



**June 2017 CIRCULATION: 1,313**

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

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association which started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981 and continues to own it. The newsletter comes out at the start of each month, except January. It is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin, Bywong and of 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](mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au) or to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the deadline for the July 2017 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, June 25. Then the new issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the new month and is also available at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au).

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

**Bungendore Police: 6238 1244 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre: 0409 991 340 Ambulance Bookings: 131233**

**LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS**

<b>Wamboin Community Assn</b>	: Peter Evans, Acting President	6236 9779	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
<b>Bywong Community</b>	Anne Goonan, President		president@bywongcommunity.org.au
<b>Fire Brigade</b>	Matt O'Brien, Captain	0409 991 340	captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au
<b>Wamboin Markets</b>	Lance and Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Emma Harriden, Convenor	0448 478 953	ce.harriden@bigpond.com
<b>Landcare</b>	Kathy Handel, Secretary	6238 3596	khandel@bigpond.net.au
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison, Bungendore	6238 1333	
<b>NSW SES</b>	NSW Call Centre	132 500	For assistance in storms and floods
<b>NSW SES Bungendore</b>	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	For non-urgnt assistance and advice
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Peter Greenwood, JP	6238 3358	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Keith France, JP	6238 3596	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Margaret Fletcher, JP	6238 1211	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Jill Sedaitis, JP	6236 9559	
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Stacey Burgess, Club Secretary	0414 672 979	wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com
<b>Geary's Gap Pony Club</b>	Cameron Smith, contact	0419 449 747	
<b>Wamboin Play Group</b>	Linda Uzubalis, Convener	0410 294 420	Linda.uzubalis@gmail.com
<b>Bywong Hall Bookings</b>	Ann Sloan, contact		lrrhallbywong@gmail.com
<b>Wamboin Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	joan.mason@internode.on.net
<b>Church - Anglican</b>	Robyn Robertson, Warden	6238 3202	
<b>KYB Bible Study Group</b>	Yvonne Barrett, contact	6230 3539	
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood, Golfer	6238 3358	p.greenwood2@bigpond.com
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare, Helpline	6299 1966	
<b>Wonderful Wmen of Wmb</b>	Gail Ritchie Knight, Contact	0416 097 500	Whirlwind1@argonite.com.au
<b>Lake George VIEW Club</b>	Pauline Segeri, contact	6238 1996	
<b>Wamboin Book Group</b>	Alice Scott, Secretary	6238 3178	
<b>Wamboin Thurs Social Grp</b>	Denise Hales, contact	0400 310 685	deniselynnhales@gmail.com

**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 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	0439219865
Justin Phipps	pet sitting 6238-1660 or	0491 107 336	April Lloyd	babysitting services	0434468772

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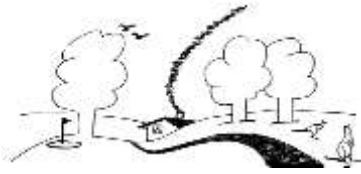


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## Wamboin Community Association Acting President's Paragraphs



### “Winter is Coming”

As I sit here writing this month's Presidents Paragraphs the first icy chill of winter has blown in today. It's a chance to celebrate where we live and the unique winter season Wamboin the surrounds offer. There will be ice skating in Canberra once again, we are only a short jump to the snow and alpine areas and even the south coast has its own appeal in winter. We get to have those days and nights with a wood fire heating our abodes. This is something those Queenslanders can only dream of.

**The Blues Brothers** – to celebrate the commissioning of our new AV system acquired with funds from the Stronger Communities Grants, we are screening one of the most legendary cult films of all time, The Blues Brothers. Jake and Elwood will grace the screen for one night only. Dress up as your favourite character, Jake, Elwood, Sister Mary Stigmata (a.k.a. The Penguin), the Good Old Boys or Reverend Cleophus James. Lofty will have the fire roaring so settle in for a great night of good old laughs. Please see further details in this month's Whisper.

**Another Wamboin World Champion** – Our own Penny Slater, recently achieved 4th in the world rankings for Open Women's Off Road Triathlon event (swim, mountain bike course, cross-country run) after an event in the Philippines. Well done and it is great to see Wamboinian's taking on the world.

**Australian Mountain Running Association** - will hold a running event (Kowen Trail Run) based from the Community Hall at the June Home Produce Market. The 3 different length races (12, 21 and 42km) commence at 7, 8 & 9am and will finish at around 11am. An estimated 100+ runners are expected and supporters. This is a great event for Wamboin and the community.

**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** – Despite the heavy overnight rain the skies cleared for the Wheels of Wamboin. Over 85 mechanical marvels made the journey to the Community hall and a great day was had by all. The day raised over \$1000 (via BBQ and gate donations) for the Wamboin RFS.

**Businesses of Wamboin** – Time to speak up and tells us about yourself. As a community we are really interested to know about businesses based here in Wamboin and spread the word. Drop us a line and tell us about your business in about half a page and we will run a feature each month in the Whisper. The business must be based in and operate out of Wamboin. Send an email to [president@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au). Decision to run or publish will be purely decided by the WCA Committee. Submissions due by COB third Friday of every month.

**WCA Meeting** – next meeting is 7.30 pm, Tuesday 20 June 2017. Get some community into your life. Let's make Wamboin great! - **Peter Evans - President.**

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**Anne Goonan, President**



## **Major Efforts For June – Preparations For 2017 Trivia Night. Continuing Progress On The Playground.**

**Playground Project:** The playground is a major project for 2017 requiring significant capital for the equipment and its installation as well as for changes and improvements to the hall to accommodate this development. Bywong Community Inc has obtained the necessary money from a variety of sources including Government and Council grants as well as from our own efforts at the CBS and sale of tea towels and cards etc (see below).

This month however the project received a huge boost from the Veolia Mulwree Trust to the tune of almost \$30,000 which will cover the cost of the play equipment and some ancillary safety infrastructure. This grant will in fact be lodged with the QPRC which has overall responsibility for maintenance and upkeep of the Les Reardon Reserve and the hall. The QPRC will oversee and supervise the construction work and installation of the equipment which we anticipate to get under way in October.

Some community “in kind” effort such as planting new trees and spreading mulch etc may also be required but the dates for these working bees will be fixed and announced later. If everything goes according to plan then in early December the BCA will hold a grand community event to celebrate the opening of the playground, and any ideas for making this event truly memorable would be welcome at - [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au).

**Very Great Tea Towels and Card update, New BCA Enterprises:** In addition to the sets of tea towels featuring J.P. Favre’s sketches of historical buildings in Bungendore, Braidwood, Queanbeyan and Goulburn he has also developed a colorful card showing flora and fauna of our area. These have also been printed and are for sale at the Bungendore Post Office and other outlets. A good number have also been sold at the last Wamboin Market. The Bungendore and Braidwood tea towels are available at Food Lovers in Bungendore and at the weekend market and since they have been selling like proverbial “hot potatoes” new print runs of these have been ordered. The Queanbeyan towels have sold out (proceeds to Carwoola fire appeal), and again a new batch is being prepared. The Goulburn towel should also be available shortly, and all will be available at the Queanbeyan Xmas in July function.

After production and marketing expenses, all profits from sale of the tea towels and cards accrue to the Bywong Community Inc and this is anticipated to be a steady and long term source of revenue for the association. These new BCA initiatives are **Super Bigly Revenue Raising Opportunities**, and while not yet comparable to BHP, CRA or Trump Enterprises who knows how they will develop. As it is said -“From Little Things Big Things Grow”.

