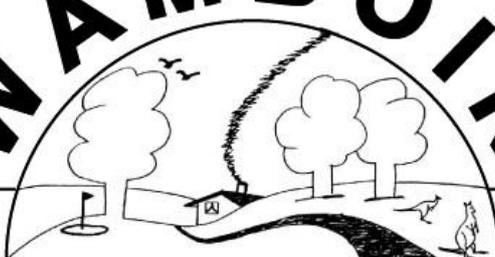


WAMBOIN



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

May 2012 CIRCULATION: 1,248

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

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION that started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981, and continues to own it. The newsletter is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin and Bywong (plus other localities in our fire brigade's area) at the start of each month, except January. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. The Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either nednoel@optusnet.com.au or whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or mail them. The deadline for the next issue of The Whisper is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the June 2012 issue the deadline is Sunday, 27 May 2012, 7 pm. Instant Colour Press will then multiply 1 copy into more than 1200. Then the new issue will go to the volunteer deliverers 5 days later.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial Triple Zero (000) All Hours
Bungendore Police: 6238 1244 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre: 0409 991 340 Ambulance Bookings: 131233

LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Peter Harrison, President	6238 3525	president@wamboincommunity.asn..au
Bywong Community	Darryl Bourke, President	6230 3055	
Fire Brigade	David Cochrane, Captain	0409 991 340	
Wamboin Markets	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	
Sutton School Playgroup	Johanna Bradley, Convenor	0406 399 713	johannabradley@dodo.com.au
Landcare	Roger Good, President	6236 9048	
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison, Bungendore	6238 1333	
Emergency Services	NSW Call Centre, Staff	132 500	
Emergency Services Admin.	Colin Brown, Controller	6238 1067	
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood, JP	6238 3358	
Justice of the Peace	Keith France, JP	6238 3596	
Justice of the Peace	Margaret Fletcher, JP	6238 1211	
Justice of the Peace	Jill Sedaitis, JP	6236 9559	
Justice of the Peace	Tony Holland, JP	6238 3762	
Wamboin Scout Group	Peter Harrison, contact	6238 3525	
Wamboin Pony Club	Robyn Slater, Senior Instructor	6238 3472	
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Katarina Biondic, contact	0421 859 917	
Wamboin Play Group	Emma Auzins, Convener	6238 3974	
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason, contact	6238 3258	
Church - Anglican	Robyn Robertson, Warden	6238 3202	
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor, contacts	6238 3220	
KYB Bible Study Group	Yvonne Barrett, contact	6230 3539	
Golf	Peter Greenwood, Golfer	6238 3358	p.greenwood2@bigpond.com
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare, Helpline	6299 1966	
Wonderful Women of Wmbn	Gail Ritchie Knight, Contact	0416 097 500	
Lake George VIEW Club	Lydia Zielinski, contact	6230 3488	
Wamboin Book Group	Alice Scott, Secretary	6238 3178	

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Alana Stenning	petsitting	6238 3030	Jess, Ellen & Nicole Smith	petsitting (incl horses)	6238 3115
Fiona Skea	babysitting	6238 3290	Ashleigh Caird	babysitting	6238 0746
Rebecca Purdie	petsitting	6238 3343	Gabrielle Simpkin	babysitting/ petsitting	6238-1335
Mara Sutcliffe	petsitting	6238 3228	Jack & Matilda Whitney	pet care, baby sitting, odd jobs	6238 3059
Jordan Brown	babysitting	0414-907-921			

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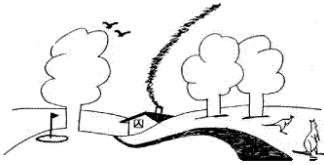
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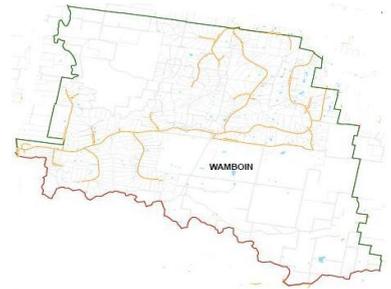


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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



President's Paragraphs

Road Repairs — It's been a tough time for Council's outdoor staff of late, with pretty much all road crews dedicated to repairing road damage arising from the recent, high rainfall. It's a bit of a thankless job because resources are spread so thinly, and it's difficult to do anything long-lasting while things are wet. Council has, however, been very responsive to the identification of pavement failures on Norton Road. I do drive the road fairly regularly, but I don't always pick up problems that affect larger vehicles. If you are aware of any significant failures (we're not going to be able to fix all the verge problems that are emerging in the short term), particularly failures that are obviously worsening with continued (ab)use, please let me know.

Telstra Mobile Phone Tower — Unfortunately, we have been advised that work on the new mobile phone tower in Denley Drive has been delayed for budgetary reasons. Construction work on the actual tower will not now commence until after June 2012. The WCA is in communication with Telstra and will provide updates as information becomes available.

Wamboin Scout Group — The local Scout Group has been a part of our community now for nearly 30 years. The Group is well-equipped, and there's never really been a problem with youth membership in the Joeys (6-8yrs), Cubs (8-11yrs) or Scouts (11-14yrs) Sections. The fortunes of the Group, however, are critically dependent on the availability of adult leaders and have fluctuated accordingly. A few of us have managed to keep the Group 'open' for the last five years, in spite of the fact that we've had no active leaders (and hence have not been able to accept youth members). We are approaching a point, however, where this will no longer be viable. If we are unable to appoint at least one youth leader in the near future, we will have to close the Group. If you are, or know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a youth leader in the Scout movement, in any of the three Sections listed above, please contact me urgently.

Travelling Cinema — Due to on-going 'technical difficulties', the initial programs of the Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability (PLANS) Travelling Cinema have had to be restricted to major village locations (Braidwood, Bungendore & Captains Flat). The screening schedule for regional areas, including Wamboin, is to be advised.

Curry Recipes — Keep those curry recipes coming in to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au.

Upcoming Events — Information on all upcoming events within the community ("What's on in Wamboin") is provided on the WCA website. Just go to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au> and follow the relevant links for more details on any event of interest. If you belong to a local community group and would like your event(s) included, please email details to the WCA Webmaster at webmaster@wamboincommunity.asn.au.

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

The Whisper On-Line — Remember that copies of The Whisper are available on-line at <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/whisper> on the first Sunday of the month.

