

September 2020

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The Wamboin Whisper: The Whisper is a monthly community newsletter established in 1981 by and owned by the Wamboin Community Association. The Whisper is published at the start of each month, excluding January. It is distributed to every letterbox in Wamboin, Bywong and 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. 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 or to 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 October 2020 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, September 27th**. **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 inquiries to the editor as above.

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

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NSW SES Bungend. (non-urgent)	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	
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ARF (Rescue Dogs)	Lisa Whitney	0408 260 796	Lisawhitney059@gmail.com

Young Entrepreneurs: Rebecca Purdie – pet/horse sitting 6238 3343 Alex Lea - Pet & House Sitting, Gardening 6236 9657 or 0439 219 865
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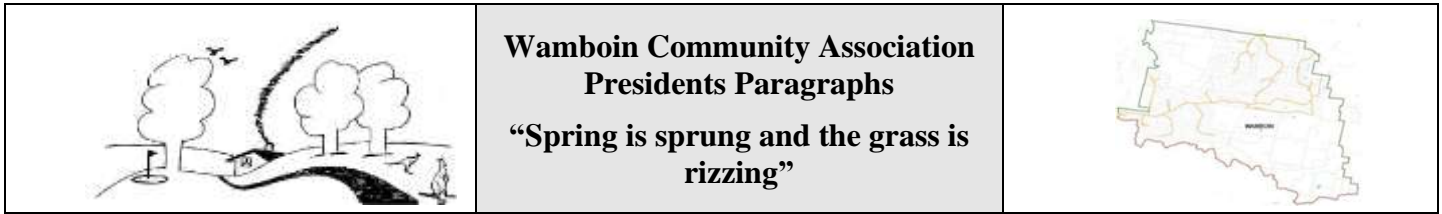
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Spring has sprung and the flowering wattles are dotting the landscape. The other trees are starting to bud and the first pet snake bite has been recorded at Bungendore vet. I saw a kangaroo with a little joey on the front lawn on the weekend and the first Blue Tongue for the season. Welcome to spring in Wamboin.

The late winter rains have been remarkable this year with tanks and dams overflowing throughout the district. A stark contrast to this years summer that seems so long ago. The August rain was around 135mm vs the long term August average of 50mm (wettest on record was 170mm in 1985). The snow caps on the Brindabellas in the distance seems to be visible on the horizon this year for much longer than normal. We also have a number of springs popping up in the paddocks feeding gullies and swales. The grass is starting to kick along and with the frosts now declining the growth should pick up. So with all this fantastic rain it is a good time to prepare for the fire season ahead. Over the weekend I heard chainsaws in the distance and a number of smoke columns rising across the valley. After the recent lessons from last summer now is time to trim and clean up before it gets too hot. Let’s not forget natures lesson.

Vale Lance Shultz – it is with great sadness we announce the passing of Lance. As many of you will know, Lance, with his wife Meriel was one of the original residents of the Canberra Country Estate (now Wamboin) when Poppet Road was still a gravel back in 1979. Lance was a regular at many community and WCA events and St Andrew’s church at the top of Norton Road was built on land donated by Lance and Meriel. We will miss you Lance and we offer our sincere condolences to Meriel and Lance’s family.

National Science Week Satellite Selfie – If you were industrious on one of the selfie flights, I hear the images will be posted on line sometime this month. Keep an eye on our website or Facebook page for the notification and viewing links.

Fireworks – Just a reminder to note the bonfire and fireworks have been cancelled for 2020.

Wamboin Home Produce markets – The markets are scheduled to recommence on Saturday 19th September. Get ready for an egg and bacon roll and Lou’s coffee. As you all know the Covid-19 situation is a moving feast day by day so keep an eye on our Facebook page and our website for updates and details in case the situation changes. There will be changes to the market so see our article in this Whisper for conditions of entry.

Our local Businesses – Please take the time to support our local businesses this spring. The local wineries in particular are welcoming visitors this spring, so make it a point to support or locals by having a meal or buying some local wine. They are our local community and support many community events, lets support them.

The QPRC Mobile Library has resumed at the Wamboin Hall. The Service visits there on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 10.30 to 11.30am. The September dates are 10th and 24th. As you would expect, the Mobile Library bus is well set up and COVID-19 Safe. There is seating if you have to wait and a sanitising station provided outside the bus. This is a case of use-it-or-lose-it!

WCA Meetings – We are currently conducting on line meetings via Zoom. Our meetings are the third Tuesday of the month (next one 18th September) at 7.30pm. If you would like to participate in a meeting please contact our secretary David McDonald at secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au and we can provide login details.

Thursday Drop in Group - The Thursday drop in group is very close to recommencing. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for details. **We are still Wamboin !! - Peter Evans – Isolated President.**

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Author: Catherine Bird

Key herbs for LAMINITIS support



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

02 6238 1135 Carol

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Bywong Community Association News – September 2020

Annual General Meeting – Bywong needs YOU! Tuesday 15th September 7:00pm at the Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road.

Refreshments provided. The Bywong Community Association (in a “normal year”!) organises a number of community events, including the Car Boot Sale, the Trivia Night and the Christmas Gathering. We also raise funds from the sale of local artwork (postcards and teatowels) and use these funds to benefit the community and to add to our local facilities, such as the amazing playground at the

Bywong Hall. We are an enthusiastic group, but few in number, which limits our potential. So, if you have ideas and energy to help organise and participate in community activities, we invite you to join us! Membership is free, and you can also join the Committee. All Committee positions become vacant at the AGM. If you would like to find out more, on the Committee, please email president@bywongcommunity.org.au, or just come along to the AGM.

