PITCHFORK

**Pappinbarra Valley Monthly News** Pappinbarra Progress Association & Pappinbarra Outback Association

which had jackpotted to \$40.00 so now we are back to \$10.00 for the August draw. George Hegarty won the raffle and took the Hastings Fruit and Vegies voucher. Congratulations to both of the winners.

**PPA President's Report** Even the rain and cold did not keep the crowd away for the

July FFFN at the hall on 6 July. Perhaps because of the cold

most people were extra hungry which kept Ron, myself and

I hope you're all getting your dancing shoes shined and are practicing your moves for our Bush Dance on the 25 August, details in this issue.

Our next FFFN is on Friday, 3 August and I look forward to seeing you there.

**Regards Julie-Anne** 



**Remember these dates!** 

PPA AGM – tomorrow, Saturday 28 July, 2pm

at Hollisdale Hall followed by a General

September - Greg Ostler Memorial Shield

Pappinbarra; fun for players of all ages, all welcome.

9 September, Recreation Ground, Upper

POA AGM – Sunday 29 July, 2pm at

Meeting

Meeting

Sunday.

Cricket Match

Details in September Pitchfork.

## **Bush Dance**

Last year we had to contend with summer heat and hundreds (thousands?) of Christmas beetles so this year the Bush Dance is a winter event. It's a great, warming night out for dancers of all ages. Jugged Hare have a great 'caller' so no previous experience required. See you there!

# Christmas in July

Wow - an event to be remembered! About 40 people sat down to a sumptuous meal which included turkey, chook, pork, roast vegies, vindaloo beef and lots of other home cooked fare followed by pavlova, cheesecake, chocolate cake and many other goodies. Our thanks go to Joyce, Dale, Michele, Ron and all the others who brought food. Those who chose not to bring food but to pay \$10 said it was the best value meal they had eaten in a long time.

The children and young adults and, of course, some grown ups entertained themselves with games of Table Footy, while the rest of us chatted and drank. Some of the men washed up which was wonderful as there were plenty of plates.

The raffle for the beautiful painting by Jan Farrell was drawn. We all wanted it but it was won by Laurie Murphy, lucky man!

A good night was had by all and there may have been some sore heads and over full tummies the next day. Thank you Julie-Anne for organising a Christmas in July that was so enjoyable.



A great feast was enjoyed by all

1

helper Ryan on the run. Lynton Blythe was the lucky winner of the members draw **Recreational Facilities followed by a General** 

### Meet the Neighbours—Jim McGahey and Kelly Benson

Half way along the Left Arm lies *Turrum Turrum*, the home of Jim McGahey and Kelly Benson. Jim grew up in Sydney. After leaving school, travelling around the world and managing pubs for seven years, he worked for his brother's bush regeneration business. It was here he met Kelly, Melbourne born but raised in Toowoomba, Queensland. After leaving home Kelly developed an interest in bush regeneration while doing a six month Green Corp course. The course included some time spent at the Pappinbarra Field Study Centre clearing privet and the charms of the Pappinbarra valley made Kelly think she would someday like to come and live here. After meeting Jim she brought him to see the valley and they decided it would be a great place to settle.

Following a year looking after a tourist lodge in Daintree, Jim and Kelly finally moved to Pappinbarra on the day of the great dust storm in September 2009. They have found good friends and a great community at Pappinbarra and are very happy living here.

Kelly and Jim now own and run *Wild Things Native Gardens*, a bush regeneration company. Jim works for the company three days a week and also does building work. His other passion is furniture making having done a furniture design course in Sydney.

They're working towards becoming as self-sufficient as possible on their 'hobby farm'. Already the vegies are thriving and the orchard is underway.



Jim, Kelly, Nina and Tess

Jim and Kelly have two delightful children – Nina (5) who attends Beechwood Primary School, and Tess (3).

