

**Wamboin Community Association
Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display By Fireworks Australia
Wamboin Community Centre 112 Bingley Way Wamboin
Saturday 26 August 2023**

Food stalls from 5.30, Bonfire lit at 6.36, Fireworks 7.06

Support local community groups including: Wamboin Community Association, Golf, Pony Club, Play Group, Church, Sutton School with a range of traditional stalls offering: Gluhwein, apple pies, steak sangers, bacon & egg sangers, baked spuds, Glo Sticks, great coffee, soft drinks and other food and beverages.

Please Bring Some Cash \$\$\$ to pay the \$10 Family Entrance Fee and to Purchase Tasty Food and Warm and Cool Refreshing Beverages on sale at multiple community group Stalls. Limited Internet Connectivity at the Hall mean no ATM will be available at the hall and only some stalls, if any, will have an eft “square” to accept payment.



Family \$10

Please note: No drones and by law, the only fireworks allowed will be the display by FIREWORKS AUSTRALIA

Monster Raffle supported by: Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade (trailer load of wood); Bungendore Rural (\$200 voucher); Bungendore Butcher (monster meat tray); Contentious Character (\$100 voucher); Biggies BBQ (\$100 voucher); Inland Trading (Wine).

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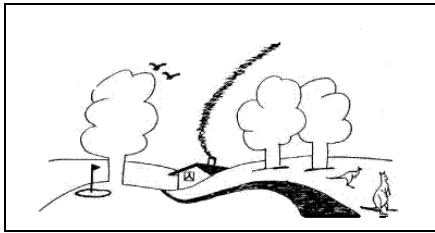
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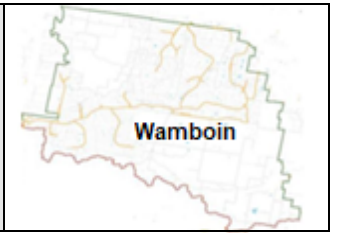
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President's Paragraphs



Well its still cold but often the days are nice here in Wamboin. Since we've just cleaned out our gutters we are hoping for a decent shower or two to fill our tanks – but **not** in the last week of August of course.

1. Bonfire & Fireworks Night. Its almost here – the annual **WCA Bonfire & Fireworks Night!** This is always a great night. So remember **Saturday 26th August at the Hall.** The event officially kicks off at **5:30 pm** but coming around 5:00 is advised for parking and getting a prime spot near the Bonfire. Already the Bonfire is building with locals' contributions and there will be a note further on in this edition of the Whisper as to the last day we will accept contributions for the Bonfire. Please consult this and our ad so you know exactly what time the fire will be lit and the fireworks will begin. There will be a large range of food stalls available but remember this is a **cash only event!** At the time of writing we simply couldn't get hold of an ATM and the small amount of wireless bandwidth at the Hall makes electronic funds transfer very tricky. Be smart and bring cash. It will save you time and effort on the night.

2. Bonfire Night cont. A quick note we will be setting up a **first aid** section at the far back of the Hall in the Meeting Room. Lost property should also be turned in here. That's through the main part of the Hall – past all the food stalls and into the smaller Meeting Room at the back. If you do lose something on the night PLEASE come here to see if its been turned in.

3. Spring Talks. It is our aim to provide the Community with another series of Spring Talks this year but unfortunately at the time of writing several of these were yet to be finalised. Keep an eye out in next month's edition of the Whisper for more information regarding this. These talks have proved popular in the past so we hope to be able to continue with them.

Remember our monthly meetings are held on the **3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm** at the **Community Hall on Bingley Way.** They are open to ALL members of Wamboin to come and discuss issues they feel are important. *Jenny Richards – President.*

The Great Wamboin Curry Night will be at the Wamboin Hall on 19 August 2023. 7:00 for 7:30. All welcome. Gold coin donation requested to pay for event expenses. Make a curry and bring it. Provide a description on paper to tell others a little about your curry. Bring you own drinks, plates, cutlery, and drinking glass. All curies will go on a serving table for each person to sample. Booking essential. Bookings and all other enquiries to Dave Hubbard at dave.hubbard@bigpond.com



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Event:

Bywong Community Association AGM

Where: Bywong Hall

When: 17 August @ 7:30pm

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19 August 2023

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Barnesjenny@equineability.com.au

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Callouts this month.

Callouts included 1 x vehicle fire, 1 x structure fire, and 1 x unknown fire call

The Brigade also has been busy with regular training, inter brigade training and hazard reductions in the area.

Preparation for this coming fire season!

By the time you get your copy of the Whisper, there will be less than two months left before the start of the fire season.

