

The Whisper

November 2006 CIRCULATION: 1072

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, which started the Whisper in 1981 and continues to own it. This Newsletter is distributed to all RMBs in Wamboin, Bywong, Clare, and Yalana at the beginning of each month, except January. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Contributions which readers may wish to make will be appreciated, and should be submitted to by email to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or dropped into his mailbox at 17 Reedy Creek Place. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the December 2006 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, November 26, 2006, 7:00 pm.

LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES Fire/Police/Ambulance - Dial 000 All Hours

Queanbeyan Police 6298-0599 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre 6238-3396 Ambulance Bookings 131233

WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Helen Montesi	President	6238-3208
Bywong Community Assn	Warwick Cathro	President	6236-9187
Fire Brigade	Cliff Spong	Captain	040-999-1340 bh 6236 9220 ah
Wamboin Playgroup	Leanne Quick	Convener	6238 3435
Sutton School Playgroup	Laura Taylor	Convener	62369662
Landcare	Roger Good	President	6236-9048
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison	Bungendore	6238-1333
Breastfeeding Assoc.	Belinda Dennis	Community Educator	6236 9979
Emergency Services	NSW Call Centre	Staff	132-500
Emergency Services Admin	Colin Brown	Controller	6238-1067
Justice of the Peace	Peter Greenwood	JP	6238-3358
Justice of the Peace	Keith France	JP	6238-3596
Wamboin Scout Group	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
Wamboin Guides	Rosemary Riley	Contact Person	6297-7632
Wamboin Pony Club	Maureen Purdie	Contact Person	6238-3343
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Anne McInnes	Secretary	6236-9883
Play Group	Leanne Quick	Convener	6238-3435
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
Golf	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966

THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

Ashleigh Caird, babysitting	6238 0746.
Deanne Brucic, babysitting & Petsitting	6238-1884
Ellen Smith, petsitting (experienced with horses)	6238-3115
Fiona Skea, babysitting	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, petsitting	6238-3343
Frank Deveson, bicycle maintenance	6238-3294
John Brennan, babysitting and petsitting.....	6238 3472
Elena Sutcliffe, petsitting and babysitting	6238-3228
Gabrielle Simpkin & Nicolette Neveu-Abramczuk, petsitting	6238-3600

Macs Reef Tip Hours 7:30 am to 5:00 pm Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon (to 7 pm Sat - Sun in daylight saving time) closed Tue-Wed-Thurs

WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPHS

Wamboin Community Association meeting – Our local geologist, Mike Rickard, has kindly offered to be our guest speaker for next WCA meeting. He is going to talk about the geological history of Wamboin and Lake George which I'm sure will be very interesting. Everyone is most welcome to attend the meeting which will be on **21st November at 7:30pm** (the 3rd Tuesday in the month).

Wamboin Produce Markets – The markets seem to get better all the time. They're a great place to get lots of local goodies and catch up with friends over a cup of coffee and scones/muffins. So don't miss the next markets which will be on **18th November** from 9:00am till noon. The December markets will be on 16th December.

Christmas Carols – This year, the Christmas Carol Service will be held on 15th December – details are included later in the Whisper.

WCA Electronic Noticeboard – Residents are continuing to subscribe to the noticeboard. It is a great way to keep up with issues of community interest and I encourage everybody to subscribe. To subscribe, simply send an email message (doesn't need any subject or content) to **Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au**.

Calendar of events – If you have any events that you would like included in next month's Whisper, please contact John van Straaten (ph: 6238 3590).

-- Helen Montesin (helen.montesin@canberra.edu.au)

WAMBOIN MARKET Saturday 18 November 9-12.00

Community Hall, Bingley Way

Local produce and plants Home made goodies Art and Craft Refreshments

The Market is thriving! There is always something different so come and be tempted. It is a great way to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. For details contact Tony Power on 6238 3028 or email poweraj@acslink.net.au.

The 40 people below each spend time each month to make sure that Wamboin and Bywong residents own and receive a free community newspaper. If your deliverer has been on the job for a long time and you have a bit of time you could spare, think about offering to take over the job. If you already have too many tasks in your month, every now and then give your volunteer paperwoman/man/boy/girl a thank you.

155 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:				Ph 6238 3208
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18	Bill Owen Cooper Rd.	28
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33	Cathy Abell Canning Close	17
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34	Alan Rope Sutton Road	25
277 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:				Ph 6238 3463
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45	Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive	17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32	Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors	30
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20	David Anderson Weeroona, Majors to Denley	35
Ned Noel	13 YrCn 41Advtrs	55	Penny Evans Norton, Cmpbell to Bngly	25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19		
227 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:				Ph 6238 3489
Colleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20		
Deb Gordon	Yalana East	41	Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley	38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	11	Pauline Segeri North End - Clare Valley	42
Lyle Monetesin	Forrest Road area	60	Bungendore Shop Bungendore	10
199 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:				Ph 6238 3590
Sheryl Barnes	Quinn's Estate / Denley	20	Brian Higgison Deley/Kestral area	12
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	24	Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to FdHwy	12
Ann Platts	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26	Morag Cotsell MReef /Newington/Harriot (A)	30
Warrick Cathro	Macs Reef -GumFlat to Harriott	18	Sandra Favre MReef /Newington/Harriot (B)	20
Joan Milner	Birriwa Road	12	Esther/Ian Rudd MReef/Bankers/FedHwy	25
214 CO-ORDINATED BY LAURA SNOWDON Ph 6236 9609				
Trevor Kirk	Macs R - Denley to Bung Rd	20	Snowdon Family Hogan Drive	30
Len Parrish	Summerhill Rd Area	32	Diana+Keith Gascoine Snow Gum Road	22
Sue Gorham	Schofields/Brooks/Millyn	25	Thelma Martin Shinglehouse Rd area	20
Sue Aunella	Doust/Wyoming/Brooks	25	Judith Miller Wyoming Rd	40
TOTAL FOR WHISPER 1072				

