

# WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2014 NO 92  
DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON COOLONGLOOK  
BUNGWAHL BUNYAH BULAHDELAH

## Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae*

The male is 80-100 cm long, including his 55cm tail. It's spectacular tail of fanned feathers, when spread out, looks like a lyre (an ancient Greek musical instrument). Females are smaller. Lyrebirds are capable of imitating almost any sound. Mixed in with their own calls, clicks and song, you will hear them mimicking loud clear sounds made by other birds and mammals - including humans. They can mimic chainsaws, horns, alarms and even trains. They sing throughout the year, and scientists think that the mimicry helps them to vocally set out their territory and defend it from other lyrebirds. They feed mainly on ground-dwelling insects, spiders, frogs etc. In the 1930s a small number were introduced to Tasmania amongst ill-founded fears it was in danger of becoming extinct. The Tasmanian population is currently thriving. It is now widespread and common throughout its large range. Lyrebirds are ancient Australian animals. The Australian Museum has fossils of lyrebirds dating back to about 15 million years ago. It appears on the reverse side of our ten cent coin. I recently saw a lyrebird running across the road and scrambling up the bank along Wootton Way. Pat



Image taken from [www.glogster.com](http://www.glogster.com)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat 11 October	Wootton Food Swap at the hall 5.00 pm
Sat 11 October	Supper and Movie Night at the Brush Turkey Café 6pm Supper, 7pm Movie
Sat 18 October	WCN AGM/ordinary meeting Brush Turkey Café 3.00 pm
Sun 19 October	Wootton Fire Brigade Meeting at the Fire Shed 9.00 am
Sat 25 October	Community Dinner at the café - Men's Chef Night- 7.00 pm
Sat/Sun 1/2 Nov	Bulahdelah rock, rattle 'n' roll Festival
Sun 2 November	Wootton Fire Brigade Training 9 - 12 am
Sat 8 November	Wootton Food Swap at the hall 5.00 pm
Sat 8 November	Supper and Movie Night at the Brush Turkey Café 6pm Supper, 7pm Movie
Sat 15 Nov	Brush Turkey Café 10 year anniversary celebration 12 - 4pm
Sat 29 November	Community Dinner in the café - American Thanksgiving - 7.00 pm

# Wootton Community Network

**Brush Turkey Café 10th anniversary** Saturday 15th November 12-4pm. All welcome!

**Wootton Community Facebook Page** We have created a public group *facebook* page for the Wootton community. It has been created to increase the ability to connect and share ideas, information, buy/sell/swap, news, events and anything else you might think is of interest. The group is open to anyone interested in Wootton. Anyone can look at it but to post on it you will have to become a member. Just type in Wootton Community under *find friends* and it will come up. Click on join.

**Wootton Valley News** I have been publishing the newsletter now for over 15 years. Bronwyn Little and I did it together up until a few years ago and then Caro has been co-editing it with me. It has given me great pleasure over the years. The cost of producing and distributing it has increased considerably. Putting it together, printing, collating and distributing it takes up considerable time (a few days every two months). I feel it needs new blood so if anyone out there would like to take over from me I would be more than happy to help with the changeover process. I will still be putting it together until the end of 2014 but plan to retire from it next year. We always need helpers to collate it and distribute it so contact me if you can help. Pat

**Supper and Movie Nights** These are held on the second Saturday of every month. Check the blackboard for what movie will be on. Or join as a member and you will receive email updates. \$10 for a movie and great light supper is good value and always a nice social night. Next dates are 11th October, 8th November and 13th December.

**Working Bee** We had a very small turn out for our August working bee but thanks to Mike Coventry, Leanne Wright, Pat and Craig Tate.

**Brush Turkey Café** The café is open again every Sunday from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. We desperately need more volunteers to help to keep it running. Apart from being the only real public meeting place we have in Wootton it helps to fundraise for the community. If you can spare a day a month (or even less) we won't throw you in at the deep end but will give you lots of training. Contact Fran on 49977323 or Pat on 49977292 or Leanne on 49977201.

## Next AGM and ordinary meeting date

Saturday 18 October 3pm at the Brush Turkey Café. ALL WELCOME!!

## Community Dinners

Thanks to Caro for co-ordinating the August dinner.