#### Emma Frost

#### **Cheese Making**

Yes, another item checked off the list. I finally took the plunge with a Community College one-day course in June. I learned how to make (and arrived home with samples of) camembert, fetta, quark, ricotta, mascarpone and Greek style yoghurt. Lyndall Dykes who ran the course welcomed us (12 in all - blokes outnumbered 2:1) with samples of what the day had in store. Later we enjoyed cheesecake for "smoko" and a variety of cooked cheeses for lunch. In between we were inducted into the arcane world of type M and T starters, lipase, rennet and white mould spores used to convert milk (unhomogenised) into a wide range of products of differing textures, smells and flavours. All agreed it was a day well spent as we lumbered out the door

after the 6 hour course with our newly acquired Basic Starter Kits and samples. Some, such as ricotta and cottage cheese, were ready for immediate consumption, while the fetta and camembert needed quite a bit of nurturing - the fetta after a 24 hour brine bath and marinade turned out to be surprisingly good; the camembert, after brining, sporing and drying has to cure for 3 -4 weeks before a verdict can be passed. Last weekend, full of new found enthusiasm, I did up a batch of Persian fetta (500gms from 3 litres). Plans are afoot for camembert and mozzarella and then... maybe into the hard stuff. And no, contrary to rumour, we did not have to swear an oath to the great God Quark that if we divulged any secrets learned that day we would have our life's blood reduced to the consistency of whey. Rather the emphasis was on shared knowledge, self sufficiency, and sustainability. So, if you're interested, contact the Community College for upcoming courses and give it a go.

#### **George Hegarty**



Pappinbarra Progress Association Inc Executive

President: Julie-Anne Murphy 6585- 6309 Vice President: Allan Ferris 6587-6106 Secretary: Jan Childs 6587-6055 Treasurer: Dale Goldfinch 0447-422-134

#### Pappinbarra Outback Association Inc Executive President: Sue Frost 6587-6129 Treasurer: Jan Brown 6587-6159 Secretary: Brenda Patrick Social Organisers: Jessica Zycki, Steve Ostler

## Wild Dogs

Recently a number of landholders have heard, seen, had incidents with or lost animals to wild (or occasionally domestic?) dogs. There's been quite a lot in the media recently about increases in wild dog numbers and attacks in different parts of the state. It would be good to be able to get a bit more of a handle on what's happening in the local area. If you've had wild

**Livestock Guard Animals** 

One way to protect livestock from wild dogs and foxes is to use Livestock Guard Animals (LGAs). NSW Department of Primary Industries has a quite detailed document entitled *Guard Animals for Livestock Protection: Existing and Potential Use in Australia*.

As some in the local area clearly know, alpacas are amongst the group of animals that can be used as LGAs. According to the DPI document Alpacas are hardy, intelligent and gregarious. They have strong herding and protective instincts and an innate dislike of dogs and their relatives. It is these characteristics, along with their ability to bond with domestic livestock that

dog action on your property in the past few months call George Hegarty on 65876077, especially if you can give a description of the dogs. If you've got any information or advice about stock attacks and/or control measures that we can include in *Pitchfork* we'd love to hear from you. <u>bsibthorpe@bigpond.com</u>

make them potentially useful guardians for both livestock, particularly sheep, goats and poultry. Once they have established a paddock as their territory they defend it from potential predators. They move quickly towards the predator emitting a loud squeal. If they corner it they will kick it and stamp on it, sometimes killing it. They will tolerate domestic dogs that they recognise but will aggressively repel others. Do you have experience with using LGAs? Send us a story about it for *Pitchfork* <u>bsibthorpe@bigpond.com</u>

## **Fire Workshop**

There was a good turnout and lively discussion at the workshop *Fire – Asset Protection and Ecological Perspectives* organised by the Pappinbarra Landholders Conservation Group at Hollisdale Hall on Saturday, 7 July. **Bill Peel**, Municipal Ecologist with the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council gave a great snapshot of the geological processes that shaped the forests we have in our local area today. He then went on to describe the fire-significant differences between rainforest plants (about 5% of our local forests) and dry sclerophyll forest plants (the remaining 95%). Dry sclerophyll forest plants are adapted to fire and need fire to regenerate. This makes fire an important and ever present issue for landholders in Pappinbarra Valley.

Ably assisted by John Davison, **Stuart Robb**, Learning and Development Officer with the Fire Mitigation Branch of the regional Rural Fire Service <u>stuart.robb@rfs.nsw.gov.au</u> then walked the group through: local fire risks; landholders' legal responsibilities in relation to fire on their properties; things you

can do to reduce the risk of loss to your property in the event of a fire; requirements for burning off; and processes for addressing perceived hazards on your or a neighbour's property. A series of documents were handed out including "Farm FireWise Checklist and Action Plan" http:// www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp content.cfm?cat id=1161 and "Standards for Asset Protection Zones". http:// www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp content.cfm?cat id=1060. One of Stuart's most important messages was that the Rural Fire Service is ready and willing to provide advice and information to landholders about a wide range of issues to do with fire. Contact the local branch on 6586-4565.

