



# Disaster Averted - Wingello Community Wins

*Preparation and action combined to save Wingello from bushfire*

Last Friday Wingello would have been caught in a bush fire disaster if it wasn't for preparation, prompt assistance of the Wingello Rural Fire Brigade and the help of neighbours. I will let Sue tell the story:

*We were staying on our block on Friday 30 December, 2016, when we realised that our batteries were getting a bit low because of several days of cloud we'd had in Wingello. We decided to top them up with our generator. Around midday, Steve, my husband was clearing out our small garden shed, when there was a muffled explosion and the generator died. He looked around at the back of the shed to see a raging fire had taken hold of the generator and the hut in which it was housed. Knowing that there was around 20 litres of fuel in the tank he realised that the situation was serious. He ran down the garden shouting for me to call the fire brigade.*

*He started our fire pump and by the time he had unrolled the hose and got back to the hut with it, the fire had already started to creep into the ten acres of bushland next door. Fortunately, because of the high volume of water from the 40mm firehose, he was not only able to contain the fire but to have it out in less than two minutes and just before the arrival of our local firies.*

*The outcome could have been very different had we not received such great advice from the firies at the Wingello Fire Brigade Open Day we had attended. This knowledge stood us in really good stead during this incident, as we had gone out and purchased a fire pump and hose that could reach anywhere on our one-acre block and Steve had recently made sure that the fire pump was fully operational and fuelled for the upcoming fire season. The firies arrived promptly and set about checking thoroughly that the fire was fully out and that there was no residual heat. Not only were our local firies an amazing group of people, but all our immediate neighbours were there within minutes to offer their assistance, including the loan of a generator.*

*Great local fire professionals and great neighbours who are there when you need them... this is why we love being in Wingello!*

*A special thank you to all of you!  
Sue & Steve*

As we have often mentioned, Wingello is a great community where there is a great live and let live attitude but when challenges strike, we get together to assist. It is also worth noting the efficacy of visiting the Fire Brigade and discussing what they recommend for fire safety of your home and family. Although they arrived at the scene of the fire in an extremely fast time, fire doesn't like waiting and if Steve had not had the fire hose ready, the firies would have been very busy stopping the spread of a potentially dangerous bushfire situation.



Steve next to his burnt out generator. Notice the lovely bush that isn't on fire.



The remains of the generator shed.

**From all of here at the Wingello Village Store we would like to wish all the villagers of Wingello, their family, friends and visitors a very happy and safe 2017.**

Bin Collection	
Mondays	
January	
2	Both
9	Yellow
16	Both
23	Yellow
30	Green

Store Opening Hours	
Phone: 02 4884 4340	
Mon - Thu:	7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Fridays:	7:30 am - 6:00 pm
3rd Friday of Month -	Open till 8:30pm
Weekends:	8:00am - 2:30pm
Public holidays:	8:00am - 10:30am

**Library Bus**  
Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15  
In front of the park  
Jan 10, 24 Feb 7, 21

Fire season started on  
**1 October**  
No Fire Permits until  
31 March 2017.

We are open **Every Day** except Good Friday and Christmas.

## Wingello Happenings

The Christmas Carols in the park was very well attended with over 50 villagers singing along to time honoured classic songs after Santa returned to the fire shed after his trip around the village distributing lollies to lots of village children. Thanks to Anthony and the Wingello Village Association for arranging this event.



Anthony leading the Christmas Singers



Wingello Rain Chart												
Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum
Jan	45	45	64	64	87	87	27	27	205	205	142	142
Feb	129	174	304	368	320	407	112	139	73	278	40	182
Mar	70	244	160	528	27	433	192	331	34	312	52	234
Apr	63	307	62	590	68	501	44	375	166	477	19	253
May	84	390	15	605	47	548	32	406	52	529	36	289
Jun	84	474	80	685	310	857	56	462	58	587	337	626
Jul	39	513	25	710	18	875	9	471	51	638	60	686
Aug	67	580	13	723	2	877	290	761	196	834	57	743
Sep	53	633	23	745	65	941	31	791	39	872	61	803
Oct	81	714	26	771	25	966	78	869	56	928	36	839
Nov	75	789	60	831	84	1,050	46	915	48	976	47	886
Dec	47	836	32	862	37	1,087	263	1,178	33	1,008	63	949

### 26th January 2017 (Thursday) 11:00am to 3:00pm



Australia Day Picnic at Bill O'Reilly Oval. This will be an informal gathering so bring your own picnic and join other villagers to celebrate the day.

## Wingello Fire Brigade News

Well this year has certainly flown and we are now of course already into 2017. We hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Brigade has been busy over this last month with three fire calls from Wingello to Canyonleigh. Luckily nothing that the crews could not handle. The Brigade escorted Santa to the Wingello Primary school for their final week for 2016 and the children enjoyed his visit. These visits to the school children are pleasant and we hope they all enjoy their holidays.

The Brigade also did our annual door knock appeal and calendar drop around the village. We do thank all those that gave donations helping us to finance things for the crews and station that the Service does not. We do appreciate the help we get from the people of Wingello. We hope everyone received our 2017 calendar but if not we will make some available for you at Wingello store. We thank David Bruggeman also for his sponsorship.

Santa also visited Wingello Village on Christmas Eve and he was surprised at the number of children within our Village. Again we hope every child received a gift of lollies from Santa's Elves. It was great to see so many children and adults out to wave to Santa and his helpers.



Training nights continue and this month a joint exercise was held with a number of Brigades from the Southern end of Shire. I believe the exercise went well. Wingello Brigade along with many others in the Highlands have people helping out at the Cuboree at the Scouts camp at Cataract Dam near Appin this coming week, There will be two tankers and full crews manning them 24hours a day until the end of the camp, Should be fun and hope that the crews have slack time.

The weather we are having now is an indication of what we have in front of us. February and early March are generally our hottest months and as you know it does not take more than a couple of hot days to make the surrounding land fire ready. So please be vigilant and take care with BBQ's and take notice of the Fire Danger ratings and remember that Fire Permits are not currently being issued. This will be reviewed at the end of February

Again on behalf of all our Brigade members we hope you have had an enjoyable New

Years Eve and that 2017 will be a safe and happy one for all. Until next month Stay safe

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE

