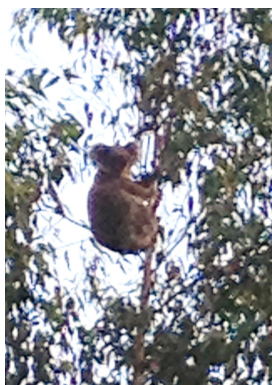


WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

JUNE/JULY 2016 NO 102
DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*



Adrienne and Walter from Ferny Creek Road were renovating their kitchen and had set up the BBQ in a different location. To their surprise, they had the chance sighting of their first koala in the 20 + years of living in Wootton. They are hoping they have a healthy colony on their hill.

photo© A&W

The koala is an arboreal herbivorous marsupial native to Australia. It is the only extant representative of the family Phascolarctidae and its closest living relatives are the wombats.

Koalas are not bears. They are **MARSUPIALS**, which means that their young are born immature & they develop further in the safety of a pouch. It's incorrect to call them 'Koala bears' - their correct name is simply 'Koalas'.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fri 3 June	Meet the Artist, Christine Long, at the Brush Turkey Cafe 6pm
Sun 5 June	Wootton Fire Brigade training at the Fire Shed, Squires Rd, 9am
Sat 11 June	Light Supper and movie Night 6pm supper \$10 pp
Sat 25 June	Bushdance in Community Hall from 6pm, bring-a-plate, \$10 pp
Sat 2 July	Wootton Community Network meeting, Brush Turkey Café, 3pm
Sun 3 July	Wootton Fire Brigade training at the Fire Shed, Squires Rd, 9am
Sat 9 July	Light Supper and Movie Night 6pm supper \$10 pp
Sat 30 July	Community Dinner at the Brush Turkey Café 7pm \$20pp
Sat 6 Aug	Working Bee at the Brush Turkey Café 9am

BRUSH TURKEY CAFÉ
CLOSED ON SUNDAYS FROM 1ST JULY TO 31ST AUGUST

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc
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Join our group on Facebook: Wootton Community or email brushturkey@live.com.au
Visit our website @ www.wootton.org.au

Wootton Community Network (WCN) News

Judy: the Wootton Community Network would really like to thank you for looking after the café garden so well along with all the other things you did for the café and the community. You will be happy to know that we have a volunteer who has offered to take over the garden and another volunteer who has offered to take over the making of the lemon myrtle cheesecake.



Drink at the last Network Meeting

Casual help needed: Currently, a lot of the running and maintenance of the Café is carried out by a small group of volunteers. There is a large list of things that need to be done on a regular or irregular basis. Some of these could be done at odd times by anyone who is interested in helping out, but cannot commit to particular days or times. For example, the garden, additional cleaning in the café kitchen, the floor and tables, cooking specific items like a main dish or cake for any community event or for the Café on Sundays and so the list goes on.

Food Handling Course. We will be arranging a free, Council run food handling course in Wootton as soon as we have enough people interested (about ten people required). We encourage everyone who prepares food for the café and community events to attend one of these courses.

Food Preparation Training Day. Jim will be arranging a day, probably a Sunday in July or August when we can get together and practice our food preparation skills for community events and Sundays in the café. Date and time will be circulated by email.

If you are interested in helping with anything please email to Brushturkey@live.com.au, SMS Fran on 0412 963 161, including your name as mobile lines do not always connect well.

WCN Membership:

If you are a WCN member and you are not receiving regular emails from Wootton Community Network, or if you would like to join please contact Fran.

Newsletter: thank you very much to Carole Robinson for being editor of the Wootton Valley News for the past year and welcome to Sylvie who will be assisting Caro.

Wattley Hill Rd has been sealed up to Ferny Creek Rd—please take care as the drop off is quite steep, the corners are still sharp and vehicles are travelling very fast!



Brian Jefferys, formerly of Hubbards Rd passed away recently. He was the one who first brought up the idea of the Wootton Historical Railway Walk that is still a tourist attraction today, was President of the Wootton/Coolongolook Progress Association as well as ran the Coolongolook Country Fair.

New Artist:

Christine Long first studied art at Chatham High School, Taree. She obtained an art certificate course at Meadowbank TAFE. Upon completing the course she returned to Taree and worked as a compositor at the Manning River Times. Christine is inspired by the beauty of nature, she enjoys painting subjects like landscapes, wildlife and still life. She works mostly in acrylics but recently ventured into pastels and watercolours and pencil. She tutors privately from her studio at Possum Brush and exhibits regularly at local art shows. Her work has won awards and is featured in private collections locally and around Australia.



