



# PITCHFORK

## Pappinbarra Valley Monthly News

Issue 114

December/January 2017

### PPA President's message

Pitchfork has galvanized us as a community more than ever this year. It is the envy of many other localities who put out a newsletter. There have been a few changes behind the scene. The editorship has passed from Jean to Adrian and there have been some changes, which you may have noticed. Thank you, Jean, for your hard work and thank you Adrian for taking on this role. Pitchfork is now printed outside the valley, as the PPA printer has seen better days. Thank you to Jan and Mary for many years of looking after and *massaging* the printer to get Pitchfork ready to be delivered. Liz Gough has, for the last three years, looked after the advertising and this role has now been taken up by Sam Neale, our new PPA committee member. Thank you, Liz, we appreciated your dedication to this role. Pitchfork costs more to distribute each year than the revenue received from advertising. Next year the cost of advertising will increase slightly; but we will endeavour to keep our cost as low as possible. Because Pitchfork is a vital tool connecting our community we are determined to find ways to keep it going. Your support is needed to help this happen.

Being a financial member of the PPA will assist us in funding the newsletter. It's only \$5 for a membership and the form is on the back of the Pitchfork. If you are not a member, please consider it. We distribute a newsletter to the mailbox of almost all (300) properties in the valley; but we currently have only about 75 financial members! Join us!

There are many people behind the scenes who contribute and collaborate each month to bring us this newsletter, to you all, thank you. Your efforts don't go unnoticed. I would especially like to thank the advertisers who support us by placing their ads each month. Without you the PPA would not be able to publish this newsletter. We really value your support and I am sure that all the readers appreciate this quick reference to local services and businesses. Pitchfork is delivered to Pappinbarra residents in hard copy and it is can be found at the Post Office, the Beechwood Store, the Pub and Eco Wild in Wauchope. There is also a growing circulation of email recipients. Would you like to receive Pitchfork by email? Send a request to the editor ([adrianguthrie@gmx.com](mailto:adrianguthrie@gmx.com)) and we can include you in our monthly email list.

For some, this year has brought with it severe hardships, trauma and ill health. For others it has been a time of great personal achievements, growth and new beginnings. Of course, most of us are touched by both. My wish for all this year is to give you the strength to deal with whatever has come your way, along with the energy to cope with all the changes.

Merry Christmas, good health and a quiet and relaxing holiday season to all. — **Lisa McLeod**

Guess who's coming to  
Pappinbarra?

That's right! **SANTA!**  
Don't miss him!

December First Friday will be a  
very Christmasy celebration for  
all. 1st of December at the Hall.



**Permits are required for burning off. Call 6588 9000.**  
**You also need to give your neighbours at least 24 hours notice.**  
**IN CASE OF FIRE – CALL 000**

