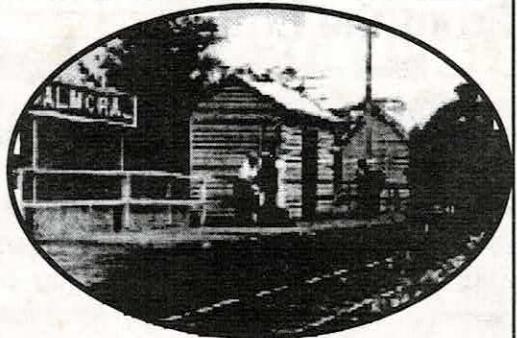


Balmoral

Village Voice

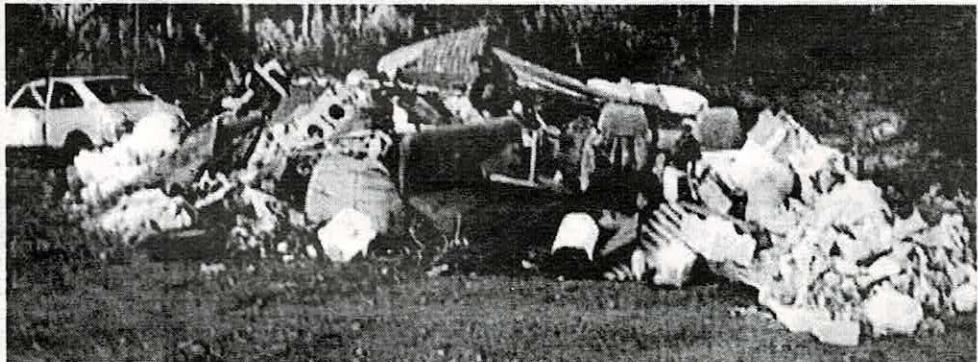


May 1998

No 10.

A newsletter published by the Balmoral Village Association Inc.

Clean-up Day Creates Mountain of Rubbish



This Year's Clean up Australia Day in included a washing machine, clothes Balmoral, the 10th organised by the drier, microwave, water tank and a Village Volunteer Fire Brigade, was green Toyota corolla.

held on Saturday 28th February, It was generally agreed by the resulting in an enormous pile of rubbish volunteers that the amount of rubbish and a cleaner village.

has decreased compared with the first Approximately 20 volunteers were able couple of years, but it was annoying to give up half a day to clean roadsides that so much rubbish was through the village, to the south as far intentionally dumped, like the piles as the rail cutting and as far north as of building materials as well as Buxton's southern crossing. All rubbish whole boxes or bags of empty bottles collected was placed in a pile on Wilson (which could easily have been Drive between Balmoral and Buxton. recycled). Rubbish thrown from car Some of the larger items collected windows was still a common cause.

From the Editor:

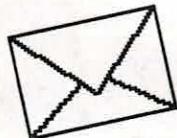
Three months has passed already since the last Village Voice - it doesn't seem like it!

It was my aim when I took over the Village Voice to make it something which would involve the community and I am pleased that people are starting to use it as a village newsletter. Feel free to submit something yourself, whether it be an article, a piece of information or a letter to the editor. If you do wish to contribute something, as Gay Scott has done below, drop it in to me at No 7 Station St. You can also email me. (pm@acenet.com.au)

Thank you to Lyle and Lisa Spears who have been kind enough to share with us their meticulously kept rainfall records, so that you can see when we have had rain and how much we have had. I am sure that this could be of use to some people.

I believe that Balmoral is a unique place to live, with a community spirit not found in many places this close to Sydney. One example was the number of volunteers who came along to help on Clean up Australia Day, another being the social gatherings at the bush fire brigade on Wednesday nights in an attempt to plan activities which will make the village a safer place. Balmoral is like it is because of the efforts of these people. If you have been considering playing a more active role in the village, take the opportunities as they arise. I suppose it goes back to the old saying "you get out of it what you put in".

Paul Mallia.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Paul,

I had not seen the completed renovations to the hall kitchen, until I called in on the weekend of Roxanne's painting workshop for children.

