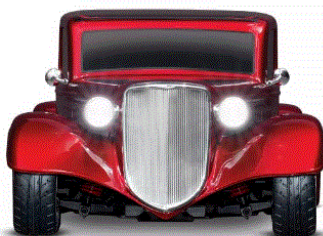


# WHEELS OF WAMBOIN



## SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

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**BLACKSHAW**

**The Wamboin Whisper:** The Whisper is a monthly community newsletter established in 1981 by and owned by the Wamboin Community Association. The Whisper is printed at EnvoPrint in Fyshwick at the start of each month, excluding January. It is distributed to every letterbox in Wamboin, Bywong and Queanbeyan-Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Each issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the month and is also then available at [www.wamboincommunity.asn.au](http://www.wamboincommunity.asn.au). Any proceeds from advertisements in The Whisper after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association.

## Bywong and Wamboin Facilities and Contacts

<b>Bywong Community</b>	Justin Jarvis - President	0404 460 568	president@bywongcommunity.org.au
<b>Bywong Hall Bookings</b>	Bookings Officer		<a href="mailto:lrrhallbywong@gmail.com">lrrhallbywong@gmail.com</a>
<b>Church - Anglican</b>	Gai Donald - Warden	0438 400 364	<a href="mailto:peterandandrew2012@gmail.com">peterandandrew2012@gmail.com</a>
<b>Community Nurse</b>	Heather Morrison - Bungendore	6238 1333	
<b>Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade</b>	Neville Schroder - Captain	0409 991 340	wamboincaptain@gmail.com
<b>Geary's Gap Pony Club</b>	Cameron Smith	0419 449 747	
<b>Golf</b>	Ken Gordon	0455 839 840	ken.gordon1962@gmail.com
<b>Injured Wildlife</b>	Wildcare – Helpline	6299 1966	
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Andrew Stainlay – JP	0408 469 880	stains@bigpond.net.au
<b>Justice of the Peace</b>	Leanne (Lee) Ward – JP	0411 207 317	<a href="mailto:leannefward@gmail.com">leannefward@gmail.com</a>
<b>KYB Bible Study Group</b>	Robyn Doran	6238 3469	rdoran4@bigpond.com
<b>Landcare</b>	Kathy Handel - Treasurer	6238 3596	khandel@bigpond.net.au
<b>NSW SES (assist – storm/flood)</b>	NSW Call Centre	132 500	
<b>NSW SES Bungend. (non-urgent)</b>	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	
<b>Sutton School Playgroup</b>	Felicity – Contact Person	0413 174 204	Playgroup.sutton@gmail.com
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Mike Muston	0406 606 238	mikemuston@gmail.com
<b>Wamboin Community Assoc.</b>	Jenny Richards - President	0490 020 165	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
<b>Wamboin-Bung. Book Group</b>	Sally Saunders	0419 303 229	sally.saunders1@bigpond.com
<b>Wamboin Hall Bookings</b>	Joan Mason	6238 3258	joan.mason@internode.on.net
<b>Wamboin Markets</b>	Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
<b>Wamboin Play Group</b>	Denise Lang – Co-ordinator		wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com
<b>Gearys Gap Pony Club</b>	Kate O'Connor, President	0413 008 824	<a href="mailto:gearysgap.ponyclub@gmail.com">gearysgap.ponyclub@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Pony Club</b>	Stacey Burgess -Contact Person	0414 672 979	<a href="mailto:wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com">wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wamboin Thurs Social Grp</b>	Narelle Pumphrey	0438 917 206	<a href="mailto:pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au">pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au</a>
<b>Greenways Mgmt Commtee</b>	Kathy Handel - Chair	6238 3596	<a href="mailto:khandel@bigpond.net.au">khandel@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>Wonderful Women of Wamboin</b>	Gail Ritchie Knight	0416 097 500	whirlwind1@argonite.com.au
<b>ARF (Rescue Dogs)</b>	Lisa Whitney	0408 260 796	<a href="mailto:lisawhitney059@gmail.com">lisawhitney059@gmail.com</a>

**Young Entrepreneurs:** Rebecca Purdie – pet/horse sitting 6238 3343

Grace Taylor 0490 758 476 baby sitting and tutoring for primary school students [gracetaylor145@gmail.com](mailto:gracetaylor145@gmail.com)

Kathleen Dunkerly - baby sitting - 0435 794 070 [kathleen.dunkerly07@gmail.com](mailto:kathleen.dunkerly07@gmail.com) Elly and Rex Collins - house cleaning 0418 979 474.

**Contributions to the Whisper:** Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 0409 997 082. Paul Downey of Cooper Road also shares the editing. Please email contributions to [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or mail them or drop them off. On contentious matters the Wamboin Community Association will strive to maintain a balanced view, by seeking advice from the editorial team and by seeking alternative views to be published in the same edition. The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before. There is, by tradition, no January Whisper, mainly to give all its volunteer workers a rest. The **deadline for the May 2024 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, April 28, 2024.** Advertising prices, per issue, based on rough fraction of inside the margins A4 area: 1/8 \$24 1/6 29 1/4 \$35 1/3 \$44 1/2 \$70 2/3 \$97 Full Page \$140. email or phone the editor as above.



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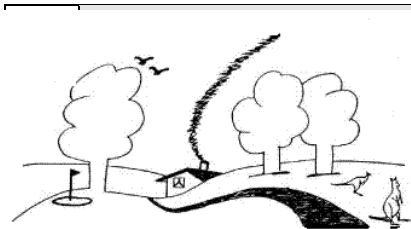


43 Bingley Way, Wamboin \$1,650,000

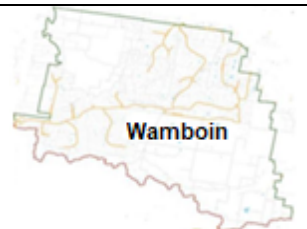


1/119 Creekborough, Bywong \$1,650,000





## President's Notes



Well here we are April. Easter is behind us but ahead is the Wonderful Wheels of Wamboin.

