

The Bowen Mountain Association Inc.

NEWSLETTER

Issue No 141

Autumn

March 2020



In This Issue

Thank You Firies – Pictures from Bilpin

Christmas in the Park 2019

Rainfall Statistics before the flood

The Bowen Mountain Newsletter is a quarterly publication compiled by a sub-committee of the Bowen Mountain Association Inc. and delivered free to residents of Bowen Mountain and to Grose Vale Post Office.

For verification purposes, articles submitted for publication are to include the author's name, address or phone number. Unacknowledged articles will not be published.

This Newsletter is published by the Bowen Mountain Association to disseminate free and charged information for the benefit of the Bowen Mountain residents.

However, the Bowen Mountain Association does not guarantee, and accepts no legal liability whatsoever arising from or connected to, the accuracy, reliability, currency or completeness of any published material.

Permission to reproduce any part of the Newsletter may be obtained by writing to the address below.

Advertising

Bill Kerr – 0409 989 810

Email address for lodgement of newsletter contributions:

<bmanews@bowenmountain.org.au>

Newsletter Mailing address:

**BMA Newsletter Committee
37 Bellbird Crs, Bowen Mt. 2753**

**Website: www.bowenmountain.org.au
[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/bowenmountain.org.au) search for 'Bowen Mountain'
Park Hall Bookings:
www.bowenmountain.org.au/bookings/
[booking-community-room](http://www.bowenmountain.org.au/booking-community-room)**

**DEADLINE for June Issue
1 May 2020**

**COVER Koalas at Bilpin and Fire Pics
Bowen Mountain and Bilpin residents**

Subscriptions to the Bowen Mountain Association Inc. can be forwarded to: The Treasurer
Bowen Mountain Association
PO Box 3141, GROSE VALE 2753
\$10 - family \$5 - single

Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633 000

Account No.: 1182 44003

Account name: BOWEN MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION INC.



**PRINTERS
OF RICHMOND**

HOME OF
QUALITY PRINTING
since 2001

p. 0432 440 435
e. enquiries@printersofrichmond.com.au

From the Newsletter Committee

A land of drought, bushfire and flooding rain.

Over this past Spring and Summer, Australia has experienced them all.

Welcome to the Autumn 2020 issue of the BMA Newsletter.

In this issue we feature comments and photos from the recent fires as well as interesting excerpts from the August, 1986 Hawkesbury Gazette on previous floods.

The world certainly is a small place. Thanks for your article, Howard.

There is exciting information from the Park Management Committee and BMA who are in for a busy year planning several community activities.

See the Calendar of Events and mark these dates in your diary and offer your help if you are able. "Many hands make light work".

Do you have a story to tell, poem, recipe, traveller's tale? We look forward to your items for inclusion in the newsletter - email by the deadline to bmanews@bowenmountain.org.au text as a word.doc attachment and photos as jpg. Items can also be left in the mailbox at 37 Bellbird Crescent.

BMA Newsletter Committee

Newsletter Editorial Committee

Alison Kerr, Sue Hoare, Elaine Leahy,
Robin Woods, John Wulff.

Distribution Coordinator: Colin Chesterman 4572 1710.

Bowen Mountain Association Inc. Executive

President - Bill Kerr

Vice President - Lance Mitchell

Secretary - Alison Kerr

secretary@bowenmountain.org.au

Treasurer - Liz Rowan

General Committee

Sue Hoare, Colin Chesterman, Sarah Morgan,
Karl O'Rourke, Robin Woods, John Wulff

Arts Fest Committee

Sarah Morgan, Karl O'Rourke, Alison Kerr, Bill Kerr

Sub-Committee Coordinators

Newsletter -

Community Care - Liz Rowan

Webmaster - Chris Duckworth

Facebook Administrator

**BMA Committee meetings are held in the Park
Community Room on the second Monday of
each month at 7.30pm**

BMA Mailing address:

PO Box 3141, GROSE VALE NSW 2753

PRESIDENT and SECRETARY'S REPORT JANUARY – MARCH 2020

Yes.... its been a catastrophic start to the year with many friends having lost homes, livelihoods and livestock. Our thoughts are with them all especially the brave and often unsung fires and service people heroes risking their lives to fight the fires, rescue the trapped and bring much needed supplies to the isolated.

We were extremely fortunate to have many of these heroes in our area, Bowen Mountain, especially the local fires who toiled ceaselessly to ensure our much-loved mountain and its families were safe. The Grose Vale Fire Brigade have commented on how grateful they are to the Bowen Mountain Community who followed the instructions to evacuate, clean up their properties and generally co operate with emergency services in the recent fires that challenged Bowen Mountain.

The Bowen Mountain Association and the local RFS have organised a community "thank you" to the local fires, service people and Bowen Mountain Community. A BBQ, drinks, entertainment, children's activities and interviews with key emergency service representatives, council and government representatives will take place. This is an opportunity for people to thank all the emergency

services that have kept our mountain safe to date.

