

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

APRIL- MAY 2007 NO 47

DISTRIBUTION 400 WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Red Bellied Black Snake

Paeudechis porphriacus It has a glossy, black upper surface while the belly is light pink to brilliant red, the head being barely distinguishable from the body as there is no obvious constricted neck area. It can grow to a length of 2.5 metres. This snake is dangerously venomous but bites are rare because it is usually a placid and fairly docile snake, preferring to enact a lengthy bluff display with flattened neck and deep hisses rather than bite. It inhabits mainly the east coast of Australia, commonly around streams, rivers, creeks, swamps and other wetland areas. They may wander into well vegetated private gardens which are adjacent to water courses. The red-bellied back snake specializes in eating frogs but they will also eat lizards, mammals, birds and occasionally fish. Unlike other close relatives, red-bellies produce their young alive. Up to 20 may be produced in one litter but it can give birth to up to 40 live snakes. Snakes are still active, be aware, see p.4 for snake-bite information.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat/Sun 7th/8th April	Spirit of the Forest Stoney Creek Rd 10-5pm
Saturday 14th April	Movie Night Brush Turkey Café 7pm "Boytown"
Saturday 21st April	Movie Bulahdelah Court House 2pm "The Battlers"
Saturday 21st April	Introduction of Port Stephens/Great Lakes Marine Park
Saturday 28th April	Dinner Brush Turkey Café 7pm "Italian"
Sunday 29th April	Jazz at the Winery midday "George Washingmachine"
Sunday 29th April	Wootton Fire Brigade Meeting 9am
Saturday 26th May	Dinner Brush Turkey Café 7pm "Curry Night"
Sunday 27th May	Wootton Fire Brigade Meeting 9am

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Visit our website @ www.wootton.org.au

Wootton Community Network News

Wootton Community Network recently held an informal meeting of members, to discuss future goals. The Network was initially set up to serve the needs of the community and to work together to make the area a pleasant place to live. We wanted a central meeting place to socialize, exchange ideas, support local business and provide a focal point for the community. As we have achieved most of our original goals of 1999, we thought we should revisit these goals and set some new ones.

What we have achieved since our first meeting in early 1999 are:

- Monthly community dinners (last Saturday of every month)
- Bi monthly newsletter -Wootton Valley News
- Successfully fundraised (Yearly Auctions etc) & obtained Government Grants and donations.
- Built a Community Resource Centre (over 5 years)– gardens, walkways, car park etc.
- Install a community technology centre (computers & internet for public use)
- Set up and run a community café on weekends
- Run special events in the café as fundraisers eg Melbourne Cup Day, Mothers Day, Fathers Day, Movie & Supper Nights, Music Nights,
- Held food handling and other related business courses.
- On the job training for juniors and unemployed (many going on to paid work)
- Set up a Wootton web site
- Raise enough money, mostly through the café operations, to pay the running costs of the Centre including phone, electricity, gas, Public Liability and Volunteers Insurance (Insurance continues to be our largest expense!)
- Organized the Wootton Sustainability Fair as a community event, now run by the Winery
- Acted as a lobby group to various government organizations
- Display local artists' work in the centre & run an Art competition
- Catered for Special Groups eg Lions Club, Salvation Army, Auto Club, Bus groups, Birthdays & Christenings.

Some suggestions for goals in the future are:

- Increase membership of the Wootton Community Network, to share in the future direction and contribute to it's diversity – Increased voluntary participation is needed to keep the Centre and Café open, as people move on to other activities.
- Improvements to the Centre and grounds eg improvements to driveway entrance, build a pizza oven, garden shed, make a mosaic entrance, replace dishwasher, fridge, freezer, buy digital projector, etc
- Produce a Wootton Way brochure and Calendar
- Install a 'Welcome to Wootton' sign
- Improvements to the Wootton Historical Railway Walk including interpretive signage.
- To attract guest cultural groups eg theatrical, musical..
- To hold workshops eg art, bread making, printmaking, sculpture, paper making, health & business

A public meeting to have your say has been suggested, details of which have yet to be finalized.

CAFÉ NEWS

Next Dinners are April 28th Italian, May 26th Curry Night
Bookings 49977296 Adults \$20, Children \$10

Thanks to

- **Dick** from Detours Café for donating two delicious lime pies and a mango salsa for our Hawaiian night.
- **Frances** for donating eggplants, cucumbers, garlic and cherry tomatoes.
- **John Startin** for the carved timber kookaburras.
- **Peter Malloy** for his native finger limes
- **Calum Tate** for engraving our milk jugs

Art Exhibitions at the Brush Turkey Café

The Photographic Exhibition opening night held on 10th March was a great success. Eric did himself proud with the organising, catering etc. He even sold one of his photographs. If you haven't seen them, "Faces of Seal Rocks", try to do so before it finishes on 5th May.

Our **May-June** exhibition is by **Wayne Ellis**, our resident art co-ordinator who returns to the cafe with his new exhibition of paintings, prints and sculptures. These works reflect his love of the ocean and draw on the many hours he spends walking, photographing and sketching in the surrounding Wootton bushland. This diverse collection of works showcase Wayne's unique style and promises something of interest for everyone.

Calling all local artists If you would like to exhibit in the Brush Turkey Café at a future date contact the co-ordinator Wayne Ellis on 65545009 or at the café.

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

A reminder that the **Wootton CTC** is open every Monday and Wednesday 4pm-6pm (Thanks to Geoff & Garry) & weekends 10am-4pm. **Nabiac Opening hours:** 10am-noon, 3.30pm-6.00 pm Mon-Thu, 10am-noon Fri, Sat. Internet access is also available 8.00 am-5.00 pm 7days at the Nabiac Cafe Takeaway next to the Nabiac Hotel. **Bulahdelah CTC** is open 9-3pm 7 days at the Bulahdelah Court House Museum. Bulahdelah CTC is producing a monthly community newsletter with advertising free of charge. Contact Malcolm on 49879274.

Jazz at the Winery with George Washingmachine Sunday 29th April midday

An afternoon of great humour
and superb music !!

Tickets:Pre purchased:

Adults \$20.00 Kids under 13 \$5.00

At the gate:Adults \$25.00 Kids under 13 \$5.00

phone: 1800 802 692 Tickets available at:

Wootton - Great Lakes Winery and Brush
Turkey Café, Bulahdelah, Pacific Palms & Tea
Gardens Visitor Information Centres

Contact the winery: Phone: 49977255

Email: greatlakeswines@bordersnet.com.au

What to bring: A blanket, some sunscreen, a
hat and a happy face

What's available: Wine, cheese plates, bbq
lunch, soft drinks, ice creams





Movie Night
Saturday 14th April 7pm
Australian comedy
“Boy Town”
Brush Turkey Café
Wootton
\$10 includes pre-dinner
nibbles & delicious supper

Wootton Rural Fire Services

Brigade Meetings are held on the last Sunday of every month at 9am.

The next two meetings will be on 29th April and 27th May.

Permits are no longer required, but if you are lighting a fire, you **must** let your neighbours and Fire Control know 24 hours in advance. Fire Control's number is 65 555782 during business hours.

Leave that snake alone!

The weather is starting to cool off after some very hot days over summer but we are still seeing the common red-bellied black snake. The following information could help if you are unlucky enough to be accidentally bitten by one of these beautiful snakes. If you are unsure if you have been bitten and feel unwell check for scratches, puncture marks and bruising, bleeding or swelling around the wound. If you have been bitten, the bite sends poison spreading close to the surface of the skin through the lymphatic system. While the venom has neurotoxic, coagulopathic and myotoxic actions, it is not as potent as most venomous snakes. Black or tiger antivenom may be used.

How to Deal With Snake Bites

- Do not wash the wound - the venom needs to be analysed so leave it as is.
- Place a folded pad over the wound.
- Immobilise the limb with a firm bandage to stop lymphatic spread of the venom
- Do not cut off blood supply - the tourniquet approach is wrong.
- Put a splint on the limb, immobilise
- If bite occurs on a victim's torso - apply pressure bandage as well.
- The same goes for head, neck and back wounds.
- Don't allow the victim to walk or move a limb. Walking should be prevented.
- Call an ambulance 000. Removal of the bandage will be associated with rapid systemic spread. Hence ALWAYS wait until the patient is in a fully-equipped medical treatment area before bandage removal is attempted.

How to Reduce the Risk

- Avoid walking through long grass.
- If you intend to do the above wear long pants and rugged boots.
- Be careful when gardening (wear gloves), or clearing wood piles. Stay on paths.
- Watch where you step.
- Be alert

Leave snakes alone - they may see you as a threat. Many bites occur when people try to kill snakes.

