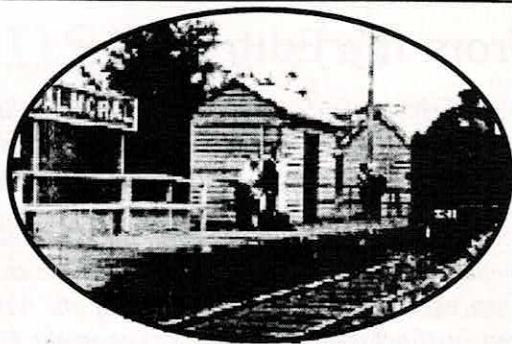


Balmoral

Village Voice



August 2000

No 19.

A newsletter published by the Balmoral Village Association Inc.

EARLY MORNING RAID ON FIRESHED

The Balmoral Village fireshed was the victim of a break and enter before dawn on Sunday 28th May resulting in the loss of the brigade's chainsaw.

Numerous firesheds in both Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Shires have been the target for what is believed to be the same group of thieves, who have a fondness for chainsaws.

Balmoral Village was not the only Brigade to fall victim that same morning, with a similar crime being carried out at Alpine/Aylmerton, Pheasant's Nest and Penrose.

Thieves cut the padlock on the large roller-door, entered the fireshed and took the Stihl chainsaw which was on the firetruck, using the cover of dark, as

well as the fierce winds which blew all night.

The Brigade is asking all residents to be watchful as they pass the fireshed or if they live nearby.

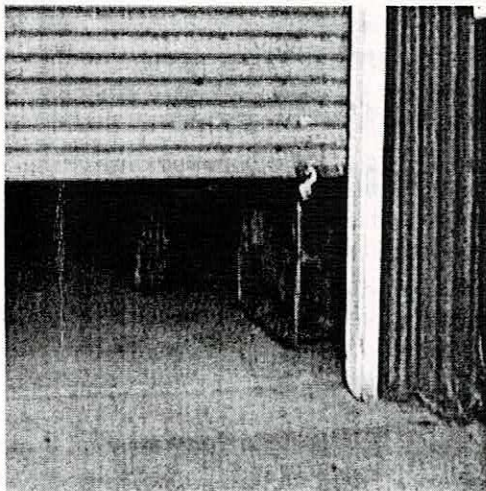


Photo: Thieves cut the padlock and entered the shed through the large roller door.

From the Editor:

Well, here is the winter edition of the Village Voice, better late than never. Welcome to the new families and babies to the Village. On behalf of the Association I hope it is not long before you are able to join in at Village functions.

Unfortunately I am unable to provide any historical feature in this issue as I am completely out of 'historical material. I am currently looking for information which I can use in the historical section of the Village Voice. Any residents who have been in the Village for a long time might have some newspaper clippings or old photos, etc. which could be turned into an article to get me through one more edition. I would be most grateful.

*If you would like to contribute something to the next Village Voice, drop it in to me at No 7 Station Street, phone me on 48 898 146 or Email me:
(paulmallia@yahoo.com.au).*

The next edition will be out in November. (It will be put together throughout October) so there's plenty of time to realise that you have some information that the rest of the Village might be interested in.

Paul Mallia.

Aluminium Windows Aluminium Doors

**Delivery Service to
Southern
Highlands**

**TRU-BLUE
WINDOWS P/L
Ph: 9750 9615**

St Paul's Anglican Church Colo Vale



3rd Sunday of the month,
Holy Communion, 10:45 am.

Every other Sunday,
Morning Prayer, 10:00 am.

Enquiries:
Michael Course - 48 898 645
Dulcie Waite - 48 894 207

Rev Peter Frith,
19 Albert St, Mittagong
ph 48 711 947

Break-ins: Are you "Neighbourhood Watching" ?

Recent break-ins in Balmoral have prompted the Association to ask the question, "Are you watching out for your neighbour?"

Although no formal program of "Neighbourhood Watch" exists in Balmoral, most homes in the village are visible from neighbours' houses.

Reports of cars sitting on roadsides watching rural properties then quickly driving off when approached could indicate thieves looking for possible target houses.

Day times seem to be the thieves most popular choice, while residents are at work.

Obvious precautions include not leaving popular items for thieves (power tools, cameras etc) in visible locations, as well as letting a neighbour know about your expected times away from your house.

