

COMMUNITY

ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

October 2009 CIRCULATION: 1,145

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 and Bywong at the start of each month, except January. Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Contributions from residents are valued and the main content. Please email them to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them. The deadline for the next issue is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the November 2009 Whisper the deadline is Sunday, October 25, 2009, 7:00 pm, and it will go to deliverers 5 days later.

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

Bungendore Police 6238 1244 Wamboin Fire Brigade Info Centre 6238-3396 Ambulance Bookings 131233

WAMBOIN FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

Wamboin Community Assn	Helen Montesin	President	6238-3208 or www.wamboincommunity.asn.au
Bywong Community Assn	Nora Stewart	President	6230-3305 or www.bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade	Andrew Dunn	Captain	0409-991-340 bh 6238 1849 ah
Wamboin Markets	Joan Mason	Contact	6238 3258
Sutton School Playgroup	Rosemary Semecky	Convener	6230-3807
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
Justice of the Peace	Margaret Fletcher	JP	6238-1211
Justice of the Peace	Jill Sedaitis	JP	6236-9559
Justice of the Peace	Tony Holland	JP	6238-3907
Wamboin Scout Group	Peter Harrison	Contact Person	6238-3525
Wamboin Pony Club	Robyn Slater	Senior Instructor	6238-3472
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Leigh-Anne Barlow	Secretary	6238-3376
Wamboin Play Group	Angie Matsinos	Convener	6238-0334
Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	Bookings	6238-3258
Church, Anglican	Robyn Robertson	Warden	6238-3202
Christian Prayer Group	Steve & Imelda Taylor	Contacts	6238-3220
KYB Bible Study Group	Amanda Axelby	Contact	6238-0871
Golf	Peter Greenwood	Golfer	6238-3358
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare	Helpline	6299-1966
Wonderful Women Of Wambn	Claire Ayling	Convener	6238-3347
Lake George Day VIEW Club	Pauline Segeri	Contact	6238-1996
Wamboin Bookgroup	Alice Scott	Secretary	6238 3178

THE YOUNG WAMBOIN ENTREPRENEURS

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Deanne Brucic, babysitting & petsitting	6238-1884
Jess, Ellen and Nicole Smith, petsitting (experienced with horses)	6238-3115
Fiona Skea, babysitting	6238-3290
Rebecca Purdie, petsitting	6238-3343
Gabrielle Simpkin, babysitting and petsitting	6238-1335
Elena Sutcliffe, petsitting	6238-3228
Jack and Matilda Whitney, pet care	6238 3059

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Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs

Bonfire Night – Unfortunately, inclement weather prevented the fireworks display. However, the bonfire was lit and provided some very welcome warmth for the hardy souls who braved the cold to come. Despite the weather, it was a great social night and it was pleasing to see so many people come out and support our community groups who provided lots of tasty food and drinks for the evening. Many thanks to all the hard working community groups and volunteers who were involved.

Wamboin Community Association Website – WCA now has its own website at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au. It is a work in progress which will be developed further over the coming months. The website is intended to provide an extension of the activities of the WCA, be an on-line information source for the community, including the Whisper, and provide contact information for community groups that are active in the local area. In particular, during the fire season it will have daily updates of the fire danger and weather conditions. If you have anything you would like included on the website or you have any other comments/feedback, you can post email webmaster@wamboincommunity.asn.au, or phone Steve Richards on 6238 1329. Many thanks to Bruce Bowden, Jenni Colwell, Pete Harrison, Ned Noel and Steve Richards for their hard work in getting the site up and running. Bruce and Jenni have also set up another website which has discussion forums and photo galleries.

Wamboin Produce Markets –The next markets will be on **17th October** from 9:00am until noon at the Community Hall. While it's still too early for some produce, there's sure to be a wide variety of goodies.

Wamboin Community Association – The next WCA meeting is on **20th October at 7:30pm at the Wamboin Community Hall**. Everybody is welcome to attend.

Christmas Carols – The annual community Carols Evening will be held on **18th December**, details of which will be included in forthcoming Whispers. If you would like to help with the evening or have any ideas for the program, please contact Helen Montesin (ph: 6238 3208). In particular, we would like some more musicians and children for the Nativity play.

New Residents – If you are new to Wamboin, or know someone who is, Lofty Mason has collated a "Meet and Greet" package. It contains useful information about Wamboin, including a map. It has details of the diverse range of community groups in the area. Please contact Lofty on 6238 3258 for a copy.

WCA Electronic Noticeboard – The noticeboard 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. The Wamboin Whisper is now available on the electronic noticeboard.

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

Helen Montesin (montesin@tpg.com.au)



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Horizon has a very good brochure that is a guide called 'Steps to Buying Your Home' in NSW & ACT. This offers advice for both the Seller & Buyer. If you would like a copy sent to you contact Jan Ladmore
Phone: 0407 890 527 or E-mail: jan.ladmore@bigpond.com

Bywong Community Association News

October, 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shooting in our local residential area: UNCOVER THE FACTS. Wednesday 14th October - 7.30pm. Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road, Bywong: Join us for an informative evening on issues to do with shooting in rural residential areas, with speakers from the Queanbeyan Police, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Wildcare. We will also be holding our Annual General Meeting, and welcome nominations for all positions on the Association Committee. For more information, please call Nora on 62303305 or email nora@setdancing.com.au. **This event will include a short AGM.**

Christmas Drinks. Saturday 5th December 2009 – 6.00-8.30pm. Bywong Hall, Birriwa Road, Bowing. Come and help celebrate the spirit of community at Christmas. All residents are very welcome to attend and to bring a plate of food to share.

Bus stops, bus shelters and a busy Macs Reef Road. Palerang Council received \$10,000 allocation for bus shelters in Bywong as part of the Federal Government RLCIP funding, and in response to need from residents in the Gum Flat Lane area. The Palerang Traffic Committee has decided to locate the bus shelter in Birriwa Road, away from Macs Reef Road which is deemed "unsafe" for school buses to stop and collect children.

Upon consultation, it seems the proposed solution is less than satisfactory for parents and children using the bus in the Gum Flat Lane / Birriwa Road area. The Association has requested a meeting to find an improved solution quickly. The Association has also requested to be involved in the longer-term to address other safety issues for the Macs Reef Road, the Bungendore Road and Norton Road.

THE ASSOCIATION THANKS ITS' REGULAR SUPPORTERS:

Lake FM radio – 88FM- www.bywong.com.au

Yless4u for hosting our website- www.yless4u.com.au

Koonaburra Wines- www.koonaburra.com.au

Wagonga Coffee- www.wagongacoffee.com.au

Lamberts Wines – www.lambertsvineyards.com.au

The Wamboin Whisper – www.wamboincommunity.asn.au

Nora Stewart, President -- www.bywongcommunity.org.au



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UPCOMING SHOWS

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**27, 28 & 29 November 2009
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The Lake George Day VIEW Club

by Lydia Teodorowych

The October meeting will be held at a venue tba on Tuesday October 20 11.30 for a 12 noon start. RSVP Pauline on 6238 1996 by Friday October 16 for venue and cost. Our speaker will be Rachel Letts author of "The Deua". Rachel is an ESL and creative writing teacher and operates the River Guesthouse with her husband.

