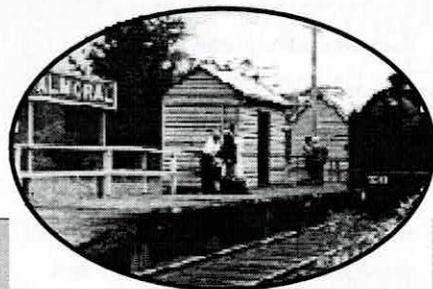


VILLAGE VOICE

A NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

SPRING 2008

ISSUE 36



IN THE NEWS.. A TRANSITION

What is a Transition Shire? I have been fortunate as a candidate for council to have the opportunity to learn more about the Climate Action Now Wingecarribee (CANWin) group's Transition Shire movement and I would like to share with you, what a Transition Shire means.

A Transition Shire is a conundrum of social conscience which requires the commitment of the community to ensure an ecologically sustainable future through the reduction of reliance on peak oil. This can be achieved by bringing communities together to grow and source food locally, build ecologically sensitive homes, reduce the reliance of motor vehicles through centralization of residential precincts and by looking at alternately driven locally produced energy solutions.

Quite a mouthful isn't it. What this means though is a willingness

of the community to make sacrifices of their hard held beliefs and lives be changed to allow higher density of housing (centralization); commercial development within precincts (local shopping options) and the loss of aspects to provide alternate energy sources such as wind turbines and reduce the reliance on cars.

It is a question one must pose to one's own conscience. Can I make the sacrifices to provide for a sustainable future? Am I willing to stand up and say that I support this initiative and will seek to educate others, seek support where appropriate from government and other institutions.

What other things can be done to move into a state of transition. Improvement of fuel efficient public transport which actually allows for the decentralization of population from towns to villages

(infilling). A cohesive shared pathway system that provides for alternate transport between towns and villages. Securing arable farm land to provide locally sourced food. Providing high and medium density housing in town precincts.

This is a big issue which is worthy of consideration. Certainly something for consideration by town planners and definitely a sound reason for further evaluation of the current draft LEP. But it does need community support to become a reality.

For more information:
www.canwin.org.au/

Jodie Laing

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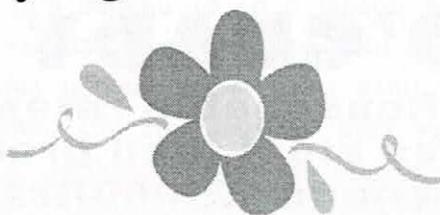
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Spring into Daylight Savings

Clocks Forward 1 hour

5 October 2008 2am

Clocks Back 1 hour 5 April
2009 3am



FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.....

The Hall, Tennis Club and Tennis Court, in the past few months have been frequently vandalized. The Hall has had windows smashed, the toilets broken into and plumbing and walls damaged. The Tennis Club was broken into and damaged inside, as well as damage to the court fittings and fencing.

It is so sad that the ambition of some people amounts to spending considerable time and effort in

digging a hole in a toilet wall.

The Hall and Tennis Club are struggling to survive at this present point in time, and the last thing we need is to spend time and money repairing the stupidity of others.

The Balmoral Village Hall and Tennis Club are owned by you, the local residents of Balmoral and are not funded by council or any other government agency.

It is in your interest, as owners of the Hall, to report any to report any vandalism to the Police who are aware of the incidents we are having.

The Association will be having a working bee on Sunday morning 28th September to repair the damage, which will be followed by a community lunch.

Larry Wilson

FROM THE EDITOR.....

With a nice spring rain behind us, I'm sure you are all just busting at the seams to get out in the warmer weather and prepare for warmer summer months.

This issue we have a contribution from one of our local green thumbs,

Tom Cunneen, providing some Spring Tips to get us in the mood.

There is also plenty happening around the Highlands over the next two months—just take a look at the next page.

Thank you to all of those who have

expressed support for my candidature for Council. If successful, you can be assured that I will work very hard to improve services to the Northern Villages (Balmoral included, just for a change).

Jodie Laing

FIRIES UPDATE—BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD STARTS OCTOBER 1

The Wingecarribee District of the NSW Rural Fire Service will declare the start to the statutory Bushfire Danger Period commencing on the 1st October 2008.

During October this year and March of next year any person wishing to light a fire in the Wingecarribee Shire area will require a permit. During the other four months of the Bushfire Danger Period, ie November, December, January and February no permits will be issued unless exceptional circumstances prevail.