**1. Annual General Meeting. Yes its that time of year again – the Annual General Meeting happens this coming month on Tuesday 16th April.** At this meeting all positions on Executive and Committee are to be voted on. More information regarding this will be available further on in this edition of the Whisper. This is also a very good time to re-new membership. Forms will be available on the night and remember joining costs nothing but you get to air your concerns and problems in a sympathetic area. Sometimes we can even solve them. Meeting begins **7:30 pm at Community Hall, Bingley Way.**

**2. Wheels of Wamboin.** Yes it's on again – the **Wheels of Wamboin.** This outstandingly successful event, organized completely by Pete Evans features anything with wheels (engines are an optional extra but a decided advantage). This event will be held on **20<sup>th</sup> April at the Hall** and will run in conjunction with the normal monthly markets – so plenty to eat and drink on the day. No doubt Pete will have an article in this edition of the Whisper outlining what to expect and when to arrive. Just a reminder that because of the **Wheels** the normal monthly market will run from **9 am until 1 pm** this month.

**3. Social Drop In Group.** There are a number of social group in Wamboin who make use of the Hall at different times and days of the week. The **Social Drop In Group** is a comfortable group of older residents who come on Thursday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00 for a cuppa, play a game or Scrabble, cards -- anything you want really. The Coordinator is Narelle Pumphrey and she is delighted to welcome everyone. If you just want to pass a bit of time in a relaxed environment contact Narelle (see front page of Whisper for contact details) and see if you can make it to one

of the Drop In sessions.

--- Well that's it for now.

Come along to the local events and enjoy. - **Jenny Richards – President.**!!!

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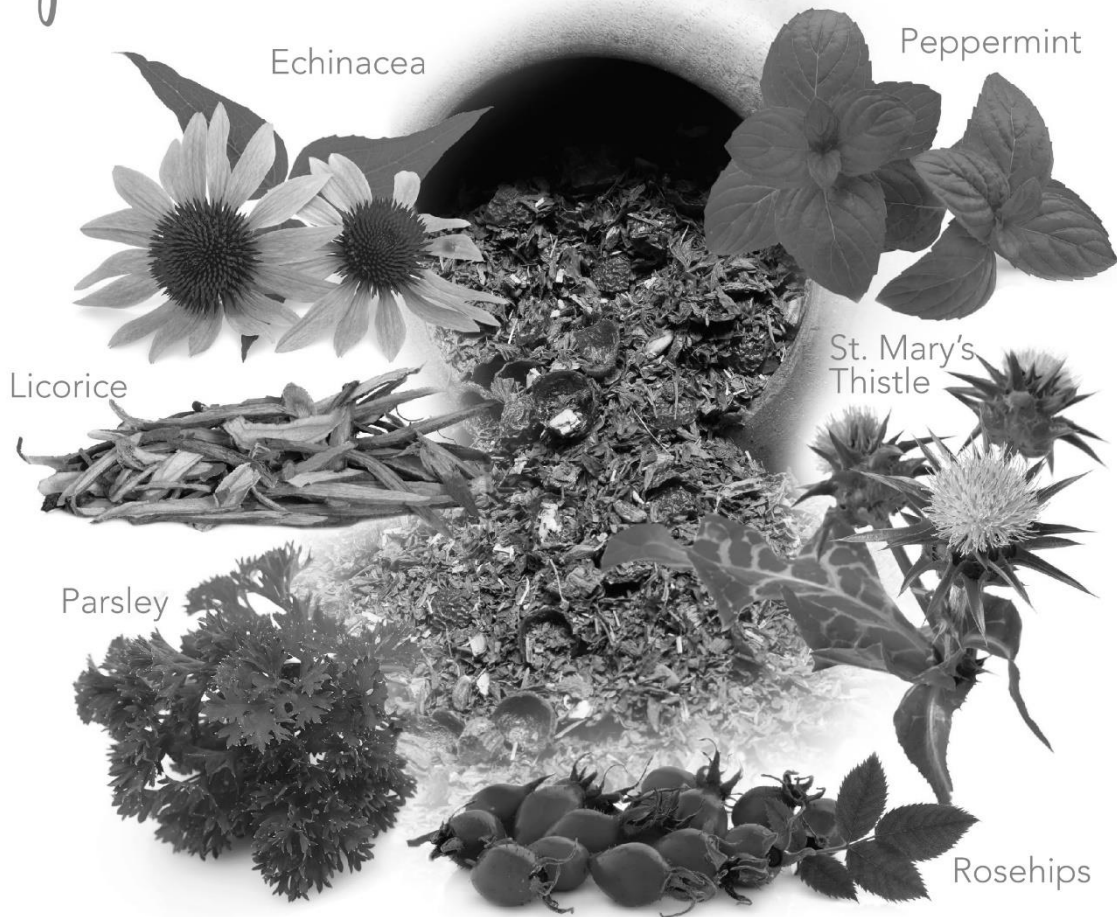


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### Bywong News

Hello whisperers! It was a beautiful day for the car boot sale last weekend showcasing the wonderful job the council did to tidy up the grounds for us ahead of the day. We had a steady stream of sellers and buyers. Entertainment provided by the Geary’s Gap pony club, Devonshire tea by the Bungendore Guides, stalls from Landcare and Possumwood wildlife rescue. Thank you to Dave and Linda from O’Sullivan’s Waste, a local company, who over many years have provided our rubbish bins for the day and Lorne for the ATM service! The BBQ was woman- and man-ed by our dedicated Bywong Community association committee and volunteer supporters and of course, a massive shout out to the RFS for all their help safely corralling the car parking across the day. This is our major fundraiser for the Community Association and from this years event we have collected money to fund our insurances for the year.

We are open for ideas to make next years’ event even bigger and attract more local shoppers and help us all work towards less waste and more re-use!

What’s on this month: We’re doing some research into what grants might be available for the community - whether it’s for care of the Greenways, infrastructure or social connections. We want to know what you care about so please send us your thoughts via the Facebook page or to our email [President@Bywongcommunity.org.au](mailto:President@Bywongcommunity.org.au) We’ll have another community day in the next few months and planning has started for our annual trivia night (watch this space for more news closer to the time!)

- Justin Jarvis, BCA President.

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# The Wamboin Firefighter

FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

By Don Evans

Callouts and what we have been up to.