The recent fire situation has kept the Bowen Mountain Association busy at the end of last year and this year liaising with the local RFS, Council and government representatives. A special thank you to Lance Mitchell who worked tirelessly "behind the scenes" communicating with local RFS to ensure we were all kept up to date on the mountain via our various social media sites. A special double page spread with photos documents the recent fires. Thank you to Lance and others for their sensitive and poignant documentation of the fires.

The BMA is planning an abundance of entertaining activities for 2020, which are on the advanced calendar in this newsletter. On behalf of the Bowen Mountain Association, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe, wet 2020. We have shown that we are a strong and resilient community who care for and assist each other in the face of adversity. Thank you to everyone for the wonderful display of community spirit and care.

Bill and Alison Kerr

President and Secretary, Bowen Mountain Association

2020 BMA CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

MARCH	Monday 9th 7:30 pm Tuesday 17th 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall BMA Dinner – St. Patrick's Day- All Welcome Thai Angelina, 221 Windsor St., Richmond.
APRIL	Saturday 4th 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Monday 13th 7:30 pm	Car Boot Sale, Market Day and Sustainability Fair – Bowen Mountain Park BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
MAY	Monday 11th 7:30 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
JUNE	Monday 8th 7:30 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
	Sunday 21st 7:30 pm	Winter Interlude – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
JULY	Monday 13th 7:30 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
	Date and Venue TBA	BMA Dinner
AUGUST	Monday 10th 7:30 pm Sunday 16th 2 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall BMA AGM
SEPTEMBER	Monday 14th 7:30 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
OCTOBER	Monday 12th 7:30 pm Saturday 31st 6 - 8pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall Halloween Happenings – Bowen Mountain Park Hall – All Welcome
NOVEMBER	Monday 9th 7:30 pm	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall
	Date and Venue TBA	BMA Dinner
DECEMBER	Monday 14th 7:30	BMA MEETING – Bowen Mountain Park Hall Christmas Party

BMA COMMITTEE MEETING: Second Monday of every month at 7:30 pm

NOTE: Dates may be subject to change depending on weather and other factors. Due notice will be provided.

St. Patrick's Day



Come and celebrate
St. Patrick's Day
at
Thai Angelina, 221 Windsor St., Richmond

Friday March 17th at 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm dinner
Delightful 2 course meal, all-you-can-eat - \$ 22 pp.



Wear something green- prizes for best dressed

Reservations essential on:
Alison: 0419 167 088
All Welcome

BOWEN MOUNTAIN AUTUMN MARKET DAY SUSTAINABILITY FAIR AND CAR BOOT SALE

Market stalls with plants, fruit, vegies, seedlings, pots,
assorted gifts and crafts, bric a brac, jams, cakes, clothing,
sausage sizzle, coffee cart and raffle.

WHEN: SATURDAY 4th APRIL 2020 8.30am - 3.00pm

WHERE: BOWEN MOUNTAIN PARK

Book your car space or market stand at \$20.00

HOW: Phone Alison: 0419 167 088

A fun family day with games, children's activities, BBQ, music, Market stalls.
Demonstrations of composting, building a sustainable vegie garden, planting
drought tolerant plants, weed eradication.

Another event organised by your Bowen Mountain Association.

Life's Journey – Hugh Walker

8th April 1935-12th November 2019

Hugh Walker (Hughie) was a long-time resident of Bowen Mountain. He could be seen walking his adopted West Highland Terrier “Archie” and his neighbour’s dog “Buster”. He walked from one end of the mountain to the other, his daily exercise helping to control his diabetes. Buster enjoyed his walks but thought it futile walking down dead end roads. When Hughie walked down Red Gum and Crag Crescent Buster would refuse and look at Hughie as if to say “why walk there, there is nothing there”. He would sit at the junction and faithfully await Hughie’s return.

Hughie (one of five) was born in Greymouth, on the west coast of the south Island of New Zealand. He joined the NZ Navy (1952) as a junior stoker and rose to petty officer. He was the youngest petty officer in the NZ Navy at the time. He saw service which included travelling to England on the HMNZS Black Prince for the coronation of Queen

Elizabeth II. On his return from England his ship was diverted to give aid at Argostoli, Cephalonia, in the Aegean Sea where an earthquake had devastated the town. He was finally based in Singapore. Returning to Greymouth he worked for the NZ Railways, then later as a postman.

Hughie arrived in Australia in 1973 and shortly after moved to Bowen Mountain. He worked for the NSW Grain Board assessing grain quality. He became Senior Pest Inspector for NSW which involved spending weeks at a time visiting silos in the west. He could name and give you the history of every wheat silo in the state. On retirement (1990) Hughie kept busy gardening, renovating his house, home brewing and walking the mountain with his dogs and talking to passers-by.

Chris Merton & Colin Chesterman

12th February, 2020

INUNDATED - from drought to flood in 48 hours

Read the headline in the Hawkesbury Gazette dated Wednesday August 13, 1986.

Here are a few excerpts from that edition.

The rain kept falling and the river kept on rising. The 210mm recorded for the 24 hours was the highest daily August fall on record. The previous highest was 140mm.

