

TAINTED



Our Own News

Spotlight on Sophie Cook and Her Burlesque Troupe

Meet Sophie Cook, a dynamo who embodies laughter and a love for storytelling. She's the heart behind a burlesque troupe that started as just an eight-week course for local women ten years ago!

What began as a fun, safe space for ladies to embrace boldness has transformed into a vibrant production company with 11 full-scale themed shows under its belt.

Sophie's latest creation, titled Tainted, is a delightful fusion of Victorian burlesque and a live 90s grunge band. Yes, you read that right, think corsets and velvet paired with gritty guitar riffs.

It's an unexpected combination that somehow works beautifully. Though the troupe calls Wollombi home, they're gearing up for their biggest tour yet, with shows planned for places like Sydney, Newcastle, Maitland, Bungwal, and Katoomba. Sophie sums it up perfectly: "We'll always belong to the Valley, but it feels right to take it on the road. We've built something strong here." She attributes much of her and her troupe's confidence to the local creative scene, particularly the Valley Artists theatre group. "Wollombi is riotous. It's diverse. It's not sleepy at all," she says, emphasising the community's rich mix of families, farmers, artists, and more.

Sophie's own journey to Wollombi has a touch of theatrical flair. After moving from Sydney to a tranquil spot on Murray's Run, she discovered her new home was once a Buddhist monastery. And yes, she's even had a ghostly encounter there. "One night, I woke up to hear feet shuffling down the hall and felt someone at the end of the bed. Not scary. Just... present. I always assumed it was one of the monks checking in," she shares with a chuckle.

Ten years later, Sophie's burlesque troupe is woven into the vibrant fabric of Wollombi. It's a testament to creative spirit and collaboration. "We started small, but we were never small in spirit," she states. And if you need further proof of Wollombi's creative pulse, just catch a glimpse of their corsets and grunge guitars lighting up regional halls!

VALLEY CREATIVE TAKES OUT AWARD!

Cover : Sophie Cook Photo credit: veronfante/composition Euan Wilcox

Excerpt from the article from the Newcastle Herald...

Euan Wilcox's image, titled Mother and Daughter, has beaten out hundreds of entries to take the top honour in the Newcastle Herald Hunter Photography Prize.

The alpacas were his wife, Daniela's, he said, and the mother and daughter had always had a lively relationship.

"The mother was bitten by a red-bellied black snake when she was pregnant with her little girl," he said. "She nearly died, and the daughter is now very feisty. They have sometimes had a difficult relationship."

The judges said the image was brimming with narrative tension and life, commending it for its colour, tone and cleverly candid humour.

Mr Wilcox, who lives on a property at Laguna, said he had taken up photography only a few months earlier and had made a habit of sitting and quietly observing the animals on the farm to capture their unique personalities.

"I go out quite early in the morning," he said. "I just sit with them and try to capture their personalities. "I pick a subject and make a study and think about how I can capture it in a nice way."



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR

- 2nd Wollombi Garden Club meet p7
- 4th Family History Day 10am at School Residence. see WSCC p3
- 7th Wollombi Tennis Club- Pickleball p4
- 8th Pony Club—Rally day p4
- Ending 8th - 'Clay & Ink' exhibition at Fireshed Gallery p5
- 10th Seniors Week -Paint with Llynda P3
- 11th Life Drawing -Fireshed Gallery p5 for details
- 28th Book talk with Peter FitsSimons at PACC -P14

APR

- 6th Wollombi Easter Markets at the Saleyards
- 26th Tennis Club -Bunnings BBQ fundraiser



WSCC is supporting Seniors week offering "FAMILY HISTORY DAY " Wollombi. Yarramalong and Mangrove creek families get together 4 march School residence from 10:00am. Light refreshments with some walks through the cemetery across the road to find some ancestors.