The brigade has been busy with training and callouts. The last month has had: 4 x MVA's.

## End of the fire season 2023/2024

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

PLEASE USE QR CODE TO NOTIFY US WHEN BURNING

The end of the statutory fire season period ended on 31 March 2024. This means you can burn off from April 1, 2024 until 30 September 2024 without a fire permit. There are other mandatory things you HAVE to do (By law). Those things are: An online notification, (QR code attached) where you identify your property and agree to comply with some rules and regulations. ALSO, you must notify ALL your adjoining neighbours. BOTH of these, you must do at least 24 hours prior to lighting the fire. Failure to do both of these can result in our, or other brigades responding to what might be thought of as an out of control fire, and wasting the time of volunteers and paid RFS staff. The RFS recommends that burning off is done in the off season and during the cooler months, when the fire risk is low. Burning off what is known as a "pile burn" is permitted. Piles should be no

more than 1.5 metres high and a recommended width of 2 metres wide or long. Pile burns should be located well away from buildings, power lines and trees. Material should be dry and vegetation only. No pallets, treated pine or building materials should be burnt. Large bonfires are not pile burns, and can throw off huge amounts of radiant heat which can damage buildings and powerlines that might be considered a safe distance away. They are also very hard to extinguish and control once lit. These recommendations are provided for your safety, and can be found on the RFS website, "Standards for pile burning". Burning off larger areas of native vegetation or a "Hazard reduction" will require approval from your fire control centre and possibly environmental approval. Contact your local fire control centre if in doubt.

## Safe Burning

Even if you've been using fire on your property for years, safe burning is your responsibility. Every year, fire services attend to hundreds of fires which start due to the careless use of fire. In some cases, fires have been lit illegally. Many have escaped, threatening homes, crops and livelihoods. There are simple things you can do to make sure you use fire safely on your property and avoid becoming the fire risk to your community.

### ON THE DAY

**Check weather conditions like the fire danger rating, wind and temperature.** Permits may be suspended during bad conditions. If there's a total fire ban, no fire is allowed out in the open.

**If the fire gets out of control, call Triple Zero.** It's important that you monitor the fire and have firefighting equipment on hand. If you have any problems, call Triple Zero (000) immediately

### AFTER

**Extinguish the fire and monitor it.** Keep an eye on the material or area you've been burning and call Triple Zero (000) if the fire causes any concern.

Membership enquiries	Wamboinmembership@gmail.com
Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade	<a href="https://wamboin.rfsa.org.au">https://wamboin.rfsa.org.au</a>
NSW Rural Fire Service	<a href="http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au">www.rfs.nsw.gov.au</a>
Wamboin Facebook page	<a href="#">Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade</a>
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## WAMBOIN WEATHER – rainfall and temperature records

### March Rainfall Stats

March rainfall to the 31<sup>st</sup>..... 57.0mm  
 2024 total rainfall to 31/3 ..... 243.5mm

### April Rainfall Stats

2023 April rainfall..... 117.0mm  
 Wettest April..... 174.5mm in 1989  
 Wettest day..... 70mm on 20/4/84  
 Driest April..... 0.5mm in 1997

### April Temperature Stats

2023 April maximum.....27.8°C  
 Av. April temp.. 13.1°C (day+night comb.)  
 Hottest April day..... 31.7°C on 4/4/21  
 Hottest April night..... 16.5°C on 13/4/18  
 Average day temperature..... 18.0°C  
 Warmest April..... 2018  
 (Av. max day temp. 24.6°C & night 9.7°C)  
 (warmest night temp. 11.0°C in 1989)

Average March rainfall..... 59.7mm  
 2023 March rainfall..... 71.25mm  
 2023 total rainfall to 31/3..... 211.0mm  
 48yr Av. to end of March..... 179.1mm

Average April rainfall..... 47.3mm  
 Average no. rain days in April..... 7.2  
 Highest no. rain days..... 19 in 1989  
 Lowest no. rain days..... 1 in 1997

2023 April minimum..... 1.0°C  
 April 2023. Av. max 20.3°C & min 7.1°C  
 Coldest April day..... 8°C (4 times) on  
 13/4/94, 27/4/09, 26/4/12 & 22/4/15  
 Coldest April night..... -1.6°C on 22/4/21  
 Average night temperature..... 8.2°C  
 Coldest April ..... 2011  
 (Av. min day temp. 14.5°C & night 5.7°C)  
 (coldest night temp. 3.5°C in 2013)

(49 years from Cooper Road) by Christine Rieber March 2024 was the hottest March on record (in 48 years) with the average daytime maximum temperature being 27.1°C which was

0.8°C hotter than the previous hottest March. The lowest daily maximum temperature in March was 20.2°C which was 1°C higher than the previous lowest March. The average number of March days with a maximum temperature above 30°C is 1.9, and in 2024 we had 7.

Save the Date for The Wamboin Mid Winter Ball 20th July 2024 at the Wamboin Community Hall.

### OPRC Mobile Library

The QPRC Mobile Library bus will be at the Wamboin Hall from 10.30-11.30am on Thursday 4 and 18 April 2024, and then fortnightly. The Mobile Library provides a wonderful opportunity to borrow books, CDs, audio books etc. Please support this great service. After you have visited the library drop into the Social Group and have a cuppa.

### Wamboin Thursday Social Group

The Thursday Social Drop In Group operates each Thursday morning from 10 – 12 noon at the Wamboin Hall, Bingley Way. The group provides a wonderful chance to meet up with some local residents. If you have some time free on a Thursday morning pop in, have a game of scrabble, or rummykub, a cuppa and chat. New people are very welcome to attend.



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## Wamboin Pony Club

Wamboin pony club has started the year off with a bang! At the end of January a number of the riding members enjoyed a weekend in Bredbo for the Murumbatmen double chance sporting event. Members camped down in Bredbo for the weekend and competed both Saturday and Sunday in some fast-paced sporting events. As well as competing all weekend the riders enjoyed a walk down to the river and a bit of a swim with their horses.

WPC did something a bit different for the first rally day of 2024. Many of the members headed down to Moruya on the 10th and 11th of February for a weekend of camping with their ponies. We were also joined by a few Queanbeyan and Moruya PC members. Everybody arrived on Friday afternoon and evening at the Moruya pony club grounds and set up their camp for the weekend.

