

WOOTTON VALLEY NEWS

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024 NO 148

DISTRIBUTION WOOTTON BULAHDELAH

Wattle Goat Moth (*Endoxyla encalypti*)

Adult Wattle Goat moths have been found from Tasmania to Queensland and have a wingspan of around 6cm. The caterpillars bore down in the roots of wattle trees, making a borehole with a length up to 1 metre. When the caterpillar is fully grown, it leaves the roots and bores up through the soil, and lines the tunnel with silk and frass. It pupates at the bottom of this tunnel before emerging as an adult moth, leaving the empty pupal case sticking out of the ground. Jo rescued this one from her kitchen sink.



Read more at www.australian-insects.com/lepidoptera/coss/encalyp.html

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Subscribe to Wootton Community events to update your calendar automatically and read updates on the Wootton Community facebook group	
Sat 3 Feb	• Aussie BBQ from 5pm-free event in the community grounds <i>details p3</i>
Sat 10 Feb	• Wootton Hall/shelter shed: Foodswap midday. <i>Peter D 0478 741 111</i>
Sun 11 Feb	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd 8am
Tue 13 Feb	• Wootton Hall: WCN committee meeting <i>ALL WELCOME FROM 10am</i>
Fri 16 Feb	• Wootton Library: Community Hall, 10am to midday
Sat 9 Mar	• Wootton Hall/shelter shed: Foodswap midday. <i>Peter D 0478 741 111</i>
Sun 10 Mar	• Wootton Fire Brigade Shed: training, Squires Rd 8am
Tue 12 Mar	• Wootton Hall: WCN committee meeting <i>ALL WELCOME FROM 10am</i>
Fri 15 Mar	• Wootton Library: Community Hall, 10am to midday <i>**Copy deadline for Wootton Valley News**</i>
Sat 23 Mar	• Community Working Bee from 3pm <i>volunteers needed and appreciated</i>

Published by Wootton Community Network Inc . Contact Fred Fetherston & Arjen Arnold
Visit our website www.wootton.org.au and [Wootton Community](#) Facebook public group
[Use this link to send us a story and photos](#)

Upcoming Events

Social Event - Saturday 3rd February in community grounds (beside the Hall)

Join us for the first event of the year - a **free Aussie BBQ**. We'll provide the snags, bread rolls, onions and sauce - you **bring your drinks and a salad to share**. Everyone is welcome!

Working Bee—Saturday 23 March from 3pm

Come and be part of the fun erecting new picnic tables on the grass near the Brush Turkey Café. Volunteers needed and greatly appreciated.

All these events are coordinated and run by WCN volunteers, and all funds raised contribute directly to the maintenance and upkeep of all our Wootton Community Network buildings and facilities.

The Wootton Community Christmas party was well attended on Saturday 9th December.



Santa was happy to visit such a lovely part of Australia.

The live music by *Kelly Hope* was wonderful to listen to, lots of delicious goodies were shared and a very successful raffle was won by *Peter Auriac*.

Overall a lovely afternoon was enjoyed by all.

On Boxing day afternoon, Wootton and surrounds were hit by a hailstorm.

Thanks to *Rob* at Minimbah, *Leanne* and *Fred* at Wootton for hail photos.





Meet the committee:- (left-to-right)

Andrew Holland, Secretary; Leanne Wright, Treasurer

Victoria Norman, Committee member; Susanne Kennedy, Committee member;

Nicole Turnbull, President; Carol Bridge, Committee member



FREE

AUSSIE BBQ

SATURDAY

**3rd FEB
5PM**



BYO drinks & salads to share



MOON PHASES

FULL MOON

24 Feb & 25 Mar

NEW MOON

10 Feb & 10 Mar

Becoming dung beetle farmers

Australian livestock produce many millions of tonnes of dung each year and dung beetles are an important tool in managing the impact.

