



No News is Good News

Isn't it great being able to live in a place with no daily crisis?

Since 2009 the Wingello Village News has been serving its purpose of providing locals and visitors with news and events that happen in and around and affecting Wingello. In a way it is an ongoing living source of history of what life is like in an Australian country village within a reasonably short distance from Australia's largest city, Sydney.

We read enough about tales of woe and worry in all the other news sources but if you were someone from the future trying to discover what life was like in the start of the 21st Century, I suspect these sources would skew your view of our times towards it being a very dark period indeed. There are many bad things happening in the world, near and far, but there are also many good things happening too.

One moment you read about a terrible thing in the paper or on the news and if you are not careful you will miss the lack of such terrible things in your normal lives and those around us. Often we are isolated from our neighbours with all the busy-ness of life with work, studies and more but life in a village like Wingello calls you to take a step back and breathe the fresh air and drink the fresh water.

On these lovely Summer days, step out and have a walk around the village. We have so many great gardens tended by

neighbours that every time you wander the view is different. Flowers and other plants are continually changing throughout the year and owners often have ideas to change and improve their gardens regularly. Their reward is not only the satisfaction of seeing their gardens grow, but a bonus is fellow villagers who wander past enjoying the view.

So, we have no dramas or what are considered "newsworthy" tales this month. What we do have are:

- local events you can join in,
- peace and quiet of village living,
- a policeman doing a great job patrolling the dangerous Wingello Railway Crossing intersection,
- hundreds of past villagers flocking back with great memories of their time in Wingello and
- generally a pretty good life.

We have also started a **Wingello History Snippets** section on the back page to share tales from our past. So much gets lost over time and this is a good chance to capture some history in the Wingello Village News.

When you look at the bigger picture, it's a bit hard to complain really.

Wingello Rain Chart											
Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016		2017		2018	
	Mth	Mth	Mth	Mth	Mth	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum	Mth	Cum
Jan	45	64	87	27	205	142	142	34	34	61	61
Feb	129	304	320	112	73	40	182	96	129	142	203
Mar	70	160	27	192	34	52	234	227	356		203
Apr	63	62	68	44	166	19	253	44	400		203
May	84	15	47	32	52	36	289	21	421		203
Jun	84	80	310	56	58	337	626	50	471		203
Jul	39	25	18	9	51	60	686	20	490		203
Aug	67	13	2	290	196	57	743	30	520		203
Sep	53	23	65	31	39	61	803	-	520		203
Oct	81	26	25	78	56	36	839	61	580		203
Nov	75	60	84	46	48	47	886	98	678		203
Dec	47	32	37	263	33	63	949	43	720		203
Total	836	862	1,087	1,178	1,008	949		720		203	

Glimpses of Wingello
This fascinating collection of historical and other bits of Wingello is available from the Wingello Village Store and WVA events.

Only \$35

A Wingello Village Association Project

Bin Collection Mondays

March

- 5 Yellow
- 12 Green
- 19 Yellow
- 26 Green

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

Library Bus
Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15
In front of the park
Mar 6, 20 Apr 3, 17

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

Good Friday, 30 March: Passion Play at Pauline Father's Monastery, Hanging Rock Road



The annual play will be held with over 100 people as actors and support and somewhere between 5,000 and 10,000 people attending. All are welcome. Play starts at 11:00am and finishes at 1:00pm, but aim to get there by 10:30am at the latest.

Regular Events in Wingello

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

2nd Saturday 2-4pm: Craft Afternoon.
Bring your spinning, knitting, embroidery, or whatever you're working on, enjoy a cuppa and biscuits
(*\$5, tea and biscuits included*)

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

On a Sunday to be advised - Book Club - see Bronwyn Fitzgerald for information bronyfitz@gmail.com

Wingello History Snippets

Following the publication of the Glimpses of Wingello book we thought it would be a good idea to capture history bits and pieces from locals and publish them here. If you have any local history tales, please drop us a line.

Did you know about Dead Man's Point on the cliffs behind Wombat Lane? Apparently there is an old Scotsman buried there by the name of Macpherson! I used to think it was a myth but the late Jack Dignam, little Jack, assured me it was true, that's where he wanted to be buried and told me his name!

A.W.

Did you know why Murrimba Road was called that? There was going to be a town named Murrimba! I have the old block layout map of the town at home!

[We will be getting a copy and putting it up on the wall of the Gallery Room at the store.]

A.W.

Back in the days before the fire (mid 1960's), the railway crossing gates were manually operated. Us kids would get up early and the first one there got to open the gates and look for a tip from the drivers we assisted. If the driver didn't want to give us a tip we just watched him and let him open the gates himself. It was a lucrative and popular position, fought over with other kids in the village.

One of the returning locals visiting the Hall Anniversary.

Wingello Fire Brigade News

Well this month has certainly seen changes in the weather system from high temperatures and extremely dry conditions to the days of just a drizzle to torrential downpours and strong winds and just recently some good consistent rain falls. This certainly has changed the fire situation in NSW.

At present there are only eleven active fires in NSW - a very different story from mid February where there was well over the fifty mark and some of them very large. The Brigade assisted in the Singleton Fire with a deployment of four along with Wingello 1 for four days. Then just after arriving back in Wingello they were called out to attend another fire call at Penrose. No time to catch their breath! Well done to the strike team. The Brigade also had another call out to a fire at Canyonleigh the next day, but since then we have been fairly quiet as far as call outs go.

This month we have had numerous days with a High, Very High Fire danger rating days as well as a couple of days of a Total Fire Ban (TOBAN). During a total fire ban you cannot light, maintain or use a fire in the open, or carry out any activity in the open that causes, or is likely to cause a fire, it also includes no general purpose hot works such as welding or gas cutting can be done in the open. In regards to barbecues, no Solid fuel BBQ's can be used outside during a Total fire ban, gas and electric can but under certain conditions. Gas BBQ's must be under supervision by a responsible person and

no combustible material within two meters and no further than 20 meters from a dwelling and also have a continuous supply of water available.

During this past month some brigade members have undergone a number of courses such as crew leaders and BF courses and assessments - we wish them the best in their efforts to enhance their skills in fire fighting. A number of our members are still doing driver training so as to gain their MR licence which allows them to drive the large tankers plus giving the brigade more driver coverage when needed.

Although we are entering the last month of the fire season and have had a nice lot of rain still be aware that March is generally one of our hottest months so maintain the vigilance and the care. Keep a watch on your FDR (Fire Danger Rating) sign and check out your "Fires Near Me" app whenever there is a presence of fire in our area.

As usual be prepared and stay safe.

Fires Near Me App



This is a great app which tells you about any fires that are near you. It is updated regularly and has proved very helpful during recent fires.

iPhones:

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/fires-near-me-nsw/id370891827?mt=8>

Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.gov.nsw.rfs.firesnearme.nsw&hl=en>