On Saturday riders were put into four groups, riders were grouped together based on their age and the height they would be jumping. Each group spent an hour doing x-country, sporting, poles and musical ride. After a hard day of riding we headed down to the Moruya bowls club for some dinner.

Some upcoming events for our riders are Zone 16 pony club camp and Wamboin mounted games. PC camp will run the first week of the school holidays in April down at the Bungendore show grounds. So pop in and say hi! In May Wamboin PC run a mounted games competition for all ages and members of PC.

Contact Stacey on 0414 672 979 or by email at [wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com) our secretary for more information on when our next rally day is. Facebook: Wamboin Pony Club

Pony club grounds: 79 Canning Close Wamboin - by **Sammi Quick**

## WATTLES (Acacia sp.)

Don't let the word put you off when you think of the 'common' wattles you see around the area that are often chewed by cockatoos sourcing the luscious and fat witchetty grubs they love. These wattles regularly have die back on their branches and can look a bit tatty to our eyes due to the grub boring away inside them. There are many other varieties that grow well in our region and aren't necessarily attacked by borer.

I've just helped with the Bywong/Wamboin Landcare plant sale at the Bywong Boot Sale and we had quite a few trays of various wattle species ready for planting but relatively few people were interested in buying them. When asked why, most people said they had plenty of wattles and didn't need any more. However, I suspect that unfamiliarity of the beauty and usefulness of this amazing species of plants is to blame. Apart from the fact that there is usually a species flowering most months of the year, the bees and birds love them, they add nitrogen to the soil, they grow rapidly and therefore form a protective canopy to other longer-lived plants and they are beautiful in their own right. I can't think of another reason to grow them: Except for the fact that some are a great source of wonderful timber; they add colour and texture to our gardens with their silvery grey foliage, various hues of green, long or fat, pointed leaves and an amazing variety of lemon, bright yellow and different types of flowers.

Yes, I'm a fan and have a wide variety of wattles planted including *Acacia fimbriata*, *A. covenyi*, *A. hamiltoniana*, *A. mearnsii* and *A. melanoxylon* to name just a few.

If I've convinced you to plant a couple or more come along to our last sale this season at The Wheels of Wamboin as the soil will still be warm enough to plant before the frosts set in and hinder root establishment. We will have plenty of wattles along with eucalypts, ti-trees, bottlebrush and many other native plants. - **Vicki Still**

Thank you if you delivered, wrote something for or ran an ad in this April 2024 Whisper. 100 or so of us had a hand in one or more parts of creating it, delivering it and paying for an ad and so paying to print it. Can you write something to the upcoming May 2024 issue? If so, you'll be contributing something to life inside Bywong's and Wamboin's 1300+ homes. Deadline is 7 pm, last Sunday of April, so Sunday 28 April - Ned Noel, volunteer editor, mobile 0409 997 082 or [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au) or [whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:whisper@wamboincommunity.asn.au)

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## 2024 Wheels Of Wamboin 20<sup>th</sup> April

It's our 10<sup>th</sup> year and what a ride it has been. From humble beginnings to over 420 automotive marvels last year. This year the Shannon's big green super rig is back with racing simulators and the great upper deck viewing platform. Once again our very own Wamboin RFS will man the gates and the BBQ with proceeds once again to the RFS, our much valued and local native wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centre, Possumwood. and Camp Quality. Donation is still a gold coin or whatever you can spare.

Just some little organisational notes. General public and spectators are welcome from 9am so it is best to get our automotive treasures in from 7.30.am. This reduces interaction with spectators and allows us to organise the parking easier and minimises the queue getting in. Remember as per previous years space on the oval is limited so if you turn up late you may not get a spot. The show runs from 9am to 1pm with the only trophy, the much valued peoples choice awarded around 12 noon. The trophy is voted by the people for their favourite treasure.

The home produce markets will be on with a wide variety of stalls including Lou's coffee. There will also be a ice cream van this year. So grab your friends, family, kids, grandkids and anyone else and make a day of it at Wamboin. Ponder and reminisce of days gone by and remember when things in life were simpler and you could fix them yourself. Follow our facebook page for updates or more info at [wheelsofwamboin@gmail.com](mailto:wheelsofwamboin@gmail.com) - See you at Wamboin. - Peter Evans

### Letter

A brief note in support of Andrew Groom's call for landowners to be good neighbours in regard to blackberry control. I'd also like to emphasise the need for residents of our beautiful countryside to be considerate of their neighbours, as seeds do not respect boundaries. Our worst weeds are a problem at landscape level - we all know them, in Wamboin/Bywong its blackberry, serrated tussock, St John's wort, for starters. Needless to say, if we all made an effort it would be easier for everyone. - David Johnson, Bywong



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## Kowen Kapers - Kowen Forestry Settlement

By Peter Komidar

The Kowen Forestry Settlement was one of four such settlements established in the ACT. The other three being at Uriarra, Pierces Creek and Stromlo. Forestry settlements were isolated villages that provided permanent homes for forestry workers and their families. Such settlements were necessary at a time when the forests were distant from urban areas, road connections were basic and communication services poor. The provision of job-tied accommodation for workers also helped secure a stable workforce for the industry and provided for enhanced fire surveillance and management over the summer months.

Apart from the Kowen Homestead itself, the earliest forestry buildings were erected early in the life of the plantation and by the mid 1950s workers huts had been constructed throughout the forest including along Kowen Rd, Seven Mile Rd and Welches Rd. During the late 1950s the decision was taken to consolidate all buildings at the Kowen Forestry Settlement and over time the outlying buildings were bulldozed. Some traces still remain such as a rubble pile with traces of crockery within the pine forest near the corner of Kowen Rd and Macquarie Rd.

With centralisation, the Kowen Forestry Settlement took on the appearance of a village and continued to expand until 1972 by which time, along with the repurposed Kowen Homestead, there were 15 weatherboard houses, a forestry depot, workshop and site office and an orchard. The village had power and telephone connections as well as potable water from a bore that still exits today. The 1960 and 1962 plans of the site included a tennis court and community hall. However these were never realised.

