

# WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

APRIL - MAY 2011 NO 71

DISTRIBUTION 500 WOOTTON COOLONGOOK  
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

## **Magpie-lark** (*Grallina cyanoleuca*)

A conspicuous bird, small to medium size, known as the Mudlark in Victoria and South Australia and the Peewee in New South Wales and Queensland. It is common and very widespread except in Tasmania. A primarily carnivorous bird that eats all sorts of small creatures. It can adapt to an enormous range of different habitats, requiring only some soft, bare ground for foraging, a supply of mud for making a nest, and a tree to make it in. They are a familiar sight around Wootton sitting on telephone wires either singly or in pairs, or patrolling any patch of bare ground, especially foreshores or swamps, on their well-developed legs. Birds

generally pair for life and defend a territory together. The nest is round, about 150 mm in diameter, usually placed on a flat branch somewhere near water, made of grass and plant material thickly plastered together with mud, and generously lined with grass, feathers and fur. Magpie-larks are one of the 200-odd species of bird around the world that are known to sing in duet; each partner producing about one note a second, but a half-second apart, so that humans find it difficult to tell that there are actually two birds singing, not one.



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday 9th April	Supper & Movie Night 7pm Brush Turkey Café
Monday 18th April	Rabbit control Field Day Coolongook
Saturday 30th April	Community Dinner 'Persian' 7pm Brush Turkey Café
Sunday 22nd May	Farm Forestry Field Day Wootton
Saturday 28th May	Community Dinner 'French' 7pm Brush Turkey Cafe

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## **Wootton Community Network**

### **Community Dinners Bookings essential on 49977296**

The Thai and "P" dinners, were enjoyed by good crowds.

Leanne Wright was unanimously voted best dressed at our "P" night. Thanks to everyone who dressed up and brought along lovely "P" foods.

**Persian Dinner 30th April 7pm French Dinner 28th May 7pm**

\$20 per person. All welcome.



### **Café News**

We have had a good start to the year, Sunday mornings proving very popular with many locals enjoying breakfast, a cup of coffee and catching up.

### **Art at the Brush Turkey Café**

Our new artist for the next two months is Trish Holborow. She paints in most mediums including oils, water colours, pastels and inks. Trish loves painting on location and is immersed in every aspect of her art and plans to keep painting far into the future. Trish lives in Forster.

### **Thanks to...**

- Sylvie & Patrick for producing our new café loyalty cards. Pick one up next time you're in. Every 6th cup is free.
- Pat & Craig Tate, Peter Auriac and Stuart Tate for cementing our new pad out the front of the café to cater for alfresco dining.
- Joe for sharing the mowing out the front of the café.

**Next Wootton Valley News Deadline is  
28th May, 2011**

### **Wootton Hall Committee.**

After the last article in the WVN concerning the possible closure of the hall, 8 people have registered interest in forming a new hall committee. Thanks to the following community minded people. Caro Badcock, Larn Garnett, Suzanne Kennedy, Deborah McDonnell, Peter Dixon, Megan Kessler, John Smith & Michael Kipriotti. They are yet to have their first meeting to elect the committee.



4 1/2 star rating  
from  
Margaret & David  
'The Movie Show'

### **Supper & Movie Night Saturday 9th April \$10 6:30 Supper, 7pm Movie "The Ghost Writer"**

**A thriller starring Pierce Brosnan & Ewan McGregor**  
A successful British Ghost Writer is offered the job of ghosting the memoirs of a controversial former British prime Minister...



### **New! pre-loved, vintage and retro items for sale at The Brush Turkey Cafe**



...worried about the environment?, Sick of consumerism?  
**DON'T WANT TO ADD TO LAND FILL? want something with style ? sooooo bored with mass produced goods? Can't be fagged to drive to Taree or Forster? Want to avoid domestic arguments while waiting for her/him to find the perfect pressie for aunt whatsit? Perfect.....!!**

**...buy pre-loved, vintage and retro items right here at the Wootton Café, while you tuck into lemon myrtle cheesecake and coffee!**

**...avoid boredom, arguments, & save money, petrol & your sanity!  
'373'**

**A Good Day Out** On a recent visit to the Port Macquarie area I visited 2 wineries which are part of the North Coast Wine Trail. We visited Long Point Winery and gallery which had delicious alcoholic ginger beer and Bago vineyards which was well worth the drive. They were a change from the hustle and bustle of the Hunter Valley wineries. The wines were surprisingly good and could make a good day trip along with a great little café in Kendall called Beetroot'd which serves all things made with beetroot.  
Pat Tate

### **Congratulations to.....**

Garry Williams & Elizabeth Christo, the proud parents to a newly born baby boy , Isaac ( Nikolai) Christo-Williams, 3.81kg, 56 cm long, born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February in Newcastle. He has now settled in to be a true Woottonite.