Coolongolook School News

Volunteers

With the latest rainfall we are having trouble keeping up with the mowing. If there are any adults in the community willing to give an hour or so on Thursdays when Col McCallum is here it would be greatly appreciated.

Covered Walkways

The covered walkways are getting closer every day. We are awaiting a colour chart from the suppliers, and any parents who would like an input into the selection please contact the office.

Myall Learning Community

Recently we had the first 2007 meeting of the Myall Learning Community. The community is made up of the schools Coolongolook, Tea Gardens, Booral and Bulahdelah. The link between these schools is that many of the students will attend Bulahdelah Central School for High school education. We hope to have a document which will be sent to all parents explaining our aims by the end of the term. **SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS**

Lombard Street Coolongolook 2423

Phone: 4997 7183

Fax: 4997 7232

Email: coolongolo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Peter Mason (Principal) & Jan Oxford



Green Rewards for the City

I read with interest recently, in the Sydney Morning Herald, the concessions city people can receive for acting more responsibly and taking steps to fix the environmental problems we have all made. They will receive from Sydney Water

- \$150 for 2000-3999litres , \$400 for 4000-6999 litres, \$500 for 7000 litres or more rebate, for installing a rainwater tank
- \$500 rebate if their washing machine or toilet is connected to their rainwater tank
- \$150 rebate to customers who buy a washing machine with a 4-star rating
- Sydney water has free DIY water saving kits and will send a plumber to fix minor leaks and install water-saving showerheads for \$22.

We country dwellers use rainwater for everything already!!!!

Bronwyn

Movies at Bulahdelah Court House

Saturday 21st April (3rd Sat every month)

“The Battlers” starring Bryan Brown

\$7 includes afternoon tea

Contact Malcolm at the courthouse on 49879274

Wootton Hall News

You probably noticed that the Wootton Hall for the first time was not used for voting this year. It was thought that the small numbers that vote here could easily travel to the next closest town, Coolongolook or Bulahdelah. I'm sure it inconvenienced many people who had to alter plans and go home and put something more respectable on. It was sad to have lost it. A reminder that the hall is available for hire at reasonable rates, contact Garry on 49977167. The floors in the toilets have been recently painted with a new non slip surface. This has brightened up the stained concrete and gives it a fresh look. The hall committee was successful in receiving a grant through Council to buy a new ride on lawn mower for the hall grounds. It should be arriving within the next couple of months. It's good to see people starting to use the tennis courts. A message was left at the café from the president of Forster Tennis Club saying that they could help

Boolambayte Creek Church Open House Every Sunday

Get to know God in a simple way! Arrive from 10am onwards to enjoy a relaxed and informal day. Share lunch, fun for kids. Entrance opposite Forest Lodge on the Wootton Way. Dave and Kathy Barker 49974675

Congratulations

Kelly Ede and James Palmer on their recent marriage

Caro Badcock on her 50th birthday

Goodbye to Jack and Gloria Squires *We wish them happiness in Taree.*

Welcome to Ian Dobson and Ella Szpindler of Newmans Road

Sympathy to the family of Jack Pekic, who passed away recently.

Council News

Great Lakes Council has implemented a series of School Based Traineeships as another positive step in assisting the youth of our community.

Over the past 12 months Council has taken on 2 additional apprenticeships, bringing the total number to 7; a traineeship in the Records Section; and has now commenced 4 School Based Trainees in the areas of Tourism, Information Technology, Records and Parks.

"The School Based Traineeship Program is available to Year 11 and 12 students and combines paid work, training and school. Students will leave Year 12 with an industry recognised qualification, a Higher School Certificate and two years of industry experience", said Keith O'Leary, General Manager of Great Lakes Council. "It's a great way for students to get a head start with their career, an apprenticeship or further TAFE studies", said Mr O'Leary.

Year 10 students interested in applying for a School Based Traineeship with Great Lakes Council or with other local employers commencing in 2008 should contact their School Careers Adviser or Kim Clarke, Department of Education and Training School Based Traineeship Coordinator.

"The Spirit of the Forest"

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th April 10am - 5pm
"Forest Glen" 198 Stoney Creek Road, Bulahdelah
(off Wootton Way, follow signs to "The Grandis")

Admission Free

Music, entertainment, belly-dancing, psychic readings, horse whispering demo, market stalls, good food & much more!

Prince Mama Kiama will be singing & performing tribal dances & stories.