We have had three years of reprieve with wetter summers, but later this year, it is expected an El Niño will return with hotter temperatures and much less rainfall. Your pre-season bushfire preparation should be well underway, and continue through the fire season. Clearing dead or dry vegetation from around your house and buildings, gutters and roof valleys where dead leaves and twigs lay should be ongoing. Cutting the grass early and regularly, will keep it green, and lessen possible accidental starting of grass fires if you leave it until it is long and dry to cut it. Remember, it's too late to prepare your property when you are well into the fire season, and the forecast is for extreme or worse conditions in the coming week. The NSWRF's "Get ready weekend" will start to be advertised in the near future, and will happen in September. This annual event focusses on preparation advice and tips and is also distributed on our social media Facebook page.

Our Wamboin market shopfronts will have our Community engagement team to answer any fire related questions leading up to the fire season.

Do you have any equipment to fight a fire on your property if you intend to defend it?

If you do have pumps and hoses, check they are in good order before the start of the season. If you don't have these, and you intend to stay and defend your property if fire threatens you, NOW is the time to purchase them. Past experience shows that when a bad fire season starts and fires get more frequent, fire-fighting equipment becomes harder to find, more expensive or not available as all. This includes garden hoses and fittings. Other useful equipment might include a "Rake hoe" or "Knapsack". A fire trailer can be a good investment, perfect as a pressurised water source for pile burns or watering trees or shrubs around your property.



Useful links

Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade

NSW Rural Fire Service

Wamboin Facebook page

Queanbeyan Fire Control

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

www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

[Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade](#)

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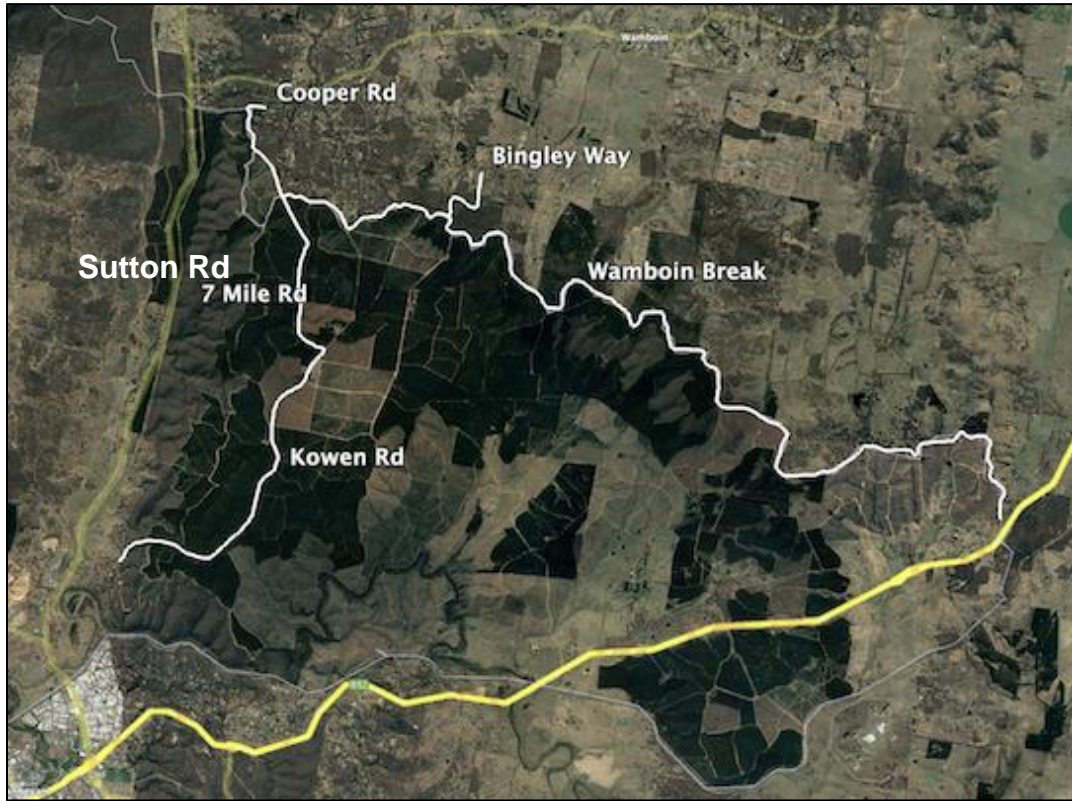
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Kowen Kapers - A Tale of Two Trails

Last month we discovered the two main entrances to Kowen from Wamboin. This month I'll reveal two routes that will take you to the heart of Kowen and beyond - whether you're walking, running or riding. Once you're familiar with these, in whole or in part, you can add loops and gradually expand your mental map of the area. Remember, you don't need to tackle these routes all in one



go, just take it bit by bit to familiarise yourself with the **Wamboin Break**. Wamboin Break follows the fence-line that marks the border between NSW and the ACT.

