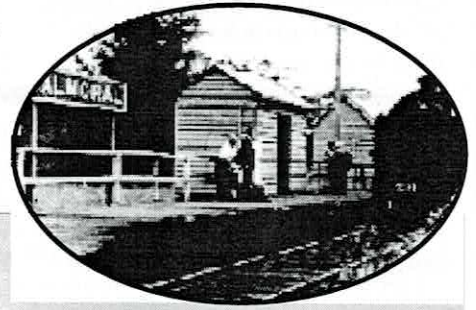


VILLAGE VOICE

A NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

AUTUMN 2008

ISSUE 34



WELL DONE!! BALMORAL RESIDENTS SUCCEED IN SAVING PUBLIC LAND....



Picture from Southern Highland News, 30 January 2008, by Robyn

With the fabulous turnout on site at the corner of Hall Street & Wilson Drive, we must first thank the local media, Southern Highland News & Robyn Murray as well as Graham Day of 2ST for promoting the strong feelings of the Balmoral Community towards the listing of Balmoral community space by Winger-carribee Shire

Council as prospective land for sale as part of the 2007 Draft LEP.

Councilor Nick Campbell-Jones was very quick to respond to the calls by the Balmoral Community and put forward a motion to Council for the 6 February Services & Infrastructure Committee

Meeting, for the land to be removed from the list of public owned properties to be reclassified to Operational Land (and re-zoned to Residential) and included a motion for the property to be re-zoned within the Draft LEP to RE1 Public Recreation.

The motion was passed with unanimous support from the 9 councilors present.

Clearly, the strong opposition from the Balmoral residents contributed to the success of this action and now we must wait for the Draft LEP to be approved by Council and State Planning Department.

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W

ishing you a Happy Easter & may the Easter Bunny be especially generous to you all.....

FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.....

On behalf of the present and future residents of Balmoral, I thank all the residents who expressed their opinions to Council on the proposed sale of public land on the corner of Wilson Drive and Hall Road.

I thank the members of the Association who worked very hard to

secure retention of the land.

I would like to thank the Winger-carribee Shire Councillors for their support to retain and rezone the land for recreational purposes. Their decision shows consideration and respect for the views of local residents and foresight for the present and future

needs of the village.

The Balmoral Village Association, as always, looks forward to working in continuing partnership with the Winger-carribee Shire Council to retain the amenity and pleasant nature of the Village.

Larry Wilson.

FROM THE EDITOR.....

It always makes one proud to be part of a community who works together for the greater good.

This has been proven again through the successful efforts of the residents of Balmoral Village in finally having their Recreational space officially sanctioned by the Council.

We can now only hope that the Draft LEP which has been on the drawing board for many years, finally gets up with the Balmoral Land appropriately zoned.

Community pride and caring was also shown at the recent Clean Up Australia Day with a strong turnout of 21 (including 5 children)

who patrolled the village streets and Wilson Drive, picking up where the 'tossers' have left off.

If you have any suggestions for the Village Voice, or want to provide some feedback, please feel free to contact me directly on 48899607. Hope to see you soon.
Jodie Laing

BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

The Village Association meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The associations constitution and mandate is formed around the ownership and upkeep of the Village Hall and its grounds.

Balmoral is in the unique situation of owning its own hall which is there for the benefit of the Balmoral community. With all the upside of hall ownership remaining with the community however, there comes a great deal of effort to build fighting funds for maintenance and repairs, and to utilize the hall in ways which are both beneficial to the residents and raise money for upkeep and improvements to be made.

As is often the case in such matters, there are a few dedicated residents of the Village who have contributed extraordinary efforts in ensuring that the Village Hall

ownership is maintained by the Village Association and have personally seen to the maintenance and improvement of the building and grounds over the years.

