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Wamboin Community Assn <https://wamboincommunity.org.au>
Bywong Community www.bywongcommunity.org.au
Fire Brigade Captain-Wamboin-Palerang-vol@rfs.nsw.gov.au
Bywong and Wamboin Facilities and Contacts

Bywong Community	Justin Jarvis - President	0404 460 568	president@bywongcommunity.org.au
Bywong Hall Bookings	Bookings Officer		lrhallbywong@gmail.com
Church - Anglican	Gai Donald - Warden	0438 400 364	peterandandrew2012@gmail.com
Community Nurse	Heather Morrison - Bungendore	6238 1333	
Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade	Matt Jackson - Captain	0409 991 340	wamboincaptain@gmail.com
Geary's Gap Pony Club	Cameron Smith	0419 449 747	
Golf	Ken Gordon	0455 839 840	ken.gordon1962@gmail.com
Injured Wildlife	Wildcare – Helpline	6299 1966	
Justice of the Peace	Andrew Stainlay – JP	0408 469 880	stains@bigpond.net.au
Justice of the Peace	Leanne (Lee) Ward – JP	0411 207 317	leannefward@gmail.com
Bee Swarm Support	Adrian Meijer	0427 101 550	adrian.meijer@gmail.com
Landcare	Kathy Handel - Treasurer	0447 289 638	khandel@bigpond.net.au
NSW SES (assist – storm/flood)	NSW Call Centre	132 500	
NSW SES Bungend. non-urgent)	After Hours Duty Officer	6238 0222	
Sutton School Playgroup	playgroup.sutton@gmail.com / Sutton Playgroup Facebook page.		
Table Tennis	Mike Muston	0406 606 238	mike.muston@gmail.com
Wamboin Community Assoc.	Jenny Richards - President	0490 020 165	president@wamboincommunity.asn.au
Wamboin-Bung. Book Group	Sally Saunders	0419 303 229	sally.saunders1@bigpond.com
Wamboin Hall Bookings	Joan Mason	6238 3258	wamboinhall@gmail.com
Wamboin Markets	Meriel Schultz	6238 3309	lmsconsulting@bigpond.com
Wamboin Play Group	Kayla May – Co-ordinator		wamboin.playgroup@gmail.com
Gearys Gap Pony Club	Kate O'Connor, President	0413 008 824	gearysgap.ponyclub@gmail.com
Wamboin Pony Club	Contact Person		wamboinpcsecretary@gmail.com
Wamboin Thurs Social Grp	Narelle Pumphrey	0438 917 206	pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au
Greenways Mgmt Committee	Kathy Handel	0447 289 638	khandel@bigpond.net.au
Wonderful Women of Wamboin	Merle Ketley		Wonderfulwomenofwamboin@gmail.com
Wamboin Crown Reserve	Friends of WCR	0407 760 083	friendswcr@gmail.com

The Wamboin Whisper: The Whisper is a monthly community newsletter established in 1981 by and owned by the Wamboin Community Association. The Whisper is printed at Elect Printing in Fyshwick at the start of each month, excluding January. It is distributed to every letterbox in Wamboin, Bywong and Queanbeyan-Palerang Council residents just southeast of the Federal Highway. Each issue goes to volunteer deliverers by the first Sunday of the month and is also then available at www.wamboincommunity.asn.au. Any proceeds from advertisements in The Whisper after printing costs go to the Wamboin Community Association.

Contributions to the Whisper: Contributions from all residents are encouraged, valued and the main content of the newsletter. The current editor is Ned Noel, 17 Reedy Creek Place, Wamboin, 2620, phone 0409 997 082. Paul Downey of Cooper Road also shares the editing. Please email contributions to nednoel@optusnet.com.au or mail them or drop them off. On contentious matters the Wamboin Community Association will strive to maintain a balanced view, by seeking advice from the editorial team and by seeking alternative views to be published in the same edition.

The deadline for each issue is the last Sunday night of the month before. There is, by tradition, no January Whisper, mainly to give all its volunteer workers a rest. **The deadline for the October 2026 issue is 7 pm Sunday night, September 27, 2026.** **Advertising prices**, per issue, based on rough fraction of the inside the margins A4 area: 1/8 \$26 1/6 32 ¼ \$40 1/3 \$54 ½ \$80 2/3 \$108 Full Page \$160. email or phone the editor as above.

Young Entrepreneurs: Rebecca Purdie – pet/horse sitting 6238 3343 Kale Blundell, Fernloff Road, babysitting, 0493 556 689

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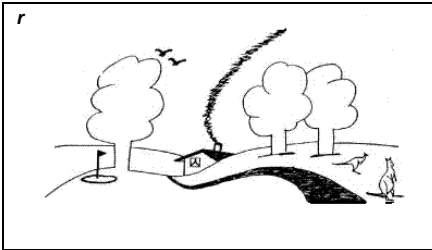
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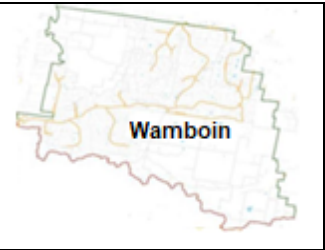
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Wamboin Community Association President's Notes



Well its Spring and it feels warm and wonderful. Certainly I think the brilliant day and mild night contributed to our outstanding Bonfire Night.

1. Bonfire and Fireworks Night. The annual Bonfire/Fireworks Night was held on the last Saturday in August as is tradition. The weather showed how good early Spring can be around Wamboin and we had a perfect day for the event and night. Crowds were definitely up and our different groups selling food or drink did excessively well. The fire brigade BBQ was completely sold out before the fireworks began, as were Sutton School and the Playgroup's pork rolls, and the Golf Club's spuds. St Andrews Church quickly sold out of their sausage rolls and gluwiein and eventually the apple pies as well. The Pony Club did an excellent trade on lollies and glo-sticks although not quite as good with hot dogs. Scouts still had some soup at the end of the night but I personally tasted the potato and leek soup and thought it was excellent. I believe all groups were very satisfied with the level of sales.

