in its Districts, which includes the provision of fire protection to some 1200 towns and villages throughout the State. -- Cliff Spong, Captain

And, I found, not in the Whisper, but in another publication, this: “ **The Old Community Hall:** Merely to tread its creaky floorboards is to recall a time before society became brittle, then cracked under its own pressures. Our hall is a corrugated temple to a time when people celebrated their citizenship with group activities. A place where our little community was able to peer into its own mind and life to discover its needs and then meet them. It encouraged and provided social contact; here networks were woven and democratic forms were fashioned. This is where a community was trained in the ways of self direction. Don’t ever let your community hall fall down, folks. Bring it home, give it a lick of paint and a tear of gratitude.”-rr

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WAMBOIN GOLF – May 2016

Sunday, 1 May 2016. Much to their disgust, the vestigial Wamboin Communist Party were severely outnumbered by a fair swag of Palerang's bourgeoisie plus a sprinkling of the Queanbeyan proletariat who clocked in at the Community Hall for the May Day Golf Komintern. The day was sponsored by former members of the ADF, mainly from the Senior Service, so naturally the talk turned to our new submarines and whether they'd be safe for our intrepid *matelots*. It was noted by local boilermaker and former sea dog, ADM Horry Nelson (ret'd) that there are more aeroplanes in the sea than submarines in the sky. We all felt much better. That is, until the terrible news filtered through that after days of turmoil the Mudchooks board had agreed to grease the skids under their CEO to the tune of almost a million dollars. This explains why they can't afford to pay their IT support to update the website. The former CEO, referred to in court as "Mr Jones"—clearly an alias—has agreed to withdraw legal action against the Board but a statement of claim has been filed in Queanbeyan District Court against the University of Bungendore and certain other parties. At least it hasn't affected our team's on field prowess. Bird is the word!

Back at the Bingley Way Winter Palace the Commissar welcomed our guests, Ted Evans (who spoke knowledgeably about dingbats), Len Ivey from the South Coast and Rob and M-L Gorham from Boorowa. He gracefully thanked Paul and Diana Griffin for the eats and Tim Barter and Vicky Still for the prizes.

The googly ball was awarded to the person who took his friend to a Mudchooks home game the previous Saturday, based on old, unreliable information on the team's website. (A few beers at the Royal were a consolation.) Steve Lambert scored the dummy spit for again whingeing about his handicap. The encouragement award went to Tony Fisher for a score off the stick of 108 glorious strokes. NTP and LD ball winners were: Paul Griffin x 3, Terry Fitzgerald x 2, Steve Lambert, Ken Gordon, Joan Mason, Tony Fisher and Tim Barter.

The junior comp was taken out by Taylor Miners. The 9 hole comp placegetters were: 3rd Steve Miners—father of Taylor and thus known as Major Miners (not to be confused with iron ore miners, C Sharp minors, Morris Minors or coal seam gas miners (those/racking miners !)—with 43 off the stick for a net 34 (his best yet); 2nd OCB Steve Lambert 45/34; 1st Larry King 45/32. The 18 hole camp placegetters were: 4th (stay with me) John Whitney 87/71; 3rd Charles Guscott 90/70; 2nd Len Ivey 82/69 and equal first were Tim Barter and Paul Griffin both on a net 65. But as regular followers of golf played in heaven know, as sponsors they were ineligible for a prize.

Next month our sponsors will be Steve and Ruth of Lambert Vineyards. Feel free to join us on Sunday, 5 June at 12.15pm for the 12.30 pm shotgun start. Meanwhile we'll keep the red flag flying here!

-- Larry King, golfer and capitalist running dog.



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Chatter

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The Wamboin Firefighter

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Private Hazard Reductions Burns Need Vigilance



Although the weather has cooled and the mornings are frosty it doesn't mean your burn won't get away from you.

The RFS has reported a number of fires across NSW this month, all the result of fuel reduction fires instigated by property owners.

And yes Wamboin has had such a fire. A local resident called 000 when he realised the fire was out of his control which was the right thing to do. One of our heavy tankers was dispatched and the fire was extinguished.

In this instance Queanbeyan Fire Control had not been notified and the neighbours were not advised of the fire. This led to some very anxious neighbours and some stressed phone calls when the smoke and the size of the flames became apparent.