🎨 *Paint with Llynda Nairn on 10 March 1PM -#PM arr 1245. Wollombi School Principals Residence Building*

A fun and relaxing paint-party experience!
arr 1245 please book with Llynda on 0425279939

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NSW SENIORS FESTIVAL MARCH 2026

Paint with Llynda



Location: Wollombi School
Date: March 10th
Time: 1pm - 3pm

All Materials supplied to paint 'Kangaroo Paws in a Vase'

No experience required to paint your own 40cm x 50cm masterpiece!

Enquiries and Bookings:
Llynda Nairn: 0425 279 939

Join the fun: \$55 per person

Paint & Sip event | Tea | Coffee | Biscuits supplied

Wollombi Valley Pony Club

What a fantastic first Rally Day for 2026!

It was wonderful to see all our rider & horse combinations back in action and to get a feel for where everyone is at as we begin the year. We loved catching up with both our long-time members and welcoming some new faces to the club!

The day kicked off with a warm-up in the sand arena before riders split into groups for a variety of activities, including showjumping, sporting and an obedient pony challenge.

It was great to see everyone working hard, supporting one another and having fun.

For our next Rally Day on the 8 March, we will be learning all about endurance riding with Cody & of course doing some fun and challenging flat work, sporting and jumping activities!

Looking forward to another great day together! 🐾



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PICKLEBALL - it's on again permitting !!) on Saturday 7th from 4pm.

Invitation is open to all family and friends so spread the word. Come & join in the play or just watch and chat. Drinks & nibbles will be provided.

Remember your water bottle (we do have water at the clubhouse if you forget) hat and suitable footwear for the courts.

\$5.00 for those who have played before, complimentary if you are a first timer.

It would be great if you could let us know if you are coming so we know whether to set up two courts, if you're not sure just come along anyway we would love to see you. If anyone is able to help set up the court/s from 3.15pm that would be fabulous, thank you.

SAVE THE DATE! 26th April—Visit Bunnings Cessnock to support our Tennis Club fundraiser!

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Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc. What's on at The Wollombi Cultural Centre

February – March 2026

The Wollombi Valley Arts Council encourages and fosters all kinds of artistic and cultural expression within the Wollombi Valley in order to support and promote artists and our community.

Please visit our website www.wollombi.org

We are now also on Instagram

'CLAY 'N' INK'

21st February - 8th March 2026

Open 10am – 4pm DAILY

A diverse selection of works created by the ceramacists and printers that share the Wollombi School Arts Studio. You are warmly invited to join the artists for the exhibition opening on Sat. 21st February from 3pm – 6pm

The Wollombi Ceramics & Printmaking Groups invite you to their upcoming exhibition:

CLAY 'N' INK

A diverse selection of works created by the ceramacists and printers that share the Wollombi School Arts Studio.

21 February - 8 March
Old Fireshed Gallery, Wollombi
Open 10am-4pm daily

Please join Jennifer Little, Dorothée and Luca Heibel, Sally Reinhardt, Michelle Loadman, Stephanie Vella, Rosie Hermann and Linda Wilkinson for our Opening Celebration on Saturday 21st February from 3-6pm.

Rosie Hermann - Stephanie Vella - Sally Reinhardt - Jennifer Little
- Michelle Loadman - Linda Wilkinson - Dorothée and Luca Heibel

Our next exhibition is 'PAINTINGS & MOSAICS' 14th - 9th March

LIFE DRAWING at the OLD FIRESHED GALLERY 2026

Wednesdays 1- 4pm \$20 - \$25

To register please ring Michael 0468- 730955

February 18, March 11, April 1 & 22, May 13, June 3 & 24, July 15, August 5 & 19, September 30, October 14 & 28, November 11, December 2

AMANDA BROBERG

Amanda has been an active member and volunteer for WVAC for over twenty years. She has volunteered in the Little Yengo Gallery since it opened in May 2016 and also served on the WVAC committee. Amanda was also a keen exhibitor with the Wollombi Ceramics Group,

charming us with her ceramic creations. We will miss you Amanda and wish you well in your new life on the NSW South Coast. Thank you.

Wollombi Valley Arts Council Inc.

Email: artscouncil@wollombi.org or yengogallery@wollombi.org

Web: www.wollombi.org

F/B: <https://www.facebook.com/artscouncilwollombi>

<https://www.facebook.com/littleyengogallery>

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HISTORY OF WOLLOMBI VALLEY TENNIS CLUB part2

To enable night tennis to be played, funds were found to have lights installed. The power box was attached to a telegraph pole situated between the current clubhouse (now storage shed) and the court entrance. The photo shows Mayor Merv Pyne & President Yvette Thompson, beside the amazing power box. The celebration was very successful, attended by excited club members.



Some people may be wondering when our current clubhouse came into existence. Plans for a basic one room building were approved on 3rd June 1996. This building was built by our club members Colin Harrison, Kevin Evans, Craig Harrison and Wayne Montgomery. These energetic members also constructed a verandah on two sides of the new clubhouse, after plans were approved by council in 1997. In 1998 Ray McNamara built the steps into the building, then work commenced on the inside of clubhouse. Costs were estimated at \$12,624 however Council refused a \$4 \$ grant for this work,



In October 1998, our club members were invited free to play on two grass courts at White City Tennis Complex, and lunch was provided. We all enjoyed the prestige of playing on the revered grass and the hospitality shown us, so we booked ourselves for the same deal in the following year.



In 1997 & 1998 a team of 4 played in the mixed Wednesday evening inter club competition with Mulbring, Kurri and Aberdare clubs. For the competition teams played alternatively at each of the four clubs, we won Premiers in one year. Unfortunately, Kurri club withdrew due to problems in their administration. At this time our membership fees were only \$15 per family. Negotiations for a lease of the premises was under way as some members were not sure if this was in the best idea for our club., some amendments were also needed to the document.



When the introduction of GST was introduced in 2000 it was decided to get the ABN which would make things easier to apply for grants.

Early 2004 Council donated a second-hand artificial grass surface to replace our damaged carpet, caused by the invasion of tree roots. Our dedicated members worked hard laying and sanding the matting. This used surface was not successful due to its previous wear & tear.



At this time President Colin was requesting Council to purchase the adjoining land that was up for sale. Council eventually purchased the said land after many emails and phone calls from our president.



Jan Harrison

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[See our back page for all organisations](#)

WOLLOMBI GARDEN CLUB

Hopefully it will be a bit cooler for our first outing of the year on **Monday 2nd March at 5.00pm – at Sonya’s place – 2 Prudence Street, Wollombi.**

Sonya moved to the valley 2 years ago and has been gardening up a storm since then. Her garden is a work in progress and has been a ‘Survival of the fittest’ as she learns what does or doesn’t grow in our valley. Sonya rescues lots of plants from Bunnings just to see what she can bring back to life. She loves a bit of colour and to pick things to put on a plate. She says she has had a few wins over her time here and I am sure she would love any cuttings or plants that you know to thrive here to add to her garden, so if you have any spare bring them along.

Directions: Drive down Wollombi Road to the Tavern. Turn left & Prudence St Sonya’s is 600m down the road on the left. Flags will be out.

From Laguna – Drive down Great North Road 7.2km, Prudence St on your right. Flags will be out.

Please bring along something to share if you can, a chair & your liquid refreshments. Tea & coffee will be available.

Please park at the bottom of the drive & walk up or if you need to drop stuff off, drive up, drop off & then park down the bottom.

Hope to see you all again in what promises to be another fun filled Garden Group Year.

Please RSVP to this email so I can tell Sonya how many to expect.

Regards

JUDY ZIEREN

Coordinator

Wollombi Garden Group

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**WOLLOMBI
ENDEAVOUR
MUSEUM**



The Wollombi Museum

As we live in an historic village I thought it a good idea to share some local history.

