

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS



DECEMBER 2009 – JANUARY 2010 NO 63

DISTRIBUTION 500 WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

The Brush Cuckoo male is grey-brown above, light grey to buff below, with a grey head, neck and breast. The tail has a white tip and is barred white underneath. The female has two colour morphs (forms): unbarred and barred. The Brush Cuckoo is found across northern Australia from the Kimberley region to the east coast, down to Victoria. Also found in eastern Indonesia, including Timor and the Moluccas, New Guinea and to the Solomon Islands. The Brush Cuckoo is found in wooded habitats, including rainforest, wet sclerophyll forests, paperbarks, along waterways and in more open forests and woodlands. Sometimes found in gardens. Partially migratory, with southern populations moving north in winter. The Brush Cuckoo eats insects, particularly hairy caterpillars. It usually forages high in the forest canopy but may sometimes feed on the ground. The Brush Cuckoo is a nest parasite, which means that it lays its eggs in other birds' nests. Only one egg is laid in a host's nest and the eggs tend to resemble closely the eggs of the chosen host in markings. The young cuckoo ejects any other eggs or young once it hatches. The host parents brood and feed the young cuckoo, sometimes for up to a month after it fledges. The Brush Cuckoo is not common in regrowth forests or in areas that are regularly burnt. It will be seen in gardens. Sometimes collides with lighthouses. Source 'Birds in Backyards' website. Seen in our area now



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday 6th December	Wootton Fire Brigade Meeting 9am Fire Shed
Saturday 12th December	Wootton Xmas Party 7pm Live Music
Sunday 27th December	Brush Turkey Café closed
Saturday 2nd January	Wootton Fire Brigade Training day
Sunday 3rd January	Brush Turkey Café closed
Sunday 17th January	Wootton Fire Brigade Meeting 9am Fire Shed
Saturday 30th January	Australian Themed Wootton Community Dinner 7pm

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Wootton Community Network Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, 7pm, at the Brush Turkey Café. Next meeting dates 10th December & 7th January 2010. ANYONE AND EVERYONE is welcome to attend these meetings.

Bus Trip to Hunter Valley Vineyards Planning is underway for the bus trip in February. Anyone with any suggestions contact Bron Little on 49977185.

Café News The opening hours of the café have been re-adjusted. The new hours are 9- 4pm every Sunday. Please note the café will be closed on 27th December & 3rd January 2010 for the Xmas break. If you can spare a Sunday every 4-6 weeks and would like to meet some really nice people, come along, volunteer and support this unique, worthwhile community venture. All profits are put back into the community.

Sunday Newspapers can be pre-ordered by ringing Leanne on 49977201 and collected from the Brush Turkey Café after 9am. (orders only)

Cafe Garden is flourishing in this hot weather, producing lettuce, tomatoes, herbs, spinach grown organically and supplying the café. Anyone who would like to help in the garden, can supply seedlings or produce to the café is most welcome. Call Bron on 49977185.

Art at the Brush Turkey Café Our local artists exhibiting until Christmas are Friedel Warmers, Linda Gill, Pam Dunne and Wayne Ellis. Any artists wanting to exhibit please leave your name at the café for next year.

Thankyou to...

- * The working bee gardeners, Fran, Jim, Geoff, Pat, Bron, Kay, Peter and Jeff & Julie for their donation of cow manure.
- * Peter Auriac for collecting the Sunday newspapers every Sunday.
- * Jim and Peter Auriac for mowing around the Centre.

Ladies Night will recommence on February 19th 2010.

Next Movie & Supper Night will be held on the 12th February 2010, 7pm at the Brush Turkey Café.

Wootton Community Network's Achievements for 2009

- * Successfully lobbied Council to have both the Wootton sign along Wootton Way and depth indicator sign at Stamps bridge erected. Clean up of leaf mulch along Wootton Way to allow better drainage off the road. Worth street drainage. Widening of the 1st corner of Wattley Hill Rd & signposted. Improved drainage on the corner of Squires and Possum Pie Rd.
- * Organised 2 Clean Ups of Wootton Way.
- * Assisted the Wootton Fire Brigade fund raiser at local auction to buy much needed equipment.
- * Purchased a digital projector to better run our successful movie & supper nights.
- * Renovated the kitchen in the Brush Turkey café, doubling the preparation area.
- * Held workshops & constructed two timber outdoor settings for the café.
- * Published the 60th issue of the Wootton Valley News, 10 years publishing.
- * Lobbied State Forests for replacement of Possum Pie & Squires Rd sign.
- * Ran workshops for coffee making and cash register training.
- * Continued maintenance of the Wootton Resource Centre and garden.
- * Continued operation of the Brush Turkey café by volunteers.

