

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

APRIL/MAY 2015 NO 95

DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGOLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

The Lilly Pilly Tree (*Syzygium luehmannii*)

is a medium-sized coastal rainforest tree native to Australia and grown throughout This area. The berry has a tart cranberry-like flavour, with a hint of cloves. It has been a popular gourmet bushfood since the early 1800s. Local cooks use the fruit to make jam and wine, sauces, syrups and confectionary.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sun 5 April	Wootton Fire Brigade training at the Fire Shed 10-12 am
Sat 11 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food swap, Wootton Community Hall, 5pm• April Forster Film Festival, 6pm, Wootton, \$25 pp, bookings essential• Wootton Cattle Dog Trials, 105 Wattley Hill Road, 7.00 am start Sat/Sun• Open Day at Lillypilly Bend, Nabiac, 9-11 am
Thurs 16 April	Holistic management field day at Wootton
Sat 18 April	Games night and light supper, Wootton Library, 6 pm \$5
Sat 25 April	Community dinner, Brush Turkey Café, theme: 'Keep it Local', 7pm \$20
Sat 2 May	WCN meeting 3.00pm, Brush Turkey Café, all welcome
Sun 3 May	Wootton Fire Brigade training at the Fire Shed 10-12 am
Sat 9 May	Light supper and movie night, Brush Turkey Café, 6pm for 7pm
Sat 23 May	Working bee - hall and café 9.00am start
Sat 30 May	Community dinner, Brush Turkey Café, theme: French , 7.00 pm, \$20

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc Editors Carole Robinson 0428009952
and Caro Badcock 49977337 Join our group on Facebook: Wootton Community
brushturkey@live.com.au Visit our website @ www.wootton.org.au

Wootton Community Network

Membership: We now have 68 members! Membership is NOW DUE!! \$12.50 for the 2015 calendar year. All membership, renewing and new, should be paid to the Treasurer, Leanne Wright.

Wootton Community

In memory of Mary Kiprioti



In January, Wootton lost one of its long term community members, Mary Kiprioti.

For those of us who were fortunate enough to know and love Mary, she will be remembered her as a kind woman with a big heart who always had time for a cuppa and a chat and, if you were lucky, some of her home-baked goodies. Mary was always happy to share her recipes and some of us may have her delicious Greek Shortbread recipe. We know however that those we bake will never be as good as Mary's because they lack that special ingredient, the "heaped spoon of Mary's love".

We all will miss Mary and our thoughts go out to Michael and his family.

Written by Monique Finlay

Crown Land Site

Crown Land Site

The working group is continuing to meet monthly and is working hard to obtain information necessary to evaluate the viability of any options. The group has prepared a draft business plan including financial requirements, at this stage based on very vague assumptions. Numerous communications have been made to the Council and Department of Lands to obtain firm numbers to include in our plan, although with no success at this stage. We are being told these numbers are all confidential. However, we will keep trying and will continue to update the community through this newsletter.

Caro Badcock (on behalf of the Working Group)

Wootton Community Food Swap

The March Food Swap was again extremely well attended. There was a mountainous array of produce including fruit (mangoes, bananas, cherry guavas), vegetables (beans, chillies galore, tomatoes of all shapes and sizes, pumpkins and so much more I can't remember them all), herbs, eggs and home baked goods (breads, cakes, crumble).

The April Food Swap (11th April) will be the last for this season with the first one of next season to be held in October. So, put them both in your diary but end the season with a bang. Come and share your bountiful produce available at this time of year and consider staying to attend the April movie night event described elsewhere .

Wootton Community Library

A considerable number of books has this month been received from both the community and Forster library. These will soon be sorted and displayed on new book shelves purchased from a community grant provided by Great Lakes Council. A huge thanks to Caro for applying for the grant, to Larn Garnett for purchasing and transporting the shelves to Wootton and to Forster library for donating some display frames which will be put to good use this month.