Melville John Jeremiah Justice Jurd was born at Yango Creek on the 1st of May 1929.

He left school at 15 and worked as a bus conductor with Rover Motors Cessnock before joining The Royal Australian Airforce then The Royal Australian Navy about which he comments "I couldn't take the discipline so went AWOL for 12 months".

Later he worked as a drink waiter, barman, bridge builder, bread carter and PMG linesman at Wollombi.

Mel eventually became the owner of the Wollombi Tavern and his greatest claim to fame

was that he created the legendary Doctor Jurd's Jungle Juice after accidentally burning the Tavern down on Christmas night 1959.

To be continued...

If you are interested in local history why not become a member of The Wollombi Museum.

We are offering 1 month free membership to locals for the month of March 2026 which entitles you to free museum entry.

Membership costs only \$25 person per year or just \$30 for a family.

Nick Glover

For information on becoming a member of The Wollombi Museum;

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Or Lindsey Self 04091239589

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Live Life in Colour at the 2026 Seniors Festival in Cessnock LGA

Cessnock LGA is gearing up for a fortnight of celebrating our seniors, with over 60 diverse events hosted by more than 20 local organisations and services from 2-15 March as part of the 2026 Seniors Festival.

From a workshop on how to make the most of life after retirement, CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training at Cessnock Pool, and emergency management and resilience sessions, to aqua fitness, tech help, performances, a drumming workshop and much more – there's something for everyone.

Cessnock City Mayor Daniel Watton encouraged the community to get out and enjoy all the festival had to offer, and to reserve a spot where necessary.

"This year's theme, Live Life in Colour, is particularly fitting as it invites our seniors to embrace their unique contributions, talents and stories," said Cllr Watton.

"The festival's program is rich with opportunities to connect and engage through a range of activities, make new memories, and celebrate the wonderful community we share."

Cllr Watton also thanked this year's sponsors, saying the festival would not be possible without their support.

This includes gold sponsors Calvary Retirement Community, Campbell Lifestyle Estate by Lincoln Place, Cessnock Plaza Day Night Pharmacy, Creightons Funeral Service, Green Ridge Hunter Valley, KFC, Northern Coalfields Community Care Association, Priceline Pharmacy and The Hermitage, along with silver sponsors Cessnock Hospitality Group, and Sidecar Roasters. The support of sponsors ensures the festival continues to expand and thrive each year.

Many events at this year's Seniors Festival are free, though some still need bookings, while others require the purchase of a ticket.

Visit Cessnock City Council's website and search 'Seniors Festival 2026' for the full program of events.

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Location: Hunter Valley, Newcastle, Port Stephens & surrounds

Email:
Lewis.Drinkwater@sirv.com.au

More info: sirv.com.au/lewis-drinkwater



SCAN HERE



Wollombi Valley
Landcare
Group Inc.

WEED OF THE MONTH

Giant Parramatta Grass (*Sporobolus fertilis*)

Look out for this invasive pest!



Photo credit: NSW WeedWise

Although a relative newcomer to the valley, there have been local sitings of Giant Parramatta Grass. It is a dense perennial tussock grass that is a relative of the shorter Parramatta Grass (*Sporobolus africanus*). While the shorter version is unwelcome, the giant version grows up to 2 metres tall and its branches may hang away from the stem, hastening the inundation of moist grasslands, pasture and riparian zones.

Giant Parramatta Grass has fan-like stems with long, thin pointed leaves up to 110 cm long. It produces green flowers from spring through to summer and sets sticky brown seeds that can be spread by water, animals, vehicles and contaminated stock feed. An extremely virulent tussock, Giant Parramatta Grass can set seed withing three months of its establishment.