**2017 Trivia Night:** This annual BCA event is an institution and is always well patronised by fun-loving and knowledgeable folk from Bywong, Wamboin, Bungendore and surrounds. In a change from tradition - master quiz maker JP has sourced this year’s questions from a range of locals with their individual specialties....so “it’s gonna be great!!!” The Trivia Night will be held on Saturday 22 July (7.30 at the Bywong hall), and bookings can be secured by contacting - [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au).

**Next Meeting:** The BCA committee has moved the bi-monthly meetings to the second Thursday of each second month. So the next meeting will be 8<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm at the hall. The 2017 AGM will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm at the hall.



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## For Guy

Social researcher Hugh McKay says that as social creatures we reach our potential when we engage with our communities. For more than twenty years I watched Guy Cotsell engage with his different communities. I first knew Guy as our postman, then neighbour, community member, and later, friend and family man.

Guy was a quiet gentleman. His power was in his pen and the strength of his words, a master of the measured response...most probably a legacy of his diplomatic years.

The Guy I first met was the postman who put our mail into our 'RMB' box. Even back in the late 80's, traffic on Macs Reef Road was a risk to life and limb! And to add to that, properties were not numbered in a sequential way, they used the old RMB addressing. Guy also delivered parcels to the door - little did we know how valuable that service would be as we now struggle with the current non-delivery process. It bothered him in later years that he had to pay a higher rate for 'rural delivery' – only to have to go to the post office himself to collect these rural 'deliveries'.

During 1997-98, the Geographic Names Board was asking for locality names, to implement clear and sequential numbering and locality addressing for properties. This would avoid confusion in emergencies. Once the Geary's Gap Community Association became aware, Guy and several others devised a formal survey, assisted by the Council of the time.

In 1998 we learned that we were living in Bywong - the community's preference. Guy's name is on the formal documentation for Change of Association name to the Bywong Community Inc. He was also responsible for erecting the Bywong Community Inc signs on Macs Reef and other local roads.

In 1997, Guy, partner Morag and several other community members were public objectors who took on a major battle with a proposed rock quarry. This was proposed to be near the 'new' Tulip Top Gardens. Guy kept up a well written commentary for the local Bungendore paper on the proceedings.

Guy's communities extended to the Bungendore tennis club, and the Council s355 committee for the Les Reardon Reserve as the Hall booking officer. This caused him conflict at times because he didn't like to say no to anyone. However, after the Hall committee was 'savaged' by a local resident who had to endure madmen in cars doing burnouts at midnight...Guy convinced the committee that 18<sup>th</sup> birthday parties were not appropriate for the hall and thereafter was less conscience stricken about saying "no".

He was a stickler for rules - timing and reporting was accurate and tight. This was clear when he chaired the Wamboin "Meet the Candidate" meetings at election times. As Public Officer for Bywong Community Inc. Guy ensured that our new constitution followed "model rules" with no ambiguities. This was a tedious process, and he completed it in 2012 with the conviction that it would withstand any challenges it might face in the future. Guy continued to report on our community meetings and activities - writing short chatty articles for the local media through to 2015. He and Morag bravely scored and adjudicated many of the annual Bywong trivia Challenges...which at times was a challenge!

When a Firewise group was set up for Newington Rd with a "phone alert tree" in case of fire or emergency, Guy's name was the primary alarm point at the top of that tree. With the elevation of their house – Guy and Morag commanded a sweeping view of the area.

As his health declined Guy gradually withdrew from these activities. In early 2016, Guy and Morag left Bywong for Canberra, and after an extended bout of illness in 2017, he passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

In his book "The Good Life" Hugh McKay writes that a good life is marked by a willingness to connect with others and the quality of our relationships with them. Guy Cotsell lived a good life - Anne Goonan

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

Last Friday the little church in Poppet Road, Wamboin, was bursting at the seams as a large crowd from far and wide gathered in the sunshine to celebrate a long and fruitful life, and sadly farewell, Dick Crampton, a gentleman, musician and performer to the end. We extend our deepest sympathy to Norma, Gai, Ian and Mia.

Kids Club is humming. The children meet at St Andrews every Friday during NSW school term from 4.30 until 6pm for songs, story and craft, and conclude with dinner. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate, and their assistance with cleaning up is greatly appreciated. A gold coin donation helps defray costs. For further information please contact Robyn Robertson 61 521 711.

The congregation will have a muffin/slice stall at the Wamboin Markets on Saturday, June 17, in conjunction with the Australian Mountain Running Association's marathon, half marathon and other events from the WCA Hall into the Kowen forest and back. We expect a large hungry crowd!

Donations of food are always welcomed at both churches to support St Benedicts, Queanbeyan, to meet the growing demands from those in the community in need of help and assistance.

St Peters Patronal Festival is on Sunday, June 25, and after the morning service we will meet at the renowned Sutton Bakery for a celebratory brunch. Please feel welcome to join us.

Services are held on the first and third Sunday of each month at St Andrews, and on the second and third Sunday at St Peters. All services start at 9am, and are followed by a scrumptious morning tea and lively chat. You are guaranteed a warm welcome in a warm place.

For further information, queries or assistance please call any of the people listed below.

Pastor: Rev. Dr Royce Thompson 0416 265 600, Dr David McCarthy 0409 383 620, Robyn Robertson 61 521 711, Alan Rope 0429 434 944

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## Rain and Shine at the Wheels of Wamboin

At 3am Friday night I thought I might have a sleep in rather than attending the Wheels of Wamboin. To my surprise when I opened the curtains and a beautiful clear day dawned as I looked across the rolling hills of Wamboin. So a race down to the



shed to fire up the beast and a quick tub and off we went.

Although the numbers were down on the previous year, due to the 32mm of rain overnight, over 85 mechanical marvels made the journey to Wamboin, even a number of brave open top tourers. It was once again a great roll up of cars and bikes from a 1929 Dodge to a brand new Chevy pickup and most things in between. A super rare Galaxie 7 Litre (428 cubic inches) showed just what gems lurk in local garages.



There was once again a great variety cars ranging from yesteryear Fords and Holden's to Mini's and Morris's, Vee Dubs to BMW's, American muscle in Mustangs, Corvettes and Dodge's, there were S type Valliant's, Vauxhall's and a rumbling V8 MGB. A couple of great Lotus Clubman's showed what a roller skate with a motor looks like and how much fun you can have. A pristine Ford Mercury ute, Riley's, Bentleys, Healy's, Lotus's and Rovers. A mint MG TF bought back some drooling, along with a "look at me" orange corvette.



Attracting a lot of attention were 2 local cars ready for the upcoming Sh\*t Box Rally. The motor bikes were also on display with some Harleys and a twin steer Can-am attracting a lot of discussion.

The winner of the sought after People's Choice trophy on the day was a wonderfully presented 1929 Dodge DA 6 sedan straight out of a Hollywood movie set. The Dodge was flawless and even featured a rear fold out picnic table and chairs.

Once again the event was a great success letting those memories and automotive dreams run free for another year. Special thanks to all who helped on the day, Lofty for the much improved

driveway and Contentious Character for providing the Magnum of Wine for the People's Choice. – Peter Evans

## CANBERRA Equine HOSPITAL

### STRINGHALT IN HORSES

**What is Stringhalt?** Stringhalt is a gait abnormality characterized by an exaggerated upward flexion of the hind limb. It may occur one-sided or bilateral (in both legs) where all degrees of hyper-flexion can be seen from moderate to more severe cases. The exact cause is unknown but degenerative lesions on long nerves of the hind limb have been identified in affected horses, resulting in the typical gait abnormality.