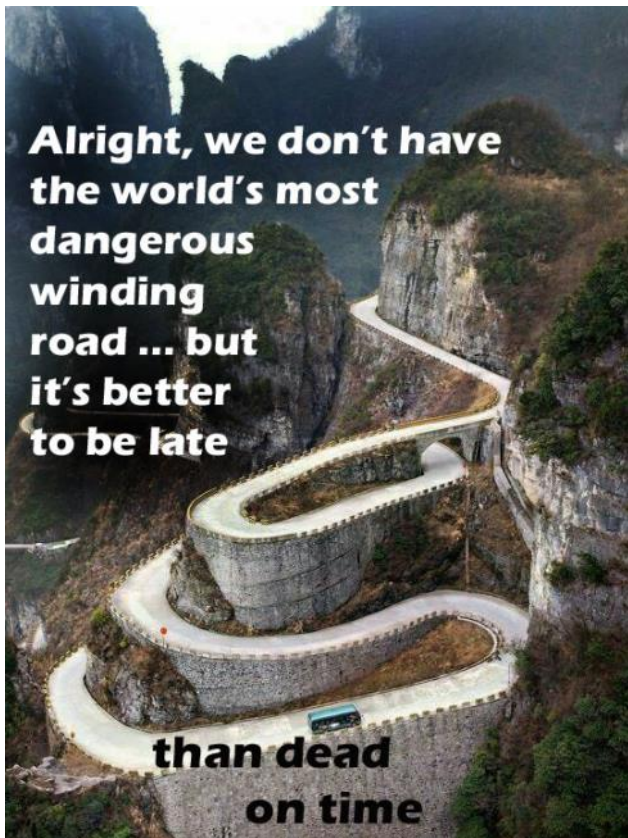
## Rural Fire Service Message

Hi all

Hollisdale has only been called out a couple of times this month this bit of cooler weather has certainly helped the brigades and has brought the fire danger down to low-moderate. So our fire fighters in the Hastings area have been able to get a much needed rest before summer. The expectation is for a very hot season so we cannot get complacent and with this in mind we have been getting excellent numbers for training.

I would like to remind residents that we are all volunteers and if there is a fire which needs to be reported you must call 000 as the truck cannot leave the station without authorisation.

Cheers, Chris Roelandts, Hollisdale Captain



## Rebuild Pappinbarra Report Summary Fodder, Fencing & Farm Gear

A total of \$26,546.94 was raised in response to the fires in the valley earlier this year.

- \$24,946.00 was spent at Wauchope Rural. Fencing products were made available and vouchers given to all who registered after the fires.
- \$1,600.94 was spent at Hastings Co Op Mitre 10. Vouchers were given to all who registered after the fires also.

Along with the money raised, many wonderful local people and some from far and wide donated goods and offered assistance to people in the valley.

The funds that were donated were received in the following ways:

- Direct Deposit, Online fundraiser, handed in cash to PPA, posted by cheque, presented by cheque to PPA, Raffle proceeds at the Grown and Gathered Market.

Donations over \$1,000.00 came from the following groups, in no particular order.

- Expressway Spares, The Navy Band, Wauchope RSL, Wauchope Lions, Sorrel Lines (Tasmania), Uniting Church Beechwood, Foot Prints in Ag. The funds raised at the Foot Prints in Ag event were under the auspice of Lions Wauchope.

Many people and other volunteer organisations donated generously to the Lions fundraiser. Thank you.

### Rotary Fundraiser

Rotary's funds were directly raised for the people who lost their homes.

Each of these families have received a Shipping Container. An allocation of the funds is also going to each family for a farm structure on their property. Tom & Millie have their structure already installed. The other two families will have theirs completed by early December, all going well.

My involvement with Rotary was as the facilitator to get these structure for the families. Rotary will report on this when all the structures are complete.

**Lisa McLeod**

Pitchfork is the newsletter of the Pappinbarra Progress Association. The view expressed in Pitchfork are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the PPA or its members. Your contributions are welcome. Please send submission to the editor, Adrian Guthrie [adrianguthrie@gmx.com](mailto:adrianguthrie@gmx.com). We prefer unformatted Word documents with any photos as separate files. Sam Neale is responsible for Pitchfork advertising email [neales21@gmail.com](mailto:neales21@gmail.com), Angela Frost does the design and layout.

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## Bird of the Month - Brown Goshawk

Scientific Name: *Accipiter fasciatus*, Size: 37 to 55 cm.

The Brown Goshawk is a sturdy, medium sized Bird of Prey that is infrequently seen because of its solitary and secretive nature. They occasionally come to notice when they are attracted to caged birds or home poultry, mostly by juvenile or immature birds driven by hunger.

The adult bird is slate grey above with a Rufus collar while its underparts are Rufus with fine white barring. The eye and long sturdy legs are yellow. Young birds have brownish eyes and have a brown, heavily streaked plumage. Males are noticeably smaller than females, weighing in at 350 grams compared to females at 570 grams.

The male Brown Goshawk is the same size as the VERY similarly plumaged female Collared Sparrowhawk and this creates some confusion in identification. Here are the important diagnostic points.

The Brown Goshawk has a bony ridge above the eye whereas the Collared Sparrowhawk does not, giving it a wide-eyed staring look. The Brown Goshawk has strong sturdy legs but the Collared Sparrowhawk has thin wiry legs and a middle toe extends beyond the other toes. The Brown Goshawk's tail is rounded whereas the Collared Sparrowhawk's tail is squared or notched.

