Australia Post

Use it or lose it

The Australian Parliament is currently holding an Inquiry into the Australia Post retail network.

Why does this matter to us?

Australia Post runs a network of over 4,000 retail outlets, of which around two-thirds are Licensed Post Offices (LPOs) — like Wingello, Bundanoon and Marulan. These are owned and run by individuals and families, mostly living in the communities they serve, and paid on the basis of transactions made through the LPO.

In a normal business relationship, the parent organisation wants its licensees to succeed, because their growth means greater success for the whole organisation. In years long past, Australia Post was run by people who had come up through the organisation. They understood what was involved in helping Australians send letters and parcels to friends, family and customers in Australia and around the world.

Today, Australia Post's management is increasingly criticised for lacking that frontline, real-world experience of dealing with customers and delivering mail. LPOs and contractors are treated as cost centres rather than valued partners delivering the essential services the whole business relies on.

As a result, in recent years the focus has shifted to maximising profits by cutting the cost of delivering these key services. Smaller LPOs — particularly in regional and remote areas and smaller towns — are not paid enough for the hours Australia Post demands of them. That's why most LPOs are run alongside other businesses, such as newsagents, chemists, rural suppliers or, like Wingello, cafes and restaurants. Income from Australia Post, combined with the other business, can just about make for a basic living.

Over the last few years there has been a steady decline in the services Australia Post provides, alongside a growing workload and far slower increases in payment.

The current crisis has arisen because many LPOs in rural and regional areas are simply walking away, leaving locals with no postal services at all. When a small LPO closes, there is no replacement mail delivery. It means travelling to the nearest larger centre — anywhere from 30 minutes to several hours away — just to get mail and postal services.

The Wingello LPO is currently in a reasonable position, thanks to a successful cafe and restaurant business alongside a busy parcel and mail service, banking and other services. But "reasonable now" doesn't mean safe long-term — the same pressures facing other regional LPOs are here too.

If you want these services to continue — daily mail, post boxes for 24/7 access, and local banking — you need to support your local LPO. That means sending and receiving your mail and parcels here, and supporting the business we're running alongside.

Once a local LPO is gone, it stays gone.

The Stonemason's Trail

Have a scenic drive of the Southern Villages and enjoy the statues Ken McDonald has carved.

https://www.visitsouthernhighlands.com.au/trip-ideas/the-stonemasons-trail/

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

Aug 11,25 - Sep 8,22

Bin Collection

Mondays

August

3	Green
10	Yellow
17	Green
24	Yellow
31	Green

Store Opening Hours

Ph: 02 4884 4340 / 0493 521 856

Mon - Fri:	7:00am - 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 & New Year's Days.

Lots of Wingello Events

The Men's Breakfast continues being a great time to gather and chat with no particular agenda. 9:00am on the first Saturday of every month at the Wingello Village Store is when we meet to have a general chat and solve the problems of the world - then do it all again next month.

(Next: 5 September, 3 October, 7 November)

Craft Afternoon

The Wingello Village Association sponsored informal craft afternoons and catch ups continue. Held on the first Saturday of the month in the meeting room of Wingello Hall 1 pm to 4 pm. Bring along whatever craft you are working on and enjoy the company of other crafters or just come for the catch up.

Cost is $5 to help with cost of hiring the hall and afternoon tea. Book the date.

Bush Babies Play Group

The Wingello Village Association has started a Wingello Play Group for Mums and babies.

It is every Tuesday during school term from 10am to 12 Midday at the Wingello Village Hall. Lots of children at every meeting. Great signs for the future of Wingello!

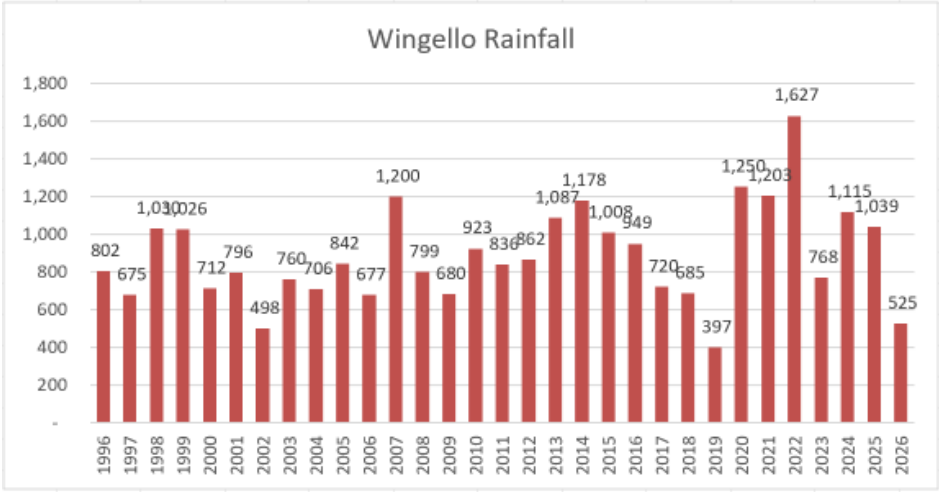
Latest Rain Chart

It's been pretty dry over the last few months. The chart is to end of July 2026.

146mm over the last 4 months. The average for the same four months over the last 25 years has been 253mm.

With current guesses for summer as being hot and dry, now is a great time to clean up and prepare.

Remember to notify your neighbours and the RFS when planning a burn.



Fire Brigade News

Winter is the time when Wingello RFB focuses on building skills and preparing for the upcoming fire season. It's also the perfect time to welcome and train new members.

If you've ever considered joining the brigade, now is the ideal time to take that first step. We're looking for new volunteers to help protect and support our local community.

No experience is necessary - full training is provided. Whether you're interested in firefighting, supporting community events, or helping behind the scenes, there's a place for everyone.

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills, make lifelong friendships, and give back to your community.

Interested? We'd love to meet you! Drop in and say hello at one of our training nights, held every Wednesday from 7:30 pm.