### **We're not the only Wootton!**



Wootton is described in the Domesday Book, as Wetone It later became Weton, Wutton and then Witton, with the name *Wootton* not appearing till the 14th century. The names probably have the Saxon origin of "Wudutun" and mean settlement or farmstead in, or by, a wood, which may have been Salcey Forest.

Wootton Village is situated some 2.5 miles from Northampton, U.K. Once an outlying village, Wootton has now become a suburb of Northampton with expansion taking place on all four corners. Find out more at [www.woottonvillage.net](http://www.woottonvillage.net) We are looking into becoming a 'sister city'.

### **Wootton Hall Memories**

Your recent photo and article in the WVN concerning the old Wootton Hall brought back many memories for Frank and Shirley Shultz of "Hazel Downs". During the 1950's Frank played in a dance band that supplied music for many dances and balls in the Wootton Hall.

The band members were Jim Richards of Bulahdelah on piano, Cec Bonner on trumpet and Frank Shultz on the drums.

At this time Cec Bonner lived on a property in Newmans Rd Wootton.

Frank has many memories of Jack Squires, Beryl Ede and the Stamps & Newton family attending these functions. The Newton family lived next door to the hall and Stamps lived across the road.

Prior to the 1950's Franks parents, Hazel Shultz playing the piano & Neil Shultz playing the drums, provided the music for lots of the functions in the Wootton Hall. Thanks for the memories.

Frank & Shirley Shultz

## **Modern Australian vernacular as seen in the press recently!**

‘Locavore’- those who buy, eat etc only locally grown or produced/made foods (ie lemon myrtle cheesecake, thereby saving food miles and supporting local micro economy- I think that’s what it meant!)

‘Locasoak’- those drinking locally made or produced drinks- thankfully Wootton has the privilege of a winery, so we can comply with that- not to mention local lime and lemon myrtle cordials.

.....we have been adding this to our ‘locavore’ pantry, thought you might enjoy it too?

### **Lemon polenta cake- serves 6**

#### **You need.....**

250g butter softened and unsalted

250g caster sugar

250g ground almond

1 teaspoon vanilla essence

3 eggs (gathered from kindly neighbours if you don’t have your own chooks!)

Zest 3 lemons

Juice of 1 lemon

120 g polenta flour/meal

1 teaspoon baking powder

good pinch salt.

#### **How to .....**

- Preheat oven to 160C/325F or gas mark 3. Butter and flour a shallow cake tin, approx 15cm.
- Beat the butter and sugar together ‘til pale, (though you may be a bit red in the face by then if like us you have no electric whisk!). Stir in the ground almonds and vanilla. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then fold in the lemon zest, juice, polenta, baking powder and salt.
- Spoon into prepared tin and bake in preheated oven for 35-45 mins or until set, cake should be golden brown on top.

Delish served with another local product - prunes in port - locally made, and can be bought at the Salty Dog Coolongolook.

Contributed by Daphne

### **Free Field Day on Rabbit Control**

On Monday 18th April 2011 there will be a FREE field day on rabbit control, organised by Riverlands Neighbourhood Association. Laurie Mullen from the Livestock Health and Pest Authority at Wingham will be running a session on all aspects of rabbit control on rural properties. This includes information on biology, habitat, protecting wildlife, trapping options, and biological control.



Time: 9-12 noon on Monday 18th April

Place: Riverlands - 13046 Pacific Highway Coolongolook

How to get there: Turn left (or right, if you're northbound) off the Highway at the sign "Melaleuca Drive", about 3km north of Coolongolook. Full details on booking. You need to book to participate, and numbers are limited. Please ring 6554 1489 or email [info@amarina.com.au](mailto:info@amarina.com.au) giving your name, number of attendees, and a contact phone number.

Ronald Watts

### **Farm Forestry Field Day Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2011**

The Hunter Farm Forestry Network will be conducting a field day in Wootton on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2011. Meet at the Brush Turkey Café 9am, wear sturdy footwear and BYO lunch.

The HFFN is a Not-For-Profit organisation whose members are interested in all aspects of Native Forestry on farms. Whether you want to grow and manage trees for stock shelter, erosion control, carbon storage, environment protection or for profit this field day will have something of interest for any landholder.

The morning discussion will be on plantation establishment and management. Many members have completed the master tree grower's course so a wealth of experience is available. The afternoon will be looking at a Private Native Forestry property. This is a mixed farming enterprise incorporating Farm Forestry, cattle rearing and conservation. This property is a must for those wishing to see how each endeavour complements the other enhancing the viability of the whole property.

For more information contact Phil Anderson secretary Hunter Farm Forestry Network on [secretary@hffn.org.au](mailto:secretary@hffn.org.au).

### **Wootton Fire Brigade News**

**Next meetings dates, training and working bees call Mike Badcock 49977337**

Permits are no longer required after 31st March but neighbours and Fire Control must be notified 24hours prior to lighting. Tuncurry RFS ph 65555782 Monday -Friday 9am-4pm.