Starting from the Cooper Road entrance, follow the fence-line south until you reach a T intersection (Seven Mile Rd). Turn left here and continue following the fence line for 1 km until you reach the next left turn. This is Wamboin Break (you'll see a small street sign). Turn left (east) and follow Wamboin Break/fence-line for as long as you like before turning around and retracing your steps. Were you to follow Wamboin Break to the very end you'd find yourself at a locked gate that leads to the Kings Highway. Should you choose to retrace your steps back to Cooper Rd, the return journey is a whopping 38 km!

From Bingley Way you'll enter Kowen at the horse entrance that opens onto

Wamboin Break (see the July edition). From here you can go right (west) or left (east). Right (west) will take you to Seven Mile Rd (the first right turn off Wamboin Break at 4.5 km from Bingley Way - 9 km return) and left (east) will take you, eventually, to the King's highway. If you started your walk/ride from Bingley Way, the return journey to the Kings Highway gate and back is 30 km in total.

Seven Mile Rd/Kowen Rd. Starting from Cooper Rd, proceed as above but instead of turning left at Wamboin Break, continue south along Seven Mile Rd until it ends at a T intersection. Turn right (south) towards the old forestry depot area (which, sadly, now only consists of a large shed made of shipping containers). Continue on for a further 300 metres until you hit a signposted intersection of Kowen Rd and Fearnside Way. Keep going south along Kowen Rd. After a while Kowen Rd turns from a dirt road to bitumen. Follow the bitumen road until it ends at a locked gate on the road to Molonglo Gorge. Here you could arrange to be picked up by car or retrace your steps back to Wamboin (a total of 20 km).

Should you start from Bingley Way, turn right (west) at the horse entrance on Wamboin Break until you reach Seven Mile Rd. Turn left (south) following the directions above. The return journey from the Bingley Way entrance is 25 km.

What if I get lost? Despite its size, it is surprisingly difficult to get lost in Kowen. If you do get disoriented, use your phone's compass and head north until you reach the fence-line (Wamboin Break). Here you physically can't go any further north without scaling the barbed wire topped fence! Just follow the fence-line west (left) until you hit one of the entrances back to Wamboin. **What equipment should I bring?** First and foremost, bring your phone. Make sure your phone has a compass. If it doesn't,

go to your phone's app store and download one. And while you're there, download the Emergency Plus app (it's free). Should you get into an emergency (eg snake bite) the Emergency Plus app will put you in touch with Triple Zero and provide you with your map coordinates to send them. Speaking of snakes, during the warmer months it is best to carry two snake compression bandages and a print out of instructions on how to use them. If you're planning to go any real distance, you'll also need to carry water and food and if you're walking your dog then you'll need a collapsible plastic water bowl or cup. And to carry all this stuff, maybe you should invest in a backpack.

Once you are suitably kitted up, there is nothing stopping you from exploring the amazing sights and sounds of Kowen.

-Peter Komidar - Wamboin



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Hello Fellow Wamboinians!

It's been about six months since I was elected to Council following a countback to fill an unexpected vacancy, and it's been a bit of a whirlwind. There's a lot to learn, a lot to catch up on and I've now accumulated a long list of things to do! So, I thought it was a good time to update you on what's been happening. I am very grateful to be able to connect to you through our 'Whisper'. I've spent a fair bit of my time on Council travelling around the area, talking to businesses, experts, community groups and listening to residents, as well as attending meetings and briefings every week. It's been great meeting so many different people and hearing how we can make our region even better, and what people want me to work on.

It would not surprise you to know that roads and infrastructure are high on the list of things that residents want Council to focus on. Other issues that come up regularly include managing and enhancing our natural environment and whether our planning laws are fit for purpose.

Of course, many people have also asked about the increase to our rates. The first vote I took on coming to Council was to oppose the 66% rate rise to be applied over the next three years. The reason was not because I believe rates should never rise, but because I was not satisfied that Council had spent enough time examining its own costs and other savings potential. But, as you probably know, a majority of Councillors voted to raise rates. With the rates increase now implemented, I'll be working to ensure Council invests in things that benefit our community and in a way that ensures equity across our whole region.

Whilst Council does have responsibilities for rates and rubbish, it is much more than that. The decisions we take can make an area either more or less liveable and impact the lives of residents. The way we interact with the community should breed confidence and trust that we're there to support you. The relationship between Council and the community has to be a partnership where the community has a real say in how Council operates and our priorities, so I encourage everyone to take an interest in your local government.

Finally, at the Christmas in July Ball recently I met a family who had moved to Wamboin just a week prior. At one point I noticed them all up dancing alongside some of our longstanding Wamboin personalities. It reminded me just how fantastic our area is and why it's so important that Council supports that sense of community.

I'd love to hear from you about how we can make where we live even better – please feel free to reach out. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the curry night or the bonfire & fireworks! - Cheers, Ross MacDonald

How the Whisper Gets Into Your Mailbox Each Month

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

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----|------------------|------------|----|
| Fay Kelly | Norton West Area from Cmpbl Pl | 20 | Christine Rieber | Cooper Rd | 27 |
| Dave Power | Fernloff Rd | 34 | Vicki Still | Canning Cl | 15 |
| Andrea Sadow | Poppet Rd | 32 | Alan Pope | Sutton Rd | 47 |

175: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 6238 3596 khandel@bigpond.net.au

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|----|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| Joan Mason | Bingley Way | 44 | Margaret Hekeimin | Merino Vale Dr | 19 |
| Sue Ward | Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona) | 32 | Anne Gardner | Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors) | 32 |
| Kathy Handel | Norton(Wrona2 Hilltop+Wirndra) | 21 | Phil Leeson&C Fogarty | Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley) | 27 |

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

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|----|-----------------|----------------------------------|----|
| Lesley Page | Valley View Ln | 4 | Deb Gordon | Yalana East | 45 |
| Colleen Foster | BdoreRd BtwnJoRocks&NortnRd | 25 | Dominica Lorima | Norton Rd – North End | 42 |
| Cassie Fisher | Clare Ln | 12 | Lyle Montesin | The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks | 65 |
| Jules Clancey | Norton Rd #1033-#1240 | 37 | | | |

201: DOMINICA LORIMER dlorimer@internet.on.net

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----|
| Sophie Davis | Weeroona (254 – 400) | 18 | Susie & Brad Edwards | Weeroona (417-512) | 17 |
| James Houlcroft | Macs Reef Rd (DenleyToGumFlt) | 7 | Maria Taylor | Birriwa Rd & Gum Flat Lane | 19 |
| Nora Stewart | Rovere Ln | 7 | Justin Jarvis /Joel Smith | Macs Reef Birriwa to Harriott | 14 |
| Megan Wallace | Harriot Rd | 28 | Belinda Morris | Macs Reef Rd (Nwington2 Bankers) | 11 |
| Sandra Favre | Newwington Rd | 20 | Carol &Clive Boughton | Macs Reef (Bankers To Fed Hwy) | 34 |
| Chrystal Earle | Snowgum Road | 26 | | | |

167: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 0402 027 452 lodestar@ozemail.com.au

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|----|----------------|-----------------------------------|----|
| Simon Lewis | Federal HwSvcRd | 22 | Louise Baldwin | Wattle Flat Rd | 11 |
| Lyn Parkinson | Bidges/Hickey/OldGoldMines | 53 | Fire Brigade | Headquarters on Bingley Way | 1 |
| Glen Dorahy | Sutton Park Estate | 55 | Russell Ball | Macs Reef – Denley Dr to BngndrRd | 25 |

148: CO-ORDINATED BY DAVID FEATHERSTONE ph 6236 9722 bushranger_au@hotmail.com

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----|----------------------|--------------------------------|----|
| Chris Fowler | Millyn Rd | 22 | David Featherston | B'doreRd SmHill to&nclgdCrkBRd | 27 |
| Sue Aunella | Brooks Rd | 24 | Leigh & Derek Morris | Wyoming Road | 20 |
| Kerrie Gougeon | B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy) | 33 | Peter Sharp | Doust Road | 20 |

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| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----|
| Robyn Elsom | Denley Dr (Sth End to 429) | 15 | JonesFmly+JulieJohnsn | Denley 191 to 414 | 26 |
| Tony Bond | HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr | 52 | Mary & Paulo Beneforti | Dnly Dr frm MacsReef to Birchmans | 12 |
| Janey & Paul Pedersen | BirchmansFrmDenleyUp2SaraRf | 15 | Helen Longdon | SarahReef&BrihcmansFrmSarah2End | 11 |
| Murray Goodridge | B'dore Rd (MR to&nclgd Smrihl) | 40 | Diana Griffin | Majors Close | 19 |
| Diana Boswell | Donnelly Rd 29 & Grove Rd 8 | 38 | Advertisers & Misc | Out of area advertiser mailouts & msc | 27 |

TOTAL 1,350

Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

For August I chose the Jacky Winter, a rather rare bird locally, which I have seen recently.

