

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2013 NO 86

DISTRIBUTION 450 WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanquinolenta*

Some birds have drab plumage so that they can easily blend in with their surroundings, but the Scarlet Honeyeater has gone to the opposite extreme. Well camouflaged it flits among the blossoms of bottle-brush, whose flowers are similarly coloured bright red. This makes these honeyeaters remarkably difficult to see as they probe the blooms with their slightly curved bills to feed on the nectar. The adult male is a vivid scarlet red and black bird with whitish underparts. The females and immature birds are dull brown with dull white underparts and a reddish wash on the chin. This small honeyeater is usually seen alone, in pairs or small flocks, often evicted by larger, more aggressive honeyeaters such as friarbirds. The Scarlet Honeyeater breeds in pairs, with the more conspicuous male calling and displaying to the quieter females. The small cup nest is suspended from a horizontal branch or in a fork, made from fine bark and grass bound with spider web and lined with fine plant materials. The female incubates the eggs alone, both sexes feeding the young. Up to three broods may be produced per season.



Photo taken by John Hammond

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday 12th October	Supper 6pm/Movie 7pm Flight Brush Turkey Café
Monday 14th October	<i>Live Longer, Live Better</i> Wootton Hall 6-8pm
Saturday 26th October	Sustainable Land Managers Group Beekeeping Wootton Hall 10am
Saturday 26th October	Community Dinner Al Fresco BBQ 7pm Brush Turkey Café
Sunday 27th October	Beef, Cheese & Bocce Great Lakes Winery Bookings essential
Saturday 9th November	How to prepare for and survive a bushfire Wootton Hall 5pm
Sunday 10th November	Wootton Community Network Meeting 3pm Brush Turkey Café
Saturday 16th November	Supper 6pm/Movie 7pm Hitchcock Brush Turkey Café
Saturday 30th November	Community Dinner French 7pm Brush Turkey Café
Sunday 1st December	Chainsaw operation & maintenance workshop Wootton Hall 10am
Saturday 21st December	Wootton Community Christmas Party from 4pm

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc
Editors Pat Tate 49977292 and Caro Badcock 49977337
brushturkey@live.com.au Visit our website @ www.wootton.org.au

Wootton Community Network

Presidents Report

Our financial position is still relatively secure. The number of people attending dinners and movie nights has been stable. Sundays at the cafe have been well supported. Thanks to Robyn and Brian Simpson for their support in the cafe this year. We still need to find more volunteers to always keep the cafe open on Sundays.

The quarterly dinners at the hall have reduced the load on our volunteers to some extent and helped with creating more interest in maintaining the hall surrounds with some excellent work being carried out.

We have been able to make small donations to local charities and other local activities in accordance with our role as a local community organization.

Maintenance has been carried out at working bees throughout the year. Thanks to everyone who assisted on the days. We have had some excellent art at the cafe and the venue has also been used for some community events. The webinars were a success and we hope to have some more in the future.

The Wootton Valley News is going strong and is now in colour.

We could not have done anything this year without our committed volunteers, all those who appear at working bees or other occasions when special jobs need to be done and the paid up members who keep the network viable.

Jim O'Connor

At the AGM Jim O'Connor was re-elected as president, Leanne Wright as treasurer and Fran O'Connor as secretary. Thanks to their ongoing work in these positions.

Dinners: 7pm Saturday 26th October - Al Fresco Barbecue,
7pm Saturday 30th November - French
\$20 per head (Kids \$5) Booking essential: Call 49977323 or 49977292

Supper/Movie Nights:

Saturday 12th October 6pm Supper/7pm movie *Flight*

Saturday 16th November 6pm Supper/7pm movie *Hitchcock*

**NEXT WOOTTON COMMUNITY NETWORK MEETING
3PM SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER AT THE BRUSH TURKEY CAFÉ
EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME**

**Wootton Community Christmas Party
Claim the date: 21st December from 4pm**

Old Wootton Valley News

Thanks to Julie Richardson for supplying us with a copy of the Wootton Valley News from December 2001, number 14.

Wootton RFS

You will have noticed that the start of the season has been a very busy time for all fire brigades including ours. We have already attended dozens of fires.

Fire permits are required from now until April next year. Call Mike (49977337) for permits.

The Brigade had a successful day running the bar-b-q for Wootton 101 even though the brigade was called out three times.

◆ On the 9th November from 5 pm we will be running a public meeting in the Wootton Hall on **how to prepare for and survive a bushfire**. The presenter will be Glen O'Rourke who presented at the hugely successful meeting we held in 2011. **So, let's get the whole community there!**

◆ On Sunday 1st December at 10am we are having a **Chainsaw operation and maintenance workshop day** at the Wootton Community Hall. All members of the community are invited.



Wootton Sustainable Land Managers Group

In response to changes in the structure of the sustainable farming program the Wootton Sustainable Farming Group had a meeting to discuss their future. There was unanimous agreement that the group should continue under the Karuah Great Lakes Land Care banner and that the name should change to Wootton Sustainable Land Managers Group to reflect the broader interests of the group. Mike Badcock has kindly agreed to be the initial contact person with support from Mike Coventry. If you are interested in joining the group please contact either of the Mike's on 49977337 or 49977155.

If you are interested in bee keeping the next meeting will be on October 26th at 10am in the Wootton hall where John Wright is going to talk to us. He will be bringing along various bits of equipment, including the hives (empty) of course. So, come along, see what bee keeping is all about and bring your questions. John's talks have been very popular previously so we are looking forward to having him share his expertise with us. Could members please bring a plate for morning tea.



Supper and Movie Nights

2nd Saturday of every month

6pm Supper, 7pm movie Great Value at \$10

Brush Turkey Café Wootton Way Wootton

Bookings 49977292

Sat 12th October Flight An airline pilot saves almost all his passengers on his malfunctioning airliner which eventually crashed, but an investigation into the accident reveals something troubling.
Stars Denzel Washington

Sat 16th November Hitchcock A love story between influential filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock and wife Alma Reville during filming of Psycho in 1959. Stars Helen Mirren and Anthony Hopkins



Live Longer, Live Better

Robert Pannekoek, Health Educator, Hydrotherapist, Masseur, with 20 years international and local experience, will be speaking at the **Wootton Hall Monday 14th October 6pm - 8pm.** Diabetes, Heart Disease, Cancer, Arthritis, Depression, ADD, ADHD, Acid Reflux, etc. What feelings do you have when you see those words? Fear, Frustration, pain, sadness, loneliness, anger, bitterness, emptiness, hopelessness?

The cost of disease in treatment, lost productivity, emotional stress, and pressure on family relationships is increasing. As Australia pours millions of dollars into technology to try and find answers to our major disease crises, the fact is that disease is increasing in our country. According to a recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald, diabetes is about to take the mantle of Australia's number one killer, from heart disease. Yet both are still increasing among our people. However, this does not need to be the case. These diseases don't need to be a way of life. Science and medicine have both proven beyond question now, that we each have in our own hands the tools needed for a better quality and quantity of life.

Treatment and prevention doesn't have to be expensive, complicated, or boring. In fact, those who take Barbara's advice, find a life they didn't dream would be possible. Imagine waking up full of energy and clear in the mind. Imagine decreasing medical bills drastically. Imagine having more time to do what you love with more money to do it. Imagine having a powerful memory, and strong mind. No, don't imagine it, come along to Robert's informative, info-packed afternoon lecture, and make it happen for yourself.

Robert is bringing his home delivery health product business to the hall. You will be sure to appreciate seeing the vast array of bulk foods for healthful home cooking, and the books needed to treat most major diseases. Included in these are cook books, health science (including neuroscience), complete programs on improving the brain and on depression, that can be done at home, and lots more.

Come along and support a local business, you are sure to have a great evening! Admission: Free

To book phone 6553 6001 or email rpann7@gmail.com



Norman Green remembers Wootton in the 1930's

We recently received the following letter . Caro was able to supply details of their school years in Wootton from the State Archives records.

