

THE BUNGONIA TIMES

The Community Grape Vine

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June, 2000

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DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

May 2000

2 nd	Friday	Park Trust Meeting 7.30 pm
3 rd	Saturday	Working Bee – Village Park
9 th	Friday	Bush Fire Brigade Meeting 7.30 pm
10 th	Saturday	Working Bee – Fire Brigade Shed
19 th	Monday	Progress Meeting 7.30 pm
19 th	Monday	Bungonia Times Deadline 12 noon

WORKING BEE IN THE PARK

SATURDAY 3RD JUNE, 2000

Come along and help keep our village park a lovely place to visit.

WORKING BEE AT FIRE BRIGADE SHED

TO BUILD NEW INTERNAL OFFICE

SATURDAY 10TH JUNE, 2000

It's your fire brigade, so be there and lend a hand.

This issue was printed by Business Requisites Russell Lane, Goulburn

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

Advertising Charges:

For Sale/Wanted	\$2.00	Half Page	\$10.00
(Maximum 3 lines)		Full Page	\$20.00
Business Card Size	\$3.00	Insert: (300 pre-printed)	\$10.00
Quarter Page	\$5.00	Double Page at Discount	\$30.00

Bungonia Times Deadline : 12 noon Monday 19th June, 2000.

Please ensure that all contributions are received by the above time and date. For late entries please contact Cherie Jenkins on 4822 4241.

Home Delivery by Mail: Send your mailing details to Pauline Dickson, 'Netherfield', 243 Lumley Road, Bungonia 2580 with a cheque for \$11.00 to cover the cost of postage for a year. Please make your cheques payable to "The Bungonia Times".

All Organisations fees are due on July 1, 2000

RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

Stay tuned next month for April's figures.

PATCHWORK & QUILTING CLASSES

Contacts: Pauline Dickson 4844 4202 or Cherie Jenkins 4822 4241

Every Monday at 9 am to 12 midday at the Bungonia Village Hall. If you would like to learn the art of patchwork and quilting, contact Pauline Dickson on 4844 4202 or Cherie Jenkins 4822 4241.

We have a new quilter joining us each Monday now, Susie Byrne (and James) have started to learn the fine art of quilting, and she is shown some good talents already. Welcome Susie and James!

Classes are only \$1.00 which helps pay for tea and coffee and if our teacher comes, we pay \$4.00 extra to help cover her travelling costs. Everyone is welcome.

PARK TRUST

President: Frank McGinity: 4844 4266
Treasurer: Diana Moran : 4844 4234

Secretary: Karen Fabri: 4844 4382

Next meeting Friday 2nd June, 2000, 7.30 pm

Playground Equipment. The Spring Rocker. Will be installed on Saturday 3rd June at the working bee.

Tennis Courts: Karen Fabri 4844 4382

The Park Sign: This will be erected on Saturday 3rd June during the working bee.

Working Bee: A working bee is to be held on Saturday 3rd June to install the Spring Rocker, erect the Park Sign, repair the Women's toilets damaged by a wombat and remove the branch of the pine tree from near the ramp and any other chores that need doing. If you can help us, we would love to see you at the Park between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm and if the weather is fine for a barbeque.

BUNGONIA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

President: Joe Leatherbarrow
Treasurer: Narelle Walters 4844 7007

Secretary: Diana Moran 4844 4234
Hall Hire: Moira McGinity 4844 4266

NEXT MEETING: 7.30 pm Monday 19th June, 2000 at the Hall.

Recipe Book: This is still on hold.

Hall: Our thanks to Heather Landow for the donation of a Lavender Bush which has been planted near the Hall sign.

DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH: This is a perennial problem. We don't want rubbish dumped in creeks or gutters or by the roadside but large bags of household rubbish left in the bins at the hall and picnic areas create problems. These bins are for picnic rubbish. Recycle as much as you can, bury food scraps and take the rest home with you if you are a weekender. Maybe this whole question should be discussed at a Progress Meeting with a Shire representative present. If you think so, either come to the next meeting or write to the secretary. If the Shire provides a garbage service beyond the one for the picnic areas, then all rates will go up to cover the costs, so it's in everyone's interests to find a solution.

