



September 2018 CIRCULATION: 1,324

Wamboin Community Assn: www.wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community: www.bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade: <http://wamboin.rfsa.org.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 Queanbeyan Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. On contentious matters the Community Association will strive to maintain a balance. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them or drop them off. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the deadline for the October 2018 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, September 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.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial Triple Zero (000) All Hours
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LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Peter Evans, President	6236 9779	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community	Mike Wilkins, President		president@bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade	Matt O'Brien, Captain	0409 991 340	wamboincaptain@gmail.com
Wamboin Markets	Lance and Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
Sutton School Playgroup	Belinda Robinson, Convenor	0422 262 426	B_Robinson35@hotmail.com
Landcare	Kathy Handel, Treasurer	6238 3596	khandel@bigpond.net.au
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison, Bungendore	6238 1333	
NSW SES	NSW Call Centre	132 500	For assistance in storms and floods
NSW SES Bungendore	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	For non-urgent assistance and advice
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood, JP	6238 3358	
Justice of the Peace	Keith France, JP	6238 3596	
Justice of the Peace	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	Bookings Officer, contact		Irrhallbywong@gmail.com
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	joan.mason@internode.on.net
Church - Anglican	Bronwyn Elliott, Warden	6238 3359	
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	
Wambn/Bngndr Book Group	Sally Saunders	0419 303 229	Sally.saunders1@bigpond.com
Wamboin Thurs Social Grp	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	Alex Lea	Petsitting	6236 9657
Jack Whitney	Pet&HomeSitting,OddJobs	0437-460-236	Gabrielle Simpkin	baby sitting/pet sitting	6238-1335
Jordan Brown	baby sitting	0414-907-921	Ethan Laver	Outdoor Jobs	6236 9809
Rebecca Purdie	pet/horse sitting	6238 3343	April Lloyd	babysitting services	0434468772
Laura Worden	baby/pet/house sitting	0458788486			

Wamboin Community Association's Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display

by Fireworks Australia



**Wamboin Community Centre,
112 Bingley Way, Wamboin.
Saturday 15th September 2018
Food stalls from 5.30
Bonfire lit at 6.33 and
Fireworks light-up 7.03 precisely**

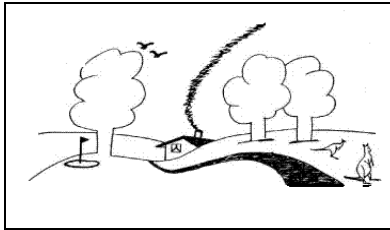
**Support local community groups,
including Wamboin Community Association, Church,
Fire Brigade, Wonderful Women of Wamboin, Golf
Club, Pony Club, Play Group, Sutton School**

**- with Traditional Stalls of:
Hot Dogs, Gluhwein, Soups, Rice & Meatballs, Steak
Sangers, Bacon & Egg Sangers, Baked Spuds, Curry
Dishes, Glo Sticks, Soft Drinks, Tea, Great Coffee and
other Beverages.**

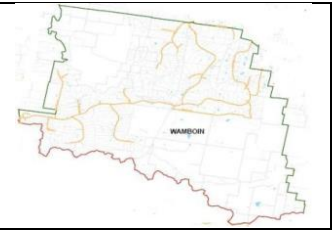
Adults \$5, Children \$2 or Family \$10

No drones are permitted other than the Fireworks Australia Drone. They provide high quality fireworks for us at a low price. One of the things they ask in return is exclusive rights to video the event from a drone.

**Please note: by law the only fireworks allowed will be
the display by 'FIREWORKS AUSTRALIA'.**



**Wamboin Community Association
Presidents Paragraphs
“Spring has sprung but the clouds haven’t”**



Well, spring is in the air and now you can feel that extra little bit of warmth in the mornings. The season is changing and the slim pickings of green are starting to emerge from their winter sleep. For now, the soil moisture is very shallow and we are all looking for some decent falls to kick on the spring growth. Fingers crossed we get some of the rains that recently fell up to our north so the local feed crops develop. Many areas are now out of lucerne (\$35 a bale at last purchase) and now just teff hay seems to be available. Hopefully this will see us out until the spring crops are harvested (if we can get some of that elusive precipitation).

Teff is actually pretty interesting. Teff (*Eragrostis tef*), is an annual species of lovegrass (it is a grass and not a grain so is also gluten free) native to Ethiopia and Eritrea. Not only for horses and livestock (low sugar makes it good for laminitic horses), it is actually grown as an important food source to make a sour dough type flatbread called Injera in Africa. It is the national dish of Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Eritrea. It is also touted as the next human superfood. Look out for a TV promotion by a super model sometime soon or maybe even the next part of a paleo diet from that other Peter Evans dude.

The Hon. John Barilaro – at our August General meeting John made a visit on a cool winter’s night (Lofty lit the fire to keep us warm) and thanks to Sam and Colin for some home cooking to feed the hoards. It’s great to see our own Member for Monaro and NSW Deputy Premier, John Barilaro making a visit to meet and discuss local issues. Issues raised included roads, health and aging, education, kangaroos and grant funding. It was a great discussion and we look forward to seeing John again at a meet the candidate’s night before the March NSW election.

Spring Talks - The 2018 Spring Talks Series continues this month with the September talk featuring the QPRC Animal Management Services Team, also known as the Queens Park Rangers. Come on down to discuss feral and domestic animal issues, your rights, their rights, whose right and who is wrong. Further information can be found in this issue of the Whisper.

Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks – It is on again (well hopefully). With the fire season bought forward to September 1st, we will seek a special permit for the night, of course weather permitting. Keep an eye out on local media platforms and the WCA web page for any updates closer to the event. It’s our biggest event of the year and provides a fund raiser for many local groups. Invite your friends (even the city folk will be admitted) for a great old school night out in the country.

September markets – The Home Produce Markets are back! Saturday the 15th sees the resumption of the markets. Make sure you duck down for the early spring vegetables, local crafts and Lou’s great coffee.

Drought aid - at the September markets we will have a collection to support drought affected farming communities. We will have an Aussie Helpers Collection Point seeking items such as non-perishable food, toiletries, pet food and milk replacement for young animals. See the ad in this month’s Whisper. The WCA is also arranging a major fundraiser so keep your eye out for more news about a big shindig.

Wamboin Social Drop-In Group – the drop in group runs from 10 am – 12 noon every Thursday. Drop into the Wamboin Community Hall for morning tea and activities (and a warm fire).

WCA GM – next General Meeting will be held commencing at 7.30 pm, Tuesday 18 September at the Wamboin Community Hall on Bingley Way.

Let’s make Wamboin great! ~ Peter Evans - President.



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Author Catherine Bird

Key herbs for LAMINITIS support



Nutritional support for a horse who suffers laminitis is vital. For the horse that is prone to laminitis, clivers is a useful daily supplement to improve the integrity of the hoof as it is one of the most nutritional herbs available and especially high in Silica.

With the older horse whose circulation may be sluggish, hawthorn berry is a further support and full of bioflavonoids that improve the elasticity of the supportive connective tissue that can become strained when the feet are sore while improving the health of the blood vessels that supply the feet.

For the horse that has low grade inflammation in his feet, turmeric powder will help lower the levels of discomfort. Often when there is systemic inflammation, there may also be arthritis in joints or irritated tendons and ligaments, with these horses adding ginger powder to the mix will increase the efficacy of the turmeric in a similar way black pepper is sometimes used.

For pain relief, where there is ongoing pain yarrow combines well with turmeric as a general management and recovery approach. Devils claw powder can be very effective with acute stages, however if the horse is already on Bute, do not combine these two as you could increase the toxic effects of the drug or irritate the horse's gut. For the horse with a sensitive gut, white willow bark is a gentler option and hawthorn berry will increase the potency of this herb if needed.

Once a horse is through the acute stage, using liver herbs to address the two phases of detoxification will help cleanse the effect of the stress on the body. Dandelion root or St Mary's thistle powder will address phase one, while turmeric powder will address phase two so that any residual drug therapy is not recycled back into the body and the recovery period can then follow on with clivers, restoring integrity to the hoof.

For the horse where stress has been a trigger to the laminitic episode, chamomile flowers will support the nervous and hepatic systems, and help the muscles that have become tense while the feet have been sore.

Choose your herbs carefully when dealing with laminitis, keeping the selection simple also helps not to overload the horse further with too many herbs. Combining a nutritional herb with an anti-inflammatory herb and liver support herb is often enough to start restoring health, and a maintenance program can follow on with nutritional and circulatory support once the hoof is sound again.

For correct dosage rates on the herbs mentioned in this article please contact Carol when placing your order.

Copyright: Catherine Bird, who is also the author of a Healthy Horse the Natural Way, has been an equine natural therapist for 27 years working closely with Country Park Animal Herbs for over 13 years offering advice to their clients.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this article is for educational purpose only and is not meant to replace veterinary advice or treatment.

02 6238 1135 Carol

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Bywong Community Association News

Diary dates:

QPRC Mobile Library Bus will be at the Bywong Hall (at a new time slot of 12.00 -12.45pm) on alternate Thursdays: August 30; Sept 13 and 27; Oct 11 and 25; Nov 8 and 22; Dec 6. This is a fantastic community service, and we should “use it, so we don’t lose it”. The Playground and toilets are always available and, whenever possible, we will open the Hall so you can enjoy a cuppa!

Other news:

The **BCA Annual General Meeting** was held on 9 August. All Committee positions were declared vacant, and elections resulted in the following Committee for 2018-19:

- President - Mike Wilkins
- Vice-President – John-Pierre Favre
- Treasurer – Merle Ketley
- Secretary – Jeanette Krah
- Public Officer – Peter Zimmerman
- Ordinary Members – Steve Walker, Graham Bamford, Bob Angel, Kerry Cox.

A **General Meeting** followed, at which the main topics of discussion were:

- Planning for a Movie Night at the Hall. Once we wade through the red tape, we plan to host a screening in Oct/Nov.
- Planning for a Film Competition with primary school, youth and adult categories/prizes, to be designed and launched with local Primary Schools and judged in early 2019. Get practicing with your smartphone!
- A walk-through the BCA website www.bywongcommunity.org.au . If you have any suggestions to make the website even better/more user-friendly, please contact us via the website.

Driveway work – **Thank You, Acclaim Contractors!** (Ivan, Flip, Barry and Chris) for generously installing a new culvert, which will allow for a wider gateway from the Les Reardon Reserve onto Birriwa Rd, making it easier and safer for cars and floats to enter/exit.

NSW Community Cabinet, Queanbeyan 23 August. This was an opportunity for QPRC ratepayers to get in the ear of NSW Ministers. Kerry Cox and Mike Wilkins represented the BCA and managed to corner relevant Ministers about the importance to our area of:

- Greenways/Crown Roads (aka “Paper Roads”, for health and social benefits);
- ‘urban-standard’ digital connectivity (for facilitating home-businesses, e-health, educational access), noting we will NOT receive fixed NBN connections even though we are within a few kms of the Capital! and
- good community infrastructure (eg an inviting and well-equipped community meeting place).

No cheque books were whipped out, but it was a valuable opportunity to get messages across to decision-makers in advance of requests for assistance/funding.

QPRC Land Use Assessment: E4 Zones, Bywong and Wamboin. At the QPRC meeting on 8 August, Council received a progress update on this matter, principally that the NSW Department of Planning and Environment has advised that QPRC should provide “...details relevant only to those sites where rezoning is proposed, and adequately demonstrate how the proposed rezoning addresses relevant planning considerations.” One of these considerations is a requirement for councils to justify that a planning proposal will not reduce environmental protection standards that apply to the land. Council voted to “seek expressions of interest for consultants to undertake relevant studies...” at an estimated cost of up to \$150,000. These studies will not be delivered in time for inclusion in the Comprehensive LEP process. The re-zoning item 6.2 can be found at p65 of the meeting Agenda and p8 of the Minutes on the QPRC website at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Stay tuned and keep an eye on the **BCA website:** www.bywongcommunity.org.au and **BCA Facebook Page**, where we welcome YOU to get in touch and contribute your ideas and/or get involved with any of our events.

■ Mike Wilkins, President, Bywong Community Association

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NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Increase in fire risk in Lake George Zone 16 August 2018

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) is strongly urging Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council residents to postpone any planned burning until after summer. NSW RFS District Officer Darren Marks said local Brigades have been called to a number of fires in recent weeks, including at Hereford Hall, Royalla, Bungendore and Braidwood. "The drought and strong winds mean landowners need to be very careful when attempting any burning," District Officer Marks said.

"We have been chasing escaped burns almost every day. Residents and landowners need to take care when using fire and remember that it is their responsibility to control the fire so that it doesn't escape and cause damage. "The fires at Ulladulla, Bega and Nowra have demonstrated the risk we face across the state. We already face challenging firefighting conditions. Effectively the fire season is already here."

District Officer Marks said all Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council residents should take the current conditions seriously and make sure they have discussed their Bush Fire Survival Plan, in order to protect their family and property should they be threatened by fire.

"If you are not prepared for the bush fire season then you must act now," District Officer Marks said. "Everyone should be using this time to prepare their property, which includes clearing gutters and removing fuel from around homes. "If you absolutely must burn off, please take extreme care. You must notify your neighbours and local fire authority 24-hours before lighting a fire."

District Officer Marks said that the start of the Bush Fire Danger Period had already been brought forward to the 1st of September due to the dry conditions. "From 1 September you must have a permit to light a fire in the open. Permits are likely to only be issued in exceptional circumstances because of how dry the area is," said District Officer Marks. "We're calling on people to understand that if you haven't completed your burning it is probably already too late to do so."