Greetings to Editors Pat & Caro,

I'm Norman Green, son of Harrie Green who was gang foreman from the 1920s through to the 40s of the rail track that brought felled logs from the forest to the holding yard close to our house in Wootton village; I think the house still stands between two others of similar small build on a street to the left of the original highway. My mother lost her wedding ring in this house but it was returned long after the family's transfer from Wootton - found in a rat's nest in the ceiling! Her maiden name was Stella Farley and both she and Dad were raised on farms across the Karuah River from Stroud Road and Stroud respectively. Dad was the eldest of a large family, one yet to be born, when his father died in 1904, a short time after contracting anthrax from skinning an infected cow. The farm was quarantined for some months and Dad at 16 had to seek labouring work in support of the family. This introduced him to the timber industry within a decade of his father's death - at The Jarrah near Stroud where he first lived with my mother after their marriage in 1913 and then at Wootton where the industry was controlled by a Company under Sir Alan Taylor, some time Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Dad used to say that streets and tram lines in Sydney were set on hardwood blocks from the Wootton forests per Sir Alan! I have records of tribute to my father from Sir Alan and was particularly excited as a boy to share in the box of cherries that he sent each Xmas in appreciation of Dad's work in the forests. The work that included the laying of the train lines and the building of wooden trestle bridges plus their necessary maintenance was commemorated in 1988, the centenary of Dad's birth, with an extended family gathering for the naming of the Harrie Green Trail that leads to the remnants of a trestle bridge in the heart of the State Forest between Wootton and Bulahdelah. Dad always insisted on listing his occupation as labourer, not foreman, on the annual tax return; he was not a church-goer like Mum but he epitomised the Puritan ethic in work and lifestyle, to his children's sorrow at times when requests to go to the Saturday matinee were declined - I clearly recall a typical response as he dug in the family garden at Taree in the 40s - 'Pleasure! Life is meant for work not for pleasure!' But his frugality and abstention from tobacco, alcohol and gambling provided the necessary funds for Mum to ensure that her children were as soundly educated as possible.

I was the third youngest in a family of 2 girls and 8 boys, one of whom, the third born Wilfred, died as a baby in the Spanish Influenza pandemic that followed the First World War. Only the first five attended Wootton School; Vic the eldest graduated from there and went on to Taree High and boarded for 5 years with relatives; sisters Edna and Vera didn't go on to high school (as was often the case for girls) and brother Joe declined to go but was accepted after the War into the Police Force where both Vic and he rose to the rank of Inspector. Vera often remarked of her love and respect for the Wootton teacher from the mid 20s; I just can't recall the name but the records should reveal it - Vera was born in 1920 so she would have started in 1925 or 26. Brothers Cliff and Ray were born in 1924 and 26 and most or all of their primary schooling would have occurred at Stroud Road as we moved there in 1932 so we could access rail to high school in Taree to where the whole family eventually moved at the end of 1938. Despite these moves Dad continued to work in Wootton through the 30s and 40s, coming home at weekends when ever he could arrange suitable transport but the change would have restricted his involvement in the social life of Wootton; we were often told of his role on dance nights in the local hall where he provided the music by playing the pianola - Vera remembered well having being put to sleep behind it! These country socials were often referred to in terms of their quality as turnouts -- ('good turnout last night eh?; here in Far North Qld where I'm presently living turn outs are regularly signposted on single lane roads for slow moving traffic to give way!). Our mother was a very social person and I'm sure she was as fully engaged as possible in community activities but these recollections focus on Dad's presence over a far longer period. Many of the old family names 'ring bells' as I read them in your Aug/Sept News - Jack Smith at age 97 should be particularly interested in this response.