The lessons from this fire and other similar fires across NSW

include being aware of the weather and the risk of high winds, monitor your fire not just when its burning but long after all seems to be extinguished. At the risk of repeating myself, please remember:

- Keep the pile low, long and wide ie below 1.5 metres high and about 2 metres long. This will reduce the intensity of the heat and the pile won't stay hot for too long.
- Don't burn treated timber and the burn should only contain vegetation.
- All material should be dead and dry; leave it in the sun to completely dry out.

This list is not definitive, please read the following link before lighting up:

http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/13323/Standards-for-Pile-Burning.pdf

And remember before you light up there are two more things to do:

- Make sure you have at the site of your pile burn a suitable source of water for fire suppression and to wet down the area around the pile before ignition.
- Most importantly, advise Queanbeyan Fire Control and your neighbours well in advance so a fire truck doesn't arrive in your driveway.

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Attention All Wamboin RFS Members!

In the next couple of weeks there are two important meetings that require your attendance:

General Meeting of 7 June

Your attendance at the training night of 7 June would be appreciated. The night will commence with a general meeting at which we will be seeking the elevation of a number of our probationary members. Please come along.

Wamboin Brigade Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at the fire shed on 14 June at 7.30. Please note it down in your diary.

The Fire Season Has Ended

Whilst you no longer need a permit from the Captain you must still call Fire Control, Queanbeyan on 6297 1840 to advise them you are lighting a fire. You will also need to tell your neighbours about the fire. A simple note in your neighbours' letterboxes should suffice. If you are calling on a Friday make sure the call is before 12.00 noon.

Advising your neighbours and Fire Control will lessen the chance of a big red truck coming down your driveway because some one reported smoke in the area.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Call Outs

In May we had three callouts.

Wednesday 4 May. A crew left the shed at 6.30am to assist with a fire that had escaped containment lines in Mongarlowe. The crew were back at the shed by 12.50.

Thursday 5 May. A crew of five in one of the heavy tankers responded to a call at 2.00pm. The fire was in the Denley Drive area and the call had been made by the property owner to 000. A fuel reduction burn had got away. With the assistance of a Bungendore crew the fire was extinguished and the crew was back at the shed at 3.15pm.

Tuesday 10 May. A crew of 4 in one of our heavy tankers and a crew of 5 in the other attended a fire in a junk pile at a property near the Federal Highway. The fire ignition was by accident. Both trucks were back at the shed by 6.00pm in time for a quiet Sunday evening.

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

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

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African Lovegrass

ALG is a hardy, drought tolerant perennial grass species which thrives particularly on sandy soils with low fertility.

Those of you who regularly (or otherwise) drive to Cooma, or the Monaro might not realise that the waving, almost luxurious looking pasture seen on both sides of the road is mostly this declared class 4 noxious weed. Attempts to eradicate the weed by landholders and Councils alike along a huge swathe of that area, have all but been abandoned or severely curtailed, such is the invasive nature of this plant. It has extremely limited grazing benefits and at its most dense - probably none at all.



Poor forage quality and feed value may not be of interest to most local residents, but the significant fire risk if it gets established in your paddocks, should be! The RFS at Michelago, Bredbo and Cooma will need no urging to let you have their opinions of the dangers. Lovegrass fires are difficult to control, and indeed, investment has been made in a 'water cannon' (similar to that normally used on rioters) in these southern RFS Brigades. Doubtless Wamboin RFS has some thoughts on it too?

So why should we be concerned? ALG has already invaded the Canberra region and has spread along both the Yass and Federal highways and onto some properties in the Murrumbateman region adjacent to roads. The seed (at least 50,000 per sq.metre) is dispersed by vehicles, mowing/slashing equipment, water - rivers and streams, in fodder, hay and straw, sand and road materials and short distances by wind. You are urged to seriously consider where you park near road verges and infested properties in Canberra and where you buy or contract (and from whom) any of the above.

If the single plant becomes established, without control, on ground with poor soil fertility or overgrazed pasture it is almost certain that a dense mono-culture will be the result in as little as two years. Control on small areas, and single plants, is possible but requires persistence, dedication and accurate use of appropriate herbicides.

If you have pasture paddocks adjacent to African lovegrass infested roadways the best preventative method is to fertilise these paddocks and don't overgraze them thus allow the desirable pasture species to maintain ground cover and keep a competitive edge.

If you thought that Serrated Tussock was a problem - "you ain't seen nothin' yet"!

