

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

DECEMBER 2008-JANUARY 2009 NO 57
DISTRIBUTION 400 WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

The Fan-tailed Cuckoo is a slender bird, easily identified by a yellow eye ring. It has a dark slate-grey back and wings, becoming pale rufous below, with a boldly barred black and white under tail. It eats hairy caterpillars, but will also take a variety of other insects and their larvae. It's call is a mournful, descending trill. As with most other species of Australian cuckoos, the Fan-tailed Cuckoo is a brood parasite; laying its eggs in the nests of other species of birds. Host species include flycatchers, fairy-wrens, scrubwrens and thornbills, particularly the Brown Thornbill. A single egg is laid in the nest and one of the host's eggs removed. The young cuckoo generally hatches earlier than the host's eggs and proceeds to eject the other eggs or hatchlings. The seemingly unaware foster parents then rear the cuckoo chick. The Fan-tailed Cuckoo migrates to this area in August to December to breed. Seen recently in Wootton.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Saturday 6th Dec | Outdoor Furniture Workshop 8.30 - 4.30 Wootton |
| Saturday 6th Dec | Bulahdelah Markets Visitors Centre grounds 8am-1pm |
| Saturday 13th Dec | Wootton Xmas Party Brush Turkey Cafe 7pm |
| Sat/Sun 20/21 Dec | Brush Turkey Cafe Closed |
| Sat/Sun 27/28 Dec | Brush Turkey Cafe Closed |
| Sunday 28th Dec | Pacific Palms Markets 9am-1pm |
| Sat/Sun 3/4 Jan | Brush Turkey Cafe Closed |
| Saturday 3rd January | Bulahdelah Markets Visitors Centre grounds 8am-1pm |
| Sunday 11th/25th Jan | Pacific Palms Markets 9am-1pm |
| Saturday 26th Jan | Australia Day community dinner 7pm Brush Turkey Cafe |
| Thurs 12th Feb | Wootton Community Meeting Wootton Hall 6-8pm |
| Saturday 14th Feb | Movie & Supper Night Brush Turkey Cafe 7pm |

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Editors Bronwyn Little 49977185 and Pat Tate 49977292

Phone: 49977296 brushturkey@live.com.au Visit our website @ www.wootton.org.au

Wootton Community Network

WCN is a not for profit incorporated community group originally set up when Wootton was bypassed by the Pacific Highway. It's aims are to create a sense of community, a central meeting place, to nurture local business, create employment, disseminate information, act as an umbrella organisation to lobby government agencies and as a forum for ideas to create a more sustainable community. Wootton Community Network meets the first Thursday of EVERY month, at 7pm at the Brush Turkey Cafe.. Next meeting dates are 8th January, 5th February, 5th March, 2nd April. ANYONE AND EVERYONE is welcome to attend these meetings. If you are a member you can vote. If you want to have a say and be involved come along and see what this community group is about. To become a member it costs \$5.50, if you intend to be active, or \$22 if you would like to show your support. This money helps with the insurances we have to have; Public Liability, Volunteers Insurance and Contents Insurance and ongoing running costs.

Membership is gradually increasing and that means more diverse ideas, more skills and the survival of a successful community group and the infrastructure that group has created, namely the Wootton Resource Centre and Brush Turkey Cafe. Membership has now reached 65.

Pizza Oven We would still like to get an outdoor wood fired oven built so we are hoping to get interested people together early next year to plan and build it. If you would like to be involved please leave your name at the cafe.

Movie Night There will be no movie in December. The next movie will be on Saturday 14th February at 7pm. It will be a romantic evening to coincide with Valentines Day.

Kitchen Renovations The extension to the kitchen is almost complete. Tiling has been completed, thanks to Paul and Terry Burman. We still have some painting to finish and the coffee machine to be repositioned, as well as the moving of a freezer and storage cupboards. Thanks to Geoff Williams for fixing the donated bench fridge. Also thanks to Jean & Kevin for co-ordinating the renovations.

Photo Competition Thanks to Patrick for being such a great judge and thanks to Dave Knesivic for sponsoring prizes. Judging night was a lovely community event with some wonderful entries. We hope to run another competition next year so get out your camera and start taking photos. Anyone can take a photo and there are good cash prizes so it is worth the effort. Congratulations to all the prize winners.

Bulletin Board This is up and running. Contact Elizabeth on 49977167 or ask at the cafe if you would like to put up a notice. Thanks Ian Dobson for your construction work.

Wootton Community Meeting will be held on Thursday 12th February 6pm to 8pm to discuss the Wootton Strategic Plan, a follow up on the meeting held in October.

October & November prizes were donated by: Garry & Elizabeth, wine, Dulcie & Wolf, wine, Caltex Bulahdelah, dinner, Wootton Guest House, Christmas basket.

Café News

Christmas Closing for Cafe

Three weekends December 20th, 21st, 27th, 28th, January 3rd & 4th . Re-open 10th January 2009. Volunteers are having a well earned break!!

Cafe Volunteers We are always looking for volunteers to work in the cafe. We will be having another training afternoon in February so if you would like to help keep the cafe running consider volunteering. You only have to volunteer when you can, usually once a month. Everyone enjoys the experience and it's a great way to meet and keep in touch with people.

Community Dinners We cannot cater for more than 50 people at our monthly dinner so if you want to come please book early and arrive on time, 7pm, so you can organize your table. We can only cater for those who book. And remember we are all volunteers so help with cleaning up and washing up means everyone can enjoy the night. Anyone who can help with cooking please leave your name at the cafe or come to our monthly meetings, which are held at 6pm on the first Thursday of every month.

Cafe Garden Tracey's work in the garden is really paying off. It's great to be able to pick fresh organic lettuce, herbs etc to supply the cafe. Thanks to Eric for mulch, Jane for newspaper and also to Tracey's friend Michael who helped in the garden this month.

Artwork at the Brush Turkey Cafe January and February artist will be Pam Dunne from Coolongolook.

Artists Wanted Anyone interested in exhibiting in the cafe, please leave your details at the Brush Turkey Cafe.

Wootton Community Network Xmas Party

We are having our party on

Saturday 13th December at 7pm

with **LIVE MUSIC**

EVERYONE is welcome.

This party will be a

“BRING A PLATE OF FOOD TO SHARE”

and the only cost will be

\$5 to members and \$10 to non members

to go towards the cost of the band. (An extra \$10 will be charged if you don't bring a plate of food.) So far a leg of ham has been donated

by Wally Cheal, cooked chooks by Julie Freeman & Ice Cream puddings by 'Roscoes' from Coolongolook. There will be Membership Prizes. Should be a great night!

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Mick & Nicky Legge will be performing at our Christmas party with their band

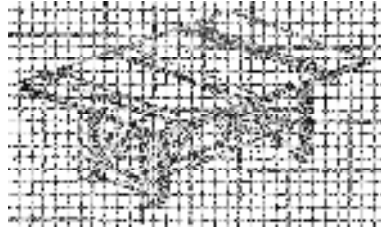
Learn to make your own Creative Outdoor Furniture

Saturday December 6th 8.30am to 4.30pm

Build an outdoor setting for our community using beautiful wood
Learn how to use those tools in your shed!

Receive a detailed 'HOW TO'
worksheet with cutting list and
dimensions, safety tips to make
your own at home!

Facilitated by Wootton Community
Network members, skilled craftsmen.
Designed and facilitated by Peter Auriac
and Ian Dobson



Sponsored by L.G. Gordon P/L Sawmillers Coolongolook

Where: Brush Turkey Cafe grounds

Includes: Lunch and morning/afternoon tea

Cost: \$30 members/\$50 non members

Bookings essential!! Please call 49977296 or 49977167

Bulahdelah & Myall Lakes Local Health Advisory Committee

The recent focus of BMLHAC has been on such issues as to:

- reintroduce a local transport kit (community, health related, veterans transport etc)
- adolescent mental health education
- obesity through lifestyle changes in exercise and nutrition by a "biggest loser" competition using Bulahdelah Central School's, soon to be established, Gym and Fitness Centre
- check men's health (PITSTOP) with Hunter New England Health staff, at no cost to the participant, at the Bulahdelah Show
- introduce a childhood nutrition (Good for Kids, Good for Life) program that aims to establish a vegetable garden in interested pre-schools with horticultural assistance
- Advanced Care Planning material that makes clear the wishes of the aged or infirm
- the value of automatic external defibrillators sited in community centres, golf clubs etc

John Smith Chairperson

We are lucky to have two local Wootton residents on this committee, Julie Richardson (Treasurer, Country Women's Association) and John Smith (Chairperson).

Congratulations to

Calum Tate for receiving the Junior Club Person of the Year award at Forster Tuncurry Rugby League Football Club for his photography work and Paul Auriac for completing his HSC.

Spring Encounters

Yesterday I noticed this contented Python sunning itself near the chook yard. I really feel lucky to live in this environment and experience the amazing occurrences in Wootton.



This python has obviously eaten a small Joey or bandicoot and will lie around in the sun for the next couple of weeks and digest. I only hope the Goannas don't find it like the last one. Nature is in abundance at the moment. I sit on my verandah eating breakfast and try to listen for a moment where there are no bird calls. It rarely happens. They definitely don't get that in the city. Last week I noticed this bird with a striped tail and it made a familiar sound, one I hadn't heard for a long time. I located it with the binoculars, looked up my Readers Digest Bird Book and identified it as a Fan Tailed Cuckoo, a bird travelling through our area at this time of the year and the one on this month's front cover. It felt good to have identified another bird. About a month ago I was coming home late along Wattle Hill Rd and just after passing Ferny Creek Rd and along a bit further my headlights picked up 4 sets of eyes looking into our headlights. There right in front of me were 4 baby foxes bouncing around on the road. It was only a second but I was amazed how cute they looked. I didn't run over them I managed to swerve past them. Finally I'd like to tell you about the 2 wedge tailed eagles along

Squires Road that have been eating the carcass of a still born calf. They looked so supreme sitting on the fence posts standing over a metre tall and swooping into the gully each time we passed. Apart from the Brush Turkeys walking the verandah at 6 o'clock sounding like human footsteps life's pretty normal. The city people don't know what they're missing.

Bron Little

Coolongolook School News

WELL DONE MRS OXFORD

A big congratulations to Mrs. Oxford whose excellent teaching was recognized at an awards ceremony recently. The award was from the Australian College of Educators for ably catering for individual differences and special learning needs in a respectful and responsible class environment.

Congratulations Mrs. Oxford!

Lance Sharp (Principal)



Wootton Fire Brigade News

Fire Permits are required until March 31st 2009.

Contact Mike Badcock on 49977337





FORESTS NSW

10000 Street, Yass NSW 2582 (PO Box 158, Yass NSW 2582)
www.forest.nsw.gov.au T 61 6025 2114 F 61 6025 2092

ref: 01501F

11 November, 2008

Dear Wootton Community Network Members,

Thank you for your emailed communications with regard to the Forests NSW (FNSW) letter of advice, dated 23 October 2008, concerning planned harvesting operations for Wang Wauk State Forest and related arrangements to protect the Wootton Historical Railway Walk (The Walk).

It is FNSW belief that there is a misunderstanding regarding the proposed 10m exclusion zone, which will be applied to those areas of the Walk not already covered by other Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (IFOA) exclusion tools. The following advice is provided in this regard.

FNSW manages native forest for timber production according to the principles of ecologically sustainable forest management. Every harvesting operation on State forest is planned and completed under the IFOA system, which sets out conditions and also requires compliance with the following licences:

- Environmental Protection Licences;
- Terms of Licence under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1999; and
- Fisheries Licence Conditions.

NB: the Lower North East IFOA can be found at <http://www.forest.nsw.gov.au/foa/foa16a1.asp>

In the compartment of Wang Wauk State Forest in question, and as per licence conditions, harvesting exclusions will be applied to:

- areas of rainforest
- high conservation value old growth forest
- riparian (streamside) areas
- ridge and headwater habitat
- slopes greater than 30 degrees, and
- areas that have been reserved under the Forest Management Zoning (FMZ) system.

In addition, specific exclusions will be applied for threatened species that have been identified within or adjacent to the compartment area.

The majority of the Walk is outside the area planned for harvesting. The section of the Walk that traverses the area planned for harvesting is known as "the Gorge" and is approximately 400m in length. Where the Walk and/or remnants of the logging railway do not lie within one of the abovementioned IFOA exclusion zones, a 10m exclusion zone will be applied. 10m is the standard width of exclusion zone that has been applied to other logging railway remnants across the Central Region. Trees inside the exclusion zone will not be removed, nor will trees outside the area be felled into this zone.

The recent investment of time by FNSW, Conservation Volunteers Australia and the Wootton Community Network in maintenance works on the Walk has resulted in improved accessibility via vegetation clearance and tread board replacement. Improved directional signage and grading of Worth's Creek Road are the next steps planned for this project. Given this, FNSW has no desire to adversely affect, or act detrimentally to, the integrity of the Walk as it now exists.