**October Dinner** Men's chef night!!

**25th October at 7pm in the cafe**

**November Dinner** American Thanksgiving Dinner

**29th November at 7pm in the cafe**

**December** Xmas Party in the Hall grounds

**Saturday 20th December**

**Call 49977292, 49977323 or 49977201 for more information or to book anything related to the Wootton Community Network.**



## Brush Turkey Café 10th Anniversary Saturday 15th November 2014 12.00 pm to 4.00 pm

**Everyone welcome to come and celebrate the  
10 year anniversary of the opening of the  
Wootton Community Resource Centre**

**(Brush Turkey Café)**

**Barbeque Lunch, Pizzas, Cake and Coffee, Music**

### **Hidden Treasure**

We are pleased to announce that Pat Tate has been recognised in the 2014 Hidden Treasures Honour Roll: Recognising rural women volunteers. Her full story can be found online at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn/activities/hidden-treasures](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn/activities/hidden-treasures)

### **Wootton Food Swap**

The first of the season's food swaps was held in September before the movie night at the centre. A good array of goodies including fruit, veg, bread and preserves. Everybody left happy and the leftover veg went down to be cooked up for supper for the movie night.

Special thanks to Julie and Geoff and Pat and Craig for sending produce along even though they couldn't make it.

Robyn Lamond commented on the Wootton community Facebook page:

*"Highly recommend this event. I baked the perpetual beet, kale and eggs with cheese and quinoa and served it with wholemeal bread. Thanks everyone for a great array of late winter produce."*

**Next swap dates will be:**

**When: 5.00 pm Saturday 11th October and 8th November**

**Where: In the shelter shed outside the hall or in the hall if it rains**

Community Library will also be open during the Swap.



Mike and Jim with the various produce  
available to swap.

## Wootton Hall News

We had another wonderful dinner on Saturday night (27th Sept) catching up with new and old friends. We had a special visitor, Colin Kindred, who was looking for information about his sister Berrie Kindred, who had been a teacher at the Wootton school around 1950. This was her first teaching position. Colin had a lovely time reading through some of the historical rec-



Berrie Kindred 's first teaching position in the 1950's was at the Wootton school

ords. I was able to send him the school photo from 1950 that included Berrie. The only reason we knew it was her was because someone from our Wootton 101 Day last year had provided that information on the photograph. (Can't believe it was a year ago that we celebrated the 101 years.) Colin has since sent us another photo of her, smiling and told us that she went on to do animal genetics. He also thought that she stayed at *Hancock's Farm*. Does anybody know where that was? Squires Road?

We have had news that the termites have gone so now we need to find out the plan for the repairs.

We are looking for new members for the Wootton Hall Committee. Larn and I are standing down from the committee in March next year. If you are interested please contact Dianne Denton at Great Lakes Council.

[Dianne.denton@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Dianne.denton@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au) or 6591 7279.

Caro

## THE EAGLE HAS LANDED!!

I was driving along Hubbards Road heading home, right on dusk. I'd seen a dead kangaroo on the road earlier in front of Mandy and Scott's. As I was coming up the hill a wedge-tail eagle was taking off, coming down the hill. He was running, flapping his wings, trying to get air and take off. He took off over my car making a massive dark shadow, clearing the car by about ten feet. I could see his talons as he went over the windscreen. His wingspan seemed almost as wide as the road – way wider than the car. It was like someone had thrown a blanket over the car, blocking out the sun. He was eating his lunch – he had dragged the dead kangaroo into the middle of the road – and had heard me coming. He must have panicked and was taking off when I came around the corner and up the hill. What staggered me was the sheer size of him! It's not often you see a wedge-tailed eagle that close – especially one that size. Craig

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE SERVICE  
Manning Great Lakes Local Area Command  
Bulahdelah Police Station

12-14 Meade Street, Bulahdelah NSW 2388

Ph: (02) 4997 4204 or 0427 233 745 F: (02) 4997 4377 Email: [mcle1tre@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mcle1tre@police.nsw.gov.au)



**Crime August/September**

Some time in the afternoon of Tuesday the 16th of September 2014 occupants of a property on Hubbards Rd North, Boolambayte lit grass clumps to reduce fire hazards around the house. They left the fire for a short time and then observed the fire to reach an old shed which was nearly fallen over. The fire began to spread through grass that was dry and 3-4 feet tall. The grass then spread around the property which has not been grazed for some time. The persons who lit the fire did not get the required permit and have been prosecuted for this offence.