As usual raffle tickets and door prizes are a regular feature of our meeting. Come along and bring a friend and support the Smith Family! If you would like to join our Day club, it's never too late to sign up!

VIEW~a club where Very Interesting and Exciting Women meet!

visit our blog: <http://lgdviewclub.blogspot.com>

BUNGENDORE OZTAG



Just a reminder to start organising teams for this year's competition. The cost for this season is \$50 per player for registration and \$25 for shorts (if required). We will be holding 2 registration evenings on Wednesday 14 October and Wednesday 21 October. Round 1 will commence on Wednesday 28 October. We will play 8 rounds before the X-mas break, resume on Wednesday 3

February and play through until Wednesday 31 March. Due to the interest in this competition, a team will be considered as 'entered' in the competition, upon payment of full registration and completion of required forms for a minimum of eight players.

We look forward to another enjoyable competition.

Please contact Deb or Ken Gordon on 62383062 or ken.gordon@act.gov.au for further information.

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Fire at Bingley Way

On the 7th August at about 9am there was a fire in the granny flat at the Picker's property in Bingley Way. Ian, Sue and Sue sister Judy would like to thank the Wamboin Fire Brigade for their swift response on that day.

The members of the Wamboin fire brigade were very mindful and concerned about Sue and Judy's welfare and Judy's personal effects.

We would also like to thank the Queanbeyan Fire Brigade who turned up to support the Wamboin Brigade, as well as Country Energy.

Many Thanks

Ian and Sue Picker and Judy Middleton.

The Bonfire (and Fireworks)

by Lofty Mason

Would you believe the weather could be so bad at the end of September? The forecast for our big night was for high winds, showers, sleet, snow and a maximum of 10 degrees. Unfortunately it all happened. As the guy doxed in by the Community Association to co-ordinate the night I have prepared this report for the Whisper. The fireworks group, Black Widow, pulled the pin early because wet weather could short out their electronics and cause major problems (un-coordinated connections) to their display. Fortunately our Fire Brigade accepted the task of fire control of the bonfire. It was decided to go ahead with the evening (minus fireworks) and cancel gate entry.

Despite the weather, this 29th annual Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Night could be considered a success. Those who missed out on Ian Cuthbertson of 'Anytime Hire' as he manoeuvred his backhoe to pack the bonfire missed out on a breath taking acrobatic display worthy on its own of any admission fee. I compliment local groups who ran stalls with customers happy as to the quality and pricing of the goodies offered. However, the over riding feeling for me was that it was a great Community night. This Community feeling is one of the reasons we have lived here for 27 years. Clean up next morning was somewhat quieter.

As to the future, 'Black Widow Fireworks' may be closing because of the new ACT laws. The possibility of getting displays of their professionalism, and costing, is very remote. In past years our Bonfire and Fireworks Night has depended not only on good weather but also on the following: Residents bringing bonfire material, the organization of the fireworks display, the organization at the Community Centre, effective advertising, the packing/lighting of the bonfire, the great efforts of the stall holders, the entry collection and parking control by the Brigade and finally the support of the community. Take away any of these and the night fails. Where from here?

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Wamboin Community Association On-Line

Following a protracted gestation period, the WCA is pleased to announce that it now has its own Web site:

<http://wamboincommunity.asn.au>

The Web site contains details and contact information for local community groups, including the Wamboin RFS, community news and events, a fledgling Local Services directory, current and past issues of The Whisper and maps of the local area. We will endeavour to add to the site as time and interest permit.

Please take a moment to visit the site and provide your feedback, especially if you find anything difficult to use or encounter any problems. We can't promise to fix everything, but we'll do our best.

If you are a member of a local community group that is not yet listed on our site, or if you find anything that is out of date or just plain wrong, please email the WCA site administrator at webmaster@wamboincommunity.asn.au with details, or call one of the people listed below to discuss how we can help.

Steve Richards -- 6238 1329

Ned Noel -- 6238 3484

Pete Harrison -- 6238 3525

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Wamboin 15 Years Ago

by Robyn Robertson

From the Whisper, October 1994, Circulation: 390, From: Yarrawlumla Council News: Shire Ridings or Wards. There is currently a proposal before Council from the General Manager to remove Ridings or Wards in conjunction with Council elections. This would mean that rather than having three councillors elected from each of three ridings, we would be voting for candidates from all over the Shire. I believe that for proper representation, especially in relation to local issues, Ridings must be maintained and a local person elected so that our concerns would be better represented on Council. Peter Greenwood, Councillor

NEW CLASSIFIEDS
2010 WOMBAT CALENDARS FOR SALE Only \$10 each! Help our local wildlife by buying a Native Animal Rescue Group wombat calendar for 2010. Excellent quality that make great presents. Contact Phil – 62383717 or machin4@bigpond.com
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I am desperate for egg cartons! If you have any that you can spare, please drop these off at 413 Norton Rd at the gate or on the verandah. Thanks -- Penny Evans.
Mobile Natural Horse Care and Gardening - Not enough hrs in the day / week? Away on weekends or holidays? Need someone to feed, rug, groom, clean up and care for your horse/s? General gardening, weed, mow, mulch and tidy. Other pets included and mail collected. Unable to ask neighbours / friends again? Call Cheryl - on 62369373 or 0402201491
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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 .
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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. whentaken (otherwise they don't go.) Time of pick-up and returned MUST be adhered to (I don't live at the Hall!) - Joan Mason, 62383258.
FOR HIRE: WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL. Bookings arranged by Joan Mason 6238 3258. Local Residents \$100, Bond \$250. Non-Resident \$150, Bond \$300. The Hall is not available for teenage, 18 or 21st. functions.
FOR HIRE: BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL. Suitable for smaller functions and seminars, groups etc. Check availability and booking information on www.bywongcommunity.org.au .
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

The Wamboin Web: Community Conversations on the Internet

As our contribution to making Wamboin a better community, we are happy to inform you that the Wamboin Web, a web site built for the Wamboin community, is up and running. You can find it at the following address:

<http://wamboin.org/>

This new internet destination is designed to facilitate community conversations and to provide access to community information for Wamboin's internet savvy population. It will also be a resource for other people who want to find out what Wamboin has to offer. Designed by Bruce Bowden (with some help from me) the site has a structure that is easy to follow, with lots of opportunities for photos and local colour.

Not only does the web site provide local news, reference information and a discussion forum (Wamboin Noticeboards), community groups will be able to add their own news, events, resources, photos and other information to the web site. There is also a photo gallery. Wamboin's photographers are encouraged to use it to share their photographs with the rest of the community.

Now it is up to you! Now that the web site has been set up, the next step is up to you. The Wamboin Web is a work in progress, and if you have ideas about how we can use it to further enrich our community, we are interested in hearing from you. Explore wamboin.org and remember; this is your web site. We want your feedback and contributions so that we can be sure it develops into a resource that we all will enjoy using. You can send us your comments either by registering on the Wamboin Noticeboards or through the Wamboin Web comment page. The links are provided below:

<http://wamboin.org/wamboin-noticeboards/>

<http://wamboin.org/wamboin-web-site/>

Alternatively, send us an email with your comments to webmaster@wamboin.org.au For those who prefer more direct communication, ring either Bruce or me on 6238 3421. Take a look at the new site, and let us know what you think.