WOOTTON COMMUNITY XMAS PARTY

Saturday 12th December 7pm

Live Music by local band

"FLICKVILLE PICKERS"

Bring a Plate to Share

ALL WELCOME

Brush Turkey Café 1633 Wootton Way

Voluntary Donation of \$5
to go towards the cost of the band



Community Dinners October's Halloween dinner was a hoot with most people dressed to kill. November's Thanksgiving dinner was another lovely evening sitting out under the stars on a lovely balmy night eating home cooked Wootton version of Thanksgiving food. Thanks to Pat, Leanne, Bron, Kay, Craig for the food prep and Pam, Ella, Kay, Trevor, Bron, Pat, Anna & Mike's and Bron's excellent carving skills.



Wayne & Geoff enjoying the 'Thanksgiving Dinner'



Judy, Sylvie & Anna haunting the 'Halloween Dinner'

Next years first community dinner will be an Australian theme and will be held on **Saturday 30th January 2010**. Come along ready to tell a short poem or joke to amuse the crowd. Tasty home cooked Australian fare will be the go. So come along and enjoy yourself. Make the night more fun by dressing up in

Bulahdelah Landfill & Recycling Centre Opening hours:

Tuesday: 1:00pm - 5:00pm **Friday:** 12 Midday - 4:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am - 2:00pm Gate Keeper 02 4997 4515 (ph)

WOOTTON SUSTAINABLE FARMING GROUP

In 2010 Sustainable Agriculture is coming to Wootton. Joel Dunn, Catchment Officer Great Lakes Council, is organising for a group to be formed in Wootton, to share ideas on sustainable farming practices.

Currently there are groups throughout the Great Lakes that have been active for a number of years, quite successfully. Anyone in the Wootton area that runs an agricultural enterprise is invited to join this group.

Joel Dunn's contact details are as follows: ph 65917317 & mob 0410295560.

The first meeting of the Wootton Sustainable Farming Group will be at Mike & Caro Badcock's property, 589 Newmans Rd, Wootton on 9.00am Friday, 19th February 2010. Please contact Joel Dunn to book your place.

Fire Fly Feedback

This year's showing was a good one, lasting all through October into the beginning of November. The flashing lights in the early evening are a magical sight for all to see amongst the lower canopy of the bush. It is amazing when you see the lights to realize that the brighter the light, the more eager they are trying to attract the opposite sex. The sight is especially delightful for young children.

Wootton Way Clean Up

A third clean up will be undertaken on Monday 8th of February 2010, 9am-11am. Meet at the cafe. Have you 2 hours spare to help?

We will be starting where we left off last clean up, at the second set of concrete barriers at the base of the mountain.

Did anyone notice the pile of rubbish discarded along Wootton Way at the bottom of the steep hill recently? Council were informed but failed to find it and in the mean time a good citizen had removed it and left their message to the 'tossers' - "Karma is real, so is garbage".

It only happens in the country, especially in Wootton!!!

- * Stepping out of bed at night to go to the toilet, hearing a crunch underfoot, turning the light on only to discover a snakeskin!!!
- * Pulling the plug out of the sink, where the rinsing water has sat overnight and finding in the palm of your hand a dead, drowned mouse. Yuk!!!
- * Cleaning out debris from a sink plug hole and something moves between your fingers!!!
- * Picking up off the verandah a piece of chalk only to discover it is actually a dried up piece of white snake poo. (It doesn't work on a blackboard)
- * Lying in bed at night hearing the flapping wings of micro bats, feeling the breeze the wings create on your face.
- * While washing up at the sink, glancing out of the window, to see two bounding young dingoes disappear into the bush. A second later, and they wouldn't have been seen.
- * Diving into a dam filled with freshly hatched tadpoles, surfacing to find a tadpole in your mouth.

Wootton Fire Brigade News



Fire Permits

From the 1st of October 2009, until 30 March 2010 Fire Permits are required for all fires.

RFS Fire Control Tuncurry (6555 5782, Mon-Fri 9.00am to 4.00pm.) must be notified 24hrs prior to lighting of any fires. All neighbours must be notified 24hrs prior to lighting of any fire. Any fire that is lit with a permit must be completely extinguished, if a total fire ban is declared. Permits will be issued on Thursday. To make an appointment for a permit, contact Mike Badcock on 49977337.

Meetings & Training

Next Meeting:	Sunday 6th December, 2009	9.00am
Next Training:	Saturday 2nd January, 2010	9.00am
January Meeting:	Sunday 17th January, 2010	9.00am

Further meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month and training is on the 1st Saturday of each month.

Meetings and training take place at the fire station In Squires Rd, Wootton.

New Members Required

Currently your community's Brigade has only 16 active members, we desperately require more volunteers, (if you're over 16, male or female and have any spare time please consider joining the Wootton Fire Brigade).

Application Forms are available from Mike Badcock 49977337.

The following arrived in the Inbox and is worth a read!!!

Don't know how true it is.