I was born in Bulahdelah (Feb.1929), as were all the boys from Joe in 1922 through to second youngest Jack in 1930. Dad usually took Mum there by sulky; she often said that confinements were her only holidays but I once jokingly referred to their regular biennial occurrence in her case. I also noted that she experienced two depressions in 1929, a personal bodily one with my birth and the beginning of the international one at the end of the same year! The youngest brother Ken (born 1932) and I are the only living members of our family; Jack, the brother between us died last year. We three all began work as primary school teachers; Ken retired as principal of a school in Tumut and still lives in that area, Jack finished up as principal of West Maitland and I worked across three levels in my 41 years in education - teacher/principal/ inspector of schools.

So I would be both personally and professionally interested in joining you on 23 Sept. but my wife and I hibernate late in Port Douglas away from the cooler weather in Sydney. I congratulate you both on producing such a community centred volume of news, and shall be pleased if you see benefit in publicising this short memoir.

Best wishes for your future endeavours and for Wootton 101 on 23 September.
Sincerely, Norman Green





Photos by Patrick Riviere

Wootton 101 Day

Well, our Wootton 101 Day finally arrived, and boy, what a day it was! The weather continued to be very hot, but at least the really strong winds held off. However, our boys and girls of the RFS still had to leave us (and the bar-b-q) three times over the course of the day to attend fires. So, a special thanks to them for their efforts both in and out of Wootton.

The old school, Brush Turkey Café and surrounding grounds all looked wonderful. Throughout the course of the day there appeared to be plenty of people taking advantage of the variety of food options available with cakes, sandwiches, tea, coffee and soft drinks in the old school, a bar-b-q and drinks from the RFS and cappuccinos and other refreshments in the café. Estimates are that there were in excess of 300 people over the day. Many were seen leaving with handfuls of goodies purchased from the white elephant stall. What a lively spot that turned out to be in the tennis shed.

Children had a great time having a go skipping (with double ropes), playing with the marbles or jacks, having a go with the hula hoops or even just running around—it was great to see. The art exhibition was very popular with people asking if they could provide their votes to choose the winners.

The woodchoppers headed up by Ken Murrell provided great entertainment with a variety of exciting demonstrations including underhand chop, fastest chop, races between the double handled saw and the chainsaw (results were one each!), relay races and handicapped races.

Did you go and put your handprints and name on the water tank? What a lovely way to commemorate the day and to also turn this huge item into a lasting art work. There were also De Old Nabiac Klub there with their vintage engines. They had a lovely spot in the shade and enjoyed showing off their toys to those that were interested.

The major activity of the day though was the “Walk Through Time”, the display of documents and photos related to Wootton School. Wasn't it wonderful to see all those people searching through the admissions files for their name or a relative's name? What about when they were all finding photos of themselves or others that they knew and talking about the mischief they all got up to. My biggest memory of the day is that everyone was smiling or laughing!

Wootton 101 Day (cont.)

Apologies for not being able to attend the day were received from John Farrell, the teacher from 1967 to 1972, Connie Burdekin, Sally Winsor (nee Bentley) who used to live on a property called Gobi-Glen, Norman Green who is holidaying in north Queensland, Harry and Wilma Madeley who are also holidaying up north, Arthur and Betty Smith of Lauriton, Max and Fay Newton of Ballina, Bon and Marg McArthur of Gunnedah, Clive and Ann Bentley of Highfields and Dick and Michelle Ferguson of Mungendai.

Art Exhibition: the junior art prize of a \$50 gift voucher was won by Jae for his drawing of a boy bent over with a girl giving him the cane—this is his impression of what schooling was like in the early 1900s! There were two winners for the open prize sharing the \$100 gift voucher from All About Art and Framing, Taree—Colleen Rosa and Vicki Bullard.

Raffle: There were eight prizes available for the raffle—a painting donated by the artist, Bob Berriman, two meat trays from Wootton Valley Meats, two bottles of wine from Great Lakes Wines, two dinners for two from Salty Dog and one night for two at the Wootton Guesthouse. The raffle was drawn on the day. If the ticket holder was present at the raffle draw they got to choose their prize and if the ticket holder was not present they were allocated one of the remaining prizes. The painting was won by Wayne Sutton from Newcastle. Other winners included Kevin Bishop, Brian Ede, Lam Garnett, Brian Parry, Sue Smith, Graham Toms and Terry.

