



April 2017 CIRCULATION: 1,314

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

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association which started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981 and continues to own it. The newsletter comes out at the start of each month, except January. It is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin, Bywong and of Palarang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. On contentious matters the Community Association will strive to maintain a balance. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the deadline for the May 2017 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, April 30. 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	: Peter Evans, Acting President	6236 9779	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community	Anne Goonan, President		president@bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade	Matt O'Brien, Captain	0409 991 340	captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.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-urgnt 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	Stacey Burgess, Club Secretary	0414 672 979	wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Cameron Smith, contact	0419 449 747	
Wamboin Play Group	Linda Uzubalis, Convener	0410 294 420	Linda.uzubalis@gmail.com
Bywong Hall Bookings	Ann Sloan, contact		Irrhallbywong@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

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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 Whitney	Pet & home sitting, odd jobs	0437460236
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	Alex Lea	petsitting	6236 9657 or 0439 219 865
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27th March 2017

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Sutton Real Estate constantly went the extra mile; they are extremely knowledgeable, professional and always kept us informed throughout the entire sales process. We could not have been more impressed and would highly recommend Sutton Real Estate to anyone.

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Thank you once again,

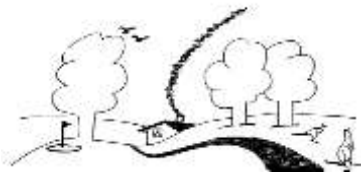
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Wamboin Community Association Acting President's Paragraphs



“The Rains are here but the phone and internet are not”

So every month I have a ponder about what to write for my monthly paragraph. This month Telstra gave me the answer after our recent burst of rains (not complaining about the rains). Yes the internet and phone lines are out again. So onto Telstra in some foreign land to lodge a fault via my mobile. Why is it every time I call they are experiencing a higher than usual call wait time and I am placed in a queue. 20min later my phone loses reception so back to the front of the queue. 30mins later my phone battery dies (I am standing on the veranda) so back to the front of the queue. 30mins later again with phone on charger and extension cord I am finally answered. Yes I know the drill by now, I'll just test your line etc and I pass you onto a senior technician. Same deal retesting the line and finally yes you have a fault (no kidding Sherlock that's why I am ringing on my mobile). So then comes the wait for the week or two (hopefully not longer) until someone decides to come out to our “remote” area. I know a number of the neighbours phone and internet are also out, so hopefully the multiple faults will lure on of Telstra's contract technician's out to the bush. This all got me thinking about the new NBN satellite service and when the inevitable time comes that the poor old Telstra copper service gives up the ghost. To me the poor customer service of waiting in a queue, a foreign call centre and the frequent faults is certainly making me entertain the idea of another provider via satellite. Yes back to the real point, the rains were great.

Fire Season – as outlined further in this Whisper please note the fire season has been extended the end of April.

Changes at the Hall – as per Council's Stronger Communities Fund funding we have some exciting technological upgrades happening at the hall. Stay tuned for the opening night. Jake, Elwood and the Good Old Boys may be making an appearance.

Wamboin Social Drop-In Group – the drop in group is now running 10 am – 12 noon every Thursday. Drop into the Wamboin Community Hall for a morning tea and activities. Everyone is welcome.

Wheels of Wamboin – The popular Wheels of Wamboin is on again but due to the Easter clash it has been moved to May 20th 2017.

Next WCA Meeting and AGM- Don't forget that the AGM will be held on Tuesday April 18th at 7.30pm. New members are keenly sought to lower our average age. Just remember all those great community events like the fireworks, the markets, Wheels of Wamboin, Christmas Carols do not happen by divine intervention and a bolt of lightning. They are due to the hard work of WCA and its community members. If you want these events to continue make the effort and help out the WCA. It's only one evening a month for a couple hours. Get some community into your life.

Let's make Wamboin great! - **Peter Evans - Acting President.**



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	<p>Bywong Community News www.bywongcommunity.org.au</p> <p>Anne Goonan, President</p>	
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The sun shone on the Bywong Community’s twentieth Annual Car Boot Sale on Sunday 26th March. Once again the grounds of the Les Reardon Reserve buzzed with locals and visitors looking for bargains or simply enjoying the atmosphere. The Bendigo Bank canopy set up in the drizzle on Saturday now provided shade not shelter! In the bright sunshine, over eighty sellers set up their stalls brimming with things old and new, wearable, edible, usable and ‘plantable’....and the buyers followed!

What makes a Car Boot sale? A key coordinator (thank you Mike!), busy committee members like Merle, Jeanette, Jean-Pierre, Geoff and Felicity, and active local groups like the Geary’s Gap Pony Club, Landcare, Wildcare, Bungendore Scouts and the Wamboin RFS. The ‘parking paddocks’ are available through the generosity of the Woods and Boughton families....not sure what we’d do without them over the years! Special thanks to the Wamboin “Firies” who, every year, have managed the parking and gates for this event.

Where would be without our generous donors? Thank you too Bungendore Rural Services, Bungendore Vet Surgery, Casino Canberra, Contentious Character Winery, Geary’s Gap Pony Club, Hemaridis family, Krafters, Lark Hill Winery, O’Sullivan’s Waste, Plus500 Brumbies, Bean!Roasters, Royal Hotel, Bungendore and The Baker at Sutton, Attila the horticulturist and Bungendore Foodlovers.

