

# Village Voice

March 2014

A newsletter published by the Balmoral Village Association Inc.

No. 53



What a beautiful day we had in November when we had the garden planting at the hall by the people from the Bowral Garden Club, people from Hilltop and Bunnings who supplied many beautiful plants and the BBQ not to mention free caps for everyone and even helped with the planting –

Thanks Bunnings you certainly came through for us. The Bowral Garden club brought loads of lovely plants and worked like demons all day planting them and we are so very grateful to them for their generosity,, thanks Mary and Ian Woolfe from Hilltop

who were the power behind the whole thing.

Thanks to

Bowral Garden Supplies to Wariapendi Nursery and especially thanks to the Council who provided water, mulch and potting mix.



And thanks too to all those local people who came to lend a hand. Some people worked like Trojans all day and must have gone home totally exhausted – but what a lovely garden we now have to show for it. It's something for the



people of the Village will have to be proud of and for those who made it happen. They will have something enduring and growing ever more beautiful to show proudly to their grandchildren and say "I did that!"

It's absolutely beautiful. – now we have to look after it! The little town of Baradine in the Central North of NSW has a beautiful garden in the main street. It was built up by the local Council, cared for planted, and watered by the local people. Can't we do that?



## Village News

The Christmas Party was its usual great success. It was lovely to see so many people here especially so many visitors from neighboring villages. Our Christmas Party is getting quite a reputation! Unfortunately, there were not as many local people as usual, probably because our party happened to be on the same day as the Fire Brigade Christmas Party which was most unexpected - an unlucky co-incidence – we will have to check next Christmas and make sure it doesn't happen again.

It was unfortunate too that some idiot had cut the pipe from the water tank the night before and when we arrived there was no water, It took half the night to first identify the problem,

then to fix it but it all worked out in the end and we had a great night. Santa was his usual happy self – thanks a million Ian, you make the best Santa!

The Carols were great everybody singing along, the kids were a bit overenthusiastic about the Birthday Cake but it all went off well anyway and they had a great time decorating the Tree - many, many thanks to the mother who helped them  
The next one will be even better!

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The next Theatre Night is set for the 29<sup>th</sup> March. The name of the show is “Moonlight Over The Estuary” and should be a lot of fun. The tickets are \$15 per head and the performers ask that children under twelve not come as they do not want any distractions while they are performing. We will start at 7.15pm. Bring your own nibblies and drinks and there will be a light supper after the show. The last one was a great success even though we were surrounded by smoke and firemen and policemen all over the village - so come along and have good laugh – remember they say laughter is the best medicine. Please book early as the numbers are restricted and we don't want anybody to miss out. Ring Judith on 468 33365. to book in.

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The next Bush Dance will be held on Saturday 24th May. The last one was a real hoot! Great music, much fun and laughter, even little kids were dancing. Nobody knew anything about it when they came but they had a wow of a time learning. It was great entertainment just watching! You

can't be too old or too young there's something for everybody. So come along and have a good night. The Sausage Sizzle will start at 7pm and the dancing at 8pm.

Don't worry if you can't dance, we will show you how.

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The Council have asked us to complete an online survey about your experiences.

The Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre research will allow the NSW RFS to better understand how people react when faced with a bushfire. The information will be used to improve community safety programs.

There has been a good response from Blue Mountains residents. During the final weeks of the research project, the Bushfire CRC is hopeful Port Stephens and Southern Highlands residents will complete the online survey.

The survey will be completed by typing this link:

**[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp\\_content.cfm?cat\\_id=4613](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=4613)**

or GOOGLE Search: "nsw rfs online survey crc"



**Balmoral Village N.S.W. Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade  
News**

**PO Box 87  
Buxton NSW 2571  
Phone (02) 4889 8387**

**No Fire Permits are issued during the Fire Season and there is No Burning off Permitted, from the beginning of October to the end of March each year.**

**Brigade News:**

What a start to the fire season!

16,500h burnt out in both Wingecarribee and Wollondilly Shires, no lives lost, no serious injuries, no occupied dwellings destroyed, 2 unoccupied dwellings destroyed, some vehicles destroyed, some sheds destroyed and sadly some pets lost to a section 44 (state fire emergency). This in itself is amazing considering the ferocity in which this fire took off.