-- Jenni Colwill

Wamboin Golf Results

With Spring at Wamboin Golf Club comes the notorious Mason Spring Trophy 3 club event. (Including putter!)

This competition has been sponsored by Lofty and Joan Mason for the past 23 years and one of the highlights of this event are the home cooked "Spring" rolls at the 19th hole.

Winner of the Junior competition was Jack Whitney. The 9 hole competition was won by Ken Gordon, 39/33 with wife Debby coming in 2nd with 55/37. The 18 hole competition and "Spring" trophy was won by John Whitney with Paul Griffin second. The next major event is the Wamboin Open on 1st November. -- Enquiries to Peter Greenwood 6238 3358

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We have some beautiful new items including stunning Shelley, wonderful Wedgwood, and delightful Doulton.

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Many items are made in Australia

*To name just a few
new stock arriving frequently!*

Access to the Countryside An Interview with Suzanne Ridley

Written down by Ned Noel

We moved into the area in 1973, and built our house in Geary's Gap in 1975. Along with many others we realised that a weakness was the inability to move easily around this rural area. Some of us liked to ride horses. Kids wanted to ride bikes. Our family loved horse drawn carriages. Some liked bird watching. Many just wanted to be able to walk through the area with some assurance that property owners would be sympathetic.

In the late 70s and early 80s the large landholders were generally supportive of providing open access to the countryside. Opposition was more frequent from new arrivals, often from the city. Some of them were worried about privacy and security. One feared passersby would look into their bathroom window. One resident told that person not to worry, that if he was after their piano he would take it out the front door. Some new residents liked horses, but preferred more secure and localised activities like dressage.

There have been, over the decades, many residents who worked to increase access to the countryside. Brian Macguire, Tony Billingsly, Peter McCulloch, Brian Trainer and Ian Gamble were among them. Some residents from the other side of the federal highway helped. When a block changed hands and a new owner would turn up they would call in and urge the new residents to give the problem some thought.

There are many sides the issue, formal and informal, and many solutions, formal and informal.

Road verges in the country tend to be wide, as set down in laws 80 years ago. Wide verges allow for stock movement, horse riding, walking, and bicycles. Legally children are not supposed to be on the road without adult supervision. You could say the verges are the only way they can use a roadway when exploring on their own. Some landholders staged "land grabs" by fencing off the road verges or road right of ways next to their properties. They wanted greater privacy or to use the public land for their own stock. These land grabs are still happening today.

"Friendly Gates" was another term we used. Neighbours, in addition to building gates from their property to the road, would build gates in the fence lines between their properties. Some have built four or five along their boundaries. These gates made it easier for block owners, bicycles, horses, and walkers to move around. Often block holders find it helpful to collaborate on adjusting stock. One example is setting up paddocks for older horses. These horses tend to be used little, so often it is good to put them far away from the house. One resident would offer some land for this purpose, and others would benefit. For a while the Osmond family seemed to be looking after everyone's retired horses. In a bushfire, friendly gates can be a valuable easily opened escape route for stock.

Stock routes and future road right of ways have long been set aside as public land by governments. Greenways are a way of formally structuring this land. Many people worked on this project, including the Creswell family, Ian Gamble, David Rouse (who worked to get it into Yarrolumla Council's planning rules), Julian Thompson, Paul Griffin, Maria Taylor and Peter Webb (a Yarrolumla councillor). There were many more. Insurance, expected by some to be a problem, was fairly easily and inexpensively arranged through the council's insurance brokers, who just included them in the land council was already insuring as parks. Nancy Jeffreys, a long time real estate agent at Sutton, felt that greenways in an area added around \$10,000 to the value of each block.

The Palerang, Yarrolumla and Tallagandra Councils, like most rural councils, spend a lot of energy dealing with maintenance challenges, such as roads, rates and rubbish. Another effort over the decades has been to encourage them to consider social issues like open access, the arts, and sharing forms of rural lifestyles. All of these contribute to a greater sense of community. Many state and commonwealth grants to promote these goals are on offer.

In recent years progress on greenways and other forms of open access seems to have ground to a halt. "Come on Guys. Get out and finish it. There are some fairly easy ones to put through. These would include greenways from Millyn Road to Bywong town, and then on to Donnelly Lane. Another would be to link Millyn Road to Emu Flat Lane and then on to Rovere Lane. This set should connect to Bohmers Lane and Gumflat Lane. Clare Lane needs connecting to Norton Road and Norton Road needs to be connected to Waramunga Close. Add 5 more K in your generation and the next generation might add another 5."

(The greenways can be seen on the latest version of the Wamboin and Bywong map, printed on the next 2 pages. Paul Brugman created this map several years ago. He continues to update it. He has allowed it to be printed in the Whisper. - Editor)

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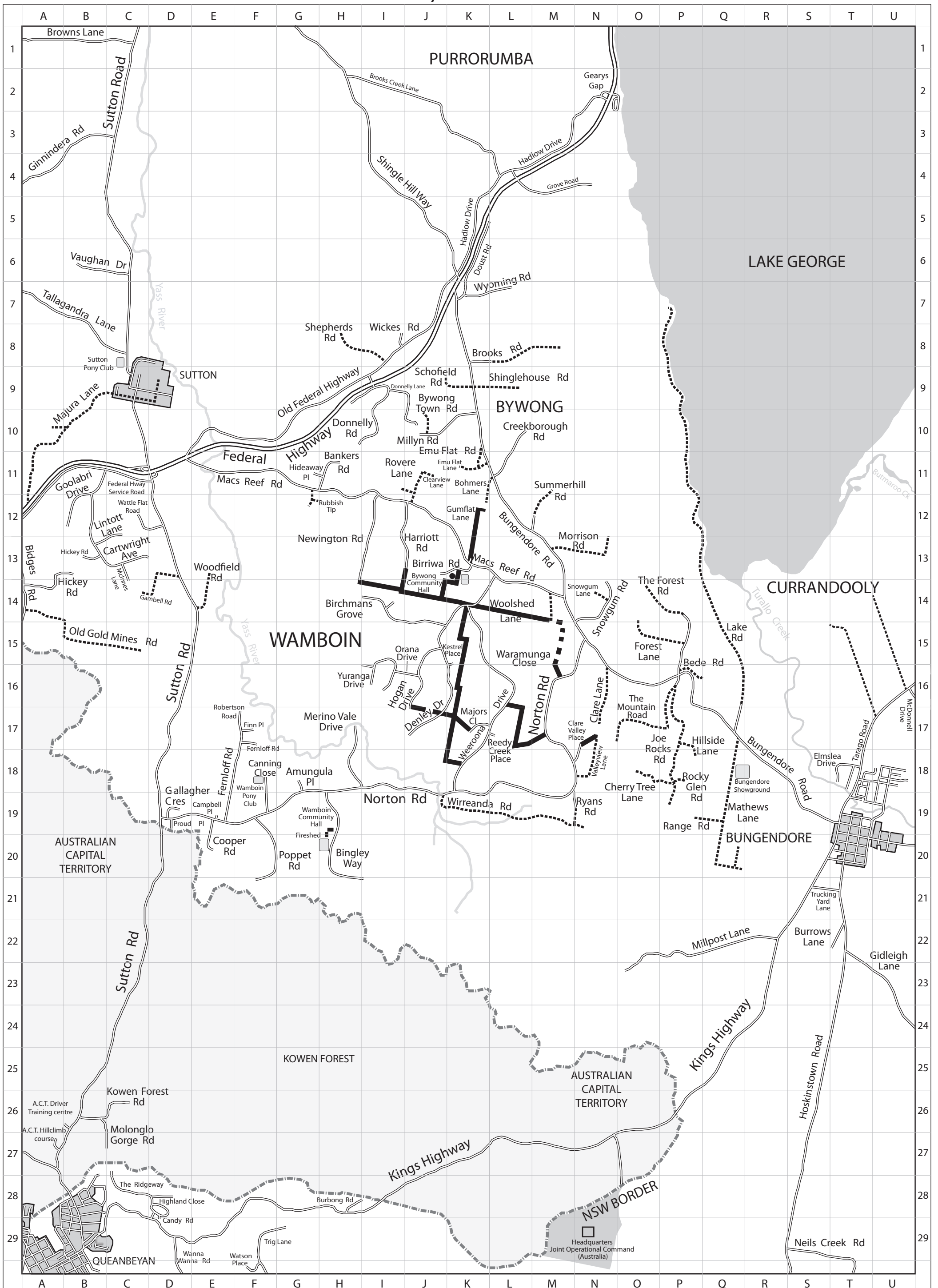
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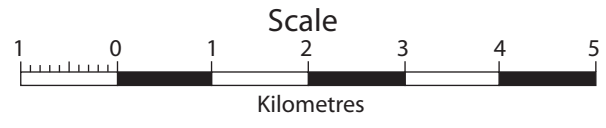
WAMBOIN/BYWONG GREENWAYS



- N
- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- River or creek
- Greenways

DISCLAIMER: The information on this map is as accurate as possible. However, there is no guarantee that the information is totally accurate or complete. Therefore you should not rely solely on this information when making decisions. If inaccuracies are noted please contact: paul.brugman@anu.edu.au

VERSION 16 - September 2009



Bush Fire Survival Plan

A NSW RFS Communication Selected for Printing in the Whisper
by Andrew Dunn, Captain, Wamboin Brigade

Is your home defensible? Or is it in a location that makes it difficult or dangerous to defend. The defensibility of your home is determined by several complex variables:

- The type and location of vegetation surrounding your home
- The amount of hazardous fuels surrounding your home (e.g. vegetation, paper, cardboard, firewood, chemicals and stored building products)
- The slope or topography of the land around your home
- The design, construction and maintenance of your home
- The physical and psychological ability of you and your family

The defensibility of your home will influence your decision to stay and defend your home or leave early.

This is an extremely important and difficult decision; however regardless of your decision, it is imperative that you prepare your property so that your home has the best chance of surviving a bush fire.

Prior to making this important decision you need to consider the following:

- Who will be at home when a bush fire occurs? Does your family group include elderly relatives, young children, people with disabilities or illnesses, and if so can these people be relocated? Who will care for them while the Bush Fire Survival Plan is implemented?
- Staying to defend your property can be very demanding. Do you have the skills, knowledge and capacity to check for and extinguish spot fires for up to 10 hours after the fire front has passed? Are you physically, mentally and emotionally prepared?
- Do you own or have access to the equipment and resources to extinguish fires around your property? (e.g. sufficient water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump etc)
- Last minute evacuation can lead to serious injuries and fatalities. If you plan to leave early, do you know where you will go and how you will get there? You may not have to travel far to find a safer place. Have you prepared your Bush Fire Survival Plan?

Your Bush Fire Survival Plan must be prepared with all members of the household before the Bush Fire Danger Period (usually 1 October to 31 March). Every person should have a plan to "Stay and Defend" or "Leave Early" to ensure you are organised and know what to do. Everyone's Bush Fire Survival Plan will be different depending on your individual situation and circumstances. Once you have completed your plan, practise it regularly and keep it in a safe place where it is easily accessible for quick reference (e.g. on the fridge).

For more information go to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. To survive a bush fire, prepare your Bush Fire Survival Plan
-- NSW RFS INFORMATION Line. 1800 679 737 -- Prepare, Act, Survive

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ABN: 42020463691

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NSW Security Master Lic: 409419747 NSW Lic: 191292c

WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

The Home Produce Markets came out of winter hibernation in September. Everyone we talked to was pleased that this community event was up and running again. For those wondering, these Markets are held at the Hall in Bingley Way on the third Saturday of the month and run from 9am to noon. We were down on garden produce but the interest in plants, jewellery, cakes, sausage rolls, dried fruit, nuts etc. made it all worthwhile. The Markets are a great place to meet and talk. Ye Olde Coffee Shoppe was up and running selling delicious Wagonga Coffee with jam and cream scones. Those who forgot to have breakfast enjoyed freshly cooked egg and bacon rolls. Thanks Donny for helping out. For those who arrived a bit late, sorry, we will ensure service until 12 noon.

For more information contact Joan Mason 6238 3258

Entry: Free - Stall holders \$5. So mark your diary:

SATURDAY 17th October 2009
9AM – 12 NOON

Wamboin Fishing Club

Hi, lots of news this time. The trip to Grabine was a great success and we plan to do it again next year. We have had an invitation to The Tuross Heads Fishing Club Competition in December. This will be discussed further at our next meeting. I have arranged a discount at a fishing store, I will pass on details at the next meeting. I would also like to discuss the possibility of members with fly casting experience to teach others wanting to learn some skills in this method of fishing.

The next meeting will be held at The Eagle Hawk Hotel on Wednesday 14th October 5.30pm see you there!

Chris, from Hogan Drive. 0415 636 583 .

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BONFIRE RAFFLE RESULTS

The Wamboin Community Association is very grateful to the community businesses which continue to support the various events run each year. Their generosity is much appreciated by event convenors who spend a lot of time trying to dream up ways to raise funds for the benefit of the community.

This year the spring weather closed in on us to prevent our usual fireworks but the bonfire and the array of food and beverage stalls catered for the hardy souls who ventured out on that wild Saturday night.

The raffle raised \$350 for the Association and the monies will be allocated in due course to a worthy cause(s). The following items, generously donated, were won by the listed persons:

1. \$50 voucher by Shepherds Run : E46 Henk Berlee
2. \$50 voucher by Lamberts Vineyard : D25 Geoff Foster
3. 2 bottles of wine by Parkhill Financial Services : B85 Anne
4. 2 bottles of wine by Inland trading Company : B83 Whitney
5. Produce box by Geoff & Colleen Foster : E68 Clire Ramage
6. Bag of Wagonga Coffee Beans : D50 Meredith
7. 2 doz fresh eggs by Pendon Produce : D26 R Robertson
8. WCA meat tray : C71 Helen Montesin
9. WCA meat tray : D31
10. Tim Barker.

It will be too late into the fire season for fireworks this year but we hope to be able to work with Black Widow again next year after the closure of the fire season. - John van der Straaten, WCA Secretary

Property Management Services

Thinking of renting out your property? Take advantage of Sutton Real Estate's 18 years of experience. We have managed properties in this area longer than any other agency and we understand rural living. Compare our service:

- The lowest rates - we will not be beaten on management fees.
- Same day notice – If you're unhappy with our service you're free to discontinue.
 - Fully reference checked tenants.
- Comprehensive condition reports carried out including extensive photography .
- Four inspections per year to protect your asset with a copy of each report sent to you.
- Ongoing repairs and maintenance of your property by our qualified tradespersons.
- Management using "state of the art" Console property management software.
- Direct deposit of your rental income plus comprehensive monthly/yearly statements.
- Adherence to the code of practice of The Real Estate Institute of NSW.

Call Libbie, our fully qualified property manager, for your free, no obligation rental appraisal.
Phone 6238 0999 Bungendore or 6230 3240 Sutton.



SHEPHERDS RUN

Upcoming Events

- **Friday Night Delight** every Friday from 6pm after Wamboin Wine-Down. Meet friendly people and relax.
- **Saturday 10 Oct 09** – Launch of our 2009 "Brindabella Hills" Sauvignon Blanc
- **Tuesday 3 Nov 09 – Melbourne Cup Day.** Bubbly, big screen, fashions, lucky door prizes and sweeps. See the flyer for details.
- **7/8 Nov 09 -Days of Wine & Roses and all that Jazz.** Special winery events and menu (Green-lipped mussels or pickers platter). Local - Dave Argent combo to entertain with live music.
- **December 09** – Come and have your work Christmas Party with us.
- **Monday 1 Feb 10** – Italian Cooking Classes with Mario and Alice commence.

Please ring Elke on
6238 3842 to book.



The Wamboin Firefighter

A newsletter from YOUR volunteer rural fire brigade compiled by the Executive Committee with help from many members of the Brigade

THE BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD STARTED 1 SEPTEMBER

A FIRE PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR ANY FIRE IN THE OPEN. PLEASE CONTACT THE BRIGADE CAPTAIN FOR ADVICE ON OBTAINING A PERMIT 0409 991 340

RING 000 TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS.



CAN WE FIND YOU?

Correct identification of properties can save time and ultimately lives in an emergency. The rural property numbering system has been implemented to assist emergency services in locating the correct property quickly.

So, it is vital that properties are clearly and correctly marked, particularly in the case of shared entrances or shared driveways. It is also important that old Lot and RMB numbers are removed because they can cause added confusion.

Placement of numbers conspicuously and unambiguously is vitally important to emergency services. Often the best place to locate the number is on the gate itself, if you have one, a post at the driveway or on your road-side mail box.

BUSY MONTH FOR THE BRIGADE

The Brigade would like to thank the local community for their recent generous donations. This has enabled over \$20,000 worth of improvements to be made to the tankers over the winter period which has greatly improved the operational capability of the Brigade.

Both the heavy and light tankers have been upgraded to similar layouts and capabilities. Electric live reels have been fitted to each tanker so as to minimize the fatigue on the crews.

BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL PLAN

Is your home defensible, or is it in a location that makes it difficult or dangerous to defend? The defensibility of your home is determined by several variables:

- The type and location of vegetation surrounding your home.
- The amount of hazardous fuels surrounding your home (e.g. vegetation, paper, cardboard, firewood, chemicals and stored building products).
- The slope or topography of the land around your home.
- The design, construction and maintenance of your home.
- The physical and psychological ability of you and your family.

The defensibility of your home will influence your decision to stay and defend your home or leave early. This is an extremely important and difficult decision. Regardless of your decision, it is imperative that you prepare your property so that your home has the best chance of surviving a bush fire. Prior to making this important decision you need to consider the following:

- Who will be at home when a bush fire occurs? Does your family group include elderly relatives, young children, people with disabilities or illnesses, and if so can these people be relocated? Who will care for them and does this feature in your Bush Fire Survival Plan?

- Staying to defend your property can be very demanding. Do you have the skills, knowledge and capacity to check for and extinguish spot fires for up to 10 hours after the fire front has passed? Are you physically, mentally and emotionally prepared?
- Do you own or have access to the equipment and resources to extinguish fires around your property e.g. sufficient water supply, petrol/diesel portable pump etc?
- Last minute evacuation can lead to serious injuries and fatalities. If you plan to leave early, do you know where you will go and how you will get there? You may not have to travel far to find a safer place.

Have you prepared your Bush Fire Survival Plan?

It is really important that your Bush Fire Survival Plan be prepared with all members of the household and understood by you and them before the Bush Fire Danger Period (usually 1 October to 31 March) is upon you. Everyone should have a plan whether it be to “Stay and Defend” or “Leave Early” to ensure they are organised and know what to do. Bush Fire Survival Plans will be different depending on individual situations and circumstances. Once you have completed your plan, practise it regularly. Keep it in a safe place where it is easily accessible for quick reference e.g. on the fridge.

For more information go to the NSW Rural Fire Service at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

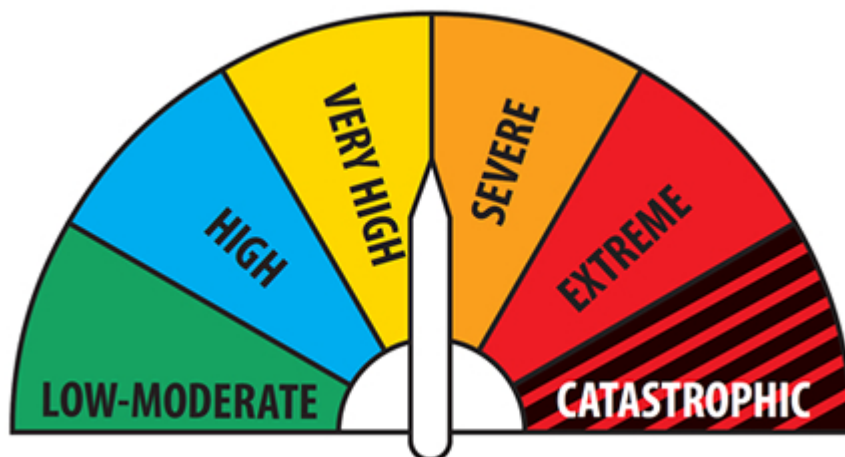
**To survive a bush fire,
prepare your Bush Fire Survival Plan**
NSW RFS INFORMATION Line 1800 679 737
PREPARE---ACT---SURVIVE

NEW FIRE DANGER RATINGS AND WARNINGS

These nationally-agreed changes are being introduced following extensive consultation between the RFS, other NSW agencies and interstate agencies in the wake of the Victorian bushfires and the interim recommendations of the Royal Commission.