Bywong and Wamboin WHEELY CHALLENGE:

Now's the time to put on your creative hat, **unleash your inner artist, and** start imagining your entry to the **Bywong and Wamboin WHEELY CHALLENGE**. The brain-child of Bywong artist JP Favre, the competition has \$300 in prizes for different age groups and the rules are simple:

Make a sculpture / montage that includes at least one old wheel (car, bike, trolley)

Display your creation on the boundary of your property where it is visible to passers-by.

Come on, Bywong/Wamboin: if enough of us join in, we can turn the locality into a 'rural sculpture park'! More details, including important dates, entry categories and PRIZES are on the flyer elsewhere in this Whisper.

Stay well and stay connected to friends and acquaintances in the area.

-Mike Wilkins, President, Bywong Community Association, 0417458320, Email: president@bywongcommunity.org.au

HEY KIDS, YOUNG AND OLD!

Are you 'wheelie creative?'

Surely, somewhere in your shed, under the house, or in the old dunny, you have an old wheel lying around, perhaps off a car, wheel barrow, bicycle or ride-on mower?

Well, here's your chance to get 'wheelie creative' and build a sculpture: it can represent something obvious or be an abstract collection of bits and pieces. You can weld, glue, paint, polish, bend and twist...we don't care as long as it has at least one wheel!

Kids, as well as one prize for Best Local Sculpture, there will be prizes for Best Primary Student Sculpture and Best Secondary Student Sculpture, so nag mum and dad if you need help to build your creation! Each of the three prizes will be \$100

To enter, send us a photo of your sculpture (which must be mounted and displayed near the entrance gate of the property, where passers-by can see it), along with your Name, Age, Address and your Sculpture's Title to: wheelsculpture@bywongcommunity.org.au,

Competition entries will close on 31 October 2020.



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Make this ...YOUR 'GET READY' WEEKEND ... 19-20 September 2020

The statutory fire danger period starts 1 October.

The NSW Rural Fire Service is encouraging residents to use the 19-20 September weekend to GET READY for the coming fire danger period.

Last year's devastating fire season demonstrated the significant impact that bush fires can have on communities. It's a stark reminder not only about the dangers of fire but also the importance of being prepared, and having plans to cover more than one contingency.

Members of the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade will be available from 9am to 3pm on Saturday 19 September to help residents discuss their proposed individual preparations for the fire season as well as a personal/family survival plan. This is longer than last year as we are allowing additional time because of the need for COVID-19 precautions.

Talk one-on-one with a knowledgeable and experienced local volunteer firefighter and receive guidance on how to 'get ready' for the bushfire season. Make sure their experiences last season don't become your reality this season.

For more information on what you can do to prepare for bush fire this season visit the NSW Rural Fire Service website:

www.rfs.nsw.gov.au and www.myfireplan.com.au Nothing, however, beats personal contact and we look forward to helping you.

NEED GUIDANCE? HAVE QUESTIONS? SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER ANYTIME BETWEEN 9AM – 3PM

Wamboin Fire Station 112 Bingley Way Wamboin

(Note: COVID restrictions applicable at the time of this event will be applied including any limitation on people numbers, safe distancing rules, hygiene requirements, and registration of attendees for contact tracing purposes.)

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE: The NSW RFS has introduced an online burn notification system where landowners can now use a computer, tablet or smart phone to lodge their burn notifications electronically through the online portal on the NSW Rural Fire Service website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify. Land owners need to make sure they've obtained any required permits and permissions, as well as notifying neighbours 24 hours before lightning up.

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade: <http://brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au>

NSW Rural Fire Service: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade is on Face Book

Lake George Fire Control Centre 6128 0600





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Egg & Bacon Rolls @ The Markets

Should the Wamboin Markets go ahead as planned, I will be selling Egg & Bacon Rolls, and also, plan a 'return' of packaged Sausage Rolls. Because of Covid restrictions, you are asked to order and pay at the normal servery and receive your order from outside the kitchen window near the Hall entrance. Price of the E & B Roll will be \$5.00, and 'Take home' Sausage Rolls (tray of 4) will be \$10.00. Be sure to bring plenty of suitable cash, and have correct monies to save any change, (because of restrictions) to prevent stallholders handling money and giving change. Fingers crossed; hope to see you at the Markets on Saturday, 19th September.

- Joan Mason



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Nature Notes August 2020

Jo Walker

Some more good falls of rain earlier in the month has had the creek running again and the dam overflowing. The water churning down the creek has now slowed to a steady trickle but can still be heard gently burbling along – a lovely sound to welcome in Spring.

Spring will be here by the time you read this and the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) and Red-stemmed Wattles (*A. rubida*) are already indicating this is so with lots of yellow flowers. The few *Wurmbea dioica* (Early Nancy) that were flowering at this time last month have been joined by many more, and the ground-level flowers of Bear's Ears (*Cymbonotus lawsonianus*) are dotting the hillsides here with spots of bright yellow. And an Old Man's Beard Clematis (*Clematis leptophylla*) is a cloud of cream flowers. This plant is a creeper with male and female flowers on separate plants. The female plants eventually produce fluffy white seed-heads – hence the common name.

The present moist conditions seem to be favourable for the Little Dumpy Orchids (*Diplodium truncatum*), one of the greenhood orchids. There are more than twenty populations of these little plants at my place, and the patches of ground-hugging rosettes of leaves are expanding. They won't flower until next year and, like many orchids, they need ideal conditions at the time of flowering to give a good show. When they do flower well, they can produce a carpet of nodding flowers, mostly white but with narrow green and brown stripes.

Recently, there was a little blue male Superb Fairy-wren flying up and down the windows and tapping away. I thought at first that it was collecting spider webs for a nest, but it wasn't. It was attacking its reflection in the window, assuming it was another male on its territory. Years ago, a Scarlet Robin sat almost permanently on the side mirror of my car, pecking at its reflection. I had to remove a little pyramid of droppings from the top of the mirror every time I reclaimed my car.

I hadn't seen the Wombat here for a while, but it – or perhaps another one – was feeding contentedly by the roadside recently.

A more exciting animal encounter happened here last week. I heard a movement amongst some of the tall Cassinia bushes and turned to see an 'Echidna train' – a female being followed by several males. They were partially obscured by the vegetation but there were at least four, and possibly five, Echidnas. When they heard me, they all piled together against a fallen log, a huge heap of spiky spines. Although Echidnas are mammals, they lay an egg to reproduce. The soft-shelled egg is laid about a fortnight after mating has occurred and hatches ten days later. The little Echidna, known as a puggle, is carried in its mother's pouch for three months, feeding on milk exuded from pores on the skin of mammary glands. By the time it emerges from the pouch it has a covering of short spines. Some interesting little animals live amongst us.

A large Shingleback Lizard ventured out from its winter hibernation here a few days ago, and was relaxing and enjoying the warm sunshine – a sure harbinger of Spring.



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Wamboin Golf - August 2020

Sunday, 2 August. Your correspondent, like many in Wamboin, moonlights as a rock farmer. In Spring they fairly jump out of the ground if you give them a good fertilizing in Winter. I favour superphosphate but it's difficult to distribute evenly by simply casting from a bucket. So there I was driving down the Barton Highway (carefully avoiding all those poor women giving birth on the roadside) to a clearance sale near Binalong. I was after a piece of equipment I couldn't get at Bunnings – well, not since they threw me out when I stood up for my rights an individual by refusing to wear a mask and videoing their unconstitutional behaviour. I realized my driver's licence had expired when I was pulled over by the police for almost hitting a midwife delivering a baby just outside Murrumbateman. The next day, after a brief appearance in Queanbeyan District Court, I went into the Service NSW office to renew my licence but because of physical distancing they recommended I do it online or by phone. Well of course I had my mobile so I sat in the car and made the call. A nice young man took my details and the rest of the conversation went something like this:

Nice young man: I notice you must wear glasses when driving.

Me: that's correct.

NYM: it's been ten years since you renewed your licence, sir. You'll have to do the eye test.

Me: OK let's do it.

NYM: I'm not sure it can be done over the phone.

Me: it can't be that hard. Let's give it a go.

NYM: alright, sir. I'll just put up the eye chart and you read the lowest line you can.

Me: I can't see the eye chart.

NYM: maybe you shouldn't be driving at all, sir.

Me: I mean over the phone. Tell you what; we'll do the third line from the bottom. You start me off with the first letter.

NYM: OK. It's D.

Me: D.

NYM: Very good, sir. Next please.

Me: give me a clue.

NYM: think of the road sign as you approach the intersection of Norton and Bungendore Roads.

Me: T?

NYM: very good, sir. Now try the first letter of a source of energy despised by all Greens

Me: that'd be uranium. U.

NYM: excellent, sir. The next letter looks a bit like the number two.

Me: too easy (pardon the pun). That's Z.

NYM: nothing wrong with your eyes, sir. The last one's a bit tricky. Think of the colour of the sea off Mollymook towards the end of an overcast day.

Me: Been there and seen it. The answer's grey so the letter is G.

NYM: well done, sir! Are you sure you were wearing your glasses?

Me: yes, but I could have done it with my eyes shut.

And the rest was just paying by credit card, the details of which I won't reveal if you don't mind.

Now what about the golf? It was Tradies Day so it was all high viz and utes with cattle dogs and chequer plate compartments full of other things that bite if you pick them up by the wrong end. We thank our sponsors, all members of the skilled trades, for the eats and prizes.

Back at the workshop, as the captain did the tally, we stood around (some outside) singing tradie-type songs made famous by



Slim Dusty, Chisel, ZZ Top and the Charlie Daniels Band. Lofty Mason told the Ted Evans memorial joke. The googly ball went to Vicki Still for quite accidentally hitting Tim Barter with a two-iron. The dummy spit went to Tim for needlessly exaggerating a minor injury. Encouragement awardees were Alex Gordon, Robert Thompson and Phoebe Beckett. The junior comp was won by Madison Gordon. The senior nine holers comp winner was David Thompson 47/27 from Deb Gordon 55/36 with Ken Gordon in 3rd place on 41/37. Victory in the 18 hole comp went to Tim Barter 72/63 OCB from Matt O'Brien 101/63 (two new knees and a Ned Kelly handicap) with Pete Harrison 91/64 3rd.

Next month it will be Spring when my rocks will be at their zenith. Join us at the Hall at 12.15pm on Sunday, 6 September for the 12.30pm start of the annual Wamboin GC Spring Trophy. Meanwhile, more about that clearance sale in Binalong where I had better luck than my abortive trip to Bunnings. I found just the implement I was after but the placard didn't have a lot number. So I picked it up and went in search of the Elders desk (the stock and station agents, not Colin and Anne). Would you believe it, as I walked around the paddock I noticed that people were falling over themselves to avoid me. Indeed, some ran away screaming. The penny finally dropped when I realized the placard read "super spreader". -Larry King, golfer. Pix by Pete Harrison and Vicki Still.