The worst flood to hit the Hawkesbury since the legendary 1867 inundation was in November 1961 - the river rose to a height of 15.10 metres and remains the worst flood recorded this century. The legendary 1867 was horrific. The river rose to 19.26 metres. Since recordings were made back in 1799 the river has never reached anywhere near this height before.

The graph on the right shows the rainfalls reported by 23 volunteers in the Hawkesbury for the days preceding the flood event on Sunday night 9th February. See:

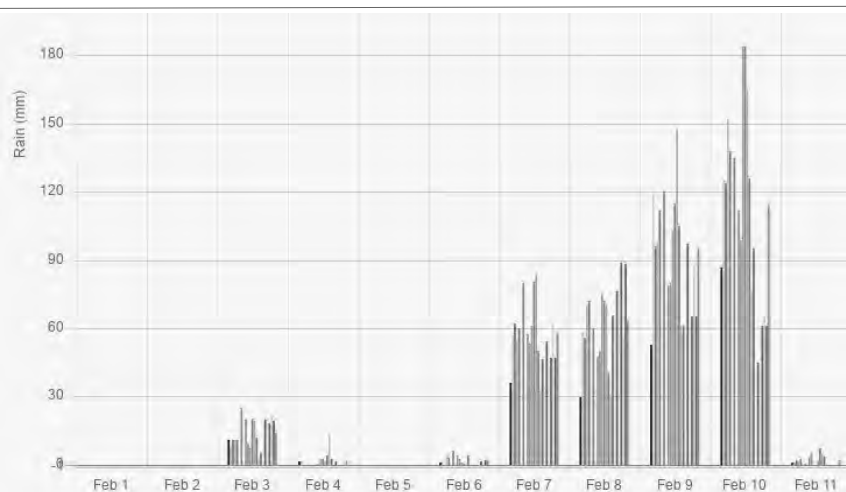
<https://www.kurrajong.org.au/Rain/>

The height of the river on 11th of February at North Richmond was around 11.4 metres with a lot of debris, which broke the barriers on the bridge. What is obvious is that the flood rose so quickly, that there was no time to take the barriers down. Sounds very similar to 1986

and there is still only talk about a *Grose River Bridge*.

The 1978 flood caused havoc throughout the district and was the third highest flood this century and caused millions of dollars of damage to property and crop losses. The Hawkesbury Shire State Emergency Service came to the fore, evacuating stranded residents, taking food parcels to isolated areas and dropping fodder to stranded stock.

Hawkesbury Shire President, Cr. Geoff Michael called for the construction of the *Grose River Bridge* as soon as possible. “The proposed high level bridge that will provide access from Bells Line of Road at North Richmond to the Springwood Road at Yarramundi and then to Springwood on the Great Western Highway is an essential link both in terms of providing free flood access and a link to the future western expressway”, he said (in 1986).



Elaine Leahy & John Wulff

Park Report

Bowen Mountain Park Management Committee (BMPMC)

Last year was a hive of activity in the park; projects, events and public use of the park

Projects completed last year

- basketball hoop
- maintenance and gardening, planting of the Wollemi and discovering the self-sown Bunya pine
- audio system for the hall
- upgrade of the CCTV cameras
- installation of guttering and 2,000L water tank for the BBQ shelter

Thanks to Jeff at Kurajong Builders Supplies for supplying the tank at cost price & John for the installation, also

Sebastian (Bluee Technology, North Richmond) for the upgrade of the CCTV camera system

The Council arranged a contractor (26th June) to clean the water tank. There was a great quantity of muck pumped out. A water level measuring device and cage was also installed.

Maintenance - the Zip instant hot water sprung a leak again, (20th Jan 20) repaired by Council Plumber. It is a concern if nobody is present to close the isolating tap to prevent flooding.

During this summer season there was an enormous accumulation of dry leaves and branches at the park. This is a significant fire hazard for the park, its infrastructure and to the community

Pole in the Car Park - now that NBN is "approaching", Council have been asked if it is possible for the pole in the car park to be moved.

Events - What an amazing year 2019 has been for our wonderful community!

January saw the return of our annual Disco which once again was a successful event with many fantastic dancers and smiling faces. We also ran our very first Spring Market in October and despite the day being

quite blustery, residents travelled from all over the Hawkesbury to our beautiful park. There was certainly something for everybody with over 35 amazing stalls from predominately local small businesses and the free kids activities were a hit. Lovely Maria from Alpaca kisses brought along Co and Chai who were warmly welcomed by visitors and many kisses were given. We concluded our events for the year with Christmas in the Park. Despite the smoke that had blanketed our community as a result of the Gospers Mountain fire, we had an amazing turn out. The 50m Slip and Slide was back again and just in time to avoid the level 2 water restrictions. This proved once again to be a popular addition as well as our wonderful visitor Santa Claus. From the musical talent, stalls, free kids craft, lawn games and more it certainly was a wonderful evening not to be missed. The Park committee would like to thank Alpaca Kisses, Sully's Nursery, Kurrajong Water Carters, Stacy Jenkinson, Libby Grady and Glen (Santa). We would also like to thank you our community for your continued support. If you are interested in helping with any of our future events please contact us via the email address on our website.