In a beautiful rainforest environment

For details phone 49974597

Any donations will go to the "One World, One Tribe & One family"

Courses/Tuition

Yoga classes are held 6pm Mondays at Bulahdelah RSL Hall and Wednesdays at Wootton Hall Call Peter on 49977201 Classes not held in school holidays.

Computer Help Marie Power, our CTC manager, is available 2-4pm at the Brush Turkey Café every Saturday to help with any questions you may have with your computer.

For Sale (This service is free)

- ◆ Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake \$25 only made to order. To order in advance Ph Bronwyn 49977185
- ◆ Locally produced arts & crafts for sale at the Brush Turkey Café . Paintings, prints, pottery and ceramics, hand made woven baskets.
- ◆ Ride on mower Cox 11HP 32" cut, electric start. reduced to \$1200 ono Ph: Geoff 49977404
- ◆ Rayburn stove complete \$1,000 Ph Garry 49977167
- ◆ LPG Gas Heater Phone 49977292

Wanted

- ◆ Lemons, will come and pick Phone 49977185

Advertising rates for 2007 for the Wootton Valley News Directory are \$55 for Non-members, \$45 Members - per 4 line ad space

Please contact the editors for new advertisers or wording changes.

Please send a cheque payable to the Wootton Community Network at
1633 Wootton Way, Wootton 2423

These businesses support this newsletter.

Please support them wherever possible.

DIRECTORY

Accommodation

Too many visitors! Send them to **Wootton Guest House** 4 a/c bedrooms with ensuites & balconies, reasonable rates. www.woottonguesthouse.com.au
Peter & Leanne 49977201 0407974420

Air Conditioning

Repairs, sales, installation. Domestic and commercial. Mark Tidbury Lic no 123069C

0427500329 49977308

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Rob McDougall 0427 955958 49977335

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Ecocollective, architecture, construction, landscapes. Specialising in unique energy efficient homes Lic no. 7089 Call Ian 49879184

Limestone, one of the greatest building products ever! Also made to order furniture -tables & fire-place surrounds a speciality.

Paul Shipton 49977256

Conveyancing (Local)

Buying/Selling rural, residential, strata property; small businesses; retail & commercial leases.

Lesley Cameron 6557 5263 0405 265 341

Dog Grooming

'Paws of Wootton' Professional dog grooming salon, all breeds, clipping/grooming 49977330

Electrical Contractor

STS Services P/L Lic 27928C

Garry Williams 49977167 0417369670

Earth Moving

Excavation, demolition, auger, rock hammer, grab bucket, tipper truck hire

David Knezevic 49977402 0410 441428

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Carpenter/painter/handyman/mechanic own tools, van & trailer. Prompt & reliable service Good rates.
Charles 49976005

Horses Gembiras Docs Onyx dual sire registered stallion AQHA-A17174 ASH-SM133207

Standing at stud: progeny usually for sale.

Gembira Horses 49977335 0419201913

Ice Cream Roscoe's Ice Cream

Trade enquires welcome 49977351

Motor Repairs (small) & Equipment Hire Geoff

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www.lotusretreat.com.au Kerry Bromage 49977320

AcuEnergetics Treating a wide range of health problems Healing sessions compliment traditional medical treatments. www.lotusretreat.com.au

Dave Flakelar 49977320

Naturopath/Nutritionist/Herbalist ATMS

Improve your health naturally Judy Harland

49974472 0415 788356

Paving Down to Earth Paving - Patios, paths, driveways, brick edging Lic no 37348C

Walter Hacene 49977344

Plumber Richard Green Plumbing

All plumbing, drainage, gas fitting, LPG gas fitting, domestic, commercial, industrial

Lic no 53903C 0418 618583 65591555

Real Estate

Rural Valley Realty - Your local real estate agent servicing Bulahdelah to Nahiic

Steve Devries 49977214

Edes Real Estate Pty Ltd - Stock & Station Agent & Property Management Brian Ede www.edes.com.au

49974566 49977180(A/H) 0408492883

Removals

Dave Barker Removals "Moving with Care" 49974675

Signs Hand painted signs and vinyl lettering, shop-fronts, vehicles, boats, windows, light boxes, 3D models, promotional displays

Bruce Peachey 0438235057

Slashing & Noxious Weed Spraying

Local area, reasonable rates.

Scott Gordon 49977401 0408259183

Tree Climber/lopper-experienced

Cut and leave jobs required, firewood split

Reasonable rates Garth J Muxlow 49977314

Trencher & Mobile Crane/Borer Hire

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Mick 0408669105

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Domestic, rural & all your water requirements

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