

# Getting the facts

It's quite easy to get the right information using local sources

Over the last month there have been a number of matters raised in the village with a variety of positions. We are very fortunate in Wingello in that those in positions of authority are very approachable and willing to get the right information to us.

#### **Does Council insist on Letterboxes?**

We have noticed that some new residences have been installing letterboxes and we couldn't understand the reason. All mail in Wingello is held at the Wingello Village Store and LPO for pickup or in the PO Boxes. There is no mail delivery here.

One new resident informed us that he was told that they required a letter box and rotary clothes line to count as a residence.

I was all ready to have a great headline "Council announces no one lives in Wingello!" and other fun stuff such as a photo of a letterbox on an empty block, but decided I should actually confirm with Council.

They were very helpful and Tony Payne, Coordinator Certification and Compliance for the Wingecarribee Shire Council answered me very promptly:

There is no requirement of Council to provide a letterbox or rotary clothesline. There is however, a standard condition of Development Consent applied to approvals of new dwellings, requiring house numbering to be displayed for property identification purposes.

There is often a BASIX requirement (State Government Legislation) requiring the installation of a fixed outdoor clothesline for new dwellings, but again this is not a Council requirement and Private Certifiers would be bound by the same legislation.

So if you are told that you need a letterbox in Wingello, let the certifier know they are mistaken.

# **Bush Fire Danger Period - when does it start?**

The Bush Fire Danger Period (BFDP) normally starts on 1st October. However this year there has been discussion to bring it forward due to the very dry conditions across Australia. This is determined on a region by region basis so a change in one area does not necessarily mean it applies here. Arron Deegan, Captain of our **Wingello Rural Fire Brigade** made this announcement:

Currently the BFDP has not been brought forward in the Wingecarribee LGA. This being said, I would strongly suggest that any property owner or resident that has vegetation to burn does so during the month of August in anticipation of it being brought forward to the start of September weather conditions permitting. All Wingecarribee Council regulations must be adhered to including, neighbour notification, notification to the Fire Control Centre at Mittagong (48685500) and the right to burn based on the new Open burning regulation that came into effect on the 1st April 2018, which clearly state property restrictions imposed by council.

The standard BFDP starts on the 1st October and runs through to 31st March 2019. During this period, burning without a permit is prohibited. Permits can be obtained in one of two ways. Contact the local Fire Control Centre at Mittagong (4868 5500) or by contacting the brigades permit issuing officers, which will be posted when required. These permits will

only be available until the local District Manager of the RFS suspends them due to weather conditions

Any and all changes to the BFDP will be posted on the the Brigade Facebook page and on the Fire Danger Rating sign located opposite the brigade station on Railway Parade.



## Glimpses of Wingello

This fascinating collection of histori-



cal and other bits of Wingello is available from the Wingello Village Store and WVA events.

### Bin Collection Mondays August

Yellow
Green
Yellow
Green
Green

# Fire season ended I April

Fires on properties 4000 SqM and over permitted.

#### **Library Bus** Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15

In front of the park
Aug 7, 21 Sep 4, 18

## 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

## Trivia Night - Satur day 11 August

The very enjoyable Wingello Village Trivia Night is back on Saturday 11 August. Only \$5 each. Book a table or join a community table.



Booking with secretary.wva@gmail.com.

#### **Regular Events**

**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)



You can now do your banking at the Wingello Village Store for the BDCU Alliance Bank. They have joined all the other major banks allowing for convenient banking at all Post Offices across Australia.

At the Wingello Licensed Post Office we offer a huge range of services including banking, telephone credits, Bill payments and more. Why go anywhere else? Find your bank or Credit Union at Australia Post:

https://auspost.com.au/money-insurance/transfermoney/bank-at-post

## Wingello Fire Brigade News

There has been discussion about changing the start date for the Bush Fire Danger Period. This of course is due to the long dry winter months without any beneficial rain fall and as we all know NSW and South Western Queensland are in the worst drought for many years. The powers to be are saying that this season could be very busy for our fire fighters. Refer to the front page for the brigade's official announcement.

The Brigade this past month has been busy with numerous call outs. Eight in all and they included Motor vehicle accidents, Pile burns that managed to get away from the owners and truck fires. We also attended a serious incident in Murrimba road. Our thoughts and condolences go out to the family.

The Wingello Brigade also assisted in the recent Holsworthy fire with a strike team of four led by our Senior Deputy Mark Wilson. The crew covered a night shift arriving home after 5am. Strike teams are busy and night shifts are tougher. Well done team.

The Brigade members continue to enhance their skills by attending various courses such Advanced Fire

## Want some chairs?

We are cleaning up at the shop and don't need these sturdy and comfortable dining chairs. Metal frames with cloth seats and backs, you can have them at no cost!

We no longer need them since our dining area upgrades and so thought some locals may find them useful



Fighting and Crew leadership. We have a number of our members participating in both these last few months. Keep up the good work.

During this month a number of us attended the RFSA conference at Rosehill. This was attended by the Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons and during the course of his speech he gave us the fire Stats for the 2017 – 2018 fire season. During this period we (RFS Brigades) attended 14,486 fires within NSW, there were 12 Emergency warning days, 36 Fires Watch and Act days, 22 Total Fire ban days (TOBAN), 16 section 44's. 74 structures destroyed and 59 damaged but through all this no lives were lost. A tough season but as I said, no loss of life. Well done.

The Brigade also had a get together with Bundanoon Fire and Rescue and from all reports went exceedingly well. These two emergency services work together many times as a team. Good to see.

As the 2018-2019 fire season is now upon us we must all remain vigilant and do the right thing. Remember to revise your fire plan with the family so you all know what to do in the event of a fire near you.