

# WAMBOIN



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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## The Whisper

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### The Wamboin Firefighter

**FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS**  
**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**



*The Wamboin Firefighter article is produced by the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade*

### OUTLOOK

Over the last few weeks we've seen the devastating impact of bush fires, and the incredible teamwork of firefighters and other emergency service personnel, supporting agencies and the community working together to protect what's most important. We're sure you would join us in expressing appreciation and admiration for those who have been, and continue to be, fighting or affected by the ongoing widespread destructive and deadly fires in unprecedented conditions across NSW.

Lots of rain is needed. It seems more people need to get out there and rain dance. Unfortunately, the weather forecasts indicate little, if any reprieve in the weather. As we move into summer the Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook released earlier in November continues its theme:

- rainfall likely to be below average for the remainder of November and December
- warmer than average temperatures likely, and the
- prospect of a more severe fire season for southeast Australia.

*What can we all take from this?*

Already, large areas of the state have experienced extreme fire danger and the season bush fire outlook is for an above normal fire potential. We are likely to experience severe, extreme and catastrophic fire danger again. Given the above, we continue to urge all residents and property owners to prepare themselves, family and property against the threat of a bush fire.

### GET READY

- Most people have a bush fire plan already
- Know what you will do if a fire threatens:
  - Where will you go?
  - When will you go?
  - How will you get there?
  - What will you take?
- A well-prepared property gives it the best chance of survival
- To make a bush fire survival plan, or for more information visit [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au)

### KEEP INFORMED

- It's important to stay up to date with the conditions and latest warnings: In an emergency call triple zero (000)
- Check the NSW RFS website [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)
- Download and use the Fires Near Me smartphone app and set a Watch Zone
- Call the NSW RFS Bush Fire Information Line 1800 679 737 (1800 NSW RFS)
- Listen to local ABC radio/emergency broadcaster – for Canberra and surrounding areas in NSW it is ABC Radio Canberra (666 AM)
- Check NSW Rural Fire Service Facebook Feed and Twitter

[article continued on page 5]

**GETTING READY FOR BUSH FIRE IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK**

**THE 4 SIMPLE STEPS ARE:**



1. ESCAPE



2. PREPARE



3. KNOW



4. KEEP

GET THE GUIDE AT [www.MyFirePlan.com.au](http://www.MyFirePlan.com.au)

**COULD BE THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT EVER!**



### NOTICE BOARD

**Wamboin Markets...Wamboin Hall...Saturday 21 December 2019 9-12md (See pg 11)**  
**Thieves are currently active – remember to be security conscience over Christmas!**

## Wamboin Whisper

The Whisper is a monthly community newsletter established in 1981 by the Wamboin Community Association. The Whisper is published at the start of each month, excluding January. It is distributed to every letterbox in Wamboin, Bywong and of Queanbeyan Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Each issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the month and is also then available at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au). All proceeds from advertisements in The Whisper after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association.

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. This edition [December 2019 - January 2020] of the Whisper was guest edited by Paul Downey. 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 February 2020 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, January 26<sup>th</sup>**.

**Wamboin Community Assn  
Bywong Community  
Fire Brigade**

**[www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au)  
[www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au)  
<http://wamboin.rfsa.org.au>**

## Local Facilities and Contacts

### 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

Facilities (alphabetical)	Contact person	Phone	email / web address
Bywong Community	Mike Wilkins - President	6230 3473	president@bywongcommunity.org.au
Bywong Hall Bookings	Bookings Officer		lrrhallbywong@gmail.com
Church - Anglican	Bronwyn Elliott - Warden	6238 3359	
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison - Bungendore	6238 1333	
Fire Brigade	Matt O'Brien - Captain	0409 991 340	wamboincaptain@gmail.com
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Cameron Smith	0419 449 747	
Golf	Peter Greenwood	6238 3358	p.greenwood2@bigpond.com
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare – Helpline	6299 1966	
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	0409 369 559	
KYB Bible Study Group	Yvonne Barrett	6230 3539	
Lake George VIEW Club	Pauline Segeri	6238 1996	
Landcare	Kathy Handel - Treasurer	6238 3596	khandel@bigpond.net.au
NSW SES (assist – storm/flood)	NSW Call Centre	132 500	
NSW SES Bungend. (non-urgent)	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	
Sutton School Playgroup	Belinda Robinson - Convenor	0422 262 426	BRobinson35@hotmail.com
Table Tennis	Mike Muston	0406 606 238	mikemuston@gmail.com
Wamboin Community Assoc.	Peter Evans - President	6236 9779	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
Wamboin-Bung. Book Group	Sally Saunders	0419 303 229	Sally.saunders1@bigpond.com
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	6238 3258	joan.mason@internode.on.net
Wamboin Markets	Lance and Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	Lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
Wamboin Play Group	Jules Clancy - Convener	0439 586 188	wamboinplaygroup@gmail.com
Wamboin Pony Club	Stacey Burgess - Club Secretary	0414 672 979	wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com
Wamboin Thurs Social Grp	Denise Hales	0400 310 685	deniselynnhales40@gmail.com
Wonderful Women of Wamboin	Gail Ritchie Knight	0416 097 500	Whirlwind1@argonite.com.au

## Young Entrepreneurs

Rebecca Purdie	pet/horse sitting	6238 3343	Alex Lea	Pet & House Sitting, Gardening	6236 9657 or 0439 219 865
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## WAMBOIN PLAYGROUP

We welcome everyone in our community  
and cater for children aged 0-5years.

TUESDAYS 10am - 12pm Wamboin Community Hall    Enquiries: Jules Clancy [wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com](mailto:wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com) 0439 586 188



## “Happy Christmas and a Fantastic New Year”

Well another year seems to have flashed past as we hit the shops to search for that Christmas present. I honestly do not know where the year has gone, life seems to be on fast forward at the moment. This year had some great highlights, a successful Spring Talks series (a big thanks to Diana and David), a record attendance for the Wheels of Wamboin, and a record busting Fireworks and bonfire night. The unique Wamboin Christmas Carols are still to come. This Christmas maybe we should take some time to consider how a great number of people are doing it tough with the ongoing drought. Maybe take some time to travel west to spend some money in a country town or donate via organisations to provide fodder, food and maybe even Christmas gifts for some of our country cousins at this especially tough time of year. Maybe look at contacting friends or family you have not talked to for a while and make a reason to say hello at this truly special time of year. So from my family to yours, have a magical Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

**Spring Talks** - The 2019 Spring Talks Series concluded with an evening with Neville Plumb the QPRC Team Leader Biosecurity Weeds. Neville was great at explaining how the regional bio-security is managed and gave the audience a great presentation of local weeds and the in's and out's of identification. This concludes our very successful spring talks for the year.