References and sources: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/primefacts (or /weeds); Luke Pope, SE Local Land Services, Cooma; Fiona Leech, SE Local Land Services, Yass; Local Land Services South East - enquiry.southeast@lls.nsw.gov.au; Ph:1300 795 299

-Chris Fowler, Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare Group.



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SUTTON LANDCARE ACTIVITIES

April - Landscape Rehydration Presentation

On 12 April 2016, Peter Hazel – Mulloon Institute project leader - provided Sutton Landcare Group with a detailed update on the Mulloon Creek natural sequence farming demonstration. Following the stunning success of repairing an eroded 3km section of Mulloon Creek, the **Community Rehydration Project** was established and now covers 23,000 ha and over 40 km of creek. Most local landowners are now involved.



Site before rehabilitation



Same site seven years later

The Project's success is widely documented. Landowners in the Yass Valley could undertake similar rehydration activities, provided they comply with relevant legislation.

June - The Role of Livestock in Reversing Land Degradation. (Could overgrazing be a good idea?) The next Sutton Landcare Meeting will be on Tuesday June 14th at Sutton School commencing at 7.30 pm. The guest speaker will be Peter Raynolds, a cattle grazier from near Braidwood. Peter will lead our discussion of the proposition advanced by Zimbabwean ecologist and environmentalist, Allan Savory that livestock properly managed and moved to mimic nature, are essential to improving a degraded pastoral environment. Before this discussion we will show a short video of Allan Savory setting out this proposition which has become the basis for holistic farming methods. Peter first became exposed to Allan Savory's ideas while a student at Orange Agricultural College some years ago. Peter has recently started to implement them on his family's property with interesting results to date. **This topic is a highly controversial one.** Savory's proposition has received extensive criticism and also support. We are looking forward to a stimulating discussion. For further information on Sutton Landcare, check out our website or contact our Secretary, Marchien van Oostende, on sutton.landcare@gmail.com



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For appointments or further information please phone Brian
 6258 -1792

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| Hi my name is Michael I live in Bungendore and have recently become a JP. As I work for myself from home this makes me available to the community at very short notice to supply my services. - Michael Holmes, JP 0424 152 898. |
| Do you like knitting or crocheting and always wished there was a local yarn shop nearby? www.iwoolknit.com.au is an online yarn shop based in Bungendore. We sell a range of beautiful Australian and European yarns and patterns, including classic DK wool, felting yarns, local Alpaca, organic wool, sock knitting yarns, Tweed yarns and quality yarn blends with silk, Mohair and Cashmere. Local pick-up available on appointment. Ring Barbara at 0406 886 347 or email: sales@iwoolknit.com.au . |
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| Tutor Available: 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 http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard |
| 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: dorothyskea@outlook.com |
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| FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on www.bywongcommunity.org.au . or email Ann Sloan at lrrhallbywong@gmail.com . |
| FOR HIRE:- from Wamboin Community Hall - 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, - Trestles and chairs. 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 - Gas BBQ'S x 2. Hire cost and cleaning Bond applies. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258 |
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TELSTRA MOBILE PHONES & INTERNET SERVICES

Following the Wamboin Community Association’s April General Meeting at which dissatisfaction was expressed by members and some WoWs over Telstra’s mobile phone coverage and internet infrastructure, the WCA made representations to Telstra management, Federal Ministers with responsibilities for communications and our Federal and State representatives.

The WCA has just received a letter from the Department of Communications and the Arts on behalf of the Australian Government stating initially that our concerns “should be raised with the incoming government following the election”.

However, the letter also made the following points:

1. ‘Regrettably, as you have noted, the predictive coverage maps indicate that Wamboin will not receive improved mobile coverage from a base station funded under round 1 of the (Black Spot) programme.’
2. ‘Wamboin...has been added to the database to be used for round 2 of the programme. Mobile phone operators have been invited to submit their round 2 funding proposals by 14 July 2016. The locations of the base stations funded under round 2 are expected to be announced in the second half of 2016. Further information about the Black Spot Programme is availableat www.communications.gov.au/mobile_coverage.’
3. ‘A fact sheet has been developed by the telecommunications industry which provides information about the key factors to consider when selecting a mobile device and plan...available on the Communications Alliance website at www.commsalliance.com.au.’
4. ‘Every home in Australia will be able to connect to the nbn, with the rollout due to be completed by 2020..... Beyond these areas (cities and large towns), extending across all regional and remote Australia, the nbn will be delivered using satellite technology. The nbn satellite service which became available on 29 April 2016.....Depending on the location, nbn aims to have services installed within 20 to 35 business days from accepting an order from a satellite service provider. ... I can advise that many parts of Wamboin and surrounding areas are to be serviced by the satellite. Further information, including links to the current service providers, is available on nbn’s website at www.nbnco.com.au/connect-home-or-business/information-for-home/satellite.html.’