The Brown Goshawk is found Australia wide in timbered habitat where it feeds on mammals, birds, reptiles and insects; soaring at height or hunting with fast, low flight through the undergrowth; it's favourite is to sit silently in a concealed perch before darting out to take unsuspecting prey.



Breeding takes place between July and December when a large stick nest is placed on a horizontal limb, high in a tree often near a waterway. Two to four eggs are laid with the female doing most of the incubation. The male does most of the hunting to feed the young. Both adults aggressively defend the nest area giving loud "Keek-Keek-Keek" calls as they do. The birds status is secure in all states although there have been declines in local populations in SE Australia due to extensive habitat clearing. It is also often illegally shot. — Peter Fackender

## Fishy Tail: how to catch them

To catch Australian Bass most anglers use lures. The photo shows some lures which I have found work well. From top left



there are surface lures include fizzers, walkers, poppers and stickbaits. These lures imitate surface prey like small fish, cicadas, mice, frogs, moths and even lizards. Watch how an insect freezes when it falls in the water so as not attract any undue attention, then slowly makes its way back to safety. Mimic this and you should fool the fish. Pauses work well, or should I say the first movement after a pause. Once again, think about what you are trying to imitate, in this case an injured fish. A slow retrieve with plenty of pauses works well.

Which colour? I am partial to gold/bronze and black, but I have caught fish with many different colours. Bright work in turbid water and natural colours when the water is clear.

Where to fish? Bass hold very close to cover, which can be anything from a classic fallen tree snag to an undercut bank or even just a rock in the middle of the stream. They are happy in as little as 30cm of water if they don't think they can be seen. The head and tail end of a pool can be hotspots for fish.

Please handle any fish you catch with care. A wet towel protects you from cuts and stops the protective mucous being rubbed off the fish. Crushing the barbs on your hooks makes removal much easier and barely affects catch rates. Make yourself familiar with bag and size limits if you do keep fish for the table and happy fishing. — Robert Williams

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# STRINGDOM

## at The Glasshouse

Stretch the limits of what string can do when the Ross Family Studio becomes... STRINGDOM! Pappinbarra kids, young and old, are invited to come and play with One Off Makery in the cool of the Glasshouse this summer. Using over 4 kilometres of brightly coloured baling twine collected from local farms, we'll be weaving, tying, and winding in space to make... who knows what kind of empire we'll create? Whether you're technical, crafty or you just like to play, One Off Makery needs your help to explore the possibilities of this wasted resource. Get your thinking crowns on!

Sonic adventurer Rae Howell, composer for the Frugal Forest project, will be joining us once more. Whilst often roaming far with projects over the seas, we've managed to tie Rae down to help us explore STRINGDOM's sound and vibration potential. Help her to bend, stretch, twang and pluck that twine as she discovers and composes a STRINGDOM soundtrack on the spot.

**STRINGDOM is a FREE Creative Play event as part of the Neon Summer Festival, from 10am to 4pm on January 13th and 14th, 2018.**

**\*\* CALLOUT! We need more baling twine! A collection box can be found at the Co-op Rural Centre, or outside the Hollisdale Hall. If you have a large amount I'm happy to come and collect. Thankyou! - Bryony Anderson [bryony@oneoffmakery.net.au](mailto:bryony@oneoffmakery.net.au)**



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[Young people enjoy STRINGDOM at the Sydney Opera](#)

# Everyone for Tennis?

Our tennis comp is on again with twelve good players and true wielding their racquets furiously each Wednesday evening at the court in the Upper Pappinbarra recreation ground.

We have a few new players this season in Alice Mari, Tim Allen and young Jye Cooper, who all bring new enthusiasm to the competition. Alice is new to the game, but has shown surprising ability and agility around the court. Tim is new to the valley and is a top player, having been a keen comp player before moving here.

Since this season's comp started on the 11 October we have only missed one match due to wet weather, in contrast to some previous seasons which have largely been washed out.