First Aid were delighted to report no need of their services, the raffle was well patronized and different drinks sold well. Its my opinion that the fireworks were spectacular (especially those fizzy gold ones in the sky), and we thank Fireworks Australia for coming and making this event so special. It was spectacular. We also thank our local fire brigade for all their help with parking, collecting gate fees, and fire management of the Bonfire itself. Thank you so much. Many people help to make this a very special event for Wamboin but 2 that need special thanks are the main organizers; Tim Barter and Keith France. They do a great job every year and we should remember that great events take significant planning.

2. Community Christmas Carols. Claiming the date for our annual Christmas Carols event. This is a non-denominational community event to finish off the year on **4th December at the Hall**. The event begins at **7:00 pm** and is a lot of fun. More on this event will be provided in the next edition of the Whisper.

3. Markets. Finally September will see the resumption of our Monthly Markets every **3rd Saturday** of the month starting at **9 am until 12pm**. If you are a new resident I urge you to come to these for valuable information about life in Wamboin and to enjoy the community vibe. - *Jenny Richards – President.*

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Bywong Banta September Edition 2026

Hi all this month is going to be another good one.

We have a number of activities specifically the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING is to be held on 24 September this year which is the Thursday evening. We'd love anybody to come along. This is a chance to help shape the Bywong Community Association. If you want to you can also become part of this hardy little crew. We are always looking for new members to help out no matter how big or small you input is we are always keen for more help.

In the lead up to the AGM we will also be holding an Equinox Drink and gathering. This will be down at the hall on Saturday the 19TH of September from 4-6pm. As part of this event we have a SNAKE AWARENESS talk from wildcare. This will be from about 5:30.

So come on down to the hall. Join us for a drink and chat and we will also learn something about Snakes from the wonderful Wildcare people.

Hope to see you there - **Justin, President BCA**

Bywong and Wamboin – From Kristy McBain MP, Member for Eden-Monaro

As we head into spring, I'm encouraging everyone across Eden-Monaro to start preparing for the upcoming bushfire season. The latest Seasonal Bushfire Outlook, released by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC), identifies an increased bushfire risk across parts of southeastern New South Wales. Following below-average rainfall and warmer conditions, much of the state is entering spring drier than usual.

Our communities know all too well the impact bushfires can have. Having experienced major fires and floods in recent years, many local families will understandably be concerned as temperatures begin to rise.

While governments and emergency services are preparing for the season ahead, there are practical steps we can all take now. I encourage everyone to review their Bush Fire Survival Plan, understand the risks in their local area, and check in with family, friends and neighbours to ensure they have a plan too.

To help communities get ready, the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) is holding *Get Ready Weekend* events across the state. These free events provide practical advice, information about local bushfire risks, and simple actions you can take to better protect your home and family. You can find an event near you at: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/get-ready-weekend-2026

I also want to thank our emergency services personnel, volunteers and support agencies, whose professionalism and dedication will once again be critical in keeping our communities safe.

It's also tax season - need help with your tax return? My office has joined a network of Tax Help Centres, where ATO-trained volunteers can assist eligible community members earning \$70,000 or less per year.

Volunteers can help you:

- Set up myGov and link it to the ATO
- Lodge your tax return
- Claim a refund of franking credits
- Lodge an amendment or non-lodgment advice

Sessions are free, confidential and bookings are essential. To make an appointment, call my office on 02 6284 2442.

If I can assist with a federal issue, get in touch at Kristy.McBain.MP@aph.gov.au.

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Callouts, and what we have been up to

The brigade has been busy with callouts – 3 x MVA, 1 x Assist police, 1 x unknown fire.



The Bush Fire Danger Period will commence on 1st October 2026, unless an earlier start is declared. After this date you will need a fire permit for pile burns. (Mandatory notification on the RFS Portal and neighbours is also required 365 days a year)

One of the main risks of living in the area is the threat of bush fire. With the Bureau of Meteorology reporting signs of El Niño, it is projected that our summer may be drier and there will be a heightened risk during the coming bush fire season. With the fire danger season approaching, it is crucial that residents and landowners are aware of their risk and actively take steps to protect themselves, their homes and their properties. Your safety and survival may depend on the preparations and decisions you make during the year and well before there is a fire. We encourage all residents in the brigade area (i.e. Wamboin and those parts of Bywong and Sutton in the QPRC LGA) to prepare and practice their family bush fire survival plan. Even if you have a plan, it is important to revisit and refresh your plan to take into account the current season and any changed circumstances.

Need advice or guidance?

Members of the brigade's Community Engagement Team are available throughout the year to assist residents and property owners with advice and guidance on bush fire preparations. Contact points are on the brigade website along with links to the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) website to help you plan and prepare for bushfire. The Wamboin brigade's Facebook page is another useful source for hints and tips and relevant fire-related news.

Get Ready Weekend event in Wamboin – Saturday 19 September 2026

As the bush fire season approaches, Wamboin RFS will host a Get Ready Weekend event to provide valuable information and resources to help you and your family prepare for the upcoming fire season. Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade Get Ready Weekend event will coincide with the resumption of the Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market on **Saturday 19 September 2026**. The Brigade event will run from **9am to 12pm**. We will be running an information shopfront and weather permitting, we intend to offer some fun activities to engage the younger members of our community to include face painting. All are welcome. Our team will be on hand to talk with individuals on a one-on-one basis, to answer questions and provide general advice on personal and property preparations against the threat of bush fire. We cannot tell you what to do but we can run through various scenarios for you to consider. We also offer free visits under our Resident Requested Property Visit Program. **Come and talk to us.**

We will also be running helpful Get Ready hints and tips and other information on the brigade's Facebook page and Website through September.

Be sure to check them out.

WHEN	'Get Ready' Saturday 19 September
WHAT TIME	9am – 12pm (pop by any time) *
WHERE	Wamboin Fire Station, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin

Till next time, stay safe! - Don Evans (Deputy Captain)

Membership enquiries	wamboin-rfs-membership@rfs.nsw.gov.au
Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade	https://wamboin.rfsa.org.au
NSW Rural Fire Service	www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
Wamboin Facebook page	Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade
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I am the owner | operator of a small independent service provider company (LET ME HELP GROUP). I am a qualified (Certificate IV in Disability) support worker with over 8 years practical experience supporting people living with disabilities, and other health issues.