**What causes Stringhalt?** Australian Stringhalt is associated with the ingestion of flatweed and dandelion. At this particular time of year Stringhalt commonly occurs when the first rains arrive and a break in the dry weather causes these plants to reproduce rapidly. Other environmental factors such as flooding, drought or fire can influence both the growth of the plant and the fungus on these particular weeds which is suspected to be involved in causing the condition. Stringhalt often affects multiple horses in one area/paddock or region and often affects both hind limbs.

**What are the Symptoms of Stringhalt?** Stringhalt can often be intermittent and may only have minimal effects on your horse. In some cases the condition has been progressive and has become so severe that euthanasia was warranted. The most common symptoms involve the horse being unsound and moving with a jerking upwards movement of the hind limbs. Horses with Stringhalt experience difficulty backing up and have problems turning in tight circles. If left untreated, Stringhalt can cause long term muscle wastage and further complications.

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email: [equine@canberravet.com.au](mailto:equine@canberravet.com.au)

#### What can you do to help your horse if you suspect Stringhalt?

- Prevention is the best Treatment!

- Paddock rotation, weed spraying and pulling weeds by hand when you are out and about or riding in your paddocks can all help minimise the risk of Stringhalt.
- Supplementation with thiamine (Vitamin B1), Vitamin E and magnesium is recommended.
- If you suspect your horse is being affected by Stringhalt, contact Canberra Equine Hospital and we will be happy to help make a plan for you and your horse.

**If you have any questions regarding your horse, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail the office on 6241 8888 or [equine@canberravet.com.au](mailto:equine@canberravet.com.au)**

**Are you following us on Facebook? Find us @CanberraEquineHospital.**



### Local Brings Home International Silver Medal

Well known national fly fishing identity and Wamboin local Peter Walsh has just taken out the International Silver Medal at the Oceania Fly Fishing Championships in New Zealand.

Selection for the event is based on elimination at state and national levels and accumulation of ranking points.

The Oceania Championships, held over 3 days in rivers and lakes, is based on the number of fish caught and their cumulative length with all fish safely returned to the water. Otherwise the scores don't count.

The result is believed to be the highest placing for an Australian angler on New Zealand waters in the history of the event.

Peter says he and his family are living the dream in Wamboin and have done so for the last 21 years. Keen anglers come from all over Australia to be trained by Peter and he encourages visitors to book their stay in the Bungendore region and enjoy the diversity of food and wine on offer in the area. – by Chris and William Walsh, Norton Rd. (proud sons)



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## You may light fires.....BUT

You may light fires, pile burns, hazard reductions etc but please remember, you **must** advise the Queanbeyan Office of the Rural Fire Service of your intentions with at least 24 hours notice and by midday Friday at the latest. You must also notify your immediate neighbours with 24 hours notice.

Queanbeyan Fire Control Centre ph 6128 0600 or [queanbeyan.fcc@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:queanbeyan.fcc@rfs.nsw.gov.au)

## Seasonal Outlook

Drier winter likely for southern two-thirds of Australia (Bureau of Meteorology)

- June has only a 35% - 40% chance of exceeding median rainfall and more likely to be below average.
- Both Maximum and Minimum median temperatures are likely to be exceeded from June to August

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### Are You Looking For Funding For Your Community Group?

#### Are you from one of the following?

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

#### Are you located in one of these local government areas?

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

#### Grant and Donation Funding

The Veolia Mulwaree 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](http://www.mulwareetrust.org.au)



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## A Busy Season Across The State

### NSW RFS activities – 1 July 2016 to 31 March 2017

Bush and grass fires – 11,403  
Hectares burnt – 267,156  
Total incidents attended by NSW RFS – 19,755  
Fires at Emergency Warning level – 20  
Fires at Watch & Act level – 62  
Days of total fire ban - 27  
Aircraft taskings – 1,474  
Firefighter fatalities – 1  
Firefighter injuries – 280  
Homes destroyed – 65  
Sheds and outbuildings destroyed – 243

### Brigade Activity

Three incidents so far for May.

Two motor vehicle accidents on Macs Reef Rd. and one investigation of a smoke sighting.

Coming up on 13<sup>th</sup> June is the AGM at the Fire Station at 7.30.

### Useful Links and Contact Information

#### NSW Rural Fire Service:

[www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://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](mailto:captain@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au) or 0409 991 340

### Contentious Character: Plenty To Talk About

Contentious Character is a cool climate winery, artfully set in the Wamboin hills, 30km east of Canberra. Whether you come to us, or our wines come to you, we'll give you plenty to talk about.

Our newly uncorked website [<https://contentiouscharacter.com.au>] will take you behind the scenes. There's a little bit of founder history, what we're doing now – and what's in store for lovers of wine.

If you want to really experience our vintages, come to the cellar door and spend some time. Be the first to taste our new Contentious Character range: 2004 Late Harvest Riesling 2013 Rose 2015 Merlot 2015 and 2016 Pinot Noir 2015 and 2016 Chardonnay 2015 and 2016 Riesling 2015 Pinot Gris Wooded or Unwooded 2016 Pinot Gris.

Take up our introductory offer of a mixed dozen for \$246, which is 40% cheaper than the full price of \$411. Or join the Contentious Collectors Club so you never miss out. We send a case of 12 bottles of wine carefully selected for your taste every 2, 3 or 6 months - and you get up to 25% off any extra bottles you buy.

Visit our cellar door & kitchen fireside, over Winter, and you go into the draw to win a Fireside Snuggler Pak, worth \$362. The Pak comes from our Founders Museum collection. It boasts three multi-award-winning wines - 2001 Shiraz, 2007 Merlot and 2004 Chardonnay – as well as 2003 Riesling, 2005 Cabernet Merlot and more.

These wines, like us, show there's definitely an art to aging gracefully.

Also on the June long weekend, sample our new Contentious Character range with Vintage Flights of Founders Museum Rieslings and Pinot Noirs from 2003 to 2014. Enjoy a shared plate paired to the wines for only \$40. No need to worry about seat belts. Just book your flight on Facebook, email or on the phone.

Finally, celebrate early and come for Christmas in July [on Saturday 22nd](#) by our toasty fireside. It's an opportunity to relish the exquisite coupling of local wine and food for only: \$80 each for 3 courses with a glass of Pinot Gris 2009 on arrival \$105 with a glass of wine on arrival plus paired glass of wine with each course \$50 for kids under 12.

Book now through [felicity@executiveeventssolutions.com.au](mailto:felicity@executiveeventssolutions.com.au)

Remember, at Contentious Character we grow our own, make our own and pair local food to local wine, not the wine to the food. Now that's hardly contentious.

## Watchout: Wildlife About

Anyone using Australian roads can see that wildlife is often killed by cars and other vehicles. Kangaroos, wombats, possums and other marsupials, echidnas, birds, reptiles – all are vulnerable.

This may be stating the obvious, but one way to reduce the number of animals being injured or killed is to simply drive more slowly. In so doing you will markedly increase your reaction time. Kangaroos often move in groups, so if one is spotted crossing a road it is likely others will be following. Particularly at dawn/dusk and at night when animals are more active, driving slower at night and being especially vigilant will prevent wildlife casualties. Nocturnal animals, such as possums and wombats, are also obviously more at risk after dark.