Jacky Winter (*Microeca fascians*)

Size: 12-14cm

Status: Rare breeding resident

The Jacky Winter is a small bird, that visually appears very plain and nondescript. It is entirely pale grey-brown, being paler whitish below and darker above with blackish wings, edged white, and a faint white eyebrow above the dark eyes and lores. The fine bill and legs are also black. The most distinctive feature visually is the black tail, with broad white edges, which is often fanned or wagged actively. Males and females look similar, and young birds are mottled overall. Being such a plain bird, one might find it hard to believe it is actually a species of Robin, closely related to our other local robins, which are some of the most colourful birds around. Sometimes, Jacky Winters can look similar to females of several Robin species (e.g. Flame, Scarlet or Hooded). Jacky Winters are always very plain, which is actually a good identifying feature – they lack any obvious wing or face markings like Robins. A similar looking species is the Western Gerygone, but it has a very different habit, of foraging in the tree canopy, and also perches more horizontally aligned. The Western Gerygone also has a red eye. The habit of Jacky Winters is very distinct; they like to perch on exposed, often elevated perches, such as a dead branch, stump or fence post. From



which they sit, often still or wagging their tail, and make sallying flights or dives to the ground, taking insect prey. As is the case with many plain-looking birds, Jacky Winters make up for their appearance with their call. The unusual name for the species is actually derived from an onomatopoeic rendition of their call, which is a high-pitched phrase typically “plicky-plicky-plicky...” or “jacky-jacky-winter-winter...”, repeated; occasional single “plick” notes are also given. Jacky Winters are inhabitants of drier open woodlands, and like many birds that favour these habitats they are unfortunately declining and now quite rare locally. Fortunately they are still quite common and widespread further inland, and also not uncommon on the south coast. Of note, a pair has recently been present at Gambles Travelling Stock Reserve, which is about halfway along Sutton Rd between Norton Rd and the Federal Hwy, and I have seen them there several times now. Unfortunately they are not seen much locally anymore, but do keep an eye out for this species, especially if you are travelling to the coast or inland. (Photo from Google Images)

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Pretty Cool

So, as we moved out of summer and into winter we have seen the vast majority of our reptile friends entering brumation. This means that they find a safe spot to chill out (as it were) and escape the cold. Species that participate in brumation are snakes, lizards, frogs and turtles.

They seek shelter under leaf litter, logs, in holes, piles of grass, in the woodpile, under that pile of stuff you have got up the back, maybe in an out-building like a disused chicken coup etc. Because we are not in the reptile season, we tend to put them out of our mind but it's important to still be cautious if deciding to clean away that aforementioned pile of stuff over winter or rearranging the garden beds because it might be an animal's home. Be sure to contact Wildcare on 2699 1966 if a reptile's brumation is disturbed because they may need to come into care until it warms up again.

Our lovely macropods and wombats have a bit of struggle in winter because of the increased chance of being hit by a vehicle. The reduced visibility because of weather, and generally just because we're driving in the dark more of the time, means they are much



more at risk. This is also the time when joeys are getting to that stage of development where they are able to survive if brought into care and hand-raised by a human carer, should they become orphaned. Because joeys are so vulnerable when they are coming into care, like any baby, they need a lot of love and care and of course they bond with their human carer. One of the fun and challenging parts of raising joeys is teaching them that they're macropods or wombats, whichever it might be. We certainly need to get that part right because they need to be good at that when the time comes for release, with release always being the end

game for any wildlife that comes into care.

Some of our most common small mammals – possums and gliders – are nocturnal so the longer nights see them out and about more often. Wildcare has possum boxes for sale which can be attached to trees and provide a safe home for tree-dwelling small mammals. -- **Lorrae Stokes, Secretary, for Wildcare**



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Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market - Winter closure until September!


Contact: Meriel Schultz 042 261 4304 Email: imsconsulting@bigpond.com

Although the market is in winter recess until 16 September we have kept you all busy by running our:


- **Wamboin Winter Story Competition.** There have been a lot of enquiries and entry forms and so hopefully – this month we will also see the fruits of your creative talent – the actual stories!! We are very lucky to have the generous help of author Jackie French. Many of you will be familiar with her wide variety of books for all ages and her love of the local region. No wonder she signs herself as **Jackie French AM: author, historian, ecologist and honorary wombat!** Let's do her proud and show off our local talent. **Prizes will be handed out at the September market.** It's not too late to enter – *see the information below.*
- **Horse Gear sale**
The market will resume on 16 September and the 2nd hand clothing will be a 'Horse Gear Sale' for that month. So start sorting your unwanted riding gear and your horses unwanted rugs, bridles etc. Come along and sell or swap your gear. Indoor and outdoor stalls/spaces available. *See below for more information.*


THE WAMBOIN WINTER STORY COMPETITION

Calling all budding writers/illustrators



Supported by:
Wamboin Community Association
Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Markets





With generous help from
Jackie French AM
author, historian,
ecologist and honorary wombat

- Tell us a story (max 2 x A4 pages)
- Aim for original, imaginative, funny, sinister, exciting, intriguing!
- Do it your way: hand written, typed, drawn or presented as a comic strip
- **Must** include reference to our local area

Start with the words:
"I was out for a morning walk, when out of nowhere..."