Residents are also reminded that all fire permits are suspended on a day of Total Fire Ban. Fire Danger and Total Fire Ban information is posted daily at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

For more information contact the Lake George Fire Control Centre on 6128 0600
For current incidents or major fire updates visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Wamboin Community Association Inc. (WCA)

August 2018 General Meeting (GM)

Date of Meeting: 21 August 2018

Meeting chaired by: Peter Evans, President, WCA

Attendees heard from WCA Committee and general members, as well as other local community groups, about the limitless efforts members of this community go to to enhance the livability and enjoyment of our rural-residential area for all residents.

Outline of topics discussed

WCA President: WCA President Peter Evans advised that the WCA is intending to arrange a drought relief donation collection point at the September Wamboin Market.

Golf Club: Peter Greenwood reported on the successful August Tradies event. The September event will be the Mason's Spring Trophy.

Hall Management Committee: Peter Greenwood said that the change room at the Wamboin Hall has been set up for future Kowen Trail Runs, the next being a night event on 1 September. Landscaping has progressed with Landcare and other volunteers spreading mulch. Further projects are under discussion such as concrete drains, gravel for the northern carpark.

Wamboin Social Drop-in Group: Denise Hales was pleased to report that the group is continuing to grow, attended by people ranging in age from 3 months to 90 years. She called for players of the card game '500' to attend.

Wamboin Communications Action Group (WCAG): Media coverage has been extensive coinciding with the release of a NSW Government grant program for rural and regional infrastructure. This prompted a number of contacts from telecommunications service providers keen to contribute to the project.

Following the meeting, Member for Monaro, The Hon. John Barilaro, MP gave an address, responding to questions from the floor and discussing topics of concern with attendees.

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. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 September 2018 which will be followed by a presentation and Q&A session with QPRC's Animal Management Services Team (aka The Council Rangers). All welcome.

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



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Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market

Saturday 15 September 2018 - 9am -12md

Contact: Meriel Schultz 02 62383309: 0422614304 imsconsulting@bigpond.com

Hope you have had/are having a happy winter - if a very cold, windy and dry one!

This is to let you know that the Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market fires up again on Saturday 15 September and then will be held every third Saturday of each month right round and including next June 2019.

Last year went well with an average of 22 stalls per market (often more) and a good mix of garden and home baked produce, plants and tube stock, home made natural therapy products, jewellery and craft. We are very lucky to have the use of the large Wamboin Community Hall and sometimes some spill over into the RFS sheds as well! This is particularly the case when we combine with special events such as: The Wheels of Wamboin; The Wamboin Pet Parade; Contentious Character Wine Tasting; The Great Wamboin Horse Gear Sale

Watch out for more combined events this year!

The cafe and Lou's great coffee/chai/hot chocolate and tea continues to be a good drawcard. So this is also a market that provides a welcoming Saturday morning hub for locals and those from further afield to come through and to catch up with neighbours over a cuppa (or get out of the chores waiting at home!!). Music definitely livens things up and we thank both the Miners family and Poetry in Motion for their great contribution in this regard.

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from new stall holders with regional produce such as poultry (live), chook/horse manure or other garden fertilisers, honey, cheese, locally cured bacon, meats or fish etc. This would add to the variety we have at the market at the moment. Please note that the Wamboin Community Association prefers to keep this market free from commercial goods bought in from outside the region and sold on (eg no Tupperware or imported goods). The emphasis is on home made/home grown or regional produce and craft. Home grown buskers also count!! School students wanting to make some pocket money by selling items they have made or by busking – very welcome. **Enquiries to Meriel on the contacts above.**

The RFS and WCA will continue to have stalls and we welcome charity stalls. We continue to promote local businesses like Contentious Character and are also happy to promote local groups like WoWS, Wildcare, ARF, Pony Club, Playgroup, Book Club, Little Libraries and the Wamboin Social Group if you give us flyers or information to put out!

If it's still very cold we might try lighting the fire again - worked quite well for the June market!

So.....SEE YOU AT THE SEPTEMBER MARKET!

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Looking To Sell Your Property This Spring??

If you're looking to put your property on the market this Spring, here's our top 10 tips to make your property shine.

1. If you've got an outdoor timber deck, de clutter it, give it a really good scrub down and a fresh coat of oil. Everyone loves to get out and have an afternoon BBQ as soon as the weather warms up, so make yours look attractive & inviting to prospective buyers – let them picture themselves there with family & friends. Add some interest by placing a couple of pots with colourful annuals in it.
2. Mulch the garden beds – nothing freshens up a garden better than fresh mulch and as well as looking good, it will prevent weeds popping up as well as retain water as it gets warmer.
3. If you have concrete or paving on the Southern side of your home that hasn't seen the sun for a while, make sure any build up of moss is scrubbed off.
4. External painting – time for the street view test. Stand at the front of the home and check out areas that may need a touch up. Do you have a front fence? Does that need a repaint? How are the eaves looking? Does the front door need a paint? Are you brave enough to give it a boost with a modern edge such as gloss black or fire engine red?
5. Give your entrance some aroma. If you have a garden bed near your front door, consider planting Daphne or Lavendar. Both are hardy, look good and give off nice aromas. If you don't have a garden bed, both will grow well in pots.
6. Remove odours. Over Winter, homes tend to be more closed up so cooking smells and indoor pet smells can be more prominent. Ensure that pet bedding is placed outside, and give the filters on your kitchen exhaust fan a really good scrub.
7. A lot of us like to curl up in comfort with a blanket, even when the living room is warm. Make sure you pack up Winter blankets and throws, and pack away any portable heaters.
8. Irrespective of the time of year, one of the most important things to do is declutter. Pack and remove knick knacks off level surfaces, remove old and magazine racks, pack your out of season clothes up to give a sense of more wardrobe space, and remove furniture and other items such as picture frames in hallways to make sure buyers don't feel like your home is cramped or claustrophobic.
9. Internal painting. As we have stated in previous articles, painting is without doubt the best 'bang for your buck' when giving your home a facelift for sale. If you are going to do it, don't be tempted to go for the latest bold colour trends. Stick to pale shades such as Antique White, Martini, ½ or ¼ shades of Grey Comfort or Christobel. These are all warm pale colours that look great with a white/off white trim.
10. Give your home a thorough clean – windows, cobwebs, dust skirting boards and architraves, and consider steam cleaning the carpet if you have indoor pets.

If you're looking to sell, and want some personal assistance and advice on what to do, and more importantly what NOT to do, call the team at Gilbert Real Estate. It is disheartening to go into a potential seller's house and see that they have either done work that won't really add value, or worse still, have done work where they have over capitalised. Call Gilbert Real Estate on 6238 1900 for a complimentary personal assessment of how to best present your property for sale.



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Classifieds

Wamboin Social Club. A meeting place - every Thursday, 10.00 & 12.00 at the Wamboin community hall. Pop in for a coffee & chat or linger longer and join in a game of ping-pong, card games, scrabble etc. All are welcome – young and old, bring a friend. Contact Denise 0400 310 685 for information.