**Letterbox and Gate Decorating Competition** – the Christmas letterbox and gate decoration competition is on again with many thanks to the Wonderful Women of Wamboin. The WCA and BCA will support and provide the prizes. Deadline for emailed entries is **8pm Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December** and the winners announced at the Wamboin December markets on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 10.30am**. This is a great competition with some great entries last year. Forget the Christmas lights make your gate and entry the talk of Wamboin. All households that receive a Whisper in the letterbox are eligible to enter. Further details in this edition of the Whisper.

**Christmas Carols** – Jingle bells, jingle bells, Batman smells and Robin ran away – start rehearsing for the annual Wamboin Community Carols Night. This year it is on the **6<sup>th</sup> of December at 7:00 pm**. The Sutton School choir and our local band *Poetry in Motion* will be carolling and telling the Christmas story in our own rather unique Wamboin style. This is a non-denominational event and the emphasis is on the community enjoying themselves particularly the younger residents. **Admission to the event is a gift under the Christmas tree for the Salvation Army to take to someone less fortunate.** A BBQ (gold coin donation which also goes to the Salvos) will be sizzling and of course the arrival of Santa with gift bags to the children.

**Home Produce Market** – The last market for 2019 is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December in the Wamboin Community Hall, 9.00 am 'til noon. Come along to our market to enjoy a variety of stalls, you may even find that stocking filler for Christmas. The Fire Shed will also be open, and members of the Wamboin RFS will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have relating to preparing for the fire season.

**Wheels of Wamboin 2020** – pencil in the diaries for Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Bush dance** – As the drought gets worse we will be having a fundraising bush dance to raise funds to go to a number of drought and farmer assistance charities. It will held in March 2020 and we have booked the Paverty Bush band for the night. Keep your eye out for further details and how to book a ticket in the February Whisper and on our Facebook page.

**WCA Monthly General Meeting** – The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30 pm at the Wamboin Community Hall.

**Christmas Wishes** – To all our residents on behalf of the Wamboin Community Association we wish you a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year period. It's time to celebrate with our family and friends and also time to appreciate the special people around us. We also would like to thank all the wonderful people who have made our community great over the past year. Please drive carefully on our roads over the Christmas and New Year break.

**Peter Evans - President**

*We are Wamboin!*

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*I often sell properties before they even get on the internet or advertised, as I have a huge client data base and a lot of contacts of people wanting properties of a certain type and price range waiting for the right one. Which could be yours! So please call me, I have a great team that work with me and for you.*



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## The Wamboin Firefighter (continued from front page)

### WATER FOR FIREFIGHTING – HOW YOU CAN HELP

Water sources to support firefighting are critical at times like these. Our tankers only carry limited amounts of water that can be used up all too quickly. Tanker crews need to be able to identify suitable dams and tanks with virtually no notice, and be confident that the site is safe, has good access and has a reliable water supply. The NSW RFS, but especially your Brigade, has an ongoing and long-term program of pre-approving sites. These sites form part of the Static Water Supply program. Properties that fill the bill have a special sign fixed to their gatepost. You have probably seen them as you travel around. The sign looks like the one featured here. The unseasonably early fires further north from here are steadily creeping south and there is a prospect of fires of similar intensity being experienced here before Christmas. Water in all of NSW, including this Brigade's area, is becoming increasingly scarce.



### WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE STATIC WATER SUPPLIES

Not every dam or tank is suitable for our needs. The quantities of water we usually need are not necessarily very large as we train to use water economically. In summary, what we are looking for is a dam or tank that can be accessed by a 13t tanker with a turning circle of 13m. Most importantly the tanker MUST be able to back up to within 8m of the source as we are limited by the length of suction hose carried by each vehicle. It is also highly desirable that the water source be adjacent to the road, though this is not always possible. If your property has a water source with these characteristics please contact the Wamboin brigade's Community Safety Officer (0417 483 978) to arrange an inspection by a member of our Community Engagement Team. Remember, we are all in this together!

### CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY PERIOD

The brigade members wish you a fire safe Christmas and New Year, and thank you for your ongoing support. As with members of other NSW RFS Rural Fire Brigades, the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade volunteers are members of their community who repeatedly provide their time to support those impacted by bushfires, severe weather events and motor vehicle accidents. These volunteers and their families have a multitude of other commitments that they put on hold when the need arises, and this has in the past included missing Christmas lunch. *Several members of this brigade and others in the Lake George Zone have already spent time away on Strike Teams fighting fires further north.*

### CONTACT INFORMATION (Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade)

Website <http://www.wamboin.rfsa.org.au> Facebook wamboin rural fire service  
 Brigade Captain [wamboincaptain@gmail.com](mailto:wamboincaptain@gmail.com) or phone 0409 991 340 (non-emergency only)

If you have any non-emergency enquiries, e.g. need guidance with your Bush Fire Survival Plan or you would like a brigade member to visit you to provide helpful comment on your property preparations, please contact the Brigade directly by email or phone. You'll also find us at the Brigade's Information Shopfront on Wamboin market days (Saturday 21 December 2019).

Mitch Rodgers 0408 211 516 John Rodgers 0418 606 140

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## **EMPIRE GALLERY**

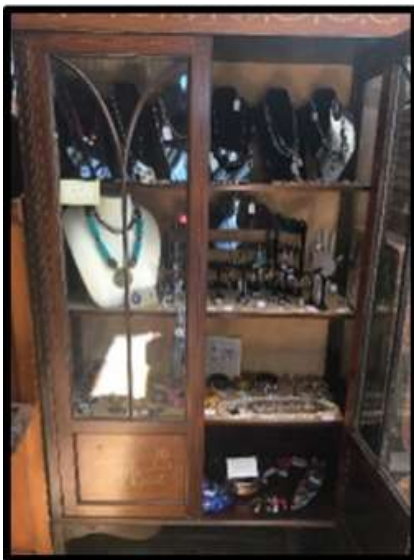
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## Bywong Community Association News

**Bywong Christmas Gathering:** Friday 6 December 2019, from 6.30pm at the Hall, Birriwa Road, Bywong. ALL are welcome – come on your own or bring the family along. We'll provide finger food and soft drinks, BYO favourite festive tippie. This will be an informal social gathering, with a few presentations to inspiring local youngsters. We hope you'll join us for this low-key opportunity to meet other local residents, to be part of *Bringing Bywong Together!*

Show off your creativity with your entry for the Wamboin and Bywong **Christmas Decorating Competition** coordinated by the Wonderful Women of Wamboin. There are two prizes up for grabs: **Best Mailbox and Best Entrance**, with prize hampers provided by the Bywong and Wamboin Community Associations. Send a photo of your creation, along with your name, address and phone number to: [WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com](mailto:WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com) by the deadline of 8pm Sunday 15 December. Winners will be announced at the Wamboin Markets on 21 December at 10.30am.