-- Pete Harrison (president@wamboincommunity.asn.au)

<p>Fencing Problems?</p>	<p>For all your RURAL, COMMERCIAL OR DOMESTIC FENCING needs...</p>	<p>Call: NIC CLANCY 0409 866 970 or 4845 8235</p>	<p>Preferred supplier for Environment ACT. Landcare & Greening Australia contacts for grants.</p>
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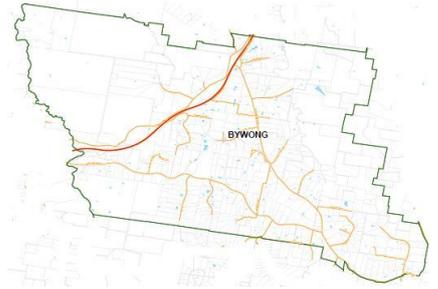
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6230 3672

Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

Darryl Bourke, President
This News Put Together by the
Bywong Committee



Car Boot Sale: After one of the worst weather prognoses ever, the annual Car Boot Sale defied the odds and came up trumps.

After months of summer rains and very little summer weather, and following agonising meetings on contingency arrangements and searches for alternative dates, the weather on the day did us proud and allowed the best traditions to be maintained. Against the odds and in spite of the forecasts, the number of stallholders maintained the high level of the best previous years, and the generosity of neighbours with parking space and good planning by our Fire Brigade ushers ensured that all went off without hitches. We managed to protect sensitive wet areas of the grounds by fencing them off, without detriment to the layout or the public. Changes to the arrangement of “official” stalls, other community organisation sites and broadcasting arrangements also paid off, and the flyball dogs made a welcome return to the programme in a more central location. Generous sponsors ensured a worthwhile raffle. We enjoyed a record presence of community groups, including Wonderful Women of Wamboin, Rotary, Scouts, and Council’s weed information. New entry tickets made for more accountable arrangements, and the Community bank balance returned to “healthy”, allowing us to continue making donations to local causes.

Thanks to the efforts of Community members, we are left with an efficient work-plan and re-usable notice boards etc to see us into next year’s event.

Next Big Event: Following the resounding success of this year’s Car Boot Sale, the Community is now tooling up for its next big occasion – the July Trivia Night. This year’s event promises to be better than ever. The Bywong Trivia Challenge is becoming known for its annual innovations and new twists on old themes, and this year will be no exception. Our famous soups will be repeated – not, we hope, in a digestive sense. Watch this space and start collecting your team now!

Website publicity: We remind local businesses that they are invited to appear on the Community website if they become sponsors of community events. This is good exposure in a worthy cause.

GROWing pains:

The Community’s Bywong/Wamboin Greenways Renewal Working Group (GROW) submitted a report to the last meeting of the Community, detailing the committee’s meeting with the NSW Land and Property Management Authority and Palerang Council representatives. The meeting agreed on the merits of developing a proposal for one new Greenway section rather than seeking to expand the network as a whole. The Group recognises Council’s concern at the potential costs of maintaining the current and any expanded greenways network.

R.B. & J.L. LADMORE

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Horizon has a very good brochure that is a guide called 'Steps to Buying Your Home' in NSW & ACT. This offers advice for both the Seller & Buyer. If you would like a copy sent to you contact Jan Ladmore

Full Moon Rise from Millpost Hill

by Jenny Warren

I have a theory that the number of full moons in your life is pre-determined at or before birth. Therefore you should make the effort to view every full moonrise you possibly can, because you never know if it will be your last.

Actually, I made this theory up a few years ago, more as justification for relaxing on a picnic rug on a summer's evening, eating prawns and drinking champagne. The free moonrise show, cloud cover permitting, once a month and occasionally twice (the so called "Blue Moon", which will next occur on 31 August this year), is an added bonus.

Watching the moonrise over the ocean from a headland on Sydney's northern beaches was wonderful. Our favourite secluded moonrise viewing spot was also home to a bandicoot that would sneak onto the picnic rug between us and try to steal cheese and biscuits or whatever was on our menu. Moving to Canberra meant finding a new moonrise viewing location. Red Hill was selected, and we enjoyed six full moonrises that year, identifying landmarks in Canberra and watching the lights of Queanbeyan sparkling as we awaited moonrise.

Now we're in Wamboin, and while we can enjoy the moonrise from our porch, we wanted to find a new special moonrise spot. On a recent Greenway walk, I climbed Millpost Hill and knew that this was the place. At 885m* Millpost Hill provides a spectacular 360 degree view, from the windfarms near Lake George to the Brindabellas and everything between.

The Easter moon was actually full at 4:20am on Saturday, so I rationalised that gave us two opportunities for equally full moonrises, on the Friday and Saturday evenings. You'll recall that the weather this Easter was superb. Long-time locals were commenting that it was the "best Easter we've ever had". Easter Friday however, saw clouds build up during the afternoon and we decided to wait to see what Saturday's weather served up. Fortunately, it remained clear, so we packed the champers and smoked oysters and 40 kilos of camera/lenses/tripod and headed off around 5pm. Sunset was due at 5:49pm, obviously closely followed by moonrise at 5:51pm.

We were not disappointed. There was just enough cloud to the west to make sunset that little bit more interesting. The pink hue then encircled us, achieving almost 360 degrees saturation, before retreating back to the west. And then it was showtime! The moon popped up above a bank of low cloud, looked around and decided to keep rising. We stayed until the champagne ran out, and made a "note to self" to remember the torch next time!



Access to Millpost Hill is via the Greenway, from either Hogan or Denley Drives. Having walked them both, I personally prefer the Hogan Drive ascent (near #139 at 836* metres) to the Denley Drive option (near #379 at 838* metres).

Upcoming full moons are: Sunday May 6th – 5:11pm, Monday June 4th – 4:46pm, Wednesday July 4th – 5:43pm, Thursday August 2nd – 5:37pm, Friday August 31st - 5:30pm

*all altitude statistics are from Google Earth



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

Are you located in one of these local government areas?

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

Grant and Donation Funding
 The Veolia Mulwaree Trust has provided \$4million of funding of since 2005 to support projects for the benefit of the local community and for charitable purposes.
 Guidelines and application forms for the 2012 Community Grant and Donation Program are available from:

- o www.mulwareetrust.org.au
- o email: mulwaree.trust@goulburn.nsw.gov.au
- o Phone: (02) 4822 2786

The next Veolia Mulwaree Trust funding round closes 6 June 2012



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How The Whisper Gets From the Printer To Your Mailbox Month After Month

Heek Berlee has been donating time every month do deliver Whispers to all the homes along Poppet Road for many years. Sometimes Julie Veal has done the job when he has been away. He and Julie worked out a transfer. Beginning with the June issue, Julie will take over the month by month responsibility.