This year saw our first silent auction and our usual monster raffle – with twenty great prizes shared over the lucky winners. Another first was the appearance of guest personalities – and two of the Brumbies players answered Jeanette’s incisive questions to the amusement of the crowd - topped off with a stirring rendition of Johnny Cash’s “Ring of Fire”. Not possible of course without sound - and again, a special ‘thank you’ to Rick Magus (Rick’s PA Hire) who travelled from Hoskinstown, to setup his speakers and provide a roving microphone.

A big attraction at the Community stall were the collectable tea towels featuring Jean-Pierre Favre’s drawings of historical and significant buildings of Bungendore, Braidwood and Queanbeyan. Proceeds from their sales will go to the playground being built at the Reserve, as well as community needs including the Carwoola Bushfire Appeal.

For twenty years now Bywong Community Inc has provided a venue for locals to come together- to meet and greet – to empty their cupboards, sheds and refill them with something different! This event has grown from humble beginnings – a circle of ten to fifteen cars. While there is obvious value in the increasing level of bought and sold - but there is tacit value that is just as important in our technological world - the coming together of our community in a physical way. Seeing old friends and acquaintances, meeting new and old neighbours, catching up on family histories – reconnecting and strengthening the connections face to face – connections that make us a community. Building a community doesn’t happen on its own, it takes involvement from community members - so to all those who came to buy and sell or simply look - thank you for making this community event so positive! Let’s meet again next year- and bring a friend!

Next meeting is Monday 10 April 7:30pm at the Hall



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Wamboin Pony Club March 2017

Two rally days for March saw a great turnout of riders at Wamboin Pony Club. The weather is staying warm and we still have new members joining our club. We now have a great mix of riders of all ages and the newer members are all starting to get to know each other. During our past two rally days some time has been spent introducing the newer members of our club to the various mounted games that teams will compete in during our upcoming club event. Mounted games are games of skill played in teams that test both horse and riders abilities. One of the trickier games riders practiced this past rally day was the balloon race. Riders and horse ride up to balloons secured on the ground carrying a stick that has a point on it. As they pass the balloons they have to pop one - this really tests both rider and horse because as you might expect some horses don't react well to the noise of a popping balloon. Our new Wamboin riders took it slow and steady and some horses were good and some not so great when that balloon was popped..... a bit more practice and riders will be ready for competition ! April is here and it's going to be time to head to Zone 16 Camp at Bungendore Showground in the first week of the school holidays. 240 odd riders will spend a week doing some intensive riding and learning new skills, reports in the next Whisper. So remember your local Wamboin Pony Club has horse riders aged from 5 – 25 and we have a group of dedicated and experienced instructors. Our Pony Club ground at the end of Canning Close has fenced arenas and clubhouse facilities that we have built up over the years to create a safe riding environment. You just need access to your own horse and can even come along and try for a day to see what goes on. Rally days are a great social day out. Wamboin Pony club usually meet twice a month on Sunday's at our grounds from 9am gear check to 1pm. If you would like more information about Wamboin Pony Club and our upcoming rally days email our Secretary Stacey at wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com check our website www.wamboinponyclub.org.au and find us on Facebook. We hope we will see you soon. - **Steve Quick**



Sutton Landcare Group - Seeds Of Time

Sutton Landcare Group will next meet at 7:30pm on Tuesday 11 April 2017 at Sutton Public School. We will screen a movie-length DVD called "Seeds of Time". It chronicles the campaign by world famous agriculturist Cary Fowler to raise global awareness of the need to change agricultural practices (particularly on seed management) to mitigate the effects of climate change. He was a key player in the establishment of the "doomsday" global seed vault on the island of Svalbard in Norway. After the movie there will be a short discussion, followed by supper. Everyone is welcome. Further details on Sutton Landcare Group may be found on our website or by contacting our secretary (Marchien Van Oostende on 6273 6295).
- by Alan McNeill

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Wamboin - Bywong Market Update October - December 2016

Introduction

This report has been compiled using data sourced from allhomes.com.au and EAC redsquare.com.au which link into NSW Land and Property Information Services. The analysis and report has been prepared by Daniel Gilbert, a licensed NSW real estate agent who holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the ANU, with combined majors in mathematics & statistics. He is a current working principal of Gilbert Real Estate and has over 20 years hands on experience.

Scope Of The Report

Our previously prepared Wamboin - Bywong market report summarised the entire 2016 calendar year sales activity. This data was then compared with activity over the 2014 & 2015 calendar years to identify market trends and movements over the 3 year period. The report showed a definite upward shift in market values over the three year period, with an average sale price for the 2016 year of \$980,000.

This report (and future reports) will analyse market activity on a quarterly basis, which will provide more timely information to identify movements and trends in the market. This report covers sales activity over the October - December 2016 quarter (DEC Qtr).

Analysis

Sales activity over the DEC Qtr consisted of 10 sales. Sale prices ranged from \$850,000 - \$1,310,000, with the average sales price just over 1 million dollars (\$1,005,000).

The following bar chart shows the spread and number of sales within each price sector. We can see that 6 of the 10 sales (60%) were under \$1M, whilst the remaining 40% were over \$1M. This is fairly consistent with the annual 2016 figures of 65% of sales under \$1M, and 35% over \$1M, and if anything, shows a very minor increase in sale prices toward the end of the year.