**Do you know** a local youngster who is pursuing their goals and needs a financial boost to get there, to help pay for equipment or to attend training? BCA invites nominations for the inaugural Bywong **Young Goalseeker Grants**. See the BCA website for more details.

**Bywong Boffins** discussion. Do you want to learn how to reduce your electricity costs? We'll have tips on what to look for if you want to choose a new energy provider and how to reduce the amount of energy you use in your home. Come along to hear new ideas and contribute your own experiences to the discussion. Date TBA in February at the Bywong Hall – check the BCA website for updates.

Don't forget the **Littlish Library** next to the Bywong Hall. No membership required, just take home an interesting looking book and donate one of your own in return.

**Recycle Right.** To make sure your recycling can be fully used and not be rejected to landfill, follow the Recycle Right tips at [www.tccs.act.gov.au/recyclopaedia/recycle-right](http://www.tccs.act.gov.au/recyclopaedia/recycle-right)

A reminder to register your interest in the Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Region (WBSR) fibre optic network project. For more information and to sign up/register your interest, go to the WBSR fibre network project website: <https://sites.google.com/site/wamboincommunications/home>.

Keep in touch with BCA via the **BCA website:** [www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au) and **BCA Facebook Page**, where we welcome YOU to contribute your ideas and/or get involved.

Mike Wilkins President, Bywong Community Association 0417458320 Email: [president@bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au)



#Recycle Right is a new region-wide campaign asking us to make some simple changes to our recycling routines. It is essential that we have **clean recyclables** that can be sent off for remanufacturing in Australia and overseas. This information is taken from the #Recycle Right webpage at [www.tccs.act.gov.au/recyclopaedia/recycle-right](http://www.tccs.act.gov.au/recyclopaedia/recycle-right).

- ONLY recycle:**
  - Hard plastic bottles and containers with the symbols 1,2,3 or 5
  - Glass bottles and jars, Steel and aluminium cans, Paper and cardboard
- NO Soft Plastics**
  - NO soft plastics, including bags, plastic wrapping, chip packets and bread bags
  - NO degradable nor biodegradable plastic bags – these belong in the landfill bin
- NO Small Items** Put **NOTHING smaller than a credit card** into your recycling bin, this includes:
  - Drink bottle lids (including milk bottle lids) [Keep them for Lids 4 Kids collections]
  - Bread tags and Bottle Tops
- Keep it Safe**
  - NO strapping line, hose, netting, wires, building materials, broken glass, chemicals and other hazardous materials.
- Keep it Clean:** Rinse or wipe out your containers of any excess food, drink etc.
  - NO food scraps, NO nappies, NO soiled paper or cardboard, NO general waste
- Keep it Loose** **DON'T** bag or box your recyclables.

## Wamboin Community Carols Night

It might not feel it yet but the end of year is approaching faster than we might believe and so too is the annual Wamboin Community Carols Night! Put on by the Wamboin Community Association this is a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the year with a community get together. This is a nondenominational event and the emphasis is on the community enjoying themselves particularly the younger residents. Admission to the event is a gift under the Christmas tree for the Salvation Army people to take to someone less fortunate.

The night features carol singing ably supported by local music group Poetry in Motion, the telling of the Christmas story (in its rather unique style), a BBQ (gold coin donation which also goes to the Salvos), and of course the arrival of Santa to distribute gift bags to the children. The date for this extravaganza is **6th December 2019 at 7:00 pm** sharp at the Community Hall in Bingley Way. So please come along and enjoy yourselves. Parents of children wishing to perform in the Christmas Play are invited (PLEASE) to ring Jenny Richards on **6238 1329** as soon as possible to organize parts.

# STOKES

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## The Wonderful Women of Wamboin

Gail Ritchie Knight

Once again the Wonderful Women of Wamboin (WWoW) are coordinating the local Christmas Decorating Competition. Last year there were some amazing entries such that I think it could be difficult to better them. Prove me wrong, put your creativity to work and get in the running to win one of two prizes: best mailbox and best entrance. Send a photo of your creation, along with your name, address and phone number to [WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com](mailto:WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com) no later than **8pm Sunday 15 December**. See the ad elsewhere in this edition of The Whisper.

In an effort to make Christmas a little brighter for our drought-affected sisters, a few of us are putting together pamper packages. We're filling shoeboxes with special items, wrapping them in newspaper and having them delivered in time for Christmas. See more on Ladies of the Land NSW Facebook or Instagram.

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



**The 2019 Christmas Decorating Competition**

Two prizes: Best mailbox  
Best entrance

Send a photo of your creation, along with your name, address and phone number to:  
[WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com](mailto:WWOW.XmasDecoratingComp@gmail.com)

Deadline:  
8pm Sunday 15 December

Winners announced at:  
10.30am Wamboin Markets 21 December

Prize hampers funded by both Bywong and Wamboin Community Associations

Coordinated by the Wonderful Women of Wamboin

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## WAMBOIN WEATHER: (rainfall and temperature records)

44 years from Cooper Road by Christine Rieber

### November Rainfall Stats

November rainfall to the 24<sup>th</sup> ..... 19.5mm  
2019 total rainfall to 24/11..... 343.75mm

### December Rainfall Stats

2018 December rainfall..... 96.25mm  
Wettest December..... 177.75mm in 2010  
Wettest day..... 68mm on 2/12/10  
Driest December..... 0mm in 1979

### December Temperature Stats

Hottest Dec. day..... 38.3°C on 28/12/18  
Coldest December day.. 12°C on 16/12/16  
Average day temperature..... 25.3°C  
Warmest December ..... 1990  
(Av. day temp. 29.4°C & night 14.3°C)  
(warmest day 29.8°C in 2018)  
(warmest night 14.9°C in 1994)

Average November rainfall..... 77.5mm  
2018 November rainfall..... 78.25mm  
2018 total rainfall to 24/11..... 353.75mm  
43yr Av. to end of November.....627.0mm

Average December rainfall..... 64.5mm  
Average no. rain days in December... 8.3  
Highest no. rain days..... 17 in 2010  
Lowest no. rain days..... 0 in 1979

Av. Dec. temp.. 18.9°C (day+night comb.)  
Hottest December night.... 23°C (2 times)  
on 20/12/94 & 24/12/05  
Coldest Dec. night..... 2°C on 5/12/11  
Average night temperature..... 12.4°C  
Coldest December ..... 2011  
(Av. day temp. 19.5°C & nights 8.7°C)  
Dec. 2018. Av. max 29.8°C & min 13.1°C

The mean annual rainfall is 691.5mm. Driest year was 1982 with 364mm  
If we get the December average of 64mm, 2019 will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest year across the 44 years of measurements.

### January Rainfall Stats

2019 January rainfall..... 64.25mm  
Wettest January..... 197.5mm in 1995  
Wettest day..... 74mm on 21/1/95  
Driest January ..... 5.5mm in 2010

Average January rainfall..... 60.6mm  
Average no. rain days in January..... 7.6  
Highest no. rain days..... 16 in 1976 & 78  
Lowest no. rain days..... 2 in 2003 & 14

### January Temperature Stats

Hottest January day..... 42.6°C on 16/1/19  
Coldest Jan. day..... 12°C on 29 & 30/1/78  
Average day temperature..... 27.6°C  
Warmest January ..... 2019  
(Av. day temp. 34.1°C & night 16.8°C)  
(highest night 17.1°C in 91)

Av. Jan. temp.. 20.9°C (day + night comb.)  
Hottest January night.... 26°C on 25/1/82  
Coldest Jan. night..... 5°C (4 times)  
on 24/1/00, 12-13/1/12 & 1/1/13  
Average night temperature..... 14.2°C  
Coldest January ..... 2012  
(Av. day temp. 11.1°C & night 23.2°C)

The average maximum daytime temperature in January 2019 was almost 3°C above the previous hottest January (2018) and 6.5°C above the long term average.

## **Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market Saturday 21 December 2019 9-12md**

**Contact: Lance and Meriel Schultz 62383309 or 042 261 4304 Email: [lmsconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com)**

A quieter market in November, with a full hall of stallholders but fewer people coming through. We welcomed some new stall holders and enjoyed having Jon with his cherries and smoked trout and wonderful cheeses back again. The Christmas market will be full of opportunities for last minute gifts – think cakes and shortbread, jams and preserves, gift packs of skin care products, art and craft work, jewellery and plants (and more!!). Come along and support your local market! You will be amazed at the variety of goods on sale. We have more than 20 stalls.

*Expect to find your last minute Christmas gifts and fresh produce from these goodies!*

Garden Produce Cherries Smoked trout and cheeses Plants Succulents Native tube stock

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*See you at the markets*

## **Wamboin Golf – November**

**Larry King, golfer**

Sunday, 3 November. The day of the preminent Wamboin Open, celebrated in ancient ballads and epic poetry. The assembled teeming masses were hushed by the news that competition would take place on a brand new course including four new holes – courtesy of the Lamberts - replacing those lost or reconfigured. As usual there would be two comps: the Open itself determined on gross strokes (that's total, not nasty); and a handicap division. The day is sponsored by the R&A Wamboin GC which we thank for the prizes and provender – the latter arranged by Joan Mason and Libby King. The BOM promised rain but we ignored that (foolishly, as it transpired) and set forth in Summer raiment with a Spring still in our steps and Winter and Autumn nought but distant memories.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> we wrung ourselves out after the cloudburst while the captain did his slow and patient best to make sense of our sodden score cards. There was much to wonder at: the return of Sky Whale, a mobile work of art representing the fusion of the welfare state and the cargo cult; the violent death of the notorious Iraqi rapper, Bag Daddy; the defeat of the Angles, led by their King, Edward the Obsessive, at the Battle of Yokohama; the democracy consultations in Hong Kong which appear to be going awfully well; and the impeachment of that master of the art of the deal from the bottom of the pack, Donald Strumpet. This caused some confusion. Some thought that impeachment was a ritual observed each year at the Araluen Spring Festival when hippies are tossed into vats of fermenting stoned fruit. Their frame of mind on emerging depends on how stoned they were when they went in.

The captain called for order and half an hour later introduced our guests, Len Ivey, Tony "Echo" Dowdell, Ben Lomond, Ben Nevis and the hyper-active Ben Zadrine. The googly ball went to Mr Dowdell for hitting the only tree on the 8<sup>th</sup> fairway three times with three balls and three trees on the 9<sup>th</sup> with one ball. The dummy spit didn't go to Vicki Still on this occasion but was perpetrated by Alex Gordon for complaining about the quality of the plastic tees provided gratis by the Club to all players. Ingrate! LD and NTP ball winners were Echo, Lofty Mason, Col Urquhart, Vicki Still (did I mention she didn't spit the dummy?), Steve Lambert, Len Ivey and Ken Gordon. The junior champion was Robert Thompson. The encouragement award went to Lisa Whitney. Based on the careful calculations by Nev Schroder the 2019 Eclectic winners were Ken Gordon (9 holes) and Paul Griffin OCB (18 holes).

We now reveal the names of our club champions for 2019. The 9 hole handicap champion was Deb Gordon 52/34 from Lofty Mason 49/35 with Ken Gordon 40/36 in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The 18 hole handicap champion was Vicki Still 87/67, demonstrating what is possible when the dummy remains unspat. Runner-up was Len Ivey 88/69 with Tim Barter 81/73 3<sup>rd</sup>. And now, quiet please as we announce the names of the 2019 club champions gross scores: Ladies champion (9 holes) Joan Mason 50 and club champion (18 holes) John Whitney 81. All who took part are to be congratulated for providing stiff competition. Well done!

Next month marks the end of the golfing year and features our Christmas Competition when we all sing carols and jingle our bells. Why not join us at 12.15pm at the community hall on Sunday, 1 December for the traditional 12.30pm start. Meanwhile I hope your choice of pet food did well in the Melbourne Steaks, the race that feeds a nation.




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## Nature Notes November

Jo Walker

A month of increasing heat and hardly any rain has left most of the countryside parched and brown.

The Bureau of Meteorology kept our hopes up with the occasional forecast of 'possible showers' but most proved illusory. Many days of high winds brought in clouds of dust from even drier parts of the country and accelerated the falling dam levels. My dam still had some water in it at the end of the last drought, but, unless we get some rain soon, it will dry out this time. Because of the lack of moisture, not much is flowering. Very few of the small herbaceous plants that used to provide patches of colour amongst the grasses are flowering this year. One species that does seem to be flourishing though is the Hoary Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans*) which is displaying swathes of white daisy flowers along the edges of Norton Road and Denley Drive. Sticky Everlasting Daisies (*Xerochrysum viscosum*) are adding a bit of golden colour. And the Cauliflower Bushes (*Cassinia longifolia*) are just becoming noticeable on the hillsides due to the developing heads of white flowers. All of these are in the daisy family and are amongst the toughest of our local plants.

Wattles are pretty tough too. Although many of the local shrubs are showing no signs of flowering this year, the Black Wattles (*Acacia mearnsii*) are showing off their perfumed cream flowers along Sutton Road.

Although the Magpies were picking up twigs to build their nest early on this year, the two pairs here don't seem to have reared any young yet. Much of the ground around Wamboin is now so hard and dry (not to mention hot to the touch) that beetle larvae and other invertebrates that the Magpies need for food are in short supply. A little insect that does seem to be doing well here at present is the Antlion. This is the common name of quite a few species with the same behaviour but occurring in two insect families (Mymeleontidae and Nymphidae).

The larvae of these fierce little insects build small pits (10-50mm across) in dry soil. Their prey, ants and other small insects, slide to the centre of the pit and downwards until they are caught in the waiting Antlion's large jaws and devoured. Ants seem to be more tolerant of the prevailing conditions than many other insects so there is plenty of food for the Antlions. And for the Echidnas, of course, which are still digging large holes in the Meat Ants' nests. With what's left of the grasses now drying out, things are getting tough for the Kangaroos. They are eating plants such as *Cassinias* and Mint-bushes (*Prostanthera* spp.), plants they would have previously found unpalatable due to strong-tasting chemicals in their leaves. But the little joeys seem to be oblivious to the hard times as they emerge from their mothers' pouches in the evening and hop around excitedly on their gangly legs to explore their piece of the countryside.



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## Bird Of The Month (December)

By Luke Downey

For December I chose the Olive-backed Oriole, a summer migrant to Wamboin.

### Olive-backed Oriole (*Oriolus sagittatus*)

Size: 26-28cm

Status: Uncommon breeding summer migrant

The Olive-backed Oriole is an uncommon species found only during the warmer months (October-March) in Wamboin. It has an olive-green back, head and chest and white with black streaks below, the wings and tail are dark. It has a red eye and bill. Its call is a loud "orry-oll", which is similar to the Black-faced Cuckooshrike's (*Coracina novaehollandiae*) call, but deeper, clearer and louder. This species is more often heard than seen, but it can be found in the treetops, where it spends most of its time calling. Olive-backed Orioles eat mainly insects, which they catch by flying out and catching them in mid-air. They build a cup-shaped nest in trees and lay 2-4 eggs which are creamy coloured with brown and grey blotches.




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## Samuel Plumb and John Lee take a walk to the Lake George Range, 1872

By David McDonald, email david [at] dnmcdonald.id.au, phone 0416 231 860

Readers may recall an article that I authored, published in the *Whisper's* March 2019 issue, titled 'Wamboin's Wyanga School'. The school was located on Reedy Creek, between the present Norton Road and Weeroona Drive, and operated between 1871 and 1874. The first teacher was the eccentric, dipsomaniacal Samuel Edmonstone Plumb (1827-?). Having been removed from his role at the school, he served as a private tutor to the children of John Lee (1840-1883) and Thomas Smith (1826-1903). John Lee, referred to below, was a butcher at 'Creekborough'. The school, where I assume Plumb was still living, was two miles west of the Lake George escarpment.

Plumb had a classical education, and wrote widely. In 1872 he was clearly fascinated by the ground-breaking work of the NSW government surveyors marking the base line of the trigonometrical survey of NSW at the south-eastern part of Lake George. He wrote a long article about it for *The Goulburn Herald and Chronicle*, concluding with the following 'familiar gossip'. Note that, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, 'gossip' meant, among other things, 'Easy, unrestrained talk or writing, esp. about persons or social incidents' (OED). Plumb wrote:

I will ...conclude with a familiar gossip of a special visit I recently paid it [Lake George], in company with one John Lee of these parts. I am in the habit of taking constant rambles to the shores of the Lake; for, "the pleasure of the pathless wood," "the rapture of the lonely shore," "the society where none intrudes," can nowhere be so exquisitely enjoyed as on the margin of this water, and its environing hills. John Lee became aware of my small failing for the picturesque; and as he was intimately acquainted with every inch of the ground about the neighbourhood of the Lake, being born and bred in the locality, he most magnanimously offered to cicerone me to an eminence, whence a view of the whole Lake and the southward plains, including the town of Bungendore, could be comprised in a single coup d'oeil. Accordingly, at midday on a certain Sunday, which I hold in fond remembrance, we started for the hill which was to permit us this enchanting view. My dog, Momus a massy fellow, and the companion of my solitary rambles, accompanied us. On the way we passed a hut, and as it is contrary to bush etiquette to go by any habitation without a visit, we were constrained, much against my inclination, to give it a call. We had scarcely entered when the occupier of the hut in adjusting a huge pot of water over a fierce fire, very cleverly upset the whole of the contents over the blazing hearth. The immediate consequence was that the room was filled with the dust and ashes from the fireplace, threatening us with the catastrophe which befell the ancient inhabitants of Herculaneum and Pompeii. We precipitately retreated from the storm of ashes and scorixæ and pursued our journey. Our way lay through a rough and rocky part of the bush, and I was a little in advance of John Lee, when, on surmounting a craggy eminence, I was astonished at the abrupt and magnificent scene, which so unexpectedly burst upon my view. I turned round and looked at John Lee as he came up, and we stood together in silence looking at the fairy scene at our feet, lit up by the dazzling sun overhead. Thus were the man acquainted with books and the man who knew nothing whatever about books, both affected with the same feelings: so true is it that – One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.

A smart breeze blowing at the time ruffled the waters of the lake, and gave the vertical sunlight in its bosom a nervous, trembling appearance, which greatly heightened the effect of the scene. To a fanciful mind the expanded lake might appear dedicating its beauty to the sun, and trembling with emotion at the ardent beaming of his great big eye. To me it suggested the myth of Jupiter descending into the lap of Danaë in a shower of gold. I have here, for want of something better, a small private school with nine pupils; and it gave me unbounded delight that this magnificent prospect of the lake and its environs was within two miles of my habitation, so that I could daily enjoy this, the most lovely sight which I believe is to be found in the whole colony. After spending a very pleasant afternoon among the heights around the lake, we turned homewards. My dog Momus is a capital scout, and ranges wide around me in my solitary walks; and there is no hollow-log or rocky crevice in his track into which he does not thrust his inquisitive nose. On our way to the lake he found nothing worth barking about, though he was as prying as usual; but on our way back he had evidently made some wonderful discovery, for about a hundred yards to the left of us he was barking himself almost into a fit. I turned aside to see the cause of his uneasiness; and he acknowledged my condescension by good-humouredly wagging his tail, without, how-ever, discontinuing his growling and barking for a moment. I was amused to see him thus expressing the emotions of anger and pleasure simultaneously. Like the double-headed Janus, he was severe in front, and amicable behind. The object of his alarm I found to be a harmless species of iguana, which with distended jaws and ruffles erected round its head looked rather a singular monster. The curious defence of this poor lizard appears to consist in trying to frighten its assailant, for its gums are toothless; and although I touched it with an ungloved hand, it made no demonstration of offence beyond that of looking unutterable things, and placing itself into the most convenient position for swallowing me entire. Lake George, Bungendore, 7th May. [unquote]



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I wonder if the 'craggy eminence' from which Plumb and Lee looked out, so appreciatively, to view the Lake and Bungendore, was in the vicinity of what is now Bede Road, Bungendore?

**Source:** Plumb, Magnum Bonum (Samuel Edmonstone Plumb) 1872, 'The base-line of the trigonometrical survey of New South Wales, in course of measurement at Lake George', *The Goulburn Herald and Chronicle*, Saturday 11 May 1872, p. 3. <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/101092448>.

**Glossary** (source: Oxford English Dictionary online)

- Cicerone: a guide who shows and explains the antiquities or curiosities of a place to strangers.
- Coup d'oeil: a glance taking in a general view.
- Massy (description of Plumb's dog): having an appearance of bulk and power; bulky, large-bodied.
- Momus (Plumb's dog's name): (a) The Greek god of censure and ridicule, who was banished from Olympus for his criticisms of the gods, (b) A person who habitually grumbles or finds fault, a carping critic.
- 'One touch of nature makes the whole world kin': William Shakespeare, *Troilus and Cressida*, Act III, Scene iii.

Scoriæ: the slag or dross remaining after the smelting out of a metal from its ore; rough clinker-like masses formed by the cooling of the surface of molten lava upon exposure to the air.

## Tomatoes

Lofty Mason

Despite the lack of rain 2019 is a great year for tomatoes. The photo to the right was taken on the 21st of November and, just check The Whisper on the web for true colour. You can see we have our first ripe tomatoes already. Just skiting and thought I should let the readers know. And yes, they were delicious. If I could only grow one type of vegetable (well fruit really) it would be tomatoes. They are so much better than bought ones.



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

Christmas is upon us and at this busy time of the year it's important to note events in your diary.

- **Advent** in the Christian calendar includes the four Sundays leading up to Christmas and as such Advent studies will begin on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at St Andrews, Poppet Road. All are invited to come along and share the Christmas message in the lead up to Christmas.
- Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm – **Carols**, a Nativity pageant and a “giving tree” at Wamboin Community hall.
- Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 4pm – **Sutton Community Christmas Party**.
- Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm – **Carols at St Peters, Sutton**.
- Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – **St Andrews/St Peters Christmas stall** with Christmas cakes, shortbread, and Christmas goodies at Wamboin Markets, Community hall.
- **Christmas Eve Service 7pm at St Andrews** – A break with tradition – there will be no Nativity pageant before the service in the gardens at St Andrews.
- **Christmas Day Service, 9am, St Peters**.

Regular services are held in St Andrews on the first and third Sunday of each month, and at St Peters on the second and fourth Sunday. All services start at 9am.

If you have any questions please contact any of the people listed below.

Pastor Ven Dr Royce Thompson	0416265600	Dr David McCarthy	0409383620
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From the congregations of St Andrews and St Peters, we wish you a happy and holy Christmas with family and friends wherever you might be. **Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.**



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## Bird Of The Month (January)

By Luke Downey

For January I chose the Eastern Spinebill, a common garden bird that feeds on nectar.

### Eastern Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*)

Size: 12-15cm

Status: Common breeding resident

The Eastern Spinebill is a small member of the honeyeater family. It is one of the more common honeyeaters in Wamboin and is also resident, unlike many of the others. It is an easy bird to identify due to its long, thin, curved black bill and distinctive bright colours. Eastern Spinebills have a dark head, back and tail, and orange/rust underneath, with a white throat and chest with an orange patch in the centre, a black border on the sides of the throat and red eyes. The juveniles are overall duller and are completely a dull orange underneath. Eastern Spinebills, like other honeyeaters, feed on nectar. In areas where flowering plants are scarce, they travel around to find food, but in gardens and areas where there is a consistent supply of nectar, they are resident. Their nest is a small cup made of twigs in a bush. They lay 2 or 3 eggs, which are whitish in colour. Eastern Spinebills have a loud call, which consists of staccato piping and twittering noises. They are very easy to find in most gardens and surrounding bushland areas, especially with flowering plants, where they are very active.



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## WCA Spring talk on weeds

Kathy Handel

After the Wamboin Community Association meeting on Tuesday night [17 Nov], Neville Plumb, QPRC team leader, Biosecurity Weeds, gave an informative talk on weeds and the NSW Biosecurity Act. The Act covers pest plants and animals, and diseases. Under the Act, everyone has a duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise biosecurity risks as far as is reasonable. Risk assessments consider invasiveness, control costs and the impact on the economy and the environment.