We saw Mars, Saturn with its distinctive rings and Jupiter with its bands and we could see some of its moons. Also the craters on the moon. We had a really fun time considering it was quite cold. Thanks to David Roser for setting this all up for us. The night skies in Wootton are always amazing.



Welcome Bush Dancing Back to the Hall

Saturday 25th June will be a dinner and bush dance, wear your dancing shoes. Newcastle based bush band, the Waterbombers, will provide a night of toe tapping fun. Dinner will be the usual bring a plate, starting at 6pm, with bush dancing to follow. The bush band has a caller so it doesn't matter whether you're an old hand or a novice, come to dance. Kids welcome. The evening will cost \$10 per person. Limited places, please **RSVP Megan 0418 420 608 by 20 June 2016.**

Wootton Community Hall News

The Hall Committee recently held their AGM, postponed from March and a general meeting. This year there have been some changes to the committee members with Larn Garnett, Michael Kiprioti and Sue Hirsch standing down and Marg Dobson joining us in the role of Treasurer. I have agreed to continue as Acting Chair for this year.

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank Larn, Michael and Sue for their contribution. In particular Larn in her role as treasurer and her continued support and enthusiasm for sourcing items for the hall through grants and donations and setting up for the quarterly dinners and Michael for his repeated slashing of the area behind the hall so that it is now good enough that it can be maintained with the use of a ride-on lawn mower.

Chair's Report: 2015/2016 saw the hall committee focus on consolidating activities. The bring-a-plate dinners, food swaps and library continued successfully. We plan to repeat the games night when time permits. Unfortunately yoga classes were discontinued last winter—if anyone is interested in holding classes please contact me (Caro). We were really excited to introduce a preventive health clinic with our first practitioner being an osteopath. I would also like to thank Richard for installing the window hardware on the windows facing the café carpark.

Preventive Health Clinic: We have recently received expressions of interest from a naturopath and podiatrist which is fantastic.



Courtney and Ella helping Mary

Library: the library continues to be well used. Thanks to Ian Dobson for sourcing and installing extra shelves in the bookcases and creating the markers with the letters of the alphabet to assist in the display of fiction books in the library.

Holistic Farming Workshop is being held in the hall for two days a month from April to July with catering for the event being provided by volunteers from the WCN in the Brush Turkey Café. It is proving to be a very successful use of the joint community facilities that we hope continue.

Wild Dogs

There seems to be an increase in sightings of wild dogs in the Wootton area. In the last 3-4 months a dozen or so land holders have attended courses run by Local Land Services (LLS, Laurie Mullen). The courses have been on how to track and identify wild dog activity and movements, licensing of property owners to use 1080 dog baits and the setting of soft jaw wild dog traps. If you see any wild dog activity you should notify Laurie on 0407 785 007 immediately. This helps the LLS track wild dog numbers and plan coordinated efforts with National Parks, State Forest, local council and land holders to manage the problem.

Planning for Wootton

Following on from the previous information on the planning for Wootton, Caro is working with Tracey Farrant to finalise a survey to collect some information on who lives in the Wootton area, what brought you here and some thoughts on what you would like to see changed and not changed. Ideally this would have been ready to roll out in this newsletter but for various reasons was not.. The aim is to have it in the next newsletter so in the meantime you can think of what you like most about Wootton and what you would like to see change.

Markets on the Mid North Coast NSW

Winter is great for re-discovering the region and looking for local produce.

The below link will give you all the markets on the Mid North Coast

<http://www.monthlyimag.com.au/mid-north-coast/markets-on-the-mid-north-coast-nsw/>

Manning Valley Cycle Club (MVCC) visits Wootton

The MVCC holds a winter road racing season on roads that are still open to motorists. We are very lucky that one of these races was held on Wootton Way on Saturday May 21. Cyclists congregate at the parking area at the corner of Squires Rd and race out to the northern end of Wootton Way, turn around, then down to the southern end of Wootton Way and back—approximately 50 km.

Photo © Patrick Riviere



Interested in building model planes, cars or ships or fixing and driving remote control cars, planes and drones then join the Bulahdelah Hobby Club. They meet at the Bulahdelah Men's Shed located behind the RSL Memorial Hall. The idea is that people with similar interests can come together and share skills. The Hobby Club is an opportunity for like-minded people to discuss what they have made and to ask questions about how to build model vehicles. There is no age limit to who can get involved and there is no limit to what can be built or modified.

