

# RURAL FRINGE

*Journal of the Hall district*



VOLUME 19 ISSUE 2

APRIL 2012

## NATIONAL SHEEPDOG TRIALS 2012 PROVE POPULAR

The 2012 National sheep Dog Trial Championships concluded successfully with 53 competitors and a total of 278 dogs competing in 3 separate Championship events; the Maiden Championship, the Improver Championship and the Open championship. The winner of the Open becomes the National Champion.

Once again Hall village played a prominent role in welcoming the Trialers, their wives and their families to the village. The social events put on by the Hall Progress Association for the visitors to make them feel welcome were as always much appreciated and very well attended and are now very much a part of the Trial itself.

Public attendance was very good with total of nearly 1000 people paying to enter on the weekend and a significant numbering attending through the week when entry was free.

The National Champion this year is Greg Prince from Dubbo NSW who has now won the title an amazing 14 times which only adds to his legendary status in the sport of sheep dog trialling. To give this achievement some perspective the next highest number of National Champion wins is by both Geoff Jolly and Ross Dodge who each won 6 times. Each of these gentlemen now deceased are deservedly also considered legends in the sport and until Greg's run of success it was thought that 6 wins would never be exceeded. The main results are as follows:

### Open championship (and National Champion)

1st Greg Prince NSW, Princes Di 188 points  
2nd Paul O'Kane Vic, O'Kanes Andrew Symonds 186 pts  
3rd Pip Hudson NSW, Wondara Magic 176 points

### Improver Championship

1st Barry Paton Vic, Dodges Sting 174 points  
2nd Laurie Slater NSW, Wondara Cloudy 2nd 168 points  
3rd John Perry NSW, Bredbo Tracey 167 points

### Maiden Championship

1st Barry Paton Vic, Dodges Sting 179 points  
2nd Greg Prince NSW, Princes Timmy 175 points  
3rd Geoff Gibson NSW, Blackburn Donovan 174 points

### Champion of Champions Trophy

Laurie Slater NSW, Wondara Cloudy 2nd 89 points

### Working Kelpie Council Trophy

Greg Prince

- Peter Welch

*(The Hall mob would like to congratulate Murrumbateman's Laurie Slater on his Champion of Champions Trophy and 2nd in the Improver).*



Photos: © Andrew Purdam



## Friends of Grasslands - May 12th

FOG has been working in the grassy woodland block surrounding Hall Cemetery for over four years now. With the support of the ACT Government, and Greening Australia, they have planted many understory shrubs and native lilies, as well as clearing regrowth that was threatening the Tarengo Leek Orchid. As the ACT Department of Environment has begun developing "succession plans" for trees in the cemetery, FOG are being asked to participate in this new phase of management of the area. They have one more Autumn working bee and then a rest until spring. If you'd like to join them at 9am Saturday 12th May, please feel free to contact Andy Russell of Friends Of Grasslands on 02 6251 8949 or 0428 518 949.



Text and photo (a *Caesia calliantha*, or blue-grass lily) courtesy of Andy and Janet Russell, News of Friends of Grasslands, March-April 2012.

## 'Bush schools of the Hall district' - April 14-15th.

Nanima, Gooda Creek, Tallagandra, Jeir, Mugwill, Brooklands, Wallaroo, Toul, Bedellick - little bush schools of yesteryear. Where were they? This special ACT Heritage Festival Exhibition will feature eighteen bush schools of the local district - maps, stories, official records in some cases, school artifacts.

The Exhibition, put on by 'Friends of the Hall School Museum' will commemorate the work of Canberra historian Lyall Gillespie, whose own family is part of the local history, and in particular his work on early education in the the Canberra district.

Formal opening of the Exhibition will be at 10.00 am on Saturday 14th April by Canberra historian Jill Waterhouse.

Saturday and Sunday, 14-15th April, from 10.00 - 4.00 pm, at Hall Primary School. 'Chat' sessions with former Hall pupils: Sat 14th at 2.00 pm and Sun 15th at 11.00 am.

Right: Four former pupils, Liz Kilby, Bevis Brown, Anne Gunning and Kaye McCaskill, visited Hall Primary



School Museum in February to help Curator Phil Robson with their recollections of how the school used to be laid out.

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## Easter Services in Hall District

### St Michael & All Angels Anglican Church

Good Friday 6 April 11.00am - Hall Village combined Catholic, Anglican and Uniting Churches Stations of the Cross - this has become a tradition over the last few years. All the churches of Hall combine to walk the Stations of the Cross, starting at the car park at far (north) end Victoria Street and finishing at the football ground. All are welcome.

Easter Day 8 April 11:00 am Family Service of Holy Communion - during this service some of the youngsters in our congregation will be Admitted to Communion. What a special day for these children and their families!

All are welcome to join these special activities in Holy Week, or our regular service at 11.00 am each Sunday, and of course to stay for a cuppa afterward under the beautiful oak tree in St Michael's grounds. If you need more information please ring Beryl on 62555482.

### Wattle Park Uniting Church

Maundy Thursday 5th April - a remembrance of that last supper commencing at 8.00 pm.

Good Friday 6th April - a two-part service starting at 10.00 am at Wattle Park and followed at 11.00 am by an ecumenical "Stations of the Cross" reflection in Hall (starting at the car park near the St. Francis Xavier Church).

Easter Sunday 8th April - 10.30 am - a celebration of the risen Lord.

Easter is the highlight of the Christian year, so please come and join us for all three, or even just one, of our services.

### St Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Good Friday 6 April 11.00am - Combined Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday 8th April 8.00am - Mass

## Clean Up Australia Day



**NOTE!  
NEW  
DATE!!**

**Sunday 29th April 2012**

Site organised by the  
Wallaroo & Spring Range Residents' Group  
and the  
Wallaroo Rural Fire Brigade

Meeting Point: Wallaroo Fire Shed  
Start time: 9 am  
End time: 12 noon

Please register ahead of time at  
[www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)  
(Join a Clean up site)  
or at the  
Fire Shed on the 29th  
before you start collecting

Volunteers will be issued with rubbish & recycling bags, gloves and some sharps containers

Further information: **Judy Roberts**  
phone: 6230 2436  
or email: [allwood3@aapt.net.au](mailto:allwood3@aapt.net.au)

## Parkwood Chapel Open Day

The "Parkwood" Chapel will be open on Monday 16 April from 10am to 4pm as part of the ACT and Region Heritage Festival. No bookings required. Gold coin donation.

The Wesleyan chapel was built of local granite in 1880 by local Canberra pioneer, Thomas Southwell on his own property at his own expense. The chapel was restored by the Southwell Society in 2010.

The chapel is at "Parkwood", Parkwood Road, via Macgregor (past Parkwood Eggs).

Enquiries: Jim and Pam Grace  
(02) 6254 6071



# Hall Preschool welcomes Cindy Condon, and visits the National Sheepdog Trials

Hello from Hall Preschool. My name is Cindy Condon and I am the classroom teacher at Hall Preschool for this year. Wendy Crowley is continuing on as my wonderful assistant. The preschool has had a full enrolment this year, with fifteen students attending (both three and four year olds) and more children on the waiting list! This year our class is called the "Sleepy Bears". The students have all settled in well and are enjoying their 2012 preschool year, which is the first school experience for many students.

We have had a busy term so far, making new friends, learning all about ourselves and our community, as well as lots of other fun, play – based learning experiences. We have had our school photos, Harmony Day celebrations, as well as our very



first excursion, to the National Sheepdog Trials.



The National Sheepdog Trials excursion was a much anticipated event and certainly lived up to the student's expectations. The day began with "Jack", the border collie, giving us a demonstration of his 'ball handling skills', which the children were amazed by. We then entered the pavilion to see our artwork on display for all to admire. This was a special moment for all of the students. Each child was then presented with their very own medal in recognition of their efforts. The proud faces on the children as they received their medals were priceless! The morning tea which was laid out so beautifully for us was enjoyed by all. We then had a chance to watch "Frosty" as he performed his magic with the sheep on the showground! It was so nice to be part of the day and to feel welcomed at this

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## Hall Preschool continued

important event in the Hall community.

We are currently busy getting organised for Easter celebrations and the fast approaching April school holidays.

I am enjoying my time at Hall Preschool and look forward to watching this wonderful group of students develop and grow. I am also looking forward to getting to know the students, their families and the wider community much better as the year progresses.

Cindy Condon  
Classroom Teacher  
Hall Preschool



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## **EARTHWORKS & WATER CARTAGE**

# Lights on in Crookwell! Support from Hall Rotary

Hall Rotary runs The Capital Region Farmers Market at Epic every Saturday to raise funds to put toward community projects. The money raised at the markets comes directly from the stallholders, not ACT residents. So the Rotary Club likes to put some of what it raises back into the smaller communities where the producers for the Market are based.

The latest major project Hall Rotary has supported was in Crookwell, north of Goulburn.

The Rotary Club of Crookwell had initiated a project to put lights on their sports oval but their small community had exhausted its fundraising capacity. It had taken the community two years to raise \$18,000 of the \$65,000 needed and the project was stagnating.

The Rotary Club of Hall offered to stimulate their fundraising

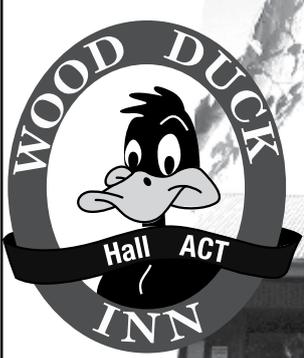
by offering dollar for dollar up to the amount of \$20,000. With this stimulus the Crookwell com-



munity to put in a big effort to raise a further \$27,000 and get the project over the line. The Club's promise of support gave great heart to Crookwell Rotary and provoked a grateful response from the Crookwell community

The Crookwell community put in a really big effort with a car swap meet, a bull riding competition and much more. All the sporting

groups and schools ran fundraisers and together the community raised the \$27,000 in only four months.



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It is anticipated that the lights will be installed and operating before the start of the football season.

Another satisfying result of the \$20,000 gift is that the Upper Lachlan Council, inspired by the project, has sought special grant funding to upgrade amenities at the Oval, including much needed improvements to the public toilets and the dressing shed. Indications are that this grant has been successful, and this work will go hand in hand with the new lighting – a great result for the little community of Crookwell.

Hall Rotary was happy to assist the Crookwell community with its project for a number of reasons, not the least has been the continuing involvement of Crookwell producers in The Capital Region Farmers Market in Canberra.

“Living in or near Canberra, we are privileged to have access

to many excellent sporting facilities and know that it is often difficult for people in the cities to comprehend what life is like without them. Many of our club members grew up in rural



towns that didn't have good sports facilities, so we understand the significance of a project like Crookwell's "Turning on the Lights," said Chris Edwards, Hall Rotary Community Director.

Here's our Community Director, Chris Edwards, with Don Southwell, President of the Rotary Club of Crookwell on the night on which Hall's \$20,000 donation was handed over.

And we had the opportunity that same night to catch together three of the many Southwell descendants – here's locals Ralph and Kings, along with Don (centre).



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# Nova Scotia ~ a.k.a. Eneagh Hill ~ revisited

## Time to Remember

In reply to your article on page 28 in the Rural Fringe of last February:

The old homestead you named "Nova Scotia" is in fact named "Eneagh Hill". This home and land was purchased by James K Kilby in June 1905, after a large bushfire destroyed his property at Ginninderra Falls in January 1905. As James' family grew, so did the house, and two wings were added on either side of the centre building.

James and his wife Beatrice (née Southwell)

had 8 children - 6 boys and 2 girls. Five boys became farmers and remained in this region. One of the sons became a school teacher. The two girls married and also remained in this area.

In 1907, James decided to start a butchering business and delivered meat to Ginninderra and Hall residents twice a week from Eneagh Hill, in addition to farming his land.



Eneagh Hill in 1907, from left Mrs Beatrice Kilby (wife of James Kilby), Beryl Kilby (mother of Kingsley Southwell), Keith, Clyde and Selby Kilby. James Kilby was important in the history of Hall as, amongst other things, he was a driving force in getting the school built in Hall in 1911. *Photo scanning: Phil Robson*

James was the main instigator for a Primary School to be opened in Hall.