Mr Plumb gave us practical ways of identifying the priority weeds of our region: African lovegrass, serrated tussock, fireweed, gorse, St Johns wort, coolatai grass and blackberry. He then told us of the importance of an integrated weed management plan, including which herbicides to use, the importance of doing this at the right time of year and follow-up control. Other parts of a plan are prevention of the spread of weeds (e.g. in imported soil) and revegetation to create competition for weeds. Useful information can be found online by searching for NSW Weed Control Handbook, NSW Weedwise, NSW Biosecurity Act fact sheets and South East Regional Weed Management Plan.

Several people brought along plants to be identified, and Mr Plumb kindly stayed quite late answering questions while the rest of us caught up with friends and tried unsuccessfully to munch through all the food.



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Neville Plumb accepting some bulbine lilies from Peter Evans (WCA president).



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**168: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 0407 005 506 email alicehscott@bigpond.com**

Fay Kelly	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Christine Rieber	Cooper Rd	26
Cheryl and David Steele	Fernloff Rd	34	Jill & Richard Gregory	Canning Cl	17
Julie Veal	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	31	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)	22	Phil Leeson&Coleen Fogarty	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	32

**231: 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	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			

**161: CO-ORDINATED BY JESSICA GOURLAY: mob: 0401 249 jessicagourlay@hotmail.com.au**

Robyn Elsom	Denley Dr (Sth End to 429)	15	Rhonda&Neville Parnell	Denley Dr (Birchmans to 1/2 way to end)	26
Joan Milner	Birriwa Rd & Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	31	Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	35	Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	48

**106: CO-ORDINATED BY GARETH JONES: ph Ph: 6238 1988 givrjones@bigpond.com**

Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Sandra Favre	Newwington Rd	20
Daryl Bourke	Harriot Rd	28	Don Malcolmson	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat)	7
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	33	Cheryl Warnock	Macs Reef Rd (Nwington to Bankers)	11

**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			

**147: 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	26
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	24	Leigh & Derek Morris	Wyoming & Doust Rds	43
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy)	34			

**186: 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)	17
Attila & Cherry Hrgsi.	Snowgum Road	27	Murray Goodridge	B'dore Rd (MRR to & nclgd Smmrhil)	38
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## From the Corner

**Local Government Elections** — My how time flies when you're having fun! Yep, 12 September 2020 will be here before you know it and this time around there may be something more to consider. By the time you read this, Council will have resolved whether or not to hold a referendum in conjunction with the upcoming Council elections.

Under Section 16 of the Local Government Act, there are several matters that cannot be acted upon by Council unless approval to do so has been given at a constitutional referendum. These include decisions relating to the existence of electoral wards or ridings, the number of councillors on Council and the basis on which the Mayor attains office, and it is this last issue that will have been the subject of Council's deliberations.

Around 25% of NSW Councils currently have their Mayor elected by the electors, rather than by the Council. There are obviously arguments for and against this arrangement, with the other 75% of the State's Councils choosing to simply elect the Mayor from within their number.

In most cases, the Mayor will be aligned with the dominant political group within Council, but the way in which the Mayor is elected can have a direct bearing on how this situation arises. The Mayor elected by electors will, quite reasonably, generally reflect the dominant ideology or population group within the electorate. While this is not a problem in itself, in an electorate also comprising a number of smaller or less influential population groups the opportunity for representation of these smaller groups is diminished as a consequence of the way in which Local Government elections are conducted in NSW.

First of all, when the Mayor is elected by the electors, there are two elections — the Mayoral election and the Council election—and there is therefore one seat less up for grabs in the Council election (the Mayor is also a councillor). As a direct consequence, the opportunities for a minor candidate in the Council election are reduced — in an eleven member Council, from 1-in-11 to 1-in-10. The playing field is further tilted in favour of the dominant group or party in that, having elected the Mayor, the potential to also dominate the Council election is undiminished by the fact that one of their candidates (the Mayor) has already been elected.

This situation is exacerbated as a result of a quirk in the way concurrent Mayoral and councillor elections are conducted when the successful Mayoral candidate also stands for election as a councillor, which is almost always the case. Although the elections are held concurrently, the Mayoral election is counted first and the successful candidate is then removed from the count of the councillor election. However, rather than simply removing the successful Mayoral candidate from the councillor election, along with their quota of votes, their quota is passed on to the second preference on the respective voting papers (per Section 352 of the Local Government (General) Regulation). This may seem reasonable at one level, but note that the candidate in question has actually been elected as a councillor, albeit as the Mayor, so their quota is effectively being counted twice.

Group voting, as is commonly practiced in local government elections, also complicates the situation because it is then the Group or political party that effectively nominates the recipient of the Mayor's Group votes in the councillor election, not the electors. The result is that, having been successful in the Mayoral election, the Mayor (or his or her party) effectively gets to choose to whom his or her quota will be allocated — the votes effectively cascade down the list of candidates in their Group until they rest with the first candidate who has not yet accumulated enough votes to be elected — thus gaining two seats on Council for the 'price' of one.

There would be less of an issue if all candidates stood in their own right, and there was no Group voting, but note that there would still be a difference between simply removing the Mayor's quota of votes from the subsequent councillor election and passing them on as preferences.

Perhaps none of this would be a problem if the councillor election was counted first, and the electors, rather than the councillors, were then allowed to choose the Mayor from the list of successful candidates (perhaps simply as the first candidate elected — i.e. the candidate who attracted the most first preference votes could be declared elected as Mayor). This would not be an entirely impractical solution, but it would eliminate the opportunity for a candidate to stand only for the position of Mayor, and not as a councillor, which might not be a bad thing anyway — who wants someone who's only in it for the glory?