In a report on wildlife mortality on roads, Dr Daniel Ramp of UNSW wrote: “Modifying our own behaviour is perhaps the most simple and significant way we can minimise the effect of roads on wildlife.” He also noted, “driver speed is highly correlated with collisions”.

As we approach the winter months, we should be aware that when daylight is shorter, more kangaroos are hit by cars. The insurer AAMI recently examined 20,000 claims and found that collisions with animals peaked from June through to August. The majority of these involved kangaroos. In an AAMI press release, spokesman Michael Mills reported that collisions between vehicles and animals on Australian roads jumped dramatically in winter: “Shorter days during winter mean we’re on the roads more at times when animals are on the move, and combined with poor weather conditions and reduced visibility, make the chances of hitting an animal more likely.” AAMI data also showed that the majority of animal-related crashes happen towards the latter part of the week, with Friday being the worst day.

The analysis pinpointed the worst spots in the nation for animal-related collisions, with Queanbeyan being named the “road-kill capital of Australia”. Goulburn was also identified as another hotspot for hitting animals on roads.

If you do hit an animal, please stop and check. It may be injured and in for prolonged suffering if not assessed, and there might be a live joey in the pouch in need of rescue. Call Wildcare’s 24/7 helpline on 62991966, or the relevant wildlife rescue group for the road you are travelling on.

By the way, if you are looking to support a local charity, with a tax-deductible end-of-the-financial-year donation, how about Wildcare? Donations can be made at BSB: 062-593, Account 10216803 Please reference your name; and then email the treasurer@wildcare.com.au to arrange for a tax-deductible receipt.

- Merran Laver & Philip Machin, For Wildcare, 62383717

*Photo and caption: Watchout for wildlife*



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Saturday 17th June 2017

**KOWEN TRAIL RUN**  
Crossing the States

**WALK/RUN 12KM**    **HALF 21.1KM**    **MARATHON 42.2KM**

Starting and finishing at the Wamboin Produce Market, the Inaugural 'Kowen Trail Run' is set for Saturday 17th June, which is a last Wamboin Produce Market day before winter.

The race will consist of three distances the Marathon (42.2 km - 7am), the Half Marathon (21.1 km - 8am) and a 12 km Run/Walk - 9am. All three events will showcase the beautiful forest and the spectacular views that we enjoy here in Wamboin.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade and the Australian Mountain Running Association.

All race entries will include a veggie or egg & bacon roll plus drink.

<http://kowen-trail-run.com>  
[facebook.com/groups/Kowen.Trail.Run](https://facebook.com/groups/Kowen.Trail.Run)

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## Wamboin Pony Club – May

May is the month for Mothers Day and as it falls on a Sunday Wamboin Pony Club had their usual rally day as well as a traditional special Mothers Day lunch of pumpkin soup and roast lamb rolls. That was all preceded by a busy morning spent preparing for our clubs Mounted Games competition. Our riders practiced in their teams the different games of skill which test horse and rider. Last Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May it all came together, the day Wamboin and other pony clubs in the area were at Bungendore Showground competing in our annual competition. Mounted Games involves teams of 4 riders competing against each other and the clock in different events with riders and horses being put through various challenging tasks. It can be fast and furious, riders are on and off their mounts and horse and riders are set some tasks that mean both have to work together to succeed. The successful teams can then progress to the Zone and State events later in the year. Although it was a chilly Autumn day we still had a great turnout from throughout the Zone and around 70 riders competed in 10 different races. Many of the teams were made up of younger riders who were able to get used to the different games in a friendly fun environment. Thanks to all riders who competed and all the helpers who made the day a success.



Our next normal rally day (due to other events in June) will be on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June. So remember your local Wamboin Pony Club has 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 try to meet twice a month on Sunday's at our grounds from 9am gear check to 1pm. If you would like some more information about Wamboin Pony Club and our upcoming rally days email our Secretary Stacey at [wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com) check our website [www.wamboinponyclub.org.au](http://www.wamboinponyclub.org.au) or find us on Facebook. We hope we will see you soon. - Steve Quick

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## Wamboin Golf – May 2017

Sunday, 7 May 2017. A red letter day for the R & A Wamboin GC. We commissioned five new holes - eat your liver, Queanbeyan GC! The holes are on the property of Keith France and Kathy Handel who sponsored the day. Not their usual EOFY-add-10%-to-your-handicap nonsense but a genuine Stableford competition to welcome the new part of the course. We thank them not only for the prizes and refreshments but also their generosity in helping the club plan for the future by making their property available.

Back at the Hall after the usual four hours of elation, despondency and profanity, conversation turned to the vexing, and slightly worrying question of whether the darn old Trumpet would rain nukes on Kim Wrong-un, Grand Imperial Haircut of North Korea, and what it would mean for the rest of us. No one knew. And we soon lost interest when it was pointed out that Ponce de Leon was not only the first governor of Spanish Puerto Rico but also discovered Florida. No, your correspondent didn't know that either. But it struck him forcibly, if sadly, that you rarely ever meet anyone called Ponce these days. When was the last time this august journal of record reported that "raw-boned loose forward, Ponce O'Shaunessy, scored two tries in the Mudhooks' victory over the Bushpigs"? Or "William Ponce McGillicuddy was arrested in Norton Road for being six times over the limit"? Or "young Ponce Smithsonian won the maths prize at Bungendore Primary". It doesn't happen does it? Whatever became of such grand old names? (Don't write in. I've got a feeling we all know the answer.)

After the captain welcomed our guests, Ponce and Viola di Gamba (just kidding), he complimented local cartographer, Neville

"Mercator" Schroder for the beautiful maps of the new course which saved us from wandering, Moses-like, in the French wilderness. Ted Evans and his straight man then paid a moving tribute to two men, one sadly dead and one very much alive: the late John Clarke and the early Pete Harrison. The googly ball was thrown around a bit before it was awarded to the person who played three shots with Ken Gordon's ball before returning it to him. The dummy went to John Whitney for drawing attention to some of the blemishes on the new holes. His defence of "constructive suggestion" was deemed invalid under new rule 8: each complaint about the state of the course is penalised one beer to the greenkeeper. We all joined with Tim Barter in deploring the lapse in standards by the Wamboin Whisper in publishing obscene photos of horses. Where it would end, we asked.



NTP and LD ball winners were Pete Harrison 3, Ken Gordon 2, John Whitney, Lofty Mason, Keith France Vicki Still and Tim Barter. The junior winner was Phoebe Beckett. The 9 hole comp was taken out by Lofty Mason with 17 Stableford points from Larry King on 14 and Joan Mason on 12. Winner of the 18 hole comp was Pete Harrison 40 on a count back from John Whitney. Our moral crusader, Tim Barter, was 3<sup>rd</sup> on 38. Join us at the Wamboin Community Hall next month on Sunday, 4 June at 12.15pm for the 12.30pm pyrotechnic when we once again bring first class golf to the region. Meanwhile try this on your friends: what's the difference between POTUS and the US fauna emblem? Answer: they're both bald but one hides it better than the other. - Larry King, golfer

## How the Whisper Gets Delivered Each Month

**170: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 6238 3178 email alicescott@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	Phil Leeson&Coleen Fogarty	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 Nrtm 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			

**262: 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 Milner	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	31
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 1,313**

