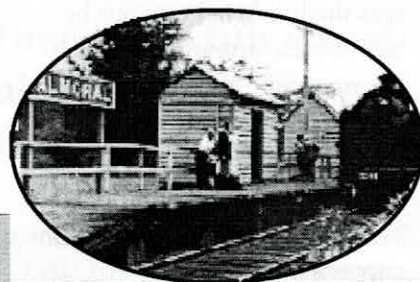


VILLAGE VOICE

A NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

WINTER 2008

ISSUE 35



THIEVES RUN RAMPANT IN NORTHERN VILLAGES!

On Tuesday, 3rd June, two Balmoral Village homes were broken into.

Ransacking one home and garage in Station Street and breaking into the garages of a home on River Street the thieves were able to abscond in broad daylight.

The thieves appeared to have shopping lists of goods which included Chainsaws, Blower Vacs, stereo equipment.

A resident of Balmoral advised that they observed a dark blue hatchback or small vehicle with two people acting strangely on Tuesday.

Since then, Hill Top residents have had homes and cars broken into and the Take-Away shop has been broken into twice this week. The storage area for another shop complex was also broken into as well as the Hill Top Public School.

Further, the recently restored Colo Vale Train Station has also been the subject of a break-in.

The Vandalism Committee, a sub-committee of the Mit-tagong Chamber of Commerce has been advised of these issues as it closely monitors all crime in the shire.

Bowral Police advise that their forensics team are working on all of the recent break-ins and they have stepped up patrols to the Northern Villages.

Please ensure that your properties are secured when you leave and report any suspicious people to the police immediately. Local businesses may need to consider further security steps including security camera's.

If you have any information, please contact Bowral Police immediately on 48619299. Any information can be provided anonymously.

BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOC. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 20 July 2008
from 11am

Become involved in your community by being a member of the village association. Families \$10, individuals \$5.

Come along and share your views, join the committee or just catch up with old (& new) friends.

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FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.....

The Association not only manages the local Hall on your behalf but also attempts to retain the community spirit and community engagement which is fast disappearing from this world. We are becoming conditioned and pressured to live in an economy not a community.

The Association would like retain the safe, peaceful and pleasant nature of the Village but this

can only done by your involvement with the local community.

On a different but related subject, Jodie Laing, local resident and editor of this newsletter, is standing for election as a Wingecaribee Shire Councilor, at local council elections in September this year.

Jodie is an energetic, talented and valued member of the Bal-

moral Village Association who is actively involved in the local community and understands local community issues. There is no need to empathise the importance of having a member of our community represent us on the local council.

I will have no hesitation in voting for Jodie in September.

Larry Wilson, President

FROM THE EDITOR.....

As a community minded individual nothing gets my blood boiling more than the insensitive actions of a few who can ruin the lives of others, as has been the case with the targeting of the Northern Villages for a crime spree.

Once upon a time, one could rely on groups such as Neighbourhood Watch however as we continue to become busier we can easily become detached

from our community and therefore less able to rely on others knowing when something is wrong.

Now is probably the time to reacquaint yourself with your neighbours, particularly in a small village such as ours.

With the Village AGM on the 20th July, take an hour out of your time, come along and meet old and new friends in Balmoral.

Of late, another frequent complaint is the state of our roads in the Village, particularly the dirt roads. We know that Balmoral often isn't included in the maps of the shire and perhaps Council have forgotten the ratepayers here. The best way to remind Council of our needs is to write directly to the Council. Don't make a phone call—it just isn't reliable enough to get your issue on the agenda.

Jodie Laing, Editor

FIRIES UPDATE

Balmoral Village Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade during the burn season (winter) meets the first Wednesday of the Month at the Fire Shed 7:30pm. Members of the community wishing to join or just require information or advice are more than welcome to come along on these evenings.

During the current burn season the brigade will be meeting on Fridays and some weekends to conduct prescribed hazard re-

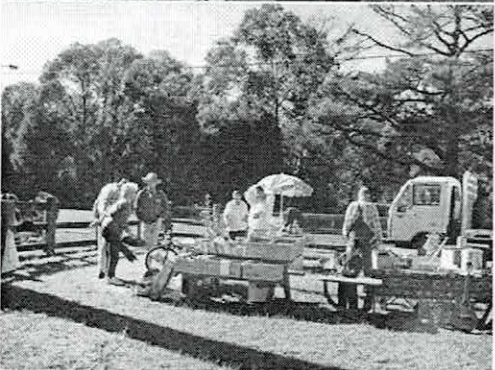
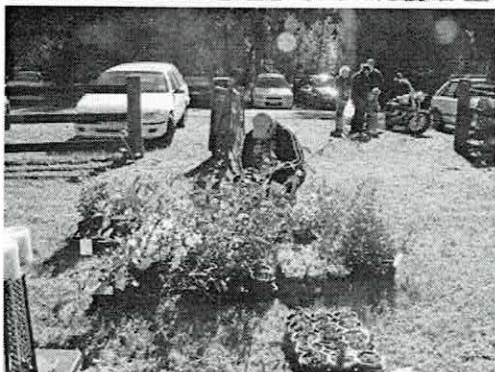
ductions, weather permitting. Residents of the Village should be aware that smoke may be present during these times. Towards the end of this season a large burn to the north-east of the Village in the vicinity of Weir Road will be conducted over several days this may bring Brigades in from out-of-area to assist in this Hazard Reduction.

You may have noticed Incident Tape adjacent to the existing Fire Shed. This is due to work

commencing shortly for the construction of a new Fire Station by the Wingecaribee Rural Fire Service. The existing Shed will receive a makeover and become a training facility & office for the Brigade.