It was a surprise to see it and I want to compliment everyone involved in the voluntary work, both before Alan died and those who finished it afterwards. His very strong wish was to have the kitchen completed but his sudden death stunned us and without anyone to urge us on, energy and enthusiasm evaporated until the new group took over.

He would have thought it a great job and on his behalf I congratulate everyone concerned.

Gay Scott.

VANDALS LEAVE TRAIL OF DAMAGE THROUGH VILLAGE

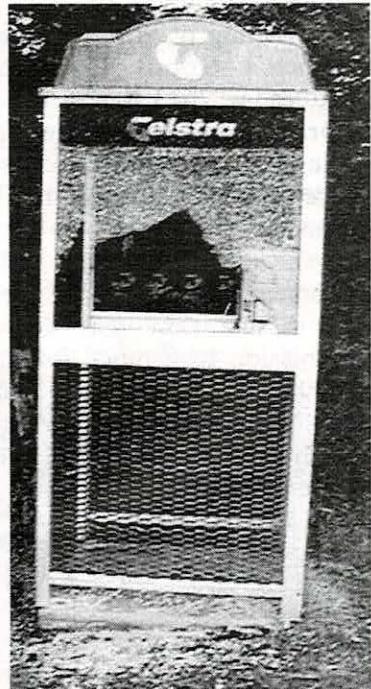
In a rare case of vandalism, Saturday night 18th April saw a trail of damage to residents' property left through the village.

In the quiet little town of Balmoral, residents are fortunate to be insulated from the ugliness of the suburbs by isolation. Vandalism is rare and something like this came as a shock to many villagers.

The trail of damage included the removal of the Amy St sign and damage to the Railway Pde sign near the crossing. Trees and reflective signposts were ripped out along the way and a pile of the white reflective posts was left on Wilson Drive between Balmoral and Buxton.

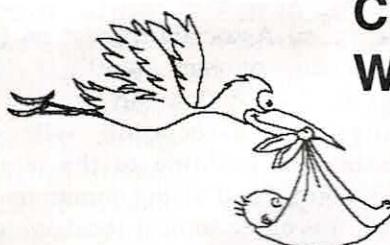
On Railway Pde, roadside letterboxes were dislodged from their posts or fences and a section of fencing along the front of "Truro" was damaged. The telephone box opposite the fire shed also had glass smashed in what is a pointless, disgraceful and malicious act.

One resident said, "This sort of thing just doesn't happen in Balmoral," and until now he has been right.



Glass smashed in phone box
near railway crossing

(Lets hope that things
aren't on the change for
Balmoral. I am sure that we
like it the way it is). ed.



Congratulations & Welcome to:

Amy McCutcheon

Born 3:09am on Saturday 7th February 1998.

Congratulations to Mum-Tracy, Dad-Peter
and sister-Louise.

News from the...

Balmoral Village Association.

Hall Grant Successful

In a meeting of Wingecarribee Shire Council's Grants Committee on Wednesday 25/3 it was resolved to approve funding to the Balmoral Village Association to construct a fence around the village hall and its grounds.

As stated in the last Village Voice, the Association put forward a submission to Council for just over \$3000 to cover the cost of materials for the project which would use volunteer labour from the local community.

The presentation was made to Pat Lawrence and Lesley Bramich from the Association in a function on 15th April at the Council Chambers.

A focus for the Association in the near future will be to organise community support for the project, so that the huge task will not fall on just the committee.

The plans are yet to be officially drawn and final design decisions are yet to be made. If you are interested in any aspect of the project, why not go along to Association meetings.

Working bees, once organised, will be advertised in future Village Voices, and on a noticeboard near the level crossing. It is hoped that this worthwhile project will attract help from many of the local residents.

Hall Hire Finalised

At recent meetings the Association has finalised the guidelines for hiring the hall. Now that the hall is fully lined and there is a fully functioning kitchen the hall would be ideal for classes, parties or regular meetings etc. It is available for very reasonable rates. For enquiries Contact Stephen Bishop on 898 740.

Also for hire are the hall seats, tables and a marquee tent. These would be ideal for people having parties at home.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Balmoral Association will be held on **Sunday 12th July at 11:00am** in the Village Hall. The timing of the AGM has been changed to fit in with the financial year.