The 50 or so people below each spend time every month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong homes own and receive a free community newspaper written by residents. If your deliverer has been on the job for a long time and you have a bit of time you could spare, think about offering to take over the job or help out. If you already have too many tasks in your month, every now and then give your volunteer paperwoman/man/boy/girl a thank you. - Ned Noel, volunteer editor

168: CO-ORDINATED HELEN MONTESIN: ph 6238 3208

Fay Kelly	Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Bill Owen	Cooper Rd	26
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Stuart Whitten	Canning Cl	17
Hank Berlee	Poppet Rd (for all on road)	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	40

283: CO-ORDINATED BY TRISH RICE: ph 6238 3791

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	48	Margaret Heleimin	Merino Vale Dr	17
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	31
Trish Rice	Majors Cl	18	David Anderson	Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley)	35
Ned Noel	Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45)	59	Penny Evans	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	24
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19			

230: CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER: ph 6238 3489

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	42
Colleen Foster	B'dore Rd to Nrtm Rd	22	Rob Gorham	South end Clare Valley	38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	60
Dominica Lorima	North end Clare Valley	42	Bungendore Foodworks	Bungendore	10

225: CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN: ph 6238 3590

Sheryl Barnes	Denley Dr (Kestral to sthn end)	20	Brian Higgison	Denley Dr (Birchmans to Kestral inc)	12
Don Malcolmson	Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat)	7	Rhett Cox	Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers)	7
Connie & Hans Bachor	Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr	28	Morag & Guy Cotsell	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn & Harriott	30
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Sandra Favre	Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn & Harriott	20
Carol & Clive Boughton	Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy)	30	Joan Milnor	Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott	30
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Ln	6	Tony Bond	Hogan Dr	28

140: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425

Michael & Jose Deane	FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold	63	Jenny Bryce	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Robert & Marzena Luton	Sutton Park Estate	48	Penny & Russell Ball	Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd)	18

202: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Phil & Pam Dawes	Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln	25	David Featherston	Summerhill and Creekborough Rds	25
Kevin Anderson	B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill)	35	Diana & Keith Gascoine	Snowgum Rd	26
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill)	25	Chris Fowler	Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds	20
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	21	Richard Holding	Wyoming & Doust Rds	25

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St Andrews Wamboin

Over sixty people filled the little church on Easter Sunday for a joyful service conducted by the Rev Vicki Cullen. There were many little people amongst the congregation and they listened to the Easter story then added a few more chocolate eggs to their Easter chocolate tally.

After a break for the school holidays, Kids Club resumed. The children (0-8 years) meet in the church each Friday evening at 5.30 for games, songs, craft and a light meal. It is very pleasing to see the church and gardens used by several different community groups over the month. The garden is looking especially pretty with its autumn shades.

Following the combined fifth Sunday service at St Peters, Sutton, on the 29th April, the congregations were presented with the proposal to unite St Andrews and St Peters as “one church sharing two campuses”, separate from the parish of St John’s, Reid. This proposal will be presented to the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn for his consideration.

On Sunday, 13th, there will be a special Mothers Day service at 9am at St Peters, Sutton, and a delicious morning tea afterwards. Everyone is welcome.

Church times: First and third Sunday at 9am at St Andrews, and second and fourth Sunday at 9am at St Peters.

Robyn Robertson: 62383202 or Bronwyn Elliott: 62383359

NEW CLASSIFIEDS

I would like to sell **7-8 old chickens they still lay eggs**. The rooster has died so all the females are losing their feathers. 1 or 2 have bad legs, so doesn't get around much. At no cost. Wamboin NSW. Call Jessie on 0477-086-780.

King Single bed and mattress, very good condition. Can email or SMS photos. \$200. In Bingley Way. Phone 6238 3725 or email terroni2105@yahoo.com

WANTED: ENCLOSED VEGE GARDEN OR CHICKEN RUN. Do you have an enclosed vege garden or a chicken run you no longer use? Have you been thinking that you really should take it all down, but just haven't got around to it? We've recently moved in to the area and need to establish both of these enclosed spaces, so would like to hear from you. Peter Reid Ph: 6236 9560.

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<p>GARDEN MAINTENANCE. After all this rain let me help you with cleaning up and improving your garden: turf and fertilising advice, hedge and shrub trimming, spraying, mowing, edging, irrigation, green waste removal, whipper snipping, planting, mulching , tree and branch removal, sleepers and paving. Minimum of two hours and then negotiable. Have own equipment. Qualified in Turf Management and currently undertaking further studies in landscaping. Ring Michael on 0408 400 740.</p>
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<p>PHOTOSHOP TUTOR and PHOTO RETOUCHING. One-on-one tutoring in Adobe Photoshop CS or Photoshop Elements. Or if you need help improving your digital images, scanning old photos, or any other digital photography tasks, contact Christine on 0412-766-682.</p>
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<p>CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.</p>
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<p>Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for details.</p>
<p>ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements pay printing and Community Association Projects. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$120 Half Pg - \$60 1/3 Pg \$40 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/8 Pg - \$20</p>
<p>FOR HIRE from the Wamboin Hall: A 4 Burner, Hooded BBQ with side burner. Half cast iron plate and half grill plus temperature gauge. \$50 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond. Both payable on collection. Bond refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 6238 3258.</p>
<p>Trestles and chairs are available for hire by local residents. Hire rates are: Trestle \$10ea and chairs \$1.50 ea. Price does not include delivery or pick-up charges. Available from the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way. Must be returned in clean servicable condition. All damages are responsibility of the hirer. Equipment must be tied securely on trailer etc. whentaken (otherwise they don't go.) Time of pick-up and returned MUST be adhered to (I don't live at the Hall!) - Joan Mason, 62383258.</p>
<p>FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 6238 3258. Local Residents \$100, Bond \$250. Non-Resident \$150, Bond \$300. The Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st. functions.</p>
<p>FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on www.bywongcommunity.org.au.</p>
<p>The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au</p>



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The Wamboin Firefighter

For further information on the brigade or fire-related issues visit the brigade's website at

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

THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD HAS ENDED

Outside the declared bushfire danger period a Fire Permit is not required to burn off in the open.

If, however, you do plan to light a fire in the open, you need to notify:

- your neighbours, and
- Queanbeyan Fire Control Centre on 6297 1840 at least 24 hours before you light the fire.

Your thoughtfulness will help minimise neighbour anxiety and unnecessary brigade call-outs.

