

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2006 NO 40

DISTRIBUTION 400 WOOTTON COOLONGOLOOK

BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Bandy Bandy Snake

Vermicella annulata

This snake has a distinctive pattern of alternate black and white rings, commencing with a black snout, the black rings of the body usually extending well onto or even right across the belly. A nocturnal, burrowing snake found in a great range of habitats from wet coastal forests to Spinifex covered desert sandhills. Blind

snakes may be their major source of food. (Blind snakes are worm like, burrowing and non-venomous). The Bandy Bandy, when alarmed, throws it's body into one or more loops which are held high off the ground. Recently sighted by residents in our area.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fri - Sun 10th-12th Feb	Bass Bash Bulahdelah
Sunday 12th February	Wootton Fire Brigade meeting 9am
Thursday 16th February	Bingo Coola Hall 7pm 'eyes down'
Sat 18th - Sun 19th Feb	Battle of the Boats Pacific Palms Surf Boat Carnival
Saturday 25th February	Monthly Dinner Brush Turkey Café-Thai 7pm
Sunday 26th February	Pacific Palms Markets 9am - 1pm
Thursday 2nd March	WCN Meeting 7pm
Saturday 4th March	Bulahdelah Community Markets 8am - 1pm
Sunday 5th March	Clean Up Australia Day
Thurs 2nd, 16th, 30th Mar	Bingo Coola Hall 7pm 'eyes down'
Saturday 25th March	Monthly Dinner Brush Turkey Cafe- Italian 7pm
Saturday 25th March	Nabiac Farmers Market 8am - 12pm

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Editors Bronwyn Little 49977185 and Pat Tate 49977292

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Wootton Community Network News

Apologies to anyone who found the CTC closed in December. The Wootton Community Resource Centre, which includes the Community Technology Centre and the Brush Turkey Café, is run by **volunteers**. These volunteers are usually involved as volunteers in other organizations as well, such as the Bushfire Brigade, and run their own businesses, work full time or part time and have families. Please have some consideration for this if you find the place closed without notice. The volunteer was probably called away on a family or work matter or called on as a volunteer as happened in December when some major bushfires occurred.

The Centre is the culmination of 6 years of consistent voluntary effort by a relatively small band of workers. This has involved a lot of physical work and many hours applying for grants, keeping records and compiling reports. We have given up thousands of hours to fundraise and keep this Centre open. The main aim of the Centre is to be a **meeting place for locals** and to provide some services such as computers & internet. So, if you find the Centre is not open as often as you would like, consider volunteering yourself.

If you phone the Centre please leave a message and remember to also leave your name and phone number.

We are thinking about opening the Centre on Friday nights for a social get-together. Probably from 6-8pm. Ring Pat with any suggestions if you are interested.

Australia Day Breakfast

About 30 people enjoyed a big breakfast and friendly get-together to celebrate Australia Day. Thanks to Great Lakes Council for their donation towards the cost of food. Thanks also to Jean, Kevin, Bronwyn & Garry who helped organise the morning.

Community Dinners

February's monthly dinner will be held Saturday 25th February at the Brush Turkey Café 7pm serving yummy **Thai food**.

March's dinner will be held on 25th March, **Italian** Please book on 49977296

Call for Artists

I'm currently compiling a list of interested artists, photographers, sculptors, potters and others, to be included in the 2006 exhibition listing for the Brush Turkey Café. We hope to raise the profile of art in the café, and provide local artists with an outlet for their work. There is the option of individual exhibitions or contributing single works to group shows.

Please feel free to contact me by email at wcnbrushturkey@hotmail.com, attention Wayne, by phone on 65545009, or leave your contact details at the café. I look forward to hearing from you and know, with your help, we can keep the exhibition space, fresh, interesting and inspiring for all.

Thanks.....Wayne Ellis.

On exhibition for February & March are Pauline Wilson's paintings, prints and photography. Pauline is one of the many gifted artists living on the Mid North Coast. Take the time to view these lovely works while on show at The Brush Turkey Café.

Café News

We have now introduced Caesar Salad onto the menu. So come along and try this tasty addition. The burgers, beef & vegetarian, are proving very popular. A great venue for celebrating you next birthday, anniversary etc at the café. Bring your visitors along for a cuppa.

