

# Wooden water pipes unearthed in Moss Vale

A Wingecarribee Shire Council road crew unearthed wooden water pipes this week when doing some excavations along Suttor Road in Moss Vale.

They were able to carefully dig out a length that included two intact collars about eighteen feet apart in an almost perfectly preserved section.

Our experienced Council staff have been scratching their collective heads to work out when and why wooden pipes would have been used.

We know that when the original Moss Vale water supply began pumping water up to town from the Bong Bong reservoir in 1894 there were around six miles of reticulation pipes of 6, 4 and 3 inch diameter laid around the main streets of Moss Vale. These were cast iron pipes, so the use of wooden pipes remains a bit of a mystery.

This old section of pipe is wrapped in a wire that hasn't rusted and seems to have been treated with some sort of bitumen. The lads have dug up wooden pipes before, particularly in Bowral around Merrigang Street and also in other parts of Moss Vale.

If anyone knows anything about wooden water pipes and their use in Wingecarribee shire, we would be delighted if they could contact Council's Geoff Goodfellow on 02 4868 0863, or by email at [geoff.goodfellow@wsc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:geoff.goodfellow@wsc.nsw.gov.au).

**30 March 2006**