Everyone is welcome to attend and become members for the upcoming year, to elect the 98-99 Committee and to provide input into Association business.

All Welcome!

The Balmoral Association meet on the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. In upcoming meetings the association will be discussing the building of the fence, bonfire night, fundraising functions as well as any other topical local issues. All residents are welcome to attend.

BALMORAL IS A VILLAGE !!

And Now We Have A Sign To Prove It

After Association correspondence with Council Balmoral Village finally has its correct welcome sign.

The history of Balmoral Village's name is an interesting story. Some of it is printed in this issue's historical feature.

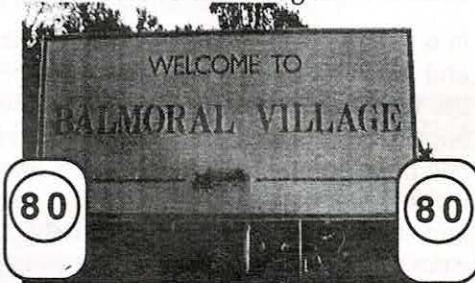
Late last year council erected a welcome sign at each end of the village stating the name of the town as "Balmoral"

The Balmoral Association, along with other individual residents were quick to inform council of their error in omitting the word village and quoted the gazetting of the name "Balmoral Village".

One of the signs however, mysteriously disappeared (some say that this was a fortunate loss).

Now that the sign needed to be replaced anyway, the council took the advice they had received and in a happy ending, replaced both signs with the correct wording "Welcome to Balmoral Village".

In another success for the Association, ongoing requests to Council for reduced speed through the village were answered with the installation of 80km/h speed signs on Wilson Drive at each end of the village.



The Balmoral Village Raingauge

January

Jan 4	-12mm
Jan 6	-6.5mm
Jan 8	-7mm
Jan 10	-14mm
Jan 14	-3mm
Jan 15	-1.4mm
Jan 17	-47mm
Jan 18	-13mm
Jan 20	-22mm
Jan 24	-31mm
Jan 25	-12mm

February

Feb 6	-13mm
Feb 7	-13mm
Feb 10	-23mm
Feb 15	-11mm
Feb 28	-2.5mm

March

Mar 3	-1.5mm
Mar 15	-4mm
Mar 25	-1.5mm

April

Apr 1	-1.5mm
Apr 9	-22mm
Apr 10	-15mm
Apr 15	-2mm
Apr 20	-9mm
Apr 21	-23mm
Apr 22	-20mm
Apr 23	-7.5mm

** Results collected by Lyle & Lisa Spears in Balmoral Village. Readings are taken each morning at 7:30am for the 24 previous hours.*

Fire Brigade News.....

After a busy and worrying summer, the Brigade is now planning for what is traditional a busy winter period. It is this time of year that hazard reduction takes place in an attempt to reduce fire hazards for the upcoming summer.

The ongoing training calendar will also continue, providing members, new and old with valuable and lifesaving information. Recently, one brigade member, John Gray, has completed a "Village Firefighting Course", while four other members are currently undertaking basic training.

In a recent meeting with National Parks and Wildlife Service, who now manage the land to the west of the village, the brigade were able to explain which areas had been burned over recent years and which areas were, in their opinion, a risk and in need of attention. The NPWS were impressed with the thought which had gone into the submission but are unable at this time to inform the brigade of which areas might be burned this winter. At this stage it is also unclear whether the NPWS will be requiring the assistance of the Fire Brigade.

The brigade plan to work actively through the village this winter, identifying risks and attempting to reduce them in the case that a fire should reach the village.

It should be kept in mind that landowners in and around the village should make an early start to their own hazard reduction, so that it is not left until the spring when a turn in the weather could make their burning off dangerous or when fire restrictions

could upset their plans.

The fire brigade are experienced in safely burning off, whether it be windrows or whole parcels of land. If you would like the brigade to manage your fire or hazard reduction this can easily be arranged for a small donation to the Brigade. (Remember that they are all volunteers and that fundraising is a part of any non-profit volunteer organisation) Call Captain Peter Lawrence on 898004 to make arrangements early in the hazard reduction season.