If any suspicious activity is noticed, residents should make themselves 'obvious' without approaching possible 'suspects' or contact Picton police on 46 771 288

Dogged by Strays

A recent series of problems arising from stray dogs in the village has been brought to the attention of the Association, prompting an appeal for all dog owners to be aware of their pets whereabouts and behaviour.

The most recent occurrence, on Saturday night, 8th July, resulted in a goat being attacked and killed by a dog while tethered outside a fence to eat long grass.

Owners Pat and Lance Lawrence heard the goat bleating, and as they went outside, saw a black dog running from the mauled goat.

In a previous incident, a dog on Wilson Drive was alleged to be a contributing factor to a car accident, as the driver attempted to swerve to avoid hitting it.

In other cases residents have been concerned by uncontained dogs which might worry passers by, especially children on bikes.

The Animal Companion Act states that if residents wish to own a dog it should be contained in their own property. The Association are asking that dog owners regularly check fences and know where their pet is at all times.

New Sign Directs Village Visitors

A new sign on Railway Parade, opposite the Railway crossing is already aiding visitors to the Village, as they attempt to find streets on their first Village Visit.

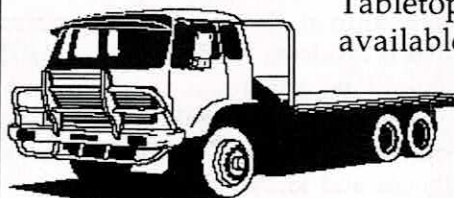
The sign, hand painted and decorated in folk art by Lisa Spears, maps and names the streets of the Village area.

Installed last month next to the Village Noticeboard, the sign is often used by visitors or tourists and provides another welcoming feature to the entrance of the Village.

A huge thank you to Lisa for taking the many hours to complete the work.



Need to move a load ? Problem solved !



Tabletop truck in the village now available for all your haulage needs.

* Very Reasonable Rates
Ph. Peter : 48 898 004

News from the...

Balmoral Village Association.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on Sunday 9th July at the Village Hall, where office bearers were elected for the 2000-2001 year.

President- Larry Wilson
Vice Presidents- Gordon Ibbett
Vicky Dowling
Stephen Bishop
Secretary - Cathy Everton
(Assistant Sec) Lesley Bramich
Treasurer- Lyle Spears
Editor/Publicity- Paul Mallia

Community Day

A Community Day is to be held Sunday 15th October from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Village Hall.

All residents are invited to join together as a community to complete some maintenance jobs on the Hall and its grounds, like painting, building outdoor furniture and gardening. The Balmoral Hall is one of the few in the shire which is not owned by the council, but by the Village. It is managed by the Association who are asking the Village to get involved in its care. If you are able to help out your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please call Larry Wilson on 48 898 151.

Thank you Stephen Bishop

At the AGM, The Association formally recognised the contribution Stephen Bishop makes to the Village by regularly slashing the grassed entrance to the Village and Village footpaths.

Steve uses his own tractor and own time to complete this task which makes the entrance to the Village much more aesthetic. Congratulations Steve and thank you on behalf of the Village.

Hall Hire

The hall, which is managed by the Association is available for hire. It is ideal for classes, parties or regular meetings etc for very reasonable rates. Also for hire are the hall seats, tables and a marquee tent, ideal for people having parties at home. Contact Stephen Bishop well in advance, if possible, on 48 898 740.

Postal Address

The Balmoral Association shares a post office box at Buxton along with the Balmoral Tennis Club and Fire Brigade. If you would like to send correspondence to the Association, the official Address is:

Balmoral Village Association
PO Box 87,
Buxton,
NSW, 2571.

(Content for the Village Voice can be sent to the PO Box or directly to the Editor)

All Welcome !

The Balmoral Association meet on the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. (July meeting is the AGM on Sunday 1st July).

In upcoming meetings the Association will be discussing lighting of the hall and its grounds, ground improvements as well as any other topical local issues.

All residents are very welcome to attend and have a chat and tea or coffee.

Fire Brigade News.....

Annual Bonfire Night

With fireworks no longer possible at the annual function, the bonfire night this year was a smaller event than the previous couple of years.

The smaller crowd who braved the typically cold winter bonfire night weather were still warmed by the glow of the huge bonfire.