Note: These points are salient extracts from the Department of Communications letter of 27 May 2016. All incoming correspondence is held on the WCA file and is open to members.

- John van der Straaten, WCA Committee, e:jnpvds@bigpond.net.au or 6238 3590



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Nature Notes May 2016

Jo Walker

With a bit more rain this month (just over 40mm here) the soil has stayed damp enough to keep the grasses green for a while, and the temperatures have finally dropped towards wintry levels with the first frost of the season whitening the landscape this morning.

The flower-buds on the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) are already showing a yellowish tinge, so we may get an early flowering this year. After the 20mm of rain earlier this month, the Rock Ferns (*Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*) that grow extensively in this area but had been almost invisible for a while due to the dry weather, have all put out bright green new growth.

Rosettes of Scaly Buttons (*Leptorhynchos squamatus*) leaves and the more upright leaves of Billy Buttons (*Craspedia variabilis*) are appearing in the damper soils. And, since the heavier rainfall earlier in the month, rosettes of leaves of the Little Dumpy Orchid (*Diplodinium truncatum*) are making a late appearance – in quite large patches in places. This little orchid (one of the Greenhoods) usually flowers somewhere between March and May but I haven't seen any flowering this year.

There was another emergence of Ghost Moths (Hepialidae) after a night of rain this month. These large moths have a very short adult life – they have no mouthparts and are unable to feed, so the females have to mate and lay their eggs amongst the leaf litter within a very short time. There were a few little Shield Bugs (Family: Pentatomidae) on some of the *Exocarpos cupressiformis* (Cherry Ballart) trees recently. Sometimes they appear in quite large numbers, but this year there were only a few of them. This species is a navy-blue colour with cream patterns on the wings and thorax. Most of them were adult insects, but there were a few still in the nymphal stage.

The lizards seem to have taken refuge for the winter, but I did see one rather thin and cold-looking Bearded Dragon a week ago. It was trying to dig under a log, but was not having much success as the ground was dry and hard.

A pair of Magpie-larks have recently taken up residence here. These attractive little black and white birds mate for life and defend an extensive territory, sometimes quite aggressively. These two were feeding along the muddy edge of the dam (one of their favourite haunts) a few days ago when a Magpie appeared nearby. Although it was nearly twice their size, it quickly took off - pursued for quite some distance by the Magpie-larks.

A few of the new joeys in the kangaroo mob are peering out of their mothers' pouches now, but only one spindly little one has ventured out to hop in a quick circle before returning to the warmth of the pouch.

Just before I sat down to write this, I went for a walk to the top of the hill. There is a lot of exposed rock here, and just about every surface is covered with lichens freshly spruced up after the rain and exhibiting so many colours – from grey through many shades of green to bright orange and yellow. They are a mosaic of ancient life that has survived from near the beginning of life on Earth to the present day.

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St Peters and St Andrews (SRMD) Church Notices

We were very sad to hear of the death of local identity Bill Cartwright, a fourth generation member of the Cartwright family who'd been farming in the district since the 1860s. The first Anglican service was held at their property, "Woodbury", 134 years ago, and services were held there until the first church of St Peters was built on the present site in Sutton, then in the parish of St Johns, Reid. St Peters, Sutton, celebrated its centenary several years ago. Bill, and his wife Fay, were stalwarts of the community, and especially the church, farming in the district until several years ago when they retired to Queanbeyan. Bill and Fay will be remembered with affection.

There are plans afoot for the little old church sitting in the big paddock in Sutton village. We need more accommodation; an inside toilet, kitchen and meeting space. Planning for these inclusions is in its early stages. However, the paddock and the weather were kind on the appointed night, and a great community Bonfire was enjoyed, once again, by a crowd of 500 in the church grounds. Community spirit and goodwill abounded!