See the Calendar of Community Events in this issue for details of future events and Bowen Mountain Events Facebook for updates:- Easter Egg Hunt for kids, Winter Festival, Kids Disco, Spring Fair & Christmas in the Park 2020. Also check Facebook for BMPMC meetings and working bees

Colin Chesterman, Chairman

Louise Hawkins, Secretary



Park Management Committee at AGM, 6 February 2020

BOWEN MOUNTAIN PARK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE EVENTS 2020

APRIL	Saturday 11th 11:30 am to 1:00 pm	Easter Egg Hunt – Kids Activity
JUNE	Sunday 16th 11:30 am to 4:30 pm	Winter Festival Stalls Markets & Kids Activities
JULY	Friday 17th 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm	DISCO
OCTOBER	Saturday 24th 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Spring Fair Stalls Markets & Kids Activities
DECEMBER	Saturday 5th 3:00 pm	Christmas in the Park - Stalls Markets & Kids Activities

Christmas in the Park



Many people from our community had a great time in Bowen Mountain Park at this event on the 7th of December 2019. The waterslide was a particular favourite with the youngsters.



Welcome to the Fire Liaison Officer's Report

This year we have seen an extraordinary fire season that has affected most parts of NSW. As at the end of January 2020 the total area of NSW burnt since the 1st July 2019 has totalled almost 5.5 million hectares.

Gospers Mountain Fire

Throughout November and December 2019, residents and properties of Bowen Mountain and Grose Vale lived under the threat of the Gospers Mountain Fire, which, after starting from a lightning strike on the 26th October 2019 was finally contained on the 11th January 2020. The fire was unprecedented in that it has burnt an area of approximately 512,000 hectares across a number of local government areas in addition to Wollemi National Park, Yengo National Park, Parr State Conservation Area, part of the Blue Mountains National Park and Newnes State Forest. With the perimeter of this fire covering an area extending west from Lithgow, east to St Albans, north beyond Putty and south to the Grose Valley, significant fire fighting resources and support were required, not only on the fire ground but also at Hawkesbury, Lithgow and Hunter Fire Control Centres. The combined cooperation of the NSW RFS, Fire + Rescue NSW, NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, NSW Police, NSW Ambulance, Hawkesbury City Council, Australian Defence Force and countless other organisations and volunteers demonstrated the resilience and teamwork required in dealing with this fire and other fires which were also occurring at the time.

Along with brigades from the Hawkesbury District and other regions, members from Grose Vale Brigade continued to crew its vehicles day and night to battle this fire for the duration until it was finally contained.

Thank You

In any event, where there is a potential threat to life and property, the support and cooperation of the community is most important to ensure emergency services can undertake their vital work. To this point, Grose Vale Brigade extends its thanks and gratitude to the communities of Bowen Mountain and Grose Vale for the support, cooperation and respect provided to the Brigade and its members. Combined with the many donations of water, drinks and food, the willingness of the community to attend community meetings, prepare properties, assist each other, advise the availability of static water supplies, provide access to properties and heed the advice and warnings is greatly appreciated. Thank you so very much.

Bush Fire Danger Period and Fire Permits:

While the Bush Fire Season for the Hawkesbury

District usually finishes on the 31st March, should the warmer weather conditions prevail and a return to lower than average rainfall occurs, then there may be the possibility for the season to be extended beyond this date. If the season is to be extended, then this information will be advised through the NSW RFS Website, normal media channels and social media pages.

Residents are reminded that as we progress towards the end of the Bush Fire Season, Fire Permits for Pile Burns are still required.

What is a Fire Permit?

Fire Permits help ensure fire is used safely during the Bush Fire Danger Period. A permit imposes conditions on the way a fire is lit and maintained, and can only be issued by authorised Permit Issuing Officers.

The permit system ensures agencies such as the NSW RFS know when and where landholders intend to burn, to ensure adequate and appropriate measures are in place, and so that fires remain under control.

The Permit Issuing Officer may add any conditions deemed as necessary but all permits have standard conditions such as:

- the permit is to be carried by the permit holder, on site, at the time the fire is lit
- the permit is to remain on site with those present until extinguished, if applicable
- the fire must be supervised at all times unless the permit says otherwise
- notifications are given to the NSW RFS, and adjoining neighbours at least 24 hours (unless specified otherwise) prior to the fire being lit and
- the permit may be varied, cancelled or suspended, depending on weather conditions.

When are permits required?

The statutory Bush Fire Danger Period runs from 1 October to 31 March, however it may vary due to local conditions. If you are planning to light a fire in the open during this time, you will need a Fire Permit.

Also depending on the type of fire, a permit may be required all year round. For example, a Fire Permit is required at all times if a fire is likely to be dangerous to a building.

When are permits not required?

Fire Permits are not required for fires for the purpose of cooking food, provided that:

- the fire is in a permanently constructed fireplace;
- at a site surrounded by ground that is cleared of all combustible materials for a distance of at least two metres all around;
- the fire is completely extinguished before leaving.