After reading through some historical Village Voice issues, I am in a position to say that a special mention must be made of the following individuals for their long service to the Association and its service to the Balmoral Community:

Stephen Bishop
Larry Wilson
Gordon Ibbett
Pat Lawrence
Lill Bramich
Lyle Spears
Paul Mallia

The above residents are listed in the Village Voice, as having been elected as office bearers in November 1997. With the exception of Stephen Bishop who re-

cently passed away from a serious illness (and is sorely missed), all of the above are sitting office bearers of the Association today.

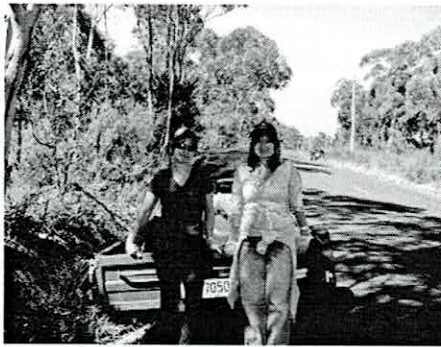
The Association meetings are a great way to become involved in your community, whether it is lending a hand at a fundraiser, or supporting the efforts of the association in its representation to other government and non-government bodies—every little bit helps!

Please come along—the next meetings will take place from 7.30pm at the Village Hall:

8 April 13 May 10 June

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE....

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY YIELDS PLENTY....

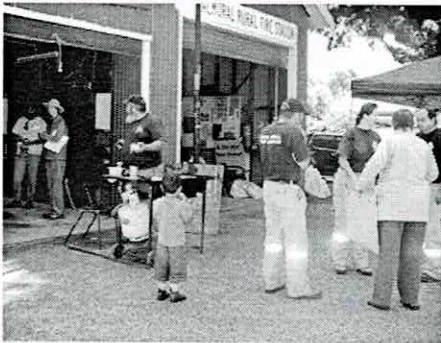


Lisa & Sue on Wilson Drive

With a turnout of 21 people on Saturday 1st March, Balmoral Village and it's greater surrounds were spick & span in no time.

Approx. 2 tones of rubbish were collected without too many surprising items in the mix. Of note, a rather large ice box, a kitchen sink a TV and the odd tire or two. The usual suspects such as PET bottles, cans, glass bottles and chip packets were in abundance.

Thanks to all who turned out for the day and special thanks to the Balmoral Bush Fire Brigade for the well earned sausage sizzle at the end.



Back at the Fire Shed for Lunch



Lyle spins a great snag to reward the clean up crew.




Rosemary & Sue on Wilson Dr

Please Note: Dumping of garden waste is a form of pollution. Plants such as agapanthus are easily germinated from disposed flower heads and lead to the overrun of our native bushland.




Left: Part of the rubbish collected from Balmoral in just 3 hours

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BALMORAL IN THE NEWS—CONGRATULATIONS BRYDIE

SHN, Friday February 1, 2008

Reprieve possible for Balmoral land

Balmoral residents might succeed in their push to have council owned land in their village removed from the list of properties to be sold to fund the leisure centre.

Cr Nick Campbell-Jones plans to put forward a notice of motion to next week's meeting calling for the block of land to be rezoned R1 (public recreation) in the new draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

The block is currently listed for rezoning from recreational reserve to recreational.

Cr Campbell-Jones had planned to put forward the motion as a matter of urgency at this week's

Balmoral to Summer Bay in a limo...

A shampoo competition helped Brydie Wanson to win a walk-on part in *Home and Away* as VAS VENKATRAMANI reports...

It took just six hours for Brydie Wanson to overturn more than a decade of television stereotyping.

er needed a lift to work in Pictou, and no one was at home to take him," she said.

"So the limo driver was really

I WANTED TO STAY FOREVER: Brydie Wanson relaxes at home with the two Herbal Essence bottles that won her the opportunity to be an extra on *Home and Away*.



SHN, Monday March 10, 2008

Balmoral land safe

Balmoral residents have welcomed Wingecarribee Shire Council's decision to remove vacant land in the village from the list of council properties to be reclassified for sale.