If you want to participate please do not hesitate to call Neville Wing on 0419 143 632

Brian Ede's Success Story

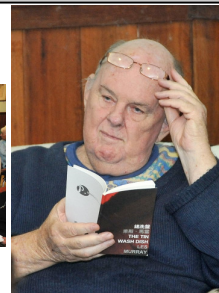
For the last six years Brian has been riding and training a mare in preparation for competition. The Macleay Challenge Camp-Draft evolved over 40 years ago with the 2016 Challenge Campdraft the largest campdraft ever held in the region. Approximately 1200 competitions were run over three days requiring 1400 herd of cattle. The horse, Golden Spurs Acres of Diamonds is one that Brian bred himself at Golden Spurs, Wootton and it was ridden by Wayne Murray of Bunyah on the day of competition and won the Maiden Campdraft with a score of 91 with approximately 300 riders competing.

"I'm feeling over the moon, as anyone would if they bred the horse and broke her in. She is a beautiful black mare," Brian said.



A night with Les Murray

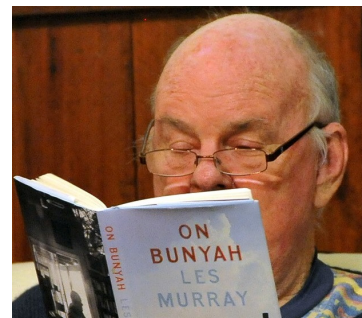
Les Murray was invited by the Wootton community to read some of his works and share stories of his life in the region. Over 25 people were spellbound by Les; organisers were thrilled by the diversity of people who joined them for the evening.



The evening was such a success that it inspired Fred Fetherston to pen a poem.

Night verses in camera

Poet in corner of room is soft
spoken, words breeze through,
bobbing heads move to catch the eyes,
are drawn towards the current
aligning in the flow.
The black and white chair
Hides like characters
We the word herd.



A nice place to enjoy lunch by the river!

Sylvie and Caro took Karen Cooper for a farewell lunch to the Riverside Café, recently reopened in Bulahdelah near the houseboats and met with the owners Troy and Stacey. The café is in a tranquil location offering peace and quiet with no cars around. The menu offers a good choice of food made from locally sourced produce..

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

The AGM was held in May—no changes in the office bearers.

Captain: Mike Badcock

Senior Deputy Captain: Craig Tate

President: Adam Garnett

Treasurer: Stewart Lamond

Three new members completed basic training recently—congratulations.

The Brigade is still looking for new members. In particular anyone with a heavy vehicle license to drive the big fire truck.

Even though we are now in winter it is extremely dry! The Brigade has recently been called out numerous times to bush and grass fires. All of these have been private hazard burns that have got away! So, please take care.

Remember— fire permits are not required until October 1, but you must give Tuncurry Fire Control (6539 7700 9am—4 pm Mon-Fri) and your neighbours at least 24 hours notice for any burning you are planning to undertake. Fines could apply if you don't.

Food Swaps

The Food Swaps held in the grounds of the community hall will not officially happen until later in spring but if you have any surplus winter produce please feel free to bring it to any community event to share.

Wootton Directory: *Readers have commented on the value of finding important local contacts in this Newsletter. Please email Caro (ed) if you know of an important contact that we should include here. Thanks.*



Wootton Community Network

President: Jim O'Connor 0412963161

Secretary: Fran O'Connor

Treasurer: Leanne Wright 4997 7201

Email: brushturkey@live.com.au

Wootton Community Hall Committee

Chair/Bookings: Caro Badcock

0408 415 420

Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group

Chair: Sue Williams 0438 433 063

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Captain: Mike Badcock 0409 448 330

President: Adam Garnett 0428272629

Sen Dep Captain: Craig Tate

0431644953

Tuncurry Fire Control: 6539 7700

Great Lakes Council: 6591 7222

Police

Senior Constable Trevor McLeod,

Sector Supervisor, Bulahdelah

4997 4204 0427233745

SES 13 2500

Local Land Services

Wingham 6553 4233

State Forests Wauchope 6585 3744

Bulahdelah Waste Facility opening hours

Tuesdays 1—5pm

Fridays 12—4pm

Sundays 10-2pm

DIRECTORY

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Wootton Guest House

Too many visitors? 4 air conditioned bedrooms with en-suites and balconies. Reasonable rates. Contact Peter & Leanne
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Brian Ede
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Rural Valley Realty, Coolongolook

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Steve Devries **0458 448 019 4997 7214**

Bulahdelah Post Office

Bank@Post personal and business.
HCCU banking. Phones and gifts
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm and most Sat 9am-12noon
Ph/Fax 4997 4283

Health

Dot Williams

Local podiatrist available for all foot care services. Available for home-visits and weekly clinic (Bulahdelah).
0406 287 694 Williams.dot@gmail.com

Podiatrist

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CAFÉ CLOSED
1ST JULY TO 31 AUGUST**

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