Visitors Book comments

"I love the atmosphere, the food, the view, the people!!

"Great view, nice eating place. " "A great meeting place- very friendly staff"

Membership

Wootton Community Network membership is now due for 2006.

New members are especially welcome.\$22.00 for the first year reduced to \$5.50 for subsequent years with 20 voluntary hours, or remains at \$22 as an associate member without the voluntary hours

More volunteers are needed for the Centre. People are always moving on to paid jobs or leaving the area. You can volunteer in a number of ways: Gardening, bookwork, marketing, cleaning, cooking, kitchen hand, café work, computer work. Volunteering can be very rewarding and a great way to get to know your community.

Welcome to David Knezevic & Orla Murtagh and their son Rory Murtagh of Newman's Road

Congratulations to T.J. and Jude Macaulay on the birth of their son Angus, born on 17th January,2006, a brother for Sophie Rose

Congratulations to Melissa & Mark Garland on the birth of their son Jack Robert on 3rd February, a brother for Brooke

**'Justice of the Peace'
are available in our area
Jean Price on 65521253 or
Warren Richardson 49977130**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS
31ST MARCH, 2006
WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS & FEEDBACK**

What's happening in your neck of the woods?

Eg: Bunyah, Bungwahl, Coolongolook...

Contact the editors.

Past resident visits

the old Wootton School & Brush Turkey Café

Myrtle French (now Trinder), now living in Mayfield, is 85 and attended infants and primary at Wootton School. Her family owned property either side of the Wootton Way from the bus stop to the bends. She also married in the Wootton Church. Her grandson & daughter recently visited the area and stopped off to have morning tea and lunch at the Brush Turkey café. She had a lovely time reminiscing, looking at the old photos and remembering her

Coolongolook School News

We have had a great start to 2006 and we are anticipating an excellent year. At Coolongolook we believe that everyone including children and adults can and will learn in a safe and happy environment. Everyone at the school is working very hard to make sure this happens which is very pleasing. Our captains for 2006 are Jessica Andersen and Chanel Christie. Samantha Rinortner is SRC President, Megan Harrington is Secretary and Jade Bramble is the Treasurer.



Our new Kindergarten enrolments are Matthew Locke, Poppy Gray and Kiesha Buttsworth and they have settled in beautifully.

Thursday we went to the Small Schools Swimming Carnival and after a successful swimming school late last year we did well.

Peter Mason - Principal

Wootton Hall News

- ◆ The unsightly condition of the Wootton tennis courts was brought to the attention of Great Lakes Council and a meeting has been arranged with the Hall Management Committee and the Tennis club to decide on it's future.
- ◆ The hall is available for hire at reasonable rates. Phone Garry Williams on 49977167 to book your next party.



Wootton Rural Fire Service News

Wootton was very lucky over Christmas and New Year

Lunch time on Christmas eve when the temperature was 40° plus and the Nor-wester was gusting 40km per hour, a puff of smoke appeared in Bangalow Creek off Squires Road, west of the village.

Some months before the farmer, who owned the property, had burnt off the brush along his boundary fence. The fire had smouldered in an old stump undetected for all that time.

What a test for response of your brigade! As well as myself, Mike Badcock, Susan Mayo, Ian Dihm and Bernard and Karen Carran were able to respond. We also asked for assistance from Fire Control, and Bulahdelah Brigade promptly responded. Both brigades were on the scene within 20 minutes. By that time the fire had moved beyond the creek and was well into a stand of blue gum putting up a flame height of over 14 feet. We initially attacked the fire from behind and across the creek and when our hoses were fully extended we took the risk of breaking off Bulahdelah and sending them around to the fire front. When Bulahdelah was engaged again, Wootton followed. We stopped at our shed to replenish water and foam and it was obvious that the intense conditions were too much for Susan. Fortunately Clint Ede and James Palmer turned up and we were able to relieve Susan and Ian and continue to fight the fire. Bernard and Karen were left in the striker to mop up the rear. The brigades were able to turn the fire front out into open grass away from heavy tea tree scrub and eventually bring the fire under control.