Management, including containment of a fire originating on your property, is your responsibility. "If you own the fuel you own the fire." If the fire escalates to become more than you can handle, don't hesitate, ring triple 000.

TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS
RING TRIPLE ZERO (000)

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

FIRE SAFETY AT HOME

Fire safety always starts with you!

Following on from last month, we are concentrating our advice in the winter period on the home with the now familiar theme 'BE PREPARED'.

Keep yourself, your family and your home safe from fire. Children are most at risk of serious injury or death in house fires. Householders need to take extra care as house fires occur more frequently during the colder months.

Ten tips for fire safety at home:

- **Take care in the kitchen.** Never leave cooking unattended and always turn pot handles in (so they cannot be inadvertently knocked).
- **Supervise children.** Children need to be protected from fire, and from the potential for starting fires.
- **Heat your home safely.** Ensure your heater is at least one metre from flammable items such as curtains, furniture, toys and bedding.
- **Dispose of cigarettes safely.** Wet down cigarette butts before discarding. Never smoke in bed.
- **Take care with electricity.** Have an electrician check the electrical wiring throughout your home. Keep your home appliances in good working order.
- **Install a smoke alarm.** Smoke alarms save lives! Keep your smoke alarms clean, and test them regularly. If battery-powered, replace batteries at least once a year. If you have been using April 1st (i.e. April Fool's Day) as your cue, the batteries should have been done last month!
- **Plan your home escape.** Create an escape plan and practise escaping from your home.
- **Use home security that lets you get out quickly.** If your home has deadlocks fitted to doors, keep a key in the deadlock so that you can escape quickly in the event of a fire.
- **Check portable fire extinguishers.** Check the pressure gauge on the extinguisher regularly.
- **Be prepared.** Know which fire safety equipment to use, know how to use it and ensure that all family members (if they are of a suitable age) know how to use the equipment.

Train Your Family in Evacuation Procedures:

Follow the escape plan (you do have one don't you?)

- Alert all others in the building.
- When there is smoke, crawl low to get under the smoke.

- Test for the temperature of each door by using the back of your hand; if the handle is hot do not open it.
- Close the door as you leave a room to prevent fire and smoke from spreading.
- Never go back inside the house, once out - stay out!
- Meet at the pre-determined assembly area – such as a prominent landmark.
- Make sure all the family know how to call emergency services i.e. ring Triple Zero (000) and that the need to think about what they may need to say and to speak clearly.
- If possible, meet the fire service as it arrives; you have invaluable knowledge that can greatly assist them.

Teach your children to ‘Stop, Drop and Roll’

Advice to anyone whose clothes are on fire:

- Stop. Don’t run as this will fan the flames.
- Drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands.
- Roll over to smother the flames.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts: It has been a quiet period for the brigade since last month’s newsletter with just the one callout on Saturday 21 April. At just after 4pm the brigade was requested to despatch a heavy tanker to attend a report of abandoned rubbish, refuse or waste fire in Macs Reef Rd Bywong. Fortunately, several brigade members were already at the Fire Station undertaking a First Aid course so the tanker was underway just 4 minutes after the call came in. A small amount of burnt material was located on Macs Reef Rd near Newington Rd. The tanker and crew returned to the Station shortly after 5pm.

Training: Training activities in April revolved around gas-related incidents.

Updating Skills: During the cooler months many members of the brigade are or will be attending new or refresher courses to extend and hone their knowledge and skills including First Aid Application and Safe Working on Roofs.

BRIGADE TRAINING

The set brigade training sessions are 3 times a month:

- 1st Tuesday 7:30pm to 9:30pm
- 2nd Saturday 1:30pm to 4:30pm
- 4th Sunday 8:30am to 11:30am

All training begins at the Fire Station.



ABOUT BECOMING A BRIGADE MEMBER

We are always in need of new members. If you are interested in becoming a member and would like to explore the possibilities and advantages of what it would be like participating in the brigade’s Support Crew or becoming an active firefighter, come along to any of the set training sessions for a look and a chat. Alternatively, give our Secretary a call on 6238 3153. Either way, you’ll be made very welcome.

Acquiring new skills and building on existing skills is an important part of being active in the community’s volunteer fire brigade. Some of the core RFS courses brigade members have participated in during the past 12 months include: safety induction, bush fire support, bush firefighter, advanced firefighter, village firefighter, crew leader, first aid, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and rural fire driving.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Wamboin Brigade Website

The site will help you to monitor local conditions and Brigade announcements. The **Community Information** section has useful information including links to other websites that provide guidance regarding bush and grass fire preparations. You’ll also find the brigade’s history, interesting photos and other fascinating material on the Brigade’s site at <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

Brigade Information ‘Shop Front’

The theme this month will be *‘Fire Safety at Home plus Bush Fire Planning in the “Off” season’*.

The Wamboin Fire Station and ‘Shop Front’ are open each Wamboin Home Produce Market day (3rd Saturday in the month) from 9am – 12noon. The next market day is Saturday 19th May. You’ll find us in front of the Fire Station happy to answer all your questions.

At any other times, if you have a query on a fire-related issue including preparing yourself, your family and your property for a bush, grass or house fire, please contact the Brigade on 0409 991 340.

WHEN WILL YOUR NUMBER BE UP?

We again urge residents across the region to ensure their street and road numbers are easily visible to help the fire brigade and other emergency services locate their properties in an emergency.

It is vital to emergency service providers that residents, businesses and landholders street and road numbers are clearly identifiable from the roadside.

During an emergency, time is of the essence, and in some cases it could be a matter of life and death.

No one wants to guess in an emergency, but that is what happens from time to time, when local emergency service providers cannot find the residence easily because there is no property number quickly identified.

Seconds count in an emergency and when an emergency is reported a property number is requested. Residents can help emergency crews simply by making sure their house or property is easy to find.

We urge you to ask yourself, if you need the fire brigade, police or ambulance, could they easily identify your property from a passing vehicle especially at night or during fog, rain or smoke, or is your property number difficult to spot.

We encourage all residents to take measures to ensure their number can be seen. It is crucial as it will not only help visitors to locate you, but also greatly assist an emergency service response time.

If there is a fire on a property and the fire brigade needs to get there, the last thing crews want to do is to drive past. By keeping your number clear and out in the open, it could shorten the response time by up to five minutes which would mean a lot if there are buildings or houses and, even worse, lives being threatened by a fire.

To help emergency crews respond whether it's during the day or night, in fog or smoke, your property number placed at the entrance on the fence-line or post or letterbox should be a contrasting colour, and the number or sign be sufficiently large and unobscured so it is clearly visible and can be easily read from the road. In some cases, it could be simply a matter of your touching up the faded street number sign that was issued by Council when the new numbering system came into force several years ago.