Between 10 and 13 September 2014 person/s unknown person/s using unknown means have broken the lock of a ground floor front sliding glass door at Markwell Rd, Markwell to gain access. Once inside, the offender/s have been through a draw in the master bedroom. Also during the same timeframe, an old dairy shed separate to the residence, at the rear of the property was broken into via a ground floor side door. The lock to the sheds ground floor side door has also been broken by unknown means. Once inside, the offender/s have stolen a mig welder, ark welder, air compressor, mower, brush cutter & 2 fishing rods.

At 5.50pm 6 September 2014 police attended Willina Rd, Bunyah in relation to a report of stock on the road. Upon arrival about 5 cattle were located in the middle of the road way and apparently unconcerned about passing traffic. Inquiries identified the owner of the stock and she was contacted and the stock removed from the road. She was warned re the seriousness of the issue and the possible ramification. She was issued a warning for the offence of allowing stock to stray.

**INFORMATION** This month I have attached the first in a series of security tips for your information. This month is about farmhouse security. (The document is too large to publish in this newsletter but can be downloaded from [www.une.edu.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0017/23552/farm-crime-factsheet5.pdf](http://www.une.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0017/23552/farm-crime-factsheet5.pdf) Some points in the document are: create signs of life, automatic lighting timers, adequate insurance, video surveillance, Neighbourhood Watch, Take a household inventory. Pat)

**TIP** Daylight saving coming up – you are more active, we are more active and so are criminals.

Thank you Trevor McLEOD

## Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

**Call Outs:** Despite the recent rain, July/August presented like an early start to the fire season. We were able to respond to 75% of the call outs with the remaining 25% having the trucks left in the shed as there were not enough fresh members to make up crews. We attended a few serious vehicle accidents and numerous property fires where owners had lit heaps and lost control of them in the wind. The big fire at Minimbah was attended for several days ... members came from Sydney to help rotate truck crews!

*If you intend to light up a heap, **PLEASE** check the weather forecast .... you could save yourself and your neighbours a lot of grief and us our lost income !*

**Funding:** In April, brigade funding via various grant applications was mentioned. We were happy to report in the last issue, the support provided by the HCCU and now, we are elated by more success with another grant. The members based Rural Fire Service Association supports the Rural Fire Service in many ways, one being their grants programme. We applied for assistance in the form of cleaning, office, and crew welfare equipment and were successful!! The brigade would like to extend our thanks to the RFSA for their support of the our community.

**Members:** The brigade has 2 probationary members who have completed their Basic Firefighting course. They will now join the brigade as active firefighter's for the forthcoming fire season. However, we need **more members** as we would like to respond to 100% of the call outs in our area. Non-active members would also be greatly appreciated to help clean & maintain the gear and shed etc. If you would like more information, call us.

**Property Inspections:** Due to the dry Winter and a fine start to Spring, it is now essential to consider the coming Summer. If you would like an inspection or assistance with your Bush Fire Plan, call Mike Badcock.

**Summer .... the season of bushfires :** A hot dry Summer is coming and with the recent rains & warm weather, everything is growing !!

***Be prepared ... start cleaning up, take the rubbish to the tip, do your fire plans, check water supplies, check/run pumps & sprinklers, put street numbers at the front gate, prune or cut back vegetation immediately around the house, ensure fire trucks can access your property, etc.***

Adam Garnett

President 0428 27 26 29

Mike Badcock

Captain 0409 448 330

### **Wootton featured in the Small Towns Radio Series on 95.5FM.**

Craig was recently interviewed by ABC radio in a feature they were doing on small towns that have been bypassed. The 15 minute interview focused on what it was like living in Wootton and how it has changed over the years, especially after the bypass. Craig gave a positive spin on all the good things about Wootton. Locals who heard the interview made comments like, "if I didn't already live here I'd want to move to Wootton..."

It's nice to be reminded of all the positives of living in Wootton.



## DROUGHT WORKSHOP BRINGS SOME RAIN

**Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare** arranged a ½ day workshop called ***Coping with Drought*** in conjunction with **Hunter Local Land Services** at Coolongolook Hall on Monday August 25. Despite some recent rain many landholders came to know more about options for protecting stock and pasture health in dry times.

Pastures Officer Peter Beale started with a graphic representation of just how much rain we need in our area for our predominantly summers pastures to flourish. Even in normal years there is usually a deficit in soil moisture due to the heat of summer. Sub-soil moisture will not improve unless we get heavy rain and runoff now and in early summer. According to predictions, a dry spring is still highly likely. Even if conditions improve, summer pastures will not be good to graze until at least November.

