

Why be  
anywhere  
else?



The new Starway area at the shop is ready and looking great for Spring

## Power to the people!

*Well, Solar Power to cut the Power bills might be a good start.*

Over the last few weeks plenty of locals have been noticing all the work happening on the roof of the store. We have now joined the renewable energy community with a Solar Panel installation that should generate enough power to keep the shop going primarily during the day.

As you would probably realise the shop uses quite a bit of power with all our fridges and freezers, commercial dishwasher and coffee machine and air conditioners. Combined they result in a scary quarterly power bill.

A number of people have asked how this all works so now is a good time to explain the system.

The advances in solar power technology and the experience of installers and power companies has changed the break even calculations. We have installed 70 panels capable of generating up to 20KW of power. For now we do not have a battery to store the power as we are monitoring the combination of power being generated versus power being used and seeing if there is enough of an excess during the day to go to local storage.

An effective part of the system is software which monitors the important parts of this equation. At five minute intervals we can see the power being generated by the Solar Panels and the power being used by the store. The difference is then either received from the grid or fed back into the grid. The power company then charges me for every KW we use (about 25 cents) and pay us about 9 cents for every KW we send back to the grid. The biggest advantage is that our usage tends to match the periods we generate power - during the day - so rather than pay for most of the daytime power usage we use what we generate. That is where the savings come from.

If a battery was put into the system, the power generated would first get used and any excess would go in to the battery. If the battery was full then the excess would go to the Grid. Power usage would come from the Solar Panels, and if that

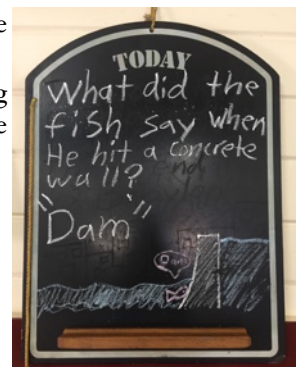


Great weather to install Solar Panels.

isn't enough then the battery and if the battery is empty, then the grid. Basically, the battery would maximise the amount of power we use from the Solar Panels and minimise the power we use from the grid.

An interesting side effect of the software is that I can tell when the shop is busy and when the big power hungry devices like the dish washer and coffee machine are being used.

With a week or so of varying sunny and cloudy days the results are looking good.



Bin Collection	
Mondays	
November	
6	Green
13	Yellow
20	Green
27	Yellow

Fire season start  
**1 October**  
NO Fires without a permit until 1 April 2018.

**Library Bus**  
Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15  
In front of the park  
Nov 14, 28 Dec 12

**Store Opening Hours**  
Phone: 02 4884 4340

Mon - Thu:	7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Fridays:	7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Weekends:	8:00am - 2:30pm
Public holidays:	8:00am - 10:30am

We are open **Every Day** except Good Friday, Christmas & Boxing Day.



## Wingello Happenings

### Upcoming Events

**Tuesday 7th November** – Melbourne Cup Luncheon. More information to be circulated and put on the Notice Board outside the Hall.



### Sunday 12 November - The Final Fling

Lots of bike riders will be coming in and through Wingello for the final Highlands Fling mountain bike ride. The Wingello Fire Brigade will be marshalling for most of the morning so no bike riders take wrong turns.

**Saturday 25th November** – Wingello Village Association General Meeting 2pm in the Hall

### SOON:

**Saturday 27th January** – Celebrations for the Centenary of the Hall

### Regular Events in Wingello

**1st Tuesday** 2:30pm: Meet and Greet with Guest Speaker  
(*\$2 donation, bring a small plate of afternoon tea*)

**2nd Saturday** 2-4pm: Craft/Music Afternoon  
(*\$5, tea and biscuits included*)

**3rd Thursday** 7-9pm: Indoor Bowls  
(*\$5, tea and biscuits included*)

**Last Saturday** 12:00pm: Ladies Dance

## Wingello Fire Brigade News

October and an interesting month to be sure. Weather wise we have had some small falls of rain that helped in and around our village but nothing to write home about. Forecasts are for a couple of wet months during this summer. Let's hope the weather guys are correct. At present we are still in a very dry time and have had many days of strong north westerly and south westerly winds that along with fairly high temps does not help the fire situation. Let's hope those wet months come true.

We have also had FDR ratings from low to moderate to a number of days high and very high. This month the Brigade has been called out to attend a number of fire calls and incidents. All were dealt with quickly and efficiently. Brigade training pays off at all times. Well done crew. Southern group training is still ongoing.

The brigade also had members in the combined Community Engagement team from the Southern Highlands to assist in the School Environment day at Lake Alexandra on the 17th October. The team had five schools come through our activity area and they all declared that it was the most fun of the day. Good reports from all teachers who were present with their class groups. I was pleasantly surprised at their knowledge of fire safety. The messages and school visits from the RFS teams and their schools are certainly paying off. It was a very enjoyable day with all the classes and a good effort from the team.

## Wingello School Spring Fling

The Wingello Public School Spring Fling has flung and was very successful. Congratulations to all the locals that organised, participated and joined in the many activities on the day.



The Brigade assisted with the parking at the Wingello Spring Fling and once again the children enjoyed the BIG RED TRUCK. I think there must have been dozens who went through the truck playing firemen /firewomen. The Community Engagement Team also had a great day with the children. It seemed a very successful day for the school.

Driver training has been going on within the Brigade and our first young female Fire fighter Lucy has stepped up and is on her way to getting her Licence for the Big Red Truck. I am sure she will do very well. Should be more of them. Keep up the good work Lucy.

And as always be prepared and stay safe.

