Autumn | ISSUE 1

the WELSHIES SPORTS CLUB

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Email us with your contributions

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WELCOME

Hello everyone and welcome to our first edition of The Welshman our quarterly newsletter.

We aim to use the newsletter to help keep you up to date with the latest developments at the park and all the social events and fundraisers planned throughout the year.

In December we celebrated 12 months since saving our park from closure.

Seventeen months on the work continues to ensure it is a viable and vibrant park into the future.

As part of this work, park plumber Dave Anderson arranged for and installed 6 new fire fighting water tanks at strategic locations. Each tank needed to have a 60 metre coverage for the fire hoses.

Dave and team are now completing the plumbing for our Fire Upgrade.

The committee is also getting closer to finalising plans for the sewerage system upgrade and is planning to undertake some initial improvement works. More page 2.

BE WATER WISE

Campers will be aware that with decreasing water levels the lake has been subject to outbreaks of Blue Green Algae.

Therefore the committee has opted to truck in fresh water until the issue is resolved.

As a result we ask that campers please be mindful. Do not water grass and plants, take short showers and use water sparingly. Hopefully we will be blessed with some good rain soon.

CAR BOOT SALE SUCCESS

We capped off 2015 with another great Open Day and Car Boot Sale fundraiser. There were some great stalls and bargains to be had. Thanks to all those who turned out and showed their support. The day raised around $800. Thanks to our fantastic fundraising team.

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A STEP CLOSER

The committee has been working hard behind the scenes since we saved the park to organise the upgrades needed to satisfy requirements and ensure it has a bright future. We are nearing the completion of the major Fire Upgrade and are also well into investigation and planning for the sewerage upgrade. Member Lynal Bastin has also undertaken a number of electrical upgrades, upgrading infrastructure and installing safety switches.

Meanwhile members should continue to see minor improvements in coming months supported by our fundraising efforts.

The committee has been undertaking extensive research on a range of options for the upgrade of our sewerage system.

In the meantime we have been advised to undertake a series of works to demonstrate to Goulburn Murray Water that we have commenced this process.

At last week's committee meeting we resolved to seek quotes for the following works:

1.Conversion of all toilet and urinal cisterns to dual flush low volume cisterns.
2. Conversion of all sink taps to spring loaded timer taps that cut out after 10 seconds.
3. Installation of timers on all showers limiting shower times.
4. Removal of all existing septic tanks and installation of double 3,500 litre in-line plastic tanks in their place ie two 3,500 litre tanks for each block and one for the house.
5. Installation of pump wells and pumps at exit of each pair of in-line septic tanks.
6. Replacement of all sewer lines from source to ponds. It may be possible to achieve this by the installation of 60ml plastic line which could potentially be forced along the inside of the existing terra cotta pipes. This would obviate the need for trenching. If trenching was required it would be very cheap to dig as only 60 mls.

The committee will be seeking a quote from park plumber Dave Anderson and welcomes quotes from other parties.

The committee also voted to form a social committee and open a separate fundraising account with the Maldon and District Community Bank. These funds will be used to undertake minor improvement works. The social committee is currently planning a wood raffle and social function at the Crown Hotel (see page 3). The group aims to use funds from these events to revamp our park entrance, the area around the kiosk, including the installation of a wishing well style community notice board by member Darren, and the upgrade of the old kiosk for use at social events. This committee is delighted to have received a number of donations of goods and offers of man hours and skill support from members.

EASTER FUN

It was great to see a lot of campers out enjoying the park over the Easter break despite a lack of water and the algae. Many still enjoyed the chance to fish, cycle and motorbike ride and the Easter Egg Hunt for the kids organised by committee member Tony Knight was a great success. The little ones enjoyed a hunt near the playground and the bigger kids hunted for eggs down on the lake bed. There were lots of smiling faces and yummy eggs to be enjoyed. Thanks to Tony and his helpers. We capped of the weekend with a great report on the park by WIN News. See our Facebook page to view the video.

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Some youngsters enjoy a dip in the lake late last year. The water level is now at 11.25%.

BLUE GREEN ALGAE

Blue Green Algae is still present in the lake. High levels of blue-green algae is potentially toxic to humans and animals. For your safety, avoid direct contact with this water.

People who come into contact with affected water should wash affected skin immediately with cold clean water.

GMW recommend that people and pets do not enter the water.

Do not use the affected water for cooking, drinking, washing or showering. Boiling the affected water will not make it safe for these purposes.

Boating is still allowed.

FIRE SAFETY

Is your fire audit up to date? Do you have a current fire extinguisher, fire blanket and smoke alarm in place? Did you change your smoke alarm battery with the change of Daylight Savings? If you have any queries speak to manager Mark.

VANS FOR SALE

We have had a number of vans go on the market and a number of vans sell in recent months. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest members to the park and say farewell to those moving on. There are currently 8 vans for sale: Nos 5, 12, 16, 24, 40, 70, 79, 89. Be sure to let your friends and family know as now is a great time to snap up a great van at the park. See our website at www.welshmansreefwsc.com.au for more details.

Social events

RAINFALL

In 2015 Cairn Curran recorded some of its lowest rainfall since 2006. Monthly rainfall comparisons for the last quarter for 2015 and 2016 were as follows: Jan 2016 – 36.4ml/ Jan 2015 – 54.6ml; Feb 2016 – 12.8 ml/ Feb 2015 – 12.8ml; Mar 2016 – 33.8ml/ March 2015 – 9ml; April 2016 4.6mls/ April 2015 19.6mls; May 2016 16.2mls to date/ May 2015 23.8mls.

STORAGE LEVELS

Storage levels have been steadily decreasing. In Nov the reservoir was at 24.3%, Dec 21.6%, Jan 19.7%, Feb 18.2%, Mar 15.0%, April 12.9%, May 11.25%. You can subscribe to GMW and they will email you weekly with the water levels? Just go to: http://www.g-mwater.com.au/subscribe/