Children exhausted themselves on the jumping castle, while parents enjoyed the warm offerings from the Fire Brigade Barbeque and Association Soup Kitchen while socialising with other Villagers.

Fire Brigade Raffle

The Fire Brigade Raffle was drawn on Bonfire night (1st July) in front of the hopeful crowd.

Results:

1st place	Stephen Bishop, Balmoral.
2nd Place	P. Williams, Balmoral
3rd Place	E. Drescher, Thirlmere.

In all the brigade raised over \$700 which will be used to purchase radios and torches for brigade use.

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets in support of the Fire Brigade.

Engraver for Hire

The Brigade has recently purchased an engraver to enable it to engrave all equipment, making it less inviting for thieves.

The brigade will hire the engraver to residents of the Village for a small donation so that they too can protect their valuable possessions. Contact the Fireshed, Wednesday nights, on 48 898 387.

Hazard Reduction 2000

The brigade has begun hazard reduction this winter in the previously publicised locations around the Village.

The largest area to be worked on this year is the area to the north of the Village, east to the Weir Road. Many small perimeter burns have been carried out in this area as well as a great deal of track and firebreak preparation so that the area can be burned off safely.

Once this is completed, hazard reduction is also planned for the following areas:

- * Completion of the burn previously conducted behind properties on Station St, including Truro.

- * Along sections of the railway line from Buxton to Saddleback.

Fire Restrictions back in September

Now that there are no fire restrictions in place and the winter weather is favourable, residents should complete hazard reduction on their own property in preparation for next summer. If you have a small, safe fire to burn, you are permitted to light without informing authorities, but for any reasonable sized fire, please inform Peter Lawrence on 48 898 007.

Burning off must be completed by the end of August this year, as restrictions will come into place leading up to the Olympics. Pg 6

Chainsaw Sharpening

Chains for chainsaws can be sharpened at the fireshed on Wednesday nights for a fee of \$4.00 per chain. Discount for Brigade members.

Membership /Meetings

If you would like to become a member of the brigade, whether to be an active firefighter or to learn about fire behaviour for the protection of your own home, why not go along to weekly meetings. Participating in the small upcoming hazard reduction activities or water pumping exercises might give you an insight into the work of the fire brigade.

The Balmoral Bushfire Brigade meet each Wednesday night at 7:30pm in the fireshed. The meetings are conducted in a relaxed social setting over a cup of tea or coffee and everyone is most welcome to attend. Business is conducted on the first Wednesday of each month.

NPWS Burn

The National Parks and Wildlife Service conducted a Hazard Reduction Burn in the State Recreation Area west of Hilltop and Balmoral on 1st and 2nd August. Perimeters were burned along Seabrooke Rd, Powerlines Rd and to the northern side of Bolans Rd.

'West Balmoral' Landowners

Owners of properties to the west of Wilson Drive are being asked by the National Parks and Wildlife Service to make a courtesy call to them if they are planning to light large fires or burn off. If smoke is noticed in or near a National Park, the NPWS must send a ranger out to investigate, and a courtesy call by neighbours would save them this time. Call Ranger Sharon Evans at Picton on 46 596 133, or the city office on 9542 0648.

This newsletter
was kindly printed by

**Peddle Press
Prestige
Printing.**

Contact Peddle Press for all
your printing needs.

Ph (02) 46 55 8234.

Pricing Policy for the Village Voice

At the August '99 meeting of the Association a price was set for business advertising in the VV.

A full page advertisement will cost \$40 or \$10 for each quarter of a page. Of course, Balmoral community service or non- business ad's are free. If you have something you would like the rest of the village to know about, like your business, something you are selling etc, we'll even design your ad'. Contact the Editor for more information. (48 898 146)

Film Society Saturday Nights

The Spring Programme.....

Saturday 12th August,

Der Starke Ferdinand,

German, 1976. Directed by A Kluge. (98 mins)

Saturday 9th September,

Psycho,

U.S, 1960. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock. (108 mins)

Homesdale,

Australian, 1971. Directed by Peter Weir. (50 mins)

Saturday 14th October,

Sunless,

French, 1982. Directed by Chris Marker. (100 mins)

Saturday 11th November,

Blow-up,

British, 1966. Directed by Antonioni. (111 mins)

The Balmoral Film Society meets at Steve and Janine's at 5 Railway Parade (the old schoolhouse) on the second Saturday of each month at 7:00pm during Winter and 8:00pm during daylight savings time. If you are interested in joining the Society please ring Steve or Janine on 4889 8479 .