The next important event will be a Communion Service with Bishop Stuart, of the Canberra Goulburn Diocese, at St Peters, on Sunday, 12th June, at 9am. Everyone is most welcome.

There was a Baptism at St Andrews in May, and a reminder that Kids Club will start earlier during winter, meeting from 4.30-6pm every Friday during NSW school terms.

If you have any enquiries or want to meet others in the community, please contact the people listed below, or join us at services on the first and third Sunday of each month at St Andrews, Poppet Road, or the second and fourth Sunday at St Peters. All services start at 9am and conclude with a cheerful morning tea and chat.

Pastor Dr Royce Thompson 0416265600, Robyn Robertson 62383202, Bronwyn Elliott 62383359, Alan Rope 0429434944

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The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

by Gail Ritchie Knight

In May the Wonderful Women of Wamboin (WWOW) were treated to a visit by locals Penny (from Pendon Farm Wamboin) and her business partner Elisa, whose flowers are available at Pendon Farm and the Bungendore markets. They talked to us about preparing the soil and what grows out here, in particular flowers. She operates totally organically and makes her own soil.

Their visit was an exercise in the community teaching the community. We were encouraged to get down and dirty such that one of the WWOW was inspired to prepare a new garden that very afternoon.

Some of the WWOW and BOWWOW (Boyfriends of WWOW) enjoyed a tour of the current Fiona Hall exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia. Me, myself and I was slightly reluctant to go given the challenging reputation of Fiona Hall's art. But how could I refuse when our guide was local Wamboin resident Sally Saunders. Once again, Sally was informative, interesting and professional and I walked away with a newfound understanding and appreciation of Hall's art.

A couple of weeks ago we welcomed a new member. She felt she didn't know anyone out here but one of the WWOW invited her to come along. She enjoyed herself so much she came back the following week. We have an ongoing project of knitting trauma teddy bears for the Queanbeyan Ambulance Service. So she dived in to stuff as many as she could while chatting to her new-found friends and before long realised that there is a community here and she is a part of it.

All women are welcome at St Andrew's church, corner of Norton and Poppet Roads, Wamboin on Mondays 10 am-noon. For more information contact Gail Ritchie Knight 0416 097 500 whirlwind1@argonite.com.au.

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How the Whisper Gets Delivered Each Month

The 50 or so people below each spend time every month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong homes own and receive a free community newspaper written by residents. If your deliverer has been on the job for a long time and you have a bit of time you could spare, think about offering to take over the job or help out. If you already have too many tasks in your month, every now and then give your volunteer paperwoman/man/boy/girl a thank you. - Ned Noel, volunteer editor.

170: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 6238 3178 email alicescott@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 | Rhonda&Neville Parnell | Denley Dr (Birchmans to 1/2 way to end) | 26 |
| 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 |
| 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 | | | |

114: 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) | 33 | Attila & Cherry Hrgsi. | Snowgum Road | 27 |

TOTAL 1,299





Lesley Cloake
Senior Property Manager



Mary Anne Fletcher
Property Manager

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Councillor's Corner

Council Amalgamations — While it might be disappointing to many of us, it probably came as little surprise to most. At 12.10 pm on Thursday 12 May, with the metaphorical stroke of a pen, Palerang and Queanbeyan City Councils ceased to exist and the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council was born.

As has been the case throughout the local government reform process, details of the structure of this and the other new Councils that were announced at the time are a little sketchy. What we do know at this point is that the new organisation will be run by an Administrator until Council elections are held on 9 September 2017. The Administrator, the Mayor of the former Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) Tim Overall, will hold the functions of an elected Council and Mayor during that period—business as usual, we're told, there'll just be a single person rather than an elected body of nine or ten with the authority to make decisions.

The operational side of the new organisation will be run by an interim General Manager (GM), the GM of the former QCC Peter Tegart with the GM of the former Palerang Council, Peter Bascomb as his deputy.

The new Council, when elected, will comprise 11 councillors in a single area electorate (no wards) and the Mayor of the new Council, for the first term at least, will be elected by councillors from within their number, as was the case in the former Palerang Council.

Codes, plans, strategies and policies will be, as far as practicable, a composite of those of the former councils. The PLEP will remain in force for the area of the former Palerang Council until a new LEP is prepared by the new Council. Given that both of the current Palerang and Queanbeyan LEPs are based on the Standard Instrument, this should be more straightforward than our recent exercise, but it could still take several years. Development Control Plans and contributions plans will remain in force for the relevant areas until repealed or amended by the new Council.