We did get a good touch up around the Village causing some damage on and around some properties, over all we faired well.

I was asked by a number of people why the fire even when it was gone from our Village was still called Hall Road, Balmoral Village.

The answer is that it gets its name from the beginning and until the end of time from where the origin of the fire was.

I would like to say how proud I am of your Volunteer Firefighters who recently undertook a 13 day fire campaign to protect our beautiful village and succeeded. The effort and time by the RFS Brigades and some of our residents who day and night patrolled the village was greatly appreciated, a big thank you to you all.

The support from our residents and people not living in our village was sensational, bringing in food, drinks or helping around the fire

station, filling tankers and making sure the firefighters were looked after.

A huge Thank you to these amazing ladies Tracy, Jill, Amanda, Janet who cooked, cleaned and took care of the station duties.

The feed back I have received from all Brigades coming here to assist us was that in all of their years of going away to fight fires they had never received the hospitality from residents or the other Brigade as they did here in Balmoral.

## **PREPARE**

You must make important decisions before the fire season starts

- Know and understand your bush fire risk.
- Prepare yourself, your family, your home and property for bush fires.
- Prepare a Bush Fire Survival Plan. Update it yearly if needed!

**“Preparing to Make a Bushfire Survival Plan is Not a Plan”**

## **ACT**

The higher the fire danger rating, the more dangerous the conditions

- Know the fire danger rating for your area and what you need to do.
- Put your preparations into action – don’t wait and see.
- Check your Bush Fire Survival Plan.

## **SURVIVE**

Fires may threaten without warning - know what you will do to survive.

- The safest place is away from the fire – your survival is the highest priority.
- Follow your Bush Fire Survival Plan and make decisions to protect you and your family.
- You need to know what to do if you are caught in a fire. You may be threatened by a fire without warning.
- Know the bush fire Alert Levels, monitor conditions and keep up to date.

**What you need to know about the Fire Danger Rating Sign located in the Village**

The Fire Danger Rating (FDR) is an indication of the consequences of a fire, if a fire were to start.

Be ready to act.

When the Fire Danger Rating is Severe, Extreme or Catastrophic, this means a fire will be unpredictable, uncontrollable and very fast moving. This means little or no warning about the threat of a bush fire.

The Fire Danger Rating should be your first trigger for activating your Bush Fire Survival Plan.

By choosing to Stay and Defend in the event of a bush fire you may be at risk of serious injury or death.

**If there is any doubt in your mind, you should leave early in the event of a bush fire.**

**When a High Fire Danger Rating and above is advised, you need to take it seriously and be prepared to act.**

## **Your Families survival may depend on it.**

On Hot, Dry, Windy days you should pay extra attention to the fire risk in our area!

There are actions you can do to save time in case a fire does start:

Contain pets so they can be easily found.

Move stock to fully grazed areas.

Check water pumps and generators.

Have your Emergency Survival Kit, Personal belongings and protective clothing ready.

Listen to local media, RFS website [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au) or telephone 1800 679 737 for updates.

The Brigade meets at the fire station the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm for our monthly meetings.

Training is on most Wednesday nights from 7.30pm.

For anyone that would like to help protect our beautiful village either as an active member assisting with hazard reductions and fire calls or as an ancillary member assisting in the fire station with radio and support work for the fire crews, please contact myself or another member of the Brigade and have a chat about how you can join.

Donations are always greatly appreciated and are used to purchase safety equipment to assist the people who help to protect you.

If you see us in the station drop in to grab an application form, or to just say hello and have a look around.

Captain Brendon O'Connor  
Balmoral Village Rural Fire Brigade

## **Kids' Korner**    Courtesy Ben Caves

A man was walking his dog one day when it ran away.- he hasn't found it yet but he does have few leads.

Q. Where did Sally go during the explosion/

A. Everywhere!

Q. What is bigger than an ant?

A. An eleph-ant.

Q. What is bigger than an elephant?

A. A gi-ant.

Q. If I have five bottles in one hand and five bottles in the other, what do I have?

A. A drinking problem.

Q. What do you call a cross between a centipede and a parrot?

A. A walkie - talkie.

Q. What do you call a cross between a sheep and a kangaroo?

A. A woolly jumper.

Q. What starts with P and ends with E and has a thousand letters in it?

A. The Post Office.

Q. What do you call a one eyed dinosaur?

A. A Doyouthinkhesawus.

Q. What did the policeman say to his stomach?



A. You're under a vest!

## Cookery Nook

### Cherry ripe Bites

4 cups desiccated coconut      400 gr glace cherries  
2 teasp cherry essence      1x100gr tin condensed milk  
A few drops of red colouring.