Here's a sample across the spectrum – if you were in the emergency responders seat, which signs would work for you?



Okay, now in the context of your own emergency plan, how does your property roadside number sign stack up?

UPCOMING EVENTS

19 th May	<u>Wamboin Home Produce Market Day and the Brigade's Information 'Shop Front'.</u>
12 th June	<u>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade AGM – Fire Station, 7.30pm</u>

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS – ring TRIPLE ZERO (000)

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Wamboin 15 years ago - from the Whisper, May 1997 - Circulation: 500

by Robyn Robertson

From: YARROWLUMLA COUNCIL NEWS": Council staff have been busy in our area over the last few weeks and have now finished some major road projects. The sealing of the final section of the Norton Road link between Yalana and Clare Valley is now completed. I'm sure that many people will now appreciate the continuous sealed road through Wamboin between Sutton Rd and Gundaroo Rd, and especially the end of that dusty link. Other works include the completion of the final section of construction of Fernloff Road." - Peter Greenwood, Your Local Councillor

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Children are very welcome to the classes, however please discuss with us if your child will need help from an adult throughout the lessons. Class duration: 1 hours Cost: \$110 per dog for 6 weeks. Class limit: 6 people

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NARG Wildlife Rescue & Handling Course

(previously postponed due to bad weather) Learn about wildlife, rescue, handling, animal 1st aid & risks. Saturday 26 May between 10.00 am to 4.00 pm (register from 09.30 am) at the Braidwood Servicemens' Club. It's free! Refreshments & notes provided, but BYO lunch or buy locally. RSVP Dianne 0411614675 or Dianne.colman@marymead.org.au or Phil 62383717. The Native Animal Rescue Group operates in the Braidwood/Nerriga region, but all are welcome.

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WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

As I was unable to be at the April Market, I wish to thank Lofty for doing 'my job' for me, making sure that all went as normal at the markets for April. Lofty and I would also like to pass on our thanks to those who helped on the day, particularly Keith France who helped at the end of the markets – 'Thanks Keith'

There is only two more market days, May and June before our winter break, so we look forward to seeing you at the next market being-

SATURDAY MAY 19, 2012
Wamboin Community Hall
112 Bingley Way.

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*** Please note no more jewellery stalls are required at present.

Some of you may be interested in learning more about wildlife and might be interested in the following course being put on at Braidwood:

NARG Wildlife Rescue & Handling Course

(previously postponed due to bad weather) Learn about wildlife, rescue, handling, animal 1st aid & risks. Saturday 26 May between 10.00 am to 4.00 pm (register from 09.30 am) at the Braidwood Servicemens' Club. It's free! Refreshments & notes provided, but BYO lunch or buy locally. RSVP Dianne 0411614675 or Dianne.colman@marymead.org.au or Phil 62383717. The Native Animal Rescue Group operates in the Braidwood/Nerriga region, but all are welcome.

All the best. - Phil Machin



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THE STABLE DOOR

by Ian Collet

An occasional piece

I was born when the sun was in dawning. By and large I haven't kicked the habit. Fortunately.

Early morning is a great time to be up, out and about. Not everyone in the household shares this view. The bride, for example, is still punching out zeds. She slumbers on, strait-jacketed by the two dachshunds that make the most of their highly privileged position on the bed. Apart from a slight slit of an eye from each dog and what I sense is a bit of channelling along the lines of 'onya Dad, we'll catch up with you when you get back from your early morning trek', nothing much stirs.

Early morning on a good day dawning – clear sky, temperature cool, occasionally crisp, last of the stars still hanging in there, and it's seemingly so quiet.

Happily, there are few vehicles on the road this time of the morning. It's great because there are a few spots along the way that can be a bit hairy. Unsurprisingly, I'm not alone – several other residents also appear to have the early morning bug and are out and about, alone or in company, more often than not with canine in tow. In some cases, it's canine doing the towing. One local who shall remain nameless, but I can tell you he is a long-serving editor of an internationally renowned, eagerly anticipated local community newsletter that's been running since 1981, is often seen slowly wending his way back home, dog on board, after an obviously even earlier start to the day than mine.

Did I say it was quiet? Perhaps 'peaceful' is more apposite. As the sun seems set to burst from beyond the distant hills surrounding Lake George, wind turbines in profile against the orange-white-blue waking sky, I stop and listen; the place is alive with birds chortling, cacophony if you will, joyful at the coming of a brand new day. Bunnies, there are plenty at the moment, little white tails and backsides bopping every which way. As well, a 'kooka' on 'his' fence post or atop a power line is a regular observer of my early morning exercise. Wonderful bird. I wonder what it's thinking as its penetrating eyes follow my every move when I potter by.

I'm sure the other ritualists who participate in the early morning aerobic regime in this neck of the woods similarly enjoy the beauty and serenity of the early morning. I expect they do. Wamboin in autumn, it's hard to beat it.

Oh, forgot to mention, official fire-up of the slow combustion heater - April 25, right on cue.

The photo above and any others in this and other editions of the Whisper can be viewed in living colour if you go to <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au> then click on 'The Whisper' and call up the edition you are after.



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WAMBOIN GOLF

by John Whitney

The Wamboin Mini Masters has just celebrated its 10th anniversary and as is tradition, the event is played over 12 holes on the regular course, followed by an 80 metre pitching event back at the hall. It is then up to our starter, handicapper, judge and MC on the day, notably Lofty Mason, to formally present the Mini Masters Green Jacket to the event winner.



The day was sponsored by the Wamboin Community Association with assistance on the pitching course from those ever reliable "Tradies", Hank and Don. An enthusiastic field of golfers turned out with the days visitors, Janelle and Murray Goodridge, travelling all the way from Bywong.

Winners & Grinners: Young Jarrod Beckett earned the junior encouragement award this month with Janelle Goodridge and Keith Wrench showing the way in the pitching competition. The handicap event was taken out by Larry King with a score of 41.7 with Charles Guscott, our perpetual visitor, on 43.7.



The Junior Master for 2012 on a score of 59 was Jack Whitney, Masters runner-up was John Whitney on 51 but the days accolades and the 2012 Mini Masters and treasured Green Jacket went to Tim Barter with a score of 50.