Council's services and infrastructure committee last week passed a motion from Nick Campbell-Jones that the land in Wilson Drive remain classified as community land and that the lot be rezoned under the draft

Wingecarribee Local Environmental Plan (LEP) to public recreation.

After Wednesday's meeting, Balmoral Village Association publicity officer Jodie Liang said residents would be very happy that the council had dealt with the matter so promptly.

"It's a very good result."

Mrs Liang said the community would not work to have the land developed as a park.

SHN, Friday February 13, 2008

Locals get dirty to clean up Shire



Southern Highlands residents got down and dirty yesterday to clean up the Shire as part of Clean Up Australia Day.

Organised by Kate Creaney from the Resource Recovery Centre in Moss Vale, there were several specific areas in the Highlands targeted to have rubbish removed, clutter cleared, and made just that bit more pleasant on the eye.

The Moss Vale Guide Hill and White's Creek in Moss Vale were both cleared up. Berrina Scout Camp and its surrounds at Apple Street in Berrina, and Avoca Drive in Avoca were also cleaned up on the weekend.

Tracey Lawrence, from the Balmoral

Village Rural Fire Service, co-ordinated the clean up effort in and around Balmoral Village.

She said the day was a "great success", and that about 20 members of the Balmoral community and rural fire service lent a hand to tidy up the place.

"We cleaned up in the main village and main road of Balmoral," Tracey said.

"The main things we picked up were general rubbish, bottles and cans, you name it."

"Everything on the day seems to plan and it's great to just have everything be that little bit tidier."

4 Southern Highlands locals, Monday, March 3, 2008

SHN, Monday March 3, 2008

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FIRIES UPDATE

Smoke Alarms.....Check Before Winter.....

With Daylight saving due to finish soon, this is a good opportunity to check smoke alarms in your home, especially if they are battery operated. Winter is prime time for house fires due to winter heating appliances and a working smoke alarm may save the life of you and your family.

Fireplace Alert

Prior to using your woodburning heater / stove this winter it is a good idea to check the flue to ensure that there is no carbon or soot build up. This build-up can result in a flue fire under certain conditions, and spread into your roof space.

Should a flue fire occur, close the air intake on your fire and call 000. Refer to your owners manual for further information.

Fire Extinguishers

With winter just around the corner it is also a good time to invest in or check the condition of your fire blankets and fire extinguishers. All members of your family

should know where these items are located in the home and know how to use them.

End of Fire Danger Period

The Fire Danger Period is set to end on 31st March. If you are planning on having a fire in the open after this date, it is permitted, but it is your responsibility to first ensure that you are complying with Council regulations on burning. These regulations are available from Wingecarribee Shire Council.

Hazard Reductions This Winter

As a part of the Wingecarribee Hazard Reduction Plan, a number of prescribed hazard reduction burns are set to occur this year in and around Balmoral Village. The burns may occur on weekends or during the week, depending on the availability of crews.

When these burns are conducted, depending on weather conditions, smoke will be noticeable throughout the village and residents should not be alarmed. Irrespective, if you have concerns

over any fire activity close to your home, as always, call 000.

Neighbouring landowners have already been consulted and will be notified in accordance with regulations.

In addition, to assist the community, the brigade will endeavour to display signs in the village a few days prior to the burns.

Membership/ Meetings

If you would like to become a member of the brigade, whether to be an active fire-fighter 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 on the first and third Wednesday night of each month 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 and a training night is usually held on the third Wednesday.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT

RECREATIONAL PARK—NEEDS A DRIVING FORCE

As the potential for a recreational park now has a strong chance of becoming a reality, the Balmoral Community must consider the need for a special purpose association to be formed to see the process through.