This increase may just due to minor fluctuations and the small population size, so a more accurate picture of market performance and trends will emerge over the coming quarters.



What is interesting to note, is that in 2014, just 14% of sales were over \$1M, in 2015 this figure had jumped to 22%, then reached 35% in 2016.

Summary

2016 has shown to be a strong market for the region, backed by a very strong Canberra market, favorable economic conditions, continuation of record low interest rates and lifestyle benefits. The start to 2017 has seen continued strong enquiry, with several properties in the region under offer in the past few weeks. This trend looks like it will continue as we head into Autumn 2017.

Disclaimer

This report has been compiled from sources that we deem to be reliable and accurate. However we make no guarantees as to its accuracy and parties should rely on their own enquiries. Sales used are exchanged sales for the period, and do not include inter-party related transactions, commercial property, development or sub-division sites or vacant land sales.

Market Appraisal

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Wamboin Home Produce And Craft Market

Next Market – Easter Saturday 15 April 2017

Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 02 62383309 lmsconsulting@bigpond.com.

The March market was buzzing up to 11am and then went very quiet! Lots of autumn fruit for sale. Annie's Collectables brought along samples of their wonderful collection for people to buy and we seem to be attracting some young Wamboin people who are raising money for various school trips. Great idea – any more of you out there who would like to sell local produce or craft to fund raise for those very expensive school trips? You would be most welcome. Give us a call.

Poetry in Motion played for us and are now pretty busy until September when they will return to the markets. Any other buskers out there??

The main feature of the Easter market (apart from the wonderful produce and craft of course) will be the grand **HAT PARADE**. See below.

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WCA Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 18 April 2017

The WCA's 2017 AGM will be held in the Wamboin Community Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 18 April 2017. The main business of the meeting will be the election of a new Committee for 2017-2018.

Nominations for the election of Committee members should be made in writing, signed by two Association members, and contain the candidate's written consent.

A person nominated as a candidate for election as an office-bearer (other than the president or vice-president) or as another committee member, must have been a member of the Association for at least one year. A person nominated as a candidate for election as president or vice-president must have been a member of the Association for at least two years which should include at least one year as an office bearer or as another committee member.

Nomination forms can be obtained from me or downloaded from the back of the WCA Constitution on the WCA's website. The Committee is keen to have some new members, so please consider nominating as an office-bearer or as an ordinary Committee member. The WCA and the events it has promoted have been very well managed for many years, and the Committee would benefit greatly from some new members to help maintain this momentum.

Should any member have any business to be dealt with at the AGM, please advise me more than 14 days before then, or more than 21 days before if it is about a change to the Association's constitution.

Agenda Opening and Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies for non-attendance, Adoption of the minutes of the 2016 AGM, Presentation of the President's report, Adoption of the President's report, Presentation of the annual statement of accounts, Adoption of the annual statement of accounts, Presentation and adoption of other reports, Election of the office-bearers of the Association (the president, one or two vice-presidents, the treasurer & the secretary) and at least three other committee members, Other matters for which notice has been given, Close of meeting. - David McDonald, WCA Secretary, Email secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au, tel: 0416 231 890/6238 3706



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Wamboin Community Association (WCA) General Meeting - Summary

Date of Meeting: Tuesday 21 March 2017 Meeting Chaired by: Peter Evans, Acting President, WCA

The March meeting of the WCA highlighted the many activities and projects being undertaken by the WCA Committee, the broader WCA membership and other community-based groups active in Wamboin. All these people volunteer their time and skills to improve the facilities and services available to the entire community with a view to enhancing community spirit and every resident's enjoyment of our rural-residential lifestyle.

General outline of topics discussed:

- Attendees heard brief reports from members of the WCA Committee including Acting President and Vice President Peter Evans who reminded attendees that the WCA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is 18th April. Nominations for Committee positions from WCA members of at least one year's standing need to be received by the Secretary 7 days before the AGM. Later in the meeting Peter confirmed all is on track for the annual Wheels of Wamboin event on Saturday May 18th from 9am-1pm. Additionally, as a member of the Council's s.355 Greenways Committee, he reported on the current Master Planning exercise with the objective of ensuring opportunities for Greenway connections and expansion are available to the community in future via local planning instruments.
- Secretary David McDonald confirmed that scheduled maintenance of the Wamboin Hall's defibrillator was underway. Among other correspondence, a \$1000 donation had been sent to the Carwoola Community Association President to support that community's fire recovery. Assistant Secretary Jenny Warren said that Wildcare snake handler Wayne Alford would be guest speaker at the September Spring Talk with invitations to speakers for October and November underway, and she explained the plans for the installation of audio/visual equipment in the Hall, a new capability funded by Council's Stronger Communities Fund.
- Treasurer Keith France presented the WCA's Annual Statement noting the sound financial position of the Association. He specifically acknowledged the contribution of the Wamboin Whisper's advertising revenue.
- Editor of the Whisper Ned Noel thanked everyone who had taken the time to write something for or deliver the Whisper, acknowledging the time and effort such contributors invest to make the Whisper interesting and available to all local residents.
- Committee member and co-convenor of the Wamboin Home Produce Market, Lance Schultz reported that the March market saw a full complement of 21 stallholders including a number of young residents on a range of fund raising stalls. Customer numbers were up and everyone enjoyed the music provided by local group Poetry in Motion. A number of WCA members are also long-term members and volunteers of multiple local community groups, for example:
 - Lofty Mason:
 - Wearing his WCA member hat, Lofty reported that Clean-Up Australia Day had successfully removed 2.5 x 1 tonne ute loads of rubbish from our roads, though he said that the volunteer turnout from Wamboin this year was disappointing.
 - As a member of the Wamboin Hall s.355 Committee, Lofty reported that new carpeting had been installed at both Hall entrances and that the recovering of the stage was well underway.
 - Peter Greenwood:
 - As Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade President, Peter was pleased to report no fires or call outs of any kind since the last meeting, until a two vehicle crash earlier today on Macs Reef Road. The Brigade received two Thank You letters from the owners of properties protected by the Wamboin Brigade during the recent Carwoola fire.
 - As a Golfer, Peter asked for confirmation that the WCA would be the sponsor of the Mini Masters event in April, and this request was confirmed by WCA Acting President, Peter Evans.

The WCA meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except January) at 7:30pm at the Wamboin Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. Next General Meeting, incorporating the Annual General Meeting: Tuesday 18th April. All welcome.

-- Jenny Warren, Assistant Secretary, Wamboin Community Association



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'Clean Up Wamboin' Day

The 2017 Clean Up Day resulted in 32 volunteers cleaning up 48K of Wamboin roadsides. Of these volunteers, eleven were from the Joe Rocks/Mountain Road Group. That means only 21 volunteers (6 who operated on the previous Friday and Saturday) were from the rest of Wamboin, which is a bit disappointing. All rubbish was taken to Council's Bungendore transfer station. We thank Council for providing free tip facilities. Council loaned 4 signs and 10 hi-viz jackets and also provided funds for drinks, nibbles and sunscreen.

We collected: a considerable number of car parts and tyres; many blocks of package Styrofoam; some old fencing and chairs. Other than these, the normal bottles, cans, food wraps and general waste made up the 3 one-tonner loads. The final result was less than half of Wamboin roads were cleared. Looking to next year, if we get together as a community, maybe we can clean up all the local roadways and make Wamboin a place we are proud to live in.
Lofty Mason. (Wamboin CUA Coordinator)

<p>CARWOOLA PEST CONTROL Providing general pest control services, Pest & termite inspections/treatments And pre-purchase inspections. We are located in Carwoola and service the ACT and Palerang region. We are licensed, experienced and ready to rid you of your unwanted pests.</p>		<p>For further information Contact Pete on 0458053444 Website: www.carwoolapestcontrol.com.au Email: info@carwoolapestcontrol.com.au Licence No's NSW: 5077997 ACT: EA1066</p>
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Already it's April

the market @ bungendore

Sunday April 16th 9am - 2pm
at the War Memorial Hall

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

jewellery

giftware

collectables

local art & craft

garden products

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tea & fresh coffee

soaps & lotions



textiles

preserves

hand knits

candles

cookies

mosaics

homewares

greeting cards

beads & findings

pottery & ceramics

local grown plants

prints & paintings

hats and fascinators

clothing & footwear

Wheels of Wamboin Saturday 20th May 2017 - 9.00am to 1.00pm - Wamboin Hall - Bingley Way



2017 celebrates 75 years of the Jeep. The first prototype military Jeep was actually developed by Bantam, pictured at right. Designed in 18 hours by Karl Probst, a freelance auto designer from Detroit, the 1,840-pound Bantam exceeded the Army's expectations during initial testing in September 1940. The War Department, however, had concerns about Bantam's ability to meet the military's production volumes and invited Willys-Overland and Ford to bid on the reconnaissance vehicle contract, this time using Probst's design as a guidepost and allowing engineers from the two automakers to inspect and measure the Bantam. Each automaker crafted a slightly different version with different advantages. The contract was eventually awarded to Willys-Overland. A second production contract for the same design later was awarded to Ford to meet demand. More than 637,000 Jeeps were built by Willys and Ford during World War II, while poor old Bantam was awarded a contract to build quarter-ton trailers that were pulled behind the Jeep.

A vehicle forged in the needs of war that grew into one of the world's most recognized brands, automotive or otherwise. The single-piece, stamped slotted grille with round headlights that Jeep also uses as a logo. On a cold still night you can hear the voices of those poor deluded Jeep owners yell across the Wamboin valleys "I bought a jeep". – Peter Evans

Rainfall And Temperatures In Wamboin – 43 year statistics from Cooper Road

by David and Robyn Robertson until 2017, since by Christine Rieber, with help from her husband and their son

<p>March rainfall to 27/3... 77mm (average March... 58.8mm) (2016 to 31/3... 181.5mm) (April 2016...14mm) Wettest April day... 70mm on 19/4/84 Hottest April day... 31C on 6/4/16 Coldest April night... 0C x 4 times</p>	<p>(March 2016... 22mm) 2017 to 27/3... 112.75mm Average April rainfall... 46.6mm Wettest April... 174.5 in 1989 Driest April... 5mm in 1997 Coldest April day... 8C on 27/4/12 and 22/4/15</p>
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The Fire Season has ended

Despite earlier reports to the contrary, the NSW Rural Fire Service has now advised that due to recent rain, the 2016/17 Fire Season ended on 31 March.