Bywong Community News

Collated by Morag Cotsell

Our Southern Skies: Twenty locals attended our October meeting when Canberra astronomer Steve Crouch, a volunteer guide at Tidbinbilla Tracking Station, spoke about the southern skies and especially his work in photographing deep space. His main activity is CCD imaging and he showed us some of his award winning photographs of southern skies and deep space.



October bushwalk : A smaller than usual group of community walkers turned up for the walk up the Molonglo Gorge. This is a little known but scenically remarkable local excursion, which was greatly enjoyed by those who made the trip. Initial organisation and intrepid leadership was provided by Jean-Pierre Favre. Our bushwalks have been so successful that we are confident that our next, planned for autumn, will attract a good number of locals.

Christmas drinks: Our annual Christmas Drinks, traditionally combined with a winetasting hosted by local winery Gidgee Estate will take place at the Community Hall, Birriwa Road on Saturday 2 December from 6-8pm Anyone living in Bywong or Wamboin is welcome to attend.

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MEALS ON WHEELS QUEANBEYAN Inc.

Meals on Wheels is a community based organisation designed to help you live more comfortably in your own home by providing a food service plan that meets your needs. The aim of the service is to provide nutritional assistance to people who are permanently, or in some cases temporarily unable to cater for themselves.

Who is eligible to receive meals? To receive Meals on Wheels you must be assessed as being eligible. The referral for an assessment can be done by your local doctor, Community Health Care worker, hospital, HACC services, yourself or a friend/relative. Providing you are eligible, a Coordinator will contact you to arrange the assessment of your personal requirements and design your food service plan. Personal details are dealt with in the strictest confidence. We assist those who are frail, aged and people with a disability and the carers of these people. There is a selection of approx 25 varieties of frozen meals that include beef, lamb, veal, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetarian dishes. Most special dietary requirements are catered for. Clients are charged for the cost of the meal only. Delivery can be arranged. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance or information please do not hesitate to contact Kate or Michelle on 6299 3000.

Are you, or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a volunteer? If so please call the Meals on Wheels team on 6299 3000. Volunteers are needed to deliver frozen meals to clients within your community. In order to help you will need a driver's license, car, spare time and community spirit. - Kate Feeney, Service Manager

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6258 1792

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Children 12-6 \$10.00. Under 5yrs. Free. Teams of 4 or single entries welcome Enquiries and Bookings - ph. Darrell 62381367 or John 0414 -831-600. We are a non profit organisation.- Norma Luton

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CLASSIFIEDS
Donkey foal. Rare chestnut coloured jack foal. 50% English/Irish. Ph 6230 3311.
Has anyone noticed an unusual number of small trees and shrubs either dead or dying along Norton Road, especially between Bingley Way and Sutton Road? It seems more than a co-incidence that they have all drooped and faded in the past few weeks, when they seemed quite healthy all through winter. Should my suspicious mind be thinking of 'human intervention'? No, surely not! Vanessa Lauf, Bingley Way
Looking for a qualified and experienced English tutor for Year 11 student and high school students. Phone 6238 3828.
Classified – do you have a large family staying over for New Year? Would you like them to be that <i>little</i> bit further away from your house? Would you like them to be in <i>another</i> house whilst they are here? House and animal sitter needed for one week from Saturday 30 December. 4 bedroom ensuite home with 2 horses, one dog, one lamb and 2 chooks to feed. 2 doubles, one single and one cot plus foldaway futon. Call Victoria on 6238 3940 / 0421 683 783
Found on my morning walk a mobile phone. About 1km from Bungendore Road on Norton Road. If you think it's yours phone Pauline on 62381996 and it's yours with the right description.
LONG RUNNING CLASSIFIEDS
WCA Electronic Noticeboard – Residents are continuing to subscribe to the noticeboard. It is a great way to keep up with issues of community interest and I encourage everybody to subscribe. To subscribe, simply send an email message (doesn't need any subject or content) to Wamboin_Noticeboard-subscribe@yahoo.com.au .
TREE GUARDS - rolled wire (20). Various circumferences but all approx. one metre high. Excellent for protecting newly planted trees/bushes from kangaroos and rabbits. \$20 the lot. TOMATO STAKES - pre-loved. For vegie patch or bracing tree guards. Good for couple more seasons. (90) x 120cm ie 4ft. \$45 the lot.(35) x 180cm ie 6ft. \$28 the lot. RELN WORM FARM - Good condition. \$20. WORM CASTINGS - Excellent totally natural organic soil conditioner. Great for gardens, plants and vegie patch. Cheaper than nurseries at \$8.50 for 25 litre bag. Supplied with instructions. Free bag with every 10 purchased. Phone Ian 6238 3425.
CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.
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MATHEMATICS COACHING: All levels and all years catered for by an experienced teacher with special expertise in college levels, including the International Baccalaureate. Please contact Judy Dalla on 6236 9990.
SWARM BEES - Beekeeper happy to offer prompt service to the local community to collect and remove swarm bees that may arrive uninvited over the next few months. A small fee charged depending on distance I have to travel. Please call John 62383791.
Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for further information.
ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements attract a small fee (see below) which is donated to the Wamboin Community Association. Please make your cheque out to this association, but post it to the editor. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$100 Half Pg - \$50 1/3 Pg \$35 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/6 Pg - \$20 1/8 Pg - \$15
FOR HIRE from the Wamboin Community Association: GAS BBQ - Party Size, Portable, \$30 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond, both payable on collection. Cleaning bond will be refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 62 383 258.
Trestles and chairs are available for hire by local residents. Hire rates are: Trestle \$10ea and chairs \$1.50 ea. Price does not include delivery or pick-up charges. Available from the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way. Must be returned in clean servicable condition. All damages are responsibility of the hirer. Equipment must be tied securely on trailer etc. when taken (otherwise they don't go.) Time of pick-up and returned MUST be adhered too (I don't live at the Hall!) -Joan Mason, 62383258.
For Hire from the Wamboin Community Association: Gas Barbecue - Party Size, Portable \$25.00 per hire (includes gas) and \$25.00 cleaning bond, both payable on collection of barbecue. Cleaning bond is refunded if barbecue is returned clean - Bookings arranged by Joan Mason- 6238-3258
The Whisper is a community newspaper for Wamboin and Bywong. If you live in the area and have something to say about living here that is informative, thoughtful or entertaining, think about writing it up for the next issue. For more information contact the editor on 6238-3484 or email nednoel@optusnet.com.au. And thanks if you have already done so.

IDENTIFICATION ON CATS AND DOGS

From time to time one sees on the Wamboin notice board or reads in the Wamboin Whisper of missing dogs and cats in this area. Road accidents do occur, without the animal having suitable identification details, ie wearing a collar with a disc attached with name of the animal, microchip number and telephone contact number; it is not possible for the owner to be traced.

We lost a very much loved cat earlier this year, who must have been hit by a vehicle on Norton Road. A most caring animal-lover couple phoned us immediately they discovered the cat on the side of the road. They in fact nursed the lifeless cat until we got there. Injuries were not really apparent. Without this identification we would surely never have known the fate of our treasured cat. We have lived in Wamboin for over thirty years and have made it a practice to have some form of identification on our animals. - Sally and Dene Evans

Notes from St Andrews Church

Calling ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL. The annual Blessing of the Animals service will take place on Sunday November 5th at 9am. Even if you are not a regular churchgoer this is a Wamboin event to be enjoyed by all. It is held outdoors (for obvious reasons) and all the animals are blessed whether they be large or small. We hope to see as many and varied animals as possible. The service will be followed with a sausage sizzle. The service on 19 November will be Holy Communion and this will also start at 9am and all are welcome. For any further information about these services or enquiries about weddings or baptisms please contact either Robyn Robertson on 62383202 or Bronwyn Eliot on 62383359.

**SEPTIC SAFE BULK
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Eco nappies, Cherub Rub Natural Skincare and Billy Goat soaps are available at Wildrose Organics in Bungendore Heritage Square.

For more information, please call Melanie at Busy Bottoms Nappy Express on 6238 1816

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WILDCARE TRIVIA NIGHT

Do you enjoy trivia and want to help our native wildlife? Wildcare is a voluntary organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife. *Wildcare* will be holding its annual trivia night at the Jerrabomberra Community Hall on Saturday 18 November 2006 from 6.30pm. The night promises to be a lot of fun with heaps of laughs!! And its not just trivia...there will be lucky door prizes, raffles, lucky dip, dinner & light entertainment. All this for \$20 per head (\$10 for children). BYOG, nibbles & glasses. Support *Wildcare* and get your table of eight together or just come along. Bookings are essential, so contact Lesley & Philip Machin on 6238 3717. To find out more about Wildcare, you can visit our website, www.wildcare.com.au or call our 24 hour hotline on 6299 1966. – Stu and Bec Little

What Happens When a Tree Falls Across The Road In the Forest In The Dark

by Ned Noel

Some of you know more about this than me and were more useful. We were coming home, up Sutton Road, around 7 pm on, I think, Thursday, October 19. A vehicle was in front of us, and in front of it was a truck towing two long semi trailers. We all braked to a stop for reasons unknown. We were a couple hundred meters uphill of the first 100 K sign, just north of the farmhouse at the bottom of the new section. We waited about five minutes, tired in the dark. More and more cars came to a halt behind us. Over the five minutes it became clear that quite a few people were moving around on the road ahead, and one person walked by mentioning that a tree had fallen.

Curiosity led me to walk up in front of the double semi truck. Some of you had responded a lot more quickly, and were doing more than satisfying curiosity. A fairly large eucalypt, perhaps 15 meters high, had fallen from the hillside above the high bank on the east side of the road. The fallen tree with its many large branches was blocking the entire road, right in front of the large semi. About ten men and women were efficiently clearing the tree. One person mentioned that the chain saw in use appeared in the hands one of the blockaded travellers. Large branches were rapidly being cut and pulled off the road. I started to pull on one, but couldn't budge it. Then someone said that the northbound / uphill lane was clear. Time to run back to the car so as not to hold up vehicles in the long line down the hill. I heard not a single beeping horn or complaining person. There were a number of drivers and passengers waiting calmly, some out of their vehicles talking to each other. And some skillful men and women working together to solve a serious and unexpected problem as if they had trained together for it three times in the previous week. Because a mixture of persons use the road, it seems likely that many of the "emergency tree clearing crew" were strangers to each other.