Revenue: After the event excess food and drinks purchased for the hall and RFS food stalls were sold at cost price with the income added to their total revenue for the day. The surplus of \$2,534 was split between the RFS and the Community Hall. The hall will most likely be using their share to help repair the termite damage that is currently being treated.

Thanks: I am sure I would accidentally miss someone out if I started listing everyone so I would just like to thank all the sponsors for their donations and everyone else who contributed to the day in any way. I certainly appreciated the help and I know that people who attended the day also appreciated it as I have received numerous messages to that effect.

Caro Badcock

PS: We had a lovely wind down party afterwards for those that stayed on. We all enjoyed pizza and great music from the local band, the Do Riders.

Aaron's Big Catch

Aaron Wright caught a 32kg Mullaway (Jewfish) on Sandbar beach at the beginning of September. He caught the fish with a small beach rod (shown in picture) that only had a 12 pound line & 2o hook rigged up for catching Whiting. It took him two & a half hours to land it, and by this time there were many people walking the beach with him to see what he had on his line. Aaron decided to keep, not eat the fish and is having it placed on his wall as a momentum.



Great Lakes Winery

The winter slow down happened for us in August...not a lot going on so its a great time to prepare for the rest of the year. Funny how the quietest times (in terms of customers) are often the busiest while you make things happen for the rest of the year. The highlight of August for us was being Finalists in the North Coast Tourism awards...didn't win but it was nice to get the recognition as a finalist!

We did share in the celebrations at Nabiac Market for their 10 year anniversary. It is a great market and has certainly matured during that period with a fabulous selection of local produce.

September kicked off with Music in the Back Paddock with Craic'n Fiddle (Matt Zarb with a fiddler). Fathers Day is always a good time - we had about 220 guests share in the fun!

We hosted a beautiful wedding of a local Bulahdelah couple - the weather was perfect and it was a pleasure to host this lovely families celebration.

Once the election was out of the way :) we then moved onto a Hens Party. The ladies let down their hair and got up to all kinds of antics on the lawn, wheelbarrow races, sack races, handstands & cartwheels - think they enjoyed themselves!

The month ended with an engagement party BBQ in the paddock, a Rotary group luncheon and a bus group from Stacks doing the Great Lakes Winery tour.

Thanks Rob & Steve www.greatlakeswines.com.au

Sunday October 27th, 2013

"BEEF, CHEESE & BOCCE"\$50 per head - \$25 kids under 15

Bookings Essential call 49977255 or Email: info@greatlakeswines.com.au



Congratulations to Steve Atkins for contesting the seat of Lyne in the last Federal election.

What Brought You to Wootton? (written by Rob and Tobi)

Rob and I moved from Perth WA to Wootton in June of this year after purchasing Tallowood Country Estate (formally the Lotus Retreat) on Wattley Hill Road. We had decided late in 2012 that we wanted a lifestyle change and to escape the "city rat race". We set out to find a rural property, close to the beach, which we could make an income from. After no such luck in WA we cast our sights further afield and found three properties in NSW that captured our interest. We flew to NSW, took a look at the properties and put an offer in on Tallowood. We were instantly captivated with the property, the rural surroundings and the nearby beaches.



Since moving, we have rebranded, redecorated, refurbished and reopened as Tallowood Country Estate, a family friendly farm stay holiday destination. We have created our own website (www.tallowoodcountryestate.com.au) and Facebook page. Our aim is to provide quality accommodation, at an affordable price, while offering an experience that guests will want to return for.

In future, we hope to take Tallowood completely off the grid and become an eco-friendly, sustainable business with an organic vegetable garden large enough to sustain our guests, friends and neighbours and ourselves.

Rob and I wish to thank all those who have made us feel so welcome in Wootton, Terry and Joy, Barb and Graham, Paul A, Kristy, Kai and Allegra, Paul B, Alison, Finn and Lucy and lastly to Jenni. Thank you for your friendship Jen and for all you have done to help re-home the three special horses we now have at Tallowood Country Estate.