Individual plants can be dug out but if there is significant inundation, alternative control measures will be required. Readers should consult the following sources:

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/GiantParramattaGrass>



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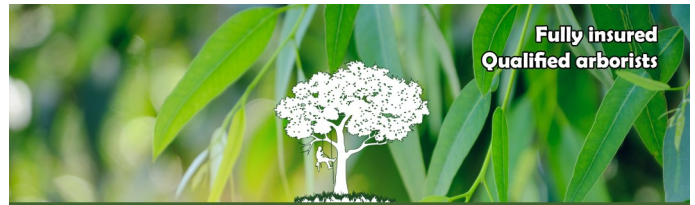
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WOLLOMBI. 24th March 1859.

POLICE - It is much to be regretted and has been the cause of loss and disappointment to many, the want of harmony existing between our only two magistrates when on the bench upon which they seem to mount for the sole purpose of taking opposite sides upon all matters brought before them.

However, as this subject will shortly be brought under the notice of the authorities, I shall not intermeddle therein further than by giving one small sample of how we manage matters at Wollombi. On last transfer day Mr Crothers applied in the usual manner for a transfer in his favor of the license of the Harp of Erin public house, situate in this township.

The Police Magistrate, after due enquiry into the applicant's character, fitness &c, expressed his willingness to grant the transfer sought for, the other magistrate (Mr Dunlop), however, refused his consent without giving any reason for so doing. The Police Magistrate thereupon said that he thought in justice to Mr Crothers that Mr Dunlop ought to state his objection, which the other met with a flat refusal, without showing a tittle of cause for dissent, and much to the surprise of those acquainted with the applicant, who deeply sympathised with him on account of this indirect attack upon his character, and the unexpected disappointment which he must naturally have experienced.

The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser.
Sourced Through Trove by Steve Sullivan.

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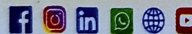

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Council Notifications which may be of interest to the community



Seniors Festival 2026 is in full swing, so don't forget to check out the wonderful program of events across Cessnock LGA!

The annual festival kicked off on 2 March and will run for a fortnight, with over 60 diverse events hosted by more than 20 local organisations and services. From a workshop on how to make the most of life after retirement, CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training at Cessnock Pool, and emergency management and resilience sessions, to aqua fitness, tech help, performances, a drumming workshop and much more – there's something for everyone.

This year's theme, Live Life in Colour, is particularly fitting as it invites our seniors to embrace their unique contributions, talents and stories. The festival's program is rich with opportunities to connect and engage through a range of activities, make new memories, and celebrate the wonderful community we share.

Many events at this year's Seniors Festival are free, but still require bookings. Visit Cessnock City Council's website and search 'Seniors Festival 2026' for more information and to see the full program.

Meanwhile, with applications for this year's Mayoral Scholarship now open (closing 9 April), we are seeking local businesses who want to support the program – which financially helps residents of our LGA achieve their educational goals at TAFE or university. The scholarship can be used to offset costs like course fees, textbooks, study supplies, and more.

If your business is interested in supporting this worthwhile cause, search Mayoral Scholarship Program on Council's website to find more information including a sponsorship form and prospectus.

Historian to uncover forgotten tales of Hunter coal mining horses

Cessnock City Library is inviting the community to a captivating free event that will shine a light on the unsung heroes of the Hunter's mining past.

Esteemed local historian Ed Tonks will present The Forgotten Horses of Coal Mining at Kurri Kurri Bowling Club between 5.30pm and 6.45pm on Tuesday 17 February.

From toiling deep underground hauling heavy loads to working in the colliery yards, horses were the engine room of daily mining operations. Their presence gave rise to unique skills and occupations, and many were known by name, remembered fondly by the miners who worked alongside them. This special presentation will explore their vital contribution and the special bond they formed with the mining community.

The talk will be delivered by Ed Tonks, a retired secondary-school teacher and one of our region's most respected historians. For nearly five decades, Mr Tonks has dedicated himself to preserving and promoting our local history. He has presented more than 1,400 talks on industrial, mining, and urban history, and is the acclaimed author of 23 books. His significant body of work was formally recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2019.