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Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market Market resumes Saturday 19 September 9-12md

Combined with World Spinning Day Contact: Meriel Schultz 042 261 4304 Email: imsconsulting@bigpond.com

Yes we are back for another year of local Markets! We will have: Garden produce, Home baked goods, Bread, Cheeses, Craft all all kinds, Jewellery, Plants, Jams and preserves, Barista brewed coffee, Egg and bacon and sausage rolls from the kitchen, High quality 2nd hand clothing stall.

In addition to our usual craft and handmade goods, we will hold our market on World Spinning Day and so we invite along any spinners, weavers, knitters and crocheters (or is it crocheteers??).....Come and learn about preparing wool, spinning yarn and more..... In October we will combine with Queanbeyan Arts Trail and hold a local Art and Photography exhibition in the hall (+ the market of course)....so get drawing, painting, photographing NOW! See separate flyer in this Whisper for details.

See you at the September Market!

Art and Photography Exhibition - At the Wamboin Markets - By Meriel Sxhultz

We will hold an exhibition of local art and photography at the market on 17 October. This is part of the QPRC Arts Trail. See flyer below. All ages are welcome to display their talent.

Kids - you may like to draw, paint, photograph - or perhaps make up a collage - that shows 'Growing up in Wamboin'?

Adults - pick your theme and medium!

How many can I display? Max of three items per person.

Does it cost? No this is a community event

How will they be displayed? We will display items around the walls and on dividers provided to us by Bendigo Bank. If you would like to sell your work it would be good if you could be there on the day. If that's not possible we can put your name and phone contact on the items and interested parties can follow up with you directly.

Delivery and Pick up: All items for display must be delivered to the Wamboin Community Hall by 3pm Friday 16th. All items must be removed from the hall at the end of the market (ie 12-1pm Saturday 17th)



Why we are lucky to live in Wamboin By Rosalie Nicholls

How lucky I am to live in Wamboin. We are very lucky to live in Wamboin.

There is so much wide open space, you can ride dirt bikes and fly kites. But it's also only a short drive to Canberra, Woden and Queanbeyan, and even less to Sutton and Bungendore.

In fact, there are even fancy restaurants on our doorstep! But I wouldn't recommend bringing your kids there in case they break stuff.

The local market pops up to sell local produce. And sometimes there is a car boot sale so you don't have to trash your stuff. It can get reused instead.

You can walk on our Greenways to hear birds chirping and see flowers blooming and mushrooms popping up. I love it when the trees start whooshing in the wind.

The people of Wamboin are always fundraising. So if you want to help poor people that don't have much, go and live in Wamboin and raise money for other people.

I like that we have a big backyard. It's not like the city. You don't hear cars beeping, people shouting or bells ringing. All you hear and all you see is the greatness in the world.

It's not too exciting and there is not too much anger. It is not bang bang or bump bump. It is just perfect. And that's how lucky we are to live in Wamboin. (Rosalie's article is printed with her mother's permission.)

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August Golf

Sunday 2 August 2026. A group of 12 golfers ventured out to play in the Wamboin Golf competition sponsored this month by the local Tradies (Trent, Don, Col) whom we thank for refreshments and prizes, particularly Trent's soup. Gentle warm-up for the Curry night.

The nine-hole event was contested on the Eastern course this month and with the Wamboin Open coming up in a couple of months it was anticipated that there could have been some handicap maintenance scores carded. Scott M clearly didn't read that memo (maybe still adjusting to the cold after returning from the tropics). Of the seven players who contested the nine-hole event, Scott took out first place (36/26) from Pete H(49/35) and Matt H (49/36). Scott also becomes the proud minder for the resplendent Ned Kelly trophy.

Five players contested the 18-hole competition with David S (104/59) also missing the memo and taking out first place from Tim B (75/66) and Col U (93/73).

A googly ball was not awarded this month as apparently nothing unusual happened (well unusual for Wamboin). The dummy was awarded to Vicki for no reason other than stating she shouldn't win the dummy and hadn't won it so far this season.

Longest drive and nearest the pin winners were: Vicki, Matt, Col, Phil, Scott and David S.

Ted's joke reminded players of the importance of wearing the correct attire. We hope you can join us at the community hall at 12.15pm on Sunday 6 September for a 12.30pm start for the 2026 Mason's Spring Trophy competition. – **Ken Gordon**



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Author Catherine Bird

Key herbs for laminitis support



Nutritional support for a horse who suffers laminitis is vital. For the horse that is prone to laminitis, clivers is a useful daily supplement to improve the integrity of the hoof as it is one of the most nutritional herbs available and especially high in Silica.

With the older horse whose circulation may be sluggish, hawthorn berry is a further support and full of bioflavonoids that improve the elasticity of the supportive connective tissue that can become strained when the feet are sore while improving the health of the blood vessels that supply the feet.

For the horse that has low grade inflammation in his feet, turmeric powder will help lower the levels of discomfort. Often when there is systemic inflammation, there may also be arthritis in joints or irritated tendons and ligaments, with these horses adding ginger powder to the mix will increase the efficacy of the turmeric in a similar way black pepper is sometimes used.

For pain relief, where there is ongoing pain yarrow combines well with turmeric as a general management and recovery approach. Devils claw powder can be very effective with acute stages, however if the horse is already on Bute, do not combine these two as you could increase the toxic effects of the drug or irritate the horse's gut. For the horse with a sensitive gut, white willow bark is a gentler option and hawthorn berry will increase the potency of this herb if needed.

Once a horse is through the acute stage, using liver herbs to address the two phases of detoxification will help cleanse the effect of the stress on the body. Dandelion root or St Mary's thistle powder will address phase one, while turmeric powder will address phase two so that any residual drug therapy is not recycled back into the body and the recovery period can then follow on with clivers, restoring integrity to the hoof.

For the horse where stress has been a trigger to the laminitic episode, chamomile flowers will support the nervous and hepatic systems, and help the muscles that have become tense while the feet have been sore.