In about 1970, Mr Ralph Doughty bought Eneagh Hill and built a new house closer to the road, which I believe he named "Nova Scotia" He also dug the large dam, as he had plans for irrigation, but the property was split in half when the new Barton Highway was built. Mr Doughty left the area and leased the property.

I don't think anyone has lived in the old house since.

The Kilby family have some wonderful memories of old "Eneagh Hill" and we find it very sad to see it in such disrepair as it is now.

*Elizabeth Kilby*

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# Hall Bushrangers Rugby Football Club

The 2012 footy season is fast approaching and pre-season training has begun. Training is currently at Hall Oval on Thursdays and 6:00pm until daylight saving time kick in. Spread the word and feel free to bring any new interested players along with you.

There have been some changes with the format of the season in our division and we will be going back to more of a Monaro style competition. Yass have decided to come into our division making it now a six team competition. Hall (obviously), Cooma, Goulburn, ADFA, RMC, and Yass.

Alan 'Girvo' Girvan will be coaching 1st Grade this year with Joel Williams as manager. Mick 'Rock' Adler will perform coaching duties for 2nd Grade with Damien Beck as manager.

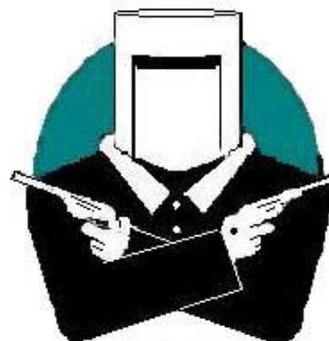
The committee has gone through some changes as well, with some old faces and new. Darryl 'Stegs' Pryce is president this year with Shaun 'Cardy' O'Connor taking a step back into vice president, but also being responsible for sponsorship. Sander is continuing in his role as treasurer. I have stepped in to the committee role of secretary. Nigel 'Oners' Page continues with merchandise, and Anthony 'Junior' Beck is taking care of our equipment. Stephen 'Eagle' Fagg is going to be chasing up much needed dollars through grants, and Craig 'Red' Scott will be the go to guy for social activities and functions. Nathan and Adrian Riches are also committee and there's a very good chance they might come calling if you haven't paid your regis-

tration on time. Andy "Dunners" Dunbar has taken on the job of communications, so hopefully we'll get an up to date contacts list sometime soon.

Now is the time to start thinking seriously about the season ahead of you. Training is on tonight at Hall at 6:00pm. Get down to the oval, have a run around, and stop in at the Wood Duck Inn for a glass of water or a refreshing lemon squash after training.

There are trial games being prepared against Bungendore (10th March), Bateman's Bay (17th March), Yass (24 March) and Boorowa (31st March) to get us ready for the season ahead.

Get to training.



*Scott Noack*

*Secretary*



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## Canberra start-up company SmartWard opens new offices



Chief Minister Katy Gallagher today joined with Canberra start-up company SmartWard Pty Ltd in officially open their new office premises in the Hall Village Court.

"The opening of the new SmartWard offices is further evidence of the innovation and entrepreneurial character of the ACT's business community," the Chief Minister said.

"SmartWard is quickly making its mark on the e-Health industry both locally and on a national level by commercialising a new health informatics technology for hospital wards.

"The technology being developed is the brainchild of local inventor Matt Darling and involves a computerised support system for staff caring for patients in hospital wards that seeks to lower costs, reduce errors and save staff time," the Chief Minister said.

The technology incorporates sterilize-able bedside computers, with identity recognition by radio-frequency identification (RFID) with smart patient and care software that optimizes pain and other medications for the best comfort and effectiveness in looking after the patient.

"The ACT Labor Government contributed \$60,000 to SmartWard through the InnovationConnect grant program in 2011 and it was through this grant that the company has been able to move forward at a rapid rate and enabled them to accelerate their progress to market by expanding their development team and opening the office in the ACT," the Chief Minister said.

"The company has since also received funding from the ACT Government/ANU Discovery Translation Fund and the Commonwealth government through Commercialisation Australia.

"I commend SmartWard for having the foresight to seek new ways to revolutionize the way we manage our health," the Chief Minister concluded.



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## Hall Community Welcomes Sally Melhuish to the Village

Sally Melhuish is one of Australia's foremost recorder players. She is the Artistic Director of Salut! Baroque, which she founded in 1995. Sally has a Masters degree from Amsterdam Conservatorium, and has performed as a soloist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Cantus Cölln, Sinfonia Australis, the Australian Bach Ensemble, and directed the Harvard Baroque Orchestra. She has also performed in Amsterdam and at the Spa Summer Festival in Belgium. With Salut! Baroque, Sally has released seven CDs and will release a new CD, Concord of Sweete Sound with Canberra counter tenor Tobias Cole, later this year. Sally appears as a soloist on the recently released ABC Classics CD recording of the Bach Brandenburg Concertos with the Orchestra of the Antipodes.



Sally with Daniel and Sophie Porteus

There are currently limited performance opportunities for baroque specialists, most of whom travel overseas to study and perform, and we end up losing the talent to other countries. Sally's desire is to develop a culture of Early Music in Australia that is similar in strength to that in Europe. She also sees Salut! playing an important role in nurturing a new generation of musicians who are not regularly exposed to professional baroque music performances. Salut! is well known for presenting some of the most innovative programming of baroque music in the world. Sally has undertaken several periods of research at Harvard University to design new programs, which include music not previously heard in Australia.

More information on our

website at : [www.baroque.com.au](http://www.baroque.com.au)

- Paul Porteus

Sally founded Salut! Baroque to create more opportunities for professional baroque musicians to perform in Australia.



Nosey neighbour. Photo by Paul Porteus.

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## Wading In to Lend a Hand

Although more used to putting the wet stuff on the hot stuff, recent heavy storm events saw ACT Rural Fire Service volunteers tasked to provide flood relief and manage a whole lot of wet stuff. From Thursday 1st March through to Sunday 4th the Hall Brigade provided a number of crews who responded to the many requests for help as a result of storm damage and flooding across the ACT.