Acting Library Services Co-ordinator Andrew Powell said the library team was proud to host an event of such historical significance.

"We are thrilled to bring a historian of Ed Tonks' calibre to the community," said Mr. Powell.

"His dedication to preserving the Hunter's story is truly inspiring, and this talk offers a unique window into a past that shaped our region. These weren't just working animals; they were trusted companions and an essential part of mining life.

"We encourage everyone to book early for this fascinating and free event."

Bookings are essential for this event. Reserve your place by calling Cessnock Library on 4993 4399 or visit cessnock.nsw.gov.au/libraries and book under 'What's On'.

Media contact: Ed Tonks | ed.tonks@outlook.com

Peter FitzSimons delves into courageous life of Weary Dunlop at Cessnock as part of Newcastle Writers Festival

Cessnock City Library is thrilled to announce a captivating evening with Australia's favourite storyteller Peter FitzSimons, as he presents the gripping true story of Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop.

An Evening with Peter FitzSimons: The Courageous Life of Weary Dunlop will be held on Saturday, 28 March at 6:30pm at Performance Arts Culture Cessnock (PACC), located at 198/202 Vincent Street, Cessnock.

FitzSimons will bring to life the extraordinary tale of Weary Dunlop, renowned surgeon and prisoner-of-war, whose unwavering courage and exceptional leadership proved a lifeline for thousands of Australian soldiers on the infamous Thai-Burma Railway during World War II.

FitzSimons' latest book, *The Courageous Life of Weary Dunlop: Surgeon, prisoner-of-war, lifesaving leader and legend of the Thai-Burma Railway*, is a testament to the enduring impact of this remarkable Australian.

Attendees will have the unique opportunity to hear directly from the acclaimed historian, author and journalist as he shares how Dunlop's indomitable spirit inspired his fellow soldiers amidst unimaginable hardship, forging a legacy that continues to resonate today.

This event promises an insightful and moving exploration of resilience, sacrifice, and the power of human connection in the face of adversity, and is presented by Cessnock City Library in partnership with Newcastle Writers Festival.

Cessnock City Council warmly embraces this collaboration, recognising the immense popularity of Newcastle Writers Festival and its ability to draw thousands of attendees annually. The partnership provides a valuable opportunity for regional visitors to engage in a compelling author conversation within the welcoming confines of the PACC theatre.

Cessnock City Mayor Daniel Watton expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming event.

"We are absolutely delighted to host Peter FitzSimons for what promises to be an unforgettable evening," said Cllr Watton.

"Weary Dunlop's story is one of profound courage and resilience, and Peter FitzSimons is the perfect storyteller to bring this vital piece of Australian history to life. This event, in partnership with Newcastle Writers Festival, not only enriches our cultural calendar but also showcases Cessnock as a vibrant destination for literary and cultural experiences. I encourage everyone to come and be inspired by this incredible tale of heroism."

Books will be available for purchase and signing by the author following the presentation.

Tickets cost \$30 each and can be bought by visiting www.mypacc.com.au/Whats-on/26-Newcastle-Writers-Fest or by calling the PACC box office on 4993 4266.

About Peter FitzSimons:

Peter FitzSimons is one of Australia's leading non-fiction authors, known for his captivating storytelling and meticulous research.

His previous bestselling books have explored pivotal moments in Australian history, making them accessible and engaging for a wide audience.

Diary & Events

Church Services

St John's Anglican Church Wollombi is a festival church. There is a service at Christmas and Easter. Baptisms, weddings, funerals and other services are by arrangement. Please contact the Parish on 02-4991 4761 or 0418-269 892 or email: stjohncottage@bigpond.com

St Michael's Wollombi, Mass is on the 2nd and 5th Sunday of the month at 2pm

Wollombi Valley Home Church

Meets at Tennis Club
1st Sunday of the month at 2pm, followed by afternoon tea.
Contact Keith 0409-909 971 or Pastor Neville 0467-210 478

Crafty Yarns

Knitting/crochet group meets in Wollombi.
For more information contact Jane 4998 8158 or Jillian 0477 519 996.