Anyone interested in donating books should contact Sue Williams on 0438 433 063 to arrange for collection.

The library is open during any events held in or on community facilities.

Bungwahl Public School is putting on a musical this year. Any interested musical and/or creative member of the community who would like to assist would be welcome. Contact Miss Crozier on 4997 6175

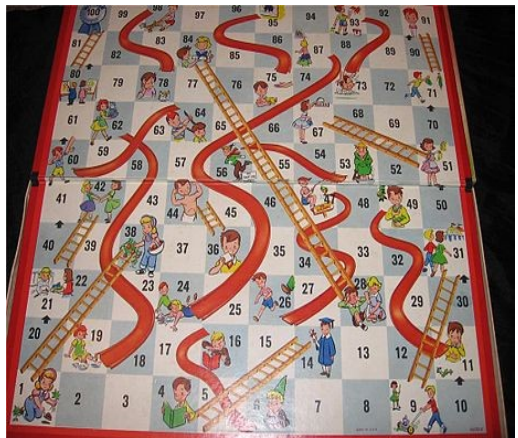
Wootton Hall Happenings

By the time you read this newsletter we will have had our first quarterly dinner for the year and our AGM. After four years in the roles, Caro and Larn have resigned from the committee and hence their positions as Chair and Secretary/Treasurer are vacant. No other members of the committee have volunteered to fill these roles. Dianne Denton (the Community Halls Officer at Great Lakes Council) has been informed and she will be advertising these positions for the Wootton committee along with other committees at some stage. Anyone interested can call Dianne on 6591 7279 or email her at Dianne.denton@greatlakes.gov.au. In the meantime and for the short term, Caro and Larn have agreed to continue in a caretaker role.

Also by the time you read this newsletter the termite damage to the hall should have been rectified. So, thanks to the Council for heeding the committee's requests to inspect the damage and provide a plan for the repairs. As it happened, the damage was superficial and so the repairs were able to be undertaken very quickly. (Apologies to the yoga class of 19th March for the interruption by the Council work staff.)

Games night

We will be holding our first Games Night in the Library on 18 April to celebrate the 1st birthday of the library. The night will start at 6 pm with a light supper, followed by games from around 7 pm. Cost will be \$5/head to cover the supper and then BYO alcohol and nibbles for the evening. The games will be suitable for all ages and interests. Don't worry if you are not a games person, just come and watch and sit and chat with others. Anyone interested in hosting a table or just to let us know if you are coming (for catering purposes) please contact Sue on 0438433063 or Caro on 0408415420.



Wootton Cattle Dog Trials 2015

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 April - 105 Wattley Hill Road, Wootton

All enquiries to:
Neil Ede 0407 787 920 or
Zac Ede 0428 293 024

All entries welcome

Canteen facilities are available
over the 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 presenta-
tions to conclude the week-
end activities around noon.



Open Day at Lillypilly Bend, Nabitac

Learn about caring for our local bushland

Saturday 11 April 9.00-11.00 am (with morning tea afterwards)

Meet at the grass area besides St Paul's Church, 34 Clarkson St (besides SES) for an introduction and then walk into the Crown Reserve behind, a new bushcare site that the volunteers of Nabitac Landcare call Lillypilly Bend.

Our presenter Chris Scott will share with us:

- The value of the bushland in the landscape
- The typical nuisance plants/weeds that invade bushland locally
- How to control the weeds effectively and enable bush regeneration.

This local bushland has benefitted from funding support from the NSW Government via Hunter Local Land Services. A small team of professional bush regenerators are currently treating large weed infestation in the flood zone of this section of Wooster's Creek.

To assist catering, please RSVP Robyn Lamond 0419 800 896/robyn.lamond@gmail.com or Leonie 6554 1518

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Wootton Fire brigade News

This summer was very quiet with very few fires to attend which was great news.

Fire permits are not required during the period 1 April 2015 until 30 September 2015 but you are still required to let your neighbours and Great Lakes Fire Control know 24 hours prior to lighting the fire (Fire Control phone: 65397700).