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 www.lorrainebird.com.au

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WCA Electronic Noticeboard: The WCA electronic noticeboard is a convenient way to keep up with community activities. Subscribe by visiting the WCA website at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/noticeboard>

Civil Marriage Celebrant. Dorothy Skea. Mobile No: 0403 215 336 (easier to get a hold of me on my mobile). Ph: 6238 3290. E-mail: dorothyskea@outlook.com

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FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on www.bywongcommunity.org.au. or email Ann Sloan at lrrhallbywong@gmail.com.

FOR HIRE:- from Wamboin Community Hall - 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, - **Trestles and chairs**. All damages are the responsibility of the Hirer. Must be securely tied during transportation - or they don't go!

FOR HIRE :- from Wamboin Community Hall -**Gas BBQ'S** x 2. Hire cost and cleaning Bond applies. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258

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Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

Following conversations with some of my neighbours, it became clear that there is some confusion about the different black and white birds in the local area. This month I decided to provide some useful tips to distinguish between the local black and white feathered residents of Wamboin, being the Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), Pied Currawong (*Strepera graculina*), Magpie Lark (also called Peewee: *Grallina cyanoleuca*), and White-winged Chough (*Corcorax melanorhamphos*).

Distinguishing feature	Bird			
	Australian Magpie	Pied Currawong	Magpie Lark	White-winged Cough
Plumage colour	mostly black with a white collar, shoulder, rump and under-tail, tail tip black*	black with a large white wing bar, white rump and tip of tail	black back and white belly with white patches on wings and side of neck	all black – large white under wing patches visible when flying. Long tail.
Differences between sexes	<u>male</u> all white collar, <u>female</u> has grey-white collar and greyish lower back	no difference	<u>male</u> has black face and throat and distinct eyebrow, <u>female</u> white face and throat	no difference
Size	36-44cm	40-50cm	27cm	45cm
Bill colour	white with black tip	black	white	black
Bill shape	solid	robust with small hook on end	small	long, down-curved
Eye colour	red	yellow	white	red
Call	flute-like carolling	'curra-wong'	'pee-wee'	descending whistles
Grouping	pairs	one bird to small flocks	pairs to small flocks	family flocks of up to 20 birds
Habitat	ground – walks, flight direct	variable – mostly in trees or flying	ground – walks, often seen on roadsides	ground - mostly walks, and flicks bark and leaves, etc looking for insects
Photos (from Google images)				

*Note: there is also a 'white-backed' form of the Australian Magpie that occurs in Wamboin which has a completely white back extending from the collar to the tail tip.

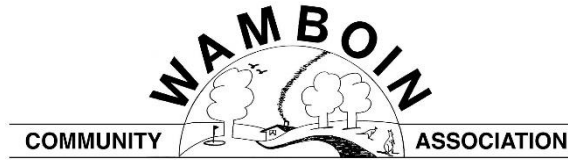
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SPRING TALKS SERIES – 2018

THE QPRC RANGER TALK



SEPTEMBER 18th, 7:30PM
WAMBOIN HALL

The Wamboin Community Association (WCA) invites all residents of Wamboin and surrounding areas to the **Spring Talks Series – 2018.**

The WCA is very happy to welcome Sheree and Jacquie from QPRC Animal Management Services.

When QPRC Mayor Tim Overall spoke at our November 2017 Spring Talk, he said *“In developing its Transition Structure, Council took into consideration the vast area it covers and the issues with roaming dogs, especially in rural areas. In doing so, Council has created a new position for an Animal Management Officer...It is expected that these two officers will rotate between the Queanbeyan Pound and Bungendore Office with the intention of undertaking more patrols in rural areas and working with groups such as yours on education.”*

The role of the Animal Management Officers is much broader than dealing with the many reports of roaming dogs in our area. Sheree and Jacquie will talk to us about the Queanbeyan Animal Management Facility (“the pound”), the duties of Animal Management Officers (“rangers”), the services they provide to the community, and of course will answer all audience questions. From dog attacks to escaped livestock, from feral cat control programs to animal rehoming rates, come along and get the facts from the team we may all need to call upon at some time.

Covering a variety of topics relevant to life in a rural-residential area and presented by local experts, the WCA’s **Spring Talks Series** will entertain and inform.

Come to the **Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, at 7:30pm** on the following Spring evenings to hear from and meet the following guest speakers:

Date	Topic	Speaker/s
18th September	<i>“QPRC Animal Management Services”</i>	Sherree and Jacquie QPRC Animal Management Services
16th October	<i>“Meet Your Local Police”</i>	Bungendore Police Team
20th November	<i>“News from our Federal Member”</i>	Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM, MP Member for Eden Monaro

The talks will be preceded by a short meeting of the WCA, and will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to speak to the guests, meet more of your neighbours and get to know what’s really going on in your community - **it’s where we all live!**

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Drought Affects Wildcare Too

It's a difficult time for rural landowners and farmers. The current drought seems to be much worse than the one we experienced up to 2009. Our dams are the lowest they have been in the last 20 years, there is little or no pasture and hay is both difficult to source and expensive.

Wildcare advocates on behalf of our native animals without exception. Many are affected by drought too and it would be good if we gave them a break. As all motorists know by now, there are many more kangaroos looking to find the best feed on our roadsides – especially between dusk, through the night and well into dawn – these are the danger periods. Motorists need increased concentration and vigilance to spot the unexpected kangaroo deciding to hop across the road. The risk of hitting something on the road can be significantly reduced by consciously increasing one's reaction time, which can only be done by reducing one's speed when we are unsure. The amount of roadkill at major crossing points shows that driving at the speed limit is not always safe or prudent. It's OK to travel at a much slower speed to ensure you can stop safely, should the unexpected happen. More impatient motorists can always overtake, can't they?

Seeing so many kangaroos at the side of the road may suggest there are a lot more of them, but this is not the case. They also move into areas where stock animals have been removed, which can also give a false impression that their numbers have increased.

Wildcare has had a number of calls from property owners who have suddenly got a new tenant munching on the front lawn or taking up residence close to a house or shed. Properties in rural areas or suburban houses close to the bush are most prone to having an uninvited guest. It is often a case of animals seeking out the best feed, including helping to prune our shrubs and trees. They will move on if conditions improve over the next few weeks – Spring is definitely in the air and let's hope it is a good one. Pasture and lawns do recover once more normal conditions come around. If you encounter a kangaroo near the house, give it wide berth. Just like us, they need their own space and will defend themselves if they feel threatened. Hopefully we can give them a break and a helping hand by leaving them be. If you need any advice about dealing with animals close to the house, please call Wildcare on 62991966 and ask to speak to one of our macropod specialists. (Photo: Molly in a Bag)

The drought impact on Wildcare has meant that many more orphaned and injured animals are coming into care. Compared to last year, there has been a 30% overall increase in calls relating to kangaroos. Wildcare is bursting at the seams with so many orphaned Joeys needing care. If you are interested in becoming a member, to help raise these Joeys, please contact Helen on 0433 010 318. With more animals there is more cost. Last year, Wildcare's vet bills and extra milk costs were over \$35,000 – all of which has to be raised somehow. So, if you want to help out, and perhaps sponsor an animal, by making a tax-deductible donation, now would be a good time. Just visit wildcare.com.au or simply pay into BSB 062-593, account 10216803 and let the Treasurer know to get a receipt: treasurer@wildcare.com.au . -- Philip Machin, For Wildcare



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Nature Notes August 2018

Jo Walker

August has been another dry month with lots of frosts and cold nights, although the days have warmed up just a bit.