Crews were deployed to a number of locations across the ACT, including many areas in southern Canberra as well as nearer to home in Belconnen and Gungahlin. The crews included Deputy Captains Chris Leonard, Andrew Hobson and Matt



Bolton and crew members Michael Rose, Tony Kidney, Will Refshauge, Angus McDonald and Andy Duncan.

The tasks undertaken by these crews included digging trenches, clearing blocked drains, constructing small levee walls to divert water from entering houses, cutting fallen trees and pumping out flooded basements and garages. The crews attended to more than 30 tasks over the four days. Three of these tasks involved major pumping exercises including moving some 20,000 litres of water out of a garage and driveway, as photographed below.

In view of the summer that has just finished, with virtually no fire activity, the recent storm damage response provided a great opportunity for the crews to put into practice their training as well as to also sharpen their skills for emergency response.

All crews returned from their shifts, tired, wet, hungry, and in some cases, very muddy, but all were in high spirits from their efforts.

The recent callout by the Brigade follows on from the assistance provided during late 2010 when Canberra and Queanbeyan were hit with torrential rain. The assistance provided by the RFS, and in particular, the Hall Brigade, to the SES during periods of storm or rain damage is just part of our role in providing a coordinated emergency effort

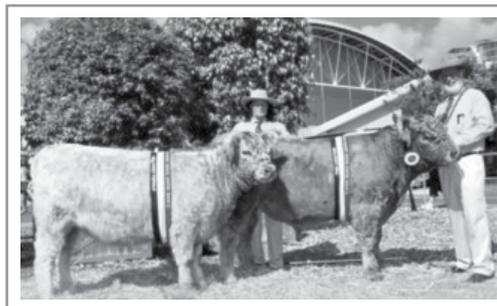
It is of interest that the Hall Rural Fire Brigade is the oldest Brigade in the ACT and has been helping the ACT community in times of need for over 70 years.

- Matt Bolton

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## Didn't it Rain, Chillun'?

As if February wasn't wet enough, with two weather stations in the Hall District reporting 115 and 153 mm for the month. And then the first week of March happened.



Hall's Creek in full spate, early March. Photo: Bob Richardson

The Canberra region is notorious for precipitation being very localised, as a lot of it is storm-based, and so it was in Hall. One raingauge measured over 230mm of rain for the first five days, whilst another - only 6km away - only 150mm.



The Murrumbidgee swallowed a bridge. Photo: Natalie Van Bree

Dams all overflowed, springs regenerated, fences were damaged, bridges were submerged as creeks and rivers became uncrossable - some folks were stuck in their properties for several days.





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- \* personality profiling

Jennifer has over 20+ years of experience as a Clinical Counsellor/Therapist, Adult Educator, Chaplain, Pastoral Carer, Clinical Pastoral Counsellor, Mentor & Supervisor.

Jennifer believes in a wholistic approach to counselling addressing emotional, intellectual, physical & spiritual well-being. She believes counselling is about meeting people where they are at & empowering them to be able to make good choices for themselves & move on in their life's journey.

Jennifer can be contacted by phone/fax on (02) 6230 2570  
 Mobile 0409 038 850 Email: strachan3@bigpond.com

Her office is located at  
 "Rivendell" 49 Oakey Creek Road,  
 Wallaroo via Hall NSW 2618 (off Wallaroo Rd).

**SHE IS COMMITTED TO HELPING PEOPLE  
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## Going to the Dogs?!

At the end of March twelve intrepid Canberra veterinarians and their nurses, including Hall Vet Surgery's Kate King and Geraldine Wickham, fly out to Alice Springs. They will spend a week desexing dogs and running an animal health clinic in the Utopia group of indigenous communities north east of Alice Springs.

The veterinary team operates under the umbrella of the national organisation Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC). AMRRIC aims to improve the health and wellbeing of companion animals and to improve the overall health and wellbeing of remote Indigenous communities.

Kate and Geraldine raised over \$11,000 from guessing competitions, cup cake sales and a trivia night in February, and from donations from generous Hall Vet Surgery clients. This gives us a firm basis for ongoing veterinary services to the Utopia communities' dogs. Good quality equipment, like anesthetic machines, and materials, such as suture materials and drugs, will improve animal health and welfare, and human health.



Because the dogs live in such close proximity to their owners and because veterinary care has been difficult to access, the incidence of zoonotic diseases is high in remote indigenous communities.

Zoonoses are diseases that dogs can transmit to humans. They include hook and round worms, gut diseases and Sarcopic mange mite. Many Aboriginal people, especially children, are needlessly infected with these diseases and suffer long term chronic ill health.

These diseases are easily treated in dogs – as long as the



information and medication are available. AMRRIC provides educational services to remote communities as well as veterinary care

and medications. When people understand the relationship between their dogs' health and their own health they are enabled to prevent disease.

Our Canberra team will spend much of their time desexing dogs in the community. With twice a year visits they hope to control the population of dogs and decrease the incidence of dog bites and 'cheeky' dogs.

With fewer dogs to care for local people should see an improvement in the health and longevity of their dogs. The

veterinary team and the local health workers hope to see an improvement in the people's health and longevity as well.

- Kate King



Left: Nurse Geraldine with an auction item.

Top right: Some keen Trivialists

Bottom Right: Canberra Vet Hospital's Michael Archinall and his presentation about the work at Utopia.

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## Out and about



Hall Collectors travel to Corowa 2012 , Year of the 6x6.

Andy Fulton and Malcolm Brown led the Hall Collectors convoy to the Ex-Military Vehicle Gathering at Corowa. Highlights included visits to the district historic museum, the line up of vehicles and parade, a swap meet, group photos and a pres-



entation evening. Somehow they also visited the Boorhamen Brewery and the Renaissance chocolate factory. Andy signed up for the Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc. nominating his 1942 Willys MB Jeep.



18th Feb 2012. On Saturday night, vandals were attempting to cause damage to Hall Pre-School. A heavy metal door was smashed in but more serious damage to the class room was averted, thanks to alert residents. The police where called and the intruders were intercepted.



On the same weekend as the Sheepdog Trial Finals, the Yass Polocrosse Club were having their annual meet just over the creek. Photo: Paul Porteus.



