

# The Whisper

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**Bywong Community [www.bywongcommunity.org.au](http://www.bywongcommunity.org.au)**

**Fire Brigade <http://wamboin.rfsa.org.au>**

**Bywong and Wamboin Facilities and Contacts**

<b>Bywong Community</b>	Steve Walker - President	6230 3473	<a href="mailto:president@bywongcommunity.org.au">president@bywongcommunity.org.au</a>
<b>Bywong Hall Bookings</b>	Bookings Officer		<a href="mailto:lrrhallbywong@gmail.com">lrrhallbywong@gmail.com</a>
<b>Church - Anglican</b>	Gai Donald - Warden	0438 400 364	<a href="mailto:peterandandrew2012@gmail.com">peterandandrew2012@gmail.com</a>
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison - Bungendore	6238 1333	
<b>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade</b>	Neville Schroder - Captain	0409 991 340	<a href="mailto:wamboincaptain@gmail.com">wamboincaptain@gmail.com</a>
<b>Geary's Gap Pony Club</b>	Cameron Smith	0419 449 747	
<b>Golf</b>	Peter Greenwood	6238 3358	<a href="mailto:p.greenwood2@bigpond.com">p.greenwood2@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare – Helpline	6299 1966	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Andrew Stainlay – JP	0408 469 880	<a href="mailto:stains@bigpond.net.au">stains@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Leanne (Lee) Ward – JP	0411 207 317	<a href="mailto:Leannefward@gmail.com">Leannefward@gmail.com</a>
<b>KYB Bible Study Group</b>	Robyn Doran	6238 3469	<a href="mailto:rdoran4@bigpond.com">rdoran4@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Landcare</b>	Kathy Handel - Treasurer	6238 3596	<a href="mailto:khandel@bigpond.net.au">khandel@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>NSW SES (assist – storm/flood)</b>	NSW Call Centre	132 500	
<b>NSW SES Bungend. (non-urgent)</b>	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Pip Easy – Contact Person	0414 366 856	<a href="mailto:Playgroup.sutton@gmail.com">Playgroup.sutton@gmail.com</a>
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Mike Muston	0406 606 238	<a href="mailto:mikemuston@gmail.com">mikemuston@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Community Assoc.</b>	Jenny Richards - President	6238 1329	<a href="mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au">president@wamboincommunity.asn.au</a>
<b>Wamboin-Bung. Book Group</b>	Sally Saunders	0419 303 229	<a href="mailto:sally.saunders1@bigpond.com">sally.saunders1@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason	6238 3258	<a href="mailto:joan.mason@internode.on.net">joan.mason@internode.on.net</a>
<b>Wamboin Markets</b>	Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	<a href="mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com">lmsconsulting@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Play Group</b>	Zoe Walker - Coordinator		<a href="mailto:wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com">wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com</a>
<b>Gearys Gap Pony Club</b>	Kate O'Connor, President	0413 008 824	<a href="mailto:gearysgap.ponyclub@gmail.com">gearysgap.ponyclub@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Stacey Burgess -Contact Person	0414 672 979	<a href="mailto:wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com">wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Thurs Social Grp</b>	Narelle Pumphrey	0438 917 206	<a href="mailto:pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au">pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au</a>
<b>Greenways Mgmt Commtee</b>	Kathy Handel - Chair	6238 3596	<a href="mailto:khandel@bigpond.net.au">khandel@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>Wonderful Women of Wamboin</b>	Gail Ritchie Knight	0416 097 500	<a href="mailto:whirlwind1@argonite.com.au">whirlwind1@argonite.com.au</a>
<b>ARF (Rescue Dogs)</b>	Lisa Whitney	0408 260 796	<a href="mailto:lisawhitney059@gmail.com">lisawhitney059@gmail.com</a>
<b>Building Community Resilience</b>	Amanda Jones		<a href="mailto:Ajones.advisor@gmail.com">Ajones.advisor@gmail.com</a>

**The Wamboin Whisper:** The Whisper is a monthly community newsletter established in 1981 by and owned by the Wamboin Community Association. The Whisper is printed at EnvoPrint in Fyshwick at the start of each month, excluding January. It is distributed to every letterbox in Wamboin, Bywong and 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). Any proceeds from advertisements in The Whisper after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association.

**Contributions to the Whisper:** Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 0409 997 082. Paul Downey of Cooper Road also shares in doing the editing. 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. On contentious matters the Wamboin Community Association will strive to maintain a balanced view, by seeking advice from the editorial team and by seeking alternative views to be published in the same edition. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before, so the **deadline for the December 2022 - January 2023 combined issue is 7 pm Sunday night, November 27, 2022.** **Advertising prices,** per issue, based on rough fraction of inside the margins A4 area: 1/8 \$24 1/6 \$29 1/4 \$35 1/3 \$44 1/2 \$70 2/3 \$87 Full Page \$140. email or phone the editor as above.



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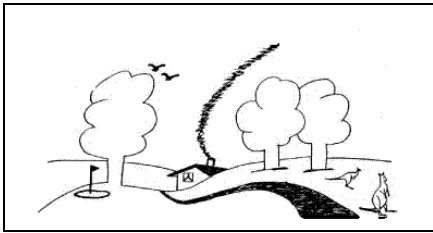
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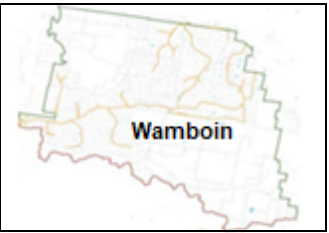
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## President's Paragraphs



Well we've come to the end of the year – and what a year its been. As our first year of slowly getting back to normal after Covid we've done our best for the Community of Wamboin. We've held some great events and there are a couple still to come before the WCA takes a well-earned Christmas break over January..

1. **Spring Talk – Possum Wood.** Our final Spring Talk of this year was with Steve Garlick of Possum Wood. A unique wild animal care facility located in this area. Steve spoke about the importance of holistic care for animals (mainly kangaroos, wombats and possums) that have been in serious trauma. They have an impressive release program to rehabilitate as many as can be back into the environment. It was a pleasure to meet Steve and my thanks go to Ian Donald, Gai Donald, Mike Bourke, and Diana Boswell all of whom did so much to make these Spring Talks a success. Next year (in Spring) we will run another series so watch your Whisper straight after the Bonfire for information.
2. **Rebecca Ryan To Visit.** For our final monthly meeting of the year the General Manager of QPRC, Rebecca Ryan will be attending. She intends to field any questions the community may have regarding local issues that Council has some say in. All are invited to attend this particularly if you have questions about DA's, roads, rates etc. .
3. **Final Meeting Of The Year.** But when *is* this meeting you may ask. That's easy its on the **20<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30 pm** at the Community Hall on Bingley Way. This is also our Christmas Drinks party so come along and share a festive drink and cake with us.
4. **Mail Box & Gate Competition.** Don't forget the decorated gate and/or mail box competition run by the Wonderful Women of Wamboin. Details are in this edition of the Whisper.
5. **Christmas Carols.** By the time you receive this edition of the Whisper our Carols Night will be over but I want to thank everyone who has volunteered to make this event successful. So many people in the community work to make this event a memorable one but a few groups or individuals deserve a special mention: our musicians *Poetry In Motion*, for the music; the Wamboin fire brigade (how could Santa arrive without them?); Sutton School Choir; the Salvation Army; the Rev. Kent Williams (filling in for Rev. Royce at the last minute); Santa (of course – you know who are); Lofty & Joan Mason; Keith France & Ian & Gai Donald; all those wonderful children who performed in the play; but finally a very special thanks to my family – Stephen, Anita, Neryssa, Zoe & Skye who really help pull the whole thing together.

Well that's all from me for this year. Its been a busy, sometimes challenging and rewarding year for me personally. I certainly couldn't have done it without the constant help and support of those members of the WCA . Thanks all of you and to everyone in the community. Finally from the WCA, we wish all of you a very **Merry Christmas And A Happy And Safe New Year.**

- **Jenny Richards – President.**

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## Bywong News

Well, another year has come to an end and Bywong celebrated this with its annual Christmas Drinks. As always, drinks, nibbles and gossip were in ample supply with the highlight being the presentation of Awards. As some of you may have seen, the BCA re-launched the Young Achievers Award as the Bywong Community Awards in order to recognise the outstanding contributions of people in our region

That said, the Bywong Community Association is delighted to congratulate this years recipients of the Bywong Community Awards. Cherry Horgosi (10yrs) of Bywong for her fund raising efforts and Robert Thomson (7yrs) of Wamboin for his golfing skills. Once again, congratulations for such outstanding examples of community spirit and personal dedication. Great stuff.

I hope you all have/had a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. – **Cheerio. - Steve. Prez.**

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**Georgia Rose Bookings:** [wildrosequestrian@outlook.com](mailto:wildrosequestrian@outlook.com) or [office@sheronypark.com.au](mailto:office@sheronypark.com.au)

**Marisa Magic Hands Horse Works** Sunday monthly  
**Bookings:** 0434 782 853

### Mark Langley

15-18 December 2022

**Bookings:** [jenny@equineability.com.au](mailto:jenny@equineability.com.au)

### Tori Jeffress Bitless and Bridleless

13-14 January 2023

**Bookings:** [caithe78@gmail.com](mailto:caithe78@gmail.com)

### Mark Langley

21-23 & 25-27 January 2023

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### Tanja Mitton - Position & Mindset

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## Geary's Gap-Wamboin and Sutton Landcare Groups – A Workshop of Collaboration

By Geoff Butler

The Geary's Gap-Wamboin Landcare Group held a workshop for members of the Sutton Landcare Group on 20 November on how to propagate native species.

The session covered the use of cuttings to propagate natives and included valuable information on which species are best suited for this approach as well as in-depth techniques on the collection and preparation of cuttings as well as the use of hormones and appropriate soils and media. The morning session provided an opportunity for participants to prepare their own cuttings. The afternoon session focused on participants taking cuttings that were already producing healthy root systems and planting each individual plant into its own container to provide the best environment for a successful result.

The Geary's Gap-Wamboin Landcare Group has been developing closer ties with the Sutton Landcare Group, exchanging valuable information and skills and encouraging increased cooperation.

**Photos of the Workshop:** The Geary's Gap Wamboin Landcare Group's main activities centre around propagating and planting out native plants that grow well in the Gearys Gap/Bywong/Wamboin area. This includes plant propagation, planting the natives propagated in priority areas (primarily public places) as well as enhanced community awareness and knowledge about caring for the land and having an influence on the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council on these important issues.

The Group also runs plant sales at the Wamboin markets and the Bywong Carboot Sale and uses the funds raised to educate the local community about the value of native plants and provide them with plants that do well in the area as well as advice about how to establish and care for them. For more information go to:

<https://landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/gearys-gap-wamboin-landcare-group/> and <https://landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/sutton-landcare/>



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**WAMBOIN WEATHER – rainfall and temperature records**

(47 years from Cooper Road) by Christine Rieber

November Rainfall Stats

November rainfall to the 27<sup>th</sup> ..... 57.75mm  
 2022 total rainfall to 27/11..... 905.0mm

Average November rainfall..... 78.9mm  
 2021 November rainfall..... 200.0mm  
 2021 total rainfall to 27/11..... 1007.5mm  
 46yr Av. to end of November.....633.3mm

December Rainfall Stats

2021 December rainfall..... 86.0mm  
 Wettest December..... 177.75mm in 2010  
 Wettest day..... 68mm on 2/12/10  
 Driest December..... 0mm in 1979

Average December rainfall..... 63.3mm  
 Average no. rain days in December... 8.2  
 Highest no. rain days..... 17 in 2010  
 Lowest no. rain days..... 0 in 1979

December Temperature Stats

2021 December maximum..... 33.1°C  
 Dec. 2021. Av. max 26.5°C & min 10.8°C  
 Hottest Dec. day..... 41.5°C on 21/12/19  
 Coldest December day.. 12°C on 16/12/16  
 Average day temperature..... 25.5°C  
 Warmest December ..... 2019  
 (Av. day temp. 32.0°C & night 12.3°C)  
 (warmest night 14.9°C in 1994)

2021 December minimum..... 5.6°C  
 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..... 12.3°C  
 Coldest December ..... 2011  
 (Av. day temp. 19.5°C & nights 8.7°C)

*The total rainfall to the 27<sup>th</sup> of November is 905mm, which is 270mm above the long-term average. If we get the average rainfall for December, 2022 will be the 4th wettest year on record. However, the forecast for the region issued by BOM (Bureau Of Meteorology) for December is for above average rainfall.*

January Rainfall Stats

2022 January rainfall..... 77.0mm  
 Wettest January..... 197.5mm in 1995  
 Wettest day..... 74mm on 21/1/95  
 Driest January ..... 5.5mm in 2010

Average January rainfall..... 60.2mm  
 Average no. rain days in January..... 7.7  
 Highest no. rain days..... 16 in 1976 & 78  
 Lowest no. rain days..... 2 in 2003 & 14

January Temperature Stats

2022 January maximum..... 35.6°C  
 Jan. 2022. Av. max 27.9°C & min 14.3°C  
 Hottest January day..... 43.6°C on 4/1/20  
 & 43.5°C on 31/1/20  
 Coldest Jan. day..... 12°C on 29 & 30/1/78  
 Average day temperature..... 27.7°C  
 Warmest January ..... 2019  
 (Av. day temp. 34.1°C & night 16.8°C)  
 (highest night 17.1°C in 91)

2022 January minimum..... 9.9°C  
 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)

**QPRC Mobile Library @ Wamboin**

The Mobile Library will be at the Wamboin Hall in Bingley Way from 10.30am to 11.30am on Thursday **1 December** and Thursday **15<sup>th</sup> December**. Even if you are not a Library Member still turn up, Mobile Library staff can join you up on the day and you can borrow immediately. This service is provided to Wamboin residents each fortnight by the QPRC for their enjoyment and convenience, please continue to use it. Check the QPRC Library Website and Facebook page for other events hosted by the QPRC Library for residents of all ages. Keep an eye on the website for the school holiday events hosted by the library. [library.qprc.nsw.gov.au](http://library.qprc.nsw.gov.au) **NOTE: No Mobile Library visits in January**, returns in February with fortnightly visits. - **Kaye Johnston**



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# BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



The **BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM** is about improving resilience against future natural disasters by extending and expanding the reach of the social connections in our community. We do this by:

- Hosting Greenway Walks including guest presenters and local experts speaking on issues identified by community members
- Sharing information and increasing awareness of local emergency management services and preparedness activities through our podcast series, and
- Supporting community events such as the QPRC Health Family Fun Day and the recent fire simulation demonstration at the Wamboin Fire Shed.

To join our mailing list please register your interest at <https://www.resilientbywongwamboin.net/join>.

Did you know that the Building Community Resilience program is run by locals for locals, and so far, around **170 LOCALS RANGING IN AGE FROM 10 - 80** have come along to events hosted or supported by the BCR program? A big

**THANK YOU** to everyone that has joined us.

The BCR Program was setup by locals for locals, including people like Nora Stewart who was instrumental in securing grant funding for the program and Robyn Neilsen and the volunteer steering group who bring ideas and direction to ensure the program continues to meet our needs.

The **RESILIENCE PODCAST SERIES** was started by the BCR program and that now has seven recordings featuring local people, emergency services personnel, not for profit organisations, and QPRC representatives speaking on a range of topics helpful to those living in Bywong and Wamboin. The series looks to open up new sources of information, views, opinions and ideas as we share stories, wisdom and encouragement. To listen go to <https://www.resilientbywongwamboin.net/podcasts>.

Planning for **AUTUMN GREENWAY WALKS** is underway with walks to take place March - May. These will be advertised in local media, FaceBook pages and on community notice boards in the week leading up to the walks. If you have come along to a walk in the past please bring a friend or neighbour along next time.

Safe holidays everyone, looking forward to catching up next year.



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## What the Heck Part 8

Those who have driven through Sutton in the last two years, or have read my earlier articles about the Sutton church, will know that a new hall is under construction. This building is intended for community use, not just church related activities, as St Andrew's in Wamboin is used by non-church organisations.

The dream to have this facility is not new. I suspect many who attended services in the 'early days' of St Peter's dreamt of worshipping in a warm, cosy, modern building which included all mod cons of the day.

It was in 1981 that a special fund was created to put aside money for church building upgrades. Its initial purpose was twofold. One was to purchase an organ to keep the hymn singers both in tune and in unison, and secondly, to build a toilet to replace the 'long drop' toilet in use at the time. A few years later an organ was donated to the church, so the account became solely a building fund for a small toilet block.

On several occasions from 1999, 'Highfield', in Cooper Road Wamboin, held an open garden day to raise funds. Various other functions were held and parishioners and other locals made donations which kept the fund balance slowly creeping up. However costs were also heading that direction and the dream of an indoor toilet seemed as far away as ever.

On special occasion days and fund-raising events it was necessary to hire a portable toilet, so in 1998 a second-hand portable toilet was purchased as a temporary solution. However to use this still involved an outdoor trip and many of the elderly members were not comfortable with the facility, resulting in their stopping attending church services and functions.

In the early 2000s, Robyn Hardy put forward, and promoted, a five year plan for the development of St Peter's. Then, with help from Yvonne Barrett, the vision expanded to become not just a toilet, but an extension, with toilet, kitchen, meeting room, and a long awaited permanent vestry. The extension was to be attached to the front of the existing church, providing a wind break from the Westerlies which regularly blew open the front door during services.

The congregation soon came to realise that this was the opportunity to construct a building which would meet church needs into the decades ahead, taking into account the predicted growth of the region, and also a building which would be an asset, and a link to the community.



In 2006 a building committee was formed and negotiations commenced with YVC. Over the years many different designs and plans were drawn and modified and discussed with council, heritage advisors and architects. A congregational meeting in 2019 endorsed the committee member's decision for a separate building, adjacent to, and complimentary to, the existing church building.

In 2020, after forty years of waiting for a promised indoor toilet, the first sod was turned. – **Alan Rope**



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## Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market Christmas Market

Saturday 17 December 2022 (9-12md)

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

At last a fine and sunny day! A busy market again with several new stall holders. The hall was full. The Rural Fire Service ran several sessions of fire simulations in the fireshed and answered questions about prevention, protection and management of our properties over the bushfire season. I thought I knew most things about fire preparation and fireplans as I've lived in the area for over 40 years - but I learned a lot. It was a very useful and interesting, if sobering, demonstration.

At the market, there were some lovely gift ideas for Christmas on offer, including bath salts, beautiful handmade gift tags, painted rocks, quilted items, stunning bonsai and more. Poetry in Motion returned to entertain and will be back for Christmas carols and songs for the December market. We will also have Christmas cakes and other Christmas fare to go with our locally produced fresh garden produce, cooked goods, flowers and plants, local cheeses and smoked trout. Cross fingers we will also have cherries on sale – depends a bit on the weather between now and December though. So come on down and grab those last minute Christmas gifts and fresh produce for the Christmas table.

The market is auspiced by the Wamboin Community Association. We accept any produce you have grown or made and some second hand goods, but no selling-on of commercial products. We encourage 'young entrepreneurs'. The cost of a trestle table or spot for your own table/trailer/ute etc remains at \$5.00. These proceeds are returned to the Wamboin Community Association and the Hall Management Committee. The funds contribute towards hire of the hall and insurance.

Call or email me (see above) if you are interested or would like further information.

**Supporting the market is a key part of our Wamboin/Bywong community. See you there!**

## Can You Come Up with Something For the February 2023 Whisper ...

... for your fellow Bywong and Wamboin Residents to read? A hundred thousand years ago our human predecessors probably sat around a fire or in a cave or under a tree and shared stories, invitations, questions and information. The Whisper is just one of the many ways we can still do this. You could give at least some hundreds of the homes around you something to enjoy or think about. It should be at least connected to living in Bywong and Wamboin. If it could increase your income, run it, but think about running it as an ad. There is no January Whisper, hopefully taking that volunteer job off the shoulders of those of you who deliver, write for, or run ads each month. Deadline for the February 2023 Whisper is 7 pm, last Sunday of January, which is Sunday January 29. – Ned Noel, volunteer editor, email [Whisper@wamboincommunity.org.au](mailto:Whisper@wamboincommunity.org.au) or [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au), ph 0409 997 082.

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# Wheels of Wamboin

**Save the Date Saturday 15 April 2023**

9.00am to 1.00pm

(in conjunction with Home Produce Markets)

Wamboin Community Hall - Bingley Way (off Norton Road) Wamboin NSW



## Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

For December I chose the Dusky Woodswallow, a fairly common summer visitor to the region.

### Dusky Woodswallow (*Artamus cyanopterus*)

Size: 17.5-20cm

Status: Fairly common breeding summer migrant

The Dusky Woodswallow is an active aerial bird, often seen in its distinctive spiralling/circling flight catching insects in the air. Their plumage is a dusky brown with dark slaty grey wings, with a fine white leading edge. The tail is dark with white corners and the bill is bluish. In flight, the dark body contrasts with the pale underwings. The male and female look the same. Dusky Woodswallows almost always occur in flocks which can occasionally number up to several hundred, and may also include other Woodswallows (e.g. Masked or White-browed, which are rarer in the local region). They like open habitats with perches like powerlines or dead trees where they perch often huddled close together, and perform small sallying acrobatic flights hawking insects, or circling 'glides' with their wings held out, returning to the perch. They avoid denser forest and woodland where it is harder to fly. In flight their broader wings and tail help separate them from other true Swallows. Woodswallows are not closely related to true Swallows, instead they sit in the same family as Butcherbirds and the Australian Magpie. They nest often in forks or on the sides of trees amongst the bark with well camouflaged nests. They raise their young here over summer. In mid-autumn they leave southern Australia and move north to warmer climates for the winter. They are often seen flying high in big flocks, where they can be quite vocal making brassy chirruping and zitting calls. Make sure to keep a look out for these active birds over the summer months.



(Photo from Google Images)

For January I chose the Eastern Rosella, a common and colourful resident around the region.

### Eastern Rosella (*Platycercus eximius*)

Size: 29-34cm

Status: Common breeding resident



The Eastern Rosella is arguably the most colourful parrot in the local area, providing a vibrant flash of colour when seen. It has a bright red head, white cheek, yellow back and belly, becoming lime green on the rump and flanks, with a red vent, and blue wings and tail. The back is mottled with black. The female is slightly duller than the male. This colourful parrot frequents more open, grassy habitats than its Crimson cousin, occurring in grassland and woodland, avoiding the denser forests. The two species often co-occur, and whilst they are closely related,

they are very different visually, with Crimson's being plain red (green in juveniles) with some blue. Eastern Rosellas feed mostly on grass and plant seeds which they crack with their strong bill. They are usually found in small flocks, and are quite social and noisy, with a variety of high pitched squawks, clinks and chattering. They breed in tree hollows in summer, and the young appear like a duller adult. Eastern Rosellas are a very colourful and common resident and should be easy to observe around local roadsides and properties. Sometimes Australians take these colourful parrots for granted but even though they are abundant and may become pesky, most other parts of the world lack such colourful birdlife. Keep an eye out and enjoy the colourful splash these birds add to the local ecosystems. (Photo from Google Images)



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## NSW Government's Wamboin, Bywong And Sutton Connectivity Project

Proposed for the Whisper by Glenn Archer WCAG, who received the message below from Opticomm

The NSW Government's Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton connectivity project is still on track, with the program breaking ground this week and works commencing in the Sutton Village as planned. This government funded initiative is being delivered in partnership with Opticomm, and with the support of the Yass Valley Council and Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council. Opticomm will be in touch with the local community as the project rollout progresses. The Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton connectivity project is the largest digital infrastructure rollout for the Monaro and Yass Valley regions, so your patience and understanding during the construction is most appreciated. To find out more information on the fibre rollout visit: [www.opticomm.com.au/wbs](http://www.opticomm.com.au/wbs)












### Can You Give Us a Hand?

We are cleaning up the Wamboin Hall surrounds on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December beginning at 8.30 am and finishing at about 11 am. Most of the work will be mowing and whipper-snipping around the edge of the oval and under the trees. Please bring what you can of the following: a trailer, mower, mattock and whipper-snipper. The plan is to make the area look better, be safer and to allow us to place mulch on the oval surrounds to reduce the amount of weed growth and therefore maintenance required. There will be morning tea provided at 11 am to finish the day on a social note and give you some reward for your labour! Please let me know if you can come and what tools/machinery you will bring so I have an idea of numbers. Thanks very much - Vicki Still 0404 013 898 or [vickistillnow@gmail.com](mailto:vickistillnow@gmail.com) (On behalf of the Wamboin Hall Management Committee)



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It is also the subject of a Police Report in February. Owner may be contacted via P.O. Box 116 Edgecliff NSW.

You can see this ad in colour at

<http://www.wamboincommunity.org.au/thewhisper/>



## Snakes Out and About – and so is Wildcare

With the warmer weather, snakes have become active. You should always wear gloves, long pants and sturdy, enclosed footwear whilst working outside or wandering in the bush and carry a phone and a snake bandage.

If you see a snake, stay still or back away slowly. If aid practice of pressure and immobilisation. Staying still, having and calling an ambulance, is the ultimate aim. If walking on your a bandage and watch where you're stepping.

Some species eat mice, others eat frogs. Remain alert around water sources.

If you find an injured or trapped snake, phone Wildcare on 699 from a safe distance until a rescuer arrives to remove it, free of

Wildcare hosts snake courses between December-February (weather dependant) and they're a great way to learn about, and gain confidence around, snakes. Everyone living in a rural setting should do the snake course, it's great. Refer to Wildcare's website at [www.wildcare.com.au](http://www.wildcare.com.au) for more info.

Lorrae Stokes, Wildcare



People bitten by snakes are often trying gardening/rearranging things outside.

Someone apply a compression bandage property or in the bush, carry a phone and

near chicken pens, stables, feed sheds and

1966 for advice and keep an eye on it charge.

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**Winners announced at:**  
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. Without the month by month donation of time by the residents listed below, it would be impossible for Wamboin and Bywong to have the Whisper Please remember all the residents listed below, as they do what they do in order to make Bywong and Wamboin a little bit friendlier and more sociable. And without the businesses who pay to advertise in the Whisper we could not pay the printer. Please consider these advertisers when you need services or products. -Ned Noel, [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or ph 0409 997 082.

171: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 0407 005 506 email [alicehscott@bigpond.com](mailto:alicehscott@bigpond.com)

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Dave Power	Fernloff Rd	34	Vicki Still	Canning Cl	15
Andrea Sadow	Poppet Rd	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	44

175: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 6238 3596 [khandel@bigpond.net.au](mailto: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)	32
Kathy Handel	Norton(Wrona2 Hilltop+Wirndra)	21	Phil Leeson&C Fogarty	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	27

229: 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	24	Dominica Lorima	Norton Rd – North End	42
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	65
Jules Clancey	Norton Rd #1033-#1240	37			

200: CO-ORDINATED BY GARETH JONES: ph Ph: 6238 1988 [givrjones@bigpond.com](mailto:givrjones@bigpond.com) done in Aug & Sept by Dominica Lorimer

Sophie Davis	Weeroona (254 – 400)	18	Susie & Brad Edwards	Weeroona (417-512)	17
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Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Justin Jarvis /Joel Smith	Macs Reef Birriwa to Harriott	14
Darryl Bourke	Harriot Rd	27	Belinda Morris	Macs Reef Rd (Nwington2 Bankers)	11
Sandra Favre	Newwington Rd	20	Carol &Clive Boughton	Macs Reef (Bankers To Fed Hwy)	34
Chrystal Earle	Snowgum Road	26			

165: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COLLET ph 0402 027 452 [lodestar@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lodestar@ozemail.com.au)

Peter Huckstepp	Federal HwSvcRd	22	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Lyn Parkinson	Bidges/Hickey/OldGoldMines	53	Fire Brigade	Headquarters on Bingley Way	1
Glen Dorahy	Sutton Park Estate	53	Russell Ball	Macs Reef – Denley Dr to BngndrRd	25

147: CO-ORDINATED BY DAVID FEATHERSTONE ph 6236 9722 [bushranger\\_au@hotmail.com](mailto:bushranger_au@hotmail.com)

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Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	24	Leigh & Derek Morris	Wyoming Road	20
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Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	52	Mary & Paulo Beneforti	Dnly Dr frm MacsReef to Birchmans	12
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## Wamboin Golf

Sunday 6 November was the date for the much-anticipated Wamboin Open Golf Championships. Twelve players braved the course and conditions. The recent rain (becoming a common theme) had again dampened the course which in some places was beginning to resemble a swamp. In years to come golf balls may rise to the surface of said swamp on Lofty's fairways. The Open is played as both a stroke and handicap competition. The winners of the 9-hole and 18-hole championship competition are those with the lowest score 'off the stick'. The remaining competitors battle it out for the monthly handicap competition.

The sponsor this month was Wamboin Golf Club and we thank Joan Mason and Rob Gorham for the refreshments and Deb Gordon (ably assisted by Joan Mason) for the wonderful array of prizes.

The nine-hole competition was played using the Western course this month, with the afore mentioned rain creating some issues on a few holes and the lengthening grass providing even more excuses this month. The Men's 9-hole competition was taken out by Ken Gordon and not to be out done Deb Gordon was the Women's 9-hole winner. The place getters in the 9-hole handicap event were: Rob Gorham (1<sup>st</sup>), Gerard Ryan (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Steve Lambert (3<sup>rd</sup>). Larry King was the encouragement award recipient.

The eighteen-hole competition was very tightly contested with Glenn Crafter taking out the Men's Open Championship and Vicki Still the Women's Open title. The place getters in the 18-hole handicap event were: David Bailey (1<sup>st</sup>), Paul Griffin (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Colin Urquhart (3<sup>rd</sup>). Tim Barter was the recipient of the encouragement award for the 18-hole competition.

The other awards bestowed at the Open are the eclectic winners. These are the players with the lowest scores across the year based on their best results on each individual hole after handicap. The winner of the 9-hole eclectic was our talented junior, Robert Thompson, with Tim Barter taking out the 18-hole eclectic.

Ball winners for longest drives and nearest the pins went to: Colin Urquhart (3), Glenn Crafter (2), Paul Griffin, Rob Gorham, Vicki Still and Tim Barter.

The club also presented gifts to our 'greenkeepers – The Mason's, Steve Lambert, Keith France and Pam Muston. Without their generosity of allowing us to play golf on their properties and the work they put in to manicuring the golf holes we would not be able to conduct this great community event.



The googly ball was awarded to Vicki Still for her trick shot that bounced off David Baileys ball and landed mightily close to the hole. Her rapid response was "I'll take that", to which Paul Griffin replied, "who said chivalry was dead!"

The dummy spit was again awarded before a ball was hit as both Vicki and Colin questioned their handicaps. Ken will approach Microsoft for an explanation!! The dummy was soon passed along to Tim Barter for his request for Keith to mow his rocks lower.

Ken Gordon recited the Ted Evans Joke which incorporated some advice regarding wedding anniversaries.

Next month, the December event will be the Christmas Cup, sponsored by the two Pete's (although one Pete will be interstate and the Thompson Family have agreed to step in). We hope you can join us at the community hall at 12.15pm on Sunday, 4 December for the usual 12.30pm start. - **Ken Gordon**

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# The Wamboin Firefighter

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**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

The last Wamboin markets saw about 50 locals take advantage of the “Sim table” demonstration. This was a special sided table filled with sand and a projected topographic map displayed over the top to give a 3d image. Weather conditions and fire danger ratings could be added to the software, and a moving image would display simulating what bushfire might look like and do across the landscape. A scenario of a fire to our north west was loaded into the programme and showed what we might face on a very hot windy summers day. Some issues during the demonstration became evident, such as road closures and possible infrastructure failures such as power and mobile phone towers. Some locals watching quickly realised that some roads that aren’t “through roads”, once cut by a fire, would leave you no choice but to stay on your property if you left it too late to leave. Other main roads if cut, might mean an hour or more diversion or completely block access to or from Canberra, Bungendore or Queanbeyan. Understanding where a fire is headed is directly attributed to temperature, wind direction and speed, so during the demonstration, the spectators had a better understanding of what might happen, and show things they hadn’t thought about previously. Having a fire plan is important living in a rural area so if you don’t have one, consider getting one either online from the RFS website or picking one up at one of our information sessions.

As the grass is now starting to dry out in our area, the risk this year will be mainly from grass fires. Where grasses haven’t been cut, you can see the seed heads now evident and the grass will start to die off and “cure” as it’s referred to in the RFS. Cutting long, drier grasses comes with a risk in that sparks from hitting rocks etc., or heat build-up in mechanical parts or exhaust pipes on mowers or tractors. Fires can start quickly and spread. In summer, cutting in the cool of the day when the humidity is low and winds are calm is preferred. Consider having a fire extinguisher attached to your mower or having one nearby. Wamboin brigade has attended many fires over the years where mowers have caught fire or caused a fire. Some owners were oblivious to a fire they started and it wasn’t until they turned around to mow in the other direction, they noticed the flames. Sometimes it’s a good idea to have a “spotter” available to be with the person mowing to keep an eye on things. It is a RFS requirement to have a 9 litre water fire extinguisher, 0.9kg dry powder fire extinguisher or a 16 litre knapsack spray pump filled with water when operating machinery in the fire season. Your mower is a very costly replacement, so having some sort of fire suppression equipment is a good insurance!



Finally, if you start a fire, or see a fire that is unattended, the only phone number to ring is 000. Do not try to ring the brigade. Ringing 000 will activate a paging system to get the closest brigade or fire appliance vehicle to you.

Wishing all our readers a happy, safe and fire free Christmas holiday period.

<b>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade</b>	<a href="https://wamboin.rfsa.org.au">https://wamboin.rfsa.org.au</a>
<b>NSW Rural Fire Service</b>	<a href="http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au">www.rfs.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Wamboin Facebook page</b>	<a href="#">Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade</a>
<b>Queanbeyan Fire Control</b>	6128 0600 (business hours only)

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## Nature Notes – November 2022

Jo Walker

The rain seems to have eased a little, but there are still fairly regular showers and the weather forecast is for another wet summer. The temperatures are rising though and plants are beginning to grow fast – including rather a lot of weeds!

The native grasses are flowering at the moment. These include Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*), Red-anthered Wallaby Grass (*Rhytidosperra pallidum*), several other species of Wallaby Grasses (*Rhytidosperra* spp.), Brushtail Speargrass (*Austrostipa densiflora*) and Corkscrew Grass (*Austrostipa scabra*).

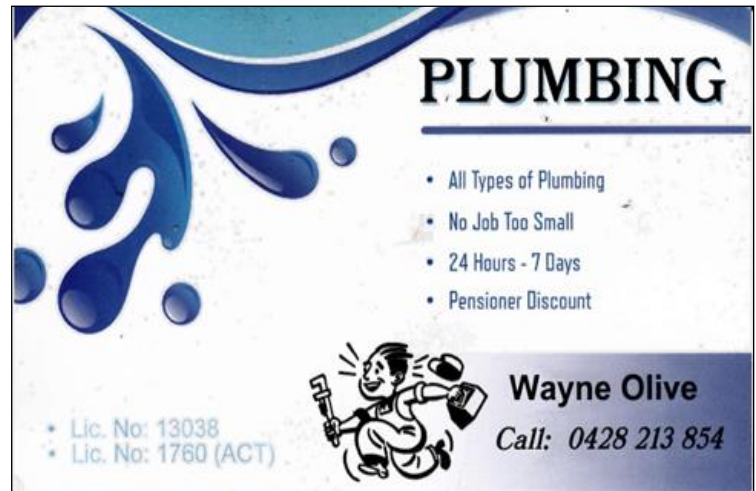
The Buttercups (*Ranunculus lappaceus*) are still covering a large area of grassland below my dam, and even more yellow is being added to the landscape by Sticky Everlasting Daisies (*Xerochrysum viscosum*) many of which are flowering along local roadsides. The suckering Common Everlasting (*Chrysocephalum apiculatum*) and the taller *Chrysocephalum semipapposum* are bearing their small yellow button-like flowers, and, in wetter areas, the Billy Buttons (*Craspedia variabilis*) and the smaller Scaly Buttons (*Leptorhynchos squamatus*) are adding some more yellow. And the white Hoary Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans*) flowers are still giving an impressive display. A bit of blue has just started to appear as the Bluebells (*Wahlenbergia stricta* and *W. communis*) begin to flower.

And, amongst the larger plants, some of the eucalypts are flowering. There is a small Scribbly Gum (*Eucalyptus rossii*) near my house that is covered in cream flowers at the moment. And the red flowers of a planted *E. leucoxylon* are attracting the attention of a lot of Red Wattlebirds.

Black Wattles (*Acacia mearnsii*) are beginning to flower too, their masses of cream flowers sending out a pleasant scent on the slightest breeze. The earlier-flowering Wattles would usually be carrying lots of seed pods by now but there appears to be hardly any on the Wattles here this year. Maybe, because of the wet weather, their pollinators were not around at the right time.

There was a Nankeen Kestrel hovering over the driveway here a few days ago. They used to be common visitors here but I hadn't seen one for some time. Probably, as the vegetation grows denser here, they seek more open land where they can see the ground more clearly and spot their prey.

It's interesting to see the plants, birds, lizards, insects and other parts of the fauna that come and go over the years depending on prevailing conditions. With Wamboin beginning to look more like a near-coastal countryside than the rather dry and rocky place it was years ago it will be interesting to watch.



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**A Chronology of Wamboin and District, Part 11: 1982 to July 1989****David McDonald**

In August the fourth edition of an historical timeline of our local area, titled ‘A Chronology of Wamboin and District, NSW’, was published at the Wamboin Community Association’s (WCA’s) website. Visit <https://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au/localhistory/> and navigate through the left-hand-side menus Wamboin Locality | Chronology. It commences with a two-page synopsis for readers seeking a brief overview of the history of the area.

This is the eleventh article presenting some items from the Chronology that focus specifically on Wamboin and district, rather than the broader, contextual happenings. It covers the period MONTH 1982 to DATE, and future issues will continue the series. The full version of the Chronology at the WCA website provides the documentary sources (including URLs where appropriate) underpinning these contents and, in some cases, additional information, as well as other entries for the time period covered below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Occurrence/comment</b>
1982	Commencement of closer settlement in the Joe Rocks Road/The Mountain Road area.
1982, 3 Apr	A public meeting held on this date agreed that a community hall be built on a block which had been put aside in Bingley Way for ‘Local activities’. Following fundraising, local volunteers commenced erecting the hall.
1982, 23 Dec	First birth to occur in Wamboin: Michael Bird.
1984	Wamboin Volunteer Bushfire Brigade created. John Finn was the first Brigade Captain and David Robertson the first President.
1984, 17 Mar	The initial erection of the Wamboin Community Hall framework collapsed.
1984, June	The Masons (Joan & Lofty) commenced as editors of the <i>Wamboin Whisper</i> , and filled that role until June 1989. 145 copies were printed, reflecting the small population of the area at that time.
1985	Greenways: Yarrawlumla Shire Council ‘... established a working party to develop a Shire-wide approach to a Greenways network that resulted in Council adopting “Access to the Countryside” as their Bicentennial theme in 1988.’
1985	‘Anglican Church services began in Wamboin in 1985 with monthly services held in the Bingley Way Community Hall.’ The St Andrew’s Church had not been built at that stage.
1985, 22 Jan	‘Two men are facing prosecution by the Yarrawlumla Shire Council under the NSW Bushfire Act. A meeting of the council resolved last night to instigate court proceedings against the men, whom the council regards as having begun the bushfires through negligence. Council investigations alleged that a fire at Bingley Way, Wamboin, which burnt four hectares of grazing land on January 2, had been begun by a linesman working for the Southern Tablelands County Council, who allegedly dropped a cigarette in long grass. Another fire at Norton Road, Wamboin, on January 7, was allegedly begun by a lawn mower. That fire burnt 16 hectares and required bushfire units from Wamboin, Sutton, Queanbeyan and Kowen Forest.’
1985, 2 Mar	Majura Bushfire ignited on the southern slopes of Mount Majura, under suspicious circumstances. Strong N-W winds drove the fire east across the Field Firing Range and into Wamboin. ‘Despite 27 houses being surrounded by fire, miraculously, no houses were lost. Other NSW Bush Fire Brigades, ACT tankers, Army water tankers and the Canberra Airport fire tender had all joined the fight, and were able to save all these homes. This event made a huge impact on Wamboin’.
1985, 23 Oct	The election of Lofty Mason of Wamboin, to fill a vacancy on Yarrawlumla Shire Council, was announced. ‘The returning officer and Shire Clerk, Mr Stuart Warner, said that only 37 per cent of electors eligible to vote had done so, although voting was compulsory.’
1986	The Sutton interchange grade-separation on the Federal Highway opened.
1986, 16 Aug	The inaugural Wamboin Curry Night was held to raise funds for the local golf club, and to build community cohesion. This occurred at the suggestion of Peter Flynn who became the organiser until 1993 when Dave Hubbard took over.
1986, 6 Oct	‘Golf in Wamboin was started by the Fire Brigade to give the members an opportunity to get together for a social occasion. As this could not be achieved at a commercial course the idea came up for members to prepare a course over our own properties. The first Golf Game at Wamboin was played on Monday the 6th of October 1986. There were 35 players. \$5 entry fee. Shotgun start at 10 am. Free barbecue lunch plus one drink.’
1987, Sep	Wamboin resident, Peter Greenwood, elected as a councillor on the Yarrawlumla Shire Council.
1988, 18 Mar	Opening of the Sutton Interchange on the Federal Highway, along with the new 10 km dual carriageway.’
1988, Oct	Opening of the new Wamboin Bicentennial Fire Station at 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. The Wamboin Volunteer BushFire Brigade Captain was John Finn, and the Brigade President Geoff Wines.
1989	Wamboin resident, Peter Greenwood, elected as Deputy Shire President, Yarrawlumla Shire Council.
1989	The then Geary’s Gap Community Association (the name Geary’s Gap was later changed to Bywong) developed a case for the establishment of the first Greenway in the area.
1989, July	The Nordsvans commenced as editors of <i>The Whisper</i> and filled that role until February 1990. 210 copies were printed.