Choose your herbs carefully when dealing with laminitis, keeping the selection simple also helps not to overload the horse further with too many herbs. Combining a nutritional herb with an anti-inflammatory herb and liver support herb is often enough to start restoring health, and a maintenance program can follow on with nutritional and circulatory support once the hoof is sound again.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this article is for educational purpose only. Some herbs are unsuitable with certain conditions, pregnancy, medications, and competition. As this article does not replace medical treatment, seek advice from your veterinary practitioner before using herbs. Consult your governing sporting body when using herbal products to ensure you do not contravene regulations. Copyright: Catherine Bird has been an equine natural therapist for 35 years working closely with Country Park Herbs for over 23 years offering advice to their clients.



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Ross' Report

Hello Whisperers and congratulations on surviving another winter!

What a great way to end winter with the annual Wamboin fireworks and bonfire last weekend. I'm pretty hopeless at estimating crowd sizes but reckon it might have been the biggest crowd yet. Aside from a great night, it's also a major fundraiser for lots of local volunteer and community groups like the RFS, pony club, daycare, social group, Sutton Primary's P&C, the Scouts and of course the RFS who were on hand to make sure the night was safe. A few people have asked me my thoughts on fireworks – some have mentioned environmental impacts and noise issues impacting livestock, wildlife and pets. Firstly, council has a policy which governs the use of fireworks in addition to all of the various regulations and rules at the state level. While I accept there's some impact, I believe there's an ability to adequately mitigate these points and an overwhelming positive social impact of the event. Additionally, the cost comparison of a drone show v the fireworks means it would be hard for me to oppose their use in limited occasions like the annual show (that said, while I was in the Army I lived in the NT and that's a whole different story!).

In case you've missed in previous updates, the plans for the multi use court at the hall is coming along with the volunteers of the 355 Committee who manage the hall and the surrounds working away. I attended their AGM last week and heard about their plans to consult the community so please keep watching out for that information.

In thanking and congratulating the members of the Committee, including the new, returning and retiring members I'd like to pay tribute to one stalwart of our community, Lofty Mason. Lofty is a quiet achiever (despite once also being a Councillor). Lofty has been involved in managing the hall for 40 years so after that stretch he's taking a step back, though given he was manning the bar at the bonfire night, his enthusiasm for making our community a better place hasn't been retired. Lofty also pushed me along to seek funding for lighting for the Wamboin welcome wall – something that I was able to include in the budget for this year. Thank you Lofty.

Many of you would be aware that the out of hours recycling bins at the Bungendore Waste Transfer Station have been removed, along with the operating hours of the facility being greatly increased. The reasons for the removal has in large part been user misuse. That is folks putting general waste, green waste, animal carcasses and even an old engine block into recycling bins. When that happens, the truck collects the contaminated waste and then just one contaminated load means the whole truck worth of recycling gets diverted to landfill. That has a cost to you because it has a cost to Council. Contamination is a key consideration in the long term viability assessment of after-hours recycling such as the one at Bingley Way or the dozen or so others around the LGA. I've been a supporter of the service but frankly can't continue to stand against the evidence of misuse and the cost impact so the blunt message is, if the bins can't be used for the right purpose, and I get that it's a small number who are not doing the right thing, then I won't defend their retention.

Now, to finish on a lighter note, with the warm weather back, the Saturday markets will soon be back! It's a great way to start the weekend and a great way to support lots of local community groups so have a think about getting some friends together for some retail therapy and a coffee and a bite at the hall. Please let me know if I can help with any Council issues. Cheers, - Ross



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MEAT TRAY from BUNGENDORE BUTCHER	Orange A09
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WINE BUNDLE from SAPLING YARD	Black A06
WINE BUNDLE from INLAND TRADING	Purple A18
WINE BUNDLE from INLAND TRADING	Purple A70
VOUCHER from BUNGENDORE RURAL/MITRE 10	Red A56

Hello, my name is Katy Wood

I have Autism and life is sometimes a struggle for me. my support worker Lou and I have been working to find a positive role for me since I have turned 19. I want to offer a collection service in Wamboin for plastic lids to recycle. Each week we go to Lid4 Kids to sort and help process plastic lids that go towards making outdoor benches and gardening tools. If you have been wondering what to do with your plastic lids here is a step by step guide.

1. Save your **PLASTIC** lids smaller than credit cards only, removing any inner film (these go in the normal recycling)
2. **Clean** the lids (you can put them in a laundry bag in the dishwasher or just clean them with water and dish wash)
3. Bring your **clean** lids to the Wamboin Hall every second Thursday morning in a paper bag or box – While you are there check out the QPRC Mobile Library service!
4. Lou and I will be there at **10.30-11.30** we will then take them to Lids for Kids for sorting.

If you are wondering how to recycle other plastics we can give you some tips. **Blister Packs** – collection points at Chemist Warehouse. **Batteries and printer cartridges**- Collection points at Office Works and some Coles/Woolies stores **Old Glasses**- normal recycling. **Plastic ring tags and bread tags** If you put them into a recyclable milk bottle they can then be recycled as a bundle, if you leave them attached to the lid they will go in the machines at Lids for Kids. For more options see www.lids4kids.org.au This volunteering role helps me feel great! I am saving the planet one lid at a time. If you have any questions please contact Lou at Loufroglou@gmail.com

My Significant Place

Today I am going to talk about my significant place. It is the Wamboin Hall, and I started going there when I was a few weeks old and I would go every Tuesday morning at 10am because Playgroup was there.

When I was a baby, I didn't do much, I rolled and crawled around on the mat while my brother and sister would play. When I got older, my Mum was the leader of Playgroup. I was only 3 to 4 years old.

I would unlock the door to the toy shed and put the toys out for us to play with. At the end of Playgroup, I helped Mum pack up all of the toys. I would sweep the floors and lock up the doors.

Every year at the Wamboin Hall, there would be a bonfire and fireworks and it was big. Playgroup would have a cake stall to make money for the group.

Now that I am older, I am not in Playgroup but I still go to the Wamboin Hall. This year, I am going to the bonfire and fireworks with the Scouts and selling food. But I'm going to bake a cake for Playgroup too, shhh.

Another reason the Wamboin Hall is my significant place, is because I have my birthday party there every year. It is a big place and I can invite lots of friends and we can play on the playground and if it rains we can play in the big hall.

