Why be anywhere



The Wingello State Forest remains closed

Still way too dangerous for general admission, but the end is in sight!



Bad news: Wingello State Forest remains closed. Salvage logging is still in progress, and as this image shows, there are still burnt trees along access roads.

No access allowed at any time.

The Council has the job of removing dangerous trees on their unmaintained roadsides on their list and we have been reminding them regularly that this is very important for safety of villagers and visitors. Locals near the forest still hear trees falling whenever we have windy days. The lovely rain we have had has softened soil around trees that are dead and trees fall at any time.

General public access is still some months away as logging trucks are everywhere clearing all the dead and dangerous trees. The public campsite is completely destroyed, but there are plans for a complete rebuilding of the site with much better facilities.

Highlands Trails (the clever people responsible for the mountain bike trails in the forest) now has permission from State Forestry to commence working bees to repair the

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damage caused by the bushfires, subsequent heavy rains, and the regrowth over the past summer.

If you are interested in helping them clear trails, build bridges and other cool productive outdoor type things, contact them at https://www.highlandstrails.com.au/ news/june-working-bees.

The Wingello Forest Horse Endurance Ride went well with almost 200 riders. The event was only able to proceed as they were restricted to the unburned section of the forest with strict organisational and entrance requirements. Thank you to State Forestry and the Event organisers for doing so much work to allow the event to happen.

Fire season ended 1 April Check if you can burn on In front of the park your property.

Library Bus Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15 Jun 8,22 Jul 6,20

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School News

Term two is speeding along and the children have been busy with a range of activities.

The 3-6 class recently attended a virtual reality lesson on the indigenous people of Australia.

They watched a story to understand how stories were told to keep Aboriginal traditions alive. They watched a group of elders perform a dance, and went on a virtual hunt looking for plants that were used for food and medicine.

K-2 are learning about "Changes all around", focusing on changes in the sky and land. They can identify changes made by humans and natural changes.

The whole school will be participating in the Small Schools athletics carnival on the 3rd June.

We wish them all the best for an enjoyable day interacting with other local small schools.

Finally, the P & C will be holding their AGM on 24th June at 3:15pm in the school library. All positions will be declared vacant, and all parents and community members are welcome to attend.

Information provided by Wingello School Parents

Wingello Fire Brigade News



May has come and gone, the weather has remained cool and relatively wet meaning that the number of fire call outs has been kept low for the brigade. The fire danger season ended nearly 2 months ago and people have been responsibly conducting pile burns and burn offs around the area. As a brigade we thank everyone who has been burning responsibly, contacting their neighbours and the brigade, and registering their burns at https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/BFDP/burn-notifications. Over May we have not been called to any illegal or out of control burns, Well done Wingello.

May saw the Brigade AGM take place and with it some changes in the brigade Operational and Executive leadership. Operationally we welcome Carlyle Seers to the rank of Brigade captain. Carlyle is well known to most people in the community, having been in the brigade for a long time and serving as both Deputy captain and Senior Deputy captain for many years. Mark Wilson, who has been captain for the last 2 years and seen the brigade and community through the 2019/20 fires and a global pandemic has taken the role of Senior Deputy Captain, working with Carlyle and bringing years of knowledge and experience to the role.

In the executive team we saw Michael Brearley step down as president after many years in the role. We are extremely thankful to Michael and the whole Brearley family for the contributions they have made to the brigade over the years in many ways. Michael has handed the reigns of president over to Arron Deegan who, as former captain now group captain and long-time Wingello brigade member is well known to everyone in the community.

As for the general brigade the work goes on. We have members continuing training in many areas, new members starting bushfire training, long term members working on their Crew Leader Qualification, and our weekly training continues every Wednesday night to make sure we are ready for anything.

Although fire related calls have dropped, the brigade has attended a number of motor vehicle related calls in May, with a lot of our new members displaying the professionalism and skills that regular training brings.

If you're interested in checking out the brigade, you are more than welcome to attend the fire shed any Wednesday night from 7:30pm to see what we are all about.



Information provided by Wingello Rural Fire Brigade