We did get 11mm of rain near the beginning of the month which was just enough to coax a few Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*) leaves from the soil. A few Billy Buttons (*Craspedia variabilis*) are showing some of their soft hairy leaves and other daisies are developing rosettes or clusters of new leaves. These include Scaly Buttons (*Leptorhynchos squamatus*) and the Narrow-leaved New Holland Daisy (*Vittadinia muelleri*) along with the small and inconspicuous *Solenogyne gunnii* and *S. dominii*. A few Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) are just beginning to flower adding some welcome golden colour to the landscape. And the suitably named Early Wattle (*Acacia genistifolia*) is still covered in cream flowers in some local areas.

The dam has been low for some time now – none of the small amounts of rain we've had has been enough to get the creek running. But the exposed moist mud at the shallow end of the dam is an ideal site for several native plants to grow and thrive. At the moment, the most noticeable is the Mud-mat (*Glossostigma elatinoides*) its dark red foliage carpeting the ground interspersed with scattered plants of bright green *Gratiola peruviana* (Brooklime). Both of these are in the Scrophulariaceae family, but the Mud-mat has tiny but profuse pale pink flowers while the Brooklime flowers are much larger with noticeable pink flowers. Creeping amongst these two plants is the pale blue-flowered *Isotoma fluviatilis*. None of these is yet in flower, but if we get no more rain to bring the water level up their flowers should be visible in Spring. There always seems to be a plant or two that can take advantage of conditions that have become unsuitable for others.

The lack of insects seems to be having an impact on the number of small birds in this area. Most of the species common here are still around but apparently in lower numbers. I used to regularly get a mixed flock of birds, sometimes consisting of six or seven species, coming through the garden but this doesn't seem to happen any more. The Fairy Wrens seem to be doing all right and the Buff-rumped, Yellow-rumped and Brown Thornbills are still here but in much reduced numbers. However, the birds still here are probably noticing the days lengthening as they seem to be making a bit more noise over the last few days as nesting time approaches.

The Kangaroos are still having a bad time because of the drought, many of them ending up dead on the local roadsides after being hit by cars as they move around in search of food. Some of the local Red Stringybark trees (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*) appear rusty-coloured and smooth on their lower trunks after the Kangaroos have eaten the fibrous bark, something they have to be very hungry to do. And, about this time of the year, an illness often affects the yearling joeys killing many of them. Three of that age group have died here this month. And I've also found two very thin pouch joeys dead on the pavers. It's unclear whether they died in the pouch and were tipped out by their mothers or if they got out and were too weak to get back in. I did see another just-furred joey having difficulty getting back into its mother's pouch recently. It finally made it, but it's possible that the lack of food available for the adult Kangaroos is affecting the joeys.

Much of the rain forecast recently for this area hasn't reached Wamboin. Let's hope Spring brings us a bit of relief.

Dancing In The Moonlight? We'll Be Running In The Moonlight!

This Saturday night almost 200 runners will take part in the Kowen Moonlighter. With four race options, 7.55km, 15km, 22km and the 12 hour ultra marathon (either solo or as a team), the Kowen Moonlighter is Kowen Trail Runners first night-time race, first ultra marathon and first lap race.

Following a hugely successful year, this is the last race for 2018. With over \$21,000 raised for the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade, the next Kowen Trail Run will return in January 2019. For more information on the January race, visit Kowen-trail-run.com

- Pam Muston

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WAMBOIN WEATHER: (rainfall and temperature records)

43 years from Cooper Road by Christine Rieber

August Rainfall Stats

August rainfall to the 26th 27.75mm
2018 total rainfall to 26/8..... 233.5mm

Average August rainfall..... 54.1mm
2017 August rainfall..... 50.5mm
2017 total rainfall to 26/8..... 274.75mm
42yr Av. to end of August..... 432.7mm

September Rainfall Stats

2017 September rainfall..... 18.75mm
Wettest September..... 154.75mm in 2016
Wettest September day. 64mm on 17/9/13
Driest September..... 6mm in 1994

Average September rainfall..... 63.8mm
Average no. rain days in Sept. 10
Highest no. rain days..... 19 in 1984
Lowest no. rain days. 3 in 1987 & 2015

September Temperature Stats

Hottest Sept. day..... 29.5°C on 23/9/17
Hottest Sept. night..... 15.1C on 13/9/17

Av. Sept. temp... 9.4°C (day+night comb.)
Coldest September day.... 5°C (2 times)
on 4/9/1982 & 28/9/2009

Average day temperature..... 14.1°C
Warmest September..... 2001
Av. day temp. 16.5°C & nights 6.3°C
(highest 17.6°C in 17) (highest)

Coldest September night... -4°C on 1/9/12
Average night temperature..... 4.7°C
Coldest September..... 2015
Av. day temp. 12°C & nights 1.8°C
(lowest 11°C in 16) (lowest 1.6°C in 12)

21st September is the spring equinox where day & night are equal length (12 hours).



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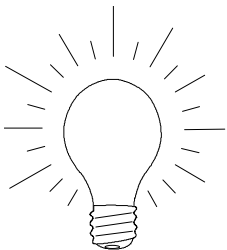
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How the Whisper Gets Delivered Each Month

The 50+ so individuals and families below each donate 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.

167: 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	23
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

180: 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)	32

232: 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	22	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			

267: 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	Cheryl Warnock	Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers)	11
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	35	Daryl Bourke	Harriot Rd	28
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Sandra Favre	Newington Rd	20
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	33	Joan Milner	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6	Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	46
Miscellaneous		3			

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

Peter Huckstepp	Federal HwSvcRd	22	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Lyn Parkinson	Bidges/Hickey/OldGoldMines	50	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	20
Glen Dorahy	Sutton Park Estate	53			

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

Chris Fowler	Millyn Rd	20	David Featherston	B'doreRd frm SmHill to&nclgdCrkBRd	27
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	22	Ken Steinman	Wyoming & Doust Rds	34
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy)	32			

187: CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 6238 3484

Diana Griffin	Majors Close	19	Judy Smith	Weeroona (254 - 400)	18
Diana Boswell	Donnelly Rd & Ln 29 & Grove Rd 7	37	Susie and Brad Edwards	Weeroona (417-512)	18
Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	Snowgum Road	27	Murray Goodridge	B'dore Rd (MRR to & nclgd Smmrhill)	38
Advertisers & Misc	Out of area advertiser mailouts	30			

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

There were two funerals this month, both men, who have played prominent parts in our communities. Peter Davies was farewelled at St Andrews. Many of you will have known Peter and his family as long term residents of Wamboin, and their later association with Shepherds Run. Within a week a very large crowd gathered, this time at St Peters, to farewell Stewart Barrett, a much valued member of the Sutton Rural Fire brigade for 30 years and with his wife, Yvonne, actively involved in all aspects of life in Sutton and Wamboin. We extend our deepest sympathy to Chris and Yvonne.