-Heidi, Year 2, School Speech (printed with her mother's permission)

Cancer Council Daffodil Day 2026 Bungendore Raises \$4906.00

A huge thank you to the support I received before, during and after the event. Appreciation goes to:- Advertising to Sharon at Regional Independent & Ned at Wamboin Whisper. Paul at Bungendore Country Butcher for location and donation of tray of meat for raffle. Leyla at Woolshed Lane Sour Dough for tray of breads for raffle prize. (Raffle winners notified and now enjoying the fresh foods) Chloe at Phil's Emporium for letting me set up on Saturday. St Mary's Parish Community and many more whom I apologise if not mentioned. To all that supported by purchasing daffodils, merchandise, donations and beyond.
THANK YOU, THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart. - **Pauline**



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Without the month by month donation of time by these 50+ residents listed below, it would be impossible for Wamboin, Bywong and other residents in the newsletter's catchment area to have The Whisper. Please respect the residents listed below, as they do what they do in order to make this place a little bit friendlier and more sociable. Note also that without the businesses that pay to advertise in the Whisper we could not pay for printed copies. Finally, each article, invitation and notice you read in each Whisper is only there because you or someone else in Bywong or Wamboin took the time to create it. – Ned Noel, volunteer editor.

174 CO-ORDINATED BY CHRISTINE REIBER: ph 400 976 596

Fay Kelly	Norton West Area from Cmpbl Pl	20	Christine Rieber	Cooper Rd	27
Dave Power	Fernloff Rd	34	Vicki Still	Canning Cl	15
Andrea Sadow	Poppet Rd	32	Alan Rope	Sutton Rd	47

184: CO-ORDINATED BY KATHY HANDEL: ph 0447 289 638 khanel@bigpond.net.au

Joan Mason	Bingley Way	44	Maryanne Mengelkamp	Merino Vale Dr	19
Sue Ward	Norton Rd (Bingley to Weeroona)	32	Anne Gardner	Weeroona Dr (Norton to Majors)	32
Kathy Handel	Norton(Weero2Hilltop+wWrmdra)	21	Phil Leeson&C Fogarty	Norton Rd (Campbell to Bingley)	27
Alison Evans	East Wirreanda	9			

129: CO-ORDINATED BY RICHARD KREGE: r_krege@iimetro.com.au

Deb Gordon	871 – 1023 Norton	45	Lesley Page	Valley View Ln	5
Jules Clancey	1115 – 1240 Norton Rd	35	Dominica Lorimer	1241 to North End of Norton Rd	44

105----- CO-ORDINATED BY BRYAN CLARK: bryantclark@bigponmd.com

Bryan Clark	Clare Ln	13	Colleen Foster	BdoreRd BtwnJoRocks&NortnRd	25
Lyle Montesin	The Forest Rd area incl Joe Rcks	67			

211: CO-ORDINATED BY GARETH JONES Ph: 6238 1988 givrjones@bigpond.com

Sophie Davis	Weeroona (254 – 400)	18	Rachel Palmer	Weeroona (417-512)	19
James Houlcroft	Macs Reef Rd (DenleyToGumFlt)	7	Maria Taylor	Birriwa Rd & Gum Flat Lane	19
Chelsea Moore	Rovere Ln	8	Justin Jarvis Smith	Macs Reef Birriwa to Harriott	14
Megan Wallace	Harriott Rd	28	Barbera.Wilkins	MacsReef 670,622,618,568,566	5
Georgina Goonan	Newington Rd	28	Darrin Lincoln	MacsReef 538,565,587,623,625,649	6
Merle Ketley	Snowgum Road	25	Carol&Clive Boughton	Macs Reef (BankersTo FedHwy)	34

172: CO-ORDINATED BY IAN COILLET ph 0402 027 452 lodestar@ozemail.com.au

Simon Lewis	Federal HwSvcRd	24	Louise Baldwin	Wattle Flat Rd	11
Lyn Parkinson	Bidges/Hickey/OldGoldMines	53	Fire Brigade	Headquarters on Bingley Way	1
Chris & Kate M	Sutton Park Estate	57	Russell Ball	Macs Reef – Denley Dr to B'doreRd	26

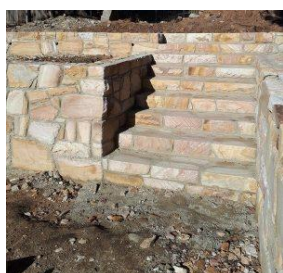
150: CO-ORDINATED BY Chris Fowler ph 0438 591 098 chrift1@pcug.org.au

Chris Fowler	Millynn Rd	21	David Featherston	B'doreRd SmHill to&nclldgCrkBRd	31
Cheryl Le Mesurier	Brooks Rd	25	David & Connie Jansen	Wyoming Road	20
Kerrie Gougeon	B'dore Rd (CreekB to Fed Hwy)	33	Peter Sharp	Doust Road	20

261 CO-ORDINATED BY NED NOEL ph 0409-997-082 email nednoel@optusnet.com.au

Robyn Elsom	Denley Dr (Sth End to 429)	17	JonesFmly+JulieJohnsn	Denley 191 to 414	26
Tony Bond	HoganDr/OranaDr/Yuranga Dr	52	Mary & Paulo Beneforti	Dnly Dr frm MacsReef to Birchmans	12
Janey & Paul Pedersen	BirchmansFrmDenleyUp2SaraRf	16	Helen Longdon	SarahReef&BrichmansFrmSarah2End	12
Volunteer hoped for	Summerhill & MacRf 1140-1187)	20	Diana Griffin	Majors Close	19
Volunteer hoped for	B'dore Rd (MacsRf to 1150)	20	Nina Kolleth	Kestrel Place	8
Diana Boswell	Donnelly Rd 29 & Grove Rd 8	36	Advertisers & Misc	Out of area advertiser mailouts & msc	23

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Spring Wildflower Identification Walk - Sunday, 13 September Friends of Wamboin Crown Reserve

The Friends of Wamboin Crown Reserve are excited to host our second annual guided Spring wildflower walk on Sunday, 13 September! This walk will be a real treat for *Whisper* readers, as it will be led by Jo Walker, our local naturalist and a long-time *Whisper* contributor.

