

President's Message and what's on

Events this month:

Community First Friday BBQ May 3. We will be having a fire this night as the evenings are getting a bit cooler.

Pappinbarra Sing: May 18, Time 2 - 4pm bring a plate to share \$15.00. Open fire afterwards. Three-part Irish songs this month. RSVP Amy 0447 772298 or book at www.craigmwoodmusic.com/events Last month 30 people attended. I hope to see you there this month and looking forward to a great singalong. Songs and friends what a way to spend an afternoon!

Trivia Night: May 25. Last year was a great success and fun was had by all. Book online now to ensure you get a spot. \$35.00 per ticket. Lots of prizes to be won. Major Hall

fundraiser, can you donate a prize? Every bit helps to keep the hall running.

Hall Working Bee: 18th May, 8am to 12pm.

Pappinbarra Church service: 26th May, 2pm

Women's Group: 8th May, 9am

Fire Training: 11th May

Shout out this month goes to the Pappinbarra Valley Emergency Management Team for finalising the Emergency Management Plan. The next step is to do some scenario disaster management roleplaying by those who will manage the process to ensure we are ready to stand up when required. Next PVEMT meeting June 12.

Lisa McLeod

Hollisdale & Pappinbarra Rural Fire Brigades

H i all, now that the fire season has officially has come to an end and the weather is starting to cool down its time to start preparing for the next hot weather. Although its a bit wet to do anything, you can start cleaning up around your property. You can request an RFS fire brigade assist to help you burn your piles or paddocks, but you need to be prepared, brigades will start the fires for you and monitor them until they settle down then hand control back to the owner. Things you need to have ready would be:

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- (1) Clear access around the burn area;
- (2) A fire fighting pump and sufficient water supply to manage the fire after the trucks leave;
- (3) Pile burns will need a tractor to push up the burning logs.

You can ask your local brigade to inspect your property to see if we can help you.

Cheers, Chris Captain, Hollisdale Brigade

IN CASE OF FIRE CALL 000

Fire permits are not required.

Please notify the RFS and your neighbours at least 24 hours in advance of a burn.

Permit officers:

Upper Pappinbarra: Andy Jarrett 6587 6181, Steve Ostler 6587 6090, Anthony Wall 6587 6127 **Hollisdale**: Chris Roelandts 6585 6700 or 0429 310 933, Peter Michael 6587 6022 or 0400 013 803 **Beechwood**: Steve Taylor 0429 458 653

Pappinbarra Valley Emergency Management Plan (PVEMP) - Update

Thanks to the efforts of the Pappinbarra Valley Emergency Management Team over the last 18 months or so, the PVEMP has been approved and released. This is an exciting event as it is known we are one of the first communities in the whole of NSW to complete such a task and have a plan to deal with preparation for, response to and recovery from any type of crisis or disaster. The Team have done a great job and deserve high credit for this achievement. We have issued it to relevant local and regional Emergency Management organisations so in future we will be able to effectively coordinate our efforts and call for suitable support at the appropriate time. Copies of the Plan will be held at the Hall so feel free to read and ask questions of our Team at the various PPA events. Feedback and comment will be readily received.

Donations have previously been given to the Team to help purchase EM equipment for which we are very grateful. Persons

wishing to help support this initiative can contact Lisa McLeod to donate through the PPA. Your support will be very much appreciated.

We continue to receive surveys and those that have not yet provided us with their emergency information can still do so at the link below, or call Steve to obtain a paper copy (0432 262535). This will help us understand the various risks and needs within the community and assist in planning how to manage these in case of an emergency.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pappinbarra-Community-Survey

> Steve Duffy Chairman PVEMT



How do you raise chickens? Just try and wing it

K eeping chooks has to be one of the easiest and most rewarding farm activities. They are generally easy to look after and what a versatile food they produce for us. Aren't eggs wonderful!

Any feed costs can be kept to a minimum when feeding chooks food scraps from your kitchen. It is a great way to recycle your

waste into chook manure for your garden. Allowing your chooks to access the garden during the day for insects and worms is not only stimulating for them but it also enables them to get more protein and reduces their dependence on bought chook feed. Chooks are good company; they are easy to talk to (they don't argue back) and almost seem to enjoy your companionship (especially if you have food in your hand!)

