

RURAL FRINGE

Journal of the Hall district



VOLUME 19 ISSUE 5

OCTOBER 2012

West Texas Crude does it again

How lucky are we to have our very own band, West Texas Crude, which has been raising money for important causes again and again and again...

Great community response at the Abbey

There was a great response from the Hall and district community to a fundraising function held at the Abbey on 18 August. Organised by Ros Brydie and Hugh Watson, with help from Therese and Matthew Herbert, the function raised over \$12,000 for Inflammatory Bowel Research at Canberra Hospital.

250 came to enjoy themselves; with 15 of the 24 tables having a Hall community connection.

It was also the occasion for the launch of local group West Texas Crude's second album *Take Your Chances* with songs covering life, love, death and politics.

Hosted by David Kilby, there was a Kilby Rock Quiz which had people diving into their memory banks, an entertaining auction which included such diverse items as two days fishing with Matthew Herbert and a \$2000 Asian holiday. One of the items that drew the most hectic bidding was West Texas Crude to play at

It is estimated that approximately 70,000 Australians have Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis), with more being diagnosed each year. It is estimated that this number will rise a staggering 23% by 2020. The cause is unknown and at present there is no cure. IBD often develops between the ages of 15 and 30 but can start at any age.

a venue of your choice on an occasion of your choice, plus a collector's only launch T-shirt and copies of their

first and second albums (and Hugh Watson's very first recording – a 45 rpm record). There was also a very enticing raffle with goods donated by the Canberra Farmers' Market. London-based band member Phil Williams sent a special video message in support of the evening.

The evening ended with dancing to West Texas Crude. The food, the music, the atmosphere of the whole evening was just wonderful.

Thank you West Texas Crude!



Hostess Ros Brydie and MC David Kilby drawing raffle prizes.



West Texas Crude hitting the high notes

Just one week later, West Texas Crude were doing it all again out at Poacher's Pantry.

Another full house raised almost \$8,500 for the Wallaroo Rural Fire Service, the largest single amount they have raised to date. Excellent food and wine and a spirited auction with some fabulous items on offer made for a great evening out, while West Texas Crude, helped out by their next generation band, provided fine musical accompaniment. "I'd like to say a huge thank you to everybody who helped - Sue at Poacher's Pantry, Lyn Anderson, West Texas Crude and their family members" said Rod Roberts, President of the Wallaroo Rural Fire Service "The money raised will be really helpful as we extend the fire shed for the brigade".

Kinlyside

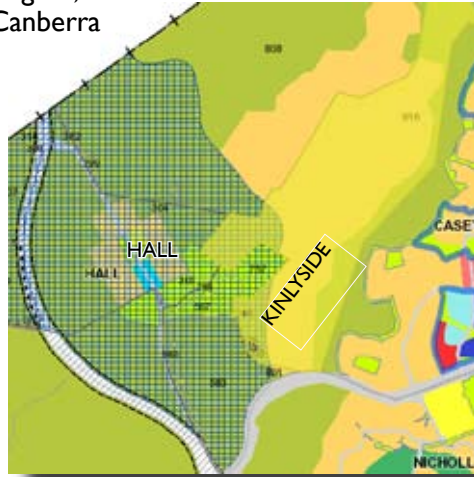
The area known as Kinlyside has been managed as a rural property for more than a century, and since the mid 1990s by John Starr and his family.

Ecological surveys across the ACT in the early 2000s were undertaken by government ecologists, contractors to government and the Canberra

Ornithologist Group, and revealed that Kinlyside is of high ecological significance. The ACT Lowland Woodland Conservation Strategy produced by the ACT Government identified Kinlyside as containing key habitat for threatened birds and a high diversity of plant species that tend to occur only in sites in good condition, and to be important for landscape connectivity in northern ACT, particularly the landscape setting of the village of Hall. These values remain in large part due to the

conservative farm management and animal husbandry applied by the Starr family and previous landholders.

Kinlyside had been identified since the 1980s as an area for future urban development. However, as a result of the surveys several options for development were considered that would retain some ecological values, but ultimately it was determined that the area was so significant that any development would severely impact the values. The ACT Labor Government, in its 2004 election commitments, declared that if elected the area



of significance would be protected as part of the ACT reserve system. Boundaries of the proposed reserve were identified, but no further moves by government were made, and the same election commitment was announced before the 2008 election. While the area is being managed in a manner consistent with conservation of its natural values by the Starrs under an arrangement with the ACT Government, eight years after the first election commitment it is still not protected in a reserve, and the future of this area and the role of the Starr family in the management of this site remains uncertain.

In 2010 the suburb of Casey was developed and residents began to move in. Casey is on the eastern boundary of the Kinlyside woodland. It is important to manage the area between Kinlyside and Casey to reduce risks of bushfire, and grazing in Kinlyside aims to reduce fire fuels, while still maintaining the conservation values. Casey residents are fortunate to live so close to a valuable part of the Canberra Nature Park and therefore have a responsibility to respect the rights of the landholder, not enter the land and prevent dogs from roaming in the area where they may scare or chