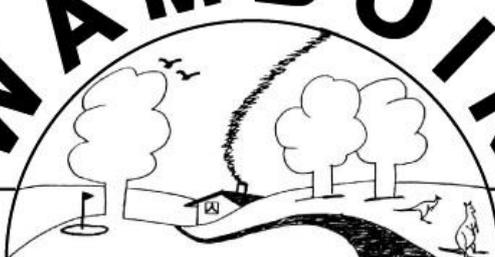


WAMBOIN



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Whisper

July 2012 **CIRCULATION: 1,266**

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

All proceeds from advertisements after printing costs go to the WAMBOIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION that started The Whisper as a community newsletter in 1981, and continues to own it. The newsletter is distributed to all letterboxes in Wamboin and Bywong (plus other localities in our fire brigade's area) at the start of each month, except January. Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. The Editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 6238-3484. Please email contributions to either nednoel@optusnet.com.au or whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au or mail them. The deadline for the next issue of The Whisper is always the last Sunday of the month, 7 pm, so for the August 2012 issue the deadline is Sunday, 29 July 2012, 7 pm. Instant Colour Press will then multiply 1 copy into more than 1200. Then the new issue will go to the volunteer deliverers 5 days later.

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

LOCAL FACILITIES AND CONTACTS

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

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

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



Wanted Properties for Sale



Jan has been receiving solid enquiry from prospective purchasers for all types of property. She has many disappointed buyers that missed out on the recent properties she has sold who are cashed up and ready to buy. Please do not hesitate to call for a FREE APPRAISAL anytime!

Jan was bought up on the land & appreciates the amount of time, expense & care that goes into any farming operation – no matter how big or small the property is.

Dams, bores, animal shelters, sheds, fences, tanks, pumps etc are all important attributes that can't be overlooked in any inspection and must be pointed out to any potential buyer.

Because of her background in farming she understands your efforts & will not miss important infrastructure that is commonly overlooked by people with less farming knowledge.

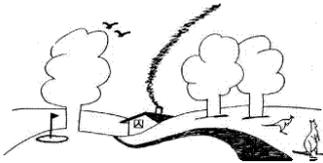
This is all factored into a FREE appraisal of your property & differentiates the price between yours and a neighbour's property.

Please don't hesitate to call her for an honest appraisal of your property.

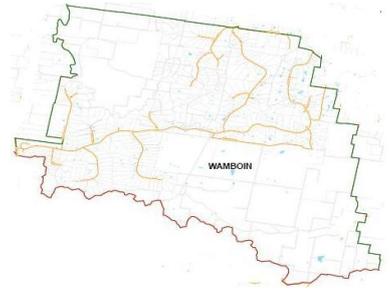
Jan Ladmore Ph: **0407 890 527** 7 Days

E-mail: **jan.ladmore@bigpond.com**

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



Wamboin Community Association President's Paragraphs



Macs Reef Road WTS — My ignorance was showing through last month when I referred to a native title claim on the proposed WTS site. The claim was in fact an Aboriginal land claim under the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983. My timing was a bit out too: the DA process will still take several more months to complete, due to the nature of the development, and construction is due to commence early in 2013.

Weed Identification — Following the recent round of property visits by the Palerang Council 'weed men', several people have asked about assistance with weed identification. I have discussed this with Council staff and the weed men (Neville and several Michaels—I did suggest to Neville that it might simplify matters if he would just change his name to Michael too) have indicated that springtime will be best for this exercise, with the characteristic seed heads being more obvious then. The current plan is for the weed men to come along to a Market Day in October/November with samples, and to then maybe visit a couple of local properties to identify weeds 'in the wild'. We will advertise any relevant details in The Whisper closer to the date.

Curry Recipes — OK, so maybe now you might want to hold off on submitting your favourite curry recipe so as to not reveal secrets before the big event, but if you get it ready now, it'll be all ready to submit (email the recipe to curry@wamboincommunity.asn.au) when everyone raves about your creation at the upcoming annual Wamboin Curry Night.

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

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

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

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

Jolly old July
the market @ bungendore

Sunday July 15th 9am - 3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

All your favourite stalls
Come along for a browse
Enjoy a variety of refreshments

jewellery		glass art
giftware		homewares
tea & coffee		greeting cards
local art & craft		beads & findings
garden products	honey	pottery & ceramics
toys & models	preserves	local grown plants
cakes & pastries	hand knits	prints & paintings
soaps & lotions	candles	fruit & vegetables
picture frames	cookies	clothing & footwear

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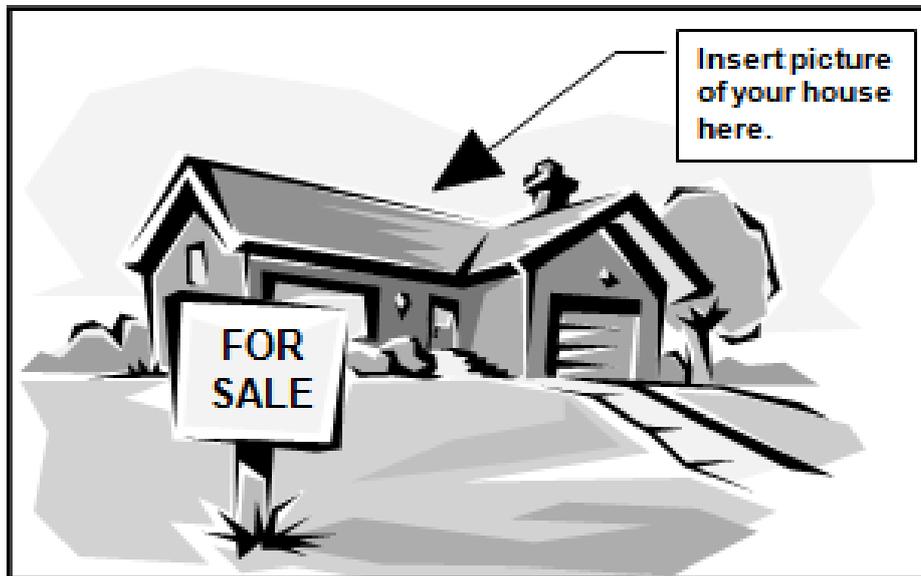
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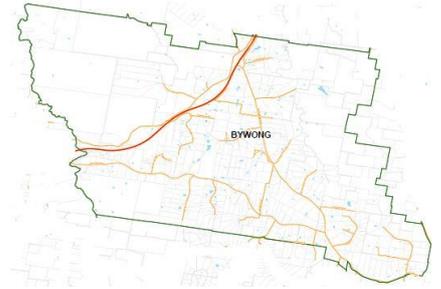
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Bywong Community News

www.bywongcommunity.org.au

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



Trivia: Hurry! Hurry! July 14 is the date for this year's Bywong Trivia. What else happened on that day? Our Trivia guru is following the lead of our press moguls in moving away from the printed word, and our worthy parliamentarians have so demeaned our language that we are also cutting down on reliance on the spoken word – so watch out for yet another moving-with-the-times all-visual version of the Bywong Trivia Challenge.. Pencils are a-sharpening (yes, you will still have to write down the answers!) and the hall's recently installed gas hobs are a-warming in anticipation of the winter soups. So be there! If you haven't already booked Greg Gougeon still has a few tables left. For bookings ring him on 6236 9841.

Donations: Our last news noted that the Community had donated some of the proceeds from the Car Boot Sale to the Fire Brigade, the Bungendore Scouts and the Bungendore Park Tennis Club. At our last meeting we approved a further donation – this time to the Bungendore SES, who also of course cover our area. We probably can't offer them much employment stemming from floods, but we certainly have storms which test their mettle from time to time.

Constitution: The July meeting will again consider amendments to the Community's Constitution. The new draft we hope has something for everyone (including free membership!) but still has to satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act, which may make it sound rather solemn in parts.

Project Projector: We believe we can give better service to our community and smooth the path of people who are kind enough to come and address us by providing a projector for use in the Bywong Hall. We are looking into procurement.

New Blood? Please help make sure that Bywong interests are represented on our next Council by helping us find people from our area who are willing to stand in the forthcoming Council election. Sadly our hardworking Community Secretary, Anne Goonan, will not be standing, but has found her work as a councillor richly rewarding and offers the following advice:

"Now the next term of Council is open for your taking. It would be encouraging to see not only several local candidates come forward - but a range of candidates as well - including women, younger members, and ethnically diverse candidates. With the three female councillors leaving and over-representation by an older age group, Palerang could do with some diversity! I urge you to think seriously about it.

"For me, one of the most rewarding and enriching aspects of being a Councillor is the contact with people from across the shire. At the same time I was learning about the parts of Palerang I never knew about such as Snowball, or Gundillion. I've watched movies at Araluen, got my feet wet in Captain's Flat, and clocked up kms on the Burra roads!"

Next Meeting: The Community Committee will meet on Monday 9 July. All locals are welcome to attend. The meeting is at 7.30 in the Bywong Hall in Birriwa Road.

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It feels so good!
Tuesdays 10 -11:30 am
Sutton Hall

Beginners welcome!

Term 3 starts 17 July 2012
Maureen – 0402 900 033
enjoy.yogawithmaureen@gmail.com

**ANNUAL
CONTEST FOR
THE BYWONG
TRIVIA
CHALLENGE**

TRIVIA CHALLENGE 2012



SATURDAY 14 JULY - 7.00pm

**AT THE BYWONG COMMUNITY HALL,
BIRRIWA ROAD, BYWONG**



- **FORM YOUR OWN TABLE (MAX 8) OR ASK US TO INCLUDE YOU IN A TABLE**
- **WE PROVIDE A CHOICE OF SOUPS, ROLLS, TEA & COFFEE**
- **BYOG AND NIBBLES**
- **ONLY \$10 PER PERSON**
- **LIMITED TABLES**
- **TABLE AND INDIVIDUAL PRIZES**

**BOOKING WITH GREG GOUGEON
PHONE 6236 9841 OR EMAIL
jungle44@iinet.net.au**

You can get more information about this and other events by going to our website www.bywongcommunity.org.au
The 'Wamboin Whisper' is also available on the website

Successful Councils Represent Their Community's Diversity

by Cr. Anne Goonan

This statement appears on the page of the Division of Local Government (Department of Premier and Cabinet) along with a list of reasons why we need more diversity in Councillors. The elections for Palerang Council will be in September 2012

A good team is made up of a range of individuals with their varied strengths. It is 'interesting' work being a Councillor - at best the experience is challenging, rewarding, enlightening and most times- satisfying. With your specific awareness of you own locality you can ensure that its concerns are better represented. As a member of the Palerang community you will be an advocate for and become more engaged in the wider Local Government Area. This is 'grass roots' government - at the local level. Please give some thought to putting in for your Palerang community.

A couple of thoughts for you to consider are -

- the under-representation of women in Councils. While they are approx. 50 % of the population, only 27% of councillors are women
- the lack of younger age groups in Councils given the median age of the population is approximately 37. Councillors tend to be drawn from the 50-69 age bracket

The Division of Local Government has produced the following resources as part of the Candidate Diversity Strategy:

- [Thinking about becoming a councillor? A guide for candidates in NSW](#)
- [Stand for your community. Be a councillor](#) brochure
- [Stand for your community. Be a councillor](#) brochure for women
- [Stand for your community. Be a councillor](#) brochure for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- [Stand for your community. Be a councillor](#) brochures in community languages

If you are thinking of standing for election- two very important dates are

30 July 2012 when Nominations open for Candidates

AND 8 August 2012 (12 Noon) which is the Close of Nominations for Candidates

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

June rainfall to 24/6 ... 42.5mm	June 2011 ...18.5mm
2012 rainfall to 24/6 ... 504.0mm	(2011 to 30/6 ... 313mm)
Average July rainfall ... 53mm	(July 2011 ... 36.25mm)
Wettest July ... 142mm in 1993	Driest July ... 4.5mm in 1982
Hottest July day ... 15C on 22/7/79	Coldest July day ... -3C on 25/7/11
Coldest July night .. -5C on 10/7/96 and 12/7/11	



BUNGENDORE SOCIAL TENNIS

If you would like a friendly game of tennis, join us on Tuesday mornings at the Bungendore Park Tennis Club (corner Butmaroo Street and Turallo Terrace)

For more information call 6238 1381 or 6236 9212 or just turn up at the courts from 10 am on Tuesdays




LIQUID FERTILISER

Certified Organic Microbe Concentrate Liquid Fertiliser
Great for gardens, vegetables, horticulture and pasture
1L—\$10.00; 5L—\$30.00; 20L—\$110.00

Biological Cleaner Concentrate 1 L - \$35.00

Spray & Wipe - Washrooms - Bathrooms - Laundries - Kitchens - Showers - Vanities - Mirrors - Urinals -Toilets - Sinks - Glass - Drains - Floors - Ovens - BBQs - Wall Tiles - Wheelie Bins - Rubbish Bins - Ceramic Floors - Change Rooms - Waterless Urinals.
1L makes 10 litres. Septic tank friendly



Wee Off 750ml - \$30.00

Urine, stain and odour removal - Hard or soft surfaces - Carpet, upholstery, mattresses - Hospitality industry
Animal enclosures, pet shops - Aged care facilities and nursing homes - Child care and kindergartens

Chris Fowler—Ph: 62369189 and at the markets
Local distributor—South Coast Organic Fertilisers; Bio Natural Solutions

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

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

168: CO-ORDINATED HELEN MONTESIN: ph 6238 3208

Fay Kelly Norton Rd West Area from Cmpbl Pl 20
 Helen Montesin Fernloff Rd 33
 Julie Veal Poppet Rd (for all on road) 32

Bill Owen Cooper Rd 26
 Stuart Whitten Canning Cl 17
 Alan Rope Sutton Rd 40

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

Joan Mason Bingley Way 48
 Sue Ward Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona) 32
 Trish Rice Majors Cl 18
 Ned Noel Pal Cncl (14), Advertisers/ Misc (45) 59
 Kathy Handel Yalana West 19

Margaret Heleimin Merino Vale Dr 17
 Anne Gardner Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors) 31
 David Anderson Weeroona Dr (Majors to Denley) 36
 Penny Evans Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley) 24

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

Lesley Page Valley View Ln 4
 Colleen Foster B'dore Rd to Nrtm Rd 22
 Cassie Fisher Clare Ln 12
 Dominica Lorima North end Clare Valley 42

Deb Gordon Yalana East 42
 Rob Gorham South end Clare Valley 38
 Lyle Montesin The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks 60
 Bungendore Foodworks Bungendore 10

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

Sheryl Barnes Denley Dr (Sth End 1/2 way2 Kestral) 15
 Don Malcolmson Macs Reef Rd (Denley to Gum Flat) 7
 Connie & Hans Bachor Dnly Dr to Macs Rf Rd incl Bchm Gr 28
 Nora Stewart Rovers Ln 7
 Carol & Clive Boughton Macs Reef Rd (Bankers to Fed Hwy) 30
 Beth Hope Gum Flat Ln 6
 Kevin Beier DenleyDr (Kestral2 1/2 way 2SthEnd) 15

Brian Higginson Denley Dr (Birchmans to Kestral inc) 12
 Rhett Cox Macs Reef Rd (Newington to Bankers) 7
 Morag & Guy Cotsell Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwgtm& Harriott 30
 Sandra Favre Macs Reef Rd b'n Nwngtn& Harriott 20
 Joan Milnor Birriwa Rd plus Macs Rf Rd to Harriott 30
 Tony Bond Hogan Dr/Orana Dr/Yuranga Dr 35

140: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 6238 3425

Michael & Jose Deane FdHwSvcRd/Bidges/Hickey/O'Gold 63
 Robert&Marzena Luton Sutton Park Estate 48

Jenny Bryce Wattle Flat Rd 11
 Penny & Russell Ball Macs Reef (Denley Dr to Bungdre Rd) 18

202: CO-ORDINATED BY KEVIN ANDERSON ph 6236 9333

Phil & Pam Dawes Donnelly Rd & Donnelly Ln 25
 Kevin Anderson B'dore Rd (Macs Reef to Summerhill) 35
 Kerrie Gougeon B'dore Rd (Fed Hwy to Summerhill) 25
 Sue Aunella Brooks Rd 21

David Featherston Summerhill and Creekborough Rds 25
 Diana & Keith Gascoine Snowgum Rd 26
 Chris Fowler Shinglehouse & Millyn Rds 20
 Richard Holding Wyoming & Doust Rds 25

TOTAL 1,266

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Firewood - Wamboin . Top quality, well-seasoned mixed ironbark and blue gum firewood. Will not find better. Burns hot and long. \$230 for 1 Tonne. Please ring for more info and delivery inquiries. M: 0414 955 657 or H: 6236 9073

MATHS TUTORING: K-6 and 7-10, Encouraging and expert coaching by Judy Shellard BSc(Hons.), Dip Ed. \$25 per half hour (time, duration, and location negotiable). Please ring to discuss your child's needs. Judy Shellard 62 383 050 or jshellard@bigpond.com

GARDEN MAINTENANCE. After all this rain let me help you with cleaning up and improving your garden: turf and fertilising advice, hedge and shrub trimming, spraying, mowing, edging, irrigation, green waste removal, whipper snipping, planting, mulching , tree and branch removal, sleepers and paving. Minimum of two hours and then negotiable. Have own equipment. Qualified in Turf Management and currently undertaking further studies in landscaping. Ring Michael on 0408 400 740.

CELEBRANT – Weddings, Civil Patnerships, Namings, Vow Renewals, etc -- Lorraine 62303321

PHOTOSHOP TUTOR and PHOTO RETOUCHING. One-on-one tutoring in Adobe Photoshop CS or Photoshop Elements. Or if you need help improving your digital images, scanning old photos, or any other digital photography tasks, contact Christine on 0412-766-682.

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

FIREWOOD. Mixed hardwood. You load 6 X 4 box trailer \$100. 6 X 4 box trailer delivered \$130. Larger loads delivered by arrangement. Saturdays and Sundays only. Ph 6238-3164.

Convert those precious memories from VHS or VHSC Video to DVD, Records and Cassette Tapes to CD, right here in Wamboin. Act now before they are lost forever. Fast turnaround. Only \$12 per Video and from \$12 per Record or Cassette. Phone Vicky or Tony Holland on 0403 069018.

CHOOKS WANTED – Any age & roosters. Phone Frank on 6297-3523 to arrange collection.

Beekeeping Services, Beeswax & Local Award Winning Honey. Prompt removal of swarm bees and hives that are no longer wanted. We can also remove feral hives depending on location. Fee charged depending on distance travelled and the type of job required. Pure bees wax candles, beeswax blocks and award winning local honey for sale; available bottled or in bulk. Phone or see us each month at the markets! Call John or Tricia - Ridgiedidge Apiary 6238 3791. www.ridgiedidge.net.au

Large Holiday house situated in Tuross, 180 degree Ocean views, opposite shops, 2 minute walk to beach, large block for parking, available now. Discounts apply for Wamboin/Bywong residents. Please phone Cherrie 0418 621 462 for details.

ADVERTISING RATES: Local classified advertisements are free, as are announcements from community organisations and clubs. Business advertisements pay printing and Community Association Projects. Contact editor on 6238-3484 for information. Advertising rates: Full Page - \$120 Half Pg - \$60 1/3 Pg \$40 1/4 Pg - \$30 1/5 Pg - \$25 1/8 Pg - \$20

FOR HIRE from the Wamboin Hall: A 4 Burner, Hooded BBQ with side burner. Half cast iron plate and half grill plus temperature gauge. \$50 (includes gas) together with \$30 cleaning bond. Both payable on collection. Bond refunded if BBQ is returned clean. Enquiries - Joan Mason 6238 3258.

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

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Early Spring Walk in Bywong -- Saturday 25th August 1.30- 4pm approx by Nora Stewart

Join us for an early Spring walk through some lovely parts of Bywong.

How long? We plan to walk a 5-7kms loop along local quiet and disused roads and through some lovely grassland. The terrain is relatively flat and not difficult walking, although some sections may be a little rough.

We anticipate the walk will take between 1 ½-2 ½ hours and the exact route will be decided closer to the day.

Where from? The walk will be starting from the junction of Woolshed Lane and Macs Reef Road, Bywong. Parking will be on the Northern side of the junction and will be signposted.

Who is this for? All Bywong & Wamboin residents are welcome, and anyone from the Palerang area. We welcome children, and dogs on leads.

Who with? Your walk guide will be Nora Stewart. Please email nora@SetDancing.com.au or call 62303305 (after 5 August) for more details or watch the Bywong Community website www.BywongCommunity.org.au



This walk forms part of a program of public walks brought to you by the **Greenways Renewal Working (GROW) group.**

GROW aims to increase the network of public access ways / greenways in the Bywong & Wamboin locality, connecting with other areas of Palerang, to facilitate residents, visitors and other interest groups to undertake a range of safe, quiet non-motorised activities whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment for all to enjoy.

GROW works in collaboration with the s.355 Greenways Management committee, Palerang Council, and is part of the Bywong Community Association.



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The Great Wamboin Curry Night

By Lofty Mason

While checking through the Whispers I found it interesting to note how many of our present annual events have become 'Traditional'. Golf started on the 6th of October 1986 and Curry Nights, in support of Golf, in the 90s.

I note the format of 'The Great Wamboin Curry Night' is unchanged. The idea of a Community get together with an obvious conversation item and all at a reasonable cost was the backbone. A warm Hall plus tables and chairs are all that is provided.

The original concept of a gold coin entry fee, everyone bringing their own curry, which is shared, in fact also bringing their own plates, cutlery and drinks has stood the test of time. I also note Dave Hubbard is always mentioned as an organiser.

The Great Wamboin Curry Night is on again on the 18th of August.

If you require further information, contact Dave Hubbard – 62383 308 or Pete Harrison – 62383 525 or even me on 62383 258.

Sooty Cat – Lost from Poppet Road

Sooty was an engaging little pitch-black stray cat who turned up on my doorstep several months ago, just after the vet told me my previous cat had a limited time to live. I adopted the little black cat and, after the older cat died, Sooty became the resident indoor cat. He decided I needed constant company, and any time I was stationary for more than two seconds Sooty was on my lap, shoulders or back purring.

Last Saturday (23rd June) he went out for his usual half hour wander at lunchtime and hasn't been seen since. Sooty was a friendly, demonstrative little cat, a delight to have around, and over the few months he has been here has become very precious. So, if you have seen him, have any information regarding his whereabouts or know anything at all about his disappearance, could you please let me know. Thanks. -- Jo Walker (62 383 415)



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The Wamboin Firefighter

The Wamboin Firefighter newsletter is produced by the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade for the benefit of residents and property owners in the brigade's area. The Brigade's area covers the localities of Wamboin, Bywong, and Sutton (south of the Federal Highway).

TO REPORT FIRES OR SMOKE SIGHTINGS RING



Planning a burn off – notifications and other considerations

The Brigade would like to thank residents who have been doing the right thing with their planned burn offs and informing their neighbours and the local Fire Control Centre at least 24 hours in advance of the planned burn.

Outside the declared bushfire danger period (normally 1st October – 31 March) a Fire Permit is not required to burn off in the open. If, however, you do plan to light a fire in the open, you need to notify:

- o your neighbours at least 24 hours before you light the fire, and
- o your local Fire Control Centre (Lake George Zone FCC in Queanbeyan) on 6297 1840 during weekday business hours at least 24 hours before you light the fire.

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

Management, including containment of a fire originating on your property, is your responsibility. If you are contemplating a pile burn please ensure there is a sufficiently cleared area around the pile, that you are appropriately dressed, and have an adequate continuous water supply to contain or extinguish the fire. You will find that a pile that is no greater than 2 metres long, no greater than 1.5 metres high works best; it will be more manageable and produce less heat.

Should the fire escalate to become more than you can handle, don't hesitate, ring Triple Zero (000).

No Plan Dan



'No Plan Dan' – you've probably seen him – typically he's on the television news; always during the bush fire danger period – up on a roof in all his glory. Thongs, singlet, shorts, weeping hose; determined against the odds to quell the raging bushfire that is nipping and sniping and raining embers as it threatens to devour the house and, were he to think about it for a second, himself.

'No Plan Dan' hasn't really planned for the bush fire season. The RFS experience is that, 'sure, he'll tell you he has a plan, but it won't be fully thought through. It won't be written down.' He might have a copy, possibly even two, of the NSW RFS Bush Fire Survival Plan that the NSW RFS has been promoting and making available for several years, but they sit around incomplete or untouched.

It is really important that you prepare for and know what to do during a bush fire. Knowing what to do could save your life and the lives of your family members and pets. We need you to help protect your community by making sure you are prepared and have a current Bush Fire Survival Plan.

Our aim and our hope is that there be not one 'No Plan Dan' or 'I Really Must have a Plan Fran' in our community. Do you have a fully thought through Bush Fire Survival Plan? Have you discussed it with your family? Please use the remaining winter months to ready yourself, your family and your property for the coming bush fire danger season.

Rural fire brigades including ours use winter to check brigade supplies, and make sure that all our machinery and equipment is in good working order. If your bush fire survival plan involves your reliance on taps and pumps and nozzles and hoses or other equipment and tools, it's a good time for you to do the same.

(Acknowledgment: much of the material including the graphic re 'No Plan Dan' is drawn from the RFS Firewise eNews June 2012.)

A few suggestions to help you prepare for the coming bush fire season

WINTER	
Remove dead vegetation from around your home and prune lower limbs of trees.	Ember-proof your home, for example: check roof for loose tiles and gaps and repair as necessary.
Seal any areas under your home, verandas or balconies.	Prepare/review/update your Bush Fire Survival Plan.
SPRING	
Slash or mow long grass and remove any build-up material.	Check/service equipment, e.g. grass cutters, water pumps, sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers.
Remove leaves from gutters.	Review and update your Bush Fire Survival Plan.
Cut back trees overhanging your home.	Identify and assemble items that will form part of your Bushfire Survival Kit (<i>refer NSWRFs Bush Fire Survival Plan booklet</i>).
Remove fallen branches and other debris.	

There is a real risk of grass fires this coming bush fire season because of the grass growth over last summer. Grass fires can spread rapidly, catching people off-guard. Ideally you should maintain short green grass around your house and buildings.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

Callouts:

The Brigade received one call-out during June. On Saturday 9th June at 12.38am the Brigade pagers were activated in response to a motor vehicle accident on Macs Reef Road near Harriott Road in Bywong. The accident involved just the one car and a kangaroo. Fire crew attended in one of the Brigade's heavy tankers as well as the Captain in the Brigade's Personnel Carrier. Crewmembers returned to the Fire Station shortly after 2am.



Training:

Training activities in June focused on the use and application of foam as a fire-fighting tool; familiarisation of the foam system connected to the fire fighting pump on the brigade's tankers and, later in the month, area reconnaissance.

Hazard Reduction:

On Sunday 9th June, the brigade assisted a resident with a notified burn where some of the newer members of the brigade got to experience how much heat can be generated even in a relatively small fire; they also learned how effective a small amount of foam 'laid' between a fire edge and unburnt fuel can be in minimising the risk of the spread of fire to the surrounding vegetation.



On Sunday 16th June, the brigade joined Sutton and Gundaroo rural fire brigades in a hazard reduction exercise on a property west of Sutton Village. Unfortunately, circumstances conspired such that only a portion of the planned 10 hectare burn was possible.

In slightly better conditions, on Saturday 23rd June a Wamboin crew assisted the Bungendore Brigade in a successful planned burn.

Annual General Meeting:

The Brigade held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 12 June. In place of the usual practice of a number of people presenting discrete reports at the AGM, the brigade prepared an integrated Annual Report for 2011-12 with a view to providing members with a seamless picture and record of Brigade activity during the year. The Report is also a useful reference tool for planning and review purposes. An electronic copy of the Annual Report has been distributed to all members. Anyone else who would like to receive a copy of the Annual Report should contact the Brigade Secretary by email: secretary@brigade.wamboincommunity.asn.au with your request and provide your contact details.

During the meeting, President Ian Coillet and others acknowledged and thanked the brigade's supporters including the people of Wamboin and Bywong, and areas of Sutton that fall within the Brigade's area; the two Community Associations of Wamboin and Bywong, as well as the various businesses, individuals and other groups for their interest, participation, generosity and encouragement. Assisted by this ongoing support, the brigade continues to be in a sound financial position and has not needed to go to the community since 2009 to formally seek donations. While the past two relatively quiet bush fire seasons in the brigade area have helped reduce the drawdown on brigade funds, some of the key equipment items and professional services purchased during the year included truck-mounted plus portable fireground radios, pagers, Medium Rigid driver licence training, emergency oxygen kits, hose fittings and a map printer. Thanks were also extended to brigade members for their commitment and support, and to the families of members for their support and understanding.

An election for Office Bearers for the next 12 months was conducted with the following results:

Office Bearers			
Administrative Officers		Field Officers	
President	Ian Coillet	Captain	David Cochrane
Vice President	Peter Greenwood	Senior Deputy Captain	Richard Hobbs
Secretary	John Taubman	Deputy Captain	Geoff Foster
Treasurer	Neville Schroder	Deputy Captain	Matt O'Brien
Support Crew Coordinator	Wendy Downs	Deputy Captain	Col Prest
Community Education Officer	Geoff Foster	Deputy Captain	Neville Schroder
Equipment Officer	Tim Barter	Deputy Captain	Brad Arrowsmith
Training Officer	Matt O'Brien	Deputy Captain	Cliff Spong

FURTHER INFORMATION

Wamboin Brigade Website

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

Brigade Information 'Shop Front'

As the Wamboin Local Produce Market is in its winter recess (July and August) the next market day brigade 'Shop Front' will be in September in line with the re-opening of the produce market.

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

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



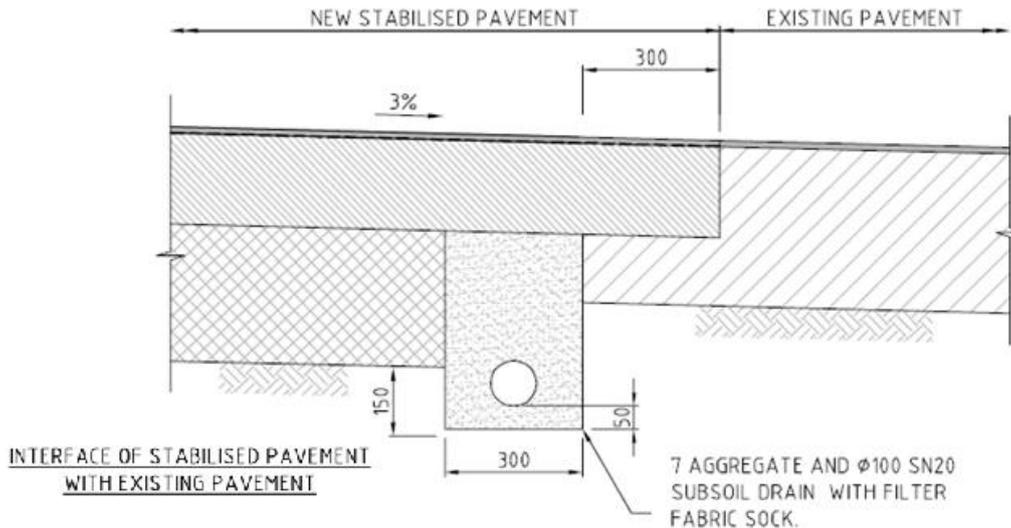
PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Chalkboards

The chalkboards are managed by the Wamboin Community Association for the use of local residents. The boards are approved by the Palarang Council for notices of a community nature and for urgent personal notices. The boards **must not** be used for commercial notices. These will be erased, as the Whisper is the correct site. Do not use crayon or anything but **chalk** to write your notices. Please erase your notice when it's time is up with the same enthusiasm as it was written. To prevent the structures from becoming an eyesore, the boards will be cleaned on a regular basis. Finally, please do not tape signs to the chalkboard as the glue ruins the surface of the board. - Lofty M for WCA.

Sutton Road Upgrade (Correction to Last Month's Article)

Due to a mistake on my part the diagram below was omitted in the article last month. It should have appeared at the first page of that article rather than the drawing that was printed (a duplicate of the cross section in the centrefold). It shows the way the new pavement at each end of the new section will be linked into the existing pavement. - Ned Noel



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**Wamboin 15 Years Ago, from the Whisper of July 1997 (and August 1982) Circulation: 600
by Robyn Robertson**

The community was as busy as ever, with plans for the Curry Night, Bonfire Night, Golf and Tennis events. However it is worth reprinting the "15 years ago" in salute of one of Wamboin's long-term organisations - the Pony Club - now 30 years old! Well done Pony Club.

" With more than half the year gone it is encouraging to look back over this period at the growth and development of the club. From an unofficial start the club now has an elected committee, has prepared a draft constitution and an official application to the Pony Club Association of NSW is presently being processed. On 8 August the club is to hold its first Rally Day on the new ground located within the Wamboin Recreation Reserve in Bingley Way. It will be an exciting occasion and a milestone in the history of the club." From the Wamboin Whisper, No. 4, August, 1982.

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BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

By Lofty Mason

Another 'Traditional' event is **The Bonfire and Fireworks Night** which was first held at the 'Bingley Way Recreation Reserve' on the long weekend in June 1983. The Bonfire was then situated on what is now the south eastern corner of the car park. Fireworks were brought by those attending and they were augmented by a fireworks display by trained WCA members.

The evening was designed as a get together and a fund raising event for local groups.

The site of the Bonfire has been moved further away from the buildings, the date has been moved to a warmer part of the year and, due to legalities, the Fireworks can only be displayed by a professional group. With many stalls operating and up to 2000 people attending the night remains as a major fund raising event for local groups.

The Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Night is on again on the 22nd of September. The August Whisper will be requesting Bonfire Material. Groups in the area will be contacted to ensure there is a good supply of food, drinks etc. on the night. All we require is your support.

St Andrews and St Peters Church Notices

The proposal for St Andrews, Wamboin, and St Peters, Sutton, to join as "one church, two campuses" is still under consideration by the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn. However, it is hoped that this will become a reality within the next few months.

At the end of June, members of both congregations celebrated St Peters annual Patronal festival with a social evening and a special Sunday service. In all it was a very happy event. In mid July we look forward to another Baptism at St Andrews. This is always an occasion of great joy. On 29th July, there will be a combined 5th Sunday service at St Andrews followed by a meeting of the congregation. Amongst matters to be discussed will be the proposed alterations to St Andrews interior, and the direction of annual donations to charities and institutions.

We have been fortunate this year to have the Rev. Vicki Cullen ministering to us, and the continued lay preaching of Dr David McCarthy. Both have resided in Wamboin and know their community well.

Newcomers are always warmly welcomed and will find an excellent morning tea and lively conversation after each service. St Andrews Services: 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9am, St Peters, 2nd and 4th Sunday at 9am Contacts: Wamboin: Robyn Robertson (Church Warden) 6238 3202 Sutton: Peter Cartwright (Church Warden) 6230 3202

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KANGAROO MYTHOLOGY

by Maria Taylor

Recent discussion in the *Whisper* shows that even people well-disposed to our resident wildlife may subscribe to some unexamined myths and assumptions about Eastern Grey Kangaroos.

One is that kangaroo populations can “explode” and quickly grow to plague proportions. This is a biological impossibility for a species that can carry only a single live young annually and where high infant mortality is the norm, 70% being a figure mentioned. Much more likely in this region and in the ACT is that kangaroos aggregate as they are pushed around by development or seek shelter from a lethal gun culture on surrounding rural properties.

Another myth is that there have never been so many kangaroos in the history of Australia (why not when Europeans were able to graze squillions of sheep on the same native pastures?) and that improved pasture and dams have prompted so-called “overabundance” (a value not a scientific assessment).

Bathurst ecologist Ray Mjadwesch spent two years exploring the data and the literature on kangaroos and makes persuasive arguments countering these myths. For instance he highlights a natural kangaroo growth rate of about 3-8%. This presents a mathematical problem for managers who suggest a 15%, 30% or 40% kill rate is a sustainable number (40% being suggested in the ACT management plan), based on questionable counting methods and assumptions. You’ll find his whole thesis and research at www.kangaroosatrisk.net and a story in the June issue of the *District Bulletin*.

Ray found the idea of population expansion thanks to European settlement is widely held and self-serving. He shows that in fact after 20 years of “harvest” the industry keeps population numbers looking stable only by moving into new territory like SE NSW since 2004

What does the historical record indicate? He writes: “historic accounts generally describe the kangaroo as “abundant”, “plentiful”, “numerous,” and provides a page of example, a few of which are repeated below.

1788 NSW Port Jackson “*Kangaroos are very numerous here*”

1790 Tench “*They’re sociable animals and unite in droves to the number of 50 or 60 together*”

1802 Barrallie “*The hills were covered by kangaroos*”.

1813 Blaxland: *8 mentions of kangaroo in 18 page journal, the party ate kangaroo for much of their crossing of the Blue Mountains*

1814 Sydney Gazette “*the immense forests which formerly abounded in the wild animals*”

1814 Historical Records of Australia (1921) referring to Evans crossing the Blue Mountains “*he saw numerous kangaroos*”

1814 Cox “*Timber thin and kangaroos a plenty*”

1815 Macquarie [Bathurst] “*On return we saw some Emus and Kangaroos*”, “*We saw a large Flock of Emus in Princess Charlotte’s Vale, and a great [number?] of Kangaroos, Pigeons, Quails and a few Wild Geese*”

1818 Oxley “*flocks of kangaroos like sheep. I do not exaggerate when I say that some hundreds were seen in the vicinity of this hill.*”

1819 Howden “*Kangaroos appeared in great numbers*”

1820 Oxley “*tiring of killing kangaroos he might have hunted emus with equal success*”

1820 Macquarie “*We saw a vast number of the large Forest Kangaroos in this mornings Excursion*”; “*We saw and hunted many Flocks of Kangaroos in the course of this days Ride and killed three of them*”; “*In the course of our Ride we fell in with 3 or 4 small Herds [of kangaroos], some of which we hunted, and the Commissioner enjoyed the sport amazingly*”

1828 Sturt “*There were very many kangaroos, the intervening brush was full of kangaroos*”

1831 Mitchell (frequent reference to kangaroos, including “*...numerous pigeons and also kangaroos shewed...*”)

1833 Bennett “*Kangaroos and emus were numerous*”

1833 Cross in WA “*numerous herds of kangaroos*”; “*kangaroos and birds in abundance*”; “*kangaroos and birds in great abundance*”; “*saw many large kangaroos on the plain*”

1839 Mitchell (numerous references to kangaroos, including “*swarms*” along the Murray)

1841 Bridle (1969) describes Hall (Grampians) “*kangaroos abounded in the forests*” & “*kangaroo soup, in its abundance, ceased to have any attraction for us*”

1850s Wheelright (1979) describes HW Wheelright (hunter, naturalist and writer) as having, in combination with another party “*shot at least 2000 kangaroos within a short distance to the south-east of Melbourne*”

1870s Schumack “*plague proportions*” in the ACT region

1897 Saville-Kent “*the larger species of kangaroo, where abundant, so seriously tax the resources of the Australian pasture lands as to necessitate that adoption of stringent measures to keep them in check*”, resulting in “*the complete extirpation of the ‘Boomer’ throughout a large extent of the prairie-like tracts of Australian pastoral land on which it abounded previous to the advent of the settler*”

Some historic accounts of kangaroos: (compiled from Marjorie Wilson OAM (2004), Auty (2004), Croft (2005) and by Mjadwesch (for this nomination)). Note: the author has not chased down source documents and personally sighted all of these accounts.

Ray concludes that humans have in fact displaced kangaroos. He writes of himself: “The author works as an ecologist, often out in the field, often in rural and remote areas, conducting flora and fauna surveys 99.9% of the time all the author can see is people, houses, roads, fences, paddocks etc. For 99.9% of the population, they can truthfully say the same 100% of the time. A tiny fraction of the human population, the author amongst them, can sometimes look out of the window and see kangaroos.” Wamboin and Bywong residents are indeed fortunate to be part of that tiny fraction.

WAMBOIN HOME PRODUCE MARKETS

Wamboin Community Hall 112 Bingley Way

Contact – Joan Mason, Ph. 62 383 258

Wamboin markets are now in recess for the winter months. We break for July and August. My thanks to all the stallholders who have come along each month for the past 10 months, also to all who have supported the markets each month, either to buy, or to socialise, meeting in 'The Olde Coffee Shop' for coffee or something to eat. Enjoy your break and hopefully we will see you all again when we resume on

15th SEPTEMBER, 2012. (3rd Saturday – 9am – 12 noon.)

Cub Scouts in Wamboin

by Elizabeth Taylor

(Editor's Note: Due to a mistake on my part this article appeared last month without the contact details at the end.)

The Wamboin Scout group has been dormant for a number of years for want of leaders. Several families with children between the ages of 8-11 (Cub Scout age) have expressed an interest in revitalising it. Melinda Hillery, Craig James and I are prepared to share the job of pack leader(s). However, before we invest the time and effort required to qualify, it would be useful to have a show of hands from anyone else who might be interested in getting involved.

We need enough children in the 8-11 age group to form a viable pack (at least ten). We also need parents who would be willing to help from time to time with testing and badge-work as well as camps and excursions. Ideally, we also need another leader (preferably a man) to share the load. Peter Harrison has programmes and resources in place which will lighten the burden for leaders considerably.

For those who are unfamiliar with Scouting (as I was, until recently), the aim of Scouting is to encourage the physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual development of young people so they may play a constructive role in society as responsible citizens and as members of their local and international communities. This aim is achieved through a strong and active program that inspires young people to do their best and to always be prepared. For more information you can refer to the Scouting NSW website at www.nsw.scouts.com.au

Reforming the Wamboin Cub Scout group is a great opportunity for local families to invest in their children, get involved in the community and enjoy this beautiful place we all call home. It will be fun! Please let me know if you are interested (even if that interest is only tentative) and we will see if we have enough momentum to get this off the ground. You can contact Elisabeth Taylor on 62369896 or email: elisabethtaylor@bigpond.com.



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Australia's Biggest Morning Tea (ABMT) Polly Boiled the Kettle Again

by Pauline Segeri

It is with great pleasure I announce to all of you wonderful supporters that we have raised \$6200.25 in the 2012 ABMT for Cancer Research. Thank you, cause without the support I receive I could not do this. I salute you for braving the weather, which turned rather nasty in the afternoon. Thank you to so many of you that contributed in so many ways. I feel it is much safer for me not to mention names as I am bound to leave someone out. I am forever indebted to each and every one of you. However, I do want to mention four very special people – my husband Stefan who works tirelessly before and after the event, my sister Jane whom I could not keep up with and her husband Robert and last but not least, Thank.

Our highlight on the day was Thanh's Spring Rolls. Thanh made and sold 280 Spring Rolls giving our guests a choice of freshly cooked rolls or frozen to take home for a later date. Many chose to do both! Another treat was playing several games of Bingo. This was a great success giving winners various vouchers to the value of \$20. Certainly to be repeated next year. Other activities were the guessing the weight of a cake and a wine carafe of all sorts of liquorice, number of lollies in the jar, two raffles (1st Raffle had 13 prizes), brand new merchandise including lots of pure silk products and Cancer Merchandise for sale, silent auction, noisy auction, trading table, jewellery and of course lots and lots of food with hot drinks and pumpkin soup.

Last but not least, I sincerely appreciate the gratitude I receive from all of you for my efforts. I am wholly aware, and repeatedly tell you, that I cannot do this without your support. My husband's motto "if a job is worth doing, it's worth doing well". The end result is clear, \$6200.25 clear!!! I look forward to organising Polly to put the kettle on again in 2013.

Thank you everyone.

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Councillor's Corner

Earthworks (again) — I had an enquiry recently about the conditions that had been imposed in relation to a new rural residential development. Seeking to take advantage of a contractor working in the area, the applicant had constructed an access roadway and building pad on the new property prior to receiving notice that their DA had been approved.

There are two problems here. The first is that, as a general rule, if you intend to undertake earthworks that require the use of a machine, there's a fair chance that you'll require development approval (although landscaping, gardening and paving are generally exempt) and, as such, no work should be commenced until the relevant DA is issued. The current LEP defines earthworks as "filling or excavating land to the extent that existing drainage patterns or the use to which the land may be put, or both, are changed, and includes the construction of dams and access tracks and the rehabilitation of erosion gullies by backfilling". That's a pretty broad definition.

