

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

JUNE/JULY 2021 NO 132

DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

LONG NOSED BANDICOOT (*Perameles nasuta*) and NORTHERN BROWN BANDICOOT (*Isodon macrourus*)

When Tracy saw holes popping up everywhere, she was



happy to hear they were made by bandicoots and the mouse plague hadn't come to town. They dig conical holes to find and eat insects, earthworms, insect larvae, and spiders (including the venomous funnel web spider) as well as tubers and fungi.

The two common bandicoots make at least 4 distinct noises. A high-pitched, bird-like noise to locate one another; a "whuff, whuff" noise when irritated; a loud "chuff, chuff" noise with a loud whistling squeak when threatened or alarmed; a loud shriek when in pain or scared.



www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/native-animals/native-animal-facts/bandicoots

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

If you book & can't make it please let us know so we can use the waiting list.

Check [facebook](#) for other events TBA (FoodSwap, Meet the Artist etc.)

Sat 5 June	• Brush Turkey Café: WCN Committee meeting and afternoon tea 2.30pm All welcome
Sat 12 June	• Wootton Hall: Food Swap, <i>check facebook to confirm arrangements</i>
Sun 13 June	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd 8am
Sat 26 June	• Brush Turkey Café: Community dinner <i>Bookings essential details page 2</i>
Mon 28 June	to Fri 9 July <i>School Holidays</i>
Sat 10 July	• Wootton Hall: Food Swap, <i>check facebook to confirm arrangements</i>
Sun 11 July	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd 8am
Thu 15 July	** Copy deadline for August-September Wootton Valley News **
Sat 31 July	• Brush Turkey Café: Community dinner <i>Bookings essential details page 2</i>

*People take many **photos** at community events. If you don't wish to be in Wootton newsletter photos, email secwootton@gmail.com before publication closing date.*

The Wootton Valley News is usually delivered before the 1st day of each second month.

* - details in the newsletter and online www.wootton.org.au

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc , created by Fred Fetherston, Arjen Arnold & Sylvie Riviere

Contact us by email brushturkey@live.com.au

Visit our website www.wootton.org.au and [Wootton Community](#) facebook public group

To all the Wootton Community.

A **Thai Food evening** was held at the café on the 27th of March as the community dinner. It was too late to be included in the last WVN writeup but I wanted to include reference to that event here to thank those organising the event. The excellent dinner was provided by Chef (*Mint*) *Hatairat Chanakham* of Topi Thai. *Sue Williams* the WCN Social Events Coordinator was helped by Sue's husband *Andy*, by *Mary Lee* and a band of washing up helpers. There were **50 people in attendance and it was a fine food experience and great social night.**

You may have wondered about all the activity at the Café on the weekend of the 15th May. The **wedding** of *Emma Grezl* and *Joe Gibbs* was held. We congratulate them on this happy occasion. *Emma* is the daughter of locals *Chris* and *Karel Grezl*. The community centre served as a fine backdrop for the event which was beautifully decorated by the family.

Mothers Day brunch was held on Sunday May 9th, it was well attended and was a great chance for locals to catch up. *Kieran Stuart-Jones* was ably assisted with menu contributions from *Mary Lee* and *Julie Richardson* (cheesecake), *Leanne Wright* and *Robyn Cheers*. *Mint* was the very capable barista. *Andrew Holland* and *Leanne Wright* also assisted on the floor. They all deserve our thanks for making it a very enjoyable event. **Community Dinners for June and July** are in the planning stages and you will receive more information on these evenings as the time approaches. Maintenance and construction activity has continued. The Squires Rd entry was improved in April with the removal of the cattle grid and widening of the entry locally. Work on the School Master's house, an important source of WCN funds, has continued with a **new tank installed** and maintenance involving settled piers and replacement for timber rot in some places. As we go to press with the WVN the **work on the Old Tennis shed** is well under way and should be complete by early June. We hope to plan a celebratory event for the opening in June, more on that as construction is finished.

The very best to you all. *Bill Buckland*

President WCN



Ian and Ella, Pam and Danny made a booking and enjoyed eating at the re-opened **Salty Dog**. Opening hours are still evolving, closed Tues & Wed, check social media for updates and bookings.



The Autumn **Great Lakes Food Trail** went well, and local producers are already preparing for the Spring trail in October.

Full details for the Community dinners and events will be emailed to WCN members, and posted in social media. Bookings are essential for all events. *Sue W* 0438 433 063.



WOOTTON RURAL FIRE BRIGADE www.facebook.com/woottonrfs/

Thanks to *Mike, Chris and Arjen* who responded to **Flood Evacuations** at Nerong. At the **AGM** we elected members to all positions and voted a big thankyou to retiring member Stewart Lamond for his many years of service as Secretary and Treasurer as well as active firefighting.

New residents—would you like the RFS to visit your property about water supply points and access for fire trucks? Call Adam or Mike for details.