We drove up past the fallen tree, now cut back to only the southbound lane and shrinking by the minute. We then started to pass cars still stopped in the downhill, southbound lane. There were at least 20, if not 40. The next few days more and more of the tree went missing. You can still see, as of October 31, its ever shortening fallen thick trunk and large lower branches.

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Wamboin Ladies Social Group - aka the Wamboin Wobbles

The group is growing although with all of the walking we hope we are all shrinking!! There are now 30 people on the books and the group is enjoying lots of fun and laughter and a real sense of community. Further to demand we now meet weekly on Mondays at 10am at St Andrews Church. Last month the group enjoyed demonstrations in the art of rag rugging, bullion roses and Japanese purse making and from now until Christmas we will be making Christmas decorations. Even if you feel you are not a 'crafty' person the social part of the group is great fun and we always have good coffee and cake to share. Just turn up to the church at 10am on Mondays and you will be sure of a very warm welcome.

The Wobbles Walking Group can now be seen pounding the streets and hills of Wamboin twice a week. We meet at 9am on Mondays prior to the Craft group and do a walk to the end of Poppet Road and back - fairly flat and not too challenging. On Fridays the group meets at 8am and walks for about 90 minutes - routes to be advised each week, although after a 'two snake walk' in the bush these are often on the roads and have been followed by morning tea in different group member's homes! Anyone is welcome to join us on either of these walks (male or female) although if you want to bring dogs it is advisable to check on the route first in case properties are accessed.

As a 'spin off' to the group we approached our local fire brigade unit through one of our members and they generously gave us some quality time and information. We had been talking about the possibility of fires in our neighbourhood and the very real possibility that we could be home alone if such an event occurred. Peter Greenwood showed us on one of our Monday walks how he has prepared his home, and last Saturday the Brigade under the leadership of Cliff Spong instructed us in the use of fire pumps and answered any queries or fears we had. This was a 'hands-on' workshop and was invaluable help - I can now start our pump! A big thankyou to the brigade.

For any further information please don't hesitate to call either Claire Ayling on 62383347 or Moira Power on 62383202.

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LAKE GEORGE DAY VIEW CLUB

The next meeting of the Lake George Day VIEW Club will be on Tuesday November 21 commencing at 11.30am for a 12 noon start at Rydges Eagle Hawk Resort, Federal Highway, Sutton. Join us for lunch and hear our guest speaker, Simon Fairweather Olympic Gold Medalist and fine jewellery Craftsman. Cost is \$20. New members and guests are always welcome. For bookings please ring Kerry on 6238 0603 by noon Wednesday 15 November.

VIEW - a valued member of The Smith Family. Many thanks. Lydia Teodorowych, Publicity/Program Officer LGDVC, phone 0400-991-871



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Canberra Equine Hospital is located on the corner of the Federal and Barton H' way, Lyneham.

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Please feel free to call with any questions about your horses health needs.

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- Dr Richard Lam..

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The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled by Cliff Spong with help from many members of the Brigade (Wamboin Brigade's website is www.wamboin-fireshed.com)

THE FIRE SEASON HAS NOW STARTED.

NO FIRE PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS FIRE SEASON.

From the Captain's Desk

This fire season has begun with some vengeance. Already your brigade has been called on to help at a number of fires outside our area. Wamboin crews have already assisted in containing fires in the old Tallaganda shire area, near Bredbo and just last weekend members of our Remote Area Firefighting Team (RAFT) were deployed at the Lake Burragorang fire near Sydney. The smoke in our area just recently came from that fire. The dramatic picture below shows some of our intrepid RAFT members being deployed by helicopter to begin working on containment lines for the approaching fire. At that stage the fire had burnt out around 5000 hectares of bushland but had not threatened any properties.



In case you are a little surprised with the announcement at the top of this article, it is true. We were informed recently that no fire permits could be issued for the remainder of this fire season. While this may be inconvenient for some property owners, it does make some sense. Unless a hazard reduction by fire is absolutely essential or an animal carcass needs to be incinerated, no exceptions will be considered. The recent fire in the Bredbo resulted from a hazard reduction fire getting away. Some other fires east of us have started after property owners lost control of some small fires.

I fell it is important to repeat some information run in the

last Whisper. Please make sure that you are well prepared for this fire season. Make sure you have done everything you can to make sure your property is well set up so that any fire doesn't cause major damage. Please make sure all your fire fighting equipment runs properly and review any evacuation plans you need to make. The Brigade website has a lot of helpful information, as does the NSW RFS site. If in doubt please ring me (I live on Macs Reef Road), our Senior Deputy Captain, Andrew Dunn (Norton Road East) or one of the brigade's Deputy Captains, Richard Hobbs (Norton Road West), Nev Schroder (Central Norton Road), Geoff Foster (Bungendore Road East), Darrell Tipton (Fernloff Road) or Dave Cochrane (Snowgum Road). You can also get helpful advice from our Group Captain, Chris Powell (Weeroona Drive) and our Deputy Group Captain, Dave Hubbard (Poppett Road).



As we are spread out throughout the Wamboin area, one of us won't be too far from you.

Members of the brigade volunteered some of their other spare time to raise funds for the brigade by organising the parking at the recent Home and Leisure Show at Exhibition Park in the ACT. The people helping over the three days of the event demonstrated some extraordinary skills and could now be eligible for a special citation along the lines of "Showed much patience and dedication in applying the long forgotten art of herding cats". I would like to thank all those in



the brigade who gave their valuable time to help out.

