

COWWARR CHRONICLE

Vol 04/7

April 2007.

Dates for the Diary.

Wednesday 4th. April 2007.

Landcare Meeting.

Everyone who is interested in forming a Landcare Group in Cowwarr there is a meeting

At: Cowwarr Public Hall (Supper Room)

Time: 7:30pm – Supper Provided.

Tuesday 10th. April 2007.

Wellington Shire Council Meeting in Cowwarr

The Wellington Shire Council & sundry Officers will be meeting at Cowwarr, so if you have any points to raise, then please come along and vent your spleen or, suggest some ideas that the Council should adopt.

Where: Cowwarr Public Hall

From: 7pm – supper provided.

Other News

Bushfire Clean-up Update

Lions, Rotary, and members from the GTLC and NAB continued the clean-up on Saturday 31st March. All the crews worked very well and looks like the hardest bits are nearly done though there is still work to be completed over the next few months.

Thank-you to the Cowwarr Gentlemen's Club for their hospitality (and loo) and Churchill Lions for a great lunch and continued support.

Annual General Meetings – Committees for the Rec Reserve and Cowwarr Public Hall Elections

Rec Reserve: Ray Bebbington, David Johnston and Brian Burleigh

Cowwarr Hall: Brian Burleigh, Peter Smart and Judith Stone.

Anyone who would like to be on these Committees of Management can be co-opted on at anytime or just contact any of the above if you have any issues about the running of the reserve or skills to offer.

Users of either reserve are always welcome to have input at meetings about how the Reserve should function.

CFA News from the Shed for April 2007

Proceeds from Lawn Mower Races.

The brigade thanks the local community for supporting the event and is extremely grateful for the donation of \$3,500. We are now challenged by how best to use it!

Serious consideration is being given to maximising the fire-safety equipment and preparation that can be achieved in the high fire-risk areas.

New Members and Minimum skills training

Only one course on offer; held at Maffra and running over six evenings, starting in May. Any takers?

Driver Training

We always need Tanker Drivers; nothing more frustrating than a crew with no driver. The plan is: those of us that can drive, volunteer to take trainees out for some practice. Once you've read the VicRoads Medium Rigid training booklet and the CFA training manual and you have worked out where the back wheels will track and reversed the tanker round a few left hand bends, CFA will organise for you to take the necessary test. So, we'll be putting up a list of tutors, trainees and available times at the shed, plus getting a stock of the training books.

Crew Leader Training – Course coming up

Do we have any starters? At the Training Ground, West Sale Saturday 21st April to Sunday 22nd April. Closing date 10th April. See Andrew or contact John Hamment at Region 10.

Fuel Reduction and Prescribed fires on public land.

The DSE is content that they have nothing left which will benefit by fuel reduction this year. That leaves the local CFA brigades the task of reducing the fuel build-up on road reserves.

Fire Danger Period Ends at 1 AM on Monday 2nd April.

Not everyone could wait. There has been a permitted burn up at the Weir. The important thing is that we won't all leap out in response to any whiff of smoke. This means that if your fire gets out of hand, you'll have to call 000.

Before it gets to that, if you are planning a burn that might get out of hand, you can contact any of our officers for advice and assistance. You may wish to borrow a slip-on, or it might be safer to have the tanker standing by.

Coopers Creek Wash-up

The grass is growing and this reminds me that the necessary Government enquires are moving significantly slower. We're practical people, we know that these enquires take time, but, if there's something that can be improved before next summer, we need to know about it by August so that we can have training, and a few test runs of the new system before we're thrown into the next fire season.

Stop Press

Red Cross Oak Tree to be Commemorated

You probably all know the Oak Tree (approx opposite the Pub) and some of the Grevillia Robustas that used to flank it. Unfortunately two of them went to make way for the new Library Bus and the others will go as part of the Streetscape Plan. The Oak will remain and Mrs. Olga O'Brien has kindly donated the original plaque and some photos etc., which will form a memorial to Red Cross in Cowwarr.

CCHA is working with Wellington shire about fencing off the tree and providing a rock or other structure to which the plaque can be permanently attached.

The date is still to be finalised – so watch out for a notice in the Shop, as we plan to have a slap-up afternoon tea and handover ceremony.