This means that you may light fires but please remember, you must advise the Queanbeyan Office of the Rural Fire Service of your intentions and also notify your immediate neighbours.

Queanbeyan Fire Control Centre ph 6128 0600 or queanbeyan.fcc@rfs.nsw.gov.au

Seasonal Outlook

According to the RFS and the Bureau of Meteorology:

- Autumn (March to May) rainfall is likely to be below average over the southern two-thirds of Australia.
- Warmer autumn days and nights are likely across most of Australia, except northwest Australia where days and nights are likely to be cooler than average.
- The drier than average outlooks are likely a result of forecast higher than normal pressure across western and southern Australia, meaning fewer rain-bearing systems are likely to cross the coast.

Brigade Activity

Such a quiet month -----almost.

Following last month, with 8 emergency events, needing 17 tanker call-outs involving 70 crew, this month we had one motor vehicle accident on Macs Reef Rd on March 21st. Let's keep it quiet!

The Brigade also put in a mighty effort at the Bywong Car Boot Sale parking visitors' cars, seller's cars and trailers plus running the BBQ.

Are You Looking For Funding For Your Community Group?

Are you from one of the following?

- o Sporting Groups
- o Rural Fire Brigades
- o Service Clubs
- o Schools
- o Preschools
- o Progress Associations
- o Community Health Services
- o Churches
- o Charities
- o Any other non-for-profit organisation which complies with the Veolia Mulwara Trust guidelines?

Are you located in one of these local government areas?

- o Goulburn Mulwaree
- o Upper Lachlan
- o Oberon
- o Former Palerang
- o Wingecarribee
- o Wollondilly
- o Shoalhaven

Grant and Donation Funding

The Veolia Mulwara Trust runs three funding rounds per year and has provided over \$8.5 million in funding since 2005 to support projects for the benefit of the local community and for charitable purposes.

Further information about the Community Grant and Donation Program including dates, guidelines and application forms can be found at www.mulwareetrust.org.au



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Community Engagement

Watch out for our community education team at the Wamboin Community hall on market days.

Maybe you would like to invite a member of the Brigade's Community Education Team to visit your property to discuss your preparations and any improvements they might suggest to protect you and your family and your property against the threat of bush fire.

Are you receiving alerts on your mobile phone for local fires and are you keeping up to date on fires using applications such as Fires Near Me or via the local ABC Radio Canberra 666. Maybe you are checking on local weather conditions utilising the Wamboin Fire Brigade weather station. www.wamboincommunity.asn.au/weather

Useful Links and Contact Information

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

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

Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade

<http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

Wamboin Brigade Captain

captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au or 0409 991 340

<p>SZT RURAL SERVICES</p>  <p>Contact Sean: P: 0433 702 308 E: sztrural@yahoo.com.au</p>	<p><i>SZT Rural is a small, locally owned business in the Carwoola area. We offer a range of services for small and large property owners including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spot Spraying – Twin 100m remote reels with 1000l tank with up to 2 qualified operators.• Boom Spraying – BM Boom with GPS and rate controller on a Toyota Landcruiser.• All types of Fencing – construction, repairs and electric fence maintenance.• Tree Service – Firewood preparation, log splitting & mulching.• Machinery – Paddock clearing, rock removal, slashing, spreading, driveway maintenance, erosion & fire hazard reduction. <p><i>Please call to arrange a free quote and to discuss the best solution for your needs.</i></p>
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How the Whisper Gets Delivered Each Month

Many thanks to Penny and Don Evans who have for around a decade delivered Whispers to residents of Norton Road between Campbell Rd and Bingley Rd. They are moving to another area. Over the years they have both made many other volunteer contributions to the area, including some years when Penny helped maintain the recycling area at the hall and a number of Whisper articles where Don set down stories about Wamboin's earlier years.

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	Christine Rieber	Cooper Rd	26
Cheryl and David Steele	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 (Weeroona 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			

263: 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	32
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6	Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	44
Misc		1			

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

Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	70	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Glen Dorahy	Sutton Park Estate	53	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	20
Ian Coillet	Grove Road	7			

160: CO-ORDINATED BY DAVID FEATHERSTONE ph 6236 97223 bushranger_au@hotmail.com

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

153: CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 6238 3484

Diana Griffin	Majors Close	18	Judy Smith	Weeroona (254 - 400)	18
Advertisers & Misc	(Out of area mailouts)	34	Susie and Brad Edwards	Weeroona (417-512)	18
Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	Snowgum Road	27	Murray Goodridge	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	38

TOTAL 1,314

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Wildcare training. Wildcare orientation & rescue course, Sun 2 Apr, 9 am to 4 pm, at the Letchworth Community Centre, 28 Miller St, Queanbeyan. New members welcome. For details - contact Vicki, Tel. 0437891930
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The Whisper is one of the many ways we help each other get along in Wamboin and Bywong. Can you add anything to the upcoming April issue? Deadline is this Sunday night, 7:00 pm, March 26. Email to whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or nednoel@optusnet.com.au
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:- 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
FOR HIRE: - WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason, 62 383 258. Please note: Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st birthday functions.

