Why be anywhere else?



# Wingello is home for all of us

New and old arrivals are calling Wingello home

Wingello is a great place to live.

It is sort of a secret that our home situated on the Southern end of the Southern Highlands is such a good place to live. We have a genuine country lifestyle with access to major regional centres within 45 minutes and the edges of Sydney are within one hour or so drive.

Over the last few years many new people have moved here, deciding to make Wingello their home. The desire to make a place your home is different to simply ending up somewhere.

This embrace of Wingello as a home can be seen in the marvellous work so many are doing in making their houses and properties much more pleasant. You can see the effect in the painting, repairing and updating of houses and boundaries, new gardens and planting, clearing long neglected trees and replacing them with more appropriate ones.

We can also see this in couples and families enjoying the improving weather, going for a walk and taking the opportunity to enjoy their village. Naturally, any walk with children ends up at the park!

As Wingello is a real village, and not just a suburb in a large city, we have a wide variety of people living here - young, old, families, couples, rich, poor and all varieties in between.

How do newcomers get to know existing villagers?

Going for a walk and saying "Gedday" to the people you meet, catching up with each other when getting mail or the daily essentials, meeting other parents in the playground, joining the Wingello Rural Fire Brigade or Win-

gello Tigers Cricket Club, attending community events

such as Trivia nights, balls, Christmas Carols at the shop and so on, enjoying a coffee and watch the village go by or having dinner at the shop on Friday nights.

Being part of the village means meeting your fellow villagers. Just say "Gedday".





The Village Elders - many of whom have called Wingello home for many, many years - are effectively an unofficial neighbourhood watch.

They are active all around the village, whether it be in their gardens, going for a walk, walking their dogs, or just catching

up at the shop and Wingello is a much better place having an active population throughout the day.

Many suburbs in Sydney are virtual ghost towns during the day as both parents work and the children are off to school. It is said that many home thieves work business hours as that is when the homes are empty!

That technique doesn't work in Wingello. That is because Wingello is a living home for all of us.

Whenever I return from working in Sydney, Canberra or elsewhere, the sign pointing to Wingello means Home.



## Glossy Black Cockatoo sighted

Did you know that we have a threatened species of bird living in our area?

Not to be mistaken for a yellow tailed black cockatoo the Glossy Black Cockatoo is distinguished by its red tail and dappled yellow head and crest. This lovely bird feeds and nests around Wingello, Penrose and Tallong. It only feeds on casuarina (she oak) seeds. Its beak is too small for pine cones. A pair raises one chick each year.

This species is under severe strain. It is preyed on by cats. Its nesting habitat of large hollow gum trees is being removed at a rapid rate, along with its food source of she oaks.

Students at Wingello Public school are trying to raise awareness of the plight of this unique bird.

You can check out the posters, brochures and information at the school's Nature Reserve Information bay at the entrance to the Nature Reserve.

How can you help us save the Glossy Black Cockatoo?

Plant some casurinas in your garden

• Land holders could retain stands of she oaks and old growth gum trees



#### Better Barista Coffee



In October, Ariel completed an Advanced Barista course in Sydney. On one hand this means Ariel now has a bit of paper that says she can do what she has been doing for the last 4 years anyway, but it has also taught Ariel many more advanced tips and techniques for making better coffee. We have purchased all the training materials so Ariel will be able to pass on what she has learned to raise our coffee making skills to a new, higher level.

Our team of people at Wingello are all eager to make great coffees for you - at the same prices for the last four years!

# Wingello Fire Brigade News

Another month closer to Christmas and the summer is with us once again. The brigade has been busy this last month with two hazard reductions taking place in Wingello. The first was along Sydney Street undertaken on a Friday evening with the help from Penrose Brigade and completed late into the night.

The second, just recently along Mundego St was quite a large burn at 27 ha and with the assistance from Penrose, Bundanoon and Buxton brigades was carried out without too many problems. We apologise to the residents and the cricketers for any inconvenience that they may incurred in regards to smoke and the extra tankers that were around the village. This hazard reduction was strategic to providing increased protection to the village. Thanks to all the crew members who assisted in this HR.

The brigade's new storage shed has now been erected and awaiting occupancy. Just a few things remain to be completed before we start using it. This shed will provide valuable space particularly on occasions when Wingello Fire Station is set up as a staging area during a large fire event. The brigade appreciates the support and assistance of the **Veolia Mulwarree Trust** in providing a significant grant to enable this work to be carried out.

The brigade also assisted in two other hazard reductions that were carried out in the shire over the last few weeks. The last was to assist Fire Rescue New South Wales in a burn on Mt.Gibraltar near Bowral.

No birthdays during the month of October but we will have some for the next news letter.

Recently Wingello participated in joint training with Exeter, Bundanoon and Penrose brigades in a traffic control course. This qualification provides our members with the skills to safely control traffic on the many occasions in which we have to perform this role such as motor vehicle accidents on our local roads.

Now that the hot weather and the bush fire danger period is upon us we hope that you have completed the

necessary clean up and preparation around your homes and filled out your Bush Fire Survival Plan. Remember "Planning to make a Plan is NOT a Plan"

## Store Opening Hours Phone: 02 4884 4340

Mon - Thu: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Fridays: 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
(Restaurant till later in the evening!)

Weekends: 8:00am - 2:30pm
Public holidays: 8:00am - 10:30am

We are open Every Day except Good Friday and Christmas.