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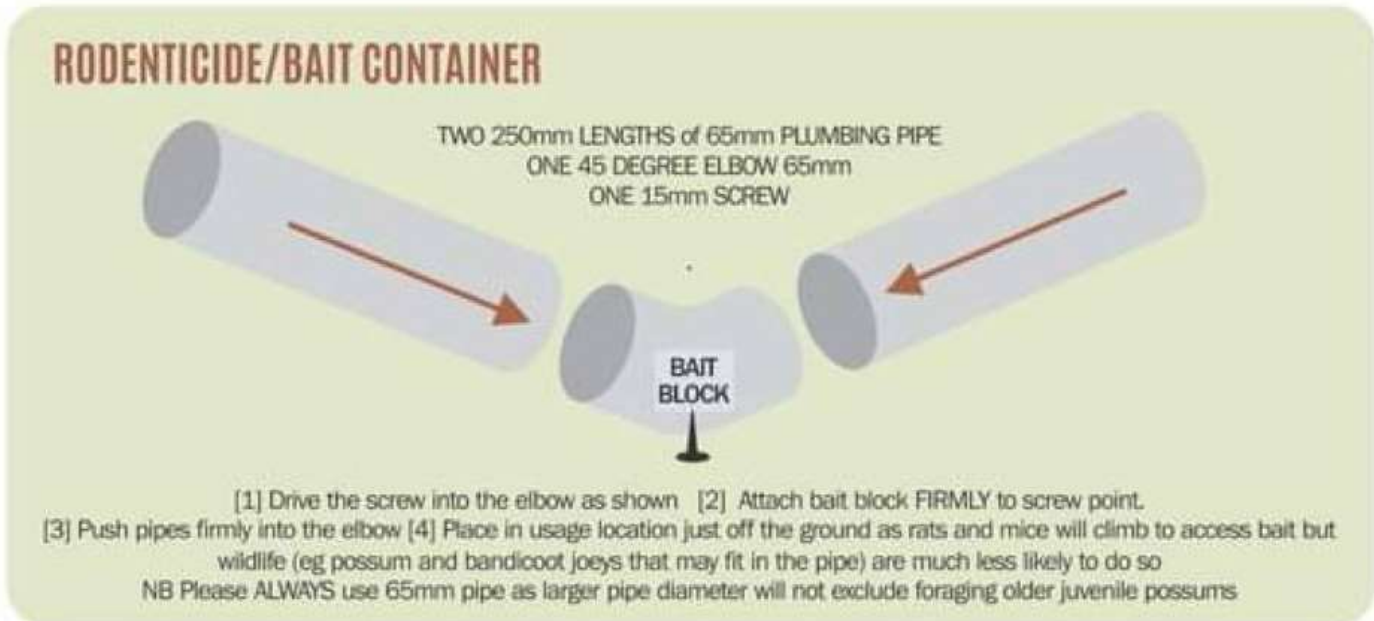
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Poisoning the Wrong Target

In the colder months it is common for furry critters to move into our roof and wall cavities. These can include non-native rats and mice as well as our native marsupial mice (*Antechinus*) and possums, or even lizards. Naturally, we want to remove or stop whoever makes the scuttling noises that keep us awake at night, or knocks things over in the shed, leaving behind little black sultana-like gifts.



Remember, the most humane and environmentally safe option is to simply rodent-proof your home before winter - close access to compost bins, close off house entry points, don't leave pet food out.

A common remedy is to reach for a poison, such as a rodenticide (rat/mouse bait) that comes in the form of loose pellets or a small solid block. These can be very effective in reducing rodent numbers, but please consider that all animals eating these baits will go through prolonged, excruciating pain before they die. Many people who use the baits around their household are unaware that as well as killing the intended rats/mice, they can kill pets and wildlife – either by directly eating it (primary poisoning) or by eating an animal killed by the bait (secondary poisoning).

Every winter, wildlife rescue groups see the consequences of these accidental poisonings – most often possums and owls. Although some recover, with dedicated intensive care, time and cost, many do not. If wildlife comes into care in time, treatment can be successful but is often very stressful for them, as they need to be kept in captivity for up to two months and then fight to regain their lost territory when released.

Wildlife care groups believe prevention is better than cure – making your home rodent-proof is a far more humane way of dealing with non-native rats/mice. You might first try removing available food sources or blocking their entry points into your house. If that doesn't work, you might try using live traps or traps that kill the rat/mouse quickly (again, consider placement and consider wildlife). Please only use rodenticides as a last resort.

If you feel you must use bait, producers of rodenticide have created small black boxes that are designed so that only animals of rodent size can access the bait, thus reducing the risk to other animals. You can make your own 'bait station' by using narrow 65 mm polypipe that restricts access by wildlife (see diagram).

If you do choose to use rodenticides, please investigate the best way to minimise poisoning our precious wildlife. Wrap and dispose of any dead rat/mice so that wildlife do not eat them and die slowly from secondary poisoning. Google the "WIRES wildlife and pesticides" factsheet, which provides additional information about poisons and wildlife.

So, on behalf of wildlife like Biggles, a possum who was orphaned when his mum died from rodenticide poisoning, please consider the use of these products carefully. More often than not, no amount of care can reverse the process once the damage is started.

If you come across any wildlife that appears to be sick with poisoning effects – e.g. weakness, bleeding – please call Wildcare on 62991966

Phil Machin, for Wildcare, 6299 1966 Photos: Orphaned Biggles in rehabilitation DIY bait station (Australian Possums and Gliders Carer's Group)



Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market

WE ARE BACK! Saturday 19 September 2020

9-12md

Contact: **Meriel Schultz 62383309 or 042 261 4304** Email: lmsconsulting@bigpond.com

At the time of writing, we are able to start up the market again. Things of course may change.... **IF THE ROAD SIGNS ARE UP – IT'S ON!** We will have a good mix of stalls selling garden produce, home baking, craft, cards, plants, jewellery and more. Coffee, scones and egg and bacon rolls/sausage rolls will be available. Some stalls will be in the hall and some outside. The playground will be 'off limits' as the regulations about cleaning equipment after each use are too difficult to supervise on market day.

COVID 19 regulations will apply to stallholders and all customers. A Covid 19 plan has been submitted to the Hall Management and the WCA and a copy will be available at the hall on market day.

Customers will be expected to sign the Hall book on arrival, leaving their name and a contact number or email. This is kept for 28 days by Hall management in case we need to trace people. Hopefully not. No contact details = no entry.

Customers will enter through the front door of the hall and exit through the side door. This will make social distancing easier. Produce and goods for sale are to be handled by the stallholder only and handed to customers packaged or in a bag. Where possible

stallholders will ask for contactless payments but we do expect – and will accept - cash payments.

We encourage you to wear disposable gloves and face masks. Hand sanitizer will be available on entry and exit and soap and paper towels in the toilet block. There are a number of vulnerable, frail and older people in the community and we need to do all we can to protect them.

All food and coffee purchased is to be consumed outside the hall. **We look forward to welcoming you back – see you at the market!**



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 TORTILLA: Spanish omelette with saffron alioli
 GAZPACHO: Watermelon, tomato and cucumber gazpacho with serrano salt
 A LA GALLEGA: Grilled octopus with smoked paprika and confit potatoes
 CROQUETA: Oxtail croquettes with romesco sauce
 CREMA CATALANA: citrus, cinnamon and vanilla cream with a crunchy caramel

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\$65 2 hr PREMIUM Beverage package 2019 Rose, 2018 Pinot Gris, 2005 Cabernet Merlot, 2001 Shiraz, sparkling mineral water, soft drinks

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TAPIOCA, VANILLA AND COCONUT SOUP, FRESH PINEAPPLE WITH MINT, BANANA CAKE, ALMOND PRALINE AND PASSION FRUIT COULIS 2010 Late Harvest Pinot Gris.



Please consider using the services offered by Whisper advertisers when you need to buy something they provide. By running these ads they enable the Wamboin Community Association to pay to print the Whisper.

Can You Write Something for the October 2020 Wamboin Whisper?

The main purpose for the Wamboin Whisper is to provide one more way for Bywong and Wamboin residents to communicate with each other in ways that add to living out here. What you write should relate to things that happen in Wamboin or Bywong. Preference is given to items that are not already available in other publications we all receive. If the article might increase your own income, run it, but think about running it as an ad, as that way the Community Association can use the money to pay for printing the Whisper. Try not to write things that denigrate other residents. If you can put into words things that inform, entertain, constructively challenge us, or provoke thought please know it will be welcome. Deadline for the October Whisper is 7 pm the last Sunday of September, the 27th. - Ned Noel, volunteer editor on behalf of the Wamboin Community Association, at either whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or nednoel@optusnet.com.au or ph 0409 997 082 or mailbox at 17 Reedy Creek Place Wamboin.

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Spring Out!

September 2020

TASTINGS, DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY

OPEN Thursday to Saturday 11am to 8pm and Sunday 11am to 5pm
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Thursday Weekly Trivia Nights with Happy Hour & Pizza

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Sun 6 Sept Father's Port by the Fire DINNER still available

12 Sep - 11 Oct Floriade comes to Wamboin for a month
Tulips, budding vines and special Floriade Spring lunches in
the Pavilions or on the deck every weekend!

Every Sunday 13 Sept - 11 Oct - 11am & 4pm
Wine & Chocolate Tasting morning & afternoons \$45pp

Sun 20 Sept Namaste Rose with Kingston Yoga, class & brunch 9-
11am \$60pp

Fri 2 Oct - NightFeast - celebrating Floriade Re:Imagined with
the Floriade Spring menu and wood fired pizzas

Mon 5 Oct Monday Public Holiday OPEN

Mon 5 Oct Monday Public Holiday - Namaste Rose Kingston Yoga
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Sat 17 Oct 70's Fondue Party - Dress up and have fun \$70pp

Sat 31 Oct Halloween Party

Tues 3 Nov Melbourne Cup Lunch

Thurs 5 Nov Sip, Swirl & Learn Riedel Workshop

Talk to us about your private event in the Pavilions!

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Book Review: Gallagher & Lee: *Bungendore – a chronology*

Reviewed by David McDonald

This newly-published book 'Bungendore - a chronology' by Neville Gallagher and Barry Lee is obtainable at the Bungendore Post office. It is a tour de force: skilfully designed and beautifully presented - how lovely to hold a real, hard-covered book in one's hands!

Each of its 14 chapters covers a 20 year time block (except for Ch. 1: 'Pre 1788' and Ch. 14: 'Appendices'), from Ch. 1: '1788-1800' (yes I know that is not 20 years!) to Ch. 13: '2001-2020'. Interestingly, and helpfully, it deals not with Bungendore alone, but situates its cultural history in a wider context. Most entries are a paragraph in length. The sources used are meticulously referenced, and many black-and-white, and some sepia, photographs are included. Importantly, it has a detailed index, a resource too often excluded from self-published local history books.