Pappinbarra Landholders Conservation Group will be keeping fire on its agenda so look out for forthcoming events. If you've got an questions or suggestions about forthcoming events contact Peter Michael <u>petewm@hotmail.com</u>

Wauchope Neighbourhood Centre – Free Tax Help Free appointments with qualified Tax Help Volunteers Assistance with the completion of your tax return Strictly confidential

Appointments available August—October each year Criteria apply and bookings are essential 3 Waugh Street, Wauchope Ph: 6586 4055





## **Saturday Sing Along**

We had a full complement of voices for the second sing along at Hollisdale Hall with Elly Franchimont of *Bella Bago* and *Out of the Shower* local choir fame. After an invigorating warm-up appropriate for a wintry morning the group made good progress learning two new songs. It was decided that this would become a regular event – **the second Saturday of every month** from 10-12. See Regular Events P8 for details.

## Bird of the Month—Brown Cuckoo-Dove



**Common name**: Brown Cuckoo-Dove **Other Names**: Brown Pigeon, Pheasant Pigeon, Large tailed Pigeon or Cuckoo Dove.

Scientific name: Macropygia amboinensis

**Size**: 40 – 45 cm.

Status: Secure

The Brown Cuckoo-Dove is a large brown pigeon with a long tapered tail. The plumage is a dark copper brown colour on the back but becomes a lighter cinnamon brown on the underparts. The male has a slight iridescence around

the neck and a fine white line under the eye. The female has a fine pattern to the sides of the neck, a rufus cap to the head and the white line under the eye is more prominent. Juveniles

are coloured much like females. Their call is a loud advertising one, best described as "coo-coo-waaaalk".

Brown Cuckoo-Doves inhabit rainforest and Wet Sclerophyll forest from Far North Queensland down to the Far South Coast of NSW. They are often seen in forest edges, tracks and forest regrowth. They feed mainly on fruits, berries and seeds from both native plants and introduced weed species. The Tree Tobacco is a favourite when fruiting. There is no large scale seasonal movement but they move locally in search of food.

Breeding occurs from July to January. The nest is a frail platform of sticks and twigs placed in the fork of a tree, or on top of a shrub or fern. One to two eggs are laid, incubation takes 18 days and the young fledge 16 days later. Nesting duties are shared.

For further information or questions related to this or other species contact can be made through this email address <u>peter\_fac@yahoo.com.au</u> (that's peter\_fac).





# Plant Profile - Green Cestrum (Cestrum parqui SOLANACEAE)

Every now and then I pick up an old book on weeds in Australia and invariably come across this one within its pages. There's something very real, very down-to -earth - very honest - about a weed that not only does the usual weedy things we've all heard before like 'outcompete desirable species' or 'form impenetrable thickets' (this could be any number of ruinous things) but also kills things. As they might once have said in the old vernacular. it takes a 'real man's' weed to kill things. Now I'm not talking here about making children sick or stock lose condition, I'm talking about a weed that kills almost any domesticated animal that eats it.

This depends on the size of the beast and how much they eat, but whichever way you look at it, <u>dead is dead</u> nomatter whether it's a horse, cow, sheep, pig or fowl. Yep, even your chooks are likely to die from eating Green Cestrum. So the take-home message from this *Plant of the Month* is that if you suspect you have green cestrum, get it properly identified and get rid of it! But first, what is green cestrum?

Green Cestrum is a perennial shrub to about 3 metres tall, with simple leaves





alternating along usually-arching stems. Crushed leaves smell disgusting - I reckon like the smell of burning tyres! Yellowish flowers are born in clusters in winter and produce black, olive-looking fruit. When pulled out, the roots are yellowish-orange in colour (note: plants can re-grow from root fragments). It is noxious in New South Wales and landholders are required to kill plants and reduce infestations. Many control options are available, but definitely not including what my 1977 edition of Weeds of Queensland recommends - by using an overspray of 2,4,5-T!

### FURTHER INFORMATION - Port Macquarie-Hastings Council

(Noxious Weeds Officer) 6581 8111; NSW Dept. of Primary Industries www.dpi.nsw.gov.au or 1800 808 095; Weeds Australia website www.weeds.org.au.