"Fire permits are free and can be

obtained from your local RFS Fire Captain or the Fire Control Centre" said Wingecarribee District Manager, Ashley Frank.

"Commencement of the Bush Fire Danger Period does not prohibit landholders from burning. In fact, we continue to encourage properly prepared and managed hazard reductions. However, it does mean that under section 85 of Rural Fire Act, permits will be required for lighting fires" Mr Frank said.

"As temperatures get warmer we also ask people to be careful when

using fire. Conditions are particularly dry across most of NSW which means in difficult weather fires are more likely to develop into bushfires and threaten life, property and the environment."

"It is an offence to allow a fire to escape from your property and it is your responsibility to ensure that fires are not left unattended."

"Get advice from the RFS on how to safely conduct burning activities and how to prepare homes and families for the bushfire season by doing preparing property." (cont pg 3....)→

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WHAT'S ON THIS SPRING

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 13th



GALA DAY—BREAMAR GARDEN WORLD from 8.30am

The main focus of this Gala Day is to raise funds with the Lions Club of Mittagong, for the Wingecarribee Palliative Care Unit and CanAssist. CanAssist is an organisation that has been helping local patients in our community who for one reason or another find themselves in financial difficulty because of being stricken with cancer. We are hoping to purchase some electrically operated lounge chairs for mobility hampered patients. These patients are for the most part terminal or have carers unable to lift them.

GARDENING CELEBRITY TALKS

10.30am ELWYN SWANE 12 noon JUDY HORTON
 1pm MICHAEL COLE 2pm BEN SWANE

Raffle, Wine Tasting, BBQ, Chocolate Wheel Plus More..

Weekend 13th/14th

HILL TOP RURAL FIRE BRIGADE GARAGE SALE

Thurs 25th-8th Oct

TULIP TIME Corbett Gardens open every day from 9-4pm

Saturday 27th

TULIP TIME STREET PARADE Bong Bong St Bowral from 2pm

GALA DINNER, Mittagong RSL. Bookings 4872-6700

Weekend 27th/28th

FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL—Corbett Gardens 9am-4pm

OCTOBER

2nd-6th

ART & CRAFT FAIR—Memorial Hall Bendooley St Bowral 9am-4.30pm

Weekend 4th/5th

FOOD, WINE AND MUSIC FAIR—St Thomas Aquinas Church

NOVEMBER

Weekend 1st/2nd

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS ART STUDIO TRAIL Jenny Kena 4868-0855

For more Tulip Time Events: www.tuliptime.net.au

FIRES UPDATE CONT...

Mr Frank suggested "RFS officers can provide advice and assist private property owners in bushfire prone areas with free environmental assessments and a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate if required."

Burning is not the only option – land-owners could consider slashing, trit-tering, mowing and taking vegetation and waste to the tip.

If you do have to burn ask the RFS for

advice, permits and approvals:

- give fire authorities and neighbours 24 hours notice
- check weather conditions/Total Fire Bans
- delay the burn if concerning winds are forecast
- create proper fire breaks
- have adequate water resources on hand
- supervise the fire at all times
- call triple zero (000) immediately if

fire escapes.

For more information contact Wingecarribee Fire Control Centre on 48712666 or visit www.wingecarribee.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

BALMORAL VILLAGE BRIGADE
 Meets 7.30pm Wednesdays at the Fireshed. All welcome. Business conducted 1st Wednesday and Training on 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Paul Malia.

THIRLMERE MEATS

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SPRING INTO YOUR GARDEN

With spring now here, there are a few easy jobs you can do to make your garden great.



If you have roses, they should be starting to shoot away now. Have a close look, as aphids love the tender new growth. We have noticed a few on our roses. A quick spray with Confidor will take control of the aphids before they cause too much damage. Now is also the time to spray with lime sulfur. This will get a head start on black spot. If the season ends up like last year, black spot will be a problem. Later on, a little spray of bicarbonate of soda mixed with a little white oil will take care of the fungal problems and insect pests.

The deciduous trees will also be starting to shoot. The last few weeks of winter have been quite cold, and this has slowed down the opening of the new buds, so you still have time to get some new trees from your local garden centre and get them in the ground. When planting, dig a hole about the size of the pot. We find for around here, this works better than digging a hole twice the size of the pot and adding compost/manure to the hole, as often recommended on the back of the label. This forces the roots out into the soil, and gives a better plant in the long run. Water well and

add some mulch on the top (but not up against the stem). Don't fertilize at this time, wait until a few weeks after the leaves have developed. If you do, you might burn the new developing roots and slow down the growth of the tree.