As noted above, Chapter 1 deals with 'First inhabitants'. Chapter 2 commences the entries sequenced by date, the first entry being 1788, the First Fleet's arrival at Botany Bay. The first mention of the Bungendore area is Joseph Wild's 'discovery' (Gallagher & Lee's term) of Lake George/Weereewaa on 19 August 1820, 200 years ago. (Disappointingly, QPRC has not acted on my suggestion to them, made in February this year, to undertake a heritage activity to mark the bicentenary of the first incursion of European colonists into our LGA.) Chapter 4: 'Bungendore's beginnings', commences with the first settlers in the Bungendore/Bungadaw area. The final dated entry is for the year 2020: bushfires, January's rains, the new change rooms at the Mick Sherd Oval, and the commencement of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In his Foreword, David Watson of *Millpost* writes: 'We can only hope this chronology sparks an appreciation of Bungendore's history and of the town's physical and social attributes that its history has engendered. If this becomes the case, Neville and Barry's labours will have done much to help preserve the town's unique identity, both in its physical appearance and a sense of community', sentiments with which I wholeheartedly concur.

Someone has said to me that professional historians may not be enamoured of the book, but it is not written for them! To my mind, it provides a wealth of delightful snapshots of the evolution of Bungendore over the last 200 years, based firmly on documentary sources. Highly recommended.

Gallagher, NJ & Lee, BR 2020, *Bungendore - a chronology*, [Neville Gallagher], n.p., ISBN 978-0-646-81544-2, \$33.00.

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SPRING PUBLIC WALKS: Sunday 20 September 2020

The greenways network is our great hidden treasure, and hope to help you uncover some of the beauty of our local bushland by walking our local area with people who know the area well. The **Bywong & Wamboin Greenways Renewal Working (GRoW)** voluntary group is pleased to announce three (3) concurrent public walks on our greenways this spring.

WALKS

1. Millpost Loop Walk from Bywong Hall 10am-1.30pm

Sunday 20th September 2020: 10.5kms Walk leader Kathy Handel/ Martin Largey (GREEN ROUTE on GOOGLE map on website link)

2. Weeroona South to Millpost return – 10am-11.30am

Sunday 20th September 2020: 4.5kms Walk leader Megan Wallace + 1 other (PURPLE ROUTE - GOOGLE map on website link)

3. Bywong Hall Greenways orientation walk – 10.30am- 12 midday: 3-4.5kms Walk leader: Nora Stewart/ Mel Hillery. (BLUE ROUTE on GOOGLE map on website link)

We have a limit of **20 people max for each group**, including walk leaders.

INTERESTED?

If you are interested in one or all of these walks, please **REGISTER ONLINE AT THE LINK BELOW**

<https://www.bywongcommunity.org.au/greenways/maps-and-walks/>

Go to **BywongCommunity.org.au**, and find **Greenways** at the top, and then **Maps and Walks**.

Registering early is important because we will need everyone to be registered before the day to make sure we can balance & not exceed our number limit.

We will CONFIRM you are registered with details of your walk via email.

OTHER INFORMATION- Greenways & Details of Other Walks You Can Do Yourself

You can find more information about the Greenways at

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Look forward to seeing you out there!

Nora Stewart

Coordinator, Bywong & Wamboin GRoW Group




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WAMBOIN WEATHER – rainfall and temperature records

(45 years from Cooper Road) by Christine Rieber

August Rainfall Stats

August rainfall to the 30th 136.5mm
2020 total rainfall to 30th 548.75mm

September Rainfall Stats

2019 September rainfall..... 37.75mm
Wettest September..... 154.75mm in 2016
Wettest September day. 64mm on 17/9/13
Driest September..... 6mm in 1994

September Temperature Stats

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

Average day temperature..... 14.3°C
Warmest September..... 2001
Av. day temp. 16.5°C & nights 6.3°C
(highest 18.6°C in 18)

Average August rainfall..... 52.9mm
2019 August rainfall..... 15.5mm
2019 total rainfall to 30/8..... 264.75mm
44yr Av. to end of August..... 424.7mm

Average September rainfall..... 62.2mm
Average no. rain days in Sept. 9.7
Highest no. rain days..... 19 in 1984
Lowest no. rain days..... 2 in 2018

Av. Sept. temp... 9.4°C (day+night comb.)
Coldest September day.... 5°C (2 times)
on 4/9/1982 & 28/9/2009
Coldest September night... -4°C on 1/9/12
Average night temperature..... 4.6°C
Coldest September..... 2015
Av. day temp. 12°C & nights 1.8°C
(lowest 11°C in 16) (lowest 1.6°C in 12)
Sept. 2019. Av. max 18.6°C & min 3.3°C

August was the 2nd wettest, behind 1985 (with 170.5mm), and equal to 1998.

August 8th was the wettest August day with 58mm.

Rainfall to the end of August was 124mm above the 44-year average (being 424.7mm). Of the 19 other years that had above average rainfall to the end of August, 17 had above average rainfall at the end of the year (being >683.7mm).

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



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Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

For September I chose the Grey Fantail, a small bird with a very large, distinctive tail.

Grey Fantail (*Rhipidura albiscapa*)

Size: 14-17cm

Status: Common breeding summer migrant

The Grey Fantail is a very common and distinctive bird in Wamboin, however it is only found in the region over the summer months. They have just arrived in Wamboin this year. Its main feature is its long, distinctive tail, which is about half the size of the bird.