### WAMBOIN AND BYWONG CLASSIFIEDS

<p><b>POLLY'S KETTLE BOILED OVER AT THE BIGGEST MORNING TEA ON 25 MAY</b> Raised over \$7000. A huge thank you to the surrounding community and small businesses for their generosity. I was overwhelmed with vouchers, raffle prizes, and food for the morning tea. I cannot go without thanking my sister Joan for her enormous amount of work in spreading the word and champion of champions selling raffle tickets. My good friend Tina, endless hours behind the scene making sure I am on track. Lastly but not least, <b>thank you to everyone</b> who supported my annual event. I cannot do it without you. God Bless you all for your generosity. - Pauline Segeri</p>
<p>WANTED - Looking for someone to assist with after school care for Wamboin family Tuesday to Friday afternoons from 3.30 to 6.30pm from early July to end September. Mainly for our 8 year old daughter post school and with an activity in Bungendore on a Wednesday afternoon. Love to have someone locally who can assist but can offer accommodation and car if you know someone who is looking for a live in position. If interested please call Clare on 0418-279-221.</p>
<p>Civil Celebrant - Lorraine Bird highly experienced, living locally. Available for weddings, civil partnerships, civil unions, renewal of vows, namings and commitment ceremonies. Please contact me to arrange an obligation free meeting. Phone 62303321, 0401267851 or <a href="http://www.lorrainebird.com.au">www.lorrainebird.com.au</a></p>
<p>Mums and Dads learn BABY MASSAGE. Great benefits for baby. Contact Judy Shellard (Certified Infant Massage Instructor by IMIS (baby massage.net.au)) 62 383 050. <a href="mailto:judyshellard@gmx.com">judyshellard@gmx.com</a> , 0417-130-052.</p>
<p>Guitar/vocal/musicianship tuition. 33 years full time experience. Classes run Monday to Saturday after school into evening. All ages welcome. Phone Adam Conroy on 6238 3677.</p>
<p>Animals tended – big and small. I will tend to your pets, horses, plants, livestock, bring in your mail, and any other jobs to increase your peace of mind while you are on holidays or when you just need a hand short term or longer term. Mature, responsible, reliable, employed person. Call Carolyn, 0414 738 365.</p>
<p>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 last Sunday of the month, 7 pm. Email to <a href="mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au">whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au</a> or <a href="mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au">nednoel@optusnet.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Tutor Available:</b> Experienced local high school teacher is available to tutor privately in mathematics (all levels), physics (all levels) and science (to year 10). I am a registered teacher with police clearances in both NSW and the ACT. I have been teaching and marking external exams for 10 years and am an experienced tutor. \$50/hour. Rates are negotiable for groups. This is a great time to start exam preparation. Phone 0421 323 428.</p>
<p>WCA Electronic Noticeboard: The WCA electronic noticeboard is a convenient way to keep up with community activities. Subscribe by visiting the WCA website at <a href="http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard">http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard</a></p>
<p>Civil Marriage Celebrant. Dorothy Skea. Mobile No: 0403 215 336 (easier to get a hold of me on my mobile). Ph: 6238 3290. E-mail: <a href="mailto:dorothyskea@outlook.com">dorothyskea@outlook.com</a></p>
<p>Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC and now 8mm tapes to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin and surrounds. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$14 per DVD and from \$14 per Record or Cassette. Please contact Tony on 0412-507- 594</p>
<p>FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on <a href="http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au">www.bywongcommunity.org.au</a>. or email Ann Sloan at <a href="mailto:lrrhallbywong@gmail.com">lrrhallbywong@gmail.com</a>.</p>
<p>FOR HIRE:- from Wamboin Community Hall - 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, - <b>Trestles and chairs</b>. All damages are the responsibility of the Hirer. Must be securely tied during transportation - or they don't go!</p>
<p>FOR HIRE :- from Wamboin Community Hall -<b>Gas BBQ'S</b> x 2. Hire cost and cleaning Bond applies. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258</p>
<p>FOR HIRE: - <b>WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL</b>. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason, 62 383 258. Please note: Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st birthday functions.</p>

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# Wamboin Home Produce And Craft Market

Next Market – Saturday 17 June 2017

Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 02 62383309 [lmsconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com).

After a very wet Friday we thought the May market and the Wheels event would be a wash out BUT instead we had wonderful sunshine and plenty of cars, which meant plenty of people for the markets! Egg and bacon rolls, Sally's cooking and soup sold out and Lou made more coffee than she can ever remember making before.

We are also expecting a very busy morning for our last market before the winter break. As advertised elsewhere in the Whisper, the morning will be combined with the Australian Mountain Running Association who will be running a marathon, 1/2 marathon and other shorter races starting and finishing at the community hall. We will run the markets until 1pm for this month only, so that we can adequately feed tired and hungry runners after their events and also cater for those waiting for them to finish. Of course we will also cater for any tired and hungry members of the community, even if they don't run!

The playgroup will run some kids activities in the playground to keep the littlies occupied.

### Second hand sport gear stall

In keeping with the running event, there will be a second-hand sports gear stall at the market. Please bring any unwanted sports gear (adult or kids) clearly labelled with size, a suggested sale price and your phone number and we will attempt to sell it for you! All items should be in reasonable condition, clean and able to comply with any current safety regulations (eg: riding hats should be ASA approved). Sports gear means ALL sports, including ski gear and horse riding equipment as well as adjunct sports items such as camelbak drink packs, goggles etc.

**If items are unsold at the end of the market, the owner is responsible for collecting them by 1.15pm otherwise they will be disposed of/given to charity.**

PLEASE NOTE, there will be changes to parking arrangements for the market on the 17<sup>th</sup> with the first entrance to the hall car park (ie as you drive from Norton up Bingley Way) the only entrance and exit for vehicles other than runners' cars. This will be well signposted on the day and there will be marshalls to direct traffic.

**SEE YOU AT THE JUNE MARKET!**

## Biannual Sutton Trivia Night 2017

### Countries of the World

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Teams of 8-10

\$15 per person

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Games, Trivia, Auction, Silent Auction Fundraising

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## Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September 7-11 pm

### Switzerland welcomes you!

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Oodles of fun

BYO Drinks, snacks, theme decorations, sense of humour, deep pockets and plenty of coins.



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Your preferred country: \_\_\_\_\_  
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number in party: \_\_\_\_\_  
special requirements: \_\_\_\_\_  
amount owing: \_\_\_\_\_

There will be prizes for the best themed table and  
the best dressed team and individual!

Captains are to collect the cash for their guests

Only team payments can be accepted

If you would like to join a team or connect with  
another team please call Lou 0418261133

Our aim is to provide a fun, safe and welcoming space free of judgement for parents and teachers alike. We ask that no children are brought to the trivia night, and respectfully request that any parent/teacher school related conversations are held at a more appropriate time. Our teachers work incredibly hard for our kids each day, and we would like them to feel able to enjoy their social time as individuals

## Conservation Of Box-Gum Grassy Woodlands

Sutton Landcare Group will next meet at 7:30pm on Tuesday 13 June 2017 at Sutton Public School. Our guest speaker will be Senior Experimental Scientist Jacqui Stol from CSIRO's Land and Water Division.

Jacqui will present the latest science and the best ways to recognise and manage Box-Gum Grassy Woodland ground-layers to maintain a healthy grassy sward dominated by Kangaroo Grass and Poa Tussock, and to optimise native plant diversity. She will draw on many of the examples and information from her recently published booklet "Jewels in the landscape – Managing very high conservation value ground layers in Box-Gum Grassy Woodlands"

This presentation should be of particular interest to Sutton village residents because Jacqui will explore and recommend management strategies that could be applied to the area next to the school, locally known as "Sutton Common".