We'll meet at 9:45 am at St Andrew's Church, located on the corner of Norton and Poppet roads. From there, we'll carpool to Jo Walker's property on the slopes of Poppet Hill. Jo will be our guide, showing us around her property, spotting local wildlife and the unique flora species she's collected from her travels across Australia.

We'll also walk past the old Gundaroo copper mine road and mine site, up to the summit of Poppet Hill to hopefully see a stunning patch of Austral Bugel in bloom before heading back to our cars.

This walk is designed specifically for people interested in identifying flora species, with many stops along the way. So if you are looking to stretch your legs with a long fast walk, this may not be the one for you. Due to the nature of the walk, we'll be keeping the number of participants small, so please sign up early to make sure you get a spot!

To register, simply scan the QR code below or click on the link in the Wamboin Community Association's 'News and Events' web page. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, 13 September!





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Wamboin Playgroup



A big thank you to our incredible community for coming out and supporting the bonfire and fireworks night. The playgroup stall was a huge success, with our pulled pork rolls, cakes and sweet treats selling out before the bonfire was even lit.

It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and to share in such a spectacular evening, with an impressive bonfire and amazing fireworks. Events like this don't happen without the dedication of our local volunteers, and we would like to acknowledge the RFS, our friends in Scouts, Sutton School, St Andrew's, the Pony Club, the Wamboin Community Association, and all the other groups and individuals who generously give their time. What an amazing community we are lucky to be part of.

Playgroup runs every Tuesday during the NSW school term from 10am to 12pm at Wamboin Hall. We are a welcoming, multigenerational group and everyone is invited to come along for a relaxed morning of play, connection and conversation. We look forward to seeing you there. – Clare Camileri

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What the Heck Chapter 49

Our two local churches have services on alternate Sundays, Wamboin the first and third, Sutton the second and fourth. This makes the travelling distance fair for those who want to attend church every Sunday. But each year there are four months that have five Sundays! So where would one go to church on these fifth Sundays? The answer is that we alternate these days between the two churches.

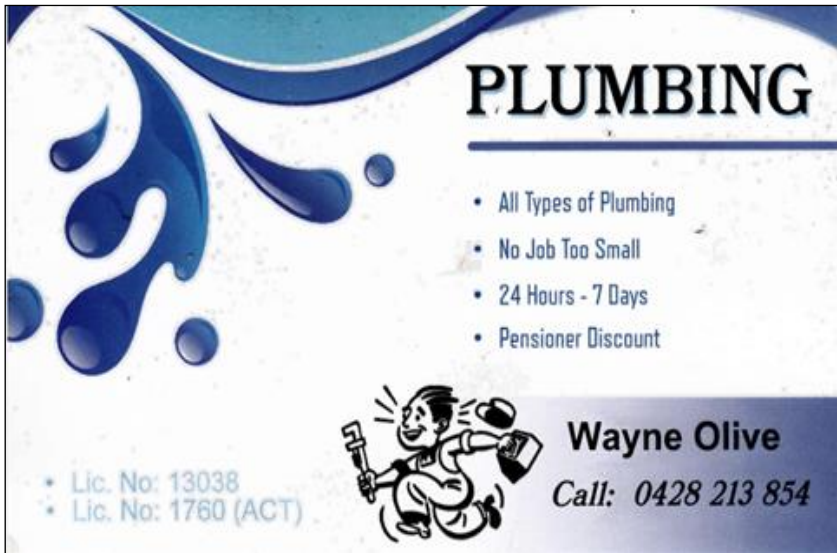
A five Sunday month can be any month other than February, except in a Leap year when 1 Feb is a Thursday. Your next opportunity to go to a weekly church service five times in a February is 2032, so you don't have a real long time to wait. But meantime there will be plenty of opportunities to attend a fifth Sunday service in the other months.

Last month had a fifth Sunday and the service was held at Wamboin at 10.30am, followed by a midday group lunch at a Queanbeyan club. The later than usual start was so that we could get somewhere for a lunch at a realistic time, it was not much after midday when we arrived. A regular 9.30 start would have required either an extremely long sermon or an extended after-church chat, though I would not put the latter as an impossible happening.

Fifth Sunday services at our local churches are varied in presentation, duration, style, and the only way to see what is happening is to attend. It could be a musical extravaganza, a talk fest, a movie show, a food feast, maybe a rev-you-up sermon, or, but unlikely, a very boring sermon. But if this is the case then the seats are comfortable and silent snoring is permitted. The next fifth Sunday is 29 November.

Each church has a large new sign out front giving the date and time when the services are held, but basically it is as you have just read above. Portable A-frame signs will advise of any variation and show details for special services and events, such as our Sutton Trivia night that you have just missed, unless you read the sign and attended.

-Our churches operate under the auspices of the Anglican Church of Australia, previously the Church of England, so used to be known as the C of E. Some wags were known to say their religion was C and E, Christmas and Easter. Whether this name fits you or not, and regardless of your branch of religion, you are welcome to attend church with us any Sunday. -Alan Rope



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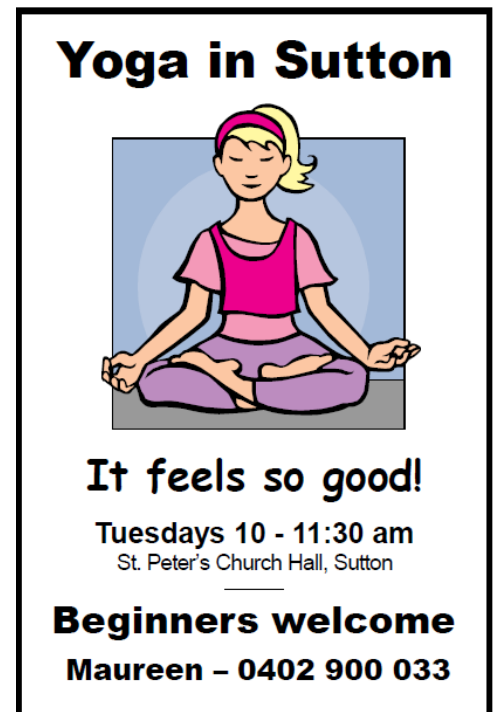
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Greenway hazard warning: Greenway 6 running east from Weeroona Drive

Track Closure

The Bywong/Wamboin Greenways Committee (a section 355 Committee of Council) advises that part of Greenway 6 has been closed owing to safety concerns. The closed section was damaged in recent rainfall.