### **What Does It Really Mean?**

Furrow: Horizontal line on forehead of gardener.

Garden: One of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds and animals.

Hose: Crude, but effective and totally safe, type of scythe towed through the garden to flatten flower beds and level vegetable plantings.

Nursery: The only known place where money grows on trees.

Perennial: Any plant, which had it lived, would have bloomed year after year.

Henry Beard and Roy McKie

from Gardening: A Gardener's Dictionary

**March observations - kingfisher** The last few days we have been watching a beautiful azure kingfisher down on our dam. He's only little but very colourful. He dives into the water and comes out with a tadpole or small frog and sits on the pontoon to eat his meal. Then he sits there looking intently into the water waiting patiently to see his next victim. The butcher bird has tried to chase him away – which made us sad – but he keeps coming back and now I think the butcher bird has given up. The pleasure is all ours.

### **The Joys of Mulching**

The other day I was spreading mulch around the citrus trees. We had a bale of hay which had been sitting under the mulberry tree for some months and it seemed perfect for the job. Part of the bale had fallen over so I was gathering up that stuff as it was beginning to spread all over the grass. I had gloves on, was wearing joggers and shorts and a T-shirt. I had gathered up the last big handful of hay off the ground when it seemed heavier than it should have been when down dropped a red bellied black snake out of my hands. It quickly slithered away out of sight. Of course I screamed and then just stood there wondering if I had been bitten. But, no, I was safe! I am so glad these snakes are not aggressive. I continued with my hay gathering and finished mulching all the citrus – but was rather shaken for some time.

Judy H

### **Another country experience...**

On walking out of my bedroom I glanced to see a wallaby sitting outside on the grass. I thought how lucky I am to see such beautiful animals right at my doorstep. I watched for a few more minutes and noticed a young Joey also had it's head out and was nibbling the grass. Suddenly there was a commotion in the pouch area and out jumped the Joey. It must have been it's first outside experience or one of the earliest. It fell out of it's mum's pouch and stood there bouncing like it was on springs, leaning to one side then another. Off it sped into the bush and returned a second later to lean on it's mother. She was non-plussed and kept eating. Off again it went into the bush all the while trying to keep it's balance. Back it came and jumped back into the pouch and it was all over. I then left my bedroom. A couple of minutes later and I would have missed this unique experience.

Bron Little

## DIRECTORY

### Accommodation

Too many visitors! **Wootton Guest**

**House** 4 a/c bedrooms with ensuites & balconies, reasonable rates.

www.woottonguesthouse.com.au

Peter & Leanne **49977201 0407974420**

### Building & Maintenance Contractor

Solutions to building problems Lic 631C

Rob McDougall **0427 955958 49977335**

**Bulahdelah Post office** Bill pay, banking, phones & gifts. HCCU banking, Business and Private Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-12noon Ph/Fax **0249974283**

### Computer services

Software installation, cleanup, Website design, Hardware upgrade, Custom build!

New parts warranty. Peter **49977223**

### Earth Moving

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

David Knezevic **49977402 0410 441428**

### Health

Take charge of your health with alternative medicine, nutrition and herbs.

Karen Carran **0427 177 172**

**Horses** Gembiras Docs Onyx dual sire registered stallion AQHA-A17174 ASH-SM133207 Standing at stud: progeny usually for sale. Gembira Horses

**49977335 0419201913**

### Plumber

Richard Green Plumbing All plumbing, drainage, gas & LPG fitting, metal roofing domestic, commercial, industrial Lic no. 53903C

**0418 618583 65591555**

### Real Estate

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**

### Renewable Energy

STS Services P/L Solutions toward Sustainability, Solar systems Grid connect or Stand alone Lic 27928C Accredited F524

**49977167 0417369670**

Advertising rates for 2011 for the Wootton Valley News Directory are

**\$55 for Non-members,**

**\$45 Members - per 4 line ad space**

These businesses support this newsletter. Please support them wherever possible.

## For Sale

(This service is free)

### Garage Sale Saturday 23rd April 8am

27 Meade St, Bulahdelah House Contents

**VW Kombi '89 T-3 Model** \$2100 No offers runs well 70,000kms Ph Steve **0400619137**

### House For Sale

Call for inspection

3 bedroom open plan timber home, solar, wind and mains power, 3 metre verandah's on 100 acres with rainforest and paddocks, dam, bush foods, workshop, sheds, small cottage at rear of property. Call Bron on **49977185**

### Electric fencing

Thunderbird - approx 2 & 1/2km 240volt inducer \$250

**49977476**

Everhot 204 Woodfire Stove \$1500, Rayburn Woodfire stove \$900, 2 x Solar hart Hot water Panels \$100, Everhot 440 Lt HWS \$100 Everhot 250 Lt HWS \$60, Ipstar Satellite dish and modem \$400, Kerosene Fridge \$50

All items in working order, some may need work

**0417369670 or 49977456**

**Landrover Conversion Kit 0431055897**