The Brigade was extremely fortunate to receive a cheque for \$3000 from the Minister for Emergency Services, Tony Kelly, which we will use to install a permanent pump on the dam near the Community Hall connected to underground pipes and fire fighting hose outlets at the Hall. This system can then be used to protect the Hall if it is ever under a fire threat. The Brigade was also presented with a GPS unit and digital camera by the Minister. We also learned that we are now likely to receive a replacement for the ageing town Pumper in December, thanks to the interest of our local member Steve Whan. The



picture below shows Geoff Foster, Steve Whan, Richard Hobbs, Tony Kelly, Cliff Spong and Ian Coillet shortly after the presentation ceremony.

I am pleased to announce that through the efforts of Lemmi Briedis and Claire Ayling the Brigade put on a well attended demonstration of firefighting pumps for members and friends of the newly formed Wamboin Wobbles group. The idea behind this was to demonstrate how to operate a pump provide the opportunity for people to get confidence using it. Perhaps more importantly it was an opportunity to learn what to do if the pump didn't work properly! It would be possible to repeat this successful demonstration at a later date. The picture below shows Geoff Foster and some of the keen

and
in

attendees on that rather brisk Spring day!

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST		Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
A'Hern Fitness at the Airport	Coolah Holdings Pty Ltd	Quick-Eze Towing
AAA Water Carriers	Cross Country Construction	Ratz Mobile Welding
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Bingley Contractors (Water Carriers)	FH Office Services	Shepherds Hut Wines
Bungendore Rural	France Harrison & Associates	Sherrin Hire
Bungendore Taxi Service	Gidgee Estate Winery	Sutton Real Estate
Capital Business Services	Inland Trading Co (Aust)	Tipton Shopfitters Pty Ltd
Capital Stainless Steel	Lambert Vineyards	Trevor Barker & Associates
Clare Valley Tree Services	LMS Consulting	Trevor Duncan Homes
Coates Hire, Fyshwick	Manuka Childcare Centre	Wagonga Coffee
Congari Bookkeeping & Business Services	Marloc Engineering	Westpac Banking Corporation
	Overdene Excavations Pty Ltd	YLess4U

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CAROLS AT WAMBOIN
Friday 15 December at 7.00 pm
In the Community Hall, Bingley Way

If you or your group would like to participate in this popular community event to celebrate the joy of Christmas please contact Tony Power on 6238 3028 or email poweraj@acslink.net.au. There will be a Giving Tree for Christmas gifts that the Salvation Army to distribute to those in need. Afterwards there will be a Sausage Sizzle and the appearance of Father Christmas. All proceeds to the Salvation Army.

Wamboin 15 years ago: from the Whisper of October 1991 (prepared by Robyn Robertson)
Ed. Judy Frazer-Jans, Circulation 265

From the Editor's paras: "For the last two years, two of my teenage daughters have been editors of the Wamboin Whisper....Edwina in 1990 and Sue in 1991. Both are university students and found that travelling between the ANU and Wamboin made their days far too long. So they now live in Canberra and at last Mother has become the new editor of this famous tabloid. I admired how they stuck to their task, one of the reasons being that they were convinced that this was one of the ways they could increase their chances of future employment. Any sort of work experience adds to a curriculum vitae, not the least of which would be, "I was the editor of the Wamboin Whisper"....a title almost good enough for a movie! I must go and clean out my gutters before Powell's band of merry men come to collect my fire brigade subscription and declare me a fire hazard."

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WAMBOIN ISSUES

Prepared on Behalf of the Community Association by Lofty Mason

Chalkboard: The chalkboard at the corner of Norton Road and Gallagher Crescent is managed by the Wamboin Community Association and is approved by the Council. The board is meant for urgent notices of a community nature and for 'little dog lost' notices. It should not be used for commercial signs. These will be erased, as the Whisper is a more suitable site. The board will be cleaned early each week. Finally, please do not tape signs to the chalkboard as the glue ruins the surface of the board. Lofty M for WCA.

Recycling Station: The recycling station at the Bingley Way Community Centre has been enlarged and relocated to a position between the Brigade fuel depot and Bingley Way. This move was prompted by the requirement for a larger station (18 bins) and the need to stop the noise disruption caused by the proximity to the Hall. The contents are taken into Canberra for sorting so the same rules apply as for ACT recycling requirements.

OK: Bottles, jars, paper, cardboard, cans.

No No: kitchen refuse, clothing, plastic bags, garden waste.

Please use this facility responsibly and do not dump other rubbish in the area otherwise Council will remove the station. Lofty M for WCA.

Hall Rubbish Bins: The bins near the Hall are designed for rubbish generated at the Hall and Fire Station. Please do not bring and dump private rubbish in these bins, as this action constitutes illegal dumping. Talking of which.....

Illegal Dumping: Some lucky person recently acquired a new Samsung 32" LCD TV (s/n AFEM3DDL900354) and HD860 DVD Player (s/n 6RBL700055), from Bing Lee in Fyshwick. It seems that while they found room somewhere in their home for their new acquisition, they were at a loss for what to do with all the packaging. It was no doubt convenient, from their point of view, that said packaging managed to find itself neatly arranged in a pile in the middle of the driveway into the Community Hall at around 9:15 on Monday evening, October 23... It's hard to believe that any responsible member of our community would consider this an appropriate way to dispose of any rubbish. It is ever harder to believe that the packaging was heading home to Bing Lee and finished up in Bingley!!! (Sorry). Fortunately, the local Scout group meets on Monday evenings and the leaders took it on themselves to clean up this mess.