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# A Late 1940's Saturday in Hall Village

*Inspired by last issue's article about the old picture theatre, Tony Morris reminisces on village life from over sixty years ago.*

"Wattle Park", the family farm, was a magnet to all we nieces and nephews for school holidays and long weekends.

We awoke on Saturday mornings in great anticipation of the weekly visit to Hall to sell the farm produce and provision up with food, fuel, hardware and village socialisation.

After uncle and aunt had milked the cows and separated the cream from the milk, with we kids sharing turning the separator handle, porridge, eggs, bread and fresh cow's milk sustained us for the rest of the morning chores.

Let the calves out, feed and water the animals, collect the eggs, open the stable doors for the horses then clean the eggs and pack them into large wooden crates with flat lids held down with an upside down bent nail that fitted through a slot and then turned to secure the lid.

Baths next, uncle first then we kids in the same water heated by a chip heater, later converted to kerosene. Water came from the tanks or in drought periods hauled in a drum on a slide from a spring in the creek which always had fresh clear drinkable water. A quick salad lunch followed by the first treat of the day.

Uncle always saved his pennies and halfpennies in a Benson and Hedges 100 cigarette size tin. He divvied up the loot

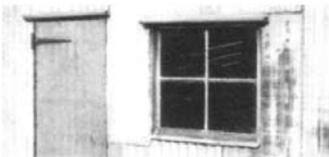


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amongst we kids and then it was time to head for Hall in the old canvas roofed 6 cylinder Dodge sedan packed with egg crates, kids and lacking side curtains. Down dusty Lovers Lane on Spring Range Road onto the highway and into the village.

First stop the rear of Brown's Store to unload the eggs. Mr Brown was the local Egg Board agent (sale of eggs was controlled by the NSW Egg Board). He bought eggs from the local producers and resold under the watchful control of the Egg Board.

Then through the shop back door to greet Miss Jean, our aunt, who served in the shop, to deliver the grocery order and eye off the treats we would buy later. Uncle would follow and after a yarn pick out his purchases from the huge stash of every conceivable item required to maintain farm life. Pots, pans, billies, milk jugs, gate and door hinges, rabbit traps, fly paper, nuts, bolts, screws, nails, rope, chain, pulleys, hammers, saws, you name it.

Brown's shop had floor to ceiling shelves around three sides with heavy two tiered benches up the middle all stacked with hardware and needed items. A counter ran in front of the shelves on the northern and southern walls and customers were served at the northern counter behind which were bins for flour, sugar and other cooking needs. Miss Jean spent many miles dashing backwards and forwards out the back door across the drive and into the old or "first" Brown's store for items which could not be stored in the main shop. You could always buy broken biscuits, weighed into a paper bag, at a bargain price as biscuits came in large tins and were often damaged in transit. Not pre-packaged like today.

The Dodge was then moved across Victoria Street to Mr Rochford's petrol bowser. We watched as he pumped petrol with a hand lever into the measuring glass at the top. The fuel would then run down the filler hose into the car tank. Two square drums of lighting kerosene were also purchased to see us through the next week's refrigeration and lamp lighting, no electricity at that time in the Hall district. The front of the garage has been significantly altered since then.

Now for the social part of the afternoon, everyone migrated to the tennis courts for social and competitive tennis and more importantly to exchange local news and gossip. We kids had a hit or played games around the courts.

Returning to the shops an hour or so later we collected the groceries and then purchased our sweet treats with pennies and halfpennies. Mr Brown would make a paper cone to contain our choice of boiled lollies or Bulls Eyes, (sticky red and white stripes, peppermint flavour) and Humbugs, (black and



white stripes, aniseed flavour). Liquorice Allsorts, fruit jubes, jelly beans, chocolate coated caramel Cobbers and jelly babies were put into paper bags which Mr Brown held by the top corners between first fingers and thumbs and spun over twice to close the bag, leaving two pointy ears.

Every second Saturday it was a quick departure from the shop back to the farm for a hot meal before heading back to the village to Kinleyside Hall, later, Rochford's Hall, for the picture show. (As Kingsley said in the last issue) Mr Kinleyside had built the hall with special, minimal dust ventilation to paint the sulkies and carts he made in the blacksmith's shop. The ventilation had been reduced but as it was hot in summer, windows and doors were opened, while winter saw a coal brazier placed centrally, with a flue across through a window missing a pane and out to the open. We all had rugs and the youngsters curled up near the warmth usually falling asleep before the films ended.

Mr Southwell organised the picture shows assisted from time to time by different projectionists and I remember visiting Mr Burton in the projection box after the show to watch the rewinding of a film.

Power for the 1920's projectors and theatre lighting came from an outside lighting plant run by a diesel engine. At interval a light, powered by the lighting plant, above the hall entry door and another on a pole close to Mr Brown's shop dimly lit the street allowing patrons to cross to the shop to purchase drinks and sweets while others ducked off to their cars for a quick tip-

ple before the show's second half.

Most shows featured sound movies but I can remember a special silent movie night when Mrs Hall accompanied the film on a piano on stage beside the screen playing fast music for action, melancholy for sad scenes and happy bright tunes for the fun scenes. It was one of the Dad and Dave series.

At evening end, tired and now less excited, we wrapped ourselves in warm rugs, hopped back into the Dodge, collected Aunty Jean to stay at the farm over night and all headed home to sleep and dream in peace.

- Tony Morris



Left: Brian O'Connor with the old projector

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The Yass Area Network of Landcare Groups will be holding their AGM on the evening of Wednesday 2 May at the Murrumbateman Country Inn, 6.00pm for 6.30pm dinner and AGM .

If you are interested in joining YAN please consider putting in your nomination. Nominations will also be called for on the night. All positions will be declared vacant and if necessary nominations will be put to the vote. The AGM will be followed by dinner and a guest speaker (TBA).

YAN Positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- General Committee

Further details of the speaker and dinner arrangements will be sent out soon.

Please RSVP to Melinda Johnson,  
[melinda.johnson@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:melinda.johnson@cma.nsw.gov.au)  
 6118 6013  
 0427 938 125  
 by 27 April 2012.

thank you

Melinda

Hey guys/gals! If you live in the Yass Area, maybe it's time to get involved...? It's your land after all.