Your local brigade is desperate for new firefighters, so please contact Mike Badcock 49977337.

Dates of importance

Training is always the 1st Sunday of every month. For the next 3 months training is on 5/4/2015, 3/5/2015 and 7/6/2015 at 9am at the Fire Station, Squires Rd.

Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group

Our Sustainable Farming Group met for the first time this year in February to visit a productive garden of unusual foods in Wootton, hosted by Peter Dixon and Megan Kessler. Peter and Megan shared with the Group their many reasons for choosing their property in Wootton, which included the mild, maritime climate, good soils and good rainfall. This area should be one of the least to be negatively affected by climate change, as shown by the Climate Report at :

<http://climatechange.environment.nsw.gov.au> During the visit, Peter and Megan shared how they have succeeded in growing over 1 tonne of vegetables a year, from over 60 different varieties. Their orchard of around 180 varieties of fruit trees will be bearing in the next year or two, increasing the variety of foodstuffs. Because of the microclimates and topography of the farm, they are able to grow on their ridge top tropical fruit trees not often seen South of Brisbane, while growing cold climate fruit in the valley below. At the end of the on-site presentation, the Group went to the Food Swap at the Wootton Hall and enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea.

The second meeting for the year was held in March and the topic was Oyster Farming at Wallis Lake, which was hosted by Lyn and Neil Clements. The Group met at the Clift Oyster Sheds at Tuncurry, where Peter Clift outlined the numerous steps involved with successful oyster farming on the Mid North Coast. At the completion of a very informative presentation, the Group went to The Colonels Café overlooking the shores of Wallis Lake to enjoy a delicious seafood lunch. Some members were fortunate enough to procure some scrumptious oysters and travel by boat, which made for an impressive entrance at the Forster Marina. An added benefit of this meeting was that we now know where to buy (and how to store) this fabulous fresh local produce.

Please note there have been a few diary changes for some of the next meetings—see updates listed on page 7. Please contact Sue Williams on 0438 433063 for more information about any of our events or if you are interested in joining our social sustainable farming group.

1915

**Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group updated program
of events**

- Thurs 16 April **Holistic Management**, at Wootton, hosted by the Karuah Great Lakes Landcare with guest speaker Brian Wehlburg
- Mon 11 May **Food Forest**, at Minimbah, hosted by Dale Bowes-Hammond
- Sat 13 June **Farming Cattle Profitably on a Small Scale**, at Wootton, hosted by Richard Stubbins
- Sat 25 July **Grants Workshop** (How to write an application), at the Brush Turkey Café, hosted by Peter Dixon,
- Mon 24 August **Dung Beetles**, at Wootton Hall, hosted by the Karuah Great Lakes Landcare with guest speaker Dr John Feehan
- Mon 21 September **Emergency Preparedness and Planning**, at Wootton Fire Station, hosted by Mike Badcock and Sue Williams
- Mon 19 October **Cheesemaking**, at Bungwahl, hosted by Elena Swegen
- Mon 16 November **Building Green**, at Topi Topi, hosted by Richard Single
- Mon 7 December **End of Year Gathering**, at the Salty Dog Café, Coolongolook



Wootton presents FORSTER FILM FESTIVAL

Short films from around the world

SATURDAY April 11
Brush Turkey Cafe

6pm Supper 7.30pm Films Tickets \$25

Contact: Jim & Fran 49977323

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Yoga

Wootton Hall Thursdays 9.30-11am
Bulahdelah Bowling Club Tuesdays 5.30-7pm Senior teacher with 25 years teaching experience Phone Christine **0408 154 008**

FOR SALE

Cyclone mesh, 4 rolls approx 15m, \$50 per roll
Steel scaffold complete with adjustable feet and braces, 4 sets \$200
Garry Williams 0417 369 670 or 02 4934 6377

*A glass of
Lillypilly wine*



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