By 1979, the historic Kowen Homestead, decaying through lack of maintenance, had been demolished and the same fate awaited all the other houses as time passed. By the late 1980s, changes in mechanisation of forestry operations meant that a full complement of workers was no longer required in Kowen and as the cottages became vacant they were leased as low cost rural accommodation. With lack of proper maintenance, the condition of the cottages continued to decline and in the early 1990s the decision was taken not to renew leases once they expired with the buildings demolished as they became vacant. By the turn of the century only the depot and 'the House that Jack Built' (on the corner of Jack's Break and Welches Rd) remained intact. In subsequent years these too were bulldozed.

Today, only scattered building footings, some orchard remnants, the bore and water tower remain. Ironically, less than a decade after demolishing the depot workshop, a new workshop made of shipping containers had to be constructed. While abandoned as a settlement, the area is still an important site, housing the storage facility for pine saplings prior to planting. It is also the focal point of the Kowen (dirt bike) Forest Ride and the Kowen leg of the Rally of Canberra.



**Route description:** Refer to the route outlined in the March 24 edition.

Once you reach the Old Homestead Picnic Ground, continue along the road heading south for a further 800 m. The most obvious clues that you have arrived are the water tower, a fenced bore, the remnants of an orchard and the concrete foundations of the forestry depot and workshop. As you explore the general area you may also discover the footings of other buildings scattered about the area. The return journey from Bingley Way is 10 km.

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Date	Kowen Events: April - May 2024	More Info
April - Sept	Canberra Sled Dog Club - Training/Social Gathering - Old Homestead Picnic Ground	<a href="https://www.canberrasleddogclub.com/about-us">https://www.canberrasleddogclub.com/about-us</a>
5-7 April	Rally of Canberra, Race village at old Kowen Forestry Settlement	<a href="http://rally.com.au/rallyofcanberra/">rally.com.au/rallyofcanberra/</a>
20 April	Canberra Bushwalking Club - Glenburn Heritage Precinct walk - Kowen	<a href="https://canberrabushwalkingclub.mybilby.com/activities/2639">https://canberrabushwalkingclub.mybilby.com/activities/2639</a>



## How the Whisper Gets Into Your Mailbox Each Month

Thanks very much to Derek and Leigh Morris, who have delivered 20 Whispers to Wyoming Road for many years. Thanks also to David and Connie Jansen who have offered to take over this task. Without the month by month donation of time by the residents listed below, it would be impossible for Wamboin and Bywong to have the Whisper. Please remember all the residents listed below, as they do what they do in order to make Bywong and Wamboin a little bit friendlier and more sociable. Without the businesses who pay to advertise in the Whisper we could not pay for printed copies. Finally, the articles, invitations and notices you read in each Whisper are only there because one of your neighbours took the time to write it.

174: CO-ORDINATED BY ALICE SCOTT: ph 0407 005 506 email [alice.scott178@gmail.com](mailto:alice.scott178@gmail.com)

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

177: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 6238 3596 [khandel@bigpond.net.au](mailto:khandel@bigpond.net.au)

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

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

Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	4	Deb Gordon	Yalana East	45
Colleen Foster	BdoreRd BtwnJoRocks&NortnRd	25	Dominica Lorima	Norton Rd – North End	44
Cassie Fisher	Clare Ln	12	Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	65

204: CO-ORDINATED BY GARETH JONES Ph: 6238 1988 [givrjones@bigpond.com](mailto:givrjones@bigpond.com)

Sophie Davis	Weeroona (254 – 400)	18	Susie & Brad Edwards	Weeroona (417-512)	17
James Houlcroft	Macs Reef Rd (DenleyToGumFlt)	7	Maria Taylor	Birriwa Rd & Gum Flat Lane	19
Nora Stewart	Rovere Ln	7	Justin Jarvis Smith	Macs Reef Birriwa to Harriott	14
Megan Wallace	Harriot Rd	28	Belinda Morris	Macs Reef Rd (Nwington2 Bankers)	11
Sandra Favre	Newwington Rd	23	Carol &Clive Boughton	Macs Reef (Bankers To Fed Hwy)	34
Chrystal Earle	Snowgum Road	26			

170: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 0402 027 452 [lodestar@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lodestar@ozemail.com.au)

Simon Lewis	Federal HwSvcRd	24	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Lyn Parkinson	Bidges/Hickey/OldGoldMines	53	Fire Brigade	Headquarters on Bingley Way	1
Glen Dorahy	Sutton Park Estate	55	Russell Ball	Macs Reef – Denley Dr to BngndrRd	26

147: CO-ORDINATED BY DAVID FEATHERSTONE ph 6236 9722 [bushranger\\_au@hotmail.com](mailto:bushranger_au@hotmail.com)

Chris Fowler	Millyn Rd	22	David Featherston	B'doreRd SmHill to&nclgdCrkBRd	28
Sue Aunella	Brooks Rd	24	David & Connie Jansen	Wyoming Road	20
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy)	33	Peter Sharp	Doust Road	20

247 CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 0409-997-082 email [nednoel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nednoel@optusnet.com.au)

Robyn Elsom	Denley Dr (Sth End to 429)	15	JonesFmly+JulieJohnsn	Denley 191 to 414	26
Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	52	Mary & Paulo Beneforti	Dnly Dr frm MacsReef to Birchmans	12
Janey & Paul Pedersen	BirchmansFrmDenleyUp2SaraRf	15	Helen Longdon	SarahReef&BrichmansFrmSarah2End	11
Murray Goodridge	B'dore Rd (MR to&nclgd Smrihl)	40	Diana Griffin	Majors Close	19
Diana Boswell	Donnelly Rd 29 & Grove Rd 8	36	Advertisers & Misc	Out of area advertiser mailouts & msc	21