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# If this is Global Warming, Bring It On!

Many of us have spent the last ten years reducing our lawns to minimize water consumption and maintenance. All of this was not in vain as our water consciousness has become a valuable tool.

Having said that most of our initial media awakenings are delivered in the form of aggressive life ending experiences? When AIDS/HIV first arrived in our world the scare tactics were very real, with grim reapers wielding scythes, with everything in their path obliterated, all over our screens.

It seems now that Al Gore and Tim Flannery delivered the same scare tactics on the future of our planet and our misconduct and misuse being the main cause.

Sustainability is clearly something we all need and want. None of us want to abuse this planet to a point of no return. And yet we are still been encouraged to act in unsustainable ways in regard our own little spaces.

Our need to be more water conscious has dug up some ingenious ideas not all of which should be followed through.

The mere suggestion of artificial turf being more low maintenance and sustainably agreeable makes my skin crawl. Since when is anything plastic a better option to something that is real (and I know there is a whole other topic re: plastic v real in regard to plastic surgery, but that is way outside my field).

The fact that many of our councils often insist that our nature

strips are lawn and yet under most water restrictions we are not allowed to water lawn, it just doesn't make sense. Then as a result of not watering our lawn, people are coming up with alternatives, in the form of hardscapes such as paving, gravel or concrete, causing more run-off problems.

As a result of this the 'rules' determining what we are and are not allowed to do on our little plots should have some flexibility.

Water costs for example at the moment are ridiculous as many areas have exceeded their annual rainfall in the last few weeks. In fact many of us in the eastern parts of this country have exceeded the March average on the first day of the month.

Clearly we rely heavily on the weather man to get the forecast right, and let's face it a lot of us depend on it, but it must be harder than it looks as they often get it wrong.

One thing we all know for sure, even though I loved it, it was the weirdest summer ever. Water catchment areas have reached capacity for the first time in 60 years, and plants have grown over the entire summer.

Now we are launching into the best autumn break I have ever seen, with these conditions opening up a whole range of possibilities.

Don't forget to order your bare rooted trees for planting in late June early July.

- Lisa Walmsley



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# IS IT THE CHURCHES IN THE HISTORY OF HALL

I thought it might be interesting, especially for newcomers to the Village and district, to take a look at the histories of the three Churches of Hall and make sure even long term residents have a few essential books on their library shelves. I will look at them in the order of history of their formal openings.

"Wattle Park 1882 - 1982" by Ron Winch (my copy was found in the local history section of a Canberra second-hand bookshop). A handsome volume with extensive photographs, a useful index and list of special items donated to the Church by local families.

The Church was opened on Sunday 5th March 1882 by the Reverend John Clifton, well known from his earlier tenure at Queanbeyan (1866 - 67, Yass 1871-2 and Gunning 1879 - 1881).

Whilst there is no specific mention of "other denominations" being present, I have little doubt that there were many in the crowd - "many of the hundred or more arrivals", "From Goulburn, Queanbeyan, Yass, Dalton, Rye Park Boorowa and further afield the people came". People of other denominations would have been present in the traditional practice of supporting your neighbours on whom you may have depended in other aspects of daily life in those days.

This Church is well worth visiting when it is open to see not just the lovely buildings on the site but also the beautiful inclusions and memorials.

The next Church to open was the Church of St. Francis Xavier at the top of Victoria Street and the opening is documented in Jim Rochford's "A History of Catholic Churches in Ginninderra and Hall, ACT". My copy was presented to me by Jim but you might have to ask Parishioners if they know where you might find copies today.

Following Mass and Confirmation in the old Church at Ginninderra on 25.11.1901, a meeting determined to build on "Site on hill near Hall to create a Church big enough to seat the congregation". But it was not until 9 June 1907 before the Foundation Stone was laid and April 19, 1910 before his Lordship Bishop Gallagher noted in

his diary, "Blessed and Opened St. 'Francis' Church at Hall (Ginninderra) supposed to be inside Federal Territory). A fine stone building 45' X 21' - solid, excellently finished, seated and furnished. Cost over pounds 1000 of which nearly 200 pounds is still due. Collection about 130 pounds."

"The gathering was one representing all faiths in the district, whose presence, help and encouragement were dutifully remembered and acknowledged in oral tradition."

St. Francis Xavier stands proud today serving its faithful and the district well. Again, the complex is worth a visit.

The new kid on the block was St. Michael and All Angels and it is chronicled in my book, "St. Michael and All Angels - the History of a Village Church" Copies are still available at the Church or from me at a cost of \$10, all proceeds going to Church maintenance.

Though there had been Anglican Services run by priests from St. John's, Reid from about the 1850s at Henry Hall's estate, "Charnwood, and from the 1930s in Kinleyside's Hall on Victoria Street (later Rochford's Hall, now the Antique Shop), it would be May 1941 before a Foundation Stone would be laid, centrally located near the Store and the newly developing CBD of the Village.

But because of the war and the shortage of manpower, it would be even later on May 28, 1948 before the Church was completed and opened for worship. But who would be there for the Opening and dedication?

In Parish Notes, April - May 1948, was written, "Invitations are being sent out to Churchpeople but we want to recognise that an invitation is extended to all who can come"

Then in an extract from the Rector's Letter, Parish Notes for June 1948 - "One other word. May I say how deeply I was touched by the amazing example of Christian Unity evidenced

at the dedication of our newly erected Church of St. Michael and All Angels at Hall on May 22. Not only were there people



## OR THE HISTORY IN THE CHURCHES OF HALL?

of all denominations present at the Service, but generous offerings were made by the people of other denominations towards defraying the cost of the building."

I wonder whether this may have happened in suburban Canberra, or whether it is something special in a rural community where people take care of their neighbours in all aspects of living?



Today, when much has changed in the fast pace of contemporary life, the three Churches at Hall still deal with each other as brothers and sisters. We have shared worship, morning teas and meals and contributed as we can to community life.



The Remembrance Day ceremony each November is one great example as is the now traditional walk of the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday when we process from the northern carpark of Victoria Street down the road to the Memorial Park at the Hall Reserve. A true example of Christian unity.

What I have tried to highlight is the important role of the three Churches of Hall Village and District and the importance of their records in Hall community and family history. I encourage all Fringe readers to ask to access these records as important

family references are there.

This month I have helped descendants of the Curran family to access St. Michael's records and copy references to their forbears and inspect the items donated by the Currans to this Church. It is especially important to note that they were of the Catholic faith yet supported a building that is part of the general Hall fabric.

May it remain so that we work together for the good of the community.

The last book I want to recommend for your bookshelves is "Ginninderra, Forerunner to Canberra", by that wonderful local historian (and former Hall resident), (the Late) Lyall Gillespie, published by The Wizard Canberra Local History Series (I think I bought my copy at the National Library). It contains a detailed index of place and people names and is an essential tool for family researchers.

Enjoy.

- Neil Manton

*Panoramas, leaves and King Parrot photos by Paul Porteus*

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STOP PRESS PAGE  
(and a half)

## World's Greatest Shave

Rania Yallop, just turned 14, discards her tresses for the World's Greatest Shave, raising over \$350 for the Leukaemia Foundation. Many thanks to all supporters especially Kylie and staff at the Shearing Shed.



Above: With brother Andrew, mum Jo Hall and dad Robert looking on, first goes the the pony-tail...



Left: And later... all gone!  
Might have to borrow your brother's hat, Rania!

---

## New Units Being Constructed in Kinlyside!

The principal contractor constructing the Clarrie Hermes intersection on the Barton Highway, SMEC, have undertaken a project to replace parrot nests which may have been disturbed during construction of the new Clarrie Hermes Drive which cuts through the sheep property of John and Craig Starr, known as Gold Creek West. This tree replacement exercise has started with arborist David May (tree specialist Canberra) arriving on site on the Hall property to place some 30 specially designed nesting boxes that should encourage nesting parrots. David looks for well established trees usually yellow box or red gum. A fork of branches some 4 metres from the ground is ideal for nesting box placement.



## Hall Village Brass Band - March 25

The locals, and visitors, came out in big numbers to enjoy the fourth annual Twilight Concert by the Hall Village Brass Band. Under the inspiring baton of Band Master Viv Martin, the Band gave the audience a bit of everything - including previews of works that they are currently polishing for the national Band championships over Easter.

The Band was once more ornamented with the fine solo performances of Bronwyn Douglass, who is getting to know the way to Hall! Bronwyn has sung with the Band on two previous occasions, and once again her fine voice and charming presentation were greatly appreciated.

This year for the first time we also heard the 'band of the future' - now known as the 'Victoria Street Brass'. Their bracket of 30 minutes got us all in the mood and thirsty for more!

Audience members dug deep for the raffle and gold coin donation. The select dozen for the raffle prize were made available on very generous terms by Rob Howell of Jeir Creek Wines, and we thank him most sincerely for his welcome association with the Concert.

The Preschool Parents had a busy, and we hope profitable afternoon running their BBQ and drinks trailer.

Special thanks are due again to the sponsor of the event,



Barnett Lilley and Associates, Financial Consultants of Victoria Street. Scott Lilley and Stephen Barnett and their staff (and families!) have been reliable, generous and active supporters of the Twilight Concert from the start, and they have earned our warmest thanks.

Hugh Watson again lent his amplification gear and did all the set-up, while Bob Richardson and several others were on hand to help before and after.

*(Courtesy of HVDPA website, hall.act.au)*

---

## Bits from Bette

Ye in Flander's Fields, Rest Well. - Bette Calman

### THE OLD FLAG

Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night  
In our southern sky of blue,  
And a little old flag in the corner  
That's part of our heritage, too.  
It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish  
Who were sent to the ends of the earth,  
The rogues and the schemers,  
The doers and dreamers  
Who gave modern Australia birth.  
And you, who are shouting to change it,  
You don't seem to understand,  
It's the flag of our law and our language,  
Not the flag of a faraway land.  
It doesn't mean we owe allegiance  
To some forgotten imperial dream;  
We've the stars to show where we're going,  
And the old flag to show where we've been.



[Layout Editor Andrew speaks]

In researching this poem that Bette submitted, I was surprised to find that the Kiwis had stolen it also - changing Australia to New Zealand in the middle. Obviously all the countries with a Union Jack in the canton can probably make good use of this poem. It was written by Robin Northover in 1986, I'm sure as part of the flag debate that was raging back then.

A note from the author, Robin Northover:

"The lines about

It's only an old piece of bunting,  
It's only an old piece of coloured rag,  
But there are thousands who have died for its honour,  
And shed their best blood for our flag."

... are taken from an old music-hall song of the 1890s and were added to the poem somewhere along the way. They do not belong, and I would rather they were not used."

I also note that Fred Nile recited this piece in the NSW Parliament on Sep 3 ("Australian National Flag Day") 2003, though I'm sure others have uttered it in more relaxed settings.

## Poachers rocks for Mens Shed - 11 Feb 2012

Around sixty gathered at Poachers Pantry on Saturday night (February 11th) to enjoy a fine three course meal and throb to the spunky sound of 'West Texas Crude'.

This was the inaugural Poachers Pantry 'Summer Ball', organised as part of the first 'Summerside Festival' during the month of February. The event was a fund-raiser for the fast-growing Hall Mens Shed.

Mike Fitzpatrick, Foreman, thanked Poacher's Pantry for selecting the Shed as the benefiting community organisation for their Summer Ball. Mike said "Full credit must go to Poacher's Pantry for holding these types of functions whereby a Hall community group gains a big boost to their funds. And they don't just provide the opportunity for groups to benefit either; the crew at PP really know how to throw a party. The organisation from planning to promotion to delivery was excellent. I am sure everyone there had a beaut time. Thanks Poacher's Pantry."

Mike also thanked the Hall community for supporting this event. He said that he was amazed at the generous way the people attended the event and then contributed further via the auction. He commented that there seemed to be a great community spirit in Hall as they got behind their local organisations.

A total of \$4,000 was raised for the Shed. Mike said "This could not have come at a better time. The Shed is going from strength to strength and we are starting to experience real growing pains. Our facilities are at a stretch and we are presently trying to decide our priorities with regards to expansion. This money will be a huge help in delivering new opportunities for members of the shed".