Establishing an association is an easy process, however it is the dedication of its members and

committee that ensure an association is well placed to act as guardian of it's mandated purpose, in this case, ensuring that the land which has now been scheduled in the Draft LEP to be zoned as recreational space, is funded and developed to meet the needs of the Balmoral community.

In this case, such a committee would act as community representation to Council to plan for the development of the space and

potentially seek funding from other government and private organizations to see the project through to completion.

This will be a very rewarding process to those who get involved and it will take enthusiasm and commitment to see the project through to fruition.

Please consider this worthwhile opportunity to contribute to the Village.

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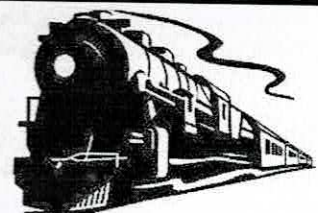
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DAILY LIFE AT BALMORAL IN THE 1950's BY ALAN PRIDE

Friend Col Ripper has been leaning me for more reminiscences of Balmoral Village as it was when I lived there with my wife Pat and daughter Marilyn 50+ years ago, in "Balmoral Lodge", the remains of which are still there on Wilson Drive, just south of the rail crossing.

I had bought the house because it was the best I could afford without going into debt, but the area was very isolated in 1955. Little work was available locally, few owned cars, and the only public transport was the rail motor to Thirlmere, Picton, Mittagong and Bowral. (The rail motor was a special single carriage with a diesel motor which ran between Picton and Bowral on the unelectrified loop line).

The trip from Balmoral to Liverpool, where I and many others



The Loop Line Cutting between Hill Top and Balmoral. Photo courtesy of Dave Whiteman (See endnote)

found work, took about 2 1/2 hours, because the rail motor was rather slow and the commuters

had to change to the Southern Highlands Express at Picton (~ so metimes pulled by the famous 3801 streamlined locomotive). One winter morning, as the rail motor rattled downhill after leaving Hill Top, it approached the deep cutting over with the Loop-line Bridge passed. During the night, a motorcyclist on an ex-Army Harley Davison had failed to take the sharp bend before the bridge, plunged over the edge, and was now very dead on the track below. The rail motor managed to stop and the driver and passengers moved the accident off the tracks. No phone or radio were available on the train, so a passenger had to walk to a nearby house and call the authorities before the commuters could go on their way. We still managed to catch the Southern Highlands Express. (The road over the rail line, dirt at the time of the accident, has since been realigned and tarred).

For non-working shoppers, the rail motor made several trips a week up and down between Bowral and Picton. Its engine wasn't 100% reliable, and although Balmoral Station (now demolished) was right opposite our house, at lease once Pat had to push Marilyn in her heavy cane pram from the breakdown point to home over corrugated dirt roads.

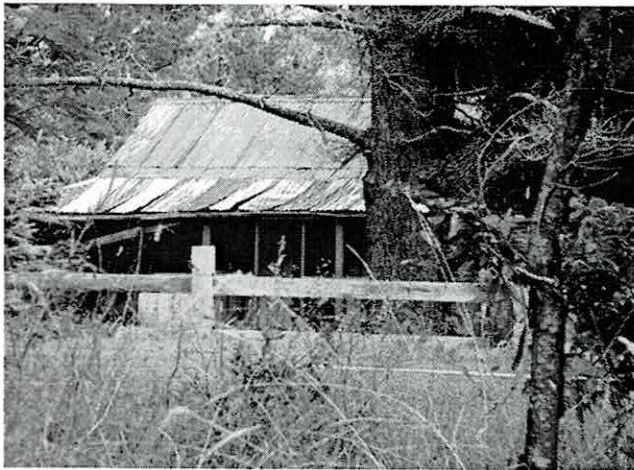
Pat had come out from London as a 20 year old and Balmoral Lodge wasn't what she was used to. It had walls of 1850's roughsawn timber, lined inside with paper, a dirt floor in the kitchen, and no running water. The stove was wood-fired and heating consisted

of an open fire in the dining room. Water came from a 3 metre deep well alongside the house—it had no winder, so the heavy metal bucket had to be hauled up on a rope by muscle power and two rainwater tanks behind the house, with a tap outside the back door. There was no bathroom: a tin bath stood in the laundry, filled by water from the copper until I installed a chip heater at one end of the bath. This was filled with buckets and a fire lit under it. A tap emptied the hot water into the bath. The wood was hauled up from the bush, chopped up with an axe and stacked on the back verandah until needed.

