

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

JUNE -JULY 2007 NO 48

DISTRIBUTION 400 WOOTTON COOLONGOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Native Ginger *Alpinia caerulea*

Native ginger is a clumping plant, growing up to 2 metres, with soft, thick, bright green stems and an underground rhizome. It prefers a moist, semi-shaded site. White flowers are followed by round blue fruits, in spikes on the ends of the stems. The pith inside the fruit has a pleasant, refreshing, lemony taste. Young root tips are edible. Native Ginger was a very versatile plant for Aboriginal people. They ate the fruit and roots,



which taste of ginger. The large leaves were thatched and used to make shelters, and to also wrap food and lay under meat cooked in an earth oven. This photograph was taken along the Wootton Historical Railway Walk, and can be seen in most rainforests and creek lines in our area.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday 9th June
Wednesday 20th June
Sunday 23rd June
Wed /Thurs 27th/28th June
Saturday 30th June
Friday 13th July
Saturday 28th July
Sunday 29th July

Movie & Supper Night Brush Turkey Café 7pm
Tree Identification Day Wootton Hall 9:30am
Wootton Bushfire Brigade Meeting 9.00am
Farm Forestry Course Wootton Hall 9:00
Dinner Brush Turkey Café "Japanese" 7pm
Pizza & Music Night Brush Turkey Café 7pm
Dinner Brush Turkey Café "Xmas in July" 7pm
Wootton Bushfire Brigade Meeting 9.30am

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Wootton Community Network News

The working bee held on 2nd June saw the concrete slab for the new garden shed poured, general ground maintenance and café cleanout. Another is planned during the time the café is closed. Timber construction of the garden shed will be the next job. If you can spare some time to help, check out the sign on the café fence for the dates.

Café News As you may have noticed the café is closed for the months of June & July due to two of our cooks being on holidays. We are due to re-open on Saturday 4th August. The café will be closed but will still be open for computer and internet access on Mondays & Wednesday 4-6pm and Saturdays 2-4pm. We will still be holding our regular monthly dinners on the last Saturday of the month, (30th June & 28th July) our Movie & Supper Nights, second Saturday of every 2nd month (9th June) and our new pizza and music night, on the second Friday of every other 2nd month (13th July).

Pizza Oven The pizza oven is set for it's first firing on 13th July at our Pizza & Music night. So come along and taste a wood fired pizza with all the toppings. Musicians interested in playing should contact Garth

Movie & Supper Night

**This Saturday 9th June
7pm**

"Little Miss Sunshine"

Brush Turkey Café

Wootton

\$10 includes pre-dinner

Pizza & Music Jam

Night

**Friday 13th July at the
Brush Turkey Café 7pm**

**Come along for some tasty wood fired
pizzas and some entertaining music**



Trestle Bridge Picnic Area Decommissioned

Residents were disappointed to discover that the facilities at the Trestle Bridge Picnic Area have been dismantled and destroyed. State Forests now have a policy of not maintaining non-core business activities. Locals were disgusted that no discussion was invited as to this action.

The Wootton Community Network arranged a meeting at the Brush Turkey Café, between John Turner, State MP, Bob Baldwin Federal MP representative, Mike Pryjma State Forests, Jan McWilliams Deputy Mayor Great Lakes Council, members of the Wootton Community Network and local concerned residents. The outcome of the meeting was that each would go back to their respective departments and discuss the action needed to protect, preserve and maintain this heritage asset. John Turner will bring the matter up in Parliament, Bob Baldwin would support any Grant Application we applied for, Jan McWilliams would consult the Heritage Committee, State Forests would consult with their Community liaison officer and the Wootton Community Network would liaise with all to achieve a desired result, ie: rebuild appropriate structures for the picnic area: toilets, picnic tables and interpretive board, and somehow achieve an ongoing maintenance program for the length of the walk as well as maintain the roads. We have been approached by Barker College Sydney for use of this facility and assistance with it's upgrade and maintenance in relation to their Duke of Edinburgh outdoors program.

Hopefully a positive outcome will result for the community. Anyone wishing to become involved should contact Garry Williams on 49977167 or Bronwyn Little 49977185.



Before: with picnic tables, toilet block & fence



After: all facilities destroyed and burned

**Tree Identification Day
Wednesday 20th June 2007
9:30am Wootton Hall**

The Manning-Karuah Great Lakes Landcare Management Committee will be holding a tree Identification Day in the Wootton area. The day will start at 9:30am and finish approximately 3pm.

Chris Scott from Native Vegetation Services will be holding an information morning followed by a field trip to identify local tree species and plants. Participants of the day will be able to identify trees using a step by step sequence guide for identification for most common indigenous trees in the Wootton area. Chris Scott's experience in bush regeneration techniques will also give insight into weed and native vegetation management for your property. Morning tea will be provided.

Please bring your own lunch, drinks and bushwalking gear.
Please book through Karuah Great Lakes Landcare office on 65541655 by 15th June.



It only happens in the country

I was curious to know why a lizard kept appearing on my bedside clock radio, and scurrying away each time I entered the room. After much wondering I came to the conclusion that it was there because of the warmth the radio gave off.