**The Dual Sport Motorcycle Riders Association ACT Branch (DSMRA)
would like to notify all residents in the Wamboin area that**

**Kowen Forest will be CLOSED to the public between
5pm Friday 7th April 2017 to 12:00 midnight Sunday 9th April 2017.**

This closure does *not* apply to the areas known as Sparrow Hill, Orchard Block or the car park recreation area at the bottom of Molonglo Gorge. The forest will be closed for a non-competitive motorcycling event - the DSMRA's Kowen Forest Ride 2017. This ride is organised as an annual membership drive for our association. It also supports the men's charity R U Okay.



Event Information: All bikes are registered and each rider must have a valid motorcycle licence. All riders are required to comply with the 40km/h speed limit and will not enter the motorsport exclusion zone, particularly the area adjacent to the northern boundary of the forest on "Wamboin Break".

The section of Seven Mile Road adjacent to Wamboin will not be used as a transport section for DSMRA riders, however we have been advised current forestry operations will continue in that area. Preparations for the DSMRA event will commence from 10:30am Friday 7 April 2017. Riders who have travelled from interstate and intend to camp (at the old Depot site), and suppliers delivering event infra-structure, will start to arrive from this time. Notices will be put up before the event advising of the forest closure. "FOREST CLOSED" signs will be deployed at more than 80 locations around the forest perimeter.

As Kowen Forest is declared closed by TAMS, the DSMRA advises residents, walkers, runners, hikers, horse riders, bicycle riders and any other recreational forest users, not to enter the forest during the closure. Entering the forest during the closure may endanger you, domestic animals, and the DSMRA riders.

As this is not a spectator event there will be **NO PUBLIC ACCESS** via Seven Mile Road, Kowen Rd (the main gate), Millpost Lane (at either the seismic station gates or the sheep boundary gate), Charcoal Kiln Rd, or any other entry point, for the specified closure period. The forest will be re-opened to the public from Monday morning after the event.

Please be aware there will be increased traffic on Kowen Rd and areas around the Depot site for preparation on the days before and the tidy up after the event. Further event information available on www.dsmra.asn.au If you have any questions, please contact the DSMRA Duty Officer by telephone 0490 456 041 or by email: secretary@dsmra.asn.au



St Andrews, Wamboin and St Peters, Sutton (SRMD) Church Notices

For as long as most of us can remember, Robyn Robertson has been an integral part of the Wamboin Community particularly with her long and deep association firstly with St Peters, Sutton and later with the establishment and growth of St Andrews Church, Wamboin. Sadly, Robyn has said farewell to her beautiful home and gardens in Cooper Road, and moved to Queanbeyan, but her commitment to Wamboin remains intact and she will continue to be part of and work for our community. Last Monday several members of the SRMD congregation were up at the crack of dawn to help prepare 131 gourmet breakfasts in the Sutton Community hall for members of the Rolls Royce Club. This was a fund raiser for St Peters' community hall project. Our thanks to the SDCA and Sutton RFS members for their contribution towards making this such a successful event.

The SRMD will again have a stall at the Sutton School Country Fair on 1st April where children can paint a pot and fill it with a plant. All proceeds are donated to Sutton School.


There will be three Easter services at St Peters on Thursday, April 6th, for the children at Sutton School; 9.30am for years 5/6, 10.15am for years 3/4 and 11am for K/1/2. The children have been practising Easter songs and will participate in the services. Each child will leave the church with a hot cross bun and some idea of the significance of this tradition. Kids Club, at St Andrews, will be in recess for the NSW school holidays.

At the conclusion of Lenten studies, there will be a Passover dinner at St Andrews from 6pm on Thursday, 13th April. Even if you have been unable to participate in the Lenten studies you are most welcome to join us for dinner. Easter services will be on Good Friday, 14th, at St Peters and Easter Sunday, 16th April, at St Andrews. Both services start at 9am.

The clergy and congregations are very pleased to welcome Yvonne Barrett as our new lay minister, and Dr David McCarthy in his continuing lay minister role.

On 30th April, the fifth Sunday of the month, there will be a combined SRMD/Gundaroo Churches service at 9am at the church next to the Cork St Cafe, Gundaroo. Everyone is welcome.

Services are held on the first and third Sunday of each month at St Andrews, and the second and third Sunday at St Peters. All services start at 9am. Please be assured of a warm welcome and a delicious morning tea afterwards. Contacts: Pastor: Ven Dr. Royce Thompson 0416265600, Dr David McCarthy 0409383620, Gai Donald 0438400364, Alan Rope 0429434944



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Wildcare's Albino Brushtail

Almost everyone can recognise a brushtail possum, all bright eyes, bushy black tail and little pink nose. They are among Australia's most attractive and adaptable animals and are found the length and breadth of the continent, save in the arid interior.

Would you recognise the animal in the accompanying (colour) photo, as a brushtail? Most people would think him a new species or an albino brushtail, but he is your genuine neighbourhood brushtail who thumps over your roof at night and breathes so loudly and lasciviously he could be the caller Telstra warns you against and advises immediate hanging up. He just happens to be a golden version of the brushtail you see after dark. His lovely colour (which ranges from gold cream to bronze gold) is the result of a genetic mutation occasionally seen south of Sydney (never north) and most commonly in Tasmania. It is not a case of albinism, which is caused by a lack of pigmentation. These brushtails do not have the identifying red eyes and limited sight of the albino. They have the same bright blackberry eyes and pink noses as their grey brothers. They reproduce annually and their offspring may or may not carry the golden gene. In the Southern Tablelands and on The Monaro there have been random sightings of golden brushtails. Wildcare actually had the pleasure of rehabilitating a handsome young golden male in 2016. The gene therefore exists in the local population so, should you see a grey mother carrying a golden back-baby, you need not worry.

