

# WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS



APRIL/MAY 2018 NO 113

DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK  
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

**Stick insect (*Phasmida* or *Phasmatoptera*):** an order of insects, known as stick insects in Europe and Australasia; stick-bugs, walking sticks or bug sticks. The group's name is derived from the Ancient Greek *φάσμα* *phasma*, meaning an apparition or phantom, referring to the resemblance of many species to sticks or leaves.

Stick insects are good pets because they are quiet, won't scratch the furniture and will never pee on the carpet! They take from 2-3 months to become adults, range from 5 to 30+ cms in length, need a nutritious, vegetarian diet, a nice house (if you have a wire cage,

the holes should be small enough that your little buddy can't wiggle out), kept warm and moist. But handle with care.

With more than 3,000 species of phasmids, common pet species include Indian Walking Stick or Common Laboratory Stick, Annam Walking Stick and Giant Prickly Stick or Macleays Spectre.



Photo©Lucy,Richard

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fri 6 April	• Brush Turkey Café: <b>Meet the Artist</b> , 6pm
Sun 8 April	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd, 9am
Thur 12 April	• Wootton Hall: <b>Farm Family Gathering</b> , community event. 6pm, free
Sat 14 April	• Wootton Hall: afternoon tea with Peter and Megan, 4pm • Wootton Hall Grounds: Food Swap 5pm • Brush Turkey Café: Light supper night 6pm supper \$10 pp
Sun 22 April	• Brush Turkey Café: <b>Great Lakes Food Trail</b> , , 10am to 3pm • Wootton Community Hall: <b>Bric-a-brac sale</b> , 10am to 3pm
Sat 28 April	• Brush Turkey Café: <b>Bollywood</b> Community dinner, 7pm, \$20pp
Sat 5 May	• Brush Turkey Café: Wootton Community Network Meeting, 3pm
Sat 12 May	• Wootton Hall Grounds: Food Swap 5pm • Brush Turkey Café: Light supper night 6pm supper \$10 pp
Sun 13 May	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd, 9am • Brush Turkey Café: <b>Mother's Day</b> lunch
Sat 26 May	• Brush Turkey Café: <b>Men's chef's night</b> community dinner, 7pm \$20
Sun 27 May	• Wootton Fire Brigade: <b>AGM</b> and <b>GM</b> in Brush Turkey Café, 9am

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc

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Join our group on Facebook: Wootton Community or email brushturkey@live.com.au

Visit our website @ [www.wootton.org.au](http://www.wootton.org.au)

## Wootton Community Network (WCN) and Community Hall Committee News

The bi-monthly WCN general meeting was held at the Brush Turkey Café on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. Please note that these are open meetings, held every two months and everyone is welcome to attend. Annual membership is \$12.50 per person. Thank you to all our “paid-up” members so far. We are currently developing a flyer which will explain the benefits of membership in more detail.

The Brush Turkey Café will be opening for the Great Lakes Food Trail again this year; the first one is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. If you can help contact Fran: 49977323 or email: [brushturkey@live.com.au](mailto:brushturkey@live.com.au). The Café will also open for Mothers’ Day, 13<sup>th</sup> May.

The Tennis Court dinners have been very successful in the fine weather over summer and it is good to have so many helpers willing to set up and clear away afterwards.

A small fee is paid to the Council for the use of the tennis courts and hall.

The next WCN meeting is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 3pm at the Brush Turkey café. Come along and be informed. Help keep these excellent facilities in Wootton available to all residents and visitors. New active members always welcome!

*WCN Secretary*

Bookings are going well for the Hall. The TAFE run Holistic Management Course has started and will be running at two days per month for most of the year, with catering provided by the Brush Turkey Cafe. LLS is hosting a Farm Family Gathering in the Hall which is the only venue this side of the range from Taree down to Karuah. If you are looking for a venue to hold a get-together don’t forget to think about using the hall. All hire fees are paid to the Council and go towards maintaining the hall and grounds. The Wootton Hall AGM needs to be rescheduled again. Date TBA. *Hall Chairwoman*

\*\*\*Strategic Plan Presentation to Council Reminder: To accommodate all parties, date has been moved to 18 April. Caro will be presenting, supported by Jim.

