

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

APRIL - MAY 2014 NO 89
DISTRIBUTION 450 WOOTTON COOLONGOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*

The plumage of the Eastern Rosella is especially vividly coloured - red, yellow, blue, green and black. Despite this bold coloration, when rosellas are feeding on the ground among the grass or perched among the foliage in the treetops they can be very difficult to see, often seeming to disappear completely into the background. Their plumage is patterned so that it creates an extremely effective camouflage which assists the birds in avoiding detection by potential predators. It mainly feeds on the ground, especially amongst grasses in lawns, pastures and other clearings. Also feeds in trees and bushes. Main dietary items include: seeds, fruits, buds, flowers, nectar and insects. They mate for life. The female chooses and prepares the nesting site, usually a hollow in a eucalypt tree (but will sometimes use a nest-box or other artificial site). Eggs are laid on a decayed wood bed and the female incubates the eggs while the male regularly feeds her. The young may be fed for a while after they fledge. These colourful birds (along with other parrots) are making a cacophony of noise in the Wootton bush at the moment.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat 5 April	Wootton Community Network Meeting 3pm in the Brush Turkey Café
Sun 6 April	Wootton Fire Brigade Training 10am at the Fire Shed
Sat 12 April	Supper & Movie Night 6pm at the Brush Turkey Café
Sun 13 April	Music at the Winery Caravāna Sun 12-4
Wed 16 April	Kids Movie at the Brush Turkey Café 6pm
Sat 26 April	Community dinner in the Brush Turkey Café - Italian chef Georgio Locitello 7pm
Sat/Sun 26/27 Apr	Cattle Dog Trials - 105 Wattle Hill Road 7am onwards
Sun 4 May	Wootton Fire Brigade Training 10am at the Fire Shed
Sat 10 May	Food Swap - Wootton Hall 3pm to 4pm
Sat 10 May	Community Meeting Wootton Hall 4 - 6pm
Sat 10 May	Supper and Movie Night 6pm at the Brush Turkey Café
Sun 11 May	Mothers Day at the Winery - Glen Mead Band
Sun 18 May	Yoga Workshop in the Wootton Hall 10am to 4pm
Sun 18 May	Wootton Fire Brigade AGM at the Fire Station 10am
Sun 25 May	Beef, Cheese and Bocce at the Winery
Sat 31 May	Community Dinner at the Brush Turkey Café - Curry Night 7pm
Sun 1 June	Wootton Fire Brigade Training 10am at the Fire Shed

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc
Editors Pat Tate 49977292 and Caro Badcock 49977337

Wootton Community Network

New Gutter Guards

The new gutter guards have now been installed. Thanks to Phil Twaddle for the donation of the gutter guards and to Ian Dobson and Jim O'Connor for installing them.

Ceiling fans and lights

Thanks to Jim again for purchasing the new ceiling fans/lights and for working with the electrician to install them.

Meetings: are held on the first Saturday of every second month, 3pm at the Brush Turkey Cafe. Next dates are 5th April, 8th June and 2nd August. All are invited.

Wootton Community Network Membership

We now have over 60 financial members. Thanks to everyone who supports this fantastic community organisation!

Community Dinners are held on the last Saturday of every month. April's dinner - 26 April - will be a special celebration of a famous chef, **Georgio Locatelli**. The food will replicate his recipes and celebrate all things Italian. Thanks to Daphne for organising it. Get in early to book as places are limited.

May's dinner - 31 May - will be the ever popular curry night. Cost is \$20.

Supper/Movie Nights: These are held on the second Saturday of every month, 6pm light meal, 7pm movie, cost is \$10. Next dates are 12 April and 10 May.

Bookings essential: 49977323 49977292

Special School Holiday Kid's Movie Night: Wednesday 16 April. Movie will be shown at 6.00 pm and the cost will be a gold coin donation.

Future Management of Crown Land in Wootton?

The chairperson of the Wootton Hall Committee, Caro Badcock and the President of the Wootton Community Network, Jim O'Connor, have been following this issue closely and have contributed the following:

"At a meeting on the 11th March, Great Lakes Council approved a Recommendation that certain parcels of Crown Land be handed back to the State Government for management. This is essentially a cost cutting exercise. The sites are mostly small village halls, and Wootton is included in the Recommendation. This means that the Wootton Village Hall, Schoolmasters Residence, Tennis Courts and the Brush Turkey Cafe will all revert to Crown Land, as they are all on the same parcel of land.