BEFORE BURNING OFF YOU MUST STILL CONTACT RFS AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Use these links to [FIND OUT MORE](#) and to [USE THE ONLINE NOTIFICATION FORM](#)

For more info on CHECKING SMOKE ALARMS FOR WINTER

visit - www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=80

Captain: Adam Garnett 0428 272 629

Permit Officer: Michael Coventry 4997 7155 or 0407 458 167

Would you like to share your stories and learn about the **local history of Wootton** and surrounding areas?. [June Laffey \(facebook.com\)](#) has shared a post on the [Wootton Community](#) page and received lots of enthusiastic comments from people about it so *June* is starting a group to “meet and share and say howdy”. And Wootton Community Network website [has a local stories and history page](#).

Saturday 20th June 10am is the next **The Seed Circle**

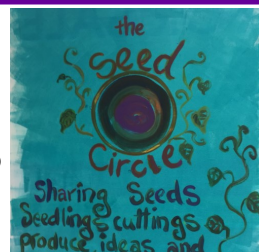
in the War Memorial Garden, Crawford Street Bulahdelah.



Get to know your local area, what grows well, when to plant, what to plant. Share seeds, plants and excess produce. This group is

for folks who garden in the Bulahdelah area, but anyone can join the gathering, from 10am on the 3rd Saturday each month.

www.facebook.com/groups/816756888966250/





How are you coping with all the rats and mice?

Bird-Life Australia has a guide to bird-friendly rodent control, to help you protect your home, garden and farm without killing birds and predators that help control rats and mice naturally. Many household products – including Talon, Fast Action RatSak and The Big Cheese Fast Action brand rat and mice bait – have been banned from general public sale in the US, Canada and EU, but are available to purchase from supermarkets and retailers throughout Australia. Some can stay in tissues and organs for months, even years. Owls, kites and other birds of prey are dying from eating rats and mice that have ingested these Second Generation rodent poisons.

“Consider other, non-poison pest control, like snap traps, only put out baits when you actually need to, read the labels on any poisons you buy and make the change to first generation anticoagulant rodenticides (FGARs) or other alternatives. Look for active ingredients like Warfarin and Coumatetralyl or natural constituents like Sodium Chloride, and leave second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) on the shelf.” www.actforbirds.org/ratpoison

Peter and Megan’s Recycling Quest

When *Peter Dixon* and *Megan Kessler* had to demolish their house so they could rebuild (termite damage before they bought), they wanted to recycle or have reused as much of the old house as possible. The NSW EPA is keen for people to deconstruct homes rather than demolish, and provide advice online at

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/household-building-and-renovation

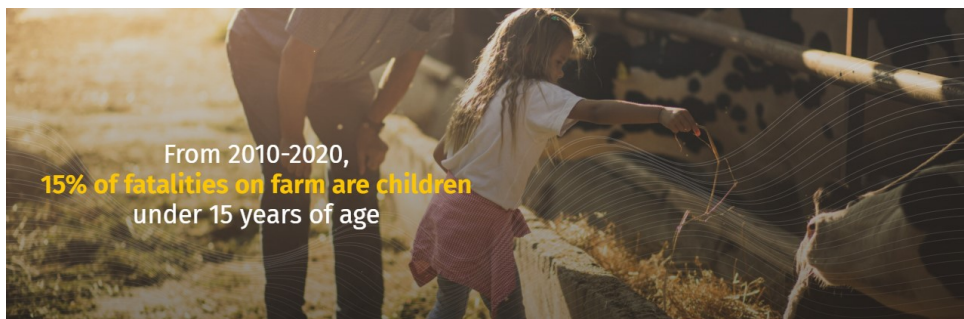
Sadly it was not as easy or cheap to find a deconstruction contractor as the EPA made it out to be. Quotes from demolishers who recycled or reused materials ended up being significantly more expensive than straight demolition, so they went on a quest to find friends, locals and strangers who wanted to salvage materials. The demolition company they went with was happy to work around the recycling idea and was happy to pull



down cladding and the housing frame to be taken away by a Newcastle firm who will build furniture from it.

Fittings and appliances were given away or sold. All up, about 95% of the house was recycled. It took a lot more time to coordinate than a standard demolition, but with that effort, they were able to have the house cleared away for about the same price as a standard demolition.

Peter D & Megan K ([full story on website](#))



From 2010-2020,
15% of fatalities on farm are children
under 15 years of age

National Farm Safety Week 18th - 24th July. National Farm Safety Week is run each year, in the third week of July, to raise awareness of farm safety issues in rural communities across Australia. This year looks at safety issues as they span the life of a farmer, from child safety right through to ageing on farm, including young workers, fatigue and seasonal pressures, mental health and succession planning.

www.farmsafe.org.au/national-farm-safety-week

June is Garlic-Planting Season and now is your last chance for a good crop in summer. Find out more about local garlic growing and mixed farming by booking a farm tour with Great Lakes Food Trail farmers Adam and Karina Gersbach at Valley View Farm, Rainbow Flat. www.valleyviewfarm.net.au



How safe is the soil in your veggie garden?

[VegeSafe is a community science](https://research.science.mq.edu.au/vegesafe/) participation program run by Environmental Science staff at Macquarie University, the only service of this kind in Australia! They seek to inform the community about metal and metalloid contaminants in their garden soil



through this soil metal testing program. By participating, you will receive a formal report containing the results of your soil analysis, and advice about what to do next in the event of soils containing elevated concentrations of metals and metalloids.

<https://research.science.mq.edu.au/vegesafe/how-to-participate/>



Time is running out....your covid Council waste disposal vouchers finish June 30!

The bulky waste pickup for Wootton was May 26-28. There are lots of things you can drop **off free-of-charge** for recycling at Tuncurry, ring 7955 7777 for details or <http://midcoastwaste.com.au/what-goes-where/>

Friday 25 June, Take Your Dog to Work Day



<https://kb.rspca.org.au/knowledge-base/what-should-i-consider-before-taking-my-dog-to-the-office/>

A successful day was held at the Brush Turkey Café on Sunday, 9 May for **Mother's Day**. Lucky door prize winners were *Geoff Freeman, Mary Lee & another lucky family*. Thankyou *Andrew, Kieran, Mint & Leanne*.

Karuah Great Lakes Landcare has been busy with post-fire field days and programmes,



including TIDE's "Working On Country" team. Six Indigenous Rangers, the Aboriginal Bushfire Recovery Rangers (ABRR) team, have tackled post-fire weeds and feral animals, installed wildlife cameras and nesting boxes for native

wildlife. Contact *Chris Sheed* csheed@tide.org.au or 0419 496 322.

GKLL has received funding from National Landcare Program's Smart Farms program to purchase a state of the art **drone with high resolution camera**, software, drone surveys of 28 properties and training for landholders in using the technology for effective farm monitoring For some **fire or flood regen resources**, or **find out more about upcoming events** email joel.kgl.landcare@gmail.com www.facebook.com/karuahgreatlakeslandcare/

The **Wootton Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group** are teaming with Bulahdelah Landcare group to trial multi-species winter-active pastures using untreated seeds and



monitor soil samples for more productive and resilient pastures with healthier soils. We'll have **afternoon tea with frog expert Dr Alexandra Knight** on Saturday 26 June. *RSVP Fred Fetherston 0427 461 101*

REGIONAL CRIME AFFECTS EVERY AUSTRALIAN.

If you see, suspect, or know something contact Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000** or at nsw.crimestoppers.com.au

DRAW THE LINE ON REGIONAL CRIME

CRIME STOPPERS
1800 333 000



NEW BANKING DETAILS FOR WOOTTON COMMUNITY NETWORK

Annual membership fee \$12.50 pp, please pay by direct deposit to:-

Wootton Community Network Inc.

Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account No 162518591

Reference = your name

Please email when paid to notify the Treasurer brushturkey@live.com.au

Same banking details now apply for all MEMBERSHIPS and EVENT BOOKINGS

Wootton Directory contains important local contacts. **Always dial 000 for Emergency.**
Please email brushturkey@live.com.au with other contacts to include here. Thanks.



Wootton Community Network

President: Bill Buckland

Secretary: Kate Hosey 0402 776 376

Treasurer: Leanne Wright 4997 7201

Events: Sue Williams 0438 433 063

Email: brushturkey@live.com.au

Bookings—all facilities

Celebrating something special? Running a Course or a Market?

Getting people together?

Kate Hosey 0402 776 376

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Captain: Adam Garnett 0428272629

Sen Dep Capt: Bernard Carran 0409684177

www.facebook.com/woottonrfs

Midcoast Fire Control

Burnoff notifications 1300 643 262
(24hour prior notice)

Karuah Great Lakes Landcare

joel.kgl.landcare@gmail.com

Joël Dunn 0401932533

Wootton - Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group

Fred Fetherston 0427 461 101

MidCoast Council: 6591 7222

State Forests Wauchope 6585 3744

Police: Sector Supervisor,
Senior Constable Trevor McLeod,
New no.—4940 7470, 0438 140 370
mcle1tre@police.nsw.gov.au

State Emergency Service 132 500

Local Land Services

Wild dogs Laurie Mullen 0407 785 007

Rural Resilience Group

Peter Brown 0437 671 459

National Parks & Wildlife 6591 0300

Fawna Wildlife Rescue 6581 4141

Electricity Essential Energy 13 20 80

Bulahdelah Waste Facility

opening hours

Tuesdays 1 - 5pm, Fridays 12 - 4pm

Sundays 10-2pm

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lynette.arnoldus@bigpond.com

Yoga Classes with Naomi Patton

Wootton Hall. Mondays 9-10am we unwind with a gentle yin/restorative class, suitable for everyone, even those nursing injuries.

Wednesdays from 9.15-10.45am it's an active Hatha class where we get moving.

All welcome. 0414 387 008

Earth Elemental Massage

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

New banking details page 7

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Renewals from 1st July These businesses support this newsletter. Please support them.

New advertisers welcome, contact Leanne at woottonguesthouse.com.au