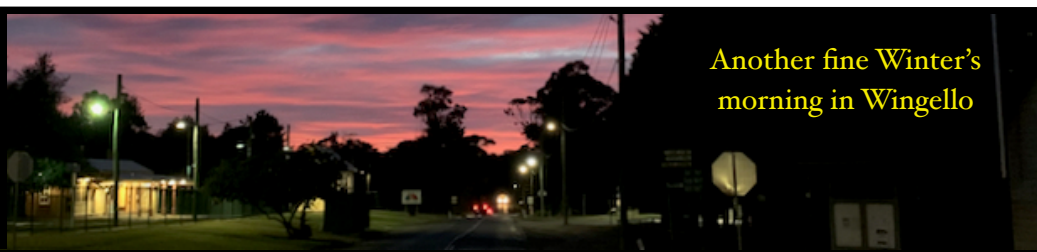


Why be
anywhere
else?



Another fine Winter's
morning in Wingello

Wingello Villagers still at risk from 2020 fire

Council unmaintained roadside verges still cause high risk - one rule for Council and another for us

On 4 January 2020 bushfires raced through Wingello, destroying much in its path. Despite villagers preparing their properties according to RFS guidelines, the Wingecarribee Shire stuck with its policy of refusing to maintain their roadside verges and banning anyone else from doing so. We call this the **"Let The Villages Burn"** policy.

A start was made to remove perhaps 50% to 70% of the burned and dead pine trees in July 2020, but many remain, waiting for the right time to fall on nearby homes, villagers and visitors.

Many in the village have been pushing for council to take care of their own responsibilities, not just in Wingello, but also Balmoral, Exeter and Bundanoon. One of the frustrating aspects is that if any of us failed in any of our responsibilities, the Council would come down hard on us and take legal action. Yet when we ask them to perform their own duty of care, it becomes a long drawn out process of request, plea, hounding State and Federal members, and getting some media coverage to move the leviathan.

This photo is from Camden Street. The very tall Pine trees are all dead, with branches dropping in each strong wind. After much negotiation with many organisations, the trees were finally marked with lovely yellow crosses in December 2020. It is now over 18 months since they died and to no-one's surprise, dead trees do not grow stronger. The tree line is quite thick and close together so that when one falls, others will also fall. And their lean is towards the homes across the street.

Extremely dangerous dead trees are also in Forest Road, Bumballa Road, further along Camden Street and more.



Burned and died 4 Jan 2020
Agreed for removal Dec 2020
Still here July 2021

The last few weeks we have seen Tree workers giving Murrumba Road and Railway Parade a bit of a trim and even removed one or two dangerous trees. Yay! A fine start, but it seems to be the typical piecemeal effort that Council always tells Wingecarribee Shire residents isn't good enough. If a resident proposed to comply with their responsibilities in such a disjointed and sporadic way, can you imagine the Council accepting this as OK?

If the dangerous tree was on private land and risked a neighbouring house, would council be so slow to act?

Fire season ended

1 April

Check if you can burn on
your property.

Library Bus

Tuesdays 2:15 to 3:15

In front of the park

Jul 6, 20 Aug 3, 17, 31

Order coffee and food by Text

You can place your order by text to our store mobile:

0492 966 558

Tell us your desired food or coffee and when you'll be in.
Let us know what customisations you want. (Extras, etc)

Bin Collection Mondays

July

5 Yellow
12 Green
19 Yellow
26 Green

Store Opening Hours

Ph: 02 4884 4340 / 0492 966 558

Mon - Fri: 6:30am - 4:00pm
Weekends: 8:00am - 3:00pm
Public holidays: 8:00am - 10:30am

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

Village News

Wingello Village Association

The Wingello Village Association will be holding their AGM on **Saturday 10 July 2021** in the hall, at 10 am. Their newsletter was distributed last week and if you missed out you can pick up a copy at the store.

Wingello Bushfire Relief Fund

The Wingello Bushfire Relief fund which was established amongst the embers of the 4 January 2020 bushfires, raised just over \$26,000. This was distributed to Wingello residents in 12 x \$2,000 and 2 x \$1,000 grants. This helped remove many of the burned and dead trees and debris on properties making all residents safer. If trees were not directly around the house, insurance would not cover their removal. The assistance from so many around the country - and even overseas - directly assisted those impacted by the fires.

Thank you to everyone that assisted.

Dungeons and Dragons

Peter is running his Dungeons and Dragons roleplaying sessions on Saturday 10 and 24 July from 9am to Midday.

This is a good opportunity to actually see what roleplaying is - an interactive story where all the main characters (players) get a say in how the story goes.

Quite a fun and imaginative time!

Council Candidates Visiting Wingello

Rachel Russell will be standing as an Independent Candidate for Council Elections. She will be at the Wingello Village Store on **Saturday 10 July 9 am to Midday**.

Jenny Bott will also be standing as an Independent Candidate for Council Elections. She will be at the Wingello Village Store on **Saturday 24 July 1 pm to 3 pm**.

It is a very good thing that those wanting to represent Wingello are visiting us. Take this opportunity to meet the candidates so you can make an informed decision on 4 September.

Wingello Fire Brigade News

June has been another quiet month for the brigade. Cooler weather with moisture filled air has prevented fire related calls. This has meant your brigade has been able to get deeper into training and getting all our newest members more and more experienced in firefighting techniques. As part of a new initiative for Wingello, we are starting a junior member program. Junior members must be between 12 and 17 years old and ready to be at training every week. Junior training will take place at the fire station between 6:00 and 7:00pm on a Wednesday night. Junior training will commence once the current covid restrictions are lifted. If you or children in your family are interested in junior training send your contact details to brigade@wingellorfb.org.au

It has also been a time for recognition. On Thursday 17th June the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Southern Highlands Team celebrated the achievements of dedicated members with the presentation of 33 long service and five national medals to volunteers, including a medal for our own Luke Straub for more than 10 years of service.

Luke has been an important member of the Wingello brigade for all of that time, serving on call-outs, being integral in the defence of Wingello during the 2019/20 fire season, training members and acting as equipment officer for many years as well. We're proud of Luke and his commitment to Wingello brigade and the wider NSW community

As you will all know, Greater Sydney has been placed into a Covid lockdown for 2 weeks. Due to the

Southern Highlands team spanning the Wingecarribee and Wollondilly districts, and Wollondilly being part of Greater Sydney, Wingello brigade is now operating under Level 2 restrictions as outlined by the RFS. For now this stops training but your brigade is still operating within the restrictions and ready to respond to calls as needed.



Luke recognised for his commitment

Information provided by Wingello Rural Fire Brigade