

Village Voice



May 2022

No 62

A newsletter published by the Balmoral Village Association Inc.

From the Editor:

Thank you to all the wonderful families and friends who came to the village Easter egg hunt and community BBQ. We had a great turnout with lots of new residents and many not so new residents. Keep an eye out for all the new events being planned for the near future.

The Balmoral Village Hall is owned by the Balmoral Village residents and maintained by a small group of volunteers, via the Association. It is not owned or run by council. We have a wonderful children's playground and tennis court with basketball and netball hoops. Soon we will have BBQ pavilions and exercise equipment added to this community facility.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to help with maintaining our beautiful hall anyway they can, especially mowing.

Contact: Jane Cunneen, BVA Secretary. balmoralvillageassociation@gmail.com



Wingecarribee Shire Council will be coming to the Balmoral Village Hall on May 12 at 5.30pm. This is your opportunity to engage with them about any concerns you have with our village. You can personally ask them about lack of paths, roadside mowing, general maintenance of the village, anything. The Balmoral Village Association encourages all residents to attend.

Join General Manager Lisa Miscamble, Director of Corporate Strategy and Resourcing Carmel Foster, Geoff King Director of Communities and Place and Karin Targa Director of Service Delivery and Projects for an overview of Executive's current focus for Council, introduction to the new Executive, a

Bushfire Recovery update and questions from the public will follow.

You will need to book, free of charge, at wsc.nsw.gov.au/council/our-Executive-Team/Executive-Listening-Tours or contact the Listening Tour Manager on phone 4868 0714

Historical Feature



From left to right, Noel Douglas, Peter McCarthy, Toni Malone with daughter Brooke, Leni Redman and Neville Mills in doorway, Ty Malone, and his dad Graeme Malone. Construction began in 1983. Photo taken in 1984.

Balmoral Village Mud Brick Toilets

The original toilets were two small, corrugated iron sheds. Men's were on one side of the yard, women's on the other, with pan toilets inside. It was evident new toilets were needed and in the early 80's it was decided to build a mud brick building, at very low cost. The mud bricks were made on site by Balmoral Village residents, guided by Steve Harrison. With many people stomping on mud and straw to combine them, they were then put into molds and left to dry in the sun. When enough were ready, the building was erected. The original toilets were pit toilets, later converted to what we have today.

The toilet block received a facelift early 2000. Over two weekends a group of residents repaired damaged mudbricks, mixed a cement/lime render mix to coat the walls and oiled the exposed timber. The result was a cleaner, easier to maintain interior and a more durable and longer lasting exterior finish.



Balmoral Village Hall

The original village hall in 1891, was known as the Mechanics Institute. Contrary to modern definitions the Mechanics Institute was used as a community hall to house free community education for teaching skills, sharing experiences and hosting community events. The original mechanics institute was destroyed by fire in 1936 and was rebuilt over 1938/39 where the existing hall remains today.

A letter from a late resident, Dorothy Brown (born 1915) from 1988 described the village hall:

The Mechanics' Institute was situated on the land where the hall now stands. It was built like a small cottage with a large hall attached to one side. In one room was the library, another room was used as the kitchen for the supper at the dances. Dances, concerts, church services and Sunday School were held in the hall. Tennis was played on the court at the rear of the building, usually on Wednesday. Mr Kerslake was one of the few players, who being the postmaster and storekeeper, closed his shop on Wednesday – it being the custom in those days to have Saturday afternoon trading. The school of arts was burnt down in 1936 by a bushfire, despite valiant efforts by the bushfire fighters. Teddy Ladbury, then a teenage, climbed in through a window and others passed buckets of water to him, until he was told to get out, as the fire could not be stopped. The new hall was built by builders from Picton.

More information can be found on the Balmoral Village website: balmoralvillageassociation.org.au Historic Balmoral Village, courtesy of Janine King.

Break-ins: Are you 'Neighbourhood Watching'?

Recent vandalism in Balmoral Village have prompted the Association to ask the question, "Are you watching out for your neighbour and community facilities? Obvious precautions include not leaving popular items for thieves (power tools, camera, etc.) in visible locations, as well as letting a neighbour know about your expected times away from your house. If any suspicious activity is noticed, residents should make themselves 'obvious' without approaching suspects or contact **Moss Vale Police on 02 4869 7899**. Open 24 hours. **Crimestoppers: 1800 333 000**



Balmoral Village RFS News

It has been a very quiet time for the Balmoral Village RFS over the last two years due to the weather and covid restrictions. Our members meet every Wednesday evening at our local station. If you are interested in joining the RFS or seeking any information, you can visit us on those evenings or contact our Brigade Captain or Deputy Captain.

A fact sheet has been produced by Wingecarribee Shire Council on Backyard Burning. This contains all the relevant information for our community. This can be accessed by visiting - <https://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/Environment/Environmental-Management/Pollution/Backyard-Burning>.