Many of these changes have been foreshadowed in recent months but now that a national position has been agreed, the Brigade can provide you with details of the new systems to be introduced **this summer**.

One of the most significant changes is the introduction of a new Fire Danger Rating system. This will take the following form:



The new Fire Danger Rating system is a significant change for the RFS and the community. It will allow the RFS to deliver clearer information, advice and warnings to the public.

The new ‘**Catastrophic**’ rating will apply on days when the Fire Danger Index is above 100. This new rating has been added in recognition that these conditions - like those in Victoria and in Canberra in 2003 - present a greater level of danger to the community. It is on these days, historically, that fires have caused significant destruction.

During these conditions, the advice to the community will be very clear:

There is the potential for significant loss of life and property.

Even homes that are well prepared and built to the highest standards of construction may be destroyed.

The safest course of action for people will be to leave early. Those who choose to stay and defend their properties should understand and accept the very real risks involved.

These new Fire Danger Ratings will also lead to specific alerts and advice for the public, based on the time of impact and the fire's potential.

These alerts will take the following form:

Emergency Warning – where there is the highest level of risk to life, using the Standard Emergency Warning Signal on radio, television, the RFS website and 1800 information line.

Watch and Act – where people need to be aware of a fire and take action to prepare themselves, their family and neighbours.

Advice – to keep people informed and up to date with developments.

Clearly, these are significant changes and will have flow-on effects throughout the community. The Brigade will keep you updated on the implementation of these new systems, including matters such as changes to Fire Danger Rating signs and a major public information campaign to explain these changes to the community.

This will focus on the new nationally consistent message:

PREPARE---ACT---SURVIVE

These changes will play a valuable role in helping YOUR brigade and our colleagues around Australia to protect our communities, especially during extraordinary fire conditions.

THE CAPTAIN'S LIST	Businesses supporting the Wamboin Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade	
A'Hern Fitness at the Airport AAA Water Carriers Anytime Backhoe Hire B & B Tree Surgery Bingley Contractors (Water Carriers) Bungendore Rural Bungendore Taxi Service Café D'Lish (Deakin) Capital Business Services Capital Stainless Steel Clare Valley Tree Services Coates Hire, Fyshwick Congari Bookkeeping & Business Services Coolah Holdings Pty Ltd	Cosmorex Coffee Cross Country Construction Eagle Hawk Hotel & Social Club Eureka Plants Pty Ltd Horizon Real Estate FH Office Services France Harrison & Associates Gough Watson Business Services Inland Trading Co (Aust) Lambert Vineyards Leapfrog Leadership LMS Consulting Manuka Childcare Centre Marloc Engineering Overdene Excavations Pty Ltd	Priam Australia Quick-Eze Towing Ratz Mobile Welding So Good Sausages Pty Ltd Sotech Pty Ltd Shepherds Run Wines Sherrin Hire Sutton Real Estate Tipton Shopfitters Pty Ltd Trevor Barker & Associates Trevor Duncan Homes Wagonga Coffee Westpac Banking Corporation YLess4U

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Rainfall and Temperatures in Wamboin


34 statistics from the Robertsons

September rainfall to 27/9 ... 83 mm	September 2008 ... 48.25 mm
2009 rainfall to 27/9 ... 356 mm	2008 to 27/9 ... 396.5 mm
Average October rainfall ... 62 mm	Wettest October ... 199 mm 1996
Wettest October day ... 59 mm 16/10/76	Driest October ... 5.6 mm 2006
Hottest October day ... 31 degrees C 27/10/97	Coldest October day ... 9 degrees C (19/10/82 and 2/10/04)
Coldest October night ... 1 C (several occasions)	

How The Whisper Gets From the Printer To Your Mailbox

The 44 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. - Editor

158 CO-ORDINATED BY HELEN MONTESIN:		Ph 6238 3208
Dean Evans	Nrtn Area frm Campbl West	18 Bill Owen Cooper Rd. 26
Helen Montesin	Fernloff Rd	33 Stuart Whitten Canning Close 17
Hank Berlee	11 Poppet Rd (for all on road)	34 Alan Rope Sutton Road 30
284 CO-ORDINATED BY SUE GANE:		
Joan Mason	Bingley Way	45 Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Drive 17
Sue Ward	Norton, Bngly to Weeroona	32 Anne Gardner Weeroona, Norton to Majors 31
Sue Gane	Majors Close	20 David Anderson Weerona, Majors to Denley 35
Ned Noel	13 PalarancCncl+47Advetisers	60 Penny Evans Norton, Cmpbell to Bngley 25
Kathy Handel	Yalana West	19
228 CO-ORDINATED BY KERRIE FISHER:		Ph 6238 3489
TBA	Valley View Lane	4 Deb Gordon Yalana East 42
Coleen Foster	Joe Rocks to Norton	20 Rob Gorham South End - Clare Valley 38
Cassie Fisher	Clare Lane	12 Lyle Montesin Forrest Road area 60
Axelby Family	North End - Clare Valley	42 Bungendore Shop Bungendore 10
284 CO-ORDINATED BY JOHN VAN DER STRAATEN:		Ph 6238 3590
Sheryl Barnes	Denley/Kestral to End	20 Brian Higgison Deley/Birchmans - Kestral 12
Don Malcomson	Macs R -- Denley to Gum Flat	7 Rhett Cox Macs Reef /Nwngtn to Bankers 12
Mindi Hughes	Denley MacReef to Birchman's	26 Morag&Guy Cotsell MReef /Newington/Harriot (A) 30
Nora Stewart	Rovere Lane	7 Sandra Favre MReef /Newington/Harriot (B) 20
Robert&Marzena Luton	Sutton/Goolabri Area	40 Phil&Pam Dawes Donelly Rd & Lane 20
Beth Hope	Gum Flat Lane	6 Joan Milnor Birriwa & MacsReef(GmFlt-Harr) 30
Ian&Esther Rudd	MacsReef (Bankers-FedHiway)	26 Tony Bond Hogan Drive 28



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 rodgerelectrical@bigpond.com

Notes from St Andrews

by Robyn Robertson

October services will be on the 4 October – Matins, and 18 October – Holy Communion. This will also be our Baptism Renewal service and all who have been baptised in St Andrews are welcome to come along. It is always a very enjoyable service.

Advance notice of the annual 'Blessing of the Animals' where 'all creatures great and small' are invited to come along with their owners. The service is held in the grounds of the church and the extra dimension to the singing is always a treat. In the past we have welcomed donkeys, dogs, cats, rabbits, chooks, horses and they all seem to have realised the solemnity of the occasion and enjoyed the service. To all Wamboin animal lovers – we encourage you to come along and enjoy this wonderful service. It will be held on 1 November. All services begin at 9.00am.

For further information about this or any of our services please contact the Rectors Warden, Robyn Robertson on 62383202

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Raspberry Jams, Syrup and Vinegar

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Available in both 1kg and 200-300g resealable packs.

Come and see us at the markets on October 17th.