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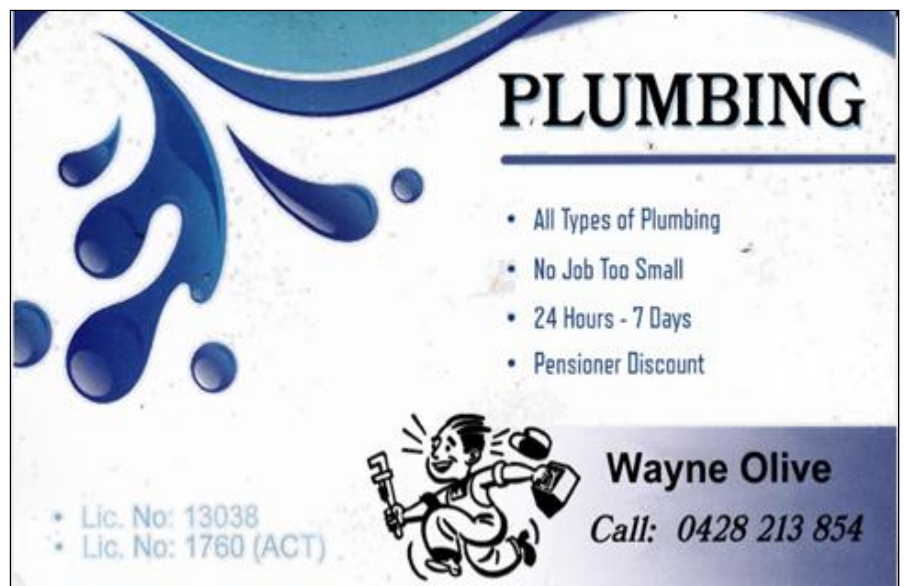
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## Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

For April I chose the Australian Hobby, a more infrequently encountered local bird of prey that I added to my property list recently.

### Australian Hobby (*Falco longipennis*)

Size: 30-35cm (wingspan 90cm)

Status: Uncommon breeding resident

The Australian Hobby is a rather small falcon with long wings and tail. It has dark slate-grey upperparts, rusty buff-rufous underparts, a buffy throat, and is streaked black throughout. Its dark cap extends onto the cheeks, forming an earmuffed or hooded appearance in contrast with the pale buffy throat, semi-collar and forehead. The bill and eyes are dark with a bluish cere and eye-ring, and yellow legs. Immature birds are duller and browner than adults with buffy mottling in the plumage. Hobbies are usually found in singles or pairs in open habitats such as grasslands, farmland and open woodlands. They do tend to have a preference for habitats near water. They are an active bird of prey, often on the wing, where their shape is distinct; thin and slender, with long pointy wings and tail. They are a fast, acrobatic, species, chasing and catching their main prey of small birds and insects in the air. They often also consume their meals while on the wing. Hobbies mainly fly low, only irregularly soaring, but always with flaps. They sometimes can be seen perched on exposed branches or wires from which they have a clear vantage point of the habitat. Like most birds of prey they are rather quiet, only occasionally giving a shrill repetitive “kek-kek-kek” call. Hobbies tend to wander widely within an area in response to food, so their presence at a certain site is usually patchy and rarely reliable. They can be similar to the Peregrine Falcon, however Hobbies are much smaller and more slender, with notably long wings and tail compared to the body, and the underparts are rusty-rufous (not whitish) and streaked (not barred). Hobbies also have more pale areas on the head including the pale semi-collar (giving an “ earmuffed ” appearance, rather than a near-complete dark hood), and they lack yellow cere and eye-ring of Peregrine Falcons. Make sure to keep an eye out for one around your place.



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## Notice of the WCA Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 16 April 2024

The next Annual General Meeting of the Wamboin Community Association, Inc. (WCA), will be held in the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 16 April 2024.

The main business of the AGM will be the election of a new Committee for 2024-25.

Nominations for the election of Committee members should be made in writing, signed by two Association members, and contain the candidate's written consent.

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary or downloaded from the WCA's website:

<https://wamboincommunity.asn.au/communitygroups/index.php?op=wcadocuments> .

**The Committee is keen to have some new members, so please consider nominating as an office-bearer or as an ordinary Committee member.** You are welcome to contact me or the President, Jenny Richards [president@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:president@wamboincommunity.asn.au) , to discuss what Committee membership entails. The WCA and the events it has promoted have been well managed for many years, and the Committee would benefit greatly from some new members to help maintain this momentum.

Should any member have any business to be dealt with at the AGM, please advise the Secretary more than 14 days before the meeting, or more than 21 days before if it requires a special resolution.

Agenda: Opening; Acknowledgement of Country; Welcome to new members and visitors; Apologies for non-attendance; Adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM; Presentation and adoption of the President's, Treasurer's and other reports; Election of the office-bearers of the Association (the president, one or two vice-presidents, the treasurer & the secretary) and at least three other committee members; other matters for which notice has been given; Close of meeting.

David McDonald, Hon. Secretary, WCA, email [secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au](mailto:secretary@wamboincommunity.asn.au) , tel: 0416 231 890 or 02 6238 3706.

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# St Peter's (Sutton) Annual

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## What the Heck Chapter 22

The rebuilding of the 'Wamboin' sign on the corner of Norton and Sutton roads brings to mind the memorial wall at the St Andrews church in Wamboin, and the proposed building of a similar wall at St Peters in Sutton.

The St Andrews wall, which is also stone though it is a retaining wall not a sign, was built some years ago to provide a place where local people could have a spot to relax and remember passed loved ones. The wall is not a columbarium; ashes cannot be placed in the wall, but, with permission, it may be possible to sprinkle some ash into the garden behind the wall.

The intention is to affix a plaque to the stone wall with some basic details of the person, usually name, dates of life, family relationship; just a few hints to allow other observers to get a minds picture of the deceased person. The plaques are all the same size and style; all are equal in God's eyes.

There are seats where one can sit and ponder on the life of the person and, if was known personally, reflect on times and events which have a place in one's heart. The surrounding lawns and garden create a pleasant calm spot to just remember and relive. The

nearby road is not of constant traffic so it is possible to just quietly sit, listen



to the birds, enjoy the rural outlook, and contemplate. In the grand scheme of life, one's lifetime is just a speck, so if we can keep memories alive in our mind, then we have maximised our time.

There are currently thirteen plaques in situ on the wall so why not drop in sometime and view them; you probably will know most of the names. – Alan Rope

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## ‘A kangaroo killed by four young ladies’

By David McDonald

*Animal cruelty alert:* the article presented here represents the values, practices, and language of the colonial era in NSW, rather than those of today.