Pictures: Tim Barter donning the Green Jacket and Visitor Murray Goodridge on the pitching course

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Wedge Tailed Eagle

The following emails appeared on the Wamboin Community Noticeboard on Monday Night and Tuesday Morning, April 30-May 1. The contributors have given permission for their emails to be reprinted here. - Editor

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 8:31 PM: Sighting on Norton Rd, Friday 27 April at 7.20 am of a large eagle gliding low across the road near the Yoga school (215 Norton Rd). Wing span of approximately 3 metres, dark brown with large curved beak and talons. Do we have wedge tail eagles in this area? The only place I have seen them is in the Flinders Ranges. Has anyone else seen this magnificent bird, would love to have a confirmation of what it was.
- Cindy Scott-Findlay, Wamboin

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 9:01 PM: Yes, we certainly have them here, although they usually stay clear of the 'inhabited areas'. You can (or at least used to be able) to see them soaring above the hills of Kowen Forest.

About ten years ago, and because 'roos are often hit by cars in front of our place (in Bingley Way), two of them alighted to feed on an animal that had come half way up our driveway before it expired. When I appeared in the scene, they flew off. But, of course, because they're so big they don't just flap off up into the sky like a magpie. One of them took off down the driveway, but the other had to come my way, because that was the only clear path for it to take off. I must say that it was a truly magnificent sight. It flew right past me (well, it was probably 10 m away), just a little over head height. I have never seen such a large bird, flying that close, in my life, and I'll never forget it.

Needless to say, I'm not from 'the land', and I've never had to deal with the 'problems' associated with birds of prey in a commercial livestock environment. So I do appreciate that not everyone sees these birds as magnificent creatures, but it was incredible, nonetheless. - Pete Harrison

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 9:16 PM: Two Magnificent Wedge-tail Eagles soared around the Bywong area, near me, off Millyn Road last year. Incredible creatures. I have not spotted them lately. There has been some shooting and very heavy 1080 baiting here, so no prizes for the reasons why! - Pauline Chambers, Bywong

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 9:21 PM: In my experience shooting attracts eagles (assuming the kill is left in the paddock for them to feed on). I do pest management for a private conservation organisation and we are asked to leave the carcasses where they lay for that very reason. 1080 is a way different story. Not pretty at all. - David Voss, Wamboin

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 9:40 PM: I saw what I'm pretty sure was one perched in a small tree along the western edge of Denley drive about 50 meters north of Woolshed Lane quite a few years ago (maybe 10). On approaching it closely while driving, it flew off, but had a huge body and a wingspan that could well have been 3 meters.

I'm copying David McDonald, who knows a good bit about birds in this area. David, if you see this, what do you think?
- Ned Noel, Wamboin

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 10:02 PM: Hi. We live on Newington Road on top of the highest hill in the road. We often see a pair of eagles soaring and having a great time in the updrafts in front of our house. When we first arrived here almost 23 years ago, we had breeding pair in the stand of gums which now are in the Quinn Development (off Birriwa Road) and since that sub-division has now got residents, we have seen fewer wedge-tail eagles. We once saw the pair with a young bird teaching it to catch the updrafts, which the young one missed many times before getting the hang of it. I'm glad to hear that there are still lots around the area. - Morag Cotsell, Bywong

Sent: Mon 30/04/2012 10:47 PM: Ah yes, Wedge-tailed Eagles are definitely Wamboin endemics! We have them over our place, 1004 Norton Road, every couple of months. They are frequently seen gliding on the thermals along the escarpment west of Bungendore as one drives through Smiths Gap. Surely breeding in our area. As a matter of interest:

- Wedgies have been observed soaring to 2,000 metres altitude, yes, 2 kilometres high!
- They feed on various meat sources. Carrion, live rabbits and hares are their principal prey. Reports of them taking lambs mostly refer to them eating already dead lambs, not killing live ones. That said, they certainly have the capacity to kill small living animals such as lambs, and young kangaroos fit this bill as well.

- Most established adult pairs are residents, though the young birds disperse to find their own territories.

- Their home ranges are large, perhaps something like 30 sq km in our area.

- Wedge-tailed Eagles are protected under NSW legislation. It is an offence to kill them.

Further information may be found at Marchant, S & Higgins, PJ (eds) 1993, /Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic birds/, vol. 2: raptors to lapwings, OUP, Melbourne, pp. 164-80, and at the Birds in Backyards website <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Aquila-audax> . - Regards - David MacDonald, Wamboin

Sent: Tue 1/05/2012 10:33 AM: Hi David - a great read! And another reason for motorist to stop and remove dead animals off the roadway to stop them and other animals being hit too.

I just mean remove dead animals from the road and put them on the adjacent verge - so they can be eaten safely! Frankly we don't know how many animals - particularly birds of prey, get injured as they risk life and limb having lunch. I didn't mean take the carcass home for the cat or dog, which I suspect does happen. (Editor': Phil added the second paragraph later on May 1, replying to an email from me querying his meaning in his 10:33 am email). - Phil Machin, Wamboin

A Brief History of St Andrews Wamboin

Part 2 of 2

Editor's note: This is the "second part" of the history. The first part appeared in the previous Whisper. This arrangement is due to a mistake on my part. A representative of the church sent both "parts" as one whole last month. I made a mistake and didn't notice the paragraph just below continued onto a second page, which also contained the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs printed below.

Robyn and David Robertson, in consultation with others, began looking for plans. At one stage they thought they had secured an old Methodist Church at Nubba, in the Parish of Harden, which they could purchase and remove to the site in Poppet Road. However, the local parish had a sudden change of heart and the deal was off. It was then decided to build a new church using local tradesmen as much as possible. Ken Kelly, who had built many homes in early Wamboin was the builder, Trent Abell, another early resident was the electrician, and Rex Paton did the roadworks. Building started in 1997, and on 8th March, 1998, St Andrews was consecrated by Bishop George Browning. It was a great occasion. Yarrawlumla Mayor, Peter Greenwood, Libby King from the Wamboin Community Association, State and Federal Parliamentary members, Peter Cochrane and Peter Webb, and representatives from community organisations and the congregation filled the church. Unlike many new churches, St Andrews, as it was now known, was debt free thanks to the enormous generosity of David and Robyn Robertson. Four weeks later the beautiful stained glass window, designed and built by Rob Crafter, from St Johns, was installed, depicting a cross set in a Wamboin landscape with Black Mountain and Telstra Tower signifying the links to Canberra. Because of the exceptionally hot summer, the wax used to set the stained glass pieces in place kept melting and thus delayed the assembly of the window.