Council has provided some maintenance of the court and surrounding drainage prior to the present comp and the court is now in reasonable shape, although still needs some more maintenance. We are hoping to purchase a new net for next season as the existing one is showing signs of wear.

This season will conclude on the 13 December with a social match to which everyone is invited (including kids).

Thanks go to Lisa and Robyn for organising the comp. Your efforts are much appreciated by the players.

**Rob Frost**

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# Horse Talk

When I was 5 years old, I had my first ride on a Shetland pony. I knew it then, I was 'in love' and the story began. I wasn't able to just get a horse, so I started reading everything I could about them. It made me feel like I owned one (almost). I galloped everywhere, neighed instead of talking, and made little beds for all my toy horses. Does this sound like you? Guess what? It only gets worse! I am 54 now and I love them more than ever! You do not have to ride a horse to get close.



Horses have their own language which we can learn and communicate back. If you want to understand your horse, just spend a day in the paddock watching them. Watch what their **ears** do, their **eyes**, **tails**, **neck** and the little **sounds** they make. The more you do this, the more you will see a pattern. Horses are very honest and they will give you that honesty whether it's a snort, a blink or a kick.

For instance, an ear turning sideways, means that they are they are happy and relaxed. Two ears pointed sharply forward, means that they are alert, something has caught their attention; but be ready to get out of the way, because they could jump forward; or this could be the cue for you to grab your camera because that could be a great shot! Two ears flat back means, "Holy Toledo! Get the heck out of the way!" they may bite, or strike or possibly kick – anyway, they are very upset about something.

A horse's **ear language** is perhaps the most direct clue we can be given into their present state of mind. Next time you are out riding, study your horse's ear movements and see if you can read what he or she is thinking. *Are we there yet?* Nope. - **Bronwen Kalea**

# Orchids in Pappinbarra

Orchids are everywhere in Pappinbarra, colonising rock faces, tree trunks, and paddocks. The orchid family is the largest and most diverse in the plant kingdom, with over 25000 species. Pappinbarra has over 40 of these. One of the most common is



*Cymbidium suave*, which often colonises tree hollows and stumps in eucalypt forest. It flowers from September to February, producing long stalks of warm brown-yellow to lime green flowers that give off a strong honey-like scent and has long, slender leaves up to 70 centimetres long

resembling those of a lomandra (mat-rush), but thicker and with a crease along the midrib. It is a common sight around Pappinbarra. Go looking!

Another one that you may see is *Spiranthes sinensis*, or Ladies Tresses. It is a common sight in summer in large grassy areas, particularly where grass is short. It has small pink and white flowers that spiral up a stalk, and small leaves at the base. It is almost impossible to spot unless it is flowering.

*Spiranthes* is often joined by *Microtis parviflora*, the Onion Orchid. It has a similar habit to Ladies Tresses, but with a single grass-like leaf that comes from the base, and numerous apple green flowers with a curly lip. The part of the stem behind the flower is swollen and is the ovary, where seeds are produced; in older stalks they are often dry and split along lines of longitude, which releases hundreds of tiny airborne seeds barely visible to the naked eye.



**Morrow Taplin**

Photos: *Cymbidium suave* and *Spiranthes sinensis*, Morrow Taplin; *Microtis parviflora*, <http://canberra.naturemapr.org/>

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# December/January Gig Guide

## Wauchope Arts

Friday December 8 at 7:30pm

### Sonia Rutstein (supported by Helen Mottee)

Singer songwriter from Baltimore, Sonia Rutstein delivers powerful songs, which challenge social injustice, performed with passion and hope. "Quirky and smart, a poet with a guitar, Sonia is a master of crafting songs that make you simultaneously want to dance, sing and change the world." --Georgia Voice, USA

This event is organised jointly by Wauchope Arts Council and the Mid North Coast Refugee Support Group. Light dinner, supper and drinks for sale from 6:30. Tickets \$25 (members \$20) from [Trybooking.com](http://Trybooking.com)/or at the door.



photo by Dieter Koder

Thursday January 4 at 7:30 pm

### Molsky's Mountain Drifters

Grammy-nominated artist **Bruce Molsky** has been called "one of America's greatest fiddlers of all time" and he is delighted to present his new trio: with **Allison de Groot** who also has a wide-ranging virtuosity and passion for old-time music; and **Stash Wyslouch**, one of bluegrass's great young genre-bending pioneers. Tickets \$25 (members \$20) from [Trybooking.com](http://Trybooking.com) or at the door.