The Brigade will be holding an Open Day towards the end of Winter, All Welcome, please look out for signs with day & date, bring the family along and learn a little about your Brigade. Lyall Spears, BVFB

BALMORAL VILLAGE GARAGE SALE .



Beautiful weather and a fun day at the Hall resulted in \$700 being raised.

The Balmoral Village Association would also like to thank the stall holders and families who donated goods for sale as well as special thanks to our suppliers for the BBQ for great deals done on the day, not to mention the excellent quality:

Thirlmere Meats
Hill Top Bakery

And Very Special Thanks to Tom & Jane Cunneneen for their extremely generous donation of plants—always very popular and a big contributor to the day!



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BE CONSIDERATE ON LOCAL ROADS....

We often forget that speed zones on local roads are not there to be a nuisance.

Stopping distances, when faced with a pedestrian, child on a bike, native animal or pet, are of utmost importance as is the distance that you can see ahead.

Take the corner on Railway Pde which heads from the residential hamlet towards River Street. Admittedly, it is overgrown on the left and also narrow—how far can you see ahead as you approach that corner?

Stopping at 50km per hour will take around 44 metres, and at 60km, will take 58 metres¹. If you faced a neighbor walking on the left side of road going in the opposite direction to you—would you be able to avoid an accident?

Local roads require the local community to set the standards and be considerate to other road users in the interests of safety for all.

Be a good neighbor and stick to the speed limits around Balmoral—it could save a life.

Dumb things seen on our local roads:

Teenagers car surfing down Railway Parade (that means one teenager is riding on the roof of the car)

Drivers being harassed for sticking to the speed limit or just under in the event of poor visibility
Excessive speed on dirt roads

¹ Source: RTA stopping distance calculator

LOST & FOUND

FOUND: Silver wedding ring found at the Garage Sale Day—engraved with "David & Linda". Contact Larry 48898151

FOUND: Photo (see below) This has been on the notice board for some time—if you know who may have lost it contact Jodie on 0411 274708.



PLAYGROUP UPDATE

Playgroup has been lots of fun this term.

We are steadily growing in size as new families find us, and it's been great meeting each other. The weather has been exceptionally kind, so we have been having lots of fun outside discovering every aspect of the outdoor area. Inventing games with baskets, pulled up onto the (slippery dip) platform, picnics with flower cakes, and making nature weavings with all the different plants that grow around the hall, are a few of the things we have enjoyed together. Plus an awful lot of swinging!

We have now moved inside the hall, and have made damper, cubbies and travelled by train to all sorts of amazing places together. Turn taking has not been a lesson only learnt at the swings! The big people are still finding plenty of time to chat and catch up about all the important things as well.

We are waiting to see if we are successful in a grant submission made to the local council, for a large heater and carpeting for when it gets

really cold. Pulling a train about keeps you warm to a point... We wait in hope!



PLAYGROUP NSW INC

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!

Tuesdays 10am - 12pm

at the

Village Hall

(during school terms)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

JANETTE DUNN 4889 8002

HELENA WONG 4889 8157

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN...

Family BBQ ~ Sunday 3rd August

Instead of the Kids' Club program that we ran last holidays, we are organising a family bbq for Sunday 3rd August. Kid's activities will be organised, as will the bbq - so just bring yourselves!

Come along for a yarn and let us know what you are thinking. Some villagers have expressed interest in a Sunday school for the kids, others the opportunity to just get together more often!

We'll send out more details closer to the date. Hope to see you there!

Len and Leonie Jellaco ph: 4889 8464

THIRLMERE RAIL HERITAGE CENTRE

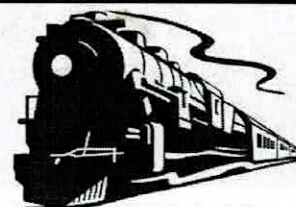
Open 7 days

Entry Discounts for Local Residents

Group Bookings Welcome

20 Barbour Road Thirlmere

www.nswrtm.com.au



(02) 4681 8001

REGIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX—UPDATE

A public hearing held in Hill Top on 30th May re-affirmed the communities strong opposition to the proposal for the Shooting Complex development in Hill Top.

Around 60 locals attended the hearing which ran from 11am till 5pm and was conducted via an Independent Expert Panel including Hon. Ian Armstrong (ex National Party MP) a noise expert and a planning expert.

There were 23 verbal submissions presented to the Panel in-

cluding submissions from the Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex Inc, the National Parks Association, the Colong Foundation, and a number of expert advisors on behalf of the Hill Top Residents Action Group.

Key evidence was provided by the HTRAG consultants including not only the presence of Yellow Bellied Gliders (endangered), but the existence of 2 colonies within the 16 hectare area to be cleared. Further evidence was provided as to the

nature of the site which was found by Dr Anne-Marie Clements to be an ecological sensitive sandstone/shale forest which could, on its own merits, warrant the development being refused.

The panel appeared to be considerate of all the submissions presented and will now consider the evidence and provide the Minister for Planning, Frank Sartor with a recommendation by the end of July.

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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

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.
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, on 48 898 151

ILLEGAL DUMPERS BEWARE



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~ RIDDLE ME SILLY FOR THE KIDS ~

1. What is bought by the yard and worn by the foot?
2. If three cats catch three mice in three minutes, how many cats would be needed to catch 100 mice in 100 minutes?
3. How can you physically stand behind your friend as he physically stands behind you?

1. carpet. 2. The same 3 cats 3. By standing back to back

Riddles by <http://riddles.com>

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

To place a FREE ad (non-business), Call Jodie on 0411 274708
or email: balmoralvillageassoc@yahoo.com.au

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

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