“Car Air Conditioning MUST READ!!! Please do NOT turn on A/C as soon as you enter the car. Open the windows after you enter your car and turn ON the A/C after a couple of minutes. Here's why. According to a research, the car dashboard, sofa, air freshener emit Benzene, a cancer causing toxin (carcinogen - take time to observe the smell of heated plastic in your car). In addition to causing cancer, Benzene poisons your bones, causes anaemia and reduces white blood cells. Prolonged exposure will cause leukaemia, increasing the risk of cancer. Can also cause miscarriage. Acceptable Benzene level indoors is 50mg per sq.ft. A car parked indoors with windows closed will contain 400-800 mg of Benzene. If parked outdoors under the sun at a temperature above 60 degrees F, the Benzene level goes up to 2000-4000 mg, 40 times the acceptable level. People who get into the car, keeping windows closed will inevitably inhale, in quick succession, excessive amounts of the toxin. Benzene is a toxin that affects your kidney and liver. What's worse, it is extremely difficult for your body to expel this toxic stuff. So friends, please open the windows and door of your car - give time for interior to air out - dispel the deadly stuff - before you enter.”

Great Lakes Catchment Management Group

The final meeting for 2009 of the Great Lakes Catchment Management group was held on the 18th November at Nabiac. The four Sustainable Farming Groups established this year have all just finished their program of six formal workshops. Work will continue with each group now meeting every 2 months and determining workshop content via participant's wants and needs. The Sustainable Farming Program has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Local Government Shires Association Excellence in Environment Awards under the category of Communication, Education and Empowerment. Stacey Tyack, GL Catchment Management Officer will be travelling to Sydney on the 1st December to make a presentation and attend the awards ceremony. See elsewhere in this newsletter for the birth of the Wootton Sustainable Farming Group.

In the open session of the meeting Prue Tucker, GLC spoke about the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. We all know that groundcover goes a long way to retarding the run-off of sediments into our waterways. The suggestion is that groundcover of 90-100% is achievable in our coastal environment with appropriate land management techniques. Hence the importance of the Sustainable Farming Groups.

The first meeting for 2010 will be in the old school in Wootton on February 10. The closed meeting will be held in the morning. However, any interested members of the public are welcome to a lunch at 12pm followed by an open forum for landholders where you can raise any issues relevant to the group. This will then be followed by a special interest talk, topic still to be advised. If you are interested in attending please contact Stacey Tyack 65917378 or Stacey.tyack@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au.

CCP79 What does it mean?

Have you noticed the new green signs erected around the roads and were you wondering what they mean? Council have informed us that the CCP stands for "Common Collection Point" and that this refers to a group collection point for garbage bins in an area, not outside a residence. So, now you know!



Think about this!

I was heartened to read a letter to the editor in the Saturday issue of the Sydney Morning Herald recently, following a "men's makeover" article. The total cost for these men to have 1 new outfit each was \$14,142.

Brad Irvin's reply hit the nail on the head. "According to the Oxfam Unwrapped website, \$14,142 would buy all

of the following for people in need: 10 wells for community water; 45 toilets; 20 goats for food and milk; 100 packages of seed for food growing; 10 duck families; 20 vegetable gardens; 10 farmer's packs; 2 bicycle ambulances; two buffalo; plus food and nutritional information for 84 children in East Timor." Makes you think!!! Bron



A story to remind us all to make the most out of every day

"A friend of mine opened his wife's underwear drawer and picked up a silk paper wrapped package: 'This, he said, isn't any ordinary package'. He unwrapped the box and stared at both the silk paper and the box. 'She got this the first time we went to New York, 8 or 9 years ago. She has never put it on, was saving it for a special occasion. Well, I guess this is it. He got near the bed and placed the gift box next to the other clothing he was taking to the funeral house, his wife had just died. He turned to me and said: 'Never save something for a special occasion. Every day in your life is a special occasion'. I still think those words changed my life. Now I read more and clean less. I sit on the porch without worrying about anything. I spend more time with my family, and less at work.

I understand that life should be a source of experience to be lived up to, not survived through. I no longer keep anything. I use crystal glasses every day...I'll wear new clothes to go to the supermarket, if I feel like it. I don't save my special perfume for special occasions, I use it whenever I want to. The words 'Someday...' and 'One day...' are fading away from my dictionary. If it's worth seeing, listening or doing, I want to see, listen or do it now...I don't know what my friend's wife would have done if she knew she wouldn't be there the next morning, this nobody can tell. I think she might have called her relatives and closest friends. She might call old friends to make peace over past quarrels. I'd like to think she would go out for Chinese, her favourite food. It's these small things that I would regret not doing, if I knew my time had come.

Each day, each hour, each minute, is special.

Live for today, for tomorrow is promised to no-one."

DIRECTORY

Accommodation

Too many visitors! **Wootton Guest House**
4 a/c bedrooms with ensuites & balconies,
reasonable rates. www.woottonguesthouse.com.au
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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**

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design, Hardware upgrade, Custom build!
New parts warranty.
Peter **49977223**

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49977335 0419201913

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Please contact the editors for new
advertisers or wording changes.
Please send a cheque payable to the
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1633 Wootton Way, Wootton 2423
or you can pay by bank deposit.
Advertising due 30th June.

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