Wyanga was the name in the colonial era and early 20<sup>th</sup> century for the eastern part of Wamboin and the south-eastern part of Bywong, stretching from somewhere west of today’s Weeroona Road to the Lake George Range escarpment. As I documented some years ago, a public school operated there—the Wyanga school—from 1870 to 1874 (including some periods of closure). It was located on the western side of Reedy Creek, downhill from the former end-of-road turning circle on Weeroona Drive.

From August 1872 the teacher was Mrs Mary Whyte (sometimes written as ‘White’). She was the daughter of local selector Edward Murphy—she had no teacher training but was assessed by the Dept of Education district inspector as being ‘reasonably competent’.

The *Queanbeyan Age* issue of 13 February 1874 contained an article, on page 2, headed ‘A kangaroo killed by four young ladies’:

Last Thursday evening as Mrs J. J. (*sic*) Whyte, teacher of the Provisional Public School of Wyanga, near Bungendore, and the Misses Smith and Miss E. Murphy were quietly conversing, a monster kangaroo was seen to pass the window, hopping along very quietly, when the ladies ran out making a cry, and a little poodle taking up the chase, the Kangaroo became so alarmed that it immediately bounded off at top speed. However there was a very deep waterhole just in front of the school door, and the affrighted animal jumped in, being, we suppose, too frightened to look for a crossing place. The ladies immediately armed themselves with sticks and commenced pelting it. After receiving a couple of blows from the well directed aim of Miss M. A. Smith, and one from Miss Murphy, it became so enraged that it made a tremendous spring at Miss Emily Smith and Miss Murphy, who were nearest the kangaroo. Fortunately the former young lady held a long stick, and she courageously struck the animal on the head as it was in the act of leaping up the bank. In the meantime Mrs Whyte and Miss M. A. Smith ran to the assistance of their friends, and were just in time, as the infuriated animal was recovering, to give it a few more good blows, when it sank exhausted. Had the ladies ran when attacked, it is more than probable it would have done some harm, as there was no means of escape. When got out of the water in about an hour after, by a young gentleman, it was found to measure eight feet from tip of tail to nose.

The *Queanbeyan Age* article, as we might say today, went viral! It was reproduced in numerous newspapers, including the *Albury Banner and Wodonga Express*, *Armidale Express* and *New England General Advertiser*, *Australian Town and Country Journal* (Sydney), *Brisbane Courier*, *Express and Telegraph* (Adelaide), *Gippsland Mercury*, *Illawarra Mercury*, *South Australian Advertiser* (Adelaide), *South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail* (Adelaide), *The Age* (Melbourne), and the *Weekly Times* (Melbourne).

While most of the papers reproduced the article verbatim, the editor of the *Gippsland Mercury* took a different approach. They titled their article FEMALE GLADIATORS and prefaced it ‘Four young ladies have distinguished themselves at Wyanga, near Bungendore, by killing a ferocious kangaroo. The monster passed the window at which they were seated, and ran into a deep waterhole. Arming themselves with sticks, the quartet sought the denizen of the woods, which might reasonably have expected milder treatment from the softest sex. What follows we leave the *Queanbeyan Age* to tell: ...’ and then quoted from the original piece. They concluded with the following parenthetical statement ‘[One fails to see what distinctions these four “young ladies” have acquired by going out of their way to beat an unoffending animal to death]’.

### References:

‘A kangaroo killed by four young ladies’, *Queanbeyan Age*, 13 February 1874, p. 2.  
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McDonald, D 2019, *Wamboin’s Wyanga School*, <http://wamboincommunity.asn.au/localhistory/> (includes content additional to that published in *The Whisper*).

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## **Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market**

### **Saturday 20 April 2024 9-1pm - together with Wheels of Wamboin**

*Contact: Meriel Schultz 042 261 4304 Email: [lmsconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com)*

Market update: Come and join us to sell or buy (or both) at the February market. We have some new stalls and all our regular ones with lots of produce, craft and home cooking to choose from. The March market was a happy and quite busy one. It is always good to catch up with the regular stall holders and to meet the 'newbies'. It is becoming increasingly hard to fit everyone in the hall which shows we are growing. Not entirely sure the 'buyers' are growing at the same pace though. Please do come along and support your local market!

**'We are Wamboin' - community booklet:** You will recall we ran a short story competition last winter, during the market recess. At the time we said we would try to find funding to develop up the stories into a booklet about Wamboin. Please note - the Community Bank, Bungendore has now provided us with a small grant to develop the booklet. WCA is also contributing to the project. Check out the article below this to see what it's all about and how you can contribute. See you at the April market!

### **'We are Wamboin' - New Booklet**

Following discussions with the Wamboin Community Association, a submission to the Community Bank Bungendore and consultations with their community development team, Meriel Schultz, a long time resident of Wamboin, has been successful in receiving a small grant from the bank to develop up a booklet for Wamboin. WCA will also contribute some funds towards the project.

The booklet will showcase the way that Wamboin, over the past 50 years, has grown. As a semi-rural, small community, we can showcase some excellent results achieved over the past 50 years, as well as the ways in which the community has grown and adapted over the years to build up a resilient, positive and engaged community.

Meriel and her team at LMS Consulting, supported by the WCA, will drive the project, write the content and produce the booklet. The booklet will feature sections on our history; our community and its people; the environment; our joint community events and groups. We will draw on local knowledge, the written material and illustrations gathered through the short story competition run last year - together with other historical content prepared by David McDonald.

We will still need to gather additional information and illustrations to guide the story development. The booklet will be produced as a colour, hard copy booklet and also as an online version. It is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. As well as distributing throughout our local area, we hope the booklet may assist other small communities like ours to draw on the concepts outlined in the booklet and implement some of the approaches used in Wamboin to engage our community in collaborative action.

If you would like to hear more about this project or have ideas for key areas of interest to help develop our proposed storylines, you can contribute in two ways:

- Send an email to Meriel ([lmsconsulting@bigpond.com](mailto:lmsconsulting@bigpond.com))
- Come along to the WCA community meeting in April (Tuesday 16 April). Meriel will outline the proposed approach to the booklet and be keen to get your ideas and thoughts. – **Meriel Schultz**



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## Wamboin golf 2024 update.