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President: Shirley Smith 4821 5606 Secretary: Ruth Dole 4844 7179
Treasurer & Publicity Officer: Colleen Cooper 4821 1856

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 10th August, 2000 10.00 am

CWA of NSW recently held their 78th Annual State Conference at Goulburn. Our representative enjoyed being there and representing Bungonia. The Handicraft, Land Cookery, International and Cultural Displays were really lovely to see. The next State Conference will be held at Albury in early May 2001.

We held a very successful Market Day Stall in the village on Easter Saturday.

Our group will be going into recess until August 10th owing to insufficient members being able to attend meetings.

Colleen Cooper – Publicity Officer, CWA Bungonia

CHURCH NEWS

CHRIST CHURCH – BUNGONIA

Enquiries: Peter Dennelly 4822 4845
Cherie Jenkins 4822 4241
Minister: Rev Nick Hearnshaw 4821 4976

Keyboard: Judith Dennelly & Brad Griffiths

Next Communion Service Sunday 11th June, 2000

Communion is held every 2nd Sunday. There will be no church meeting on the 5th Sunday of the month as we all meet in at St Nicholas Church in Kinghorne Street Goulburn.

Group Study Sessions

Tuesday nights at 7.30 pm at Dawn & John Edwards home. Come along and enjoy a night with a difference. Phone Dawn for information 4821 5489 or Cherie 4822 4241.

GAS Group (Growth and Sharing)

Held at the Dennellys, contact Judith or Peter on 4822 4845.

June Cleaning and Flower Roster The Brooks Family

July Cleaning and Flower Roster: The Jenkins Family

CHURCH NEWS Continued

ST. PATRICKS - MARULAN

Mass is celebrated at 4 pm every Sunday

Priest: Father Kevin Brannelly's absence on sick leave and Fr. Bateman will be acting Parish Priest at North Goulburn. 4821 1022

Mass on Easter Sunday will be at the usual time 4pm.

BUNGONIA BUSHFIRE BRIGADE

Emergency Numbers: 4821 1914 Andy Smith: 4821 5009 or Bungonia Base

NEXT MEETING: Friday, 9th June, 2000 7.30 pm at the fire shed.

Contacts: **President** – Ian Maher 4844 4387 **Secretary** – Bob Atkinson 4841 1575
Captain – John Edwards 4821 5489 **Treasurer** Paul Bayliss 4844 4359

Captains Report

Just a short report to say all is going well with the cold weather approaching.

Lets just remember to check your fire place and chimneys and keep them clean.

Remember also, 10th June, 2000 will be the day we are going to start building the internal office in the fire shed. We will start from 10.00 onwards. **We need your help** so please spare a couple of hours with us. You don't have to be there all day but if you do come and help, we will be having a sausage sizzle for lunch. We are also going to check the trucks that day and clean out the old fire sheds too! So as you can see, we will be busy and will need plenty of 'hands on deck'.

Hope to see you on the day!

John Edwards, Captain

Chimney Checking: The brigade is willing to come and check and clean your chimney for a small donation. Its vitally important that your chimney is cleaned on a regular basis as turning your fire down allows a build up of unwanted tar inside the flue.

Brigade Dance: The brigade will be holding a dance later in the year, so keep watching this section for further details. It will be held to raise money for equipment for Bungonia.

BUNGONIA BUSHFIRE BRIGADE Continued

Maintenance Roster

If you can't make it on that day, organise with your partner to do it on another day or if you are unable to do it at all, please phone the captain.

10th June Working Bee to start building new office in shed, as well as truck maintenance all welcome

More names are needed for the roster to help us with the maintenance of the vehicles and equipment over the winter months, this will only take a small amount of your time one Saturday, Sunday or what ever day you and your roster partner decide. You can put your name down via Cherie Jenkins (for inclusion in the Bungonia Times as a reminder) or phone Andy on Bungonia Base or myself and give us a date you would prefer to help.

GARDENING IN JUNE

Well, this is a very quiet month in the garden so take the opportunity to clean up rubbish such as dead grass as it can be good protection for insect pests. If there is a surplus of clean leaves commence making a compost heap. Compost is the cheapest source of organic matter in the garden, also use lawn clippings, animal manure, shrub and tree prunings. Don't use newspaper, fresh sawdust or wood shavings, eucalyptus leaves or pine needles as they can damage the soil.

Start the heap by spreading the material to a dept of 20 cm, then give a heavy dressing of agricultural lime and complete fertiliser, then cover with a layer of topsoil, let the heap build up to a depth of about 1m. Regularly turn the heap, this hastens the decomposition and make sure the compost heap is kept moist, not wet. During the warm weather compost should be ready for use in about 10 to 12 weeks.