Washing clothes would start early in the morning with the copper being filled with water; then the wood fire lit under it in a brick enclosure. The nappies and clothes would be stirred round in the copper with a stick, though the dirtiest had to be scrubbed up and down on a handheld serrated glass washboard. No Whirlpools here! A hand turned mangle wrung the water out between two rollers, then the clothes were hung to dry on a line between two bush posts. No Hills Hoist either!

Cooking on the wood stove was hard for someone unused to the technique, and Pats' first scones were inedible stonelike objects. After a year or so we got a plug-in electric "Roden" benchtop stove—a hotplate and tiny oven. We also bought a twin-burner kerosene "Fyreside" heater, which was nice until it malfunctioned and nearly set the house alight.

Few people had phones, and to



“Balmoral Lodge” still stands today

make a call we had to walk ten minutes down the road to “Truro”, the post office and manual phone exchange, run by Elwyn Grant and her husband. “Truro” was one of the biggest and finest houses in the area.

There being no sewerage or pan collection service, everyone in Balmoral made their own toilet arrangements. We had an out-house well away from the house, containing a pan with a wooden seat. I dug a long trench in the paddock with a tractor and would empty the pan into it at intervals and fill the trench in. Toilet paper was cut-up sheets of newspaper on a nail.

Although we had electricity, TV wasn't invented and evenings were spent reading, playing cards or listening to the radio. A radio then could cost half a weeks wage, I was earning £26 weekly—about \$50 as a draftsman.

For a while Pat would go to Mit-

tagong on the train to buy groceries. Then we opened a grocery and newsagency in the front room, bringing great convenience to the locals. Produce was delivered from Mittagong by road, infrequently. Pat ran the shop until we moved, in

March 1958, selling “Balmoral Lodge” to a Bulli dentist, Bill Meldrum, who wanted it as a retirement home.

This story started out when I found myself sitting with a group of motorcyclists a few years ago on our bike club run, and the one next to me mentioned that he lived at Balmoral. Turned out he had built his house on a subdivision of my old property!

Dictated by Alan Pride
 Transcribed by Marilyn Pride
 Submitted by Col Ripper.

About the Photographer “Railway Cutting” - Dave Whiteman

Dave Whiteman a talented amateur photographer from Penrith managed to scale down the rockface and use the saplings for support whilst taking the shot during a recent trip to the Hihglands.

Dave's photo's can be seen at www.flickr.com -

Well worth a look.

NEW!!
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Holiday
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23-24 April 2008

(2nd week of school holidays)

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Who: 5 - 12 year olds
When: 10 - midday

Where: Village Hall

What For: Games, Team Activities, Craft & Morning Tea

Details to follow soon.

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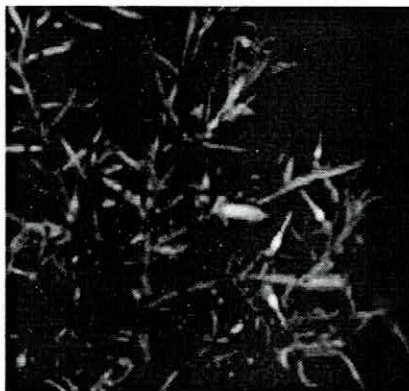
BALMORAL THREATENED SPECIES:> HAIRY GEEBUNG

Profile

Scientific name: *Persoonia hirsuta*
 Conservation status in NSW: Endangered
 National conservation status: Endangered

Description

The Hairy Geebung is best distinguished by its hairiness - long coarse hairs on flowers and branchlets and short stiff ones on the leaves. It is a spreading shrub with small leaves of variable shape. They are from 6 - 12 mm long, from oblong to narrow in shape and crowded along the stems; they are curled under at the edges. Groups of flowers grow into a leafy shoot. The tubu-



lar flowers are yellow or orange and about 1 cm long and also hairy. There are two subspecies - both are considered to be endangered.

Location & habitat

Distribution

The Hairy Geebung has been recorded in the Sydney coastal area (subsp. *hirsuta* - Gosford to Berowra to Manly to Royal National Park), the Blue Mountains

area (subsp. *evoluta* - Springwood, Lithgow, Putty) and the Southern Highlands (subsp. *evoluta* - Balmoral, Buxton, Yanderra and Hill Top areas).

Habitat & ecology

The Hairy Geebung is found in



sandy soils in dry sclerophyll open forest, woodland and heath on sandstone.

It is usually present as isolated individuals or very small populations.

It is probably killed by fire (as other *Persoonia* species are) but will regenerate from seed.

Burning for hazard reduction and other unnatural ignitions have increased fire frequency and may threaten the species' survival.

Loss of habitat through clearing for urban and small-rural-lot development.

The European honey bee *Apis mellifera* may be a factor in the rarity of Hairy Geebung and several other Geebungs. This is because although *A. mellifera* is able to collect pollen its method of pollen transport makes it a poor pollinator of Geebungs, among

many other native plant species.

Recovery strategies

The Department of Environment and Conservation has identified 21 priority actions to help recover the Hairy Geebung in New South Wales.

What needs to be done to recover this species?

Ensure that personnel planning and undertaking hazard reduction burns are able to identify the species and are aware of its habitat.

Following burning, protect populations (where possible) from further fires until plants have reached reproductive maturity.

Develop a fire management plan for the populations.

Searches should be conducted in suitable habitat in proposed development areas.

Erect on-site markers to alert maintenance staff and road-users to the presence of this species.

Continue research into the impact of the European Honey bee on the reproduction of *Persoonia* spp.

Mark Hairy Geebung sites and potential habitat onto maps used for planning road maintenance work.

References

www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au/tsprofile/profile.aspx?id=10595

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OFFICIAL PROGRAM - SATURDAY 5TH APRIL

- 9.30 - 10.30am. Pre-Games Entertainment - Bundanoon Oval
- 9.30am. Street Parade
- 10.20am. Massed Band Display - 25 Pipe Bands throughout the day.
- 10.35am. Official Opening Ceremony
- 11.00am. 31st Highland Games - traditional (and not so traditional) Highlands Games incl. caber toss; throwing the haggis; shot put; water toss; Fergie stones
- 11.00am. Massed Scottish Country Dancing Display
- 11.25am. Southern Highlands Kennel & Obedience Club
- 11.25am. Highland Cavaliers
- 12.00pm. 'Bonnie Bairns' Highland Dress Competition
- 1.30pm. Southern Highlands Kennel & Obedience Club
- 1.40pm. Solo Fiddler - Chris Duncan
- 1.50pm. Scottish Highland Dancing
- 2.15pm. Highland Cavaliers
- 2.50pm. Lifting of the Bundanoon Stones of Manhood
- 3.20pm, BAND OF THE DAY THE DRONES AND STICKS PIPE BAND - NZ

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REGIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX—PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The Department of Sport and Recreation has now lodged their application with the Department of Planning for the development of a Regional Shooting Complex on Wattle Ridge Road, Hill Top.

The development is now on public exhibition with documents available on the Planning NSW website, ww.planning.nsw.gov.au and are also available at Wingercarribee Shire Council and Mittagong Public Library.

Residents in Balmoral should be

aware that the proposal is seeking to develop a complex which is many times greater than that existing in Hill Top.

