

COWWARR CHRONICLE

Vol 1/11

February 2011

Dates for the Diary

Sunday 13th. February Landcare Weed Workshop

For full details check the Cowwarr Landcare Group News on Page 2

Saturday 19th. February Variety Club Plant and Craft Day

Check out the details on the **B ack P age**

CCHA NEWS.

VANDALISM AT COWWARR PLAYGROUND

It seems that Cowwarr is not immune to vandalism with some recent damage done to both the playground equipment and trees uprooted close to the equipment. While the damage is done, we are hoping that someone in the community has either seen or heard something and will pass the information on to the police. The Wellington Shire have invested \$10,000 on the playground area and it is a shame to see the wanton damage occur in this small community. It makes it hard to ask for more money for other projects in town when this wasteful damage is done.

HALL COMMITTEE NEWS

Thanks to the volunteers who cleaned up around the hall in time for the Australia Day Breakfast. If you have an interest in keeping the hall area and gardens neat and tidy then please don't hesitate to ring Judith Stone or Helen Hoppner and register your name for future working bees. It is amazing what a few willing people can achieve in a short amount of time. We have a Coalition promise of 25,000 to be spent on the hall so any ideas would be welcome. We are also planning a working bee in the hall kitchen over the cooler months so please volunteer a few hours to make the kitchen more workable.

*****NOTED AROUND TOWN....Mature aged bike riders not wearing helmets.. does this send the wrong safety message to our kids who learn Bike Ed in School.????

Open Letter

As a member of the Cowwarr community I would like to Show my appreciation for the excellent work that has been done by the many volunteers over the past year.

The essence of a community is measured by those who give of themselves willingly with no thought of gain, I will not mention names but I will give you all an appreciation of some of the work that is done and those people who have given of their time and equipment will know they are appreciated.

To the many people involved in the Cowwarr Cutters Cup six months to organise two weeks to put together two days to pull apart this year \$6000 for the CFA and Community facilities.

To the people who keep the grass mowed around our local hall and the tennis club rooms something that has to be done all year round regardless of usage.

To all the people who have giving their time and equipment for the renovation of the Cowwarr Recreation Reserve surface and its ongoing upkeep.

To all the volunteers who have made the river area from the park to the Rail trail bridge a cleaner and safer place for the children of the town to enjoy, these works are ongoing and there is still plenty to do.

The facilities around the town are for all the community the hall, recreation reserve, river area, community garden and the tennis club are major assets and need to be looked after so our future generations have the ability to carry on in this lovely little enclave with its picturesque views of the mountains and surrounding hillsides.

I am a active member of the CFA, on the committee of the Football Netball Club, and Recreation Reserve and have been a member of the Hall and tennis club committees.

Being part of a community and volunteering can be both fun and rewarding and there is always room for one more.

Editors Note: In response to this letter will collate a comprehensive list of all Community Committees and the contact person/s so those new to Cowwarr can see what is going on and where they may be interested in helping out.

Cowwarr Landcare Group

We have received a substantial grant through the Caring For Our Country program for the revegetation of a part of the Swing Bridge Wetlands Reserve, adjacent to the Cowwarr Weir. Our first task will be to control weeds, with revegetation planting taking place later in the year.

On Sunday Feb. 13th at 10am. we will be holding a "weed workshop" on site with our target for the day being blackberries. Our second workshop will be on Sunday Feb. 27th at 10 am. targeting a variety of other weeds. The safest and most efficient methods of control for each weed will be demonstrated.

All members of the community are invited to attend; help with weed control would be appreciated, but if you would like to come just to look at the site and our plans for the area, you are welcome too!

Sturdy footwear, long pants, long sleeves, work gloves and a hat are strongly recommended. Meet at the first car park on "the island" at 10 a.m.

Landcare meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the WGCMA depot Main St. Cowwarr. New members are welcome: family / individual membership only \$10 per year. Phone Robyn Hoggins 51489312 for further info.



Notes from the Station
February 2011

Roster – February

Date	Driver	Phone	Crew	Phone	Hydrant
01	Dave Smith	5148 9344	Evan Walker	0410 961300	1
08	Kim Hoggins	0428 514 566	Robin Hoggins	5148 9312	2
15	Richard Hollonds	0427 489 283	David Johnston	5148 9231	3
22	Veggy		Brian Tyler	0428 399 348	4

Roster Duties

On the Tuesday preceding your roster appearance, the duty officer should contact one of the listed volunteers as a reminder, and to pass on the phone number of the other person. You can then arrange a time to take the tanker for a spin; visit the nominated hydrant and check for workability (and red-backs and snakes, etc.) and perform a quick flush.

On return to station, write a note in the vehicle log book. Please leave a note of any problems encountered. (Like the Hydrants that can no longer be found!)

Strike Team Roster

Our remaining dates for the fire season are the weeks commencing February 14 and April 4.