\*\*\*Trust and Crown Land update: Fran has been in contact with the Council, they are actively trying to contact Crown Lands for information on status of transfer and gave her the distinct impression that they are optimistic it might happen this year. Megan is following up.



Hall Easter Community dinner, food scrumptious, fantastic atmosphere

What a fantastic turnout for the working bee on the grounds around the Hall, Cafe and tennis courts



**Have you renewed your WCN membership?  
Would you like to become a member?**  
Contact Leanne [woottonguesthouse@gmail.com](mailto:woottonguesthouse@gmail.com)



**Congratulations  
Kate Hosey**  
for winning 1st prize in the  
Champion Open Hack  
Competition on "Bellara  
Beckham" at the 106th  
Annual Nabiac Show.



Locals enjoying a pool game while  
the library is open on Sundays.



**Join us for afternoon tea at the Hall,  
4pm Saturday 14 April 2018  
before the Food Swap.**

Come and share your ideas, let us know if there is something that you would like to do in the Hall or if there are any activities or events that you would like to organise. If you are keen to help out in any of the current activities, we can help. *Peter Dixon*

### **ANZAC Day Celebrations 25th April**

Events will be happening in Taree,  
Forster, Tuncurry, Bulahdelah.  
Check the internet for details



### **Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group**

Sue Williams has stepped down from the role of Convenor so she can focus on raising her delicious pasture raised chicken. Sue continues to be a TTSFG member and a driving force for the Great Lakes Food Trail. The Topi Topi group and KGLL are deeply grateful to Sue for her tireless and inspired efforts as group convenor. The TTSFG is very thankful to have Carole Robinson step into the Convenor role. Carole brings a wealth of experience in volunteering and environmental work, and is a local leader in private land reforestation projects. To join this proactive Sustainable Farming Group with membership from Wootton to Pacific Palms, please contact Carole on 0428 009 952.

### **New Artist at the Brush Turkey Café: Susie Oldfield**



Susie's art practice over the last five years has been varied in media and approach: drawing, dry point, collographic work, watercolours (Jane Davenport made this fun), fabric printing T shirts to sell at the local market. She spent a year accessing the Great Lakes TAFE print studio. Susie has also been working in textile arts as part of the Manning Fibre Group, creating contemporary baskets, deconstructing and upcycling, making fibre from the garden and using indigenous techniques to create baskets and forms and has rekindled her interest in natural dyeing using India Flint's eco-dyeing and printing techniques.

**Meet the Artist: Friday 6th April, 6pm**



## Sharing Wootton with our snakes

Snakes are a sign of a healthy ecosystem, all snakes are protected in NSW and killing one is an offence so it is a good idea to overcome our fears.

Local **non-venomous** snakes include the *diamond python*, *coastal carpet python* (carpet snake), *green tree snake* (yellow-bellied black snake, grass snake).

The most common **venomous** snake in our area is the *red bellied black snake*. Others include the *swamp* (marsh) *snake*, *Stephen's black banded snake* and *brown snake*.

The *red bellied black snake* is a shy snake. When approached this snake will often freeze to avoid detection. On the other hand, the *brown snake* often reacts defensively if surprised or cornered, putting on a fierce display and striking without hesitation. However, if approached over a distance, they will usually choose to flee or remain stationary, hoping to avoid detection. If there are *black snakes* around you will not see many *brown snakes* because their habitat is different. *Black snakes* must live within cooee of water, preferably running, whereas *browns* don't. They just come down to drink. All that a *brown snake* really wants to do is steal mice and be left alone.

\*\*\*Snakes are not naturally aggressive and prefer to retreat. They will only attack humans if provoked or hurt. Most bites occur when people try to kill or capture snakes - try to just calmly walk the other way.

**How to deter snakes:** make your garden less attractive to snakes by keeping shrubs trimmed, lawns mowed and tidy. Remove any piles of rubble, wood, roof sheeting or leaf clippings where snakes can shelter, snake-proof any refuse bins, ponds and aviaries with fine mesh, consider blocking access to under/ around the house.

**Tip:** Snakes hear through vibration so mow away from the house to avoid directing snakes towards it.

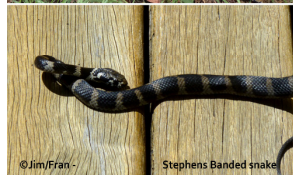
**To remove snakes:** go to Reptile Handler List found on <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au>



©Jim/Fran - Black snake



©Jim/Fran  
Carpet Python



©Jim/Fran -

Stephens Banded snake



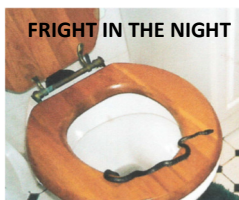
©Fred/Sue - Marsh snake



©Pat - Black snake



©Patrick/Sylvie  
Green Tree snake



FRIGHT IN THE NIGHT

I'm sure you've heard the story of the red back and the loo,  
Well I can go one better and swear my tale is true,  
When going to the loo one night, as I flicked on the light  
A snake was staring up at me; it gave me such a fright  
It was sliding on the toilet seat quite happy to be there  
So now I always check don't want another scare!!!!

Photo:  
Keith  
Poem:  
Pamela



## 22nd APRIL—A busy day for the region

**Great Lakes Food Trail** is happening all day

[www.thegreatlakesfoodtrailnsw.com.au](http://www.thegreatlakesfoodtrailnsw.com.au)

**Bungwahl Public School's** bush tucker and permaculture gardens will be open for touring and student-made treats (eg Davidson plum truffles, aniseed myrtle tarts, fresh fruit ice blocks) will be available. In 2011 the school's Kitchen Garden Program won the United Nations Association of Australia's Environmental School Award.

The program's focus is a real food philosophy of how today's consumer culture is impacting on our environment, how we are contributing towards this problem and actively engaging the students in investigating alternative solutions that still address their needs whilst not damaging the natural environment.

© Photos courtesy Bungwahl Public School



**Brush Turkey Café** will be open 10am to 3pm

Come and see local art, enjoy morning tea, light lunch or afternoon tea in a rural environment.

For more information email: [brushturkey@live.com.au](mailto:brushturkey@live.com.au)

**Bric-a-brac sale** at the Wootton Hall 10am to 3pm

BOOK A TABLE SPOT to raise funds for the Hall \$10. Vendors keep all their takings. There will be plenty of books on offer (with all funds raised going to the Hall) and a wide variety of bric-a-brac available. So, make sure when you pop in to the Brush Turkey Cafe come and say 'hi' to us in the Hall and see what goodies you can find. Spaces/ tables are limited—book early

Contact Sylvie on [arteon7350@gmail.com](mailto:arteon7350@gmail.com)



**MidCoast Libraries**  
**4-15 April 2018**

Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Seniors Festival.

Enjoy movies, painting workshops (Coral Nook at Harrington, Fruit Bowl at Taree), meditations, card and mind games, mindfulness, Golden Oldies Bash (morning tea plus rock'n'roll music), Seniors rights information sessions. For venues and details check [www.midcoastlibraries.com.au](http://www.midcoastlibraries.com.au)

**Adrian Zammit** has been appointed Landcare NSW, new CEO to help build its capability and capacity to better support the 60,000 -strong volunteer Landcare community.



Can you help  
mow around the  
Hall and Cafe?

Email us by 15th May 2018

## **IMPORTANT SURVEYS FOR OUR REGION**

### **Hunter Region: Biological Weed Control Survey managed by NSW Department**

**Primary Industries, Biosecurity** — The completion date has been moved to the 10th April to ensure that a minimum of 30 responses are obtained. Results will help develop biocontrol projects for the Midnorth Coast. It will take 5-15 minutes to complete depending on how many biological control agents you are interested in. No personal information will be collected. For help call Wendy 02 6626 1268  
Complete survey at: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Hunter\\_biocontrol\\_weeds](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Hunter_biocontrol_weeds)

**Wild Dog Management Survey by University of Sydney**— New research is looking at what can be learnt from more than 200 years of wild dog management in Australia. A survey in partnership with nation, state and local graziers' associations was undertaken in the 1950s. The new survey, conducted by Lily van Eeden, a researcher, is recreating aspects of the survey to understand what has changed and what we might learn from this historic study. If you are interested in completing the survey contact Lily on email: [lily.vaneeden@sydney.edu.au](mailto:lily.vaneeden@sydney.edu.au). Complete survey at: <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=N7YXD7AJNP>

**Brush Turkey Café events.** As usual offers of time, recipes, creative ideas and so on are welcome. Contact [brushturkey@live.com.au](mailto:brushturkey@live.com.au)



Bollywood Dinner 28 April



Mother's Day 13 May



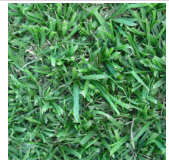
Men's Chef's Night 26 May  
Men will be doing all of it!

### **Kikuyu poisoning community information session:** North Court 3,

Total Agricultural College, 5th April, 10 to 11.30am

Poisoning is sporadic and the cause is still unknown

To Book: <https://hunterlls.wufoo.eu/forms/z1mdx47t09ebc63/>



### **Dung Beetle Field Day** hosted by LLS and Landcare in Bulahdelah,

10 April, 10am to 3pm—address provided on registration

Meet Dr Bernard Doube, Australia's leading dung beetle expert.

To Book: <https://hunterlls.wufoo.eu/forms/z19ljrb01igd5k4/>

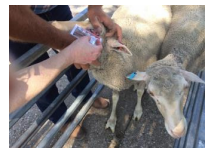
or RSVP to Joël on 0401 932 533 or [joel.dunn@glcr.org.au](mailto:joel.dunn@glcr.org.au)

### **FAMACHA Training Course** 17 April, Wingham 9.30am to 12 noon

Learn about a tool to detect and monitor anaemia caused by barber's pole worm in sheep/ goats. Cost \$30, get FAMACHA card.

Presented by Lower Hunter District Vet Dr Kylie Greentree.

Places limited. RSVP Hunter LLS office at Wingham on 6553 4233



## Fire Permits, Fire Control Notification, Neighbour Notification, Fire Permits

From 1 April fire permits are not required BUT you must still provide at least 24 hours notice to Tuncurry Fire Control (6539 7700) during business hours AND your neighbours (in person, via sms, email or notice in their mail box).



**Birds of the Mid Coast Shoreline:** Hunter Local Land Services (LLS) and MidCoast Council. Free event: 17 April, 6pm Old Bar Surf Life Saving Club OR 18th April, 6pm, Hawks Nest Community Centre. RSVP to Wingham Office 02 6553 4233



**Farm Family Gathering in the Wootton Hall**, hosted by LLS as part of their Rural Resilience Program. 12th April, from 6pm Farmers, their families and workers are invited to attend this free event to relax with friends, catch up with local support services and ask questions regarding their agribusiness and personal needs. RSVP: Peter Brown on 0437 671 459

**Wootton Directory** contains important local contacts . Please email Caro (ed) if you know of an important contact that we should include here. Thanks.