Age Groups
(prizes for each category)

| Junior | Intermediate | Senior | Open |
|------------|--------------|----------|-------------|
| Up to 8yrs | 9-12yrs | 13-18yrs | Over 18 yrs |

Expressions of interest to Meriel Schultz at imsconsulting@bigpond.com
Entry form will then be provided.
Winners announced at the September Wamboin market.
Signed book prizes kindly donated by Jackie French AM.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 31 AUGUST 2023

WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE AND CRAFT MARKET

HORSE GEAR SALE



Saturday 16 September 2023


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WAMBOIN WEATHER – rainfall and temperature records

(48 years from Cooper Road) by Christine Rieber

July Rainfall Stats

July rainfall to the 30th..... 15.25mm
 2023 total rainfall to 30/7..... 421.25mm

August Rainfall Stats

2022 August rainfall..... 146.5mm
 Wettest August..... 170.5mm in 1985
 Wettest August day..... 77.5mm on 4/8/22
 Driest August..... 5.5mm in 1994

August Temperature Stats

2022 August maximum..... 18.5°C
 Hottest August day..... 20.5°C on 22/8/21
 Hottest August night..... 13°C on 26/8/95
 Average day temperature..... 10.8°C
 Warmest August..... 1982
 Av. day temp. 13.8°C & nights 4.2°C
 (highest 14.8°C in 2021 4.5°C in 1995)

Average July rainfall..... 51.9mm
 2022 July rainfall..... 50.25mm
 2022 total rainfall to 30/7..... 411.0mm
 47yr Av. to end of July..... 377.7mm

Average August rainfall..... 56.7mm
 Average no. rain days in August..... 10.2
 Highest no. rain days 17 in 1981 & 2022
 Lowest no. rain days. 3 in 1994 & 1995

2022 August minimum.....-2.0°C
 Aug. 2022. Av. max 13.9°C & min 3.4°C
 Av. Aug. temp. 6.6°C (day+night comb.)
 Coldest August day..... 3°C on 5/8/15
 Coldest August night..... -5°C (6 times)
 18/8/10, 2014 (4 times), 4/8/15
 Average night temperature..... 2.3°C
 Coldest August..... 2012
 Av. day temp. 8.0°C & nights -1.0°C

We gain 1 extra hour of daylight during August (from 10.2 to 11.2 hours).
 The six coldest weeks following the winter solstice end on 2nd August



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Thank you to everyone who delivered, ran an ad in or wrote something for this August Whisper. Together we got out another one and got it into 1300+ mailboxes. - editor



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Portraits of Us - David McDonald

Drawing by John Pierre Favre



David is a semi-retired social scientist who has lived on a block on Norton Road for the past 16 years. Whisper readers will know that he is passionate about researching and documenting the local history of our area. He is also involved in the Wamboin Community Association, Landcare, the QPRC Greenways s. 355 Committee, and the local Building Community Resilience project. You will sometimes meet him walking and birding along our wonderful Greenways network.

Wamboin Thursday Social Group

The Thursday Social Drop In Group operates each Thursday morning from 10 – 12 noon at the Wamboin Hall, Bingley Way. If you have some time free on a Thursday morning pop in, have a cuppa and chat. New people are very welcome to attend. The group had a very successful “Christmas in July” lunch on 27 July 2023. Thank you to everyone who participated. – **Narelle Pumphrey**

QPRC Mobile Library

The QPRC Mobile Library bus will be at the Wamboin Hall on Thursday 10 and 24 August 2023. After you have visited the library drop into the Social Group and have a cuppa. – **Narelle Pumphrey**



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What the Heck Chapter 15

Last month we talked about the Lychgate at St Andrews, and I proposed the question, “why not at the entrance from Poppet Road? I received a call from Fay Kelly, who told me that her husband Ken had built both the church and the Lychgate, and the reason he built the gate on that site is simply because that was where he was told to build it. That makes perfectly logical sense.

So I followed it up with some of the older church attendees and it appears that the congregation at the time thought that a gate at the Poppet Road entrance would create a traffic snarl with cars being unable to enter the grounds, and what would be the point of an inside carpark if no cars could get access. Not to mention the limousines of a wedding party, or the hearse for a funeral. It was even vetoed by one member who asked how a fire truck would get in to save the buildings in the event of a bushfire.

The suggested site was at the end of the building looking down into the gardens, far enough away from the church to allow the congregation to parade around the building should the need to do so ever arise. So common sense prevailed and Ken Kelly built the gate where it currently stands.

When you have a spare minute or two, walk through the Lychgate and down the path and you will find, on your left, a memorial wall containing plaques in remembrance of local people who have passed on from this world. There are quite a few named plaques attached to the stonework, not all prior church going people, but all have a connection with the Wamboin area.

The wall was erected some years ago as a way to recognise local people who have died, but their remains are interred elsewhere. It was a decision made by the congregation to acknowledge the locals who have passed away, yet cannot be buried in their home area due to the absence of a cemetery. Also some of us request to have our ashes scattered in a significant place where there is no likelihood of a plaque site, so the local consecrated ground gives the opportunity.



Similarly to the absence of a Lychgate at the Sutton church, there is no memorial wall at St Peters. However that will change soon as there are plans to erect a wall in the

grounds on the corner of Camp and Middle Streets where the current sign is located. This is being funded by two local families with connections to the Sutton area, in memory of departed family members. Once it is completed it will become a shady grove with a seat that will enable visitors to sit and ponder what these and other past residents of the Sutton area contributed to the progress and development of the village and surrounds. – Alan Rope



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Wamboin Golf

Sunday 2 July 2023. A group of 9 golfers ventured out to play in the Wamboin Golf competition sponsored this month by the local Tradies, Trent, Col (well supported by his son Ewan) and Don (in spirit from the northern hemisphere). We thank them for the refreshments and prizes. We also thank Rob (ably supported by Marylou) for standing in as the Acting Captain, and for Nev providing technological support to calculate the results on his trusty computer.

Zach Hawke joined us for his first game after a false start earlier in the year (looking resplendent in his golf finery).

Three players contested the 18-hole competition with Nev Schroder (78/66) taking out first place on count back from Dave Hubbard (87/66) and Paul Griffin (83/68) in third. Essentially a reshuffle of the June

result.

The 9-hole event was unofficially taken out by visitor Zach Hawke with a burglaresque score of 38 off the stick. Katie (58/26) was the official winner on the day, with Matt (43/30) in second and Rob (41/32) in third. The handicapper has some work to do prior to the August event.

A googly ball was awarded to Rob Gorham's five iron. The dummy spit was claimed by Matt Hawke for a variety of reasons (maybe being outdressed and outplayed by his brother!)

Longest drive and nearest the pin winners were: Rob Gorham (4), Dave Hubbard (2), Paul Griffin, Nev Schroder, Col Urquhart and Matt Hawke.

Ted's Jokes involved a golf ball lost in a herd of cows.

We hope you can join us at the community hall at 12.15pm on Sunday 6 August for a 12.30pm start for the 2023 version of the Ted Evans Memorial GST competition. – **Ken Gordon**



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Christmas In July Ball

On entry, the champagne for ladies (supplied by Greg and Marita) and the lavishly decorated tables set the scene for a great night. The tables were decorated at a token cost by Maria, a semi retired professional decorator who has travelled the world with her skills.

Seating had been allocated and the party began. The 'semi formal' guide brought out full Scottish kilt, Lederhosen, Christmas suits, pyjamas and of course actual quite attractive formal wear.

The six-piece band 'Soul Plumbers' lead by local guy Florian kept us dancing throughout the evening. A great help for the financial side; they donated their services and even allowed a secret singer 'LK' to present his signature 'Mustang Sally' much later in the evening.

Col took out the hotly contested best 'decorated esky' with his electronic fireplace. The raffle for a great range of prizes donated by several local businesses went over well as did the three-course meal by Golden Roast. We were surprised that only two people could provide the service required.

Thank you Wamboin, the bottom financial line was a profit of \$2,385, which has been donated to the Salvos. Keep 20 July 2024 free for next Ball.

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Updated Information From Council On The Maintenance Of Local Roads

At a recent meeting of the Wamboin Community Association (WCA) the matter of the state of the roads in the local area was again discussed. The meeting resolved that we write to the QPRC Mayor, following up a meeting between him and the WCA President, Jenny Richards, at which this matter was discussed. The WCA has received the following reply from Ms Caitlin Flint, Council's Coordinator, Governance and Legal. She has given to WCA permission to publish her response in *The Whisper*, as follows.

Subject: QPRC roads maintenance & reconstruction funding: Norton Road, Wamboin

The Mayor has forwarded your below concerns on to staff to respond to. Thank you for raising these with Council. Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council is aware of the condition of both Norton Road and Weeroona Drive and have been undertaking reactive maintenance to rectify the defects on these roads.

As you would be able to appreciate, the 6 declared flood events in the past 3 years have played havoc with the condition of all Council roads.

Although the weather has started to dry out, Council is still catching up on delivering the quantum of repair works required on our roads following the continuous wet weather events.

Council is aware that the condition of both Weeroona Drive and Norton Road is continually deteriorating, as such Council has planned heavy patching and stabilising works for various sections on these roads which should address many of the concerns outlined in your below email.

These works are included in a program that will take place this financial year.

If you have any further questions about these works, please don't hesitate to contact Council's Infrastructure Team on inf.services.admin@qprc.nsw.gov.au

Kind Regards, Caitlin Caitlin Flint Coordinator, Governance and Legal Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
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A Chronology of Wamboin and District, Part 18: 2014 to 2017

by David McDonald

The sixth edition of an historical timeline of our local area, titled 'A Chronology of Wamboin and District, NSW', dated 22 July 2023, is now available at the Wamboin Community Association's (WCA's) website. Visit <https://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au/localhistory/> and navigate through the left-hand-side menu Wamboin Locality | Chronology. It commences with a synopsis for readers seeking a brief overview of the history of the area, and contains 509 entries.