By burying dung, beetles **improve soil quality, reduce water run-off, prevent fly and parasite build up (improving livestock health), and capture carbon.**



Unfortunately, most of the dung beetles in our region died off during the 2021/22 floods. **That's why we've reintroduced dung beetles on our property and decided to try our hand at breeding our own.**

We've recently purchased and released four species that are known to survive in our area and are active from spring to autumn. **Inspired by last year's Landcare and LLS dung beetle workshop, we kept some aside and decided to have a go at breeding them!**

Using old (and very strong) timbers from the original house on the property, we've constructed 5 nurseries which are basically 1m by 1m open boxes. The boxes are dug into the ground slightly to stop the beetles crawling away and covered in flyscreen (recycled from our more recent demolition) to stop them flying away. **We feed them fresh dung every few days which they bury underground and lay their eggs into.** We'll keep feeding and breeding these beetles until the end of autumn and then when new beetles emerge next spring, we'll hopefully be able to harvest them and release them in the area. **It's estimated that 30-50 beetles in a nursery can produce up to 1,000 beetles at the start of the next season.** If it works, we'll definitely have to start calling ourselves dung beetle farmers instead of Dexter farmers! *Megan K*



*Releasing a herd of
dung beetles into
their new paddock*

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Current Fire Situation

Permits for pile burns are still required until 31st March and:

- Only dry or dead vegetation may be burnt (no household rubbish, plastics, wooden pallets or cardboard boxes).
- Build long and low piles no greater than 2m in length or width, and no higher than 1.5m. This will spread the heat. Piles that are too high produce more intense heat and retain the heat for longer.
- Do not add logs greater than 150mm in diameter. Instead use large logs to provide habitat and prevent erosion on your property.
- ♦ If possible, place the pile in an area where it will receive direct sunlight to dry out the pile before burning.



Contact your Wootton Permit Officers

Mike Coventry 0407 458 167; **Renee Spiteri** 4997 7149

Follow the [Facebook page](#) for updates or
contact Captain **Adam Garnett** 0428 272 629

**PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL FIRES
YOU MUST CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBOURS AT
LEAST 24 hrs BEFORE LIGHTING UP**

[USE THE ONLINE NOTIFICATION FORM](#)

Feed testing advice

Feeding and managing your cattle herd can be challenging at times, especially when dealing with cycles of flood and drought conditions.

There are a lot of



management decisions to be made, many of which are time sensitive.

Feed tests are easy to do. If you need more information on how to do a feed test and interpret the results, you can contact your

Local Land Services Office on 1300 795 299.



19th February, Craven. Birds and Biodiversity on Farms

Join us for a morning of Bird Spotting and lively discussion with Kristy Peters (BirdLife Australia) who will give us an overview of how to protect biodiversity and provide habitat for birds and other animals whilst maintaining productivity for her herd of cattle.

<https://events.humanitix.com/birds-and-biodiversity-on-farms>



For more local Landcare updates, news and events contact Joël Dunn 0401 932 533

joel.kgl.landcare@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/karuahgreatlakeslandcare/

Feral Pig Management

The Tops Landcare Group, a subgroup of Karuah and Great Lakes Landcare, are

starting to have some wins with their feral pig control efforts.

Feral pigs are a very damaging pest, causing erosion, fouling watercourses, preying on native animals and their eggs, damaging crops and pastures, harbouring diseases and parasites controlling them is a clear win for both ecosystems and agricultural production.

Feral animal control is every landholder's responsibility, but the best results are always achieved when there is a coordinated neighbourhood and cross-tenure effort. Hunter Local Land Services can support community feral control programs with advice, training, bait stations and baits. LLS has been assisting the feral pig work in The Tops around Tibbuc, and MidCoast Council has lent us motion sensor cameras to monitor the bait stations.

For more information on feral pigs and their management, including a series of short videos, check out the LLS feral pig page

www.lls.nsw.gov.au/help-and-advice/pest-control/vertebrate-pest-animals/feral-pigs

If you and your neighbours have issues with any feral animals, contact

Kirstin Bisley at LLS 0438 593 875 kirstin.bisley@lls.nsw.gov.au



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY – MARCH 3, 2024

Join the Wootton Community Network for only \$20 today.

As a not-for-profit organization, your membership helps to maintain
and improve facilities and services in the community.

Members also get discounted access to events throughout the year.