FNSW would be happy to meet you on-site to discuss this further if required. Additionally, information on IFOA license conditions and harvesting exclusions can be obtained from Andrew Ford, Community Partnership Forester, on 46316332 or email Andrew.ford@fsf.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Ford
For Kathy Jones
Regional Manager
Central Region



We received this letter in response to our concerns over proposed logging operations adjacent to the Wootton Historical Railway Walk. We are concerned about the environmental and visual impact on the walk.

MARKETS

- Bulahdelah** 1st Sat of month 8am-1pm adjacent to VIC
Forster Town Markets 2nd Sun of month
8am-2pm Forster Town Park Head St
Great Lakes Great Produce 3rd Sat of month
8am-12noon VIC grounds Little St
Tea Gardens Village Markets 3rd Sat of month 9am-
1pm Myall Quays Shopping Centre
Tuncurry 4th Sat of month 7am-1pm John Wright Park
Nabiac Farmers Market Last Sat of month 8am-1pm Nabiac Showground
Pacific Palms Last Sun of month 9am-1pm Pacific Palms Community Centre
Blackhead Bazaar 1st Sunday of month September - May 8.30-1pm Blackhead Beach
Krambach Hall 3rd Sunday of the month 9am-1pm Krambach School of Arts
The Hub Community Markets 3rd Saturday of the month 8am-12 noon Taree
Old Bar 4th Sunday of the month 7am-1pm Next to the tennis courts Old Bar



CAT AWARENESS

Feral Cats

Cats are not native to Australia. They were introduced probably around the time of first European settlement. During the 19th century, thousands of cats were released in the gold fields to control mice. Cats were also popular with settlers to keep down the numbers of rabbits and native rats.

Many were released - or escaped - into the bush, where they were able to fend for themselves. These cats did not depend on humans for food or shelter and in effect became wild - or 'feral'. They spread rapidly across most of the continent. It is estimated that there could be 400,000 feral cats in NSW and around 12 million across Australia. Feral cats prey on a wide range of native Australian wildlife species, including small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects and fish. During breeding season, a female feral cat raising kittens may eat up to 20 percent of her body weight in prey every day. Direct competition for food and other resources may also contribute to declining numbers of native predatory species such as birds of prey, quolls and various reptile
www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Keeping cats as pets

We all live near areas of bush, and treasure the native wildlife that lives near us. If you own a pet cat, there are a few simple things you can do to reduce the impact of your cat on wildlife:

- Always keep your cat indoors at night
- Consider keeping your cat indoors, or within your property, at all times
- Get your cat desexed
- Don't dump unwanted cats or kittens in the bush
- Make sure your cat always has enough fresh food and water
- Check your cat into a cattery when you go away
- Make sure your cat has identification!
- Don't feed stray cats
- Putting several bells on a cat's collar may help to reduce the cat's ability to hunt.



Under the [Companion Animals Act](#), cats born in NSW after July 1999, and any cat that has changed owners since that time, must be microchipped and registered for life.

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**

Air Conditioning

Repairs, sales, installation. Domestic and commercial. Mark Tidbury Lic no 123069C **0427500329 49977308**

Building & Maintenance Contractor

Solutions to building problems Lic 631C Rob McDougall **0427 955958 49977335**

Church Open House Every Sunday

Arrive at 10am. Share lunch, fun for kids. Entrance opposite Forest Lodge on Wootton Way. Dave and Kathy Barker **49974675**

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**

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

Massage Trigger point, therapeutic & remedial massage. Day Spa body treatments & facials using 100% natural & organic hand-made products. www.lotusretreat.com.au Kerry Bromage **49977320**

Plumber Richard Green Plumbing

All plumbing, drainage, gas fitting, LPG gas fitting, domestic, commercial, industrial Lic no 53903C **0418 618583 65591555**

Renewable Energy

STS Services P/L Solutions toward Sustainability, Solar systems Grid connect or Stand alone Lic 27928C Accredited F524 **49977167 0417369670**

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**

Transport

G.T. Delivery Service Neil Ede Daily runs Newcastle to Taree Same day service **0412496566**

For Sale (This service is free)

- ◆ Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake \$30 only made to order. To order in advance Ph Bronwyn 49977185
- ◆ Push Lawn mowers from \$100 Ph 49977404

Advertising rates 12 months for the Wootton Valley News Directory are \$55 for Non-members,

\$45 Members - per 4 line ad space

Please contact the editors for new advertisers or wording changes.

Please send a cheque payable to the Wootton Community Network at 1633 Wootton Way, Wootton 2423 These businesses support this newsletter. Please support them wherever possible.