This is the 18th article presenting some items from the Chronology that focus specifically on Wamboin and district, rather than the broader, contextual happenings. It covers the period from September 2014 to 2017, and future issues will continue the series. The full version of the Chronology at the WCA website provides the documentary sources underpinning these contents and, in some cases, additional information, as well as other entries for the time period covered below.

| Date | Occurrence/comment |
|--------------------|--|
| 2014, 20 Sep | The Wamboin Covered Play Area at the Wamboin Community Hall was opened on this date. The shade cover, which has been erected to provide sun shade for children using the playground equipment at the Community Hall and during the weekly Tuesday morning playgroup meetings, was jointly funded by generous donations of the Bendigo Bank, the Wamboin Community Association, the Wamboin Community Hall Management Committee, and the Wamboin Playgroup. |
| 2014, 25 Oct | The Wamboin Community Hall was declared a Neighbourhood Safer Place by Tim Carroll, the RFS Lake George Zone Manager. 'Palerang Mayor (and Wamboin resident) Pete Harrison did the honours by hitting the button that started the deluge system, drenching the complex in a fire-protective mist.' |
| 2014, Dec | The Waste Transfer Station on Macs Reef Road, Bywong, and the Bungendore Waste Transfer Station & Resource Recovery Centre, opened, and landfills closed. |
| 2015, Feb | Canberra community radio tower commenced operating atop Poppet Hill, on the ACT side of the border. 'A consortium of not-for-profit broadcasters, ArtSoundFM, 1CMS FM, and 1WAY FM, will manage the new facility, the culmination of eight years of planning'. |
| 2015, 10 Aug | The Gearys Gap and District Community Association Incorporated was registered, incorporation no. INC1501152. |
| 2015, 17 Sep | Wamboin resident Cr Pete Harrison re-elected as Mayor of Palerang Council. |
| 2015, 30 Sep | The <i>Bungendore Mirror</i> local newspaper, owned and edited by John Mitchell, ceased publication. The final issue had this date. |
| 2015, Dec | The <i>Bungendore Weekly</i> local newspaper commenced publication; proprietor/editor Sharon Baxter-Judge. On 16 April 2020, its name was changed to the <i>Regional Independent</i> to better reflect its distribution to Bungendore, Braidwood, Queanbeyan, Tarago, Jerrabomberra, Karabar, Wamboin, Bywong, Rossi, Hoskinstown, Forbes Creek and surrounding villages. |
| 2016 | Tony Mansfield, Ben Jarrett, Jeremy Wilson & Ross Appleton bought Lambert's vineyard and winery, establishing Contentious Character, including its restaurant. Their company is Wambuwayyn Pty Limited. 'Wambuwayyn' is a variant of the Wiradjuri word for kangaroo that we use in the form 'Wamboin'. |
| 2016, 27 Mar-3 Apr | Paul Churcher curated and presented an exhibition of his late parents' art: 'Roy & Betty Churcher – 25 years in Wamboin' at the family home, 67 Merino Vale Drive, Wamboin. |
| 2016, 12 May | Forced dissolution of Palerang Council and establishment of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, with Cr Tim Overall (former Mayor of Queanbeyan City Council) as Administrator. Both the Palerang Council and Queanbeyan City Council had opposed the amalgamation. The first meeting of the new Council took place on 19 May 2016. Cr Tim Overall, Administrator, was the sole member of Council present, as none had yet been elected. |
| 2016, 9 Aug | Australian Census of Population and Housing: Wamboin population 1,708, median age 44 years. A 2% increase in the population since the 2011 census. |
| 2016, Sep | The Wamboin Community Association successfully applied for grants from the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council Community Grants program to 1) install audio-visual equipment in the Wamboin Community Hall, 2) to support the manufacture (by local volunteers) and installation of Littlish Libraries in Wamboin & Bywong, and 3) to support the Wamboin 'Drop In' Activity Group. |
| 2016, 10 Sep | NSW Local Government elections. The Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council was in administration and, as such, was unable to participate in this general election. |
| 2017-2020 | The 2017 to 2020 drought. 'This was a situation with no clear historical precedent.' The Bureau of Meteorology referred to it as 'the 2017 to 2019 drought', but it did not break in the Wamboin district until February 2020. |
| 2017 | Wamboin Communications Action Group (WCAG) established to lobby for the introduction of fibre internet for the Wamboin, Bywong, and Sutton region. It was incorporated as an association on 07 Feb 2019, incorporation no. INC1900173. |