Location and nature of track closure

Greenway 6 has its western entrance between 244 and 294 Weeroona Drive, Wamboin. Heavy rain on 25-26 August damaged the culverts where a creek line crosses the Greenway approximately 250 metres east of Weeroona Drive. The track has been severely undercut and is at high risk of collapsing. **Walkers, cyclists, and equestrians must avoid the former crossing.** Council has erected barriers and placed witches' hats at the site.

That part of the track is closed until passage along it is made safe again.

Alternative routes

Greenway 6 runs for 2.2 km from Weeroona Drive to Norton Road. It is one of the most popular of the 12 Bywong/Wamboin Greenways, traversing diverse native plant ecosystems. Two options enable passage around the closed section of the track:

- 1) A very narrow route abuts the northern edge of the Greenway. Passage is possible on foot only, but many people would find it too narrow to be safe. The route then falls to the creek which can be crossed easily in dry weather but not following significant rainfall. Having crossed the creek, rise to the track east of the closed section and continue to Norton Road.
- 2) Walk or ride down into the creek bed area just before the closed section. Proceed along the creek, cross it, and rise to the track east of the closed section, and continue to Norton Road.

If coming from the Norton Road side, simply reverse the creek crossing directions or, better still, turn around at the closed section and return the way you came, back to Norton Road.

Background

For some years the Greenways Committee members, and other users of the Greenways network, have been concerned at the erosion at this location encroaching upon the track. The Committee applied for, and received, a NSW State Government grant for works to have the erosion stopped and the track re-established. In early 2025 Council contracted a civil engineering company, and the works were undertaken. Unfortunately, the re-established crossing was washed out at the next heavy rains. Using funds allocated by Council to the Greenways Committee, Council contracted a different company to fix the crossing and prevent further erosion. The works were completed in May this year. As noted above, they were also washed out on 25-26

August. Council is considering its next steps.

For further information please contact the Greenways Committee at greenwayscommittee@gmail.com, or phone 0416 231 890.

A map of the Greenways, together with a table identifying the segments of each Greenway, is in the Bywong/Wamboin Greenways Master Plan which is accessible on both the Bywong and Wamboin Community Associations' websites (<https://bywongcommunity.org.au/greenways/management-of-greenways>) and (<https://wamboincommunity.asn.au/facilities/index.php?op=greenways>). Also, a printed brochure on the Network which includes a map of the Greenways is available and can be dropped off at a local letter box, if requested.





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Making a difference at the Hall

The scene: Wamboin Community Hall surrounds. Sunday 9 August 2026. It's a frosty morning 9am with promises of showers

The actors: About a dozen local residents emerge from the shadows, armed with chainsaws, shovels and rakes, dressed like they mean business.

The action: Plants get planted, mulch gets raked, chainsaws clear out fallen wattle, branches go onto the bonfire pile, goats get a feed. That is, until the drizzle arrives, and the protagonists decide enough has been achieved, they've made a difference.

The conclusion: Grounds of the Wamboin Hall continue to improve, more trees are planted and mulched, friends are made, cups of coffee and morning tea are had.

Next episode: Keep your blades sharp and chainsaws fueled and rakes ready for the next opportunity to maintain and improve this community asset. Thankyou to everyone who assisted, hope to see you all again soon.

Mike Muston – for Wamboin Hall Committee

Thursday Social Drop In Group

The Thursday Social Group meets every Thursday morning from 10 – 12 noon at the Wamboin Hall. The Social Group provides a wonderful opportunity for people to come along for a chat, a cup of coffee/tea and a game of rummykub, sequence, scrabble, mexican trains or mahjong. If you don't want to play a game, just come for a chat. We would love to see you there.

If you want to have a chat about the group, please give me a call on 0438 917206 or email pumpbnjc@westnet.com.au

- Narelle Pumphrey, Convenor

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council Mobile Library Service

This wonderful service visits Wamboin Hall every second Thursday. The mobile library contains a wide selection of materials for all age groups. You are able to reserve items from Bungendore, Braidwood and Queanbeyan libraries and collect these from the mobile library when it visits. Printing and photocopying facilities are also available on the bus. This is a great community resource and I would encourage all residents to support the service.

The next visits for the Library at Wamboin are scheduled for Thursdays 10 and 24 September 2026 (10.30-11.30am)

- Narelle Pumphrey



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Kowen Kapers - Mt Atkinson

From the mine site, we now retrace our steps south along Keeffe's Road until we rejoin the Glenburn Heritage Precinct signposted trail. Here, we turn eastwards and follow the trail to the summit of Mt Atkinson.

Standing at 765 metres above sea level, Mt Atkinson is the second smallest of Kowen's mountains. The mountain is named after the first colonial owner of the land upon which it stands, James Atkinson, who purchased the

land in 1837. It was James Atkinson who employed Luke Colverwell to manage the property (Amungula Parish, Portion 1). We met Luke and his family in the October 2025 edition. Luke was later to purchase the property and name it *Dirty Swamp*.

The timing of this month's article is unfortunate as it comes out ahead of the release of the September edition of the Canberra Historical Journal. In his forthcoming article, historian James McDonald overturns some long-held 'facts' about this area of Kowen, including revealing the identity of the real James Atkinson, and a number of related matters. It would, of course, be inappropriate for me to tell all in advance of the release of the journal. For those interested in such matters, individual copies of the journal can be purchased from the Canberra and District Historical Society.

The Mt Atkinson trig point was restored by the now-defunct Friends of Glenburn group around the time of the heritage listing of the Glenburn Precinct. Established on 1 August 1878, this trig features a complete stone cairn and upright wooden pole. The galvanised iron vanes, which would originally have pointed to the four cardinal points, have fallen to the ground. Notwithstanding that, this trig is in the best condition of any of the original Kowen trigs and is the only one with a standing wooden pole. The nature of the survey mark, which is situated beneath the cairn, is unknown. However, Mt Atkinson's eccentric mark, which is set some distance from the cairn itself, is a metal bolt in good condition.

Next month, we return to our starting point on River Road, head southwest to explore *Cohen* homestead.