It holds its tail on an angle upwards and fans it regularly in a display. They are very active birds, constantly flying around and displaying. Grey Fantails are mainly grey, with darker wings, face and tail. Throat, eyebrows and edges of the tail are white, and the underparts are white to pale tan. Both sexes are similar in appearance. They are often found in mixed flocks with other small birds, feeding in trees and shrubs on insects. Grey fantails very inquisitive and do not readily fly away when approached, making them easy to spot. Their call is a “dit, dit, dit-dit-dit-dit, dit” which is repeated many times as they forage and display. Grey Fantails build very delicate, unique nests, which are located on a branch, made of fine bark fibres or twigs. The nest has a long thin extension underneath, making the nest look like a “wineglass without a base”. Similar species include the Rufous Fantail which has rufous plumage (instead of grey) and is a rare summer visitor to Wamboin and the resident Willie Wagtail which is generally found in more open grassy areas and is larger with distinct black upperparts and white underparts. (Photo from Google images)



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From the Corner

Land Ownership—The note in last month’s President’s Paragraphs in relation to a recently announced mining exploration licence that had been granted in our area prompted a couple of questions relating to property ‘rights’ and land ownership more generally. This is a subject that is perhaps a little beyond the purview of local government but I thought it might be of interest nonetheless.

Land is often referred to as ‘real property’, which basically means property that is fixed and immovable — as distinct from personal property, which is basically property (as in goods and chattels) that is not fixed and can be moved. Further, Australian law recognises two basic types of land or ‘real property’ ownership—freehold title and Crown land—although land ownership is generally managed through State legislation. In NSW, all land ownership is administered by NSW Land Registry Services

Freehold land gives the landholder the most complete form of ownership of that land, in perpetuity. It allows the landholder to deal with the land, including selling, leasing, licensing or mortgaging the land, subject to compliance with applicable State or Territory legislation, such as that relating to planning or environmental protection.

Accounting for around half the land area in NSW, Crown land is essentially Government-owned land that has not been converted to freehold title.

The majority of ownership of freehold title in Australia is governed by a system of registration known as Torrens title, devised by Sir Robert Torrens in South Australia in 1858. Based on the principle of ‘Indefeasibility of Title’ (the title determines ownership), this is primarily a means of providing conclusive evidence of ownership, which had previously involved extended, often inconclusive, searches of historical document trails. This Torrens Title system is now used in many countries throughout the world.

Strata and Community Title arrangements are variations of Torrens Title devised for apartment blocks, horizontal subdivisions or neighbourhood style developments involving common or shared areas.

Just for completeness at this point, when Australia was first settled, there was no formal system for registering the ownership of land. As the colonies developed, they created registers and, eventually, a formal centralised system for registering ownership. There remain some properties, however, that are still not registered under this [Torrens] system and they are known as Old System title properties.

Native Title is a common law concept, applicable only to Crown land, that recognises that Aboriginal people have property rights and interests in land arising from traditional law and custom.

While many people are of the belief that they own their freehold land absolutely, including anything above or below it, following to the Doctrine of Tenure the law in Australia holds that the Crown has absolute ownership, notwithstanding any native title claims. In general, an owner’s rights extend only as far as is necessary for the ordinary use and enjoyment of their land. While freehold title applies to the benefit of the owner in perpetuity, it is in essence a type of legal relationship landholders are granted with the permission of the Crown.

In particular, minerals, oil and gas are ‘reserved to the Crown’, which means Australian state governments retain the rights to these resources if they are found on freehold land (In any case, gold and silver have long been deemed to belong to the Crown as royal metals.).

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As such, the Crown has the right to grant a title to another, by way of a licence to carry out exploration activities, for example, allowing separate interests to be held over a single property. This duality of rights, however, does not mean that a licence holder has unfettered access to the subject land. It grants the licence holder exclusive rights to explore for petroleum or specific minerals within a designated area but it does not permit mining, nor does it offer any guarantee that a mining or production lease would ever be granted. Licence holders are also subject to a statutory prohibition on carrying out any activities within 200 metres of a residence without the consent of the land holder and resident.

The purpose of exploration is simply to locate areas where mineral or petroleum resources may be present, to establish the quality and quantity of those resources, and to investigate the viability of extracting the resource.

You will, however, rarely see a modern day prospector with a rock pick. Today's prospectors are geologists who spend more time in front of computer screens, analysing data collected using sophisticated airborne sensors, than actually digging or drilling holes. It is these types of activities that are most likely to be carried out under the sorts of exploration licences that have been granted recently in our area. Apart from low flying aircraft, the associated activities will generally not even be noticed by most residents.

The QPR Blog—New or related entries in my Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>) include: Land Ownership (Aug 2020)
-Cr Pete Harrison, Ph. 6238 3640, Mob. 0427 711 028, Email: contact@peteharrison.id.au, Website: www.peteharrison.id.au

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The Roads of Wamboin, Part 6: Merino Vale Drive, Poppet Road & Reedy Creek Place

By David McDonald, ph. 0416 231 890, email david [at] dnmcdonald.id.au

Introduction: This article is the sixth in a series on the origins of the names of Wamboin's roads. (The Bywong Community's website has corresponding information on the Bywong roads.) It continues coverage of the nine roads that are named after their locations, local features, creeks, properties, etc. As always, readers are invited to contact me, or the Editor, with any additional information, or corrections.

Merino Vale Drive: 'Merino Vale' was the name of one of the blocks that composed Frank Wallis Hyles' (1886-1952) 'Murryong' Station; the block was 1,350 acres in size. 'Back in the 1920's, my grandfather Frank Hyles was building up his sheep numbers and land holdings in the Wamboin area. He owned land in central Wamboin that was called Cannings, Merino Vale, Birchmans Gully, Brooks and Leahys ... The best land he owned in the area would have been Old Kowen and Merino Vale ... The land from Bingley Way to Weeroona Drive along Norton Road and all the land off Merino Vale Drive was part of Merino Vale ... Merino Vale was purchased by the Harriotts in 1950 and then they sold it to the Majors in about 1962. The Harriotts and the Majors improved the pastures near Merino Vale Drive and Norton Road near the Yass River crossing ... The woolshed on Merino Vale was built in the early 1970's for the Majors by Cecil Guy' (Watson 1997).