Following is a summary of the information in this fact sheet.

- Burning dead and dry vegetation from routine property maintenance is permitted in certain areas and under certain conditions. Across the shire, properties that are 4000 square metres and above are able to burn, provided that the property is not zoned medium density (R3). Burning is not allowed during a Total Fire Ban or on No Burn Days. A permit is required during the Bushfire Danger Period or where a fire is likely to be dangerous to a building. Contact RFS on 4868 5500. Only dead and dry vegetation that comes from the property on which the burn occurs can be burnt. Steps must be taken to reduce smoke and the impact on neighbours before starting the fire, such as ensuring the material is not wet, considering how long the fire will burn and taking wind and weather into account. The Rural Fire Services Standard for Pile Burning must be followed. The Standard can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. Give at least 24 hours verbal or written notice to adjoining neighbours before the fire is lit. An adult must stay with the fire until it is fully extinguished and have sufficient firefighting resources on hand to safely maintain the fire.

If you are planning to burn on your property, you need to let the NSW Rural Fire Service know before you light up. A notification form can be completed by visiting - <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/BFDP/burn-notifications>.

A reminder with the cold weather approaching to keep everything a metre from your heaters and make sure your chimneys are checked and cleaned before use.

Balmoral Village RFS Contact Information:

Captain - Peter Lawrence Ph: 0427 932523

Deputy Captain – Scott Marks Ph: 0409 907624

1914 recipe for ANZAC biscuits

Ingredients

190g (6 ¼ oz/2 cups) rolled oats
150g (5 ½ oz/1 cup) plain flour
165g (5 ¼ oz/1¼ cup) sugar
125g (4 ½ oz) butter, cubed
1 large, rounded tablespoon golden syrup
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
2 tablespoons hot water



Method

1. Preheat oven to 160°C (315°F/Gas 2-3). Grease two baking trays.
2. Mix together the oats, flour, and sugar in a bowl. Melt the butter and golden syrup together, add bicarbonate of soda dissolved in the hot water. Pour into the dry ingredients and mix well.
3. Roll into balls the size of a walnut (or a 10-cent piece) and place on the prepared trays. Bake for about 20 minutes until golden. Move biscuit positions while hot then allow to cool and crisp on tray.

Makes 40-50. Freezes well

Wildlife Tips with Inga

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU FIND AN INJURED NATIVE ANIMAL



Call **WIRES: 1300 094 737** (24/7)

If you cannot get through to WIRES, or there's a long waiting time (they can get up to eight hundred calls daily), you're welcome to call the two local wildlife rescuers/carers below:

Lorraine 0477 467770 (birds and possums only)

Inga 0417 218824 (all native animals, including snakes, monitors, bats, spiders,

advice on native species, also scanning of domestic pets)

Your local vets who take in natives are Thirlmere and Tahmoor Vets.

Let's say, you found an injured bird. The best thing to do is, get a box, cat carrier, tub (NOT a cage) ... put a towel on the bottom, if the bird keeps falling over, make a donut shaped towel to prop it up. Close the box and cover with a towel. Only a few small holes are needed for oxygen, punch about six holes approximately 10 cm up from the bottom of the box, on one side only, not on top of the box. Place box in a quiet area, try not to handle the animal too much, please do not talk to it, and call for help. Too much handling, noise or talking to native animals can cause extreme stress, in particular with birds.

Ducklings: same as above, please no water, ducklings are unable to control their body temperature and often die quickly of hypothermia if they get wet or cold.

Please do NOT offer water or food (same goes for all native species).

NB Please do not handle bats, koalas, snakes or monitor lizards)



Highlands Physical Culture with Tanya



We have had a fantastic start to the opening of Highlands Physical Culture. The girls and ladies of the community have made new friends and we have a lot of fun in our class. It is also encouraging to see the girls' confidence evolving and personalities shining! We believe that physie is not only good for our physical well being but more importantly our mental wellbeing. We are so encouraged to be able to bring physie to the Balmoral Village Community.

Regular Events at The Hall - All Welcome

- Art group. Mondays 10am-1pm. Contact: Ingrid 0400460696.
- Highlands Physical Culture. Tuesday afternoons. Contact: Tanya 0409736010.
- Playgroup. Fridays 10am-12pm.
- Music at the Hall. 1st Saturday of the month from 3pm. BYO Drinks & Nibbles. Contact: Paul 0427686449

Important Dates – All Welcome

- Next Balmoral Village Association Meeting. Monday 6th June, 6.30pm

Hall Hire

- Balmoralvillageassociation.org.au

Balmoral Village Association Contact

- If you would like a copy of the Village Voice emailed to you in the future or you have a date or information for the next edition, please contact Jane Cunneen, Secretary.
balmoralvillageassociation@gmail.com