What else do I need to do?

Before lighting the fire ensure that:

- it can be contained and controlled within the specified area
- it does not contain toxic materials, such as rubber tyres, plastics, paint etc; and
- it must not cause an air pollution problem by producing excessive amounts of smoke.

If you have a permit, it is your responsibility to:

- check whether a Total Fire Ban in force on the NSW RFS Fire Danger ratings and Total Fire Bans page: <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans>. If there is, your permit is automatically suspended
- check whether a No Burn day has been declared on the [EPA website](#)
- check the expected weather conditions
- notify and check with your local NSW RFS Fire Control Centre or Fire + Rescue NSW station prior to lighting

Fines and penalties for illegal burning

Substantial fines and prison terms of up to 12 months may apply to persons found to be in breach of the Rural Fires Act 1997 and its Regulations. Civil law suits can also be brought against persons responsible for fire, by those seeking compensation,

for losses sustained.

The key things to remember

- follow any conditions and or restrictions listed in your permit
- You need a fire permit if it's the Bush Fire Danger Period. There are heavy penalties if you don't follow restrictions or rules
- Just because it's the Bush Fire Danger Period doesn't mean you can't use fire - but there are restrictions to ensure fire is used safely
- Getting a permit is free and easy. Further information is available from the Hawkesbury District Fire Control Centre on: 4560 6400 and the Hawkesbury City Council website: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/environment/health-and-safety/open-burning or contacting Hawkesbury City Council on **4560 4444**.

Finally, now is the time to check and test your smoke alarms ensuring you have an adequate number of suitable smoke alarms installed throughout your home. You should also change the battery at least every 12 months. More information is available from the NSW Rural Fire Service <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/home-fire-safety> or the Home Fire Safety page at Fire + Rescue NSW <http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au>

Grose Vale Rural Fire Brigade welcomes new members and if you are interested in joining your local Brigade please contact Hawkesbury District Fire Control Centre on **4560 6400** *Greg Walker*
Community Engagement Officer, Grose Vale Brigade.

500 MILES FROM HOME - A CHANCE ENCOUNTER AND A SWEET REWARD

Yesterday was below zero riding my bicycle into a 30 knot headwind across the Bogong High Plain then down the rapid 30 km descent from Falls Creek. This morning I'm climbing the Tawonga Gap Road, eager to beat the predicted 38 degree heat. Half way through the ride I reach the crest and stand on the lookout platform gulping a sports drink. A man and a woman alight from a car, fresh, as if they have just finished breakfast at their motel. I feel a bit of a dork leaning on my bike, hair sweaty and tangled, my cycling shirt hanging open.

"Nice day. Getting a bit hazy over Mount Bogong". I struck up a conversation.

"Well we have travelled down from Seven Hills. It's smoked out up there. Where are you from?"

"Bowen Mountain" I say with another slurp of drink.

"Aahhh Bowen Mountain! We saw our grand daughter married in the park there last week...such a nice place Bowen Mountain...such a beautiful

place and community".

Now, I could have done the old man thing and told them of the years of effort that goes into making it that way but I didn't. I just said "Yes it is", and started on the rest of my ride, the descent down the far side of the range. As my wheels picked up their silent speed I entertain a lovely nostalgic pride. The bike starts leaping into the hairpins of the downward dash. "YES" I said to the blur of the passing forest. That is why we did it. And all those who today carry the baton and continue to build the Bowen Mountain Community. That is why you do it. There is a simple sense of pride and everlasting reward when somebody else benefits.

In Bright I meet up with Judith at a cafe. We raise our iced coffees to our team past and of the great teams of today who work to make Bowen Mountain Park a place of happiness.

Howard Mitchell
November 2019

Some Pictures from Bilpin to remind us



Thank You Firies and all Emergency Services

During and after the recent fires many Bowen Mountain, Bilpin and Grose Wold residents were full of praise for the brave and often unsung firies and service heroes who risked their lives to fight the fires, rescue the trapped and bring much needed supplies to the isolated.

We were extremely fortunate to have many of these heroes in our area, Bowen Mountain, especially the local firies who toiled ceaselessly to ensure our much-loved mountain and its families were safe. These are just some of the many Facebook messages that appeared on the Bowen Mountain Facebook page as a thank you and a heartfelt tribute to these brave firies and service people.