Frank Watson's article includes an overlay showing the Merino Vale block (and the others put up for sale by Frank Hyles in 1950) on the present-day map of Wamboin. It is online at <https://tinyurl.com/yj56a6y>.

Poppet Road: Named from the nearby Poppet Hill and the Poppet trig station at its top. A poppet (or poppet-head) is perhaps best known as the headframe of a mining shaft: 'The frame at the top of a shaft, supporting the pulleys for the ropes used in hoisting' (OED 2018, 'poppet-head'). The term is used more broadly in Australia, however, to refer to shafts/timbers that form some type of tower, including the wooden tower that supports the round discs of some trig stations.

The first edition of the parish of Wamboin map, published in 1881, shows 'Poppet Trig Stn'. Although the trig station was notified in the Gazette on 7 October 1893, the hill's name was not gazetted until 1971.

Reedy Creek Place: Named from the nearby Reedy Creek. It rises near Norton Road at around the 10 km mark, flows north between Norton Road and Weeroona Drive, past the end of Reedy Creek Place, passing under Bungendore Road immediately south of the Bungendore Road/Macs Reef Road junction, and there joins Brooks Creek. The middle part of its course meanders, as a reedy waterway, through Clare Valley. The name of the creek was gazetted on 01 August 1969, even though the name appeared on the Wamboin parish map from the map's first edition, published in 1881.

Reference: Watson, F 1997, 'Stories from Wamboin', *The Whisper*, April 1997, pp. 11-16, <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/thewhisper/content/support/archives/1997/9704%20Whisper.pdf>.



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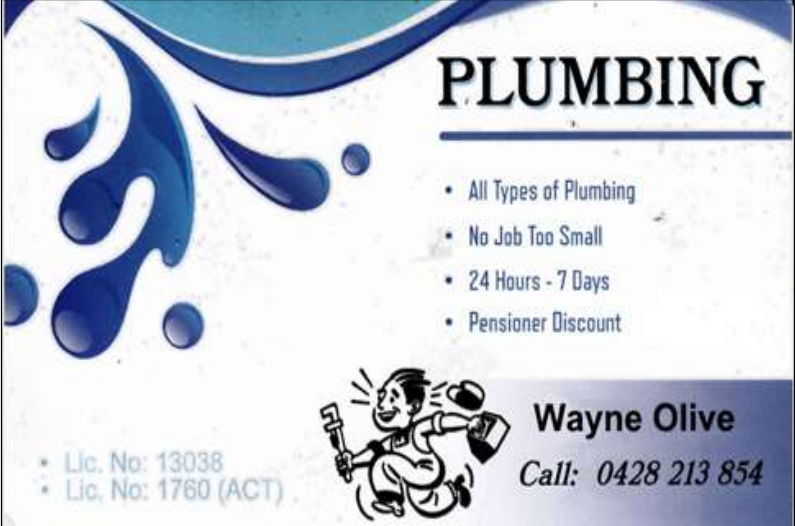
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The articles you read in the Whisper are written by Wamboin and Bywong residents to inform or entertain you. If you read something you like, think about letting the author know. It's the only pay they will get. – Ned Noel, volunteer editor

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Vale Lance Schultz (8 Aug 1942 – 20 Aug 2020)

It is with much sadness that we say farewell to our lovely husband, father, grandfather and good friend Lance Schultz.

The boy from the Barossa grew up in Adelaide and was the first of his family to take up a university place to study politics, philosophy and economics. His academic life took him from Adelaide to Nigeria as a Commonwealth scholar and on to London. In 1969 he left academia and joined the Department of Foreign Affairs for a 'proper job', and married Meriel. The family subsequently moved between Australia and overseas postings in Germany, Tanzania and London. Over time Lance also served as adviser and speechwriter for Prime Ministers Hawke and Keating and headed up the international section of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. After retiring from public service he ran a consultancy business for twenty years with Meriel.

Lance's long connection with Wamboin began when he and Meriel purchased a block of land in 1979 on Poppet Road at a time when the sealed road hit dirt track at that point. Lance recognised that the Cooper & Norton road residents might like a Sunday paper delivered to their door – and so the 'kids paper run' was started. The local kids would join Sophie and Leo on their bikes or horses at the end of Cooper Rd and make their way up and down the driveways delivering the paper



This connection with the families of the area has led to many years of involvement with local activities. As his own family of four children grew, these included becoming a cub leader, pony club supporter, fire brigade member and later, the community gym group – even line dancing and pilates! In more recent times, Lance continued to represent the community through the Wamboin Community Association.

Lance's faith has been an important part of his life since university days in Adelaide. At a meeting in the Wamboin Hall many years ago, the Anglican congregation were discussing how nice it would be to build a small church for the Wamboin community. With the funds for the church donated, a site was needed. And so it was that Lance and Meriel donated the corner of Poppet Road to establish St Andrew's church.

Many of you will have stopped in recent times for a chat at the Wamboin Markets. Lance's great pleasure was to sit with one of Joan's bacon and egg rolls and Lou's coffee for a chat. He was even happier to go a second round as new people dropped in!

As we prepare to farewell Lance at St Andrew's church on 31st August 2020 with a private service, we remember: *"Happy is the man who at the end of his life has but what he gave to others"*.

We thank our friends and the local community and our wonderful local health services for their support, kindness and care. This meant that Lance's final years could be spent at home and with dignity and joy.
Meriel, Sophie, Leo, Rohan and Kiri Schultz

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