After the presentation 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 0402 986 934 or emailing [sutton.landcare@gmail.com](mailto:sutton.landcare@gmail.com). – Alan McNeill

## Wamboin Community Association Inc. (WCA) General Meeting - Summary

**Date of Meeting: 16 May 2017 Meeting chaired by: Peter Evans, President, WCA General outline of topics discussed**

A warm fire (thanks Lofty!) greeted attendees at another informative and productive meeting of the WCA. The meeting heard from members of the WCA Committee and from representatives of other community organisations active in our community and associated, in some manner with the WCA. WCA President Peter Evans advised that the Wheels of Wamboin will be held on 20th May and that he had received many enquiries about it, indicating that it would be well patronised.

Assistant Secretary Jenny Warren advised that the installation of the audio visual equipment at the Wamboin Hall would be completed on Thursday 18th. The meeting agreed that the first community use of the equipment would be a screening of The Blues Brothers on June 24th. Jenny also confirmed that guest speakers had been arranged for the 2017 Spring Talks Series, being Wayne Alford, Wildcare Snake Coordinator in September and Rebecca Bradley from Local Land Services in October. Editor of the Wamboin Whisper, Ned Noel thanked everyone who contributed to, delivered, or read the May issue.

A number of local organisations gave reports on their activities, including the following:

□ Wamboin Pony Club President, Peter Evans (not the WCA President of the same name), who happily reported that Club numbers continue to grow with more than 25 members, including many new younger riders. He said that 7 Club riders attended the recent Zone Camp at Bungendore, that one Club member was part of the 3rd place winning team in a show jumping event at the Royal Easter Show and that Wamboin's Mounted Games team successfully defended their national title. The club house is being demolished and rebuilt due to white ant activity.

□ Peter Greenwood, on behalf of the Wamboin Hall Management Committee, advised that in association with the June Home Produce Markets, the Australian Mountain Running Association will hold the inaugural Kowen Trail Run and walk, with events starting and finishing at the Wamboin Hall and oval complex. 100-150 runners are expected, plus their supporters, with a flow-on to market patronage. A donation from the entry fees will be made to the Fire Brigade. It is hoped that this will become a regular Wamboin event.

□ Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade President Peter Greenwood reported that it has been a quiet month in terms of call outs, though Wamboin had collaborated with other brigades at Braidwood and Bungendore for training exercises. Two motor vehicle accidents were attended, one particularly bad, resulting in a totally destroyed upturned vehicle on Macs Reef Rd on a recent wet Sunday.

□ Wamboin Social Drop-In Group convenor Denise Hales invited new participants to join this popular new group which operates on Thursdays, 10am – 12 noon at the Wamboin Community Hall. She also suggested that other community groups who use the Hall might like to utilise the table tennis equipment.

*The WCA meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except January) at 7:30 pm at the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. Next meeting: Tuesday 20 June. All welcome.*

*- Jenny Warren, Assistant Secretary, Wamboin Community Association, Inc.*



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## Mahoganay Ridge

*For those who read the May golf report and wondered about the form of the tribute paid by Ted Evans and his straight man to the late John Clarke and the early Pete Harrison, wonder no more....*

Dawe: Good evening and thanks for your time.

Clarke: Good evening, Brian. It's good to be here.

Dawe: Now you are Pete Harrison, former mayor of Palerang council?

Clarke: No Brian. I am Pete Harrison, mayor-in-perpetuity of the former Palerang Council.

Dawe: In perpetuity?

Clarke: It means forever, Brian. Try to catch up.

Dawe: But how can that be? Palerang no longer exists.

Clarke: Precisely Brian. I wasn't voted out. I wasn't sacked. I didn't resign. It was just whisked away from me in the middle of the night.

Dawe: Thanks for clearing that up. Now what do you regard as your most important achievement?

Clarke: Being the mayor-in-perpetuity of the former Palerang council.

Dawe: No, I mean what you accomplished in local government.

Clarke: I see what you mean, Brian. Well there's the realignment and repair of Macs Reef Road and Norton Road, getting rid of the tips and creating waste treatment centres.

Dawe: What are you most proud of?

Clarke: Clearly that would be knocking down the heritage-listed building in Malbon Street so we could create the heritage of tomorrow by building a bigger IGA.

DAWE: A bigger IGA?

Clarke: Correct, Brian. An IGA bigger than the former IGA or, indeed, any other IGA.

Dawe: Except the one in Bigga.

Clarke: You're losing me, Brian.

Dawe: A little town just north east of Crookwell.

Clarke: Yes, I see where you're going, Brian. Well that would make the bigger IGA in Bigga bigger than the bigger Bungendore bigger IGA.

Dawe: Which would make the bigger IGA in Bigga the biggest IGA or, for that matter, the biggest IGEST, would it not?

Clarke: I think we've taken this as far as we can, Brian.

Dawe: Correct. Now, this new QPRC thingummy – who's the mayor of that?

Clarke: No mayor Brian. Just an Administrator.

Dawe: An Administrator?

Clarke: That's what I said Brian. A kind of one-man-band. Like John Coates, Sepp Blatter and Idi Amin. This one's named Mr Working Trousers. And let me add: "Well may we say God save the Queen because nothing will save the Administrator".

Dawe: Well said. But the whole process doesn't sound very democratic. Will there be elections for a new council?

Clarke: I believe so Brian. In September.

Dawe: And what's your position on this.

Clarke: My position, Brian? My position is by the door where I can make a quick exit unobserved.

Dawe: Thanks again for your time Mr Harrison.

Clarke: Call me mayor, Brian. It was a pleasure.

- Larry King & Ted Evans



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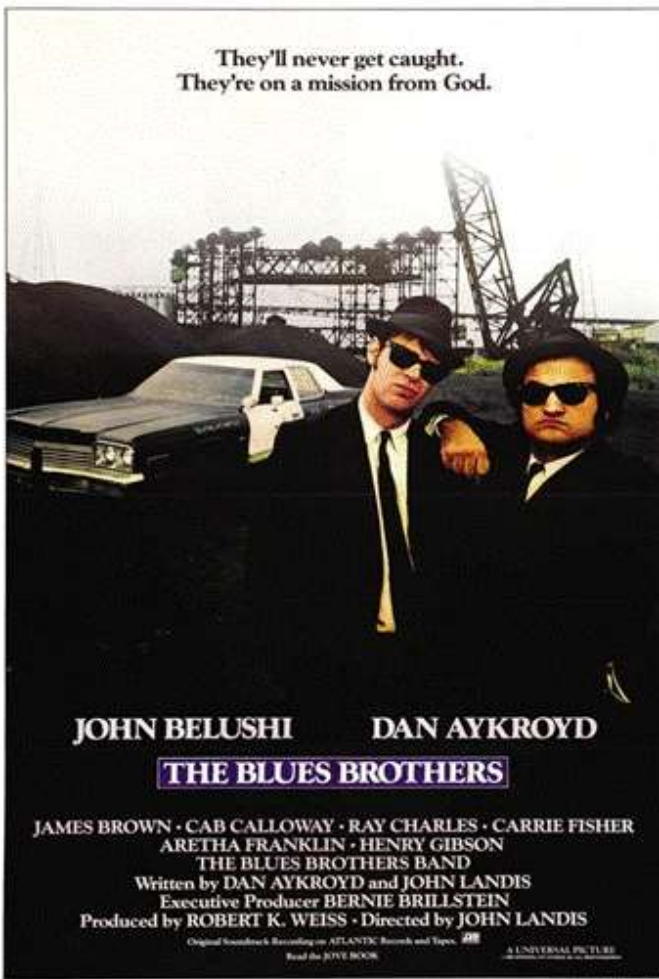
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# THE BLUES BROTHERS



Dust off your sunglasses, fedora & skinny tie, or paint your best Carrie Fisher fingernails (but please no flamethrowers!), jump in the Bluesmobile and come to the

**WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL  
112 BINGLEY WAY  
SATURDAY JUNE 24<sup>th</sup>  
7:30PM FOR 8:00PM MOVIE**

The Wamboin Community Association (WCA) will provide licensed movie on the big screen, a warm venue, water for hot beverages, tables & chairs.