Details of the proposal can be found on the council website -

http://www.greatlakes.nsw.gov.au/Your_Council/Meetings_and_Committees/Business_Papers_and_Minutes/Strategic_2014

Precisely what this will mean for us is not yet clear, and we are making enquiries to find out what we should best do. Note that we have not been formally told or consulted on any of this. It will be business as usual for the next three to four months, and meanwhile we are researching our options. There will be a community meeting in the hall on Saturday May 10 from 4 to 6 pm. We encourage you all to attend.

Jim O'Connor and Caro Badcock"

NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

Due to the ever increasing cost of Australia Post Delivery and their inability to deliver to every mailbox in our community reach, we have regretfully decided to cease home delivery of the Wootton Valley News but it will still be available as:

- Hardcopies
 - * at the Brush Turkey Café, on Sundays, community dinners and movie nights
 - * self service display rack on the verandah of the Brush Turkey Cafe
 - * BP Service Station in Coolongolook
 - * Bulahdelah Post Office.
- Electronic copies from our website, www.wootton.org
(all members of the Network are alerted when the new edition is available).
- subscription to have it posted to you at a cost of \$11 per year.

This trial arrangement will commence for our June/July issue. The Wootton Community Network is committed to making sure every Wootton resident has the opportunity to receive a copy of the newsletter. It is a valuable form of communication and we hope it will be produced for a long time yet. We welcome any comments or suggestions.

Pat and Caro

Coolongolook Wootton Action Group (CWAG)

Along with other items on the area Strategic Plan CWAG is pursuing Wootton Way as an official Tourist Route and will be requiring discussion and support from local residents and particularly businesses present or anticipated. Our next committee meeting will be held at the Coolongolook School, Wed 9th April, 6pm. Brian Parry (Pres CWAG) 65591671 Pam Dunne (Sec) 49977156

Wootton Sustainable Land Managers

On Saturday, March 15, the district vet, Jim Kerr came and gave a presentation in the Wootton Community Hall on how to raise chooks in a domestic environment. We had a very vibrant meeting with around 35 attendees, all quite happy to add their experiences of what



worked, what didn't work, how to cope with aggressive birds and so on. Mike Coventry added a last minute bit of spice to the day when he asked for volunteers to take some of his bitter melon crop to develop recipes that would suit the Australian palate. He is currently growing these to meet the Asian market and feels we locals are missing out on something that seems to grow particularly well here and that could be a useful addition to our culinary options.

At this stage there is no date or topic for the next meeting. If anyone has any suggestions for a topic of interest please contact Mike (49977337).

The good stuff!!! For those of you who are lucky enough to live in this beautiful area or are visiting, we would like to share some local tips about businesses and people who are providing great service and products and enriching our region. Also if there is a great spot you like to visit and would like to share it let us know. It is too easy to complain about things which are not good, but don't often take the time to praise people who are not delivering bland, run of the mill service or goods but take a pride in what they are doing and go beyond the norm to make sure their customers are happy. This month we would like to focus on Tuncurry, twinned with Foster! This little seaside town has a few hidden gems.

CRACKERS Men's Barbers 74 Manning Street Tuncurry 02 6555 9258.

This eclectic little set up has been a Barber shop for 90 years! The current owner/Barber Rod and his team have the long lost talent of providing a running stream of witty banter while transforming your average bloke into a well groomed one! The Barbers is decorated with historic photos of Tuncurry, even an Anzac photo of 1940, vintage barber's tools, and the 'wall paper' of exotic bank notes from around the world, feel free to add one yourself! Great service, great entertainment and great hair-cuts!

PERRY'S FRUIT SHOP AND TRENTO'S JUICE BAR 1/72 Manning St 02 6554 6413

A step along from Crackers is this family run fruit and veg shop and juice bar. They specialise in really fresh produce, if it is not local and in season it is not there! A good selection of sprouted breads, coconut and sheep's milk yogurt, and some good deli pantry staples.

Nice to get a 'ByronBay' type atmosphere here when you get either one of their organic coffees or freshly squeezed juices- the detox is delicious!

THE MENS SHED

This is a real find! Located at Tuncurry Tip, this not for profit organisation is run by volunteers who are all great crafts people and can do pretty much anything with wood and other materials. Anything from dolls houses to restoring antiques, great for jobs you do not want to do or have the skill or equipment for at home. Work is charged at cost of materials and a donation, really great guys with amazing skills.