Alan and Eleanor
Ph. 62383224 Mob. 0429 434944
alan.rope@priam.com.au

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Experiencing Palerang

by Ned Noel

The Council chose Palerang as its name. Its outline (see logo above) is easily visible to the southwest from the Kings Highway, 10 K or so west of Braidwood.

Will agreed to keep me, his father, company. The website www.visitbraidwood.com.au had already made setting out much easier. It gives advice about the nature (no trail, steep and rocky) and duration (2 hrs round trip) of the climb. It gives a map and directions from Braidwood (21 km / 30 minutes). It advises buying the Bombay 1:25000 map. The Braidwood Newsagency had several in stock when we walked in at around 1 pm on Saturday, September 12.

The sealed Bombay road carried us back over a beautiful but low Shoalhaven about 10 km upstream and south of the Kings Highway Warri bridge. Then we were on narrow but very drivable fire trails through increasingly forested and green, if dry, country. We were in a 2wd Corolla. We saw only one other car, which passed us headed toward Braidwood about 10 K out of town. It was the last car or person we would see for three hours.

As shown on the accompanying map from the website, the Mulloon Fire Trail took us to its junction with the Palerang Fire Trail, the recommended starting point. From the Bombay map this point looks to be about 960 m above sea level, so from Braidwood about 18 straight line kms to the west and at about 650 m we'd gone up 310 m, a 2% grade.

If an eagle was flying from Wamboin to Mt Palerang it would not follow us. We went 45 minutes southeast from Wamboin to Braidwood then drove 30 minutes due west. On the maps it looks as if an alternate way in from Bungendore would be to go to Hoskinstown, then to drive eastward through Forbes Creek, then to take the Forbes Creek Road to the top of the Dividing Range, then to take the Mulloon Fire Trail to the spot where it hits the Palerang Fire Trail, where we were now. This way looks to be mostly unsealed and twisty. I don't know if it is passable or how slow it would be. Google Maps doesn't seem to show anything for the area -- just a sea of green.

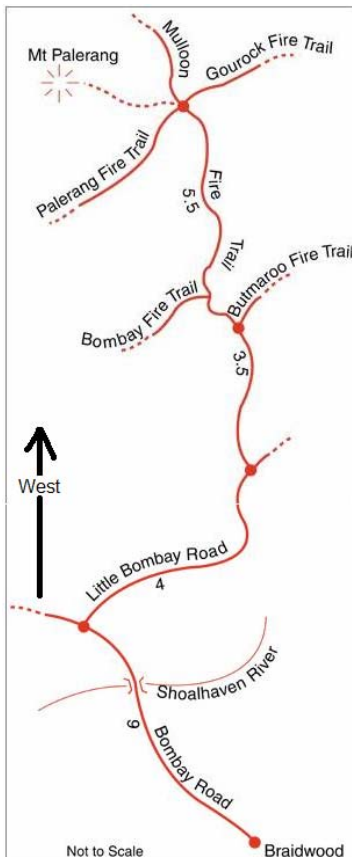
From the parking spot to the top of Mt. Palerang is 1300 horizontal meters, but about 300 up from the parking lot's 960 m to 1264 m at the top. This is a grade of 23%. The Palerang Fire Trail goes within about 300 horizontal meters of the summit, reaching a height of about 1100 m, but the grade this way would be 55%. The website says there is no real trail, so just walk upward from the parking spot, "sticking to the ridge". There didn't seem to be much of a ridge, so we just went up, knowing from the website map and the Bombay map that the peak would be about 1300 m due south.

The terrain was mostly treed, green and dry. There were many little partial tracks blending back into the bush, but nothing clear to follow. Soon we were encountering quite a few rocks, none particularly hard to clamber up if you are reasonably able. Usually we were walking on either rocks or a thick layer of dry fallen sticks and leaves. Will did it in thongs, shorts and a T-shirt. A trail or plastic coloured strips on the trees would have been helpful, but then somebody would have to volunteer to do that work or the council would have to pay for it.

Soon we did seem to be going up a ridge. Increasingly there were views. At first most were of the green mountains and farmland to the north. Soon there were some to the west, at first the valleys and hills, then of South Black Range Mtn (1261 m) 6 K to the west. Then came views of the coastal mountains to the northeast and of Braidwood closer in and due east.

A blackish snake about a meter long slipped away from us as we were walking over some rocks. We saw no other animals, but could usually hear birds. The ridge is fairly thin, so sticking to it is not hard. We looked back occasionally so as to have an idea what we should be looking for on the way down.

Getting to the top took us just over an hour, with a few rests. The summit at 1264 m has many low trees, particularly on the south and east sides. We could see Bimberi Peak (1911 m) and Mt Gingera (1857 m) about 90 km west and a little south on the western ACT border. We couldn't see, because of the trees, Mt Major, which at 1332 m is a little higher than Palerang and just 6 km due south, or see Braidwood to the east. At the summit here was a cylindrical cairn of rocks about 1.5 m high and 2 m in diameter. On this cairn was metal directional sign with many names written and scratched into it. Everything was very green. (continued on next page)



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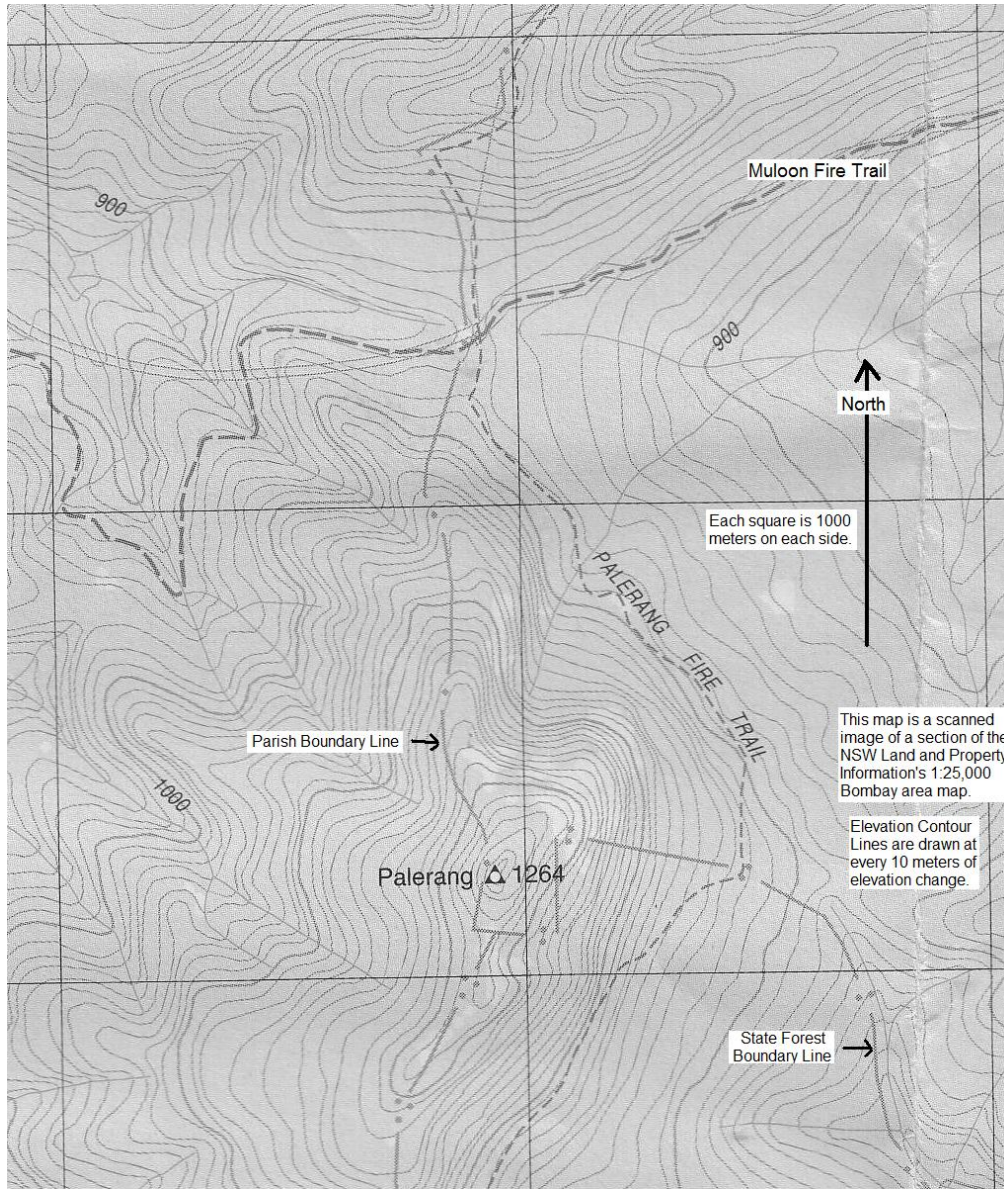
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We headed down the ridge. We tried our mobile phone a few minutes down from the top, but got no reception. Because of the numerous steep rocky descent areas we couldn't move fast. We tried to follow the ridge back down.