Speaking of mulch, with the early spring rain, it would be a good opportunity to spread some around (the garden that is). This will lock in the moisture and give much better results in your garden over the summer months. Any mulch will do, but you will get excellent results from using sugar cane.

For established gardens, fertilize with a bag of poultry manure pellets. This will make sure that the spring growth is strong and vigorous. This will especially help your citrus trees, as they are hungry feeders and will be struggling a little after the cold winter.

Happy gardening.

Tom Cunneen of Braemar Garden World.

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Fresh Bread, Cakes, Pies and Pastries

Now with "Cookies Chicken" lipsmakingood'

Café open 8am till 8pm Monday-Saturday

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BALMORAL PUBLIC SCHOOL HISTORICAL FEATURE

The first part of this two part historical feature relates to the history of the early years of Balmoral Village School. It is a collection of snippets from the Hill Top Public School Centenary booklet, written by Tony Stevens and published by Hill Top School in 1984. Part 2 will be published in the December edition.

In 1888 there were four families with fourteen children of school age at Balmoral and three families with six children around Buxton. Almost all of them were attending a private school operated by Miss Harry, who had come to Balmoral the previous year with her father Henry Harry. The result was that the enrolment at Hill Top had fallen to 13.

Inspector Murray visited the area to report on an application for a school at Balmoral. The facts were that the private school at Balmoral had made it impossible for Hill Top to survive in its current form, and yet there were not enough children at Balmoral for a Provisional School. The rather neat solution Murray found was to recommend that Hill Top became a half-time school with Balmoral, and the department accepted this economical recommendation in July, 1888.

The residents had to provide the building for the half time school and Thomas McGlynn was willing to lease half an acre near the station to the Department for a nominal shilling a year. A building of sawn slabs with an iron roof was erected on this site by parents and the department supplied and paid for the furniture—two desk and three forms nine feet long, a table and chair, a blackboard and easel, a book-press, and 24 hat-pegs, and the basic requirements like reading books, slates and maps. Everything was ready in November and Eleanor Rixon opened the new school later that month. She taught at Hill Top in the morning and Balmoral in the afternoons, the train timetable suiting this arrangement.

The figures for the two half time schools were surprisingly high. When school broke up for the Christmas holidays, Hill Top's enrolment was 27 and the average attendance was 20 while Balmoral's figures were 16 and 13. Not surprisingly, the people of Hill Top sent a petition for the conversion of their school to a full-time operation again. Murray explained that while it had been assumed that when Balmoral opened Hill Top would not have enough pupils for a full-time school, Hill Top's attendance had risen substantially because the private school at Balmoral had been replaced by a half-time government school and some parents were sending their children to Hill Top each morning and Balmoral each afternoon. The figures therefore included some double counting. The Department told the petitioners that if, after a fair trial, the numbers were good, both schools would be converted to provisional schools.

Reprinted from Village Voice May 1999.

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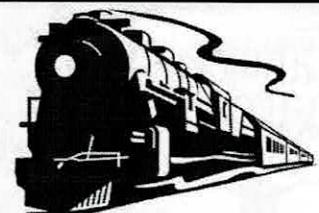
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PLAYGROUP UPDATE

Term 3 has wizzed past. The cold weather has not been a joy, but, remarkably, most days have been warm enough for a play outside. We've done such things as made our own telephones, tried our hand at origami, and are having a go at making and painting plaster figures... or hand prints, depending on our skill level! A trip to Hugo's farm, to milk the sheep and feed the chooks is an excursion we need to do again.

We were successful in the grant submission, from Council - so can now purchase a heater and floor covering... ready for next year!

Come and join us for a relaxed time, playing together, doing a craft/activity and having some morning tea (bring a piece of fruit) - and most of all - getting to know each other and having some fun! Don't feel like you have to come for the whole time - just do what you can, when you can!!



PLAYGROUP NSW INC



Freya and Hugo on the Balmoral Express

Tuesdays 10am - 12pm at the Village Hall

(during school terms)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

JANETTE DUNN 4889 8002 HELENA WONG 4889 8157

Soup & Sausage Sizzle Sunday 28th September From 12pm (after working bee)

It's on again! Our last get together was a lot of fun - a beautiful day, and good conversation. As yet a regular time hasn't been planned, so keep your eye on the Village Voice for dates.

Everyone welcome. Kid's activities will be organised, as will the BBQ - so just bring your selves!