NRM Officer Albert Mullen shared some initiatives, including an opportunity feedlot, he has taken to give his animals a supply of feed until the hoped for summer growth. Thinking ahead, culling numbers early and having more feed options, reduces stress on animals and owners. Livestock Officer Liz O'Grady gave us many tips on feed budgeting. District Vet Jim Kerr gave us a comprehensive insight into the animal health issues we or our neighbours could be facing due to low feed levels of poor quality and how to avoid them.

Those in attendance were very appreciative of the information available and had many questions answered. There will be more workshops provided by Hunter LLS to keep rural landholders abreast of issues and seasonal conditions.

Join a local group and email list with Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare or contact Albert Mullen at Hunter LLS to join an email list to receive information and opportunities.

Contacts:

KGLL Secretary Jordan Hanbury-Brown [jhanbury@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jhanbury@bigpond.net.au) Mob 0438 696187  
Albert Mullen at Hunter LLS [albert.mullen@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:albert.mullen@lls.nsw.gov.au) Mob 0428 670524

**Creek to Coast** is now available to download from the Council's website:  
[www.greatlakes.nsw.gov.au](http://www.greatlakes.nsw.gov.au)

**Coastal Zone Management Plan:** all the Great Lakes beaches are impacted by hazards from the ocean. This plan focuses on ways to address issues. The Council is looking for information on what beaches you visit and how you use them. Have your say via the online survey on the Council's website by October 17.

## Local Logging

Forestry Corporation are currently logging in Hubbards Road. There are timber jinkers travelling along Hubbards Road and Wattle Hill Road and then down Wootton Way to Bulahdelah. They are big trucks so just be aware - watch out for the clouds of dust - and drive with caution, especially on blind and narrow sections. We have had a couple of near misses! They may be logging for a couple more months yet.

Pat



# DIRECTORY

## Accommodation

### ***Wootton Guest House***

Too many visitors!! 4 air conditioned bedrooms with ensuites and balconies, reasonable rates. Contact Peter and Leanne [www.woottonguesthouse.com.au](http://www.woottonguesthouse.com.au)

**49977201 0407 974 420**

## Building and Maintenance Contractor

### ***Rob McDougall***

Solutions to building problems Lic 631C

**49977335 0427 955 958**

## Bulahdelah Post Office

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

**Ph/Fax 499774283**

## Earth Moving/Tractor Work

### ***David Knezevic***

Excavation, demolition, auger, rock hammer, grab bucket, tipper, truck hire

**47777402 0410 441 428**

### ***Wootton Valley Haulage***

12 tonne tipper with driver, fully insured, min 3hrs \$75 ph + GST **0458 288 057**

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

### ***Slashing and Excavating Services***

Free quotes, all areas, no job too small or too large. 70hp 4WD tractor, heavy duty slasher or mulcher - 4.5 ton excavator with auger, bobcat, tipper Chris Nebauer [www.slashingservices.com](http://www.slashingservices.com) **0416 128 502**

## Health

### ***Karen Carran***

Take charge of your health with alternative medicine, nutrition, herbs **0427 177 172**

Advertising for  
Wootton Valley News Directory  
contact the editors.

## Horses

***Gembira Horses*** Gembiras Onyx dual sire registered stallion AQHA-A17174 ASH-SM133207 Standing at stud, progeny usually for sale **49977 335 0419 201 913**

## Plumber

***Richard Green Plumbing*** All plumbing, drainage, gas and LPG fitting, metal roofing (domestic, commercial, industrial) Lic no. 53903C **65591555 0418 618 583**

## Real Estate

### ***Edes Real Estate Pty Ltd***

Stock and Station agent and property management [www.edes.com.au](http://www.edes.com.au) Call Brian Ede

**49974566 49977180(A/H) 0408 492 883**

### ***Great Lakes Realty***

Comprehensive range of properties [info@greatlakesrealty.com.au](mailto:info@greatlakesrealty.com.au) **49978200**

## Yoga

Wootton Hall Thursdays 9.30-11am

Bulahdelah Bowling Club Tuesdays 5.30-7pm Senior teacher with 25 years teaching experience Phone Christine **0408 154 008**



**Saturday and Sunday  
1st and 2nd November**

Street entertainment, markets, fashion, dance floor, rock 'n' roll music, live bands, 'kiddies corner', trade exhibits, food, classic cars. 'THE RADIATORS' 'BREWHABA' 'THE RATTLESNAKES'