.....**And sublime little local places we have recently enjoyed...**

Korsmans Landing- [Bombah Point] essential for OMG moment late afternoon, early evening - take a good bottle of wine and just breathe in this perfect untouched bush environment on the water's edge overlooking Mungo Brush, you don't even need to talk! The view and the sounds are more than enough.

Old Bar beach- pebble collector's heaven, and great to watch kite surfers, late afternoon.

SAI -50 Old Bar Road 6553 6660 Discovered this recently, after a lovely walk around 5pm on Old Bar beach to relax after the Monday Taree shopping trip. This is a really charming place, minimalist modern design and serving very authentic Thai food, their daily special are very good, super fresh and the staff take the time to explain the ingredients...including how to eat them!

If you have a favourite place you like to use and think we should know about drop a line into the Wootton mag, and let the rest of us know what the business or place is, and why you think its good. Even if you have lived here a long time someone else's tip can provide you with a treat you didn't know existed...it is never too late to be surprised!

...it's good to share the good stuff in our region from the quirky to the downright gorgeous!!!

Daphne



Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Call Outs: The last 2 months have been relatively quiet for the Brigade. On Sunday 16 Feb, both trucks were called out to a motor vehicle accident on the freeway under the Wattley Hill Rd bridge. The Bulahdelah Brigade, police, and ambulance were also in attendance and with no major injuries, it was a clean up of the freeway and then back to station.

When we are called out, it helps us find you if there is a large clear street number at the gate!!

Members : The brigade would like to welcome 3 new members Keith Skipper from Kennedy's Gap Rd and Tom & Daphne Ward from Wattley Hill Rd. Members commit a lot of time and effort to protect the local area and new members are an asset that is greatly appreciated.

FACT ... 40 % of the brigade live outside the Wootton area !!

Training: Adam & Jim Garnett are half way through the Crew Leader Wildfire, Supervision, and Village courses (which have been running over the last month in Bulahdelah & Gloucester), Mike Badcock is redoing the Crew Leader Village as a refresher course.

There was a good turn out at our regular training morning on Sunday 2 March and Jim O'Connor has been regularly attending to the servicing of the equipment.

Property Inspections: With the Christmas panic over, we are continuing with property assessments as well as assisting owners with their Bushfire Plan. If you would like an inspection, call Mike Badcock on 0409 448 330

Funding: We are a landlocked brigade with no access to regular markets, shows, beach's, and so on. Our extra funding is raised within our brigade area in any way we can. At present, we are applying for grants from various bodies with the aim of being able to improve our equipment (and thereby service) to the community. If anyone has any information on grants being offered please call Mike Badcock.

Winter is coming check/install smoke alarms, check fireplaces & clean out flues/chimney's, keep fuels away from the house

Adam Garnett (President)

Dumped on the side of the road along Wootton Way

Maybe you recognise some of these goods from somewhere...they were dumped on the side of the road along Wootton Way recently. Pictures have been posted all over Facebook and we may have the owner living amongst us. Maybe you can redeem yourselves by removing and recycling them by taking them to Lifeline or the Salvos....otherwise they may end up in your front yard and I won't be keeping it a secret as to who you are.



Thieving sign collector in Wootton

Keep your eyes out folks - someone is thieving road signs.

Two directional signs to the winery have been removed and someone went to a lot of trouble by using an angle grinder to complete the job. If you saw anyone on Saturday 22nd or Sunday 23rd March at the side of the road along Wootton Way where you turn off to Herivels Road let the winery or the Bulahdelah police know. Other signs in the area have also been removed so be alert as you drive round our town and if you see something that looks suspicious stop and ask them what they are doing. The people that are doing this are gutless cowards."

"How come we are attracting rubbish dumping thieving d#@X's to Wootton?!"

Rob from the winery

Wootton Hall

The March dinner in the hall was a great success with a fantastic array of delicious home cooked fare. There was lots of friendly chatter and catching up with friends and neighbours and a few new faces. The AGM for the Hall Committee was held and the combined Chair's and Treasurer's reports will be available in the café . This is the fourth year for most of us and is the length of time agreed to with the Council when we joined. So, this is a heads-up that the committee will be looking for new members going into 2015.

Yoga continues to be very popular. Classes are every Thursday from 9.30am to 11am. On May 18 there will be a yoga workshop being held in the hall, 10-4. Anyone interested can contact Christine on 0408 154 008.