Janine King.



Piano / Keyboard Lessons

Available at Balmoral Village

Registered teacher with the
Australian Music Education Board

For further information contact
Hailey: 48 898 292



If you would like a birthday of a friend or relative added to our birthday list, contact the editor.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to:

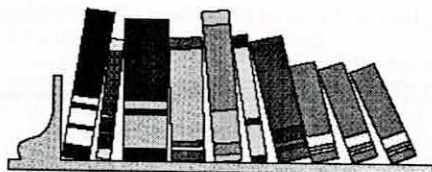
Justin Spears - 23 /8
Lyle Spears- 29/8
Rory Spears - 8/9
Lesley Bramich - 2/10
Mick Ibbett - 16/10
Peter Lawrence - 28/10

Wingecaribbee Mobile Library - Tuesday Afternoons

Now 2:15pm -2:45pm
near Village Noticeboard

At Balmoral on:

Tues, Aug 8th, 22nd
Tues, Sept 5th, 19th
Tues, Oct 3rd, 17th
Tues, Nov 14th, 28th



From the Tennis Club... Come and Have a Game!

The tennis club are always looking for new people to come along and join in their Wednesday social games, but may consider a weekend social game, Saturday or Sunday, depending on interest shown.

The Tennis court behind the hall is also available for private bookings at very reasonable rates. Its good to see that more families and friends are hiring the court for casual games.

If you would like to join any of the social games or to hire the court phone Pat Lawrence on (02)48 898 066.

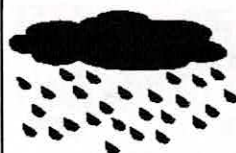
(Call the day or night before if possible).

Children must always have an adult supervising.



Pat Lawrence.

Pg 9



The Balmoral Village

Raingauge



May

May 1 - 3.5mm
May 2 - 9.5mm
May 3 - 11mm
May 4 - 7.5mm
May 5 - 3.5mm
May 24 - 3.5mm
May 25 - 5mm
May 28 - 1.5mm(sleet)

June

Jun 11 - 1.5mm
Jun 18 - 2.5mm
Jun 19 - 3mm
Jun 23 - .5mm
Jun 27 - 2.5mm
Jun 29 - 40.5mm
Jun 30 2.5mm

July

Jul 2 - 1.5mm
Jul 3 - 2.5mm
Jul 6 - 2.75mm
Jul 17 - 2mm
Jul 25 - 2.5mm
Jul 27 - 3.5mm

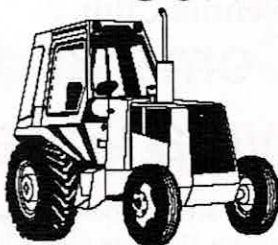
** Results collected by Lyle & Lisa Spears in Balmoral Village. Readings are taken each morning at 7:30am for the 24 previous hours.*

Heather's House Cleaning

- * Weekly, fortnightly or just a one-off.
- * Excellent references.
- * Reasonable prices.

Ph: 0418 697 810

Steve's Slashing Service



- * Small or Large acreages
- * Slashing
- * Fence post removal and general tractor work
- * Reliable operator

Ring Steve for a competitive quote.

48 898 740.

The Balmoral Gardener

Hedging Your Best Tom Cunneen

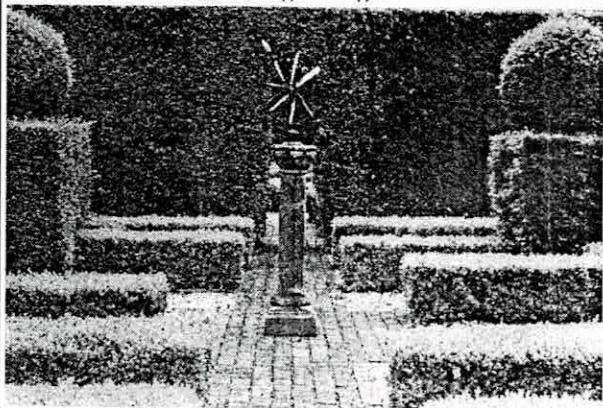
Nothing sets off a garden quite as well as a formal hedge. Whether it is a border to a meandering driveway, or a small circle around a birdbath, a hedge can add a touch of class to any garden. In this edition, we will look at some of the smaller hedges that are more suited to a smaller garden in this area. Windbreaks and other large hedges will be discussed in a later edition.