How resourceful. Bronwyn



I was woken to the sound of kookaburras outside my bedroom window. When I looked out I saw three kookaburras sitting on a ladder and one with a brass coat hook in its mouth. I watched as it flew off into the distance, the hook never to be seen again. Pat

Coombell Farm Forestry Course

The Coombell course is about productive timber management and sustainable native vegetation management for your property. This two day course covers the theory as well as practical field demonstrations on timber sawing and tree plot assessments. This course is a must for land managers with native vegetation resources on their property. If you have native regrowth and would like to learn more about possibilities of diversifying your farm income this is the course for you. **You will need to bring a helmet.** The Coombell course is being held at the **Wootton Hall** for two days on the **27th and 28th of June starting at 9.00.** The cost for the course will be \$50 per manual. Partners can share a manual. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. We have a few vacancies for this course so please book in ASAP at 65 541655.



Coolongolook School News

- *We came 2nd in the Taree Music Eisteddfod last week in the “Very, Very, Very Small Schools Choir” category and won a \$100 voucher as an encouragement award.*
- *We also came 2nd in the Soccer Gala Day held at Wingham recently. We were the only school to beat Wingham Brush Public School.*
- *We are looking forward to our next excursion on 15th June to visit the Education Centre at Wingham Brush and then on to MacDonald's at Chatham to see how food is prepared and how it all operates behind the counter.*
- *Enrolments are being called for 2008. Coolongolook School is a small public school with a family environments catering for individual's needs.*

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

Lombard Street Coolongolook 2423

Phone: 4997 7183

Fax: 4997 7232

Email: coolongolo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Peter Mason (Principal) & Jan Oxford



Wootton Hall News

The hall is now being hired more regularly by Council, Landcare, Department of Primary Industries, along with regular weekly Yoga classes. It's location, it's facilities and reasonable hall hire fee makes it a great venue for anyone wishing to hold a meeting or birthday function. To book the hall, ring hall hirer Garry Williams on 49977167.

The progress with the tennis courts is still at a stand still. The fence is still not completed and the tennis shed is gradually becoming more damaged by local children using the courts to ride their bikes on. Some locals are using the court in this state, but chasing the balls must be difficult. It would be nice to see the courts finished allowing a long awaited competition to start.

Boolambayte Creek Church Open House Every Sunday

Get to know God in a simple way! Arrive from 10am onwards to enjoy a relaxed and informal day. Share lunch, fun for kids. Entrance opposite Forest Lodge on the Wootton Way. Dave and Kathy Barker
49974675

Wootton Rural Fire Services

Fire Safety Tips for Winter

- Clean your chimney and enjoy your cosy indoor fire.
- Electric Blankets are a common cause of fire. Check safety precautions when using.
- Check your smoke alarm or install one if you haven't already.
- Have a Home Escape Plan

Extract from *Backdraft*, a newsletter from your local Rural Fire Brigade. For more details and information regarding any fire related issues, please contact your local Brigade or your Fire Control office at Tuncurry: 6555 5782 (during business hours) alternatively, visit the Rural Fire Service website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

Brigade Meetings are held on the last Sunday of every month at 9am.

The next two meetings will be on 23rd June and 29th July.

Permits are no longer required, but if you are lighting a fire, you **must** let your neighbours and Fire Control know 24 hours in advance. Fire Control's number is 65 555782 during business hours.

Mike Badcock Secretary/Fire Permit Officer 49977337 0409448330

In your garden

Mulching is one of the simplest and most beneficial practices you can use in the garden. Mulch is simply a protective layer of a material that is spread on top of the soil. Mulches can either be organic -- such as grass clippings, straw, bark chips, and similar materials -- or inorganic -- such as stones, brick chips, and plastic. Both organic and inorganic mulches have numerous benefits.

- Protects the soil from erosion
- Reduces compaction from the impact of heavy rains
- Conserves moisture, reducing the need for frequent watering
- Maintains a more even soil temperature
- Prevents weed growth
- Keeps fruits and vegetables clean
- Keeps feet clean, allowing access to garden even when damp
- Provides a "finished" look to the garden

Organic mulches also improve the condition of the soil

Examples of organic materials, which can be used for mulch, are lawn clippings, newspaper (not coloured), leaves, compost, wood chips, hay, straw and seaweed.

Mulches, by providing an insulating barrier between the soil and the air, moderate the soil temperature. It is best to apply after the soil has warmed in Spring and before the soil has cooled in Autumn.

Courses/Tuition

Yoga classes are held 6pm Mondays at Bulahdelah RSL Hall and Wednesdays at Wootton Hall Call Peter on 49977201 Classes not held in school holidays.

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.

For Sale (This service is free)

- ◆ Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake \$25 only made to order. To order in advance Ph Bronwyn 49977185
- ◆ Locally produced arts & crafts for sale at the Brush Turkey Café . Paintings, prints, pottery and ceramics, hand made woven baskets.
- ◆ Ride on mower Cox 1 IHP 32" cut, electric start. reduced to \$1200 ono Ph: Geoff 49977404
- ◆ 12ft tinny \$600 Call Rob 0427955958

Advertising rates for 2007 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

DIRECTORY

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Real Estate

Rural Valley Realty - Your local real estate agent servicing Bulahdelah to Nahiic

Steve Devries 49977214

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

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Bruce Peachey 0438235057

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