## SPOILER ALERT!

Geek retail & gaming space

Spoiler alert! is a locally run community gaming hub and comic book retail store in Port Macquarie. It started out as an online retailer of online games, and has now successfully transitioned into a shopfront space. With support from the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, this socially inclusive and safe shared space for local table-top gamers has just celebrated its first birthday. Tucked away in the Ritz Centre, it has become both a home and a refuge for a variety of groups, including a regular Monday dim-down for autism, "where people with sensory issues can come in, play games and chill out without being overwhelmed," as Dave Kinney explained. Spoiler Alert! is the culmination its four young entrepreneurs' collective 30 years of love of comics and gaming, as well as their passion for social and disability inclusion. Spoiler alert! is a special type of geek destination!

This social gaming space has played host to events and tournaments, and aims to give the local community an all-inclusive, accessible, tolerant meeting place. As their web-site states, "We are a haven from bullying and exclusion, and a way for locals of all ages and diverse abilities to meet new friends of similar interests."



They specialise in pop culture and comic book paraphernalia, and a variety of geeky franchises and brands including Marvel, DC, Star Wars, Dr Who, Adventure Time, Hasbro and Funko. Spoiler Alert! stocks comics, graphic novels, manga, action figures, plushes, props, replicas, video and board games, trading card games, movies, anime, clothing, and accessories. Something for everyone!

Ritz Centre, 10/22 Horton St, Port Macquarie <https://spoileralert.com.au/>

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# In the Veggie Patch

Spring is underway with consistent light showers and sunny breaks, so it is a perfect for the garden.



This is the time to sow seeds and plant out seedlings in anticipation of bumper summer crops.



Sow seeds for these **HERBS** or plant on seedlings: basil, chives, coriander, dill, mint, oregano, parsley, sage and thyme. Plant **FRUIT & VEGETABLES**: beans, beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, capsicum, carrot, chicory, Chinese cabbage, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, melons, mustard, onion, parsnip, potato, pumpkin, radish, rosella, silver beet, squash, sweet corn, sweet potato, tomato and watermelon.

## Companion planting

Some vegetables not only *do well* together they support each other by deterring pests, attracting bees and developing an improved soil culture for their neighbours.

**Try these together:** Beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, onions, peas, potatoes, beetroot, radish and silver beet.

Source: <http://www.aboutthegarden.com.au/index.php/spring-herb-fruit-vegies-planting-guide-by-regional-zones/>

# FAWNA

This Red-necked wallaby joey, Melody, was rescued from her dead mother's pouch near the Pappinbarra and Roach Roads intersection.

Local Pappinbarra resident, Mandy Burns-Bilbija, carries some rescue gear in her car and always stops to check for live joeys in the pouches of dead macropods (macro = big, pod = foot) on the road. She marks dead wildlife bodies with a blue cross so passers-by know the pouch has been checked for a joey. Mandy rang the FAWNA rescue hotline and arranged to meet a FAWNA rehabilitator at the Pipeclay Rd intersection to pass over the joey for care. This all took place in about 15 minutes and so ensured the joey got to care as quickly as possible for the best chance of rehabilitation.

The joey, that Mandy has named Melody, has been estimated by growth charts to have been born on 18 March and is at the stage that she should have a good prospect of rehabilitation and release.

Not so lucky was a much smaller joey brought to FAWNA on 29 August by James McGahey early one morning on his way to work. FAWNA's Macropod Co-ordinator, Meredith Ryan, said "even though the smaller joey was not a viable prospect for release it deserves humane euthanasia rather than perishing



from exposure or predators of the insect, bird or animal kind".