Visit the Website www.wootton.org.au or

Direct Deposit to **Wootton Community Network Inc.**

- CBA Forster BSB 062669 Account No 10250496

- Reference = Name and "Membership"

Wootton Directory contains important local contacts. *Always dial 000 for Emergency.*



Wootton Community Network

President: Nicole Turnbull

Secretary: Andrew Holland

Treasurer: Leanne Wright 4997 7201

Email: info@wootton.org.au

FoodSwap: Peter Dixon 0478741111

Bookings—all facilities

*Celebrating something special? Running a
Course or a Market?*

Andrew Holland 0416 002 532

Wootton Creative Alliance:

wca@wootton.org.au

Wootton Rural Fire Brigade

Captain: Adam Garnett 0428 272 629

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 0401 932 533

Wootton - Topi Topi Sustainable Farming Group

Fred Fetherston 0427 461 101

MidCoast Council: 6591 7222

State Forests Wauchope 6585 3744

Bulahdelah Police: 4940-7470

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

Wootton Justices of the Peace (JPs)

Warren Richardson 0407 146 373

Paul Spiteri 0407 298 954

Renee Spiteri 0407 516 089

Gary Cross 0418 251 090

**Bulahdelah Waste Facility
opening hours**

Tues 1-5pm, Fri 12-4, Sun 10-2

DIRECTORY

New advertisers are Welcome, contact Leanne at treasurer@wootton.org.au.



Accommodation

Wootton Guest House

Too many visitors? 4 air conditioned bedrooms with en-suites and balconies. Reasonable rates. Contact Peter & Leanne 4997 7201 0407 974 420

Real Estate

Ede's Real Estate Pty Ltd since 1956

For all your Real Estate needs in Wootton, Bulahdelah and surrounding areas. Agent/Agency Award Winners 2018 to 2023. Local Agent 49974566 0408492883
Remember choosing Ede's is choosing success
edes@edes.com.au www.edes.com.au

Transport

RPS Enterprises - "Bulahdelah Buses"

You require the transport we do the driving. Luxury Air conditioned seat belted buses available for wedding guest transport, winery trips, concerts, sporting events. Call Paul and Renee Spiteri to discuss your transport needs. 4997 7149 or 0407 298 954

Plumber

Tim McDonnell

Lic no. 14660

Plumbing, Draining, Roofing Guttering
Water tanks, Gas fitting
Wootton & all areas – 0418 682 199

Farm Services

Bulahdelah Post Office Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.
Bank@Post personal and business banking, passports, gift cards, phones, variety of gifts, now in store lotto & instant scratchies. 4997 4283

C & E Mobile Mechanical

Log book & general service, brakes, steering, suspension, electrical repairs, welding, breakdown assist. MVRL58530. Craig Huggett—0410 655 920

General

General

Lifestyle, Health and Beauty

Wootton Water Carriers

Tanks, pools or dams. HNEP Health approved. Peace of mind, as well as water. 0488 223 575. Fbook: Wootton WATER Carriers

BD Appliance Repairs

Specialising in washing machines, dryers, & dishwasher repairs & installs. We come to you. Call your local repair man, Dave - 0422 787 552

Jo Lyons Photography

Professional Photographer for People Whose Kids Have Four Legs. Dog and Family photography. Purpose built studio in Wootton offering the ultimate studio/outdoor experience. 0412 617 928
www.jolyonsphotography.com

Liarne's Hair and Beauty

A private home salon. All ladies and mens hairdressing. Waxing, relaxation facials, lash and brow tinting. Air conditioning, eftpos facilities. Tuesday to Friday 9am to 5pm 0412 833 700

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

Celebrant—Karen George

Specialising in weddings, renewal of wedding vows and commitment ceremonies. Contact— caringcelebrancy@hotmail.com 0422 867 572

Minibrae Dogstayz - Minibrae GroomDayz

All-breeds Dog Grooming/Clipping is now available to non boarding clients, professional 30+ years experience, appointment essential. Luxury Dogstayz, non kennelling dog boarding, the best of care in the best of comfort. www.minibrae.com

[Use this link to send us a story and photos](#)

Scan the QR code to go to the Wootton website, wootton.org.au and share it with your friends

