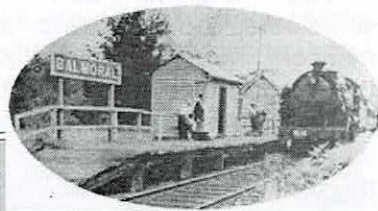


VILLAGE VOICE

AUTUMN 2009
ISSUE 38

A NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE
BALMORAL VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC.



FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE..

With the Victorian bushfires still fresh in our minds, now is the time to plan for next fire season. The fire brigade is doing this and urge all residents to do likewise. Over the upcoming months the brigade have a number of projects to help residents in their fire knowledge, safety and preparedness.

A community fire wise meeting at the Village Hall will be held to give residents information on making their properties ready for the next fire season, and to have a fire plan in place. We will aim for April to do this, if Fire Control staff are available.

The Brigade, with assistance from support brigades will conduct hazard reductions to the north-east and south east of the Village, if weather permits. Residents in these areas will be notified of the hazard reductions before they take place.

The brigade will also be doing letter drops to all residents of Balmoral Village to recruit new members. No experience is necessary to become a member, as all training will be provided by the RFS.

It is very important for residents to be made aware that if they

have an area they believe to be a Fire hazard that could impact on their property and assets, they must contact Fire Control or Wingecarribee Shire Council and make an official complaint so that action can be taken. The Brigade can not make these complaints on behalf of individual residents, but will play a role in acting on the complaints.

Containing a fire is much easier if it is acted upon in its beginning stages. All residents should call 000 if they see any smoke for it to be investigated as quickly as possible, and give the best description of the location they can.

Many residents will have seen pegs marking out the location for the extensions to the fire shed. It is hoped that construction will begin soon. Once the new shed is completed the brigade will hold an open day.

If you would like to become a member of the brigade, whether to be an active fire-fighter or to learn about fire behavior to protect 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.

Paul Malia on behalf Balmoral RFS

WINGECARRIBEE LEP BACK ON EXHIBITION

WSC have the LEP back on exhibition until April, 9 2009.

The primary document and an explanation of variances to the 2007 Draft LEP are available on the council website. www.wsc.nsw.gov.ua.

Alternatively, documents can be viewed at the Council chambers or Mittagong, Bowral or Moss Vale Library.

Community forums are being held at Colo Vale Community Hall on March 26th from 11am to 7.30pm.

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DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS
5 APRIL 2009 3AM
CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR

FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.....

I would like to thank all those volunteers, too numerous to mention, who helped out at the Associations sausage sizzle at Bunnings in December which raised around \$700 for the Village Hall.

I would also like to thank the Villagers who supported the 2008 Village Christmas Party and Carols at the Hall, and those who organized and ran the event.

Everybody enjoyed these

events, which also raised desperately needed funds to help pay the insurance and other outgoings on the Hall.

Thanks also to Jodie Laing who organized, and the volunteers who participated in the recent Cleanup Australia Day. It was surprising the large amount of rubbish collected by a relatively small amount of people, in a small amount of time.

The Association attempts to

retain the safe, friendly, clean, peaceful and pleasant nature of the Village but this can only be done by your involvement in the local community.

We have another Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 28th March and volunteers would be appreciated. Alternatively, you may just wish to come along for a snag & drink to support the Association.

Larry Wilson

FROM THE EDITOR.....

In this edition of VV you will see that the Balmoral Community has been extremely busy & social.

Plenty of photo's are included, so I hope that you come across your photo (at least once).

Welcome to any new residents in the Village, I hope you have the opportunity to join us at either the Balmoral Village Association meeting (temporarily on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Hall 7.30pm) or at one of the gatherings advertised in this edition of the VV.

I would again, like to thank our

advertisers for their support and I trust in return that the Balmoral community thinks 'local' when considering shopping or other needs.

The Clean Up Day was another great community event. The only disappointment being the extraordinary amount of rubbish collected in just 3 hours. Hopefully next year, with a few more volunteers we can cover more ground than this year however Wilson Drive certainly looks better for it!

Thank you also to those individuals that contributed prior to CUA because they were

unavailable on the Saturday. Also, big thanks to Bruce Fisher for donating the cold drinks on the day, greatly appreciated.

As always, contributed articles are welcome, so if you have been innovating on your property or have an interesting tale to share, please contact me directly via our email address:

balmoralvillageassoc@yahoo.com.au

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Jodie Laing

Devonshire Tea Morning

Everyone is invited to come along and enjoy morning tea at the Village Hall.

**Wednesday mornings
10am to 12pm**

If you are free – come along! The company will only be surpassed by the scones!

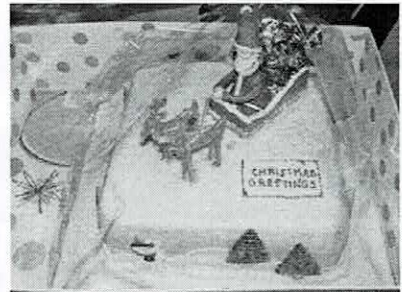
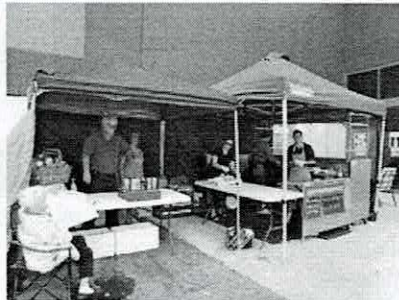
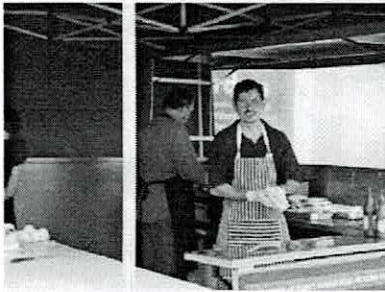
VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR BUNNINGS BBQ

The BVA will be hosting the BBQ on Saturday 28th March. If you have a couple of hours to spare on the day to volunteer at the stall, please call Larry Wilson on 48898151.

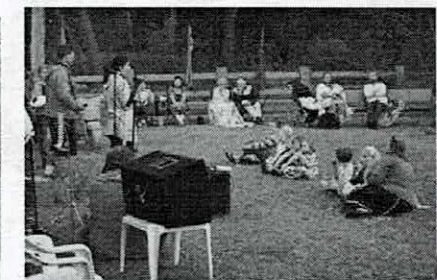
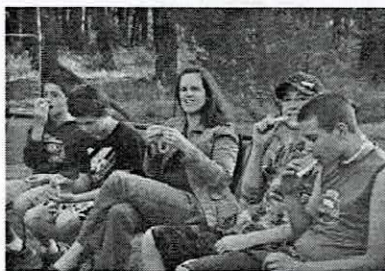
If you are unable to spare a couple of hours, please pop in for a snag & a drink to help raise funds for the Hall upkeep.

HAPPY SNAPS

Below: Bunnings BBQ—Sunday 14th December: Well supported & great thanks to Paul Malia for arranging the opportunity to raise over \$700 for the Village Hall upkeep. Thanks also to Ronni Wilson for donating the beautiful Christmas cake which was raffled on the day.



Below: Christmas Party Sunday 21st December: A great turnout for Santa and the Carols with the bbq run off it's feet.



THIRLMERE MEATS

Shop 4 Westbourne Ave. Thirlmere NSW 2572 - Phone/Fax: (02) 4681 8402

Mobile: 0438 842 085 or 0419 298 876

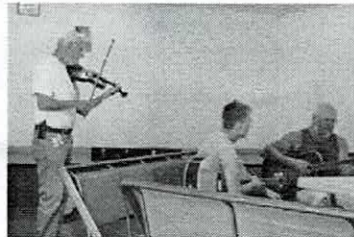
Email: thirlmeremeats@bigpond.com.au Web: www.thirlmeremeats.com.au

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More Happy Snaps....

Below: Balmoral Live Music Afternoon—Sunday 25th January: Well supported & great thanks to the organisers for arranging the opportunity for villagers and guests to listen to some great music. Photo's courtesy of Pat Lawrence.