500 Cards—Wollombi

commence at 6 pm on last Monday in the month.
Wollombi Tennis Clubhouse
Contact: Jan Harrison
janeceharrison08@gmail.com

Chamber of Commerce - Wollombi Valley

General Meetings held every 2nd month. See www.wollombivalleytourism.com.au for venue.

Fire Brigade—Laguna

Training 3rd Saturday of the month with breakfast at 8.30am followed by training from 9am to 11am. Laguna Fire Station. Members meeting 11am after training in March, June, September and December.

Fire Brigade—Wollombi

Training 3rd Saturday monthly 8.30am Wollombi Fire Station. Members meeting 11am following training in even months, All welcome. Enquiries to brigade@wollombibushfire.org.au

Fire Brigade - Bucketty and District

Training 3rd Saturday monthly from 9am - 12pm
Members meeting 4 times per year
Enquiries to: bucketty@lowerhunterffs.com.au

Garden Group

1st Monday monthly.
Contact Judy Zieren 0405-281845

Conversations en francais à Wollombi

Rencontres detendues pour ceux qui veulent parler francais a Wollombi. Nous nous reunissons les samedis une fois par mois vers 17 heures chez des particuliers. On discute l'art, l'histoire, la politique, la France – avec un bon vin et fromage bien sur.
Contactez: Gwen Lansbury, glsansbury@gmail.com
Ph: 02-4998 3141, 0451 693 376

Landcare Group - Wollombi Valley

Join us to learn more about caring for the land and the wildlife on it. We meet regularly for workshops, planting days and other events. New members are always welcome! Contact us at www.wollombilandcare.org.au or wollombi.landcare@gmail.com

Monthly Historical Ghost Tours

Newcastle Ghost Tours & Jo Potter Ph: 0411-357 519

Museum—Wollombi

6pm summer – 5pm winter, 1st Wednesday monthly except January, Wollombi Cultural Centre
Contact: David Roache 0400330760

or Lindsay Self

04091239589

Pony Club—Wollombi Valley

Every 3 weeks contact President Simone 02-4998 8214 for details

Playgroup (all kids 5 and under welcome)

10.30am every Tuesday, at Slacks Park Wollombi

Theology in the Pub discussion group:

4th Sun/month at Wollombi School Residence 2:00.pm

Wollombi Valley Community Association

Community meetings held 3rd Thursday of the month,

Wollombi Tidy Valleys

11am, every 2nd Thursday Bi-Monthly Wollombi School Meeting Room. All welcome. Contact—Bernice 4991 1688

Wollombi School Community Centre:

Committee meetings held 10am on 2nd Tuesday of each month. Venue is the Principal's Cottage on Cnr of Crawford & Wollombi Roads, Wollombi. Interested persons welcome.

Transport

Grape Experience Tours 0414 457 956

Wine country taxis Cessnock (02) 4990 1111

Sport and Fitness

Pilates Classes

Mat Classes are held Wednesday 9.30am & Fridays 10.30am.
Wollombi Community Hall
Contact: Susan 0403-270 365

Wollombi Tennis

Thursday from 4:00pm
Sunday 8:00 am
All welcome.
Contact: Julia Brooke 0403-500 381

Eureka Taekwondo

Thursdays 4pm – 5pm
Wollombi Community Hall
Contact: Steve Turner 0400-002 951

YOGA

Wednesday 7:30-8:30am Vinyasa
Saturday 8.30-9.30am Hatha Flow
Wollombi Community Hall

Zumba Classes:

Fitness With Milly Monday Wollombi Hall
7:45am HIIT
9:00am Zumba Gold
Friday Wollombi Tennis Club 8:30am Zumba
Contact: Milly Ph 0414-435 576

Services

Dog and Cat Beds and Accessories 0421 431 451
<http://growls-hisses.com>
houndsfelines@mail.com

Local Accommodation**Bellbird**

Tabitha Hill Cottage 0429 657 166

Laguna

Byora Farm House 02 4998 8227
 Ipakey Cottage 02 4998 3219
 Kawalang Studio –Bucketty/Murrays Run 0404 896 396
 Laguna Cottages 02 4998 3219
 Twin Pines Cottage 0403 083 381
 Valle Laguna 0408 809 471
 Valley Field Escape 0488 436 001

Millfield

Bellbird & Swallows Cottages 0414 786 705
 Neudorf Country Retreat 0414 920 013

Congewai

Brown Muir Cottage 0409 416 416

Wollombi

Applegums 0419 416 416
 Blair Athol Estate 02 4998 3323
 Capers Cottage 0409 305 285
 Cedar Creek Cottages 02 4998 1576
 Corrabare Cottage 0409 416 416
 Cowboys Cabin 0423 109 558
 Cranky Rock Cottage 0438 757 442
 The Farm @ Hunter Escape 0418 114 303
 Grays Inn 02 4998 3483
 Gypsy Willows 02 4998 3404
 Hollybrook Hunter Valley 0411 968 873
 Hunter Valley Escapes 0409 416 416
 Ironbark Cottage 02 4998 3427
 Maggies in Wollombi 0416 039 081
 Mystwood Retreats 02 4998 3234
 Myrtle Cottage Accommodation 0409 416 416
 Pepper Tree Cottage 0416 039 081
 Redleaf Hunter Valley 0412 566 637
 Somewhere Unique 02 4998 3257
 The Studios 02 4998 3182
 Tiny Escape 0426 891 870
 two8seven5 Boutique Stays 0437 977 798
 Undercliff Settlers Cottage 02 4998 3322
 Wild Edge Retreat 02 4998 3304
 Wollombi Barn Stay 02 4998 3221
 Wollombi Birdhouse 0423 376 804
 Wollombi Brook Family Farm Stay 0422 515 905
 Wollombi Bush Retreat 0432 156 396
 Wollombi Farm Country House 0416 039 081
 Wollombi Stays 0416 039 081
 Woodcutters House 0416 039 081
 Yango Creek Farmhouse 0416 039 081

Fernances Crossing

Willows Retreat 0249 988623

Restaurants, Pubs and Stores

Laguna Village Providore 0478-712613
 Millfield General Store 02 4998 1263
 Myrtle & Stone Cafe 02 4998 3220
 The Trading Post Laguna 02 4998 8244
 Twine Home Store 02 4498 3331
 Wollombi Café—Next Door 0408-599177
 Wollombi General Store 02 4998 3230
 Wollombi Tavern 02 4998 3261

A NOTE FROM THE OON TEAM

Our Own News is a Wollombi Valley Community Association (WVCA) initiative co-ordinated by volunteers.

Articles or advertisements must be emailed as a **word file** with photos attached as a separate **jpeg** file to **oon_news@hotmail.com** no later than the *15th day of each month* for publication in the following month's edition.

Articles are not edited but printed as received unless otherwise agreed and there is no guarantee of publication. Articles must be no longer than 200 words.

WVPA and the OON Team accept no liability for statements made or opinions expressed and are not responsible for the veracity of articles or advertising material.

Opinions expressed in OON are not those of WVCA or the OON Team, although they have the final word on content. If you are mentioning someone in an article please check details and facts with them and obtain their permission prior to submitting any articles for print.

All rights reserved: no part of artwork/photography for this publication in whole or in part may be reproduced without the permission of the OON Team. We welcome your comments by email. We hope you enjoy reading your copy of OON and thank you for supporting our community.

The OON Team