Our numbers have been down a little over the past month with several couples away, escaping the cold, and a few members of the congregation indisposed. However, with spring and warmer weather just around the corner we expect everything will soon be back to normal. Next Saturday we will be busy with the Sutton spring carnival. The churches will be running the car boot sale and a stall offering egg and bacon rolls and hot drinks on the Sutton oval. We hope to see you there.

Church 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, with a warm welcome and a cosy seat followed by a delicious morning tea and a chance to catch up with others in your community. As mentioned previously, Kids Club, which had operated at St Andrews each Friday afternoon during the NSW school term has closed its doors. We thank all those who so generously offered their time and talents to keep the wheels turning for almost ten years, and trust that one day the doors will open again.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about St Andrews and St Peters, please don't hesitate to call any one of these numbers: Pastor Ven. Dr Royce Thompson 0416265600, Alan Rope 0429434944, Bronwyn Elliott 62383359, Gai Donald 0438400364, Yvonne Barrett 62303539.

More Mulch



On Sunday the 12th of August Landcare members Geoff Butler and John van der Straaten turned up at the Wamboin Community Hall as did Hall Management Committee members Lofty Mason, Joan Mason and Peter Greenwood, along with helpers Tim Barter, Vicki Still, Diana Boswell and Ned Noel. They worked together to move 40 cubic metres of mulch. It was a beautiful, sunny day and the mulch was spread in a short time with so many willing helpers. The mulch, donated by the Queanbeyan/Palerang Council, was organised by Pete Harrison and was used to protect previous Landcare plantings and to surround the playground where more plantings by Landcare will happen in early September. Thanks to Lofty, Joan and Tim who also worked on Friday to prepare the areas by removing dead plants. Lofty and his tractor were invaluable in moving all the dead timber onto the fireworks pile. When the job was finished we had a chat and shared coffee/tea and cake. Thanks to everyone who participated!

- Vicki Still

How the Whisper Gets Printed Each Month

It wouldn't. Except for the business which pay sometimes hard to find money to run the ads you see on these pages. This provides the current cost for printing roughly 1,323 copies the Whisper. The cost is about \$1,300 for 24 pages or about \$1,450 for 28 pages. When you need a product or a service, please consider using these businesses. And to each of you who advertise, thank you. – Ned Noel, volunteer editor on behalf of the Wamboin Community Association, which owns the Whisper.

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Wamboin Golf – August 2018

Mahogany Ridge, Sunday 5 August. A clear blue sky and a slight breeze. Or so they tell me. Your correspondent had come down with what the President of Iran would call the *Mother of all Lurgies*. Thus he must rely on hearsay for what took place on the course. But naturally he struggled from his sick bed (like Plunkett in 1916) to attend the 19th. The day was sponsored by the Tradies, people who know one end of a hammer from the other. (One has a steel knob with ears and one hasn't). Stroke play adjusted for handicap was the order of the day.

Back at the workshop Henk (mechanical) prepared his famous pea and ham soup while Don (plumbing & gasfitting) and Trent (electrical) heated the party pies. Apologies and moral support from Col (automotive) up in the snow. Meanwhile, we all relived *National Poltroon's European Holiday*. You remember: it was the foreign affairs triumph of that great American wind instrument, Donald Trumpet – known to his friends as POTUS (poltroon of the US) - when he bravely wandered blindly through UK politics after courageously upsetting his NATO mates, and then cravenly waggled a spongy finger at his new bestie, Vlad the Slippery, for annexing Crimea, overrunning Ukraine, taking down MH 17, novichoking UK citizens, hacking foreign governments and businesses and interfering in foreign elections. "Not me" said Vlad and Ol' Windbag bought it. The free world's in the very best of hands.



The captain, fresh from his soporific trip on the Ghan from Darwin to Adelaide, welcomed our guests, a couple of chalkies, Alma and John Mater, as well as Col Listermann and Mel Iluka from the botanical gardens. Ted Evans took us for a trip down memory lane from his days as a *citrus reticulata* in the public service. The googly ball went to Lofty Mason for some aspect of his wife's play which he was not game to describe. His continued refusal to explain earned him the dummy spit award. Poltroonery is clearly in the air. NTB and LD ball winners were Ken Gordon X 3, Vicki Still x 2, Colin Urquhart, Joan Mason and Paul Griffin. The junior comp winner was Alex Gordon from his sister

Madz. The nine hole first placegetter was Samantha Urquhart 65/30 from Lofty Mason 45/33 and Deb Gordon 51/34. The 18 hole comp was taken out by Pete Harrison who played out of his skin to record a Ned Kelly-ish 86/56 and was last seen hurriedly leaving town covered in tar and feathers. With the Wamboin Open coming up soon, Pete obviously doesn't understand the concept of handicap maintenance! Runner-up was Ken Gordon whose 68 strokes for a handicap-adjusted 58 equalled the course record held by Tim Barter. In 3rd place was Paul Griffin 82/63. Well done all!

For those still in hibernation, the next month is September. Officially it will be Spring, which is when the R & A Wamboin GC mounts its famous Spring Trophy. So show some courage. Thumb your nose at Putin and join us at the community hall at 12.15pm for the 12.30pm start. - Larry King, golfer



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John Barilaro at Wamboin

The first in the Wamboin Community Association's (WCA's) *Spring Talk Series-2018* on Tuesday 21st August, following the August General Meeting of the Association at the Wamboin Community Hall, gave local residents the opportunity to hear from Member for Monaro and NSW Deputy Premier, John Barilaro MP. *Pictured: WCA President Peter Evans (at left) thanks John Barilaro after his address at the Wamboin Community Association's August meeting.*



As a regular visitor to Wamboin, in his opening remarks, John demonstrated his knowledge of issues affecting residents of the area. It won't come as a surprise to learn that residents wanted to talk about the poor state of our local roads. John said that there was money in NSW's budget for necessary repairs and improvements and actively encouraged everyone to report specific issues via Council.

Bungendore High School was also a hot topic and John asked attendees to complete the community survey he recently released. He also reminded of the plans for the new Bungendore Ambulance Station.

Cross border issues were also highlighted to John who offered to refer the concerns to the NSW Government's Cross Border Commissioner, James McTavish. Residents described the difficulties they faced as a result of the ACT Government's recent decision to change the arrangements for Wamboin and Bywong (and Sutton etc.) children wishing to attend high schools and colleges in the ACT, and barriers to engagement for NSW residents needing ACT Health services (and vice versa, with Queanbeyan Hospital's Maternity Ward increasing in popularity with ACT mothers).