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

Local Government Elections (Nov 2019)

Voting in Local Government Elections (Jul 2012)

Cr Pete Harrison Ph. 6238 3640 Mob. 0427 711 028 Email: [contact@peteharrison.id.au](mailto:contact@peteharrison.id.au) Website: [www.peteharrison.id.au](http://www.peteharrison.id.au)  
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**Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 @ 7:00pm**

**At Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way**

**Everyone is invited to come along and:**



Join in the singing of Christmas Carols (both traditional and modern), ably led by our local musicians



Experience the Christmas Story, as presented by the children of Wamboin



Give generously to the Giving Tree (gifts and non-perishable food, preferably unwrapped or in a Christmas bag) for distribution by the Salvos



Say Hi to Santa when he arrives on his special transport, a Fire Truck



Enjoy the traditional free sausage sizzle (There will be a donation box with all proceeds to be given to the Salvos)



Soothe your tired vocal chords with a cold drink

## Christmas Games

### Sudoku

Easy (no. 4055342)

		7					2	
				2		7		
						4	9	8
				1		6	4	
					5	1		
4					7	5		9
	5	9	2					
		8	1		6			7
	4		8					

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Hard (no. 4052959)

		8	4					3	
6							3		7
			2					9	
			1	8		5			
2	6	3	7	1					5
									9
		5	6	3				1	8
	1				6				2

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Solutions available at <https://sudoku.cool/sudoku-download.php> - both puzzles from book 1.

### Wamboin Word Search

**List of words**

- Bingley Way
- Bonfire
- Bywong
- Community
- Curry night
- Denley
- Fire Brigade
- Fireworks
- Gearys Gap
- Golf
- Greenways
- Kangaroo
- Kowen
- Landcare
- Les Reardon Reserve
- Nature notes
- Ned Noel
- Ngunnawal
- Norton
- Macs Reef
- Markets
- Muse
- Palerang
- Play Group
- Pony club
- Santa
- Shingle Hill
- St Andrews
- Wamboin
- Weeroona
- Wheels of Wamboin
- Whisper
- Wildcare
- WWOW

E A A G N L O Y H O E L X S T V W W N B V H V Y X  
W V W R S D X V P R N B Z D N H V A C L J R S A R  
C T R E M F T A P C O C C L E D E D P H W D G P G  
A M N E B O L V D S T U P F D C X T D R O Q U C T  
D T J N S E T O N E R U T A N O O R E E W F Y A G  
B F N W R E D B G R O A H X O B A P S R W B B V U  
D S O A B H R A Y R N Q X W E Q S T N T B Z Z A P  
S A N Y S H I N G L E H I L L I A M P V P F K N I  
A G G S P T I Y O I F R N M H N Q T N Y X C A B A  
M C M Z I G A Q S D R W W W D X E H Y Y F J W P H  
G C S Q H L D L D L R B H R T J S R T G B D N X A  
Y P G T P P A G S Y R A E G J U T V I I O U L Z B  
V K O W E N G S K R O W E R I F N O N F M X O Y Y  
X E O T D K G U V R S J L R I F N G U N N A W A L  
P M U C M I R B B X N E S W S F L F M R S O S S K  
Y S A V C I S A V I E B O O D E S U M Y N B B C U  
N R R D H S O M M L Y U F T Y E L J O G P G W H K  
E I H G W D T O F Q X L W W O R N K C V G W P A M  
U B I X W D K W I L D C A R E S Z L V R N N U P V  
R L Q V M X O D Q P J Y M N I C E X E F M E T J F  
N F V P K S D N M J V N B W G A S Z D Y S Y V Z D  
E A F J X K A N G A R O O Q A M D B W L T X S A V  
K B T S W V J O R O Q P I E M H H X K J U R T U O  
L Q V M U I Q Q Y K I E N S H I N B G R X Q J B B  
T U P Z K O H L V D I F Z R C V L I A Q T U W T O

## Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I've just had a win. Nature has been conspiring against us all, lately, but it was on my side this morning.

We clocked up 23 years in Wamboin last week. Initially we thought we'd give ourselves ten years. Ten years came and went in the blink of an eye and we find ourselves still here, clinging to the last vestiges of sanity. I stopped for a moment and looked around. We have accumulated an awful lot of stuff as we have made our footprint, but we now have an awful lot that is surplus to our needs. As I burrowed into the dark recesses of my garden cupboard on the back verandah, I found stuff that must have belonged to different people, certainly not us! There were sprays for fruit trees and black spot on roses, tomato dust and balls of stretchy twine for tying up tomato bushes, half empty boxes of snail killer and weed killers that I never would have sanctioned even then. But we have no fruit trees, we haven't seen a snail for years, the few roses have even fewer leaves to be spotted and the tomato stakes were sawn up into lengths for kindling long ago. There's no vegetable garden and the chook yard is eerily empty. Nature has wreaked even bigger changes than we have ever made, but it gave me one victory, today!

Wamboin has never been the home of haute couture; baggy jeans, flannel shirts, thick socks, boots and hats that stay on your head. In the colder months another layer is added, and for my significant other it is the trusty khaki checked, Mao style padded jacket from Lowes. By the end of winter it has become like a second skin. Next season a new one is purchased "for best", and last years becomes the favourite for "really dirty jobs", with the previous winter's jacket being a back up for that one. After a few winters you can have quite a collection. These jackets are the perfect camouflage in the bush, and when worn with ear muffs can completely cut off the wearer from the outside world; bucolic bliss. They are also dirt cheap, rarely need to be washed and appear to keep one warm in winter and cool in summer. What else could a man with an environmental conscience want.

However, when dealing with his collection, tact is the essence. Each successive jacket has to be quietly moved from one cupboard to the next and to the next until finally, in the dead of night, it ends up on the verandah hooks outside the bedroom. There they become part of the furniture and fade from memory. A rather forlorn couple has been hanging there undisturbed for some time. Lately, however, there has been some activity around them, and this morning as I was plotting their final resting place there was a flutter in the folds; a snitchy honey eater showed its displeasure at my presence! Those red dust, cobwebbed, dirty jackets will have to remain until the young hatch and depart, and then, without ceremony, a used bird's nest, hidden in two padded Mao jackets, will be assigned to the bin. No arguments!

Thank you Mother nature for that small victory, but I'd like you to back off for a while and let me de clutter at my own pace, on my own terms, and get ready for Christmas. Some gentle rain would lift the sagging shoulders, and a cooling easterly in the evening at the end of a calm sunny day would be my best Christmas present. I think we've had our fair share of dry, relentless winds....and we certainly don't need winds that are dry, relentless and hot, as well. It is Christmas, after all, the season to be jolly and full of good will to all men.

Happy Christmas, Wamboin... I'll be here to celebrate with family and friends... because I wouldn't live anywhere else... and best wishes for the New Year.



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**Lucie Klaassen – 3 day clinic**  
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