Of course, with any animal, they need care. We have made our share of mistakes. Firstly, the chook pen was not fox proof, a fox managed to dig under the chook wire one evening. We then had a chook taken during the day whilst in the garden by an eagle. We built a chook pen inside a roofless chicken run. This worked for a couple of years when two eagles flew into the chook run helping themselves



ISA Browns are prolific layers but don't live as long as other chooks. Note the wire on the left that goannas get through

to a chook each. We then roofed the chook run. Two sides of the run did not have chicken wire but a structurally stronger wire with a slightly larger rectangular gauge. Unbelievably, this year three separate goannas have taken turns sinusoidally making their way through the wire of the chook run. This has been a sight to behold as the wire looks far too small for them to fit through but fit they did, writhing from side to side. Over the last few weeks, we have hardly collected an egg instead being greeted by broken shells and one dead chook. It has been a bit of a process getting the chook pen to be a safe place for our girls. There is a lot of help online for chook pen and chook run designs.

> What breed of chooks to get? This depends on what you want from your chook. Do you just want eggs, or an animal for kids to handle, or do you want to breed chickens, or do you also want some interesting, beautiful birds. Again, there is a lot of help online.

> Below is a very brief summary of a few common breeds.

Black Australorp: 250 + eggs per year; docile and calm; bred in Australia; largeish bird.

Orpington: 200 + eggs per year; tend to be broody (want to sit on the eggs to hatch them); like to be handled, affectionate; docile and calm.

Rhode Island Red: 250 + eggs per year; large eggs; not keen on being handled; heat tolerant.

Wyandotte: 200 + eggs per year; beautiful bird come in 10 different colour combinations; do not like to be held.

ISA Brown: 300 + eggs per year; easily held and affectionate; can be

hard on newcomer chooks; short lived (due to prolific egg production) they are the Ferrari of chook breeds, heaps of egg power early but they burn out quickly and stop producing.

The Lazy Dog

Pappinbarra artists exhibit in Wauchope

Hochie 1, 2024

Wauchope Art Gallery, High St

Pocket Floss is the brainchild of Emma Frost, a local artist and
illustrator who has exhibited in the area for several years.
Emma has invited ten of her artistic friends to exhibit in this group show

including three other Pappinbarra residents. The ten other aspiring artists are all diversely talented and extremely passionate about their art practices. All have authentic, unique, and refreshing styles from quaint and quirky, to thought provoking and fiercely expressive. This exciting new exhibition covers many styles including 2D works on paper, illustration, painting and digital rendering, sculptural pieces and even furniture!

If you are looking to experience something new, be engaged and amused, head to Wauchope for the **opening night and meet the artists on Friday 17th May between 6-8pm**. It promises to be a thing!!

Congratulations Heather!

Heather Smith entered some of her photographs and her beautiful flowers into this year's Wauchope show. She won 1st prize in four categories for her photographs – Open, Flora, Pets and Animals and

Portrait. In the Cut Flower section, her Dahlias won Champion Bloom, Champion Dahlia and first prize in six other categories. She was the Most Successful Exhibitor. Well done Heather!





To connect with Pappinbarra Valley residents for trading, swapping, selling, information and other services go to **Pappinbarra Community Connect** on Facebook

Pitchfork

Do you have suggestions for items in *Pitchfork*? Contributions welcome. Contact Angela by email angfrost@hotmail.com or phone 65876035. (Copy may be edited for reasons of space or clarity. The views expressed in *Pitchfork* are not necessarily those of the PPA).

Advertising Contact Caroline Hemmings, 0439 016 071, caroline.13@bigpond.com.

Circulation: 225 hard copies; 50 by email. Comes out the Wednesday before First Friday.

Production: Angela Frost angfrost@hotmail.com

PPA

President: Lisa 0418 220 138 ppa.president2021@gmail.com
Next PPA Committee meeting – May 21st 6:30 pm at the Hall. Interested members welcome.
Hollisdale Hall Hire - booking essential. Contact Harvey 0414 375 333.





Injured wildlife? Call FAWNA 24 hour hotline 6581 4141



25 High Street Wauchope 65 852 113