The WCA would like to thank John and his staff for attending the WCA meeting and for kicking off our Spring Talks Series a month early.

The WCA's Spring Talks bring the community together to discuss topics relevant to life in our rural-residential area. The aim is to inform and provide all residents with the opportunity to engage, meet our guests and fellow residents in person, listen, learn, ask, share and actively participate in community life.

The WCA's Spring Talks Series-2018 continues on September 18th with QPRC's Animal Management Services Team (aka The Rangers); October 16th with Bungendore Police; and November 20th with The Hon. Dr Mike Kelly, AM MP, Member for Eden-Monaro. Come to the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, at 7:30pm on these evenings. All welcome!

Written on behalf of the WCA by Jenny Warren, Assistant Secretary, WCA.

Something that Happened

By Ned Noel

This happened around six years ago. My neighbour still lives here, but the owners of the dog involved moved away a while back. It was a cold, cloudy, windy late afternoon. I went for a walk out Reedy Creek Place then turned north to walk along Weeroona Drive, just across from Majors Close. A car stopped. A 17 or 18 year old girl, tearful, wearing a school uniform, got out. A dog was running away from her. It looked a bit like a sheepdog or border collie, black with white patches, old, a bit scruffy. It ran into the gate of one of my neighbours.

The girl got into the car and drove it 40 meters or so further up Weeroona toward me and toward my neighbour's gate. She got out of the car. She said she was babysitting for a property further along Weeroona. She said the dog's name was Riley. She said there had been a lot of kangaroos around. She said the property owners had said never let him out because he will run off. She said he bit her while she was putting food in his cage, jumped out through the opened door and ran

Riley, now inside my neighbour's property, ignored her calls and whistles and his name. He ran and walked around the land inside my neighbour's fence, sniffing a lot. The few kangaroos nearby hustled off. There was a light on in my neighbour's kitchen. I knocked on the door and explained the situation to him. He and his son, then about seven years old, came out and helped. They had grabbed a rope and a cooked steak.

Whenever Riley saw us he wandered away from us. He wound up walking and running around my neighbour's house, keeping ahead of us. He was a quiet dog. No barks or any other noises. He just ran and walked around energetically. We thought oh well he will eventually go back to his home, but we decided to try a little longer.

My neighbour and I wound up revolving around and around the house in opposite directions, hoping to box in the dog. When we were about 15 meters from meeting, Riley saw me coming around a corner toward him. My neighbour was several meters behind him. The dog turned around and ran back toward my neighbour. My neighbour wheeled around and threw the steak like a frisbee over the dog's head as it moved past. The dog went for the steak and started chewing on it. My neighbour approached the dog. He was still chewing on the steak. My neighbour slipped the rope around its neck. He patted the dog gently and talked to him. I asked my neighbour if that was their dinner, or was there anything left. He said "Not much". The dog seemed calm and not worried.

My neighbour guided the dog to the girl's car, parked on Weeroona about 60 meters away. He sat in the front with the dog as she drove back to the owners' property. My neighbor came walking back around twenty minutes later. He said he and the girl lifted the dog back into its pen out on the owners' property and locked the door. He said the pen sat up on stilts, a meter or so above the ground.

Wamboin Mobile Phone and Data Communications Progress – August 2018

From the dim dark past where Wamboin mobile communications were the national laughing stock, to today where they are better in some homes, improving slowly to cover terrain masking and still in need of better capacity, speed and resilience – you could be forgiven for thinking there might be one day when the clamouring for “a telco service comparable to the city” was not a priority. Not very likely as the customer demands and social reliance on swift, secure and resilient mobile service grows.

There is some good news from both Tier 1 Telco’s TELSTRA and OPTUS as part of the Mobile Black Spot Program, in 2018. Telstra commissioned a 3G and 4G service tower on Denley Drive on 10 May 2018, with much fanfare and pomp. And now Optus are set to commission a similar service tower for 3G and 4G mobile phone and data services at 61 Forest Lane, Bywong on 28 Aug 2018. I think we will all note the service signal increase after switch on – I don’t think my iPhone knows how to operate on anything better than 1 Bar of signal strength.

With both towers having good “line of site” coverage to our local region, signals to your mobile phone and to those people you call, who live locally, should improve. Signal masking from high ground and very thick tree canopies will always be problematic. Mobile data coverage should improve in a similar fashion.

What a tangible boost to our community this Spring 2018! - Paul Patti

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Do you love reading and discussing books? Our well established book group reads a variety of books, is informal and sociable and open to men and women. We meet in the evening on the 3rd Thursday of each month at each other's homes. We are currently looking for a few new members. If you are interested, please contact Colleen on 0405 515 861.



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Bookings: cndlemesurier@bigpond.com

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Tanja Mitton and Fran Griffen
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From the Corner

Land Use Planning—Following on from last month's piece on the history of Local Government in NSW, one significant change introduced with the Local Government Act of 1906 was a move away from a rating system that was based solely on the ability to pay to one that also recognised the benefit derived from public expenditure in areas such as road building and maintenance. Rates thus became an incentive to develop, with undeveloped land attracting the same rate as a neighbouring property that had been cleared and built upon.

Amongst other things, the 1919 amendment to the Act delegated specific controls in relation to land subdivision and the proclamation of 'residential districts'. These provided local councils with a means of regulating residential density and amenity, an early form of land use zoning employed in urban environments to prohibit uses such as 'trades' and 'industries' in designated areas.

Functions within local government changed very little in the period between 1919 and the 1970s, although there were two significant post-war developments that have shaped Local Government as we know it today. The first was the increase in welfare and cultural services, such as subsidised meals and cultural festivals, encouraged to some extent by Commonwealth funding programs. The second was the introduction in 1945, through the Local Government (Town and Country Planning) Amendment Act, of a comprehensive land use planning system that allowed councils to prepare Planning Scheme Ordinances (PSOs) that could contain provisions for regulating and controlling the use of land and the purposes for which land may be used.

This was a significant change. It involved more than just building regulation or the control of subdivision—it related to the use of land, impact on neighbours and wider environmental concerns. There was initial resistance to the introduction of PSOs given the existing emphasis on encouraging rather than restricting land development, but individuals soon recognised that land-use control could protect and enhance property values—there was a financial bonanza to be had at the stroke of the council's planning pen.

There was a subsequent attempt to provide a broader context for planning through higher-level regional plans that would address matters of public interest beyond ratepayer preoccupations. In the event, local interests prevailed yet again and these plans were abandoned. It is to be noted, however, that like other reforms it simply proved to be ahead of its time and was to return to become a fundamental element of the NSW State planning system.

The move towards planning as we know it today came on the back of global environmentalism, which had its roots in the UK and USA in the 1960s following events such as the hydrogen bomb testing on Bikini Atoll, the Santa Barbara oil spill and a growing awareness of the broader impact of pesticides such as DDT. The existing focus on development for primarily economic gain was challenged by local action groups, with the Green Bans of the early seventies exemplifying the changing local mood. At the time, however, this was essentially an urban movement that was largely non-existent in rural areas.