Its also a good time to start planting your fruit trees too. We can grow a good variety of fruit trees here but we do have to be prepared to spray them during spring and summer. Remember that some need cross pollination, so ask your nursery when you buy them. Also remember that citrus trees are very difficult to grow in our climate.

Vegetables: the only seeds you can plant are broad beans, peas and onion seedlings, you can plant rhubarb crowns which like plenty of rotted manure, compost, balanced fertiliser and during warmer weather, plenty of water. You can also divide your strawberry plants now.

Flowers: Seedlings which can be planted now will start flowering in the spring. Stock, pansy, viola, primula, wallflower, russell lupins, delphiniums, foxgloves, iceland poppies, sweet william and calendula.

If you have a garden bed that is not being used, turn the soil over regularly to open it up. The frosts will sweeten the soil for spring planting.

BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

June

07 Eric Dole
08 Heather Norris
16 Jarad Dickerson
17 Cooper Bawden

Birthstone: Pearl (meaning health)

Flower: Rose

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

LOST:

Lost, 5 goats, 1 black and 4 white does, 2 are wearing dog bells, missing for approximately 1 month. Phone Nick on 4844 4488

A DAY TO THINK ABOUT - SPAY DAY

On October 5, 1999, the first Spay Day in NSW was held. A total of 82 vets desexed 500 cats and dogs. That's 500 cats and dogs that won't be having kittens and puppies that nobody wants. Thank you to all vets, council officers, sponsors and individuals who made Spay Day 1999 a success. Thanks also to the Environmental Trust of the NSW Government for supporting this important project.

The support of all people will help keep animals in control, protect wildlife and reduce noise. If you are interested, just fill in the information below and request a vet for Spay Day 2000.

I would like to know more about Spay Day NSW. This is an enquiry only and does not commit me to participating. Post to: Spay Day NSW, PO Box R34, Royal Exchange NSW 1225

Name: _____

Address: _____

Ph: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

I am interested in: ☐ providing vet services ☐ sponsoring an animal ☐ promoting Spay Day

Comments _____

JUNE REPORT**WILLOWS -- CONTROL OR LIVE WITH THEM.**

Willows have been much maligned of late, particularly since the healthy Rivers Report. There is no doubt that some species which spread by producing viable seeds are a pest and should be eradicated if possible. However keep in mind Willows have been with us since early settlers and can almost be regarded as natives, having been part of the ecosystem for 200 years. They are fire resistant and an excellent drought food reserve.

The main problem has been the introduction of hybrids which can cross pollinate with other willows and produce seed. This has caused much damage in some of our river systems, but I do not consider this is cause to remove or try to remove all willows, especially in our area. They are beautiful trees and now a recognised part of our ecosystem

I read with interest the leading article in March issue of national Resource management on stream bank rehabilitation in New Zealand, By Robert Gregory – Massey University, on erosion control of a South Island River, quote:- "vulnerable soils wash away while heavy clay or areas with extensive willows or poplars remain. Rebuilding the banks to protect roads, houses and other structures can be achieved by clearing and planting with willows and poplars. Subsequent plantings of willows is essential with trees cut back every second year to keep as many small roots growing with vigor to prevent undercutting. Establishing several rows of willows appears to be the best way of handling erosion. Ultimate stream bank rehabilitation must include more forests of radiata pines upstream, greater diversification of species, reduction of stock damage and more and stronger plantings of willows and poplars....."

This is from the Journal of AANRM (Aust Assoc of National Resource Management Inc..

Inverary Creek Landcare has planted both willows (harmless varieties) and spreading poplars for erosion control and to create artificial wetlands with Cumbungi and will continue to do so after the successful results.

As far as Cumbungi is concerned (common Bullrush), it is a native species, which now thrives in semi permanent wet creek lines such as Inverary and Bungonia Creeks. The rapid spread in the last few years is an indicator of rising salinity levels, possible due to excess land clearing. It is an ideal silt trap to trap sediments on site, rather than them being transported downstream to water storage. The trapping of silt also locks up much of the available phosphors from pastures and animal camps. This in turn will help control blue green algae downstream. There has been an estimated rise in the creek bed of Limekiln Creek of almost a metre in 15 years.