For dipping:-

375 gr dark chocolate      30 gr Copha

Combine coconut, cherries, essence, colouring and condensed milk in a bowl and mix well

Roll teaspoons full into balls and refrigerate until firm

Melt chocolate and Copha together. Re roll balls before dipping. Use a toothpick to dip them in the chocolate and set aside to set. They can be dipped again if required.

### Chocolate Almond Balls

125grms cream cheese chopped      1 cup Nutella  
325gr madeira cake crumbled      125gr Copha  
½ cup ground almonds toasted      180gr dark chocolate  
2 tabsps slivered almonds toasted and chopped  
Silver cachous

Line a baking tray with foil.

Beat cream cheese and Nutella in a bowl until smooth, Chill until firm enough to handle.

Arrange tabsns of mixture into balls. Arrange on prepared tray.

Melt chocolate and Copha in a small saucepan on low heat. Spoon chocolate mixture over balls to cover.

Roll in almonds and cachous

. Chill until firm.

## Poet's Corner

### Psychdelerium

Remember when "Hippie" meant big in the hips .and ""Trip meant a journey .by car, plane or ship

When "Pot" was a vessel for cooking things in and "Hooked" was how Grandma's rug might have been.

When "Fix" was a verb that meant mend or repair and "Be In" simply meant existing somewhere

When "Neat" meant well organized, and "G rass' was a groundcover usually green

When "Lights" and not people were switched on or off, when 'Pill' was something you'd take for a cough

When "Camp' meant to holiday outdoors in a tent and "Pop' was what that old weasel off went

When "Groovy" meant furrowed with channels and hollows and "Birds" were winged creatures like robins and swallows

When 'Fuzz" was a substance all fluffy like lint and "Bread" came from bakeries not from the mint.

When "Square' meant a 90 degrees angled form and "Cool" was a temperature just shy of warm

When "Roll" was a bun and "Rock" was a stone and "Hang Up" was something you did with the phone.

When "Chicken" meant poultry and "Bag" meant a sack and "Junk" was all old stuff like bric-a-brac

When "Crazy" meant balmy, not right in the head and "Jam" was a preserve that you put on your bread

When "Cat" was a feline, a kitten grown up and "Tea" was a liquid drank from a cup

When "Swinger" was someone who swung on a swing and "Pad" was a soft sort of cushiony thing

When "Dig" meant to shovel and spade in the dirt and "Put On" was what menfolk did with a shirt

Words once so sensible, sober and serious are making the 'Freak Scene' like "Psychodelerious"

It's "Groovy", man, "Groovy" but English it's not, methinks that our language has all gone to "Pot"

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It was election time and all the pollies were out meeting and greeting and shaking hands. John Howard went to an old peoples' home to try to win some votes. He went up to a dear old lady in a wheelchair and said "How are you today?"

She replied 'Good, thank you'

He asked "Do you know who I am?"

She said "No dear, but if you ask the nurses at the desk they should be able to tell you!"

BALMORAL VILLAGE HALL

# THEATRE NIGHT



SATURDAY 29th MARCH 2014

Balmoral Village Hall. Wilson Drive.

Doors open 7pm. All seated by 7.45pm

## 'MOONLIGHT OVER THE ESTUARY'

performed by

a comedy

**THE SMALL HALL THEATRE COMPANY**

ENTRY BY PREPAID TICKETS



# TICKETS \$15



Includes a light supper following the show

**TICKETS ARE LIMITED - GET YOURS EARLY**

Unsuitable for young children

## BOOKINGS 46819623

Email: [judithcollins@dragnet.com.au](mailto:judithcollins@dragnet.com.au)

CONTACT JUDITH COLLINS  
FUNCTION CO-ORDINATOR  
BALMORAL VILLAGE HALL ASSOCIATION INC.

BYO   
SNACKS & DRINKS