FAWNA has members in the Pappinbarra Valley so call the 6581 4141 rescue hotline whenever you see a native animal needing help.

— **Meredith Ryan**

Website

[www.fawna.org.au](http://www.fawna.org.au)

## Pappinbarra Community Connect : on Facebook

for trading, swapping, selling and keeping in touch with other Valley residents.

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# Valley Happenings

**1 December - First Friday BBQ** and get-together from 6 pm at Ho-Ho-Ho-Hollisdale Hall, Pappinbarra Road! Santa will be appearing by arrangement with North Pole Enterprises.



(Parents note: bring a labelled present for your child on the day. Ring Lisa to explain.). Come along and enjoy the company. Don't worry if you don't know anyone – we will make you welcome! Vegetarian and gluten-free options included in a tasty low-cost menu. BYO drinks

**3 December – Christmas Grown and Gathered Community Market** – at Ho-ho-ho Hollisdale Hall Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm. Christmas shopping galore. Brief appearance by Santa.



Bring family and friends for a **bush brekkie or lunch, a bit of a chat, some local treasures, yummy food, coffee and live music!** Stall enquiries to Lisa on 0418 220 138. [grownandgatheredcommunitymarket](http://grownandgatheredcommunitymarket)

**9 December - Rural Fire Brigade** training for Pappinbarra and Hollisdale members is on the second Saturday of the month at 8 to 10 am. Meet at Hollisdale Hall in full uniform.



**13 December – Social Tennis** from 4 pm at Upper Pappinbarra Recreation Grounds. The season's finale is on Wednesday 13 December with a social match to which **everyone is invited (including kids)**. Come along and have some fun with your neighbours! Contact Robyn Flanagan 65 876011 or Lisa McLeod 0418 220 138.



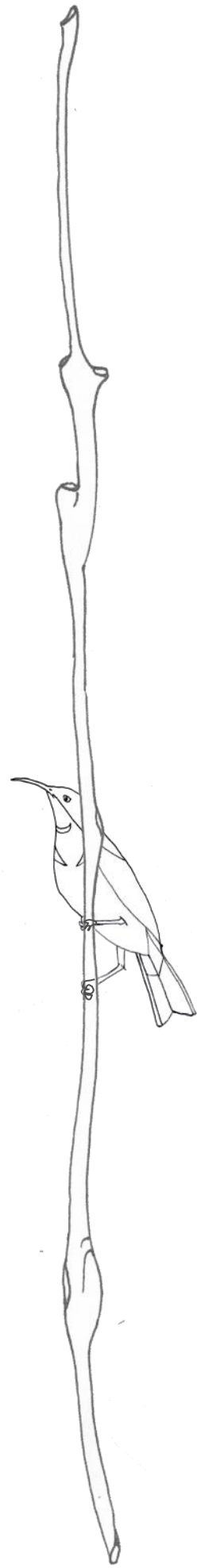
**24 December - All Saints' Pappinbarra:** Service on the 4th Sunday at 2 pm with afternoon tea around 3.00 off the back of the Murphy's ute. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share.



**20 January – 20 on 20<sup>th</sup> Working Bee at Hollisdale Hall:** We need 20 people on the 20<sup>th</sup> between 8 am to 2 pm to spruce up the place for 2018, finish a bit of painting, repair some tired and worn bits, clean the guttering, tidy the grounds. Can you help for a couple of hours, or more?



**Hollisdale Hall** and grounds are smoke free - please don't smoke at any of our functions.



## Support your local community

### join the Pappinbarra Progress Association!

*For only \$5 per adult per year to support Pitchfork, Hollisdale Hall, and PPA activities in Pappinbarra and environs.* We would love to hear your voice and have your participation in our diverse community. Your name will also go into the membership draw at First Friday each month. Just fill in the form below and post to the treasurer Sue Frost at 2751 Pappinbarra Rd.



### Pappinbarra Progress Association membership form 2017/18

Please print:

Member Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Send cash or cheque made out to "Pappinbarra Progress Association" to: Sue Frost, 2751 Pappinbarra Rd, Pappinbarra NSW 2446