This was a very touch and go situation. If the fire had moved only a hundred metres to the south it would have entered impenetrable tea tree and with other units already committed to the 9 outbreaks in the region our 2 tankers and 2 strikers would not have been able to hold the fire, and farms along Newman's Road would have been in its direct path.

Brigade members were engaged for over 7 hours in very oppressive conditions. Our Community should be very grateful for these members who turned out in such terrible conditions and averted such a potentially serious situation.

Members were also called to help fight the fires on the Central Coast on the New Year's Day holiday. Myself, Darryl Buchanan and Mike Badcock took the tanker and spent the day there, before rain started falling.

The **Next Meeting** will be held at the Brigade Fire Shed this **Sunday, 12th February at 9am**. If you are considering joining the brigade come along. All welcome.

Craig Tate. Captain.

Please note: Fire permits are still needed before lighting any fire.

Please contact Robyn Smith on 49977209 or Mike Badcock on 49977337 for permits in the Wootton area. Please ring well in advance.

Planting Guide for February/March

Beans

Beetroot

Broccoli

Brussel Sprouts

Capsicum

Carrots

Cauliflower

Kohl Rabi

Leeks

Lettuce

Spring onions

Parsnips

Peas

Potato

Radish

Salsify

Silverbeet

Spinach

Swedes

Turnips



Economical Driving Tips

With the high cost of fuel and the distances we travel in the country the following tips might be helpful.

- ◆ Regularly service your car
- ◆ Accelerate & break gently - this can save you at least 10-20% in fuel costs, wear on your car and increase your safety.
- ◆ Drive at or just below the speed limit - this reduces wind resistance and increases your fuel economy by 5-10%
- ◆ Drive at the highest gear possible reducing engine speed and fuel
- ◆ Avoid excessive idling
- ◆ Reduce air conditioner use. It reduces fuel economy by as much as 10%. At the same time don't travel with windows down at speeds over 80 kph as this also reduces economy.
- ◆ Check tyre pressure regularly
- ◆ Remove unnecessary weight from inside the vehicle or unused roof racks.
- ◆ When buying a new vehicle look for the fuel efficiency rating
- ◆ Plan your journeys well and try car pooling.



(www.autobrakeservice.com.au/your_driving_habits.php and Grass Roots magazine No 172)

A perfect "Pick-Me-Up"



Volunteering boosts health and love life
Giving your time to help others in need can lead to romance according to new research. ...doing things for others is a more effective way of achieving good mental health and stability rather than just focusing on one's self.

Boolambayte Creek Church Open House

Refresh your soul..... Draw aside...come and enjoy a friendship with God. Be amazed at God's hope and let his words speak to your heart. Arrive 10am Sunday morning, families welcome, come for a lunch to share, relax with fun activities for kids. Entrance opposite Forest Lodge on the Wootton Way.
Contact Dave and Kathy Barker 49974675



Coolongolook Sports & Tennis Club News

Bingo Dates Thursday 16th February, Thursday 2nd, 16th,30th March
7pm Coola' Hall

Court Hire keys are held by Neryl on 49977157

Next meeting will be in March. A new secretary will be sought.

New members are needed to afford the Public Liability Insurance.

Courses/Tuition

Yoga classes are up and running again and everyone is keen after a 6 week break to limber back up again. Classes are held during the school term every Wednesday at the Wootton Hall and Mondays at Bulahdelah RSL Hall 6pm ~ 7.30pm Cost \$5, wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat. Best on an empty stomach. Call Peter Auriac on 49977201

Peter is also available for private classes by appointment.

Computer Help Marie Power, our CTC manager, is available 2-4pm at the Brush Turkey Café every Saturday to help with any questions you may have with your computer. This is a free service but any donation would be appreciated.



For Sale

- ◆ Ride on mower Bolens 12Hp 36" cut reduced to \$1200 ono
Phone Geoff 49977404
- ◆ Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake \$25 made to order.
Ph Bronwyn 49977185
- ◆ Artwork by Pauline Wilson on display now at the Brush Turkey Cafe

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Brush Turkey Café

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49977351

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