If you would like to become a member of the brigade, whether to be an active firefighter or to learn about fire behaviour for the protection of your own home, why not go along to weekly meetings.

The Balmoral Bushfire Brigade meet each Wednesday night at 7:30pm in the fireshed. The meetings are conducted in a relaxed social setting over a cup of tea or coffee and everyone is most welcome to attend. Business is conducted on the first Wednesday of each month. In upcoming meetings the brigade will discuss hazard reduction plans, training opportunities and the organisation of the Balmoral Village Bonfire Night.



Red Shield Appeal

Sunday 24th May
Bushfire brigade members will be collecting for this worthwhile cause.

Please give generously

Pg 6

WINGECARRIBEE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

NORTHERN VILLAGES TRIAL BUS SERVICE

WHEN	Every Saturday (2 Services Daily)
SERVICING	Balmoral Hilltop Colovale
MAJOR STOPS	Mittagong Recreation Centre / Pool Mittagong RSL Bowral Pool Shopping Centre - Cinema Hospital
COST	\$ 4.00 Return

DEPARTING

9.00am Balmoral

9:15am Hilltop

9:45am Colovale

11:30 Hilltop

11:45 Colovale

11:00am Bowral

1:00pm Bowral

4:00pm Bowral

* Times are approximations only and may vary according to demand

Pick up at existing bus stops on main roads
Door to door pick up by arrangement

Bookings Essential

Ph 48 621 122

This is a Community Transport Development Project
assisted by volunteer drivers and helpers

From the Tennis Club...

A New Weekend Social Game ?

The tennis club are always looking for new people to come along and join in their Wednesday social games, but are now considering a weekend social game, Saturday or Sunday, depending on interest shown.

The Tennis court behind the hall is also available for private bookings at very reasonable rates.

With great lighting, why not have a



game with the family after work. If you would like to join any of the social games or to hire the court phone Pat Lawrence on (02)48 898 066. (Call the day or night before if possible).

Children must always have an adult supervising.

Pat Lawrence.

Have a

Film Society Saturday Night

We're showing films at the Old School and not at the Hall while our numbers are small. Here is a brief summary of our programme for the next four months.

May 9th

**Potselui Mery Pikford.....1927 Ukraine 59 mins
(Or a kiss for Mary Pickford)**

A rare comic cinematic oddity

June 13th

**Blue Angel.....1930 German 106 mins
Starring Marlene Dietrich**

July 11th

**The Overlanders.....1946 U.K 91 mins
Starring Chips Rafferty**

August 8th

**Pandoras Box.....1928 German 109 mins
Described as the most "modern" of silent classics**

The film Society borrows from the National Film and Video Lending Library which is now housed with "Cinemedia" in Melbourne. If you are interested in joining our Society or making suggestions for future films please ring Steve or Janine on 4889 8479. If we can increase our numbers once more we will be able to use the Hall again.

Balmoral Village Annual Bonfire Night



Saturday Night, 27th June
7:00 pm till late
at the Village Hall

This has traditionally been a fun social event for everyone in the village to get together.

Come along, meet new people and have a fun night.

Buy dinner at the barbecue,

Enjoy the fireworks,
get lucky in the Bushfire Brigade raffle.

Organised by the Balmoral Bush Fire Brigade & Balmoral Association Inc

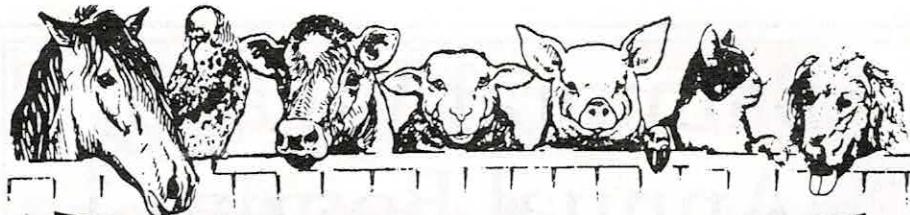
This newsletter
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Prestige
Printing.**

Contact Peddle Press for all
your printing needs.

Ph (02) 46 55 8234.