For those villagers who have expressed interest in a Sunday school for the kids, it's still in the planning pipe line - so, again, keep your eye on the Village Voice, or chat to us some more about it.

**For more information, please call us,
Len and Leonie Jelaco ph: 4889 8464**

Supported by the Presbyterian Church, Tahmoor

Playgroup Holiday get-together

Tuesday 8th July!

For all those who'd like to come along but can't make it during the school terms, we are planning a park playtime on the 1st Tuesday of the holidays. Older siblings welcome. Same time!

Hope you can make it!



"The biggest little garden centre in the Wollondilly"

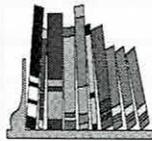
- ★ Qualified horticulturalists can give you advice in store
- ★ See how we fit a big range into a little garden centre
- ★ See why we were finalists in the 2006 Business Awards

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Tahmoor
Tel: 4681 9619
Mob: 0438 PLANTS**

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

MOBILE LIBRARY—NEW TIME

**FORTNIGHTLY TUESDAY
1.45 - 2.15**



The mobile library calls at Balmoral Village on Tuesdays between 1.45pm and 2.15pm pm on the following dates for the first half of 2008.

NEAR THE VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

FROM THE TENNIS CLUB

COME AND GET SOME LIGHT EXERCISE. Bring the whole family, as it is a game everyone can get involved in.



We play Wednesdays at 10am - 2pm. We alternate with Hilltop Tennis Club, playing one Wednesday at our court and the following week at the Hilltop court.

The Balmoral Tennis Court can be hired any time.

Contact Pat Lawrence 48 898 066. Please ring the night before, so we can arrange things.

	3	6	9	5	7	1
9	5	7	3	1	4	
	1	4	7	5	9	3
	6	2	8		9	5
8	2	5	9	6	1	
5	9	1	7	4	8	2
3	5	1	8	2		9
7	4	9	3	2	1	5
1	2		6		3	7

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HALL HIRE

The hall, which is managed by the Association is available for hire. It is ideal for classes, parties or regular meetings etc. for very reasonable rates. Also for hire are the hall seats, tables and a marquee tent, ideal for people having parties at home.

Contact Larry Wilson in advance, on48 898151

SUDOKO PUZZLE

GRADE: SUPEREASY!

Fill the grid with numbers 1 to 9 so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating any numbers.

Results to be printed next issue.

BUY, SWAP OR SELL IT HERE!!! - FOR FREE!

To place a FREE ad (non-business), Call Jodie on 0411 274708

THE VILLAGE RAINGUAGE

June		July		August		September			Last Year	This Year
Date	ml's	Date	ml's	Date	ml's	Date	ml's			
01	2.0	07	5.0	05	5.0	03	10.0	Jan	89.0	n/a
02	5.5	09	3.0	08	1.5	04	6.0	Feb	252.5	220.5
03	28.0	20	7.0	30	16.5	05	23.0	Mar	52.0	52.0
04	5.5	28	9.0			06	6.0	Apr	363.5	27.8
10	5.0							May	21.5	44.0
11	9.0							Jun	65.0	248.5
19	6.0							Jul	24.0	10.5
21	1.0							Aug	23.0	53.0
30	3.0							Sep	45.0	30.5
	65.0		24.0		23.0		45.0	YTD	608.5	686.8

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

THE VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

Regular Events:

- * **Balmoral Bushfire Brigade** Meet 1ST & 3rd Wednesday of each month — 7:30pm at fire shed. (business conducted 1st Wed. of month) Captain: Scott Whiting, ph 48 899 888
- * **Village Association** meet second Tuesday night of the month, 7:30pm, Village Hall. President, Larry Wilson, ph 48 898151
- * **Tennis club** play Wednesdays, 10:00am, at the tennis club (behind village hall)
Contact Pat Lawrence, ph48 898 066
- * **Playgroup**—Tuesday mornings 10am—Midday At the Village Hall
Contact Janette 48898002 or Helena 48898157

Phone Numbers:

- * Bush Fire Control Dial 000
- * Tennis Club or Tennis Court bookings, phone Pat Lawrence, 48 898 066.
- * Fire permits, Scott Whiting 48 899 888.
- * Hall bookings, Larry Wilson, 48 898 151.
- * Bowral Police: 48 629 299
- * WIRES: 4862-1788 (Wingecarribee)

Balmoral Village Association Inc.

PO Box 87, Buxton NSW 2571

Phone: 4889-8151 E-mail: balmoralvillageassoc@yahoo.com.au



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