Peter Komidar, Wamboin

Photo: Mt Atkinson Trig - John Evans.



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WAMBOIN WEATHER – rainfall and temperature records

(51 years from Cooper Road) by Christine Rieber

August Rainfall Stats

August rainfall to the 30th..... 78.75mm
2026 total rainfall to 30/8..... 470.75mm

Average August rainfall..... 55.2mm
2025 August rainfall..... 42.25mm
2025 total rainfall to 30/8..... 403.0mm
50yr Av. to end of August..... 436.0mm

September Rainfall Stats

2025 September rainfall..... 66.0mm
Wettest September..... 154.75mm in 2016
Wettest September day. 64mm on 17/9/13
Driest September..... 6mm in 1994

Average September rainfall..... 62.2mm
Average no. rain days in Sept. 9.5
Highest no. rain days..... 19 in 1984
Lowest no. rain days..... 2 in 2018

September Temperature Stats

2025 Sept. maximum.....23.3°C
Sept. 2025. Av. max 17.5°C & min 3.8°C
Hottest Sept. day..... 29.5°C on 23/9/17
Hottest Sept. night..... 15.1°C on 13/9/17

2025 Sept. minimum.....-1.8°C
Av. Sept. temp... 9.6°C (day+night comb.)
Coldest September day.... 5°C (2 times)
on 4/9/1982 & 28/9/2009
Coldest September night... -4°C (twice)
on 1/9/12 and 16/9/24
Average night (min.) temperature.... 4.5°C
Coldest September..... 2015
Av. day temp. 12°C & night 1.8°C
(lowest 11°C in 2016 & 1.6°C in 2012)

Average day (max.) temperature.... 14.7°C
Warmest September..... 2023
Av. day temp. 21.0°C & night 4.5°C
(highest 6.3°C in 2001)

During August 2026, we had the hottest August day on the 30th with 21.7°C. Both the average day temperature and night temperature were above the 50-year averages.

21st September is the spring equinox where day & night are equal length (12 hours).

Queanbeyan Palerang Rural Residents Group

Are you having problems with weeds? Or the road to your property? Or other rural issues?

We are a new collective of rural residents in the Queanbeyan Palerang area who plan to work together with other rural residents to get better prioritisation of and attention to rural issues.

We've found quite a few residents are really struggling to get any traction with the council on rural issues – especially roads and weeds. It's hard for people when they are disconnected, so a few of us have banded together and would also like to hear from others having similar struggles so we can figure out how to get some better funding and support for the rural community.

We would like to hear your perspectives. We thank those who do work hard to help the rural community, but would like to see an over-all improvement in council:

- Responding to and taking seriously issues raised by rural residents
- Providing better help for control/eradication of weeds, especially serrated tussock and African Lovegrass - roadside spraying by council, education and awareness, support for residents battling seed blowing in from elsewhere
- Providing safe, fit-for-purpose roads to all rate payer's properties
- Budgeting to deliver better outcomes on weeds and roads

If you are a rural resident struggling to have your voice heard or to get support with issues, we'd like to hear from you and see how we can work together to improve things.

Get in touch by sending an email to John Morigan qprural@yahoo.com

Wonderful Women of Wamboin (WWoW)

In 2006 Claire Ayling wrote an article in the Wamboin Whisper asking “How well do you know your neighbour?”, as living in a rural residential area it can be “easy to forget we have neighbours who may be ill, lonely or indeed new to the area”. This was the the beginning of the Wonderful Women of Wamboin Group, whom have been meeting ever since. We will be turning 20 in a few weeks time!

Starting with the name Wamboin Wobbles, who first met on the 11th September 2006. WWoW still meet between 10:00am – 12:00 noon on Mondays, at the Wamboin Community Hall. With the exceptions of the 5th Monday, where we go out for lunch, a short break over the Christmas/Summer holidays and Public Holidays.

The group is casual and women come when they are able to, to have the opportunity to sit and chat, craft and socialise with others. We welcome all women in our locality (Bungendore, Bywong, Queanbeyan, Sutton and Wamboin), if you haven’t been before pop along and say hi.

The impending 20th birthday celebration of the Wonderful Women of Wamboin, will be held on the 14th of September 2026, between 10:00am – 2:00pm, with a small celebration of a morning tea/lunch. We are inviting all past WWoWs and their partners to come along to the Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way Wamboin, on Monday 14th September 2026.

Please contact wonderfulwomenofwamboin@gmail.com to RSVP.

If you want to know more about the Wonderful Women of Wamboin, please contact us on our email address above, or just come along on a Monday and have a cuppa with us. – Merle Ketley

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Bird Of The Month

By Luke Downey

For September I chose the Red-necked Avocet, a rare visitor to the region that has been on Lake George recently.

Red-necked Avocet (*Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*)

Size: 40-48cm

Status: Rare visitor

The Red-necked Avocet is a tall shorebird with a distinctive reddish-brown head and neck with a white eye-ring, and an unmistakable long, black bill that is turned up at the end.

Their body plumage is mainly white with black on the wings, which is more obvious in flight, and grey legs. The sexes look alike, and immature birds are duller than adults. Red-necked Avocets usually occur in flocks, in this region they are usually small though elsewhere flocks can number many hundreds. They feed in the shallows of lakes and wetlands, sifting their specially adapted bill from side to side feeding on aquatic invertebrates. They can also swim well and upend in deeper water. They are not highly vocal though when flocking together make a chattering trumpet-like nasal "tuut, tuut". They are superficially similar to the Pied Stilt which is more commonly recorded, but can be easily distinguished by the red head, upturned bill and grey legs. Red-necked Avocets are quite a rare visitor to this region, being a highly nomadic species that spends much of its time moving between ephemeral lakes and wetlands in inland Australia. They go through periods of presence and absence in the regions nearer to the coast,

sometimes not being seen for years at a time. When Lake George was filling with water in 2021 there were a number at various points on the Lake, however since then they have been mostly absent (they were seen for a brief period in 2023). It was rather nice to see a small group have returned to the northern end of the Lake, visible from the Badcoe VC rest area earlier in August. The lake shore looks nice and muddy, hopefully some more interesting birds may turn up in the spring! (Photo from Google images)

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