**Would you like to
advertise something in
the next Village Voice?**

If you have something you would like the rest of the village to know about, like your business, something you are selling etc, you can advertise it in the next Village Voice for a small donation to the Balmoral Association. We'll even design your ad'. Contact the Editor for more information. (48 898 146)



DERKS PRODUCE 5 th ANNUAL FIELD DAY

SATURDAY 16th MAY 1998

9am - 4pm

ENTRY FREE -
Everyone welcome
RAIN, HAIL OR
SHINE
FUND RAISING
FOR WOLLONDILLY
PONY CLUB

Sausage
Sizzle
Refreshments

WHATS ON

9am - 10am	Horse breaking-in & training - Henry Davis & Steve Turner
9.30am - 10am	Ferret Derby win prizes - " Bring Your Own Ferret" - Long Gully Ferret Club.
10am - 10.30am	Cattle health - Cooper's Cattle Care
10.30am - 11.45am	Vet Talk - "Keeping Horses Healthy" - Dr John Kohnke
11.30am - 12 noon	NSW Police - Gunlaws, road safety & transportation of animals etc.
12 noon - 1.15pm	Vet Talk - "Keeping Dogs Healthy" - Dr John Kohnke
1.15pm - 1.45pm	Zilco fashion parade + TRAVIS COLLINS "Tamworth's award winning country & western singer" + The Kemps Creek Line Dancers presented by the Macarthur Chronicle
1.30pm - 2pm	Ferret Derby - win prizes - " Bring Your Own Ferret" - Long Gully Ferret Club
2pm - 2.30pm	Cattle health - Cooper's Cattle Care
2.30pm - 3.30pm	Horse breaking in & training - Henry Davis & Steve Turner
3.30pm - 4pm	Dog obedience demonstration - Wollondilly All Breeds Kennel Club.

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON!!

(Lucky gate prize, raffles, competitions)

- ★ Family pass to Over The Road Australasia Gardens
- ★ Dinner for two at Patterson Restaurant, Imperial Hotel
- ★ Sunbeam Iron donated by Sunbeam
- ★ Facial or massage - donated by Penny's Skin Care
- ★ Floral arrangements - donated by Wildflowers of Picton
 - ★ Hair cut & basket of hair care products - donated by Hair Excellence of Picton
- ★ Pot plant (value \$20.00) - donated by Bower Bird Nursery
- ★ Horse rug, 2 bags of feed + T Shirt - donated by Mitavite
- ★ Sentry 2000 electric fence energiser - donated by Daken
- ★ Drench & vaccination (value \$75.00) donated by Thirlmere Vet Clinic
- ★ Shoeing or dressing (value \$50.00) donated by Barry Scott
- ★ Ferret race prizes donated by Derks Produce

PLUS DISPLAYS & REPRESENTATIVES

from

- ★ Ivomec - Worm testing demonstration
- ★ Equine Kentucky - computer printouts
- ★ Ray Lincoln - Blacksmith demonstrations
- ★ Daken - electric fence demonstrations display
- ★ Heavy horses - demonstration throughout day
- ★ Macarthur Goat Club
- ★ Mohair Australia - NSW Eastern Region
- ★ Miniature horses & pony enthusiasts of Australia
- ★ N.A.N.A. - native animal network association
- ★ Fuchia display
- ★ Dexter miniature cows
- ★ Cake & craft stall - Thirlmere Public School
- ★ Wollondilly Council
- ★ Bullmastiff Club
- ★ Patons fertilizers - pH soil testing - bring your own soil for testing
- PLUS - Zilco international - Ridley stockfeed - Prime pine logs - Henssen - poly littings - Coprice - Sea crystals - Finskies - Queen brooms - Horse power feed & supplement - Mitavite - Ari plasters - Ranvet - Iama - paddock seeds - Coptrol - Aquatic algicide - Meatabiles - Vetservice - International Animal Health - Custom mix dog & horse supplements - Supercoat (EUREKA) dogleel - Argyle Trailers - Mandic Shoes - Southwell Tractors - Tahmoor Mower & Chainsaw Centre - Picton Hire - Sunbeam Electric Clippers - Marsue - Pet goods - Fido Pet Care - Moss Vale Pasteur Protection Board - Camden Milling Service

PLUS LOTS MORE



FOR THE KIDS

- ★ Jumping castle
- ★ Iddi Biddi kid farm
- ★ Pony rides

110 CEDAR CREEK ROAD THIRLMERE Phone (02) 4681 8251

Historical Feature

In response to my request in the last Village Voice, Pat Lawrence offered a great historical article retelling the history of Balmoral. It was taken from the Southern Highlands News on Wednesday, December 16th 1987. Due to its length, the first part only will be published in this issue, with the remainder in the August edition.