Teucrium fruticans or Dwarf Germander is usually an unruly shrub, which can grow to over 2m. However if trimmed, it can form a magnificent hedge when planted 45 to 60cm apart. An added bonus to this plant is that it has blue flowers that appear in late spring and summer (although with the seasons lately, it has been flowering mid winter). One disadvantage that we have found is that growth along the hedge in the early years can be a little uneven, although once established, this is not so much of a problem. *Teucrium* needs trimming every two months to keep it looking at its best.

Buxus or box hedge is one that most of us are familiar with. Although slow, once a box hedge is established, it will last forever, as can be seen in the 17th Century formal gardens of France and Italy. There are over 70 species of *Buxus*, with the most common species used in Australia being *Buxus sempervirens* (and sub-species) and *Buxus microphylla* (and sub-species). The box hedge is tolerant of low water conditions, but responds well to regular watering, especially in the early years when establishing. Some varieties are prone to going slightly brown during the frosts of winter. Varieties like *Buxus* "Faulkner" are said to be less susceptible to this. Pruning twice a year is all that is usually needed to keep a box hedge looking good. When planting, a 15 to 30cm spacing between plants is usually used.

Escallonia is used to form hedges up to 2.5m tall and rewards the gardener with multitudes of flowers from late summer through to winter. *Escallonia Iveyi* is the most commonly used of the 60 species for hedging, and has fragrant white flowers. Apple Blossom, with its pink flowers is equally suitable. *Escallonia macrantha rubra* has dark red flowers. Plant about 45cm apart when planting a smaller hedge, and 70-80cm apart when forming a larger hedge. Prune to shape after flowering. Plants in our garden have been continuously flowering for over 6 months, so pruning during flowering is looking like an option.

Lonicera nitida, or Box Leafed Honeysuckle, is a faster growing hedge used sometimes in place of Box. This one is for the impatient gardener who can't wait three or four years for a box hedge to establish. The only problem here is that *Lonicera* will require more trimming throughout the year. We have found that it requires slightly more water than the other hedges to look its best, and hot, humid summer days can make it suffer. *Lonicera nitida* if left unchecked, will grow to about 3.5m tall and 3m wide, and is therefore excellent for topiaries. *Lonicera* is commonly used to form animal shapes (and even trains). Plant about 20 to 30cm apart when making a hedge.



For all hedges, mulching and slow release fertilizer will help establish your hedge, and keep it looking good. If you are impatient and wish to establish your border quicker, simply place the plants closer to each other. Don't limit yourself to borders with these plants. They are equally suitable for garden focal points when topiarised to form balls, inverted cones or pyramids.

Thanks to The Royal Horticultural Society "Encyclopedia of Gardening" for the photo
Pg 11

The Village Noticeboard

A handy list of upcoming dates and information.

Important Dates:

- * Saturday, 12th August, Film Society:
"Der Starke Ferdinand". Contact Janine King.
- * Tuesday 5th September,
Balmoral Village Association Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Hall.
- * Saturday, 9th September, Film Society:
"Psycho" and "Homesdale". Contact Janine King.
- * Tuesday 3rd October,
Balmoral Village Association Meeting, 7:30pm, Village Hall.
- * Saturday, 14th October, Film Society:
"Sunless". Contact Janine King.

Regular Events:

- * Balmoral Bushfire Brigade meet each Wednesday night,
7:30pm at the fire shed.
(business conducted on First Wednesday of month)
- * Tennis club play Wednesdays,
10:00am, at the the tennis club (behind village hall)

Phone Numbers:

- * Bush Fire Control Dial 000
- * Tennis Club or Tennis Court bookings,
phone Pat Lawrence, 48 898 066.
- * Film Society enquiries, phone Janine King or
Steve Harrison, 48 898 479.
- * Fire permits,
Peter Lawrence 48 898 004 or Michael Course 48 898 645.

If you have a date or other information for the
noticeboard, contact the editor (ph48 898 146)