If you are sitting comfortably watching your new Samsung LCD TV, and you're not sure what happened to your packaging (labeled with all the serial numbers and the place of purchase so we know who), take a second during the next ad break to think of the impact it would have on our community if everyone dumped their rubbish on the side of the road, and there were no community minded individuals prepared to clean it up. And if you know of someone who recently acquired a new Samsung LCD TV and DVD player, you might quietly ask if they know anything about a pile of rubbish that found its way to the Community Hall on Monday evening? Lofty M for WCA.

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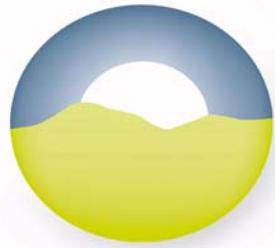
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Micro-chipping and your pets

- There is *no national database* for all microchip numbers and there is no way to search all known databases from one contact phone number, or online. [except possibly through RSPCA]
- These are some of the registers on which animals in this area might be listed:
 - Australian Animal Register [AAR] – the best because they have access to some other private registers.
 - Lost Dogs Home
 - These are probably the only two nationwide registers and one of them will probably be the only register for the proposed laws in the ACT.
 - Pet Safe
 - Central Animal Register [CAR]
 - National Pet Register [NPR]
 - Companion Animal Register [CARNSW].
 - this is run by the local councils for the NSW Government. Microchipping can be done by the Qbyn. Pound but the register will record numbers from other registers used by vets and other licensed implanters.
 - RSPCA
 - Which has access to all registers online except the CAR[NSW].
- Search enquiries at AAR should also mean searches of the databases of CAR, Petsafe and NPR, and possibly vice versa, but care must be taken, when requesting a search, that the answer covers all those registers and not just the one contacted.
- Microchip numbers do not always identify on which register the number has been placed and even if they did, the number sequence might not be recognised by the person doing the scanning.. They usually identify the manufacturer but there remains the possibility that the chip, if imported, will not meet ISO standards in Australia.
- There may be other registers, in other states, not listed here. State governments may be running their own ‘Companion Animal Registers’.
- If you have moved to this area it is vital that you:
 - Place your pets on the CAR[NSW] register. [compulsory -www.dlg.nsw.gov.au]
 - *Change your address* with your own register and check to see if it is known by other registers likely to be contacted in this area. Your vet would help with this.
- If you are likely to move interstate, check to ensure that the register your pet is listed on will be recognised in that state, and *change your address!*
- Check with your vet, that the register on which your pet is placed is likely to be searched if the animal is lost and subsequently scanned. If there is any doubt, change to a register with a nationwide scope and make enquiries of that register about what happens if your pet is lost.

This information compiled by Chris Fowler [62369189]. Mistakes and misunderstandings are unintentional.

**THE BRIGADE IS RECRUITING.
WE NEED MORE HELP.
WE NEED IT NOW!!**

Wamboin's Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade
needs new volunteers (and it's not just fireys).

Community-minded?
Keen to use existing or learn new skills?

Contact Ian Coillet on 6238 3425.
Ring NOW!

(Brigade area includes Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Park)

Rainfall and Temperature in Wamboin, 31 year statistics from the Robertsons

Rainfall in Oct to 28/10 ... 4.5mm (2005.....75mm)	2006 to 28/10 .. 399.5mm	2005....558.5mm
Nov average 77.2mm	Driest Nov ... 0 mm (1982)	Wettest Nov 146 mm (1986)
Wettest Nov day 77 mm (19/11/86)	Hottest Nov day 39 degrees (27/11/97)	
Coldest Nov day ... 10 degrees (16/11/78)	Coldest Nov night 0 degrees (1/11/98)	

BUCKET ESCAPES

Wild animals can be unpredictable at the best of times, but we didn't expect Bucket to just up and leave us without saying 'goodbye' or even coming home the next morning having had a good night on the tiles! Bucket is a wombat and we have been raising her for *Wildcare* prior to its intended release back into the wild. During the very windy Saturday night of 26 September somehow Bucket did a Houdini, escaped from its enclosure and ran off. Whilst Bucket was ready to be released and is able to survive quite well, we would like to catch her and release her elsewhere. We expect her to return home, but she may be disorientated and knock on someone else's door. If you sight a friendly Wombat on your property and/or hear unusual noises at dusk or overnight, which might be her, could you give us a call please on 6238 3717. We will be able to investigate and attempt to catch the animal. Bucket is not dangerous and can be picked up. If we don't hear of Bucket again its likely she has found her own way to the local wombat colony and is getting on with life. By the way, if you are interested in getting involved with wildlife rescue and care why not contact *Wildcare* 62991966 or visit their website www.wildcare.com.au.
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Braidwood RLPB Water Assistance

It has been brought to my attention that the 50% rebate on the freight or cartage of household water to all ratepayers in the Braidwood Rural Lands Protection Board may be of vital interest to the small landholder ratepayers in the Board. There is no minimum of water purchased but it must be from the nearest practical source. Claim forms for the cartage are available from the Board office on 4842 2536. Ratepayers must get the carrier's name and truck registration. The claims must be submitted within six months of delivery. The effective starting date was 1 May 2006 when the Board went back into drought. - Colin Brammall, RLPB Director



Found

This cat was found wandering in the Bywong district. He is de-sexed and microchipped with the number 982009102778119. This number is not recorded on any known pet or local council register so that his owner cannot be traced making it a pointless exercise! He is friendly and has a very loud voice. He has been treated for a serious urinary problem, which was causing him great pain. If you think you own him, or would like to -

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WAMBOIN GOLF CLUB – 2006 WAMBOIN OPEN RESULTS

To celebrate twenty years of golf in Wamboin at the (in)famous Wamboin R & A (Rural & Agricultural) golf course, the 21st Wamboin Open was played one month earlier than usual. Despite it being the long weekend at the beginning of school holidays we still had a creditable 25 players tee off in fine warm weather. The Open is always sponsored by the Club and once again the after game snacks were prepared by Joan Mason with a few helpers which was very much appreciated by all.