Our photo, courtesy of Bob Richardson, shows some wound-up rockers letting it all hang out later in the evening...



*"I won't be a rock star. I will be a legend."*

- Freddie Mercury

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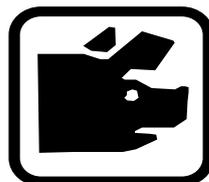
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## National Sheepdog Trials at Hall Showground, March 12-18 2012. continued



Above: National Sheepdog Trials Judging box, March 2012. Trixie, Jane , Bo, and John.



Left: Craig Starr's finest Gold Creek sheep assemble, ready to pit their lack of wits against the nation's finest sheepdogs.

Below: Liberal ACT Assembly member Alastair Coe learns the way of the dog handler from NSDT President Charlie Cover.

Photos: Bob Richardson



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# Blitz on Illegal Waste Dumping

By Rosslyn Beeby, Canberra Times Science and Environment Reporter

A crackdown on illegal waste dumping from ACT building sites has revealed trucks are avoiding Canberra tip fees by dumping soil, concrete and demolition material across the border on farms in NSW. Following a string of recent complaints by residents near Yass, a joint operation by the NSW and ACT Environment Protection Authorities and NSW police set up a checkpoint just over the border, and stopped 22 trucks to inspect waste loads yesterday. The five-hour Barton Highway blitz, code-named Operation White Squid, used hi-tech computer camera equipment to check loads for concealed building waste. Mobile phones and laptops also made it easy to check paperwork such as

council development approvals and waste disposal licences within minutes.

NSW police also checked vehicles were roadworthy.

Three trucks were turned back to Canberra after it was found the drivers did not have approval to dispose of waste in NSW.

A tanker carrying LPG was also found to be unlicensed.

Drivers of empty waste trucks were also questioned about their destinations and return loads.

But these roadside checks are only the beginning of a bigger effort to stop illegal cross-border dumping from Canberra's construction industry, the head of the NSW EPA's south-east

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region operations Julian Thompson said. "We knew we'd have a limited amount of time before the trucks began notifying each other about this checkpoint, so it's all part of a bigger plan," he said. And sure enough, about an hour into the roadside inspections, a radio tuned into the trucker's network began crackling with intelligence that the EPA and "the minties" (the police) were out on the Barton Highway "pulling you over to check for topsoil." The advice was to turn down another route, but unknown to the truckers, the EPA had an unmarked car on that route, recording truck movements.

According to figures on the ACT government's website, waste disposal to landfill from construction and demolition increased by 32 per cent in 2010-11.

Mr Thompson said waste disposal to landfill could add "significant costs" to building projects and home renovations.

He said there was also pressure on contractors to meet recycling targets by appearing to minimise building waste.

"On a major project, waste disposal costs could easily be tens of thousands of dollars, so that's why companies are prepared to risk being caught," he said.

Fines for illegal dumping of building materials can range from \$1500 if a single truck doesn't have the required approval to dispose of its load to \$5500 if the load contains toxic materials such as asbestos. The EPA can also issue clean up notices for illegal dumping sites. If you are concerned about possible illegal waste dumping in your neighbourhood in rural NSW, phone the NSW EPA 24-hour line on 131555.



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## NEW SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

### EMERGENCY SERVICES MAP DIRECTORY RELEASED

Yass Valley Council has just released a new Southern Tablelands Emergency Services Map Directory covering 3 Local Government Areas and an entire NSW Rural Fire Service Zone, in a first for NSW.

The Directory contains over 90 maps covering the Yass Valley, Upper Lachlan and Goulburn Mulwaree LGAs and features enlarged maps of towns and villages, rural addresses and rural fire service brigade boundaries. It replaces the popular Yass/Gunning Rural Directory which was commissioned by the former Yass and Gunning Shire Councils in 1996.

The project, which was partly funded by the 3 Councils and partly from a successful grant application by Yass Valley Council to the Federal/State Governments Natural Disaster Mitigation Program, was managed by Yass Valley Council.

Council's General Manager and Chair of the Yass Valley Local Emergency Management Committee, David Rowe, said "The primary purpose of the directory is to decrease the time taken by fire brigades and other emergency services to respond to emergency calls. As a general purpose map book it will also be an asset to the business and rural communities".

Community Development Manager, Cathy Campbell, acknowledged that "production of the Directory would not have been possible without the assistance of hundreds of volunteers within the Southern Tablelands Rural Fire Service Zone who painstakingly conducted field verification of the attributes that appear on every map sheet".

Throughout the project Yass Valley Council worked closely with the Land and Property Information Division who will be able to use data collected from the project to update existing LPMA map sheets.

The Southern Tablelands Emergency Services Map Directory may be purchased for \$40 from Council's main administration building or the Yass Valley Visitor Information Centre. All money raised from sales of the directory will be used to fund an updated version in coming years.



Photo: ©Paul Porteus

## THE RURAL FRINGE ISSN: 1329-3893

The Rural Fringe is a community newspaper published every second month by the Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc (VHDPA) and distributed free to mailboxes of the 2618 postcode. This publication is funded by the advertisement so readers are encouraged to support the businesses advertised.

### Contributions

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to contribute to this publication, particularly local community groups, however it is at the discretion of the Editor as to whether submitted articles are published or not. These deadlines ensure publication by the 10th of every second month.

February issue deadline is	10th January
April issue deadline is	10th March
June issue deadline is	10th May
August issue deadline is	10th July
October issue deadline is	10th September
December issue deadline is	10th November

It is the policy of the VHDPA that articles which are predominantly about the profit making activity of any group or individual can only be accepted for publication if the same issue carrying the article has a paying advertisement of similar size.

Contributions to ruralfringe@hotmail.com or PO Box 43 Hall ACT 2618

### Advertising rates (per issue)

Half page — \$70, Quarter page — \$40, Eighth page — \$30  
Advertisement design fee — \$30

### Other Information:

Editor: Jo Hall  
Sub-editor: Bob Richardson  
Layout/design: Andrew Purdam

All enquiries to the sub-editor on 0407 071 245

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