“Awesome job” – Megan Vicary

“With thanks from Hawkesbury Heights” – Rebecca McHardy,

“Unbelievable” – Bernadett Heckford

“Thank you thank you will never be enough” – Sue Hebblewhite

“Bless each one of you, and thank you for your service” – Alan Carol Thrush

They are amazing” – Belinda Gatt

“What amazing people you are, thank you” – Leesa Darna

“Such brave souls” – Linda Welsh

“A picture of real true heroes. Stay safe one and all” – Karen Tobiassen

“Legends” – Esme Watson, Christopher Martin

“What brave amazing human beings. Thoughts and prayers are with you at this trying time. Stay safe and God bless you” – Ursula Lotts

“Thank you each and every one of you. Stay safe” – Heather Coombes

“I want to give you all hugs but I’m a long long way away in the UK” – Juliet Hemingway

“Thank you so much to every volunteer” – Justine Crawley

“God bless you all. You’re all heroes and Australia knows it” – Helen Cotton

“You’re heroes thank you” – Kim Higgins

“These photos are like looking into Hell” – Kirsten Cheung

“Thank you so much. You are doing a great job RFS” – Ulla Jakobsen

“Thank you so much for doing everything you can to protect our properties – we really appreciate it down here in Grose Vale” – Jake Tate Page

“You guys are unreal. You are all superheroes. God bless you all and keep safe. And Merry Christmas” – Margaret Derbyshire

“Thank you firies for all your hard work please stay safe you are all heroes” – Matthew Duncan

“Thank you so much for your effort to keep our community safe. You are all magnificent!!! Please stay safe” – Rania Syrou

“Thank you Firies you do more than an amazing job, our heroes” – Kylie Speers

“Thank you to all the RFS crews! And thank you for all the updates” – Sarah Ayres

“Great work and a BIG thank you” – Patricia

“You are all amazing, thank you and be safe out there!” – Annie Byron

“How can we find words to express our thoughts to all you girls and guys now from across the sea... the people helping with food and drinks and all those who donate, what a great lot of courageous people thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Such awful things are happening to our great country... feeling deeply for all those who have lost their homes. Thank you so very much” – Joan Foote

Culinary Corner

SCOTTISH OAT CAKES

Very easy recipe to follow and I have been making them for an English old lady who had a Scottish husband. She confirmed that is an authentic biscuit which she loves.

2½ cups rolled oats
½ cup plain flour
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon baking soda or bicarbonate soda
60g unsalted or salted butter - room temp.
100ml water - room temp.

METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180 °C
2. In a large bowl, mix all the dry goods - oats, flour, salt, baking powder, sugar together
3. Add the room temperature butter then rub together to combine them well until the mixture forms bread crumbs
4. Sprinkle extra flour on a surface and roll out the dough to less than 0.5cm thickness. Use a cookie cutter to cut out (it is your choice of size)
5. Place oatcakes on a baking tray and bake for about 15 minutes or until lightly golden brown.

N J Lim



GREEN CURRY CHICKEN

very easy recipe

8 leaves of fresh Basil
Green curry paste
Vegetables of your choosing eg celery, carrots, peas
1 cup of Coconut milk
Chicken breasts or thighs (your choice)

METHOD

1. Cook chicken breast or thighs
2. Cook assorted vegetables
3. Mix chicken, curry paste, vegetables and coconut milk together
4. Cook further until all ingredients are heated through. Yummy.

Belle



PRACTICE RUN FOR PREPARING YOUR CHRISTMAS CAKE!

2 cups flour	1 cup of brown sugar
1 Stick Butter	Lemon juice
1 cup water	4 large eggs
1 tsp baking soda	
1 cup of sugar	2 bottles of wine
1 tsp salt	2 cups of dried fruit.

METHOD

1. Sample the wine to check the quality.
2. Take a large bowl, check the wine again. To be sure of the highest quality pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.
3. Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.
4. Add one teaspoon of sugar. Beat again.
5. At this point it's best to make sure that the wine is still OK. Try another cup Just in case.
6. Turn off the mixer thingy.
7. Break two eggs and add to the bowl then chuck in the cup of dried fruit.
8. Pick up the flipping fruit off the floor, mix on the turner. If the Fried fruit gets stuck in the beaters - just pry it loose with a Drewsdriver.
9. Next sift two cups of salt (or something).
10. Check the wine.
11. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.
12. Add one table.
13. Add a spoon of sugar (or somefink) Whatever you can find.
14. Greash the oven.
15. Turn the cake tin 360 Degreedles and try not to fall over. Don't forget to beat off the turner.
16. Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the wine and wipe the counter with the cat. Go to the supermarket and buy a cake.

SUE'S NO COOK SLICE – *absolutely delicious*

1 pkt shortbread biscuits	2 tbsp Golden Syrup
8oz sultanas or mixed fruit	2 tbsp of butter
2 tbsp of Brandy	8 oz Cooking Chocolate

METHOD

1. Crush the biscuits.
2. Melt last 3 items together – add to first 3 items.
3. Press into tin, dust with icing sugar.
4. Refrigerate.

Sue Hoare

Social Connectedness in the Hawkesbury Project 2020

The <https://MyHealthConnector.com.au/> directory is a new online directory to help people in our community improve their social connections. You can find hundreds of local health and community services, well-being activities and support.

Please check, if it applies to you, that your service or activity is listed and claim and update it (or add it please if it is not already included).

This is a free service.

Health Connectors are available in General Practices in the Hawkesbury to support people with one-on-one appointments to improve their social connections. Participating practices are in

Richmond, Bligh Park, Windsor, North Richmond and South Windsor. This is a free service for people 75 and over or 65 and over for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, living in their own homes or independent living in the Hawkesbury. Health Connectors are trained nurses and have dedicated time to support people to help make connections and improve their health and well-being.

Liz Murphy Project Officer
Werrington Park Corporate Centre
Direct: 02 4708 8169
Mobile: 0402 724 916
Reception: 02 4708 8100
Website: www.nbmphn.com.au

RICHMOND BRIDGE DUPLICATION AND TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS - UPDATE

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The bridge between Richmond and North Richmond provides a vital crossing of the Hawkesbury River, and carries an average of 31,000 vehicles per day with a single lane in each direction.

In 2013, Roads and Maritime Services (now part of Transport for NSW) prepared the Richmond Bridge and approaches congestion study: preferred short term and long term options report. The study identified the need for additional bridge capacity and three intersections upgrades to improve travel times and journey time reliability and provide for future growth.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The benefits of the Richmond Bridge Duplication and traffic improvements could include:

- providing a longer term solution to help in reducing congestion around the Richmond area.

- reducing travel times
- improving journey time reliability for public transport
- improving active transport connections
- improving flood resilience for residents in Richmond and North Richmond.

NEXT STEPS

Following community information sessions in December 2019, Transport for NSW will develop an options report that will be released in 2020. There will be opportunities to provide feedback on the options report, before the preferred option is selected.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/richmond-area-projects/richmond-bridge-duplication-and-traffic-improvements.html>

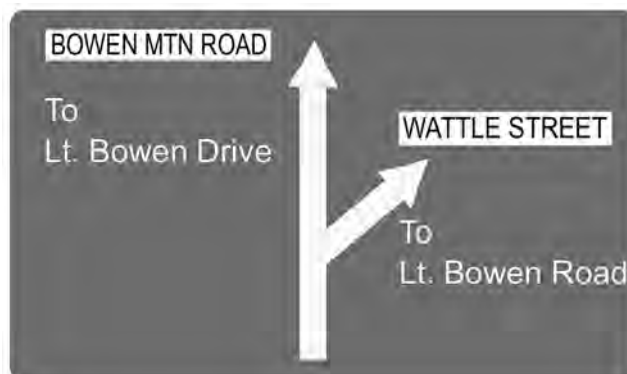
Road Sign suggested for the Wattle Street turn-off

The following suggestion has been made to the BMA committee:

*that the BMA submit a request to the RMS to put up a large green sign at the junction of Bowen Mtn Road and Wattle street guiding motorists to either **Lt. Bowen Drive** by bearing left or to **Lt. Bowen Road** by following Wattle Street to the right.*

The following design for the sign has been submitted. Comments from the community to the newsletter are invited.

John Wulff



Community Notices

CRAGO OBSERVATORY

The Observatory is operated by the Astronomical Society of NSW and is located at the northern end of Lt Bowen Road, about 200 metres past the gate on the fire trail.

Residents are welcome to attend our stargazing evenings on the listed **Saturdays in 2019** subject to weather.

Saturday 14 Mar 2020
Saturday 18 Apr 2020
Saturday 18 Apr 2020
Saturday 13 Jun 2020



Please remember to cover your torches with red cellophane as you approach the observatory. White light causes the pupil of the eye to contract and it takes 20-30 minutes to regain dark adaptation.

For further information, and to confirm Friday openings, contact Paul Hatchman 0413 047 782 or VP_Crago@asnsu.com

Fish Truck at Kurrajong

The Wollongong Harbourside Fish Truck is at the Kurrajong Bottle shop car park

Sundays at 10am to 3pm.

He has an extensive range of fish and sea food.

Community Care assists residents of our community in need of assistance with transport to medical appointments, local social events, or general information regarding Hawkesbury Community Services.

Community Care organises social morning teas and luncheons for residents in the Bowen Mountain Hall. Transport is available if needed. Please check the newsletter and web-site for social events.

Phone: Liz Rowan 4572 2416

Join the BMA facebook Page and stay connected with other people from Bowen Mountain around the world.

Go to www.facebook.com
 Create or open your facebook account (this is free)
 Search for 'Bowen Mountain' (the logo is the Bunya Tree)
 Click "Like"

You will find lots of up to the minute information from the Mountain.

STOP PRESS

Imogen MacMahon
 with the under 18's
 Australian Ice Hockey
 Team won **BRONZE** at the
 recent World
 Championships
CONGRATULATIONS
IMY


North Richmond Community Bank® Branch and Richmond branch

Making great things happen.

When you bank with North Richmond Community Bank® Branch and Richmond branch great things happen in your community.

So if your bank isn't doing better by you, change to one that will.

Drop into your nearest branch at McNair Shopping Centre, North Richmond NSW or Coles Mall Richmond NSW to find out more.