Since then, a lych gate in memory of David Robertson, and a community memorial stone wall built by local stone mason Dave Argeat, have been erected in the lovely gardens. Many of the initial plantings in the garden came from Dave Hubbard's nursery. The lych gate now doubles as a stable at the Christmas pageant as well as a place for walkers to rest. The area around the memorial wall is a peaceful place for contemplation. The children from Kids Club play on the mown grass, and use the picnic table and surroundings on warm evenings. The church has been a place for worship, weddings, baptisms and funerals, but equally a place for community use. The WWOWS, those wonderful women of Wamboin and beyond, meet there weekly, and the Book Club and Scrapbooking Group meet monthly. Significant occasions have been celebrated in that little church and the congregation has endeavoured to play a real part in the community and beyond. It is a building that is used and enjoyed.

A community like Wamboin evolves; it grows and changes. St Peters grew under the umbrella of St Johns, and St Andrews developed as an offshoot of St Peters within the Parish of St Johns. Now things have almost gone a full circle. There are moves afoot to acknowledge that it's time for two rural churches in NSW to relinquish their ties to a city church in the ACT and focus more on their own community. Perhaps this will happen, and the close communal ties between St Andrews and St Peters will become stronger. We await the next chapter. (End of Part 2 and of the history to date.)

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Councillor's Corner

Council Elections — My how time flies when you're having fun! Believe it or not, we're only months away from the NSW local government elections. All NSW residents will go to the polls on 8 September 2012 to elect their local Council for the next four-year term. While it is my intention to stand again, most of the current Palerang councillors have indicated that they will not be seeking re-election. This election therefore promises the best opportunity since the formation of the Palerang LGA to elect a Council with a unified view of the shire, and a genuine community focus, but this opportunity can only be realised if the right candidates come forward.

If you think that you may be interested in nominating as a candidate for election to Council, the NSW Electoral Commission, in conjunction with the Electoral Funding Authority, will be holding a candidate information evening in Queanbeyan on Tuesday 29 May (see <http://www.efa.nsw.gov.au> for details). If you want to have a chat about what it's like on Council, feel free to give me a call.

At this election, Palerang residents will also be asked whether or not they would like Council elections to be conducted in wards, formerly known as ridings. Wards are effectively electoral sub-districts. Palerang Council's nine councillors are currently elected in a single area. A flyer presenting the cases for and against a ward system was forwarded with rate notices in 2010, and for anyone interested, a comprehensive discussion on the subject is provided on my website at <http://peteharrison.id.au/wards>.

Palerang Local Environmental Plan — It's almost there... In the last couple of months, the draft PLEP has been forwarded to all relevant government departments, catchment management authorities and the like for comment prior to submission to the Department of Planning for certification and public exhibition. After a two-month exhibition period, submissions will be considered before the final document is passed into legislation. There are still several contentious clauses in this document, which dictates the manner in which various levels of development can be undertaken within Palerang. Most notably, from my perspective, is the lack of practical consideration given to the protection of the amenity of an area in the face of development. As the exhibition phase provides the last opportunity to modify this document before it passes into legislation, it is important that as many people as have the time are involved in the review process. I will let you know through this column when the document actually makes it to the exhibition stage.

The Palerang Blog—New entries in my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) this month: (1) Infrastructure and (2) Local Government Elections.

Council's General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month, commencing at 5.00 pm. Members of the public are welcome. The meeting location varies—check Council's website (<http://palerang.nsw.gov.au>) for details. Meeting Business Papers are also available on Council's website on the Friday preceding the meeting.

-- Cr Pete Harrison, Ph. 6238 3525, Email: Pete.Harrison@palerang.nsw.gov.au, Website: www.peteharrison.id.au

Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin - 37 year statistics from the Robertsons

April rain to 29/4 ... 31.5mm	(April 2011 ... 17.25mm)
2012 rainfall to 29/4 ... 430.25mm	(2011 rainfall to 30/4 ... 275mm)
Average May rainfall ... 48.5mm	May 2011 ... 19.5mm
Wettest May ... 171 in 1995	Driest May ... 1mm in 1985
Hottest May day ... 20C on 3 occasions	Coldest May day ... 3C on 25/5/00
Coldest May night ... -5C on 28/5/01 and 15/5/11	

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Canberra Amateur Radio Club Solves a Wamboin Mystery

Editor's Note: Along with several other residents I have been mystified by the very solid and substantial tower being constructed on Poppet Hill, just a few meters inside the border, in Kowen forest. A neighbour, Derrick, who works in radio communications at Defence, suggested checking at www.acma.gov.au and suggested maybe the tower was for radio transmission. I couldn't find out much, but thought about what Derrick said and send an email to the Canberra Amateur Radio Club. Phil Longworth, their technical officer and a committee member answered the email with the initial email below, and followed up a ten days later with the second email below. He agreed to these emails being printed in the Whisper. I gladly agreed when he asked if the Club could advertise its July training sessions in the June Whisper in hopes of attracting Wamboin and Bywong residents. You should see that announcement next month.

Email of 21-April-2012:

Good afternoon

We know the site of the old Telstra Concrete Pole on Poppet Hill, as we had used it on a number of occasions to provide communications for the now defunct Rally of Canberra. Indeed we have considered seeking permission to use that site for ourselves in the past but ACT Forests always referred us to Telstra as the site owner, and Telstra kept saying they had left the site and to go see ACT Forests, so we put it in the "too hard" basket, especially as there was no power to the site at the time.

Whilst we do know a number of amateur radio operators who own property in the general Wamboin area, we are unaware of any of them erecting a new tower at this point in time.

A quick look at the Australian Communications & Media Authority website listing of radio sites in that area shows an entry for....

Community Radio Tower off Poppet Rd POPPET HILL being a licence issued in 2001 to Canberra Christian Radio Ltd 1WAY - FM for the termination point of a "Studio to Transmitter Link" from Fyshwick.

Reading between the lines, I am guessing that if this is the site & licensee then they are probably going to install a small FM transmitter for their broadcasting purposes into your area.

We thank you for your query and hope that you find somebody who can give you a definitive answer.

As a side issue, I wonder if you would be interested in running a small notice in your newsletter about the Canberra Region Amateur radio club and the fact that we run courses for people to obtain their Amateur Radio Licence every 2 months as you may have seen on our website at <http://www.crarc.ampr.org/index.php/Main/Education>.

Regards, Phillip Longworth, Technical Officer, Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club

Email of 1-May-2012:

As the deadline for people wishing to undertake our training course in May has already passed, I think it would be more conducive to have something for your next edition (June) that gives time for people to consider our July course.