Remarkably, the first broadly applicable legislation controlling development in NSW appeared as recently as 1979, with the introduction of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

I'll look at some of the more recent developments in this area next month.

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

Land Use Planning (August 2018) Local Government (July 2018)

-- Cr Pete Harrison, Ph. 6238 3640 Mob. 0427 711 028 Email: contact@peteharrison.id.au , Website: ww.peteharrison.id.au
[This article is provided for information purposes only and does not represent any recommendation or formal position of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council. Content was drawn heavily from *The Development of Local Government in Australia, Focusing on NSW: From Road Builder to Planning Agency to Servant of the State Government and Developmentalism*, Andrew H. Kelly, University of Wollongong, 2011]

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The Hills of Wamboin and Bywong, no. 6: Schofield Hill

By David McDonald

The March 2018 issue of *The Whisper*, p. 23, introduced this series of brief items on the hills of Wamboin and Bywong: where they are and the origins of their names. The information will be included in the local history pages on the Wamboin Community Association's website: <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/thewhisper/index.php?op=localhistory>.

I invite comments on what follows from *Whisper* readers, especially comments that fill gaps in the information provided, or that correct any errors. Contact me at ph. 02 6238 3706 or mob. 0416 231 890, email david [at] dnmcdonald.id.au.

Schofield Hill and Schofield Trig, altitude 760 m

NSW Geographical Names Board: 'A hill about 7.5 km E by N of Village of Sutton.' Trig: 'A major trigonometrical station situated about 7 km east by north of Sutton.' The trig point (no. TS4039) is on the hilltop on the western side of Bungendore Road, approximately 400 m north of Schofield Road.

Name origin: Named after James Schofield (b. 1807, Sussex, England, d. 1901, Emu Creek, Bywong) and his wife Maria, and/or their son James William Schofield (b. 1853, d. Queanbeyan 1933) and his wife Catherine, pioneer settlers of the area, particularly Emu Flat and Emu Flat Creek, that we now call Gum Flat Creek (Lea-Scarlett 1972, pp. 90, 99; ancestry.com).

Additional information: Note Schofield Road and the nearby Emu Flat Lane, Emu Flat Road, and 'Schofield's bridge at Emu Flat on the Bungendore-Road' (Lea-Scarlett 1972, p. 99).

I have not yet found the date on which the trig station was gazetted, but most of them in the Wamboin/Bywong area were gazetted in the mid- to late- 1880s. The trig station is shown on the 1895, third edition, of the parish of Bywong map.

Reference: Lea-Scarlett, EJ 1972, *Gundaroo*, Roebuck Society Publication no. 10, Roebuck Society, Canberra.

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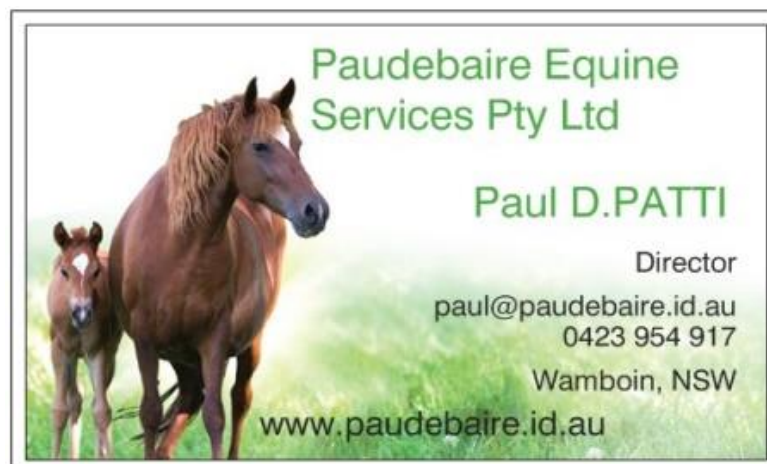


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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

Usually when I'm feeling overwhelmed and despondent by the crises and calamities in the world a good long walk in the bush restores my equilibrium; breathing deeply the smell of eucalypts and mouldering leaf litter, listening to the rise and fall of bird song, making pictures in the clouds and soaking up solitude. There's precious little that I can do to save the world, but the last week has sorely tested me. I haven't enough time or energy left in my life to walk far enough and for long enough to dispel the idiocy of last weeks shenanigans by those who live in the rarefied atmosphere of the big house on the hill. It beggars belief! And we and our system put them there. For a brief moment I thought I had been dreaming and woke up in Italy....or worse...Thailand. But that's last week's news. Too many people have already grabbed the airways and had their say, but may I make a plea for sanity, tolerance and compromise and that we put aside our bruised egos and get down to the business of making government work.

Now back to the things that really matter.....

August is always the coldest, greyest, slowest month of the year, the official end of winter, and this year didn't disappoint. We've never burned so much wood to keep warm, and despite long johns, beanies and thick woollen socks, I have never felt so chilled. But things are stirring in the garden and that's a welcome sign.

I've uncovered a worm or two, the daffodils are lifting their yellow heads amid scattered jonquils and if you look between the strappy leaves you'll see the delicate blue of winter iris and creamy hellebores tucked beneath last seasons ragged leaves. Soon I'll snip off a piece of flowering quince, still only in bud, for my "instant ikebana". It will take its place, once again, on the old wooden dresser in the hall; a symbol of waning winter.

Nothing looks terribly robust but the bees in the sweetly perfumed winter honeysuckle seem undaunted. I am surprised that there is some blossom as it has been a favoured haunt of the possums. Pottering in the garden I try to ignore the correas stripped of their leaves and all the other perennials that look more like leafless deciduous shrubs, but I did lose my cool when the ungrateful cockatoos, hand fed all winter, demolished several rows of daffodils and irises before they'd even had a chance to come out! What was their grievance.....Was it pure mischief, or hadn't that one got his way in the last cocky parliament?

I couldn't and wouldn't live anywhere else because this place has become part of me, warts and all. And in a day or so I'll walk along the rutted gravel driveway to the letter box and golden wattles will line my path. Welcome spring!

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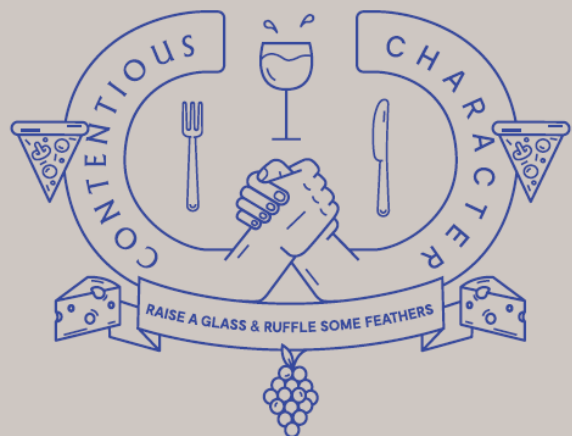
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