The number of shooters will range from a minimum of less than 50 per day to a maximum of 250 per day. The proposal is also seeking use of the site 7 days and 3 nights per week for the indoor pistol range and 5 days and 1 night (up to 10pm) per week for the open rifle ranges.

Construction is expected to take a maximum of 6 months.

Submissions must be received at the Department of Planning by 31st March 2008.

The Hill Top Residents Action Group has prepared an informed submission which you may have already received, otherwise you are encouraged to respond with your own submission.

For further details, call 0406 044 677 or email nogunclub@optusnet.com.au

WANT A SCHOOL HOLIDAY TREAT?

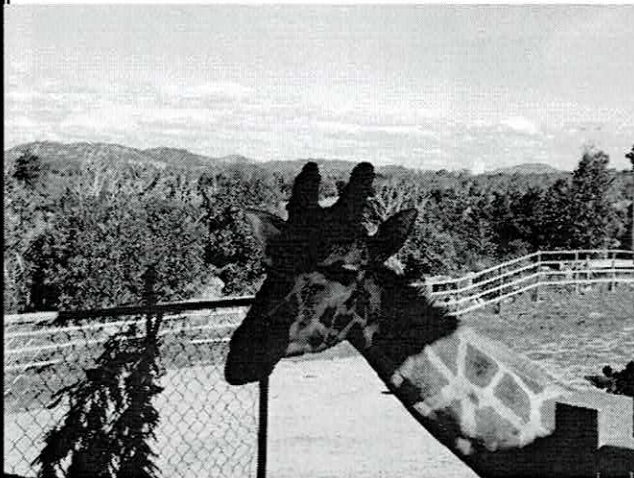
Your kids will love this!

The National Zoo and Aquarium in Canberra is an absolute must if you enjoy zoos. Only 2 hours away, this zoo offers a fantastic opportunity to get up close and personal with the animals whilst learning a great deal about them.

Your roving editor had the opportunity recently to do the ZooVenture Tour (the adults version) which included feeding tigers, lions, tigon (a cross between a male tiger & female lion), cougars giraffes (my favourite), otters, and brown bears.



Cougar Up Close



Feed a 5.5metre Giraffe!

We were also able to go behind the scenes and spot the elands and zebras which had been elusive during our pre-tour wander around the zoo, handle a corn snake, see the colobus monkeys up close and pat the dingoes.

The ZooVenture tour runs for 2 hours, and there are both kids and adults versions.

We were able to wander around the zoo and aquarium within 2 hours as well, so all in all it was a lovely afternoon in Canberra with a wild and exhilarating experience.

This is not an advertisement, just a sharing of a great experience & if you need more info, you can find it on the web or call 6287-8400.

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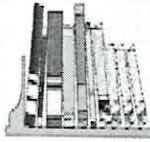
balmoralvillageassoc@yahoo.com.au or call Jodie 0411 274708

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 on the following dates for the first half of 2008.



NEAR THE VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

APRIL 1, 15, 29 MAY 13,27 JUNE 10, 24

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 an time.



Contact Pat Lawrence 48 898 066. Please ring the night before, so we can arrange things. Hire costs are very reasonable.

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



PLAYGROUP NSW INC

**Every Tuesday
at the Hall
10am -12:00
midday**

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!



For more information contact
Helena Wong 4889 8157
Janette Dunn 4889 8002

~ RIDDLE ME SILLY ~ FOR THE KIDS

1. What clothing does a house wear?
2. What has a neck but no head?
3. What do you call a cat that likes to dig at the beach?

1. address. 2. a bottle. 3. sandy claws

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

FREE 8 week old Rooster—bred from excellent stock, Name is Junior, all white and very handsome—needs a good home, not a pot.. 48899607

Wanted:Short term agistment for t/bred mare (16y.o.) due to work on property—call Jodie 0411 274 708

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