The second problem is that the conditions set for earthworks in a particular situation can vary depending on the applicable Catchment Management Authority—the conditions imposed by the Southern Rivers CMA (eastern Palerang) may not be the same as those imposed by the Murrumbidgee CMA (western Palerang). Both tend to apply conditions above and beyond those that appear in Council's own planning instruments (LEP and DCP). The upshot of this is that it's important to understand local CMA conditions—they will all be specifically identified in any DA—before undertaking any earthworks. Don't leave this to a contractor—they might be familiar with the conditions applicable in one CMA, but not another, or they mightn't be concerned at all... At the end of the day, compliance is the responsibility of the property owner, not the contractor. In the present case, while the works satisfied basic Council requirements for an unsealed roadway (maximum gradient 15%), they did not satisfy the requirements laid down by the local CMA (maximum gradient 10%). These conditions were all laid out in the DA approval letter, a good reason to have waited for it before starting. The result was a requirement to seal the road, or build a new one, either option costing many additional tens of thousands of dollars.

To add insult to injury, unapproved development can attract fines that start at \$1,500, and invalidate your insurance policy. If you're not sure whether or not a development activity requires approval, check with Council first—it doesn't cost anything to ask.

The Palerang Blog—At the time of writing, I hadn't added anything more to my councillor website Blog (<http://peteharrison.id.au/blog>). But you never know what might appear before Sunday!

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

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



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Let's Shout About The Whisper

By Lofty Mason

The following is a list of 'The Whisper' editors showing the dates they operated and the number of Whispers printed.

Derek Gough	July 1981 – December 1983
The Masons	June 1984 (145 copies)– June 1989
The Nordsvans	July 1989 (210 copies) – February 1990
Jans/Frazer/Bedford	April 1990 – June 1993
Ned Noel	July 1993 (325 Copies) - -----→(1248 copies)

Next month I will offer my final piece on the history of The Whisper, which will be the reproduction of all the Whisper Banners/Mastheads used.

Editors Make 1 Copy - He Made Hundreds Every Month for A Decade

By Ned Noel

In reading Lofty's Shouts About the Whisper over the past months another part of the story keeps coming back to me. For about a decade, from around 1990 through around 2000, Max Klempke of Bingley Way, using photocopiers and paper provided by Bruce CIT, worked one night a month to make a copy for every resident.

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Wamboin Golf

by John Whitney

This months June event was sponsored, as usual, by Lambert Vineyards, with the eats, nibbles and kitchen duties overseen by Steve. Stroke-play was the order of the day and our visitors were Jenny Warren and Peter Reid. Ted Evans, who decided not to don the plus fours this month, enthralled the gathering with a Googley Ball story about a well known local male identity and his dilemma with putting.

Winners & Grinners: The 9 hole event was taken out by Larry King, well known local male identity, with a score of 43/30, second would have been Steve Lambert, but we all know the rules about sponsors, so Peter Greenwood took those honours with a 45/34, Lofty Mason coming in third with 53/39.

The 18 holers, although small in number, pushed each other until the very end. Winner, with a 84/59 was Paul (Comrade) Griffin, second Tim barter on 79/66 and third Matt O'Brien with 104/73. Ball winners on the day were Tim x4, Paul and Matt x2 with Peter G and Rob G taking home just one. Two members received the credited NAGA awards this month, namely Rob Gorham and Ron Shepherd.

Next months event will be played using the complex and taxing GST set of rules. Come and join us for this traditional event - 12:30 from the Community Hall in Bingley Way, Wamboin. All Welcome.

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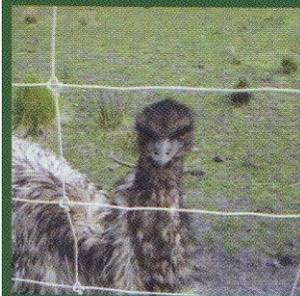
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Wamboin Muse

Jill Gregory

It's always a rather special feeling, turning off the bitumen onto the red gravel road, driving through the trees and suddenly being home. We'd been away for several weeks, but home was still there, just waiting for us.

It was empty and eerily quiet to begin with, though, as if the cold had chilled the sound. The chooks, ducks and lamb were still away, reportedly having blotted their copy books at their holiday camp, but I soon realised it was not just their absence that I sensed. All the native birds had vanished, too. Gone were the screeching cockatoos with their wailing offspring and their lightning flash of wing, gone were the warbling magpies as they queued for breakfast on the verandah rail. There were no king parrots, rosellas or galahs in evidence, and even the hopping choughs and thieving ravens had vanished. But the faithful kangaroos had stayed around, steadfastly keeping an eye on things. On my first morning walk, forty pairs of soft brown eyes followed me, bodies erect and motionless like overgrown meercats in the silent, rising mist. The rabbits had stayed, too, but with less concern for our property. They'd obviously enjoyed one long picnic and had invited all their friends and relations to join in!

We'd been "up north", travelling the backblocks and avoiding the exodus of grey nomads from the south, who moved like snails on the main roads with their homes on their backs. Northern caravan parks appear to exist simply as temporary retirement villages. Was there anyone over 65 years of age left behind? We crossed the watershed of the Great Divide and saw a sign telling us that we had entered the Lake Eyre Basin. It was like entering another world, a cultural shift, something akin to arriving at your incense filled yoga class wearing Channel No.5! Amongst others, I exchanged a few words with a young blonde barmaid, a mere slip of a thing behind an enormous bar, whose passion was racing camels, and whose ambition was to drive heavy machinery in the mines. It was refreshingly different. We soaked it up.

Back home life quickly resumed its familiar pace. There were mountains of leaves to be raked into piles and composted, a muddy chook yard to muck out, and a reform school to build where our delinquent ducks could serve out their time. As I was scratching through a scatter of yellow, orange and brown litter, crisp and soggy beneath stark naked trees, I came upon a memento of summer past...a champagne cork! Winter is a quieter, slower time in the garden. I read somewhere that the true beauty of a garden is that, unlike the chaos and messiness of normal life, it is a place where you have control. I have never been in control of my garden! I am forever one step behind, mopping up in its wake and hoping that the gods will smile kindly on my little patch of dirt rather than mock my feeble efforts. Perhaps it is being out of control that I cherish most in my garden.

It's always good to get away...but it's even better to come home, especially to a winter garden....I wouldn't live anywhere else...and by the way, does anyone know of a holiday camp for ducks on parole? We might need a new camp next time.

Land for Wildlife

I can understand what Murray Goodridge is saying (Wamboin Whisper June 2012) and he knows full well how hard we work to look after our land. The difficulty I have is with the unnatural preservation of kangaroos that grow to plague proportions and then have to be culled or die from starvation after stripping the countryside. Murray himself acknowledges in his letter that kangaroos destroy the growth of young trees, they do upset the ecology. As said before, we have up to 100 kangaroos on our property constantly each evening. These kangaroos cannot be contained in corridors.

- Genevieve Cramsie, Bywong

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