 **Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, ABN 11 088 099 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879, 1261656-1261634-1491855-121125/07/2016

bendigobank.com.au



WEEK NIGHT SPECIALS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
\$15	\$15	\$20	\$1	CHEFS BLACKBOARD SPECIALS
BURGER NIGHT	SCHNITZEL NIGHT	STEAK NIGHT	WINGS NIGHT	

[02] 4567 7140 | info@archibaldhotel.com.au | 1349 Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong Heights, 2754

BOWEN BUSINESS



SUBLIME FLOW
 Massage & Meditation
www.sublimeflow.me
 30% off for locals
 0402 956 207

Matt Hawkins Water Cartage

Servicing the Mountain since 1987

Mobile: **0418 407 994**

Phone: **4572 1578**

57 Bowen Mountain Road
Bowen Mountain



1300 KURMOND
 1300 587 666

02 4573 0544

ashley@static-it.com.au

411 Bells Line of Road,
Kurmond NSW 2758

411 Bells Line of Road, Kurmond, NSW 2754



23 Bosworth Street,
Richmond NSW 2753
(Rear of Hawkesbury Skills Inc)

Come & see us
 Monday & Wednesday
 9am - 2pm

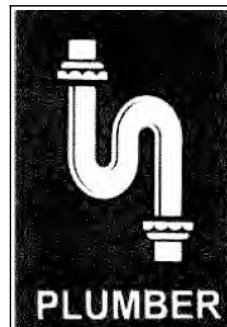


INTERCOMS
 LED LIGHTING
 HOME SECURITY
 ACCESS CONTROL
 VEHICLE SECURITY
 CCTV SURVEILLANCE
 HOME WIFI SYSTEMS
 SOLAR POWER SYSTEMS
 ELECTRICAL SWITCH GEAR
 HOME AUTOMATION SYSTEMS

Phone: 02 4571 4945

Email: sales@bluee.com.au | www.bluee.com.au

Address: 19 William Street, North Richmond NSW 2754 Australia



Paul W Dodds

Licenced Plumber • Drainer
 Gasfitter • LP Gasfitter

Mobile: **0410 538 092**
 Phone: 4572 2257
 35 Bowen Mt Road
 Bowen Mountain 2753



Phone Kent: 0422 745 384



Get **STRONG** for life!
 Call **4571 1234**



Proudly supporting Hawkesbury



Thinking of selling ?

Call Scott our area Specialist,
 a Bowen Mountain resident for 21 years.

P: 4573 1228 M: 0417 324 812

Scott Lee

ratemyagent.com.au

WINNER for Bowen

Mountain Agent of the year

bennettproperty

80 Old Bells Line of Rd, KURRAJONG

BOWEN BUSINESS

KURRAJONG BUILDERS SUPPLIES

Open 6 days per week 4573 1326

We have refurbished the whole store and now carry a much larger range of hardware and building materials including:

Timber * Plumbing Supplies * Gyprock * Paint
Steel Reinforcing Mesh * Doors * Power Tools
Treated Pine Logs & Sleepers * Insulation batts
Fencing Wire & Mesh * Farm gates * Garden Dept
Delivery Service

78 Old Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong
Jeff Smith



The Little Coffee Shed
Elizabeth

412 Grose Vale Rd, Grose Vale
0416 003 247
eftpos available

weekdays 5am – 11am

We can set up for special events,
fetes and school functions

A & A FARRELL'S CARPENTRY SERVICE

Specialising in

- All Aspects of Building Construction
- Custom Design & Installation
- Bathroom & Laundry Renovations

ANDREW

0407 932 255

Email: andrewscarpentry@bigpond.com
Servicing The Hawkesbury 25 Years

FREE QUOTES Bowen Mountain Lic. 201719c

KURRAJONG CELLARS

CHRISTINE MEAD J.P.

Wines with a difference, Beers, Spirits & Ice

**VOTED BEST BOTTLE SHOP
IN THE HAWKESBURY**

76 Old Bells Line of Road
Kurrajong Village NSW 2758
4573 1231



Switchboard upgrades • lighting • power • data • tv • smoke
alarms • energy efficiency advice • intruder alarms • CCTV

Contact Karl O'Rourke & Steven Gray for a free quote

0423 421 106 | 0487 370 870 | info@korelectricalservices.com.au



Mobile 0415 281 525
Traditional Hand painted signs or Full colour Digital Imaging
• Changeable Lettering Signs

- Stickers
- Screen Printing
- Banners
- Honour Boards
- Boats
- Car
- Trucks
- Horse Floats
- Billboards
- Horse Drawn Vehicles
- Shopfronts
- Real Estate Signage Etc.

Email: wallacesigns@bigpond.com

Unit 3/6 Charles St. North Richmond

Behind Peps Auto Spares



Lillians

Beauty Salon

Make 2018 your most relaxing year yet!
Nimue and Botanical Extracts

Body Piercing Formal Make-Up - Facials
Body Treatments Waxing & Electrolysis
Hot Stone Massage Indian Head Massage
Electroporation Spray Tans \$25

5/36 Riverview Street, North Richmond NSW 2754
4571 1294

Student Discount Tuesday & Wednesday



NATURESMART
GARDEN SOLUTIONS

ANDREW CAMILLERI | 0405 326 416

naturesmart@bigpond.com



Open 7 Days

Corner of Grose Vale Road and Grose Wold Road
Grose Vale

Telephone: (02) 4572 2771



AUSTRALIA

POST