Feel free to drop any plant ID specimens in my mailbox (sealed plastic bag please) (2011 Pappinbarra Rd) with your details and I'll get back to you.

## **Mapping Valley Weeds**

A weed mapping exercise was carried out at 'Tullamore' on Saturday, 21 July by the Pappinbarra Landholders Conservation Group. Local weed expert, Peter Michael ran the workshop for nine Conservation Group members. Pete gave the landholders an introduction to the use of satellite technology for weed mapping on their properties and how the results can be used in weed management and control. He also ran through details of the spread and control of privet. Information about privet is available at <u>www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/primefacts</u> and <u>http://</u> <u>bellingerlandcare.org.au</u>. Anybody interested in being involved in mapping weeds on their properties or in finding out more about their weeds can contact the Pappinbarra Landholders Conservation Group at <u>barralcg@gmail.com</u>.



AUGUST 2012						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 Pottery– 10am	2	<b>3</b> First Friday Family Night– 6pm	4 Yoga 8am	5
<b>6</b> Losing it in the Bush– 1:30pm	7	8 Pottery– 10am	9	10	11 Yoga 8am, Saturday Sing Along–10am-12pm	12
13 Losing it in the Bush– 1:30pm	14	15 Pottery– 10am	16	17	18 Yoga 8am	19
20 Losing it in the Bush– 1:30pm	21	22 Pottery– 10am	23	24	25 Yoga 8am, Farmers' Market– 8am–12pm, Bush Dance–7pm	26 All Saints Church–2pm
27 Losing it in the Bush– 1:30pm	28	29 Pottery– 10am	30	31		

# Hastings Farmer's Market

In August the Hastings Farmers' Market will be run by Patrick McEntee and Emma Frost. Elly will be singing, cycling and sailing in her home country. The winter markets are always lovely to visit with freshly picked citrus and winter vegies for sale. There will also be hot soup and wonderful Thai food. The Hastings Community choir will be singing from 10 am. Robyn Egan will be there spinning her wool and selling her home-spun and hand-knitted garments – lovely and warm for the heart of winter. The market will be held rain, hail, or shine at the **Wauchope Showground** on **Saturday, 25 August from 8 am to 12 noon**.



# Pappinbarra Rural Fire Brigade News

The Hazard Reduction Burn that has been approved for the Crown land adjacent to the Fire Shed & Tennis Court will take place on Saturday, 1 Sept (weather conditions permitting). Pappinbarra, Hollisdale and other invited Brigades will carry out this job as a training exercise. Brigades are to **muster at 10:00am at the fire shed** for morning tea and briefing. Fire-fighters will then all inspect the site and be allocated to works required before the burn can be lit. The burn will take place after lunch.

Pappinbarra Brigade will be providing morning tea and a BBQ lunch (Pappinbarra members please contribute a plate for the morning tea). Visitors are welcome to observe the operation from the safety of the Tennis Court area. Contact me for further information. Secretary: Andy Jarrett B/H 6581-3388 A/H 6587-6181

> Fire Permits to burn off are not required until further notice. Prior to a burn you are required to give your neighbours 24 hours notice in advance. IN CASE OF FIRE – CALL 000

# Hollisdale RFS Brigade NEEDS YOU!

The <u>Hollisdale</u> Rural Fire Service Brigade is <u>in danger of ceasing to</u> <u>operate due to a shortage of volunteers</u>! If you live in the surrounding area think about joining up and helping to keep this important community asset going. Men and women over the age of 16 are eligible to join. Time commitment averages out to about half a day per month. You'll gain knowledge and skills that are not only beneficial for your local community but will also help you better understand and manage your own fire risks.

For more information contact John Davison on 6587-6124 or 0400 -081-822.



# Days Gone By—World War I Peace Declared

"I don't care what the people do, as long as they don't do it in the streets and scare the horses." Whatever the origin of this statement it seems there was at least one occasion when it was ignored the folk of Wauchope!

The announcement of peace at the conclusion of World War 1 gave cause for widespread celebration throughout the country. Wauchope was no exception.

Newspapers reported how people from the town and surrounding district arrived in sulkies and buggies and on horseback, carrying lanterns and flame torches along the unlit streets to witness the burning of an 'effigy' of the Kaiser, which had been placed at the corner of what is now Wallace and High Streets. For many of the children it was the first time they had experienced the wonder of being in town at night. Some of them were seen to be afraid when the men became a bit rowdy and intoxicated, and the noise of voices, together with the explosion of fireworks, 'caused some consternation among the tethered horses'.