Questionably familiar rocks and trees made us uncomfortable. We began to realise there are more ways to miss a single point halfway down a mountain than the single point at the top. After about 30 minutes we got about 2/3 of the way down, to a point where we'd hung a grey jumper in a dead tree. We were relieved to find it. We continued descending on the ridge. It was starting to feel unfamiliar. After another 15 minutes or so we finally hit a fire trail. We couldn't see our parked car or the intersection of the Palerang and Muloon fire trails that was our starting point.

It took us a while after that to figure out whether we had hit the Palerang Fire Trail or the Muloon Fire trail. The Bombay map and a compass were helpful. Together they enabled us to guess which segment of the trail we were on. The map also showed, through its 10 m interval elevation lines, that the ridge cuts to the northwest a little over halfway down. Then it splits into two ridges. Both hit the Muloon Fire Trail at points west of the intersection. We walked eastward and up an easy grade for about 400 m, glad to find our parked car and



the intersection.

We drove to Braidwood for a coffee. Will's feet and thongs were black. We drove west out of Braidwood around 6 pm. In a few minutes we saw Mt Palerang to the southwest.

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WWoW Whispers

by Claire Aying

September has been a very busy month for the WWoW.

As a craft project we have been busy making knitted teddies which have been donated to the Queanbeyan Ambulance station where they are used as trauma teddies. The photo shows the Ambulance Station Officer accepting an armful of teddies.

On the social scene we welcomed the BoWWoW (boyfriends of the Wonderful Women of Wamboin) along for Sunday lunch where we enjoyed a wonderful gourmet lunch and a lot of fun and laughter.

Our guest speaker for the month was Tony Holland who is the CEO of Arthritis ACT. He treated us to a most interesting talk about the different forms of arthritis and how to lessen the effects of these on our bodies. He hopefully will be joining us again later in the year to talk about osteoporosis.

At the end of the month we had a curry making morning to prepare for the Wamboin bonfire and fireworks – due to the horrible weather the fireworks were unfortunately cancelled, but the people who braved the elements enjoyed a great evening of gourmet delights provided by the community groups and a great bonfire.

This month marks the third birthday of the WWoW and to celebrate we are having a morning tea – the group continues to flourish and welcome new members and ideas. Any ladies in the area are made most welcome. You don't have to be crafty; just enjoy meeting other people from this special community. Someone made the comment last week that shopping in Woolies seems to take twice as long these days as you seem to meet a WWoW in every aisle!

The group meets between 10am and noon on Monday mornings in St Andrews Church. For any further information or ideas for a WWoW activity feel free to contact Claire Aying on 62383347

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Menu for the Day

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| <i>Entree served alternately</i> | <i>Main course buffet, a choice of</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh King Prawns with homemade cocktail sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Penne Carbonara with parmesan cheese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Satay Skewers with coconut rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic salmon with a dill mayonnaise |
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 SHEPHERDS RUN

Wamboin Muse

by Jill Gregory

Rain, heavy driving rain that has filled the rain gauge and the dam, sent creamy brown water rushing down the gully and turned the fine red dust to mud. And after the rain stopped drumming on the roof, a thousand frogs reclaimed the night air, singing as if their hearts would burst with joy. I had thought that these last few weeks could not have got any better. All of a sudden, in the early dawn light, I was hearing a mix of bird calls that I'd almost forgotten, and in a magic moment chanced upon a bird bath full of fluffy black feathers; a couple of young choughs were testing the waters under a canopy of pink crab apple blossom. A baby magpie, almost as big as its indulgent mother, squawked impatiently, demanding to be fed. Spring was warming up...and then the heavens opened!

The chooks have gratefully received the bundles of weeds that I've thrown over their fence and have shown their appreciation in kind. I've even pulled out clumps of grass with worms attached. I haven't seen worms in my garden for a long time. The other day, after digging and weeding a garden that has been idle for the last year, I planted potatoes. Later a friend told me that while he was planting his potatoes, unbeknown to him, a king parrot was following behind. He looked up to see a handsome red and green bird strolling unconcernedly past him with a potato in his claw.

I've often wondered what might have gone through their minds when fresh European eyes encountered our wildlife. Looking detachedly at a mob of kangaroos the other morning, the same mob, no doubt, that had silently moved through my garden whilst I'd been asleep, I saw some very odd creatures. There were some with horrific prolapses, or at best, distended bellies, a few with two heads - the second, smaller head protruding below the chest, and others with a fifth limb, growing thin and angular in the middle of the stomach, below two withered arms. And then there were a couple that appeared similar to the one standing aside from the mob, but that one was much bigger, with broad, muscled shoulders and a smug look on its face. I counted sixteen in the group. A seasoned eye could safely assume that there were thirty one kangaroos in that mob, with more in the pipe line.

It's been a lively, changeable month, this first month of spring, not just in the garden and the bush, but in the community as well. We've had gale force winds and calm days, hot days and freezing days and nights, golden days and days blanketed by red dust, promises of rain, splashes of rain and finally a mighty deluge. The WOWS have turned three, and celebrated, the produce market is back after winter, and the annual Wamboin Bonfire roared into life on cue, a great evening despite the missing wow factor of the fireworks.

I wouldn't live anywhere else...and the frogs seem to agree with me.

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