

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2014 NO 91
DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

The currawongs are out in force at the moment, gorging on the white cedar berries. The one, pictured right, seems particularly dextrous, hanging upside down and reaching for that one berry, even though there are plenty closer. It is a large, mostly black bird, (with some white) and a bright yellow eye. The main call is a loud "currawong", which gives the bird its name. Other sounds include deep croaks and a wolf whistle. They breed from July to January, the nest being a bowl of sticks, lined with grasses and other soft material, in a high tree fork, up to 20 m above the ground. They feed on small lizards, insects, caterpillars and berries. They also take a large number of small and young birds. Larger prey, up to the size of a young possum, is also taken, and birds will occasionally hunt as a group. Prey may be stored in a 'larder' (hung on a hook or in a tree fork or crevice) and either eaten straight away or, in the case of larger prey, over a period of time. (Australian Museum website)



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fri 1 August	FIRE PERMITS REQUIRED FROM THIS DATE
Sat 9 August	Supper and Movie Night at the Brush Turkey Café 6pm Supper, 7pm Movie
Sat 30 August	Community Dinner at the café - Winter Warmers - 7 pm
Sun 31 August	Working Bee at the Brush Turkey Café 9 am start (food provided)
Sun 31 August	Wootton Community Network meeting (after working bee)
Sun 7 Sept	Wootton Fire Brigade Training Day
Sun 7 Sept	Fathers' Day in the Back Paddock - Winery - Aunty Hu Hu and the Big Lazy
Sun 7 Sept	Brush Turkey Café reopens - Special Fathers' Day Breakfast and Lunch
Sat 13 Sept	Supper and Movie Night at the Brush Turkey Café 6pm Supper, 7pm Movie
Sat 13 Sept	Food Swap at the Wootton Hall - 4.30 pm
Sat 27 Sept	Community Dinner in the Wootton Hall - 6 pm
Sat 15 Nov	Brush Turkey Café 10 year anniversary celebration

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc
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Wootton Community Network

Brush Turkey Café Birthday The Wootton Community Resource Centre, commonly known as The Brush Turkey Café, was officially opened on the 6th November 2004. We are planning a celebration to mark the ten year anniversary. The date has been tentatively set as Saturday 15 November. Many, many volunteers worked on the building and in the Wootton Community Network organisation on many projects including the café and this newsletter. We hope to have a celebration to honour all the volunteers, past and present, and to have just a *feel good* afternoon with all the community, Woottonites and Wootton supporters. So put the date in your diary!

Membership We currently have 64 financial members! Thanks to everyone who has joined and re-joined.

Facebook Page The official Wootton Facebook page will be online soon.

Wootton Valley News I hope everyone is accessing the newsletter one way or another. Remember all back editions are online.

Supper and Movie Nights These are held on the second Saturday of every month. Check the blackboard for what movie will be on. Or join as a member and you will receive email updates. \$10 for a movie and great light supper is good value and always a nice social night. Next dates are 9th August, 13th September and 11th October.

Working Bee All members and anyone else are invited to a working bee on Sunday 31 August. We will be doing a general tidy up (internal and external) before re-opening.

Winter closure The café has been closed for Winter as many of our members/volunteers are away. We desperately need more helpers to keep the café open on a Sunday. Fran will be organising a training day in September so please consider helping. Ring 49977201 and talk with Leanne if you can help. The café will re-open on 7 September for Father's Day.

Next meeting date Sunday 31 August after the working bee.

Call 49977292, 49977323 or 49977201 for more information or to book anything related to the Wootton Community Network.

Community Dinners

The *Christmas in July* was cancelled due to low booking numbers. Some bookings were received after it was cancelled, so remember to book early for the community dinners as people and food have to be organised well in advance.

August Dinner will be a Winter Warmers night with pies and casseroles. Remember to book early. \$20 per person (kids \$5) **30th August at 7 pm in the cafe**

September Dinner Will be the usual \$5 bring-a-plate dinner in the hall. Remember the hall dinners start at 6pm to encourage families! **27th September at 6pm in the hall**

October Dinner Any suggestions for a theme? **25th October at 7pm in the cafe**

November Dinner has been suggested as being a Men's chef night! If you are a man and can cook something, get ready! **29th November at 7pm in the cafe**

December will be our regular Christmas party on **Saturday 20th Dec-** so keep this date.



FATHERS' DAY BREAKFAST AND/OR LUNCH

7TH SEPTEMBER

9AM TO 11AM: FULL BREAKFAST WILL BE AVAILABLE

Fruit, yogurt, cereals, bacon, sausages, eggs, tomato (vegetarian option as well)

Cost: \$15 per person includes tea and coffee.

12 NOON TO 3PM: A traditional Ploughman's Platter will be available as well as the usual menu options.



CWAG Annual General Meeting

Inviting all Residents of
Coolongolook, Bunya, Wootton & Willina
to the AGM of CWAG (Coolongolook and Wootton Action Group)
When: Monday 25th August 6pm - 7pm
Where: Coolongolook School

Our French Connection Makes the Big Time

After a sold out season, the Sydney French Festival, with our neighbour Patrick Riviere as President has been invited to participate in the 2014 Sydney Fringe Festival.

Now in it's fifth year the Sydney Fringe Festival is the largest independent arts festival in NSW and this year is gearing up for the biggest most impressive festival yet. Not only is it presenting some of the best artists the city has to offer but it is also featuring family events, artist workshops, public forums and street activations.

During all of September 2014 the Sydney Fringe Festival will present hundreds of productions in over 60 venues.

The Sydney French Theatre will perform only 2 shows at The New Theatre, 542 King Street Newtown on Friday 19 September at 8pm and Saturday 20 September at 9pm. The play called "Je t'aime... moi non plus" (I love you... me neither) was sold out when performed last month in French with English subtitles. Through a series of 7 short plays, this show offers a unique glimpse at all the good and bad of being a couple. When loves enters the scenes, sometimes it calls for violence, seduction, teasing or tenderness!

Patrick says "We will be coming out of our nice little niche and comfort zone to play in front of a full Anglo audience but it is an honor and a challenge to have been accepted in this famous Festival".

If you are interested in seeing Patrick and his colleagues you can book on www.fringefestival.com after 1st August.



Patrick Riviere, on stage

News from Bulahdelah Police Station

Crime:

June/July

On the 9 June police attended to a complaint of stock straying onto a road at Warranulla. The owner of the stock was spoken to and admitted to having poor quality fences which allowed his stock to stray. The ramification of stock straying onto roads was reinforced with him. If your beast causes an accident the possible \$500 fine may be the least of your worries.

Between 5pm on 4 June and about 8am 5 June 2014 person/s unknown have accessed a farm fuel tank on a property off Kestevens Rd Bulahdelah. They have cut the nozzle from the locked hose on the tank of diesel and drained the tank, a total of about 700 litres.

Hopefully the size of this newsletters crime section is a permanent thing and not just a reflection of the cooler weather.

I have recently distributed a rural crime survey to about 100 residences. It is hoped this will help increase awareness about issues that you may face. If you have not received one and would like to please send me an email or drop me a line and I'll get one to you.

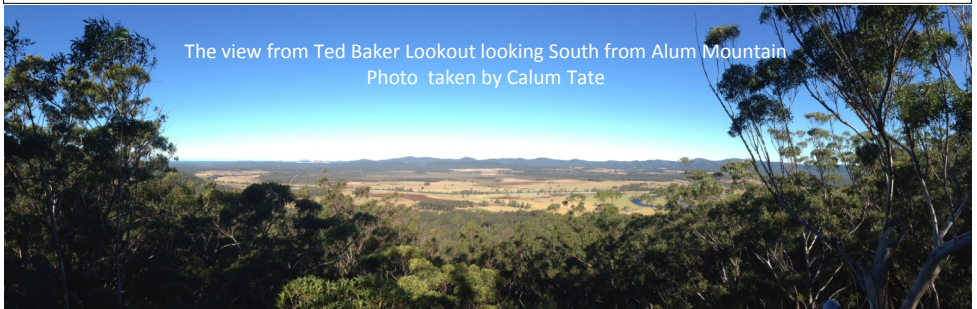
TIP: If it's not reported it didn't happen. If we don't know about it we can't fix it. Please report ALL illegal matters to the police – no matter how trivial you think it might be.

Thank you, Trevor McLEOD

Ph: (02) 4997 4204 or 0427 233 745 mcle1tre@police.nsw.gov.au



The view from Ted Baker Lookout looking South from Alum Mountain
Photo taken by Calum Tate



Alum Mountain is worth the climb

Recently I walked to the top of Bulahdelah Mountain, known locally as Alum Mountain, with my son and daughter. I hadn't been up there in many years. There are two main lookouts, one overlooking the town of Bulahdelah and the other, the Ted Baker Lookout, looks South towards Hawks Nest and out to the ocean. There are also some remnants of the old mining days when they mined alunite from 1878 to 1927. The walk is reasonably easy if you are fit, a little bit challenging if you are not. It takes about two hours slowly, looking at everything and taking photographs like we did. Pat



The Wootton Food Swap is Back

When: 13th September at 4.30pm
**Where: In the shelter shed outside the hall or
in the hall if it rains**



Based on the success of the first swap held at the end of Autumn, we will be holding these events once a month on the second Saturday of each month before the movie night, between September and April. The idea is to bring anything that is home grown or home made. Vegetables, fruit, preserves and jams are welcome, as well as anything crafty you might have made that you are happy to swap.

The event will be informal, with all swappables being loaded on to tables before we dig in to some tea and cake, have a yarn and look over the goodies. After that the swap starts, and everyone can take what they think is a fair exchange for the goods they brought. This worked well at the first swap, though if we grow a lot, we may have to introduce a more formal system. Arrival and table loading is at 4:30, cuppa and cake at 4:45, swap at 5:15 and we'll be finished at 5:45, in time for the movies.

The Community Library will also be open during the Swap.

For more information call Peter Dixon on 0437655658

Update on the Crown Land situation

Jim O'Connor, president of the Wootton Community Network and Caro Badcock, chairperson of the Wootton Hall Committee, recently met with the Department of Lands to discuss the situation. They were totally unaware of what the Council was proposing and acknowledged it was in conflict with what the Crown is proposing for Crown lands used by communities in the current White Paper, that is available for comment.

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2014 the recommendation was to "Defer until 30 September 2014 implementation of the resolution in relation to transfer of management and maintenance responsibilities to the Crown of certain public halls and community facilities so as allow for a report to be presented to Council addressing the submissions received." So, it is still business as usual in Wootton for now. Caro

New tables for the hall and a plug for the furniture removalist!!

Recently the Hall purchased 5 new tables with a grant from Great Lakes Council. Unfortunately they were delivered to Tea Gardens Community Centre rather than us. However, the company (based in Melbourne) organised for Shaun, who has set up his own removal business, Quick-n-Easy Removals, in Port Stephens, to collect the tables and deliver them to us. It was wonderful dealing with someone who confirmed what day he was arriving, phoned to let me know when he left Tea Gardens and was very friendly but efficient once he arrived at the hall. I would just like to recommend him if you have anything you need moved from one place to another eg pianos, furniture, pool tables. The business operates daily in Newcastle and surrounds and can travel wherever the job requires; they have a 24/7 service and charge door to door, not depot to depot. You can find him on Gumtree or call on 0423102109.

Holiday Coast Credit Union Supports Wootton RFS

The Wootton Fire Brigade was successful in obtaining a Community Grant from the HCCU. This is the second time that the Wootton Brigade has been successful in obtaining funds so they can purchase equipment. The equipment purchased as a result of the latest grant was 12 torches and fittings to enable the torches to be attached to individual helmets. The previous grant received from HCCU enabled the Brigade to purchase two GPS units, one for each truck and 6 hand held UHF radios. These grants have proven to be absolutely essential in assisting us to perform our duties. The Brigade would like to express their sincere gratitude to the HCCU and their commitment to supporting local community groups. It would be appreciated if you are thinking of changing your banking institution you consider the credit union that supports our local community.



Mike Badcock, Captain of the Wootton Fire Brigade, receives the successful grant from the Holiday Coast Credit Union

Congratulations to Lucy Attkins

Lucy recently attended the Myall Lakes Leadership Forum at Club Taree attended by around 60 people. Speaking at the Forum were state local member, Stephen Bromhead, Taree's most decorated rugby league player, Danny Buderus, author Tanya Saad, general manager of Manning Hospital Tricia Bulic and fellow National Party politician, member for Northern Tablelands, Adam Marshall. The focus of the forum was *Pathways to Leadership and Politics* and Mr Bromhead took the opportunity to compare politics to a game of cricket where the two major parties (Labor and Liberal/National Party) were the batting and bowling sides and the independents were like seagulls, flapping around, not achieving anything. Lucy, brave girl that she is, took it upon herself to challenge Mr Bromhead's analogy for the independents, citing the role and achievements of the three independents who held the balance of power in the previous federal government. Tanya Saad strongly supported Lucy's comments.



Lucy speaking at the forum.
(Photograph originally published in the Manning River Times)

Lucy has spent most of her life growing up in Wootton. Good on you Lucy for being brave enough to stand up and express your opinions. Keep it up.

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Due to the weather conditions

FIRE PERMITS are required from the 1st AUGUST

Call Outs:

It currently feels like an early start to the fire season!! We were able to respond to 75% of the numerous call outs with the remaining 25% having the trucks parked in the shed as there were not enough fresh members to make up crews. We attended a few serious vehicle accidents and numerous property fires where owners had lit heaps and lost control of them in the wind. The big fire at Minimbah was attended for several days with members coming up from Sydney to help rotate truck crews.

*If you intend to light up a heap, **PLEASE** check the weather forecast and obtain a fire permit you could save yourself and your neighbours a lot of grief and us our lost income!*

Members :

The brigade has 2 probationary members currently doing their Basic Fire Fighting course. On completion, they will join the brigade as active fire fighter's for the forthcoming fire season.

However, we need **more members** as we would like to respond to 100% of the call outs in our area. Non-active members would also be greatly appreciated to help clean and maintain the gear and shed, etc. If you would like more information, call Mike Badcock.

Working Bee:

A working bee was held on 20 July and in the last newsletter, we asked for help. The brigade would like to thank Lyn Skipper very much for her assistance on the day. She cleaned and vacuumed the inside of the Cat 1 cabin (no mean feat), tidied up the office, and sorted out the fridge (restocking, throwing out the old food packs, etc). We certainly appreciated your help Lyn!

Property Inspections:

Due to the dry winter so far, it is essential to consider the coming summer. If you would like an inspection or assistance with your Bush Fire Plan, call Mike Badcock.

The next Summer:

Minimal rainfall is not helping anyone and if this continues, it could mean a hot, dry summer.

Be prepared ... start cleaning up around the house, take the rubbish to the tip, do your fire plans, check water supplies, check/run pumps and sprinklers, put street numbers at the front gate, etc.

Adam Garnett
President 0428 27 26 29

Mike Badcock
Captain and Fire Permit Officer 0409 448 330

TRAINING: is held on the first Sunday of every month, starting at 10 am at the Fire Shed in Squires Road. New members are welcome.

The next dates are: 3rd August, 7th September, 5th October

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Wootton Guest House

Too many visitors!! 4 air conditioned bedrooms with ensuites and balconies, reasonable rates. Contact Peter and Leanne www.woottonguesthouse.com.au

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Earth Moving/Tractor Work

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Wootton Valley Haulage

12 tonne tipper with driver, fully insured, min 3hrs \$75 ph + GST **0458 288 057**

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Yoga

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Bulahdelah Bowling Club Tuesdays 5.30-7pm Senior teacher with 25 years teaching experience Phone Christine **0408 154 008**

Advertising for

Wootton Valley News Directory

\$50 for non - members

\$40 members

per four line ad space (6 issues)

Due 31st December

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

**New advertisers welcome,
contact the editors.**

Confucius said, 'The good man makes the good family. The good family makes the good neighbour. The good neighbour makes the good village. The good village makes the good community. The good community makes the good state. The good state makes the good country.'