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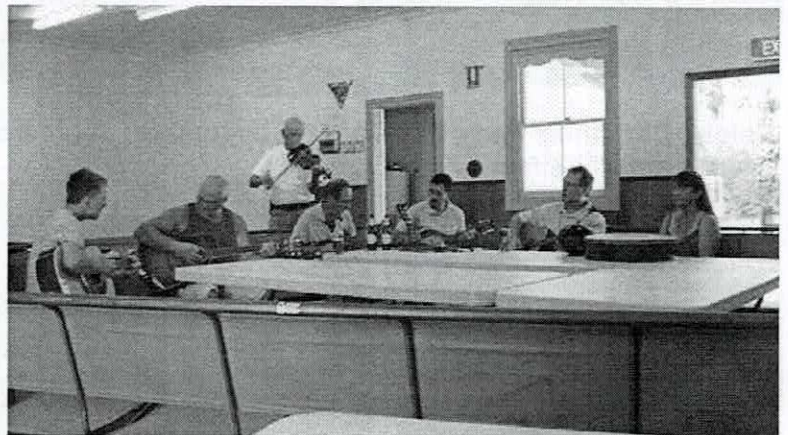
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Moxibustion (Chinese herbal
candle used over the body on
acupressure points to rebalance
& re-energise"*

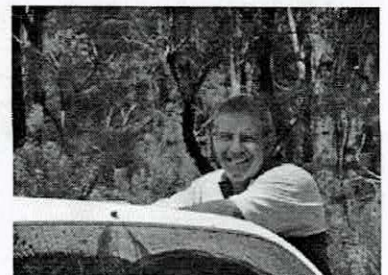
*All for only \$184.00
Save 30% on total package*

*Spend 3 1/2 hours being
pampered this April or May*

**Call 4889-9001
for appoint. Tue-Sat
1 FITZROY ST
HILL TOP**



Below: Clean Up Australia Day—Saturday 1st March
Thanks to all of the volunteers on the day & beforehand who collected around 2 tones of rubbish



THIRLMERE RAIL HERITAGE CENTRE

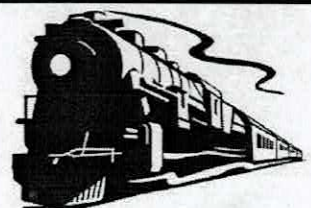
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Entry Discounts for Local Residents

Group Bookings Welcome

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THE BALMORAL GARDENER...

Thank heavens February is over. With all the heat in the first two weeks, and then a little drizzle for the remainder, the gardens haven't fared so well.

We lost all the azaleas in our garden, as we saw no point trying to keep the water up when it was so hot and dry. Probably the best performer was the Sasanqua Camellias. They laughed in the face of no rain since early December and 42°C in the shade temperatures. At least we were far more lucky than those in Victoria. As the weather cools, it is quite easy to get complacent and forget how easy a fire can go through a village such as ours. So please, keep in mind a few tips when gardening in this location:

Always keep your gutters free of leaves and debris. Trim branches that overhang your house, and remove any dead branches from trees (call in an arborist if you need help). Also keep the ground around the home free from debris.

Try keep an area of turf between the bush and your house. Keep this well mown, especially in the summer months (although in the summer just gone, we only mowed twice).

Try to use fire retardant plants when planning your garden. Lists are available on the internet, but some examples include Maples, Bay Trees, Photinias, Pittosporum, Camellias, Escallonia, Myoporum, Rosemary, Ajuga and Pigface. Under the right conditions, these plants will still burn, but they will do it at a slower rate than the bush. Most importantly, they will still be more resistant to igniting in the first place.

Try not to plant too many shrubs under large trees. If the shrubs ignite, this will allow the fire to get up into the canopy.

If planting windbreaks, try not to use plants such as the pines or conifers. Leighton's Green makes a great hedge, but will burn.

Hopefully there will be a number of lessons learnt from the Victorian fires, and preventative measures will reduce the chance of severe fires damaging our village.

Tom Cunneen is the owner of Braemar Garden World

WHAT'S ON

Saturday 28th March: Friends of Hill Top Memorial Hall Trivia Night 7pm for 7.30 start. Tables of 6—\$2.50 pp BYO Drinks (no glass) & nibbles. Great Prizes & fulfilled night for all.

Bookings essential 48899467 RSVP 24/3/09

Saturday 21st March: Buxton Village Fair Telopea Park Buxton 10am-3pm Theme 'Dress up as a Superhero' Prizes for best dressed. Stands, Rides & More. Organised by Buxton Public School & Buxton Rural Fire Service.

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PLAYGROUP UPDATE

Well - it's all started! We wish all the little people, who started school this year, all the very best! We do miss you. But welcome to all the new children (some very brand new!) and families. It's been lovely to make some new friends. With the horror of the Victorian bush fire the need to know and be connected to each other within our beautiful village is sadly emphasised.



We have been playing with the starting time a bit - it seems it may be easier if we start a bit earlier, around 9:30. Let me know! We want everyone to find it easy to come along. This includes coming and going as you need to. Sometimes just getting along for a cup of tea and a quick hello is great! **Staying connected** - the goal of playgroup! (and having fun too!)

This term we have some fun activities planned. We have planted some seeds, and will hopefully see some flowers over the next weeks. The jacaranda tree planted last year survived the summer blasting... just. It is a determined little tree, but may require replacing :^). Drawing with autumn leaves, making some musical instruments and an Easter egg hunt are all coming up.

If you have been planning on coming along - please do! We would love to see you, how ever often you can make it.



SHOOTING COMPLEX UPDATE

For those who are concerned about the new shooting complex being developed in Hill Top, the Minister for Planning, Kristina Keneally, has approved the \$5.6million building of complex capable of hosting up to 224 shooters at anyone time.

The current approval is for 4 days per week use between 9am and 5pm for outdoor ranges however this will be reviewed after the first 12 months of use.

The Minister also requires a number of management plans to be developed and submitted to her office prior to construction commencing as well as further Spring studies for threatened species such as Koala's. (The site is a recognised migration zone for koala's as well as habitat for yellow bellied gliders, microbats and other species).

The Hill Top Residents Action Group are investigating all options to oppose the development due to the ecological and social/safety issues associated with it and the impact the noise from the site will have on the community.

If you wish to write & complain to Ms Keneally, send your letter to:

The Hon Kristina Keneally MP
Minister for Planning and Redfern Waterloo
Level 35 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000.



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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.

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 small marquee tent, ideal for people having parties at home.

Contact Larry Wilson in advance, on 48 898151




PLAYGROUP


Tuesdays 10am - 12pm at the Village Hall
(during school terms)

CONTACT JANETTE DUNN 4889 8002 OR
MELANIE SMITH 4889 9755

ILLEGAL DUMPERS BEWARE 


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We'll FIND You	We'll FINE You	You'll Clean It Up

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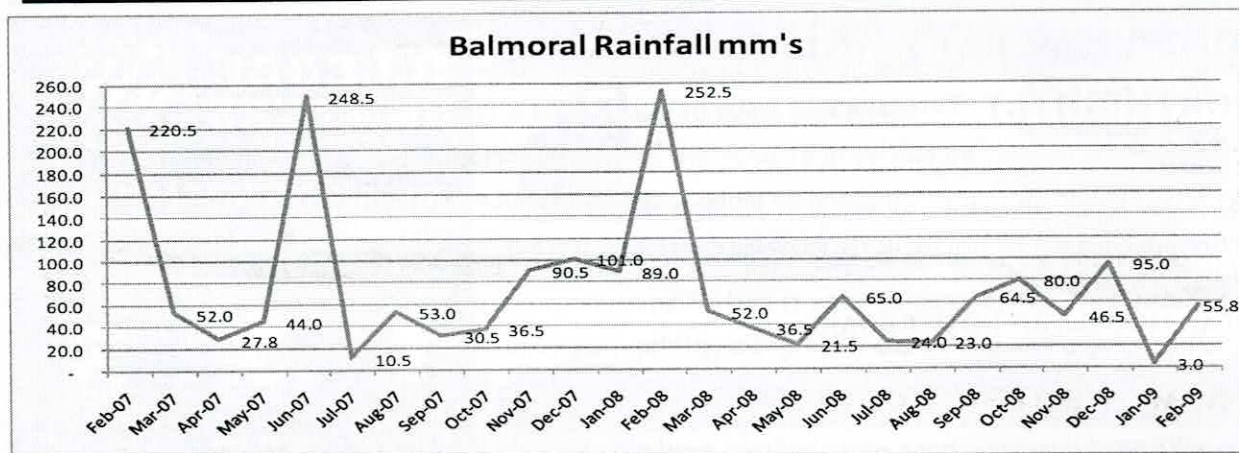
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THE VILLAGE RAINGUAGE



*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: Peter Lawrence Ph: 48898004 or Mobile 0427 932523

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 every Tuesday morning 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, Peter Lawrence 4889 8004
- * Hall bookings, Larry Wilson, 48 898 151
- * Bowral Police: 48 629 299

Balmoral Village Association Inc.
PO Box 87, Buxton NSW 2571

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