### Wootton Community Network

President: Jim O'Connor 0412963161

Secretary: Fran O'Connor

Treasurer: Leanne Wright 4997 7201

Email: [brushturkey@live.com.au](mailto:brushturkey@live.com.au)

### Wootton Community Hall Committee

Chair/Bookings: Caro Badcock

0408 415 420

Treasurer: Marg Dobson

### Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group

Chair: Carole Robinson 0428 4009 952

### Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Captain: Mike Badcock 0409 448 330

President: Adam Garnett 0428272629

Sen Dep Captain: Craig Tate

0431644953

### Karuah Great Lakes Landcare

Joel.Dunn@glcr.org.au 0401932533

**MidCoast Council:** 6591 7222

### Police

Senior Constable Trevor McLeod,

Sector Supervisor, Bulahdelah

4997 4204 0427233745

**State Emergency Service** 13 2500

**Local Land Services** (Wild dogs)

Wingham 6553 4233

**State Forests** Wauchope 6585 3744

**National Parks & Wildlife**

6591 0300

**Tuncurry Fire Control:** 6539 7700

**Bulahdelah Waste Facility  
opening hours**

**Tuesdays 1—5pm**

**Fridays 12—4pm**

**Sundays 10-2pm**



# DIRECTORY

## **Accommodation**

### ***Wootton Guest House***

Too many visitors? 4 air conditioned bedrooms with en-suites and balconies. Reasonable rates. Contact Peter & Leanne  
[www.woottonguesthouse.com.au](http://www.woottonguesthouse.com.au)  
4997 7201 0407 974 420

## **Earth Moving/Tractor Work**

### ***David Knezevic***

Excavation, demolition, auger, rock hammer, grab bucket, tipper, truck hire  
4777 7402 0410 441 428

## **Slashing and Excavating Services**

### ***Chris Nebauer***

Free quotes, all areas, no job too small or too large. 70hp 4WD tractor, heavy duty slasher or mulcher - 4.5 ton excavator with auger, bobcat, tipper.  
[www.slashingservices.com](http://www.slashingservices.com) 0416 128 502

## **Property and Livestock Services**

### ***Tony Mills***

Rural and domestic handyman, maintenance, repairs and other projects. All fencing. Garden maintenance, mowing, landscaping. Shearing sheep & alpacas, plus other animal husbandry tasks. Free quotes. All areas. Years of experience and skills. 0427 332 155

## **Real Estate**

### ***Edes Real Estate Pty Ltd***

Stock and Station agent and property management [www.edes.com.au](http://www.edes.com.au)  
Brian Ede 49974566 0408 492 883

### ***Rural Valley Realty, Coolongolook***

Local agent for 25 yrs. Rural specialist.  
Steve Devries 0458 448 019 4997 7214

## **Builder**

### ***Binna Burra Construction***

Custom building and carpentry, servicing Smiths Lake, Pacific Palms, Wootton, Nabitac, Forster and surrounds.  
[www.binnaburraconstruction.com.au](http://www.binnaburraconstruction.com.au)  
Lic no. 299434C 0421 245 197

## **Advertising for Wootton Valley News Directory**

**\$50 per four line ad space (6 issues)**

Renewals 1st July

*These businesses support this newsletter.*

*Please support them wherever possible.*

**New advertisers welcome, contact Leanne at [woottonguesthouse.com.au](http://woottonguesthouse.com.au)**

## **Wootton Livestock Transport**

### ***Neil Ede***

For any livestock handling needs. 30 years experience. 0407 787 920

## **Bulahdelah Post Office**

Bank@Post personal and business banking needs, passports, travel and computer needs, phones, gifts and more. Bendigo bank.

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Ph 02 4997 4283

## **Health: Podiatrist**

### ***Dot Williams***

Local podiatrist available for all foot care. Weekly clinics at Bulahdelah and Wingham, home-visits throughout the district.  
[williams.dot@gmail.com](mailto:williams.dot@gmail.com) 0406 287 694

## **RPS Enterprises Bus Services**

### ***Paul and Renee Spiteri***

Charter bus available. Will be offering day tours, travel to entertainment venues, long lunches, anything within reason for a trip.  
49977149 or 0407 298 954



## **Ideas for Autumn Planting:**

Bulbs (daffodil, jonquil, freesia etc),  
Flowers (pansy, viola, polyanthus etc)  
Natives (bottlebrush, banksia, lillypilly)  
Evergreens (camellia, azalea, magnolia)  
South Africans (protea, leucospermum)