He is a perfectly healthy youngster who will grow to live a normal brushtail life. He will sleep in a tree hollow all day and dine on moths (like all possums, he luuurves bogongs), bottlebrushes, all varieties of wattle, correa, lillipilli, hakea and every kind of flowering eucalypt, as well as the new tips of all of gums, every evening. Sadly, his very obvious golden colour makes him more susceptible to predators, so his life is generally shorter than that of the usual grey brushtail. However, we can minimise the risk to this beautiful animal by keeping cats indoors at night, locking in our chooks to deter roaming foxes and ensuring our dogs are leashed to kennels overnight.

To make your property possum friendly, put a possum box in a tree near your house, plant lots of flowering native plants and accept that a certain percentage of your figs, stone fruits, apples and pears are a small price to pay for the pleasure of watching possums play in the evening. You might even be lucky enough to see a mother with a golden baby! Contact Wildcare On 6299 1966 for any wildlife help and advice.

PS. Thank you everyone who have donated to Wildcare's current fundraiser to help cover the cost of saving wildlife after the Mt Fairy, Sutton & Carwoola bushfires. You can still help out by donating to: CBA, Wildcare Queanbeyan Inc account 10216803, BSB: 062-593. Include donor details and email treasurer@wildcare.com.au to get a tax-deductible receipt.

- Jane Baker & Philip Machin, 62383717



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Adam studied vocals at The Canberra Jazz Campus School of Music at Manuka and has been fronting bands and performing solo before, during and after his studies over 4 decades.

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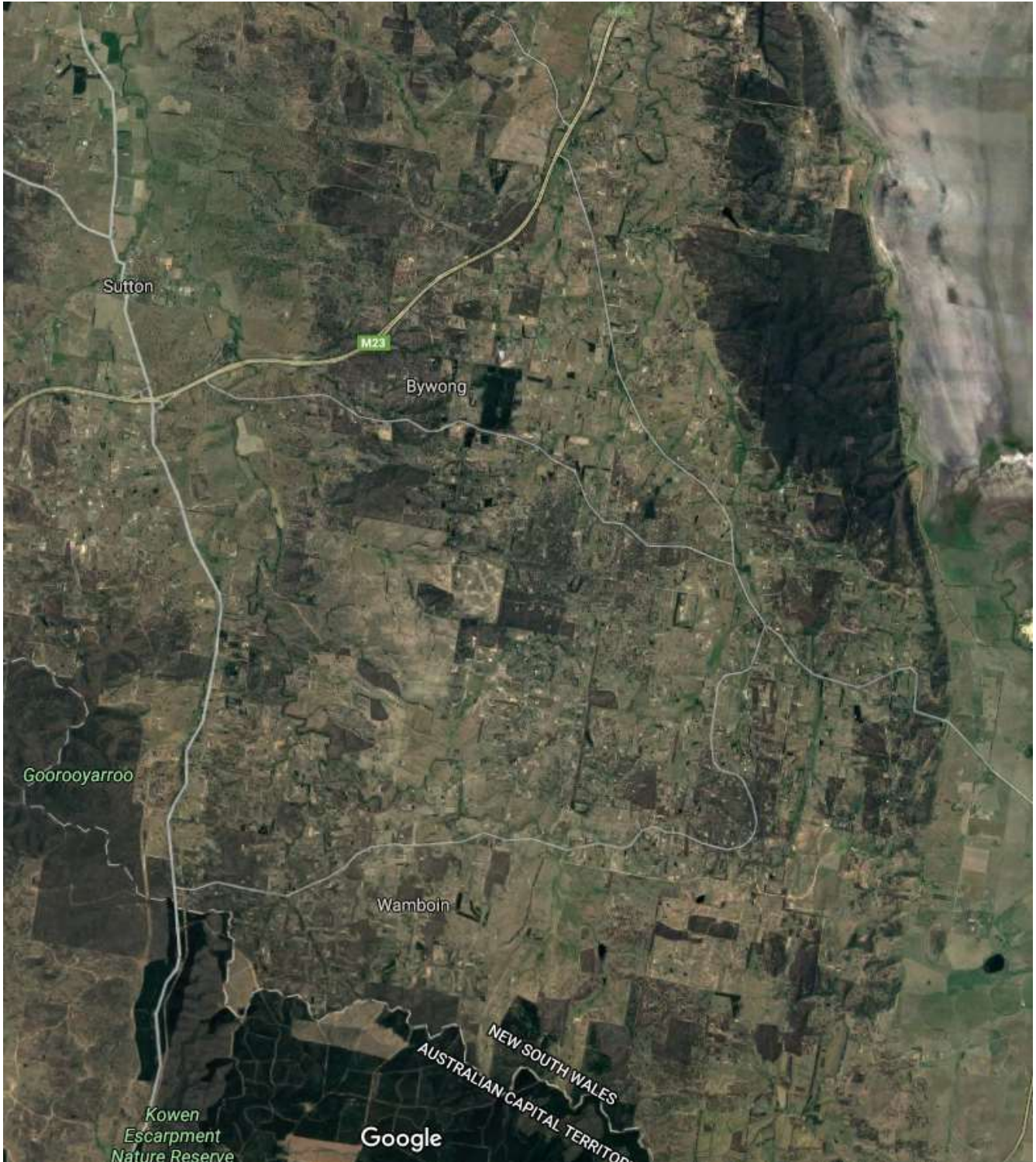
"I prefer to teach students of any age to get moving by learning or writing songs from the moment they begin tuition with me. Generally my student/s are in the studio and recording their work within weeks".

Contact by landline = 0262 383 677

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Bywong and Wamboin from Above Courtesy of Google Earth



Nature Notes March 2017

Jo Walker

After some good falls of rain this month and with temperature still quite high, the grasses have grown quickly and the landscape is beautifully green again.

A few plants are still flowering. Some of the Hickory Wattles (*Acacia implexa*) are still bearing clusters of scented cream flowers. *Cassinia quinquefaria* continues its long flowering season, its greenish yellow flowers giving off a slight honey perfume. The white-flowered Hoary Sunrays (*Leucochrysum albicans*) along Norton Road are producing a second flush of flowers. And the Narrow-leaved New Holland Daisies (*Vittadinia muelleri*) and the Woolly New Holland Daisies (*V. gracilis*) are quite showy this year, bearing a multitude of tiny bright blue flowers. Crimson Rosellas seem to find the seeds of the New Holland Daisies tasty and can often be seen plucking away at the fluffy seed-heads.

Earlier in the year, I found some orchid leaves amongst the scrubby *Kunzea ericoides* shrubs above the dam. They were almost certainly the precursors to the seven Parson's Bands Orchids (*Eriochilus cucullatus*) now flowering there. By the time these dainty little orchids are bearing flowers, their ground-hugging leaves have withered away and disappeared. So far this year, I haven't seen one Little Dumpty Orchid (*Diplodium truncatum*), a species that usually flowers about this time.

There didn't seem to be many butterflies around this summer – or, at least, not a great range of species. Most commonly seen here were Common Browns (*Heteronympha merope*) and Admiral Butterflies (*Vanessa itea*) with a few Painted Ladies (*V. kershawi*) – although, earlier this month, there were a few of the more spectacular Orchard Swallowtails (*Papilio aegeus*) gliding around. These appear as large black butterflies but have white markings on the upper side of their wings, the female's white patches more extensive than the male's. The larvae prefer citrus plants as food.

It seems a bit quieter here now that the Dusky Woodswallows have taken off to somewhere warmer for the winter months. For a week or two earlier in the month, they were collecting here before starting their migration and calling to each other constantly, a rolling, gently musical sound. Some were flying around and others were perched, huddled together, in long groups along the branches of trees at the top of the hill.

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I can't help myself. I wander around the garden, at one with Keats, breathing "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness," but in truth it's as much about frogs, fogs and fungi; fat frogs caught in the torch light while putting the chooks away at night and little see-through frogs on the window pane, out of focus trees and hills smudged damp morning grey, and fungi of all kinds, tiny, fragile, smooth, brown, white and bloated. The days are noticeably shorter but the treasured autumn mornings are blighted by the clowns who insist on keeping the clocks forward. The light is kinder and some leaves are turning yellow and red. There are mists and fogs, as well as frogs and fungi, but "mellow fruitfulness" can be pure fantasy around here!

In early spring I prepared the beds and planted Roma tomato seedlings after the last frosts. I whispered words of encouragement, fed them tasty treats, removed the laterals and staked and supported them. They grew well. It was about then that I noticed several self sown tomato seedlings in amongst the potted petunias that had been planted in compost, alive with worms. I transplanted them into the fenced and netted veggie garden, wished them well and wondered if I'd get Tiny Tims or Black Russians or Grosse Lisse....or maybe nothing. They thrived, outstripping the Romas, the bees buzzed, the fruit set and there were big green tomatoes hanging like swollen grapes just waiting to "mellow". Then I was called away!

For three weeks I kept asking from afar, "Have they ripened yet?" and always there was the same reply. "No." I was puzzled and disappointed. They'd shown such promise.

When I came home the first thing I did was visit the garden. The bushes looked unchanged. A mystery! Then I discovered a half eaten tomato with the first signs of blush, on the ground, and tell tale tunnels between fence and netting. Possums!!

Don't get me wrong, I like possums. One gave me the origin of the old saying, "playing possum" by lying comatose in a bush just off the back steps. It had fallen, dead, from an overhanging tree during the night. We watched its contorted little body all day. There was no movement, not even a twitch; poor little dead creature.

Then, as the light faded it suddenly shook itself back to life, and shot off. It had been playing possum. Doubtless he was the grand daddy of all the thieving critters that have raided my tomato bushes this season!

While I can accept nocturnal possums grunting, groaning and cavorting on the verandah outside my bedroom window, accept their high spirited sport as they roll down the sloping roof, and even their appreciation of my hard won strawberries and cape gooseberries, I have a sense of humour failure when it comes to self sown tomatoes. They were a gift, with all the promise of coming into "mellow fruitfulness." Now there is not even enough for green tomato chutney!

Possums 1 Me 0. But I wouldn't live anywhere else.....especially in Wamboin in a season such as this.

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