The **library** opening was not very well attended. Hopefully this was due to the very inclement weather rather than a lack of interest in the facility. We have received heaps of books for the library so thanks to all those who have donated. Please hold off on any more donations until we have more bookcases available - donations of timber bookcases in good condition would be very much appreciated. Caro

FOOD SWAP

The First Wootton Food swap will now be held on 10 May from 3 to 4pm (prior to the Community Meeting). Just turn up to set-up by 3pm. We will have tables set up for you outside the Hall to place your home grown fruit and veg, pickles, jams, seeds and the like. If it is wet we will set up in the shelter shed or on the hall veranda.

Some food swaps operate on a barter system, but for this first one at Wootton, we will just rely on people putting out their goods and taking what they think is a fair exchange from other people's goods.

If it's home grown and tasty, it's most likely good to swap. You can bring as little or as much as you like. Whether you have a beautiful bunch of parsley, or a barrow of beet-roots, bring them along.

Suggested items for swapping include:

- Any fruit, vegetables and herbs you have grown yourself
- Eggs from your chooks
- Homemade bread, muffins, and baked goods
- jams, teas, chutney or yummy choc brownies
- Honey, Cheeses
- Nuts (in ziplock bags),
- seeds, seedlings
- Flowers from your yard
- hand made crafts

For information, call Peter Dixon on 0437 655 658

Great Lakes Catchment Management Group

The Council has been successful in getting grants to assess the rivers <http://ausrivas.ewater.com.au/>; adopt the Tops to Lakes wildlife corridor and undertake research to see how the acid sulfate soils recover in Darawank – apparently there is no research yet in freshwater systems. National Parks and LLS will undertake various dog and fox baiting programs over the winter. The Creek To Coast and Water-watch newsletters are NOW only available via email - contact Karen on Karen.bee@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au or 65917305 and Kirsty on kir-sty.hughs@midcoastwater.com.au. Hard copies available in the Brush Turkey café.
Caro Badcock (Chair and Community Representative)

WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities

Details of program at http://www.who.int/ageing/age_friendly_cities_network/en/
COTA (Council on the Aging) is using GLC as a pilot council for NSW. I was invited to attend a focus group meeting run by Dr Jane Bringolf from COTA to assist GLC determine a baseline. Feedback from these focus groups will form part of the Council's first community strategic plan called Great Lakes 2030 (http://www.greatlakes.nsw.gov.au/Your_Council/Great_Lakes_2030)
The Council has also developed a survey for community feedback. So, if you are aged over 50, and live in the Great Lakes LGA (or are a carer of an older person or service provider), you can complete the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FTVTY8B>
Caro Badcock

Wootton Cattle Dog Trials are on again

To be held at 105 Wattley Hill Road, Wootton on 26 and 27 April 2014
All enquiries to Neil Ede 0407 787 920 or Zac Ede 0428 293 024.
Canteen facilities are available over weekend.
Spectators most welcome.
Saturday will kick off at 7.00 am and events will run all day.
Sunday events will be run in the morning
with presentation to conclude the weekend activities around noon.

What's on at the Great Lakes Winery 115 Herivels Road, Wootton

Sunday 13 April: Music in the Back Paddock with *Caravãna Sun* 12-4
Easter: Great Lakes Winery is OPEN OVER EASTER
Sunday 11 May: Mothers Day with *Glen Mead Band*
Sunday 25 May: Beef Cheese & Bocce
For more info drop in , ph 49977255 or check our Facebook page. Rob

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**

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Horses Gembiras Docs Onyx dual sire registered stallion AQHA-A17174 ASH-SM133207 Standing at stud: progeny usually for sale. Gembira Horses
49977335 0419201913

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www.edes.com.au **49974566**
49977180(A/H) 0408492883

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Slashing and tidying up.
Paul and Hazel **49977150**

YOGA
Yoga Wootton Hall Thur 9:30am
Bulahdelah Tue 5:30pm/Fri 9:30am

Congratulations to Keith
Graham who turns 80 on
17th April
Happy Birthday!!!



Farewell!!!

Long time resident and good friend of everyone who came in contact with him, Taz Bradbury is moving from Wootton to Sussex in England. Taz has lived for many years in Newmans Road before relocating to Wattley hill Road 4 years ago. Unfortunately Taz requires a cruiate ligament operation and has been enduring considerable pain. An indication of the nature of Taz is that many of us who claimed to know him well were totally unaware he was carrying this injury. He still maintained the happy, loving and non-complaining demeanour we have all come to know and love of Taz. Taz will be greatly missed by many in Wootton but I'm sure we will all wish him well with his operation and new life in Sussex.