By Ken Gordon

An apology to the golfers for not providing an update on the recent events conducted by the Wamboin Golf fraternity. An update to follow for the December, January, February and March competitions.

**December 2023 (Christmas Cup).** This event was sponsored by Matt Hawke (ably assisted by Arilia, Kath and Travis). Ted's joke was to do with Santa's Christmas golf and Roberts joke was regarding pigs using hogwash in the shower! – side note that Robert had just won the ACT Lefthanded golf championships. The googly ball was awarded to Keith who had been struck in the buttock by a wayward shot by Pete. Tim had wanted the ball played from where it had landed. Dummy spit was awarded to Vicki after a 'chip-a-thon' and being told by Time to suck it up! The junior competition was won by Robert (35/19). He was also awarded Ned Kelly. Chris Hansen took out the 9-hole competition from Cameron and Rob Gorham. The 18-hole competition was taken out by Keith France (injury and all) from Paul Griffin and Tim Barter.

**January 2024 (New Years 3 club competition):** The January event was sponsored by L&L King. This event is a 9-hole competition for all players who are only allowed to use 3 clubs. We welcomed Tony Fisher back for his first hit in a while and Scott Mason making his southern pilgrimage. Lisa Whitney was awarded the dummy for complaining about her handicap before play even commenced. Ewan Prest was awarded the encouragement award for his first outing and surviving despite his playing partners. The competition was won by Tim Barter from John Whitney and Pete Harrison.

**February 2024:** The February event was sponsored by the Schroder and Whitney families. Ted's joke was about an endless series of something! Andy Morehouse was a visitor (maybe joining as a player at some stage). The googly ball was awarded to Steve Lambert for outlining the planning provisions behind the water hazard on Louisiana Drive. The dummy spit, which can't be described in full detail (not rated for publication), involved an early morning wake up and the long hot day ahead! The winner of the Junior competition was Ewan who also took home Ned Kelly to display on the front gate post. The nine hole competition was won by Cameron Hansen from Larry and John W. The 18-hole competition was taken out by Tim Barter from Glenn Crafter and Vicki Still.

**March 2024:** The March event was sponsored by the Bailey and Gordon families. Visiting this month was Phil Moran. Ted's joke pertained to hazards on the course that can be detrimental to your score. The googly ball was awarded to Tim Barter for not complaining until the 19<sup>th</sup> hole, whilst Rob Gorham was again awarded the dummy spit for commenting on the legitimacy of the club carried by a fellow golfer and the ability for said golfer to get a birdie on one hole despite said club not being able to get the ball off the ground. On a positive note Vicki was thankful that her playing partners were able to find every ball that she had dispatched into less than ideal playing positions. Winner of the junior competition was Ewan Prest (handicapper getting the scalpel ready). The 9-hole competition was won by Phil Moran from Dave Hubbard and Clint Pickin. The 18-hole competition was taken out by Paul Griffin from Tim Barter and Vicki Still. Next month, the April event will be the Mini-Masters, sponsored by the Community Association. We hope you can join us at the community hall at 12.15pm on Sunday, 7 April for the usual 12.30pm start (keeping in mind it won't be the usual 12.30 as you would have wound your clocks back for the end of daylight savings).



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### Wamboin Winter Story and Drawings by Lesley Page 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Short Story Competition

I was out for a morning walk, when out of nowhere I saw a Scarlet Robin fluttering around in the company of his Mrs, and Yellow Rumped Thornbills



Swamp Wallaby

We came to Wamboin 20 years ago from Gundaroo. We were looking for something more private and natural. We found it in our Box Grassy Woodlands, Yellow Box, Stringy Bark Brittle Gum, Apple Box, Scribbly Gum, Orchids, Peas, and animals. The understorey was mostly *Acacia dealbata*, *Daviesia mimosoides*. The birds were there. And as the land returned to its natural habitat we attracted more and more birds.

In Wamboin, Eastern Grey Kangaroo were plentiful. In fact Wamboin is an Aboriginal word for Eastern Grey Kangaroo. We live near a kangaroo corridor. They are our lawn mowers, except in the last two years of much rain. We also see Swampy Tailed Wallaby; two, but they live across the road. In spring we notice our resident echidna.



Echidna

As time went by and the land was naturally regenerating we see more and more different species of

birds. One year around Christmas it was the Hooded Robn.

Another year I was walking our dog Georgia, and we saw a baby Tawny Frogmouth sitting in the middle of the dirt road. Ma and Pa were off to the side on a fallen log trying to encourage it to hop on but it didn't. It stayed where it was for at least a day and then was gone. The fallen log was *Eucaliptus bridgeanna*, Apple Box. The birds looked just like the bark. They melded into background. I continue to look into the tree but their camouflage is too good.

The land is undulating and our home faces north looking over a series of dams. The soil is marginal but good for local natives. We have plenty of water; more than Gundaroo which seems to be in a rain shadow. The wind is quite something -- windier than Canberra and colder. We have snow about once a year. We are situated about 840 metres above sea level. We area like the wedge-tailed eagles which fly overhead. Some days it is greyer than elsewhere but other days we don't have the fog seen in the valley below.

One day we will have to move and that will be a very sad day. Because of all the places we have lived in, Wamboin is our home.



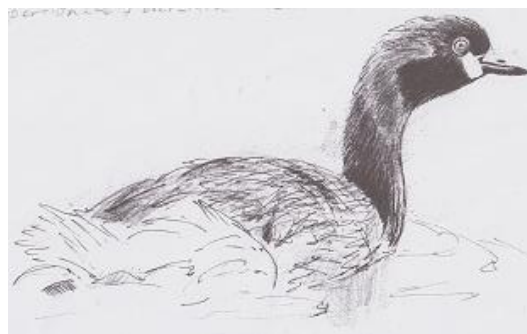
Adult Tawny Frogmouth



Tawny Frogmouth Chick



Imperial Jezebel



Australian Grebe



**WAMBOIN PLAYGROUP**

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DURING NSW SCHOOL TERM  
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