Any attempt to remove Cumbungi is a waste of time and energy. It will recolonise as quickly as it is removed. Attempts to kill by poisoning can have undesirable effects, caused by the build up of dead organic matter which removes oxygen and can poison the aquatic ecosystem. I know of one example in our area of large fish losses in a farm dam by killing Cumbungi.

Removal of willows is also difficult. Any small branches left or brought down from an upstream flood will regenerate quite easily. Individual trees can be killed by stem injection with Glyphosate, but removal is time consuming and possible a waste of resources. It could well be better to clear access areas if required and leave the best of the adult trees. Learn to live with them and use them.

K.M. COOPER

LIBRARY NEWS

MULWAREE PROMOTION

PRE-SCHOOL STORYTIME

If you are coming into Goulburn for day and have pre-school age children come to the Goulburn Branch Library for Pre-School Storytime. Storytime takes place each Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00am during the school terms. No bookings are required.

Storytime is the opportunity for parents and careers with children under school age to come to the library for a 45-60 minute session, share a story read aloud and follow it with a related activity ranging from craft to games. Previous activities have included making a mother's day gift, pirate hats and farm animals.

Storytime offers parents/carers and their children the opportunity to meet new people and catch up with old friends and the chance to borrow from the wide range of library resources, including picture books and musical tapes. New resources are being added to the library collection on a regular basis so there is always different to borrow.

All you need to bring to Storytime is your library card, if you are not a member we can join you up if you have some identification with your current residential address such as a drivers licence and a willingness to get your hands dirty with glue and paper.

All children under school age are welcome to attend Storytime, but children between 3 and 5 years of age will receive the most benefit from the session.

The Goulburn Branch Library is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm, Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am - 7:00pm, Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm and Sunday 2:00pm - 5:00pm.

For further information contact Rowena Gibb, Children's and Young Adults' Librarian on 4823 4435 during business hours.

Desexed cats and dogs don't produce

About Spay Day NSW

What is Spay Day NSW?

Spay Day NSW is a community education project of animal welfare group, Cat Defence Network Inc., which aims to reduce the numbers of unwanted animals. The project focuses on desexing as the best way to reduce the numbers of animals that are dumped or destroyed.

The message of Spay Day is simple: **Desexed cats and dogs don't produce kittens and puppies that nobody wants.**

Why do we need Spay Day NSW?

Every year, thousands of cats and dogs are destroyed simply because there are not enough good homes to go around. The organisers of Spay Day NSW, councils, participating vets and others who care about animals want to do something to prevent this tragedy. Desexing is a practical way of reducing the numbers of unwanted animals. Desexing saves lives, money and time.

Who is behind Spay Day NSW?

Spay Day originated in the USA as a project of The Doris Day Animal Foundation. Since it began in 1995, over 250,000 cats and dogs have been desexed at discount or for free. In Australia, the first Spay Day NSW was held on 5 October 1999 as a project of Cat Defence Network Inc., a Sydney-based charity that raises money to desex and find homes for homeless and unwanted cats (and sometimes dogs) and the cats of people in need. Spay Day NSW 1999 was funded by a grant from the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust. The Domestic Animal Birth Control Society (DABS) also supported the project. Hunter Animal Watch and other groups expressed their support throughout the project and worked locally to ensure its success.

Who does what on Spay Day?

There are three important parts to Spay Day: (1) coordination of the project, (2) awareness of the aims, and (3) desexing of cats and dogs. Spay Day organisers coordinate the project — surveying vets, preparing promotional material, establishing databases, lobbying for support, etc. Spay Day organisers also ensure that the aim of Spay Day is well publicised and encourage the whole community to work together to reduce the numbers of unwanted cats and dogs. Participating vets promote the project and provide desexing services.

Reconciling the three components can be difficult:

- Spay Day organisers have as their primary aim the desexing of cats and dogs in order to save lives.
- Vets decide who they will service (whether all clients or a restricted list) and at what price.
- Owners want their animals desexed but many are unable or unwilling to find the money, or believe that they should be entitled to the same discount as others.

How did vets get involved with Spay Day NSW 1999?

Organisers compiled a database of about 300 vets listed under Animal Clinics and Hospitals in the telephone directory. They were advised of the project and asked if they would participate. About 75 agreed. Some vets not on the database contacted Spay Day NSW and said they wanted to participate. All participating vets completed a questionnaire saying how they would participate. Vets nominated the groups of clients they would serve under the project, the discount they would provide, and any other conditions.