We had a number of visitors and Dennis Farrer took out the prize for the best visitor's score for the day.

Quite a number of players shared the "Googly Ball Award" for the best tall story and also a few players were "reported" for various Dummy Spits during the game!! Encouragement awards for the juniors were won by Bryce Anderson, Matilda Whitney and Jack Whitney. The Junior Wamboin Golf Champion for 2006 is Tom Argaet.

Ball winners for the long drive and nearest the pin awards went to; Bob Mettam, Tom Argaet, Robert Vaz, Matilda Whitney, John Anderson x2, Dennis Farrer, Rob Gorham, Peter Greenwood and Lofty Mason. Rob Gorham won the 9 hole event. 38/28 The Eclectic was won by Charles Guscott. Our special thanks to Nifty Neville Schroder for running this 12 month long Eclectic competition. B Grade 2nd won by John Anderson 92/67 A Grade 2nd won by Dave Hubbard 80/61 B Grade Club Champion for 2006 is Dave Argaet 97/62 A Grade Club Champion for 2006 is Steve Miners 81/59 (Handicapper has noted these scores!!) Wamboin Ladies Championship was not contested this year. 2006 Wamboin Open Golf Champion is Neville Schroder with an 80 (Won on a long countback from Dave Hubbard) Congratulations to all winners. -- Golf enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358.

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Wamboin Pony Club

The Club has had a very successful year increasing our riding membership to 39. We generally hold rally days on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. During the summer months we changed our rally times to morning sessions only to beat the heat and during winter all day rallies were held, this was very popular with the families.

At rallies the riders are given instruction in a number of disciplines, such as showjumping, dressage, sporting and polocrosse. The club held a challenge shield in August against the riders of Geary's Gap with Wamboin being successful in obtaining the shield.

The Zone Calendar gives the riders a chance to go out and compete against other riders in the area and this year it was a very full programme. We had a number of riders represent our Club at Zone events, including showjumping, equitation, sporting, mounted games, polocrosse and dressage, with a number of riders going onto represent our Zone at State events, they were,

Equitation Ceilidh Armer

Mounted Games – Katie, Lauren and Penny Slater, Nicole Smith and Hannah Brugman (The Wamboin Warriors) and Caitlin, Megan and Francis Judd, Ellen Smith and Phoebe Jenkins (The Wamboin Whimps).

One Day event – Ceilidh Armer, Katie and Lauren Slater, Casey Ivey and Nicole Smith.

All riders performed well at these events with the following placings, Ceilidh 3rd, Casey 7th, Nicole 4th and Lauren 6th in the ODE. Nicole was also awarded the optimum time medal for her age group.



Above: Ceilidh Armer at the State ODE.



Above: Katie Slater and her horse Tia.



Left: Wamboin Warriors, state champions, from L to R - Robyn Slater (coach), Hannah Brugman, Penny Slater, Lauren Slater and Nicole Smith.

The Wamboin Warriors were the Champions for the State Mounted Games Club teams. For most of these events there are around 60 riders in each age group. So very well done to those that competed at these events. A big congratulations to Katie Slater who was selected in the state NSW Mounted Games Team which will compete at the National Championships in Victoria in early December.

The club is holding an open gymkhana on 5th November, we anticipate up to 100 riders will attend. It really is something to see so many riders together try and make time to come along and watch. We are also planning a ride in the Forrest on 12th November, which was enjoyed by all last year and we are all looking forward to.

Our last rally day and AGM will be held on 10th December. The riders come dressed up in a theme and have a mini competition followed by fun riding activities. After the AGM we are proceeding to the Whalan/Smith residence for a late lunch and socialising.

The pony club is always looking for new members to join the executive team, so feel free to come and join in at the AGM.

The Club has made a number of major improvements to our grounds in Canning Close. At the beginning of the year we had a gas stove installed, (the grounds do not have electricity connected) Kerry our catering manager is in heaven. We also have levelled our jumping arena and extended it by a few metres and laid sand and sawdust as the base. Thanks to everybody who has help in this task but especially to the driving force Connie Tasker and husband Paul and to Liam Harris who has driven all the big machinery. Thankyou to Sutton Real Estate for their generous donation towards the improvement of our grounds. Our next focus will be on the extension of the clubhouse. -- Cheers, Toni Cuthbertson WPC Senior Instructor.

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by Ian Collet

THE STABLE DOOR

GRUMPY OLD WOMEN

Men of the world – rest your case! It's official!! *Women are grumpier than men in the morning.* Ooooh – I can just feel the eyes narrowing – the lips beginning to purse – fingers taking on that well-witnessed claw-like position!! Sorry gals – the new British survey by The Sleep Council confirms it. You are not only grumpier than we blokes in the morning but you're grumpier more often. And, whatsmore, you stay in a bad mood for longer.

One of the aims of The Sleep Council is to raise awareness of the importance of a good night's sleep to health and wellbeing. Its survey found 24% of men said they never wake up in a bad mood opposed to only 14% of women. It seems women are also more likely to stay grumpier for longer with 13% staying in a bad mood for two to four hours (men 10%).

The survey was published ahead of Britain's National Sleep In Day (Oct 29) – the day the clocks go back and, for the blokes at least, an opportunity for an extra good-mood hour in bed. For the women.....well, I guess that means sixty more minutes to For most of us down-under, now that we've just popped our clocks forward, we blokes awaken in our usual, higher percentile good mood; women? – well they also win 'cos there's less time for bad mooding in the boudoir.

Forty-one (41) percent of all survey participants believe lack of sleep is the main reason for their black mood in the morning. "As men appear to sleep better than women (15% get a good seven night's sleep a week as opposed to only 9% of women), perhaps it's not surprising that more women than men get out of bed on the wrong side," says Jessica Alexander of The Sleep Council.

A quarter (24%) of those questioned cited general stress and worry as a reason for early morning moodiness. The over 45 age-group fares worst of all in sleep starvation with a massive 44% saying they never get a good night's sleep. The Council questions whether this might not be connected to the fact that this age group is the most likely to have teenagers. And teenagers are the moodiest of all with 25% staying so for up to four hours.

But I digress. Almost a third of women blamed their partner's snoring for their trouble sleeping. The survey also found that women far outweigh men in having a busy and packed morning. Well, not in this household. But again, I am distracted. So, men of the universe, unite. It's good news, and it's beyond dispute. It's confirmed, there's only one right side of the bed, and it's yours.

FROM THE FRYING PAN TO THE FIRE: Out of the bedroom and into Fire Brigade matters – grumpy or not, female or not, your fellow community volunteers in the Fire Brigade really need your help. The Wamboin Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade which services Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton Park all the way up to Rydges Hotel on the highway really needs more dedicated volunteers. Lots of people have said "Yes, I want to join," but haven't followed through. The community clock is ticking.

Volunteers in the Brigade have a great record of protecting the community. But that's history. I believe statistics show that people spend more time thinking about holidays, television, entertainment etc than superannuation. I'm not going there other than to ask whether a few more people in the Sutton Park, Bywong and Wamboin communities might think on this. Might you make time (as have former and current volunteers) to join and help the Fire Brigade; to participate in any one of the many ways possible so that now, and in times of greater need, the Brigade (and through it, yours and other people's properties, houses, families, stock and pets) are as strongly "superannuated" as possible? The Brigade is not chasing money from the community at this point, though that is always helpful. As you will have observed during the year from its adverts in the Whisper and on the community notice boards, what the Brigade needs most are more volunteer firies and a strong support group of non-firies.

Please have a think about this and call me on 6238 3425 or shoot an e-mail to lodestar@ozemail.com.au If you decide, "Yes, I can and will help out!" I commit to getting back to you promptly.

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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

I counted forty different types of flowering shrubs and plants when I walked around my garden one mid October morning. The air was crisp and clean, so good that you felt compelled to breathe deeply, the sky an innocent blue, magpies warbling and rosellas piping, and there was the sweet scent of wisteria and banksia roses. A glorious spring, like any other, except, sadly, it ended at the bottom of the garden. Beyond the exotic greens and contrived flower beds, the months of cloudless skies and sucking winds have conspired to paint a very different picture.

But there was a day that brought a lift to sagging shoulders. It rained one morning, enough to drench me on a "two dog and a cat" walk to the letter box, fill my nostrils with the rich smell of damp earth and tempt me to believe it would last all day. Alas, the wind came back and blew the clouds away and with it all traces of moisture. Ten years ago we kept our vegetable garden flourishing throughout summer with buckets of water drawn from a deep pool in the creek. This year, with summer still officially some time off, the vegetable garden is modest and the once deep pool but a murky puddle. Perhaps it was a kindly frost, after all, that burnt the potato plants last night.

With the persistent winds and dry weather, we are being constantly reminded of the threat of bush fires. In better times, I looked at a wood pile in summer and merely thought of snakes. Now, I have to think of it as a potential bonfire. Once I relished the shade of towering eucalypts, looked with fascination at the textures created by long, straggly strands of bark hanging down their trunks and scuffed my boots in the leaf litter enjoying the crackly sound. I knew those trees protected the earth beneath, purified our air and provided a haven for a myriad of small beasties. But was I naïve. Now they seem to have become the enemy.

However, innocence is alive and well, and you can still find fairies at the bottom of the garden. I went to a four year old's birthday party the other day. There were small creatures with wings running everywhere, flitting between the kangaroo fodder that masqueraded as rose bushes and skipping over expanses of dust, sprinkled with tufts of grass. They seemed oblivious to everything except fun and an endless procession of parcels to unwrap, fairy bread and chocolate frogs. They didn't seem to notice that the dam was brown and shrunken as they scabbled for a musical chair, or that the treasures were more easily found in the garden hunt because the bushes had thinned. Those fairies hadn't been around long enough to know of better, wetter days, and were infused with small delights.

So, as I watch the last of the crab apple petals flutter to the ground like snowflakes, and wait for the aphid chewed rose buds to open, spread mulch and more mulch for the choughs to scatter and sit back while the kangaroos systematically munch through my garden, knowing that it is their god given right to do so, I know I wouldn't live anywhere else. Where else would life present such opportunities for an optimist. And as one well known local identity was heard to say, "Why would I want rain. It would spoil a bloody good drought!"

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