# Still Plenty of Sub-standard and/or Hazardous Letter Boxes Out There!

.... and still two bottles of wine to be won. Run through this checklist:

- Your postie can pull up right beside it then travel on forwards
- There is no deep wheel ditch right in front of it (!!)
- It is not surrounded by shrubs or other herbage
- The slot or lid lift is at car window height
- The slot is big enough to receive bulky items
- It is big enough to hold bulky items
- It is weatherproof
- It is clearly numbered

8/8? If not, now is the time to upgrade your box with the possibility of a nice prize for your efforts. Eric and Esma are generously donating a bottle of wine to **each of the next two households** that upgrade their sub-standard box to an 8. Take before and after photos and send them to <u>bsibthorpe@bigpond.com</u> Winning boxes (with photos) announced in *Pitchfork*. Let's get all Valley's letterboxes up to scratch!!



# **Regular PPA/POA Events**

<u>First Friday Family Night</u> *When:* First Friday of the month, 6pm onwards *Where:* Hollisdale Hall *What:* BYO drinks and nibbles, low cost BBQ including vegetarian option, member's draw (cash prize) and raffle *Contact:* Julie-Anne Murphy 6585-6309

### Yoga

When: Every Saturday morning, 8-9.30AM Where: Hollisdale Hall What: \$15 (mats are provided) Contact: Amy Hubers <u>stillpointyogamassage@gmail.com</u> 6585-3470

## Saturday Sing Along

When: Second Saturday of every month, 10am -12md Where: Hollisdale Hall What: \$10 (\$5 of which goes to the PPA); morning tea (bring something delicious to share if the urge takes you) Contact: Elly Franchimont 6587-6097 or 0424 220 937 www.vocalpointevents.com

## Losing it in the Bush

Another **6-week** session of this great, **FREE PROGRAM** with accredited exercise physiologist Rhonda Coppin, designed for older people not in the workforce. *When:* Every Monday 6 August – 10 September, 1.30 -2.30 pm

*Where:* Hollisdale Hall *Contact:* Di Penberthy 6588-2859 or 0429-600-346

Dianne.Penberthy@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au

# **PPA/POA** Matters

<u>PPA Committee meetings</u> – monthly at 5:30pm on Friday the week before First Friday Family Night – all welcome. <u>Facilities for Hire</u> Hollisdale Hall – contact Jan Childs 6587-

6055. Upper Pappinbarra facilities and tennis court - contact Jan Brown 6587-6159

## **All Saints Church**

Services are held **every fourth Sunday at 2 pm** with a cuppa 'off the back of the ute' around **2.45p.m.** All welcome.



#### Circulation

Pitchfork

Pitchfork has hardcopy and email circulation of approximately 260, now including Kooree Island Road. It comes out on the Friday before First Friday Family Night – Friday, 31 August for the September Issue. Material for the September Issue to Editor by Wednesday, 22 August.

Advertising

We run both casual and regular advertisements at very competitive rates. Contact Chay Khamsone. **Production Team** PPA Secretary: Jan Childs janmary1301@bigpond.com 6587-6055 Editor: <u>bsibthorpe@bigpond.com</u> 6584-0051 or 6587-6075 Production: Angela Frost <u>angfrost@hotmail.com</u> Advertising: Chay Khamsone <u>kwanchay@hotmail.com</u> 6587-6022 POA Member: Sue Frost <u>suefrost6@hotmail.com</u> 6587-6129

The views expressed in Pitchfork are not necessarily those of the PPA or POA.

PPA Membership Fees for existing and new members should be paid by 31 July, 2012. (Note: If you only joined in the last 3 months, you are financial until June 30, 2013). Renew/join and help keep the Hollisdale Hall and community events alive.

	PPA Membership 2012-2013 \$5 per adult	
PLEASE PRINT		Ŷ
Member Names:		_ \
Address:		_
Email:	Phone:	-
Payment amount:		
Sond cash or choque made out to "	(Panninharra Progress Association" to: Ian Child	s 1301 Pappinharra

Send cash or cheque made out to "Pappinbarra Progress Association" to: Jan Childs, 1301 Pappinbarra Rd, Pappinbarra NSW 2446.