Pack your sense of humour, four fried chickens, dry white toast and a Coke (or maybe just popcorn and beverages of your choice), comfortable seating if you prefer (bean bag, camp chair, rugs etc) and your tail feathers.

**Elwood:** *It's 106 miles to Wamboin, we got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes, it's dark... and we're wearing sunglasses.*

**Jake:** *Hit it.*

Image used with permission.  
The Blues Brothers is rated M (Mature)  
Not recommended for children under 15.

**No need to book. Entry by donation.**

The WCA recently successfully applied for a grant from Council's *Stronger Communities Fund* to install audio visual equipment in the Wamboin Hall. It's in, it's great and we want to celebrate!

**QUESTIONS?** Jenny Warren 6236 9560 or [jenny.warren@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:jenny.warren@wamboincommunity.asn.au)



## Nature Notes May 2017

Jo Walker

There wasn't much rain this month – about 30 mm here – but the countryside is still green. And, with only a few mild dustings of white frost so far, a lot of the vegetation is still growing.

A few plants are still flowering, most noticeably the bright golden Guinea-flowers (*Hibbertia obtusifolia*). The Urn Heaths (*Melichrus urceolatus*) are just beginning to flower, although their masses of cream buds have been noticeable for some time. This species is one of the food-plants for Honeyeaters during winter. Correas are flowering well too. Most of those growing at my place are planted and not from this area, but I do have one large local *Correa reflexa* that appeared many years ago, probably the result of a bird dropping. This species does grow nearby in Molonglo Gorge.

The weather this year seems to have suited the Rock Ferns (*Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*). They are spreading through all the rocky areas at my place, and one patch at the top of the hill is nearly five metres across.

A pair of Mudlarks has turned up here again and have been around for a couple of weeks now. They arrived at about the same time last year and stayed for the winter. At the beginning of the month, I was surprised to see (and hear!) a flock of over a dozen Gang-gangs flying over. They often spend time here but in far lower numbers. Small flocks of Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos have been visiting, sometimes carrying in large pine cones from the forest to snack on before pruning some of the shrubs. Pacific Black Ducks, a White-faced Heron and a White Ibis have been on and around the dam recently, and, judging by the bleached claws on the bank, there are still some sizeable Yabbies there.

The Spiny Spiders and Leaf-curling Spiders were abundant this year, but seem to have disappeared over the last few cooler weeks. The Leaf-curling Spider constructs its refuge by hauling up a leaf from the ground on a silken thread then folding and fastening it in its web to form a tube in which the spider shelters. This is probably a good idea as spiders make an appetising addition to a bird's diet. That's probably what happened to the large Golden Orb-weaving Spider that survived for a long time sheltered amongst some tall shrubs but disappeared last week.

The local Wombat still visits – I haven't seen it for a long while, but there is a regular supply of dropping along its various tracks. And the elusive Echidna is still digging holes in the Meat Ants' nests and under termite-infested logs. A few Kangaroo joeys are just emerging from their mothers' pouches for their first tentative steps, just in time to experience the winter months that start in a few days time.

# Just for June

## the market @ bungendore

Sunday June 18th 9am - 2pm  
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All your favourite stalls  
Come along for a browse  
Enjoy a variety of refreshments

jewellery		mosaics
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collectables		greeting cards
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garden products	textiles	pottery & ceramics
toys & models	preserves	local grown plants
cakes & pastries	hand knits	prints & paintings
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Make a feathery new friend at the Royal Canberra Poultry Show!

Meet some exotic rare breeds at Australia's first ever Royal Rare Breeds Championship, and learn how to keep them from people in the know.

Interested in keeping chickens, ducks and turkeys in your backyard? You can add to your flock at the auction on Sunday. It's a great weekend out!

Come down to the Fitzroy Pavilion from 9-5 on Saturday or 9-2:30 on Sunday - entry is \$3 for adults and children under 16 are free!

**10-11 June**  
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## Some True Dog Stories (about a particular dog)

by Bob Angel, Mountain Road, Bywong

Over the years I have owned many dogs, usually good natured mongrels, and there is no doubt in my mind that every dog has its own distinct personality and modus operandi in dealing with issues of importance to canines. As with humans the manner in which a dog responds to a particular situation is a reflection of its general personality and innate intelligence. This is a true story from a few years past involving myself, my dog Mal and a respectably sized tiger snake (name unknown). Mal was a Kelpie-Alsatian cross I had inherited from a friend's elderly parents from the coast who had found this spirited young dog impossible to contain in their suburban back yard. Indeed I witnessed Mal scale a three metre chain wire fence with alacrity –even without a “super dog” cape-, and lesser fences were absolutely no challenge to his abilities.

Anyhow he was very amiable and generally well behaved dog and settled in really well at our place in Bywong where he had plenty of room and mental stimulation from interacting with people and usually one or two other dogs. He was a very good guardian of the chooks, which “free ranged “around the place and although a fairly large dog he had no aggressive tendencies whatsoever. However, if any other dog even thought of dinner of Bywong raised chicken, then he would quickly and assertively dissuade them of such notions.

Whenever I was doing anything around the house or in the paddocks Mal would come with me to generally observe, and (I suspect) supervise my activities.

About twelve or so years ago, during the height of summer I was building a largish steel shed as a workshop and garage behind the house. One very hot and sunny day, after several hours work it was time for a break and a cuppa, so I headed back into the house with Mal, as usual trotting along beside. Now the entrance I used that day was a partially completed hallway which was quite dark, and especially so to me as my eyes needed to adjust after being so long in the very intense sun. I had just entered when the dog urgently pushed past me and turned at right angles to my path completely stopping any further passage down the hall. This impolite behaviour was quite out of character for Mal and I was perplexed. But as my vision adjusted to the gloom I perceived Mal, still firmly blocking my way, alternately looking up to me and then down the hall. Then as my vision improved I realised that the dog had spotted a fair sized tiger snake curled up in the hall about two metres from where we were and had instantly decided on pre-emptive action to prevent me stumbling onto it.

In retrospect this intruding reptile had slipped into the hall through a partially opened door to a little courtyard/garden, probably in pursuit of a frog or other potential meal, and after spotting us it leisurely slithered back out. On recovering from my shock I got a shovel and made a half hearted attempt to track the snake and dispatch it, but it had wisely decided to skedaddle and my efforts were fruitless.

What amazed me about this incident was the very quick, decisive and intelligent action taken by Mal. His aim was solely to stop me stumbling onto the thing, and at no time did he bark or make any attempt to attack the snake, which could have lead to a much more dangerous situation with an enraged and very venomous reptile in a semi-confined space. If however I had reached the proximity of the thing I suspect he might have done something dramatic to protect me, but that is only speculation.