Our tanker may be required to join with Seaton, Glengarry, Boisdale and Traralgon East to form Strike team 1002. Should we not have sufficient crew, members from other brigades may be called on to work from our tanker. Should there be a strike team activation, our tanker will be out of the area until the strike team is stood down.

Use of Station Siren as Community Alarm device

There are arguments for and against the proposal to more systematically use the CFA siren as a community alarm. In favour: people within earshot warned of a problem; against: on a windy day, half the village won't hear the current siren. We could perhaps get a louder siren, or strategically locate a second unit for better coverage. These siren devices do need the mains power to be On. The CFA has no funding for implementing this kind of arrangement (Their funds focussed on using mobile phone technology to issue alerts.), so the Brigade would have to fund any upgrades or improvements.

CFA Training Courses Coming Up – if insufficient interest, courses may not proceed.

Crew Leader – Maffra – 3 nights, 2 days starting March 31

Suppress Wildfire – Maffra – 3 nights, 2 days starting May 3

Class A Foam – Maffra – 1 day – Sunday April 3

Full details at the Station, or contact Andrew to make a booking.

Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667

Officers: Captain Andrew Iseppi 5148 9339

Lieutenants: Anton Vardy 0417 380 329, Paddy O'Brien 0427 088 066,
Steve Felmingham 0429 344 009, and Veggy.

Secretary: Brian Burleigh 5148 9364 Treasurer: Ann Scott 5148 9079

MEDIA RELEASE

Heart of Gippsland

Contact:
Edith Maclean Tel: 5142 3653 or 0407 812 970

January 2011

LOCAL LAWS ON NOTICE

The Wellington Shire Council is embarking on a review of four local laws to ensure it continues to remain abreast of community expectations and priorities.

Mayor, Councillor Amos says, “Local Laws are the behind the scenes mechanism that ensures our community runs smoothly and safely.

“Most of the time people are oblivious to the existence of Local Laws which is a good indication they are working well; It means people are living in harmony, and the activities being pursued by other community members are not posing a threat to their peace of mind, health or safety.

Local Laws shape our community by establishing rules for what we can and cannot do, and create boundaries for where selected activities can occur.

The current review will focus on Local Law 2, Local Law 3, Local Law 4 and Local Law 5.

Local Law 2 Streets and Roads incorporates controls covering aspects of our lives including outdoor advertising; alfresco dining; road naming; shopping trolleys; horse riding; roadside trading; and parking management.

Local Law 3 Municipal Place relates to behaviour and smoking in public places; alcohol; and recreational services such as public swimming pools and the libraries.

Local Law 4 Environment covers a wide range of areas including septic tanks; chimneys and incinerators; circuses and festivals; keeping animals; and waste management.

Local Law 5 Livestock includes livestock on roads; droving and grazing; and associated permits.

“The Wellington Shire Council is committed to ensuring the services we provide remain effective in meeting the needs and requirements of our community.

“We know from our work in developing Wellington 2030, the community’s vision for its future, that people want to live in a safe and healthy community where everyone feels valued, supported and have the opportunity to participate.

“A sound raft of local laws is instrumental in delivering Wellington 2030.

All residents and parties with a stake in Wellington’s future are invited to participate in the review.

Council is encouraging people to comment on the draft revisions when they are released in March.

In the meantime if residents have specific concerns they wish to feed into the Review Group for consideration they may contact Manager Municipal Services, Carly Bloomfield by phoning 1300 366 244 or emailing enquires@wellington.vic.gov.au.

Council will also seek community input at the upcoming Business Round Table events scheduled for Maffra, Stratford, Heyfield and Rosedale.

“Only through rigorous review can we be sure the Local Laws are a true reflection of the peoples’ ideals and aspirations.”

###ENDS

Back Page

PLANTS AND CRAFT DAY

WHERE...At Hatch, Match n' Dispatch, the Old Church Cowwarr(opposite the Primary School) Church Street Cowwarr.

WHEN... Saturday 19th February from 9am till 2pm..or until sold out.

WHY.. To raise funds for VARIETY, the children's charity.

PLEASE BE QUICK TO BOOK A STALL SITE.
Ring Helen at the Cowwarr Hotel on 51489233

Outside sites for plants etc..... \$15.00
Inside tables for crafts (limited space)...\$15.00

GARAGE AND CAR BOOT SALE

There have been some enquiries about whether there will be another Garage Sale at the Hall this year.

If there is enough interest in Cowwarr – or maybe you really are going to clear up all that stuff you don't need anymore soon – then there is no reason why we cannot run one.

The suggested date was sometime in April maybe the 16th, or 17th. – if you are interested then please phone Judith on 5148 9364.

It will all depend on numbers of people wishing to sell stuff, otherwise it is not viable.



Supported by Wellington Shire Council