BALMORAL VILLAGE ... the first 100 years

Today, Hilltop Post Office is officially a century old. The service dates from December 16, 1887 according to local historian Tony Stevens

Mr Stevens is currently preparing a book on the history of the northern village areas to coincide with the centenary of Balmoral Village next year.

He has prepared the following outline of some interesting snippets from the last 100 years of Balmoral Village.

Balmoral Village is situated in the tract of country originally known as Kennedy's Brush, lying south of Bargo Brush, from which the present town of Bargo, on the Main South Railway Line, derived its name.

The aboriginal name "Merrigong" is believed to be older than the name Kennedy's Brush but has never been fully recognised. Balmoral Village is situated on the Merrigong Range, which is the main height of land which tends southwards from Thirlmere and Bargo Brush to the junction of Mittagong Range at the

head of the Nattai River. It changed for the last time Big appears the local natives used it as a territorial route and made it known to Kennedy, Throsby and other early explorers.

After the railway passed into the area a committee was set up to find a name. A number of names were suggested; including Nalya (circle of hills), Tranda (Black Cockatoo), Wayeela (Black Birds), Corandirk (A Good Place To Live), and Noree (Pine Trees).

But it appears none of these names were settled on.

Only two railway stations on the Southern Line had a number of name changes, today's Balmoral Village and Hilltop.

The first name was Big Hill Lower Siding (April 5, 1878). This was changed to Bargo (March 14, 1881), yet this was changed seven years later to Balmoral in 1888. This name lasted 83 years until 1971 when the Geographic Names Board

Hill Lower Siding's name to Balmoral Village.

People started moving to the area and at the beginning of 1886 five families living close to the Bargo Siding, plus one living near Buxton asked the Department of Public Instruction to establish a new school at Bargo Siding. Nine of the Bargo children were attending Hilltop School and two of these four families, McGlynn and Dowling, had taken part in the establishment of the Hilltop School in 1883-84. There were six other children near the siding plus four children nearer Buxton, making a total of 19 children.

The request was rejected as impractical as it would reduce the enrolment at Hilltop school from 24 children to 15 and quite possibly cause the closure of the school. All but one of the new applicants for the new school were railway fettlers and therefore not regarded as permanent settlers.

The Village

Noticeboard

A handy list of upcoming dates and information.

Important Dates:

- * Sunday 24th May, Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal.
- * Tuesday 2nd June, Balmoral Association Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Hall.
- * Saturday 13th June, Film Society: "Blue Angel", Contact Janine King.
- * Saturday Night 27th June, Annual Village Bonfire night, 7:00pm, Village Hall.
- * Tuesday 7th July, Balmoral Village Association Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Hall.
- * Saturday, 11th July, Film Society: "The Overlanders". Contact Janine King.
- * Sunday 12 July, Balmoral Association Annual General Meeting, 11:00am, Village Hall.
- * Tuesday 4th August, Balmoral Village Association Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Hall.
- * Saturday 8th August, Film Society: "Pandoras Box", Contact Janine King.

Regular Events:

- * Balmoral Bushfire Brigade meet each Wednesday night, 7:30pm at the fire shed.
- * Tennis club play Wednesdays, 10:00am, at the the tennis club (behind village hall)

Phone Numbers:

- * Bush Fire Control (Bowral) 48 61 3635 or Dial 000
- * Tennis Club or Tennis Court bookings, phone Pat Lawrence, 48 898 066.
- * Film Society enquiries, phone Janine King or Steve Harrison, 48 898 479
- * Hall Hire, phone Stephen Bishop , 898 740

If you have a date or other information for the noticeboard, contact the editor (ph898 146)