Coolongolook Wootton Action Group [CWAG]

Apologies for recent advertised activities not eventuating. The totally unexpected closure of the G.L.C. section that was our main support link with the G.L.C. has caused some hopefully only temporary communication and support issues. The untiring efforts, enthusiasm and expertise that Deb Tuckerman has given us particularly in establishing the Strategic Plan and it's implementation up to this stage has been outstanding and we are adjusting to not having this valuable personal link with G.L.C. At a meeting with Mayor Jan McWilliams assurance was given that G.L.C. will continue to work with us to achieve our Strategic Plan goals, These can be viewed on Council web site http://www.greatlakes.nsw.gov.au/Your_Council/Great_Lakes_2030/Towns_and_Villages_Plans

We are presently awaiting confirmation of a date when senior G.L.C. members can attend a Community Meeting at Coolongolook Hall to discuss progress on our "Coolongolook, Wang Wauk & Wallingat Rivers Communities Strategic Plan". There will be notification in letterboxes for this meeting. The future of our Community, Employment and Environment effects everyone so please come to this meeting to discuss issues with the Local Government decision makers.

Brian Parry [Pres CWAG] 65591671 Pam Dunne [Sec.] 49977156Jeni Locke [Treas.] 49977334 email brian.g.parry@gmail.com

DIRECTORY

Accommodation

Too many visitors! **Wootton Guest House** 4 a/c bedrooms with ensuites & balconies, reasonable rates.
www.woottonguesthouse.com.au
Peter & Leanne **49977201 0407974420**

Building & Maintenance Contractor

Solutions to building problems Lic 631C
Rob McDougall **0427 955958 49977335**

Bulahdelah Post office Bill pay, banking, phones & gifts. HCCU banking, Business and Private Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Sat 9am-12noon Ph/Fax **0249974283**

Computer services

Software installation, cleanup, Website design, Hardware upgrade, Custom build!
New parts warranty. Peter **49977223**

Earth Moving

Excavation, demolition, auger, rock hammer, grab bucket, tipper truck hire
David Knezevic **49977402 0410 441428**

Wootton Valley Haulage

12 tonne tipper with driver, fully insured, Min 3 hrs \$75 PH + GST
Russell Breedon **0458 288 057**

Health

Take charge of your health with alternative medicine, nutrition and herbs.
Karen Carran **0427 177 172**

Horses Gembiras Docs Onyx dual sire registered stallion AQHA-A17174 ASH-SM133207 Standing at stud: progeny usually for sale. Gembira Horses
49977335 0419201913

Plumber

Richard Green Plumbing All plumbing, drainage, gas & LPG fitting, metal roofing domestic, commercial, industrial Lic no. 53903C **0418 618583 65591555**

Real Estate

Edes Real Estate Pty Ltd - Stock & Station Agent & Property Management Brian Ede
www.edes.com.au **49974566**
49977180(A/H) 0408492883

Renewable Energy

STS Services P/L Solutions toward Sustainability, Solar systems Grid connect or Stand alone Lic 27928C Accredited F524
49977167 0417369670

Tractor Work

Slashing and tidying up.
Paul and Hazel **49977150**

YOGA

Yoga with Janine Wootton Hall Thur 9:30am
Bulahdelah Tue 5:30pm/Fri 9:30am
janinesyoga@bigpond.com **0413 596543**

FOR SALE

A fibreglass B-line 3 man & (a dog) canoe. Ideal for fishing or touring has an outboard bracket & will take a petrol or electric outboard. Roomy & very stable. Paddles included. \$480.00 ONO
Ph Peter 0407974420

FREE

Double bed ensemble, very clean, no marks or stains, good condition.
Ph Jenni 49977330

Advertising for
Wootton Valley News Directory.
\$50 for Non-members,
\$40 Members - per 4 line ad space
(12 months)

These businesses support this newsletter.
Please support them wherever possible.

New advertisers welcome
contact the editors.