The ACMA database is a fun thing to play with, I go in through the database look-up page at : http://web.acma.gov.au/pls/radcom/register_search.main_page, if you select "SITES" and put in POPPET you should get a hit, then you float through the links to pick-up bits of information.

But I can do better than that for you at present.....

I wandered up on ANZAC day for a look, and the engineers were actually on site working (they come down from Brisbane for this job).

It turns out I was only partially correct in that yes, 1WAY-FM is going there, but so are 3 other Community FM radio stations.

The 4 are (I believe)....

1WAY-FM <http://www.1wayfm.com.au/>,

Artsound FM <http://artsound.fm/>,

Valley FM <http://valleyfm.com/>,

2XX FM <http://www.2xxfm.org.au/>

The works going on up at Poppet will see an extension to the concrete pole that will see the antennas lifted well clear of the treeline. The cables you saw were for power and telephone which are in the process of being run underground.

Apparently the power supply company will be upgrading the power through some of the properties to full 3-Phase supply for the radio transmitters, which means those people whose properties are on that power run will also have access to 3-phase power.

The combined output of the 4 broadcasters will be a total of 20 kilowatts (5 KW per station) and whilst the directivity of the signal is towards Canberra, the communities in the area will have a very good signal for those 4 stations.

Regards.

LET'S SHOUT ABOUT THE WHISPER

By Lofty Mason

Continuing my efforts of looking back at the beginning of local Wamboin groups as recorded by the first 8 copies of The Whisper.

THE Scouts and Guides. The following information as regards The Wamboin Scouts and Guides is made with sole reference to the first eight copies of The Wamboin Whisper.

The 3rd Whisper, dated March 1982, made the first mention of the formation of a Cub Pack. There was a call for a leader and interested boys. Robyn Heron and Fran Pennay were the prime movers. They also suggested a Brownie Group could be formed if there was sufficient interest.

No. 4 dated August 1982 stated that Bob White has offered to be Group Leader and 9 boys had expressed interest. An assistant leader and an instructor were also available.

No. 5 dated December 1982 reported that leader training had been arranged and that meetings would start at the home of Bob White (*which was off the end of Cooper Road*) when School returns.

No. 6 dated February 1983 reported that '*Due to the efforts of Fran Pennay and Bob White, the Cub Pack was up and running*'

No. 7 dated July 1983 stated that there were now 17 boys in the pack. They had enjoyed 2 visits to the Bungendore group and had hiked to the Bingley Way Reserve where they had cooked lunch and completed tests. The interest now was to form a Scout section and the request was for leaders to volunteer. They were still meeting in a shed at Bob White's place but were looking for a more suitable location.

No. 8 dated December 1983 reported there were now 21 regular members with 4 of the lads graduating to the Scouts in the new-year. Paul Bryden and Lace Schultz had stated training to be leaders. Recruiting of extra boys continues and this last copy stated that the Cub Pack was looking very healthy, both Organizationally and Physically).

(Next Whisper I plan my final précis from the first 8 Whispers with notes on the building of the Community Hall. I will also list all the Whisper editors).



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Land for Wildlife

There are a number of residents that have lived here peacefully minding our own business that are very concerned about the rise of the land for wildlife movement.

From the article in the Whisper April 2012 it is clear that this group will not be happy until the whole district is held over to the exclusive use of wildlife. What is upsetting is that there is no attempt to consult or consider those of us that have been in the district for 30, 40, 50 years-some longer, about how we might feel about the intrusion of this movement into our life style and our land use.

What is envisaged in the statement “Eventually LfW corridors will be created to allow wildlife to move more freely and safely across the landscape”? On whose property will these corridors be constructed?

We like to farm our land, grow crops to sustain our horses and stock. We have peacefully co-existed with wildlife for years but now have hundreds of kangaroos on our property each evening eating what our hard work and money have produced. They strip the paddocks bare and congregate on our pasture improved paddocks. With so many kangaroos in the area there are ever increasing collisions with them by motorists leading to dead kangaroos and untold damage to vehicles. Where is the sanity in all of this?

If the movement want us to remove our stock proof fencing, apart from the legal problems that will arise in public liability terms, members will have to put up with our livestock grazing in their gardens.

Farmers that have been living in the district for years have never asked to intrude onto other peoples’ land or to force their lifestyle on others. We ask members of this movement not to impose their lifestyle on us.

- Genevieve Cramsie, Bywong

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I went to the Dawn Service in Queanbeyan on Anzac Day. In cold darkness a subdued crowd gathered, shuffling into place around the modest little memorial in the main street. A woman quietly offered sprigs of rosemary. The microphone coughed and squeaked, and then, from some way off there was the rising sound of rhythmic feet on asphalt; a scene replicated in countless little towns around Australia at this time, on this day. Anzac day does not fill me with great joy, but I respect its significance and try to use it as a time to pause, to ponder and reflect. In this busy world of i phones and constant accessibility, where time has sped up and where so many of us claim to be constantly under pressure, it seems that pure idleness, a chance to pause and ponder, is no longer valued for its own sake. Have we forgotten that occasionally it is important to just "be"?

I realised that I had become a trifle blasé about checking the rain gauge. Then, almost overnight, the bird baths were suddenly dry and I needed to turn on the garden irrigation. But, again I was saved when it rained. And now the soft, silent fogs have slipped in and cobwebs hang like gossamer in the early sunshine. There is a hint of nose twitching wood smoke in the cool evening air, the cockatoos and galahs have quietened and the little twittering birds have reappeared with great energy. I'm beginning to think of pots of pea soup and slow cooked osso bucco and all the delights of wintry fare beside the fire.

I've been idle, being "busy" in my garden idyll, trying to plant before the soil gets too cold, and watching the self sown pumpkins swell in the few warm days left to them. I'm working on a patch of rubbish ground that I'd abandoned when the drought began to bite. Maybe this time I'll have more success. Perhaps over those intervening years I've learned a few things about mulching and what kangaroos don't eat and what types of plants will have some hope of survival. I've certainly learned that it is the rock strata, although nicely tipped on its side, and not some grand plan that ultimately determines where shrubs and trees can be planted.

And the other morning, when I was trying to be a resourceful country woman and get my stupid self out of a deep and slippery roadside bog, a car stopped. Immaculately dressed and heading for the airport, these wonderful locals offered help even though they faced the prospect of a shower of sticky mud for their kindness. They were busy, and had a deadline to meet, but they hadn't lost their humanity. Perhaps the ANZAC spirit lives on, especially in Wamboin. I wouldn't live anywhere else.....and I've learned that it is wiser to park on the high side of the road, especially after rain!



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