Do vets receive funding?

No. The funding was used for a community education program. Funds could not be used to pay for desexing.

Who funded the desexing of animals on Spay Day NSW 1999?

Vets, their clients and sponsors.

Vets who participated in Spay Day NSW 1999 donated their time and resources, including medical supplies, by providing their services at a discount. A few provided services for free. Individual vets decided the discount rate and the clients they would serve on the day (pensioner, disadvantaged, all clients, etc).

Clients who had their animals desexed paid the fee set by the vet.

Sponsors were sought for people who needed assistance with paying the fee. About 25 animals were sponsored. The level of sponsorship was disappointing. Spay Day organisers wrote to all State Government politicians, all NSW Federal politicians, local councillors in the metropolitan region and the general managers of all councils in NSW inviting them to sponsor or subsidise the desexing of a cat or dog belonging to a needy person. One vet practice increased sponsorship by contacting local businesses. Two sponsors sold home-made jam to raise funds and publicise the project.



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Oallen Ford Rd, Bungonia, 2580

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kittens and puppies that nobody wants.

What did we learn from Spay Day NSW 1999?

People want their animals desexed

Spay Day organisers, vets and supporting groups received well over 2000 enquiries from people who wanted their cats and dogs desexed. This suggests that there is not so much a need for education as a need to make desexing more accessible.

People who don't desex their animals aren't necessarily irresponsible owners

The criticism is often made that people who don't desex their animals are irresponsible owners. Many people who contacted Spay Day genuinely wanted their animals desexed but said they had difficulty finding the money to pay for it. For some, the relatively small cost for daily care (including food) is easier to manage than the cost of desexing.

Vet practices are businesses and can't supply services for nothing

Organisers of Spay Day NSW recognise this fact. That's why we offered to promote practices in the media in return for the vets' participation in the project. Practices which took advantage of the offer of help with publicity and promotion received excellent coverage.

The media are important to the success of Spay Day NSW

Promotion of Spay Day included a comprehensive public relations campaign of media releases, backgrounders, interviews and personal contact. There were 75 newspaper articles, a dozen radio interviews and a mention of Spay Day on the 10 Network's *Good News Week*.

Some feedback suggested there was a need for more advertising. Advertising is relatively expensive so the project team decided against spending money on an advertising campaign, opting to use media releases and community service facilities. The success of the campaign depended on the media picking up the story.

The campaign resulted in the equivalent of \$217,000 worth of (paid) publicity.

All media releases provided details of participating vets in the area. Spay Day organisers received enquiries

from a number of media outlets wanting to know which vets were participating in their area. Where there were none, the media dropped the story.

We need a better system for putting clients in touch with vets

Participating vets nominated the numbers of animals they could desex, the clients they would serve, and the discount they would offer for desexing on Spay Day.

Callers to Spay Day (and CDN and DABS) who wanted their animal(s) desexed were asked what area they lived in, and whether it was a cat or dog to be desexed. They were then advised of the participating vets in the area, the conditions set by the vets (such as pensioners/disadvantaged only; cash on the day, etc). Prices and discounts were not revealed — callers were advised that these were matters to be discussed with the vet. No bookings were taken by organisers.

Vets suggested a number of ways of improving Spay Day: that a voucher system be employed so that people register in advance and pay a deposit for a voucher (this would also help reduce 'no-shows'); there needs to be more emphasis on the need to book in; Spay Day could run in winter to facilitate the desexing of maturing cats post cat-breeding season; the project could run over a week rather than a day (and not on a day after a long weekend).

Advertising free desexing caused problems for some vets

We acknowledge this and apologise to those vets and their staff who were caused embarrassment or inconvenience. Spay Day organisers expressed concern to the public relations consultant prior to the start of the campaign but were advised to publicise the fact as this would lead to greater publicity.

Callers to Spay Day seeking information on participating vets were advised of the conditions. Those who wanted to know about free desexing were told the facts — that not all vets were providing free services and, in most cases, the service was free only to specified clients. All callers were advised to discuss their needs and the rates with the vet practice.

* Actual figure according to feedback from 34 vets (42% of the 82 participating vets) was 423 animals desexed. The figure of 500 animals desexed is a conservative estimate. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the tally was well over 500 animals.

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