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I will never forget that particular incident, but as I wrote this story I recalled other anecdotes about Mal which are testimony to his very high level of intelligence.

A few years after the episode described above my wife (Angie) decided that I had to kill a sick chook since according to advice she'd solicited from various sources familiar with the ways and habits of chooks this individual was diseased and needed to be removed to prevent the spread of "chook plague" or whatever pestilence with which it was supposed to be infected. This request was sprung on me one morning just as I was about to make my usual journey to work. According to my wife the situation was so dire that a solution could not wait till I returned that afternoon but the deed had to be done then and there. There was no point in arguing so I asked her to get the sick bird from the chook pen while I reluctantly retrieved a (pretty blunt) axe with which to decapitate the unfortunate creature.

I was wearing my usual office clothes and still not fully awake placed the bird on a chopping block and aimed a swing at its neck with the axe. My judgement that morning was dreadful and I only succeeded in severing the neck half way, and was about to take a second swing when Mal leapt at me barking furiously. Completely taken aback by this unexpected development I lost control of the partially decapitated chook which escaped from the block and proceeded to erratically move and cackle its way about the area but not before it had sprayed arterial blood over my clean work clothes.

Eventually Angie took Mal inside the house and I was able to catch the poor chook and finish the unpleasant task.

After changing my shirt and trousers I realised that Mal had taken his fowl protecting duties so seriously they included actively stopping me from running amok on them with an axe. Once I'd regained some measure of composure I went to make peace with the dog and try to reassure him that I'd not gone completely mad.

After a few pats and reassuring words we were mates again but I perceived the dog may have been a bit embarrassed at his own behaviour. At any rate I considered that his reaction to my attack on the chook was perfectly logical and responsible, and that I was remiss in not having anticipated how he would perceive the situation.

There are many other anecdotes about Mal, but I will recount one that Angela described although I did not personally see the incident. Angie was in the habit of taking the dog to Bungendore when she went to the supermarket or whatever, and after shopping she would usually take a brief walk around town with him. These were the days when it was not yet mandatory to keep dogs on a leash at all times so Mal roamed along with Angie, occasionally disappearing if he got wind of a bitch on heat but normally sticking fairly close. He was always extremely sociable with other dogs or people he met, but on one of their regular routes a group of teenage boys had moved into a house with some sort of pig dog they had imaginatively named Konker or Masher or something similar. This dog was unsurprisingly a bit protective of its territory and would regularly growl and posture ferociously as Angie and Mal passed by, so after a couple of encounters they kept to the other side of the street and ignored the commotion. One day however Mal must have decided that he'd had enough of this antisocial behaviour and instead of passing quietly turned and faced the dog, bared his fangs and flew at the unsuspecting animal which he proceeded to chase twice around its yard with it yelping continuously before unceremoniously retreating under the house.

Angie watched in horror till Mal emerged from the yard with a happy doggy grin as he metaphorically wiped the dust off his paws and continued his walk. A couple of the teenagers appeared at the top window and yelled after Angie "that will teach your dog to mess with Mauler {or whatever}", but she wisely decided not to enlighten them by describing how their heroic killer beast was presently cowering in shock and awe under their house.

I could go on but I think I've described enough for now. Anyhow Mal lived to 16-17 till he became deaf, blind and incontinent. At that point it was kinder to put him to sleep, but taking him to the vet that final time was certainly one of the hardest things I've ever done. We buried him at home where his old carcass is still fertilising a fig tree which is very healthy and regularly produces fruit.



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## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I resolved this morning that I would rake up all the autumn leaves. I have been putting it off for weeks, not even doing a bit here and there because the colours have been too beautiful to condemn to the compost bin too soon. But the time had come. There would be no more shuffling through the mosaic of russet, yellow and gold, no more walking damp spots of leafy colour into the house: autumn must be over. The trees, however, have been reluctant to surrender their gowns in the still, quiet air, but an unseen hand has loosened the ties and their gowns have slipped over the hips to lie in folds at their feet; a deep sigh, a shrug and the last leaf floats to the ground; naked, they face winter.

This last month seems to have been one of endless celebrations...music performances, Mothers' Day, birthday parties for the young and old and those in between, and a country wedding in a picturesque setting as the afternoon shadows lengthened and the warmth went out of the sun.

I can't imagine a life without music. It takes you to another foot tapping place. Live music is even better; feeling the energy as you watch the musicians feed off each other. It puts a smile on your face. We have dined on fine food, and even average food improved with fine china, and engaged in robust discussions around the table with good humour. How easy it is to cling, however, to long held ideas, and how good it is to have them challenged. We need a breeze to rustle the leaves and loosen that spent energy. We live in interesting times and the moral high ground has become a rocky place.

As well as celebrations I did a little fossicking, following the history trails left by my forebears on the Victorian goldfields. This got me thinking about the "olden days" and the prop that flourished in those times and got so many of us through the day, tea drinking. It is a thirst quencher, a reviver, a ritual, a diversion, a chance to delay the inevitable or engage in idle conversation. The brew in the billy and the cracked enamel mug, the blackened tea pot stewing on the hob, the tea caddy, bone china cups and saucers and tepid tea, the once "common" mug and then horror of horrors, a tea bag! And once upon a time I could ask for a black tea confident that I'd get tea with no milk. Nowadays, I have to decide between Russian Caravan or Earl Grey or even dead boring English Breakfast, not to mention green, ginger and lemon, chai....and the list goes on. I often wonder if the Irish, being Irish, drink Irish Breakfast only at dinner!!

But I have been diverted from the real task at hand. The shadows are lengthening, the rain has passed and those beautiful leaves are still lying on the ground. I have finally run out of excuses.....but I might just need to put the kettle on once more before I look for the wheelbarrow and rake.

I wouldn't live anywhere else.....despite the ominous bite of winter.

## Rainfall And Temperatures In Wamboin

42 year statistics from Cooper Road

(by David & Robyn Robertson until 2017, since by Christine Rieber, with help from her husband & son)

### May Rainfall Stats

May rainfall to the 27<sup>th</sup> ..... 39.5mm  
2017 total rainfall to 27/5... 195.25mm

Average May rainfall..... 47.10mm  
2016 May rainfall..... 60.75mm  
2016 total rainfall to 27/5.... 250mm

### June Rainfall Stats

2016 June rainfall..... 178.25mm  
Wettest June..... 178.25mm in 2016  
Wettest June day.... 84.75mm on 6/6/16  
Driest June..... 8.0mm in 1979

Average June rainfall..... 57.0mm  
Average no. rain days in June... 9.9  
Highest no. rain days..... 22 in 1978  
Lowest no. rain days..... 2 in 2001

### June Temperature Stats

Hottest June day..... 17°C on 7/6/01  
Coldest June day..... 3°C (4 times)  
9/6/11, 24/6/14, 30/6/14 & 25/6/16  
Average day temp. .... 9.6 °C  
Coldest June..... 2015

Hottest June night..... 11°C (7 times)  
1991 (5 times) & 1995 (2 times)  
Coldest June night..... -6°C on 9/6/96  
Average night temp. .... 2.9 °C  
Warmest June..... 1991

Av. day temp. 7.5 °C & nights -0.3 °C

Av. day temp. 12.5 °C & nights 7 °C

*The six coldest weeks occur after the winter solstice which is on 21 June*

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