For the most part, operations should continue uninterrupted. Works will continue to be carried out as they have been, services will continue to be delivered as they have been, and DAs will continue to be processed as they have been. The same staff members will generally be dealing with the same matters as they were prior to the merger. The rating structure and rating categories for land will remain as they were prior to the amalgamation until reviewed following the first election of the new Council. The only real change you should see in the short term is in the letterhead of correspondence.

It is understood that the Administrator will establish an Implementation Advisory Group, comprising members of the former Councils, to provide consolidated advice for the new LGA's Implementation Plan.

Local Representation Committees, one for each of the former Council areas, will also be established by the Administrator to support the implementation of the new Council structure. These committees, which may also include members of the former Councils, will provide advice on local views and issues.

Further details on any other changes will be provided as they become available.

For the remainder of 2016, Council's Ordinary Meetings will alternate between Queanbeyan and Bungendore. Meetings will commence at 5.30pm on the second Wednesday of the month in Queanbeyan and on the fourth Wednesday of the month in Bungendore, with the location of the December meeting(s) to be decided. There has also been a commitment to hold at least two meetings in Braidwood, although which of the scheduled meetings these would replace has not yet been decided. Business Papers for meetings will continue to be made available on Council's website on the Friday preceding the relevant meeting. Members of the public are welcome at all Council meetings.

I'm not sure how easy it will be for me to continue to provide the sort of information I have been providing in the past without direct access to the council organisation, but we'll see how we go and I will endeavour to offer what insights I can.

The Palerang Blog—New or related entries in my website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) include:
The Only Constant is Change... (May 2016) Local Government Reform (Apr 2013, with updates to Jan 2016)

-- Pete Harrison, Email: contact@peteharrison.id.au

Joyful in June
the market @ bungendore
Sunday June 19
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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

We need a good rainy day every so often to catch up with those inside jobs that get forgotten when the sun shines. This autumn, except for the occasional days of westerly gales that chilled to the bone, has been perfect. The warm sunny days have acted like a magnet, drawing you outside and into the garden. After a weekend trip to the Japanese Gardens in Cowra we came home, inspired, and created our own “Wamboin Japanese Garden”; a little short on cultural artistry but long on pragmatism.....a celebration of nandinas, diosmas and junipers!

Many ornamentals are now bare, unable to hold onto their colours for long against the wind, and are dark, twisted and twiggy. But there are still clumps of colour. There are pretty viburnums with their russet cloaks, the oak leafed hydrangea that limped through summer is now dark red leafed and the many nandinas that I planted in bare spots over the years, before the “WJG” rush of blood to the head, are a splash of cheerful red amongst golden diosmas. There’s growing greyness, but there are also patches of new green, and a definite feeling that winter has arrived.

We were at the second last Wamboin Market for the season last Saturday, and as usual I came home with heavy bags and a light wallet. There were crisp new season’s apples, spuds and smoked trout. I picked up a few handmade cards, some excellent garlic with a story thrown in for good measure, neither of which was sourced from China or Mexico, a few bottles of jam, pies for lunch and my usual quota of native plants to keep the wild life happy. And on top of that I had a great “catch up” with fellow locals over a good cup of coffee. One of the topics that came up was the demise of Palerang Council, but even sadder was the discussion about the demise of civility and good manners in society, today. With the growth of the electronic community, where, with complete anonymity, you can chatter and say whatever comes into your mind at that instant, there is also the opportunity for that chatter to sink to the depths of slander, ridicule or abuse meted out to an unsuspecting individual with no ownership of or responsibility for what is said. What has happened to reasoned debate, considered opinion and acceptance of divergent ideas? In our peaceful, ordered society where we have so much, some of us seem to feel we have the right to be downright rude and abusive!

I am not a dinosaur, but I worry about how the hidden, anonymous electronic community is stealthily reshaping our society. I value real community, face to face contact where you see and hear each other, own up to your opinions and respect those of others.

The last market for the season is this month, but I look forward to their return after the winter break. You might come home from the next market with your bags full of produce, or you might just come home with that warm feeling having engaged with real people in your communityI wouldn’t live anywhere else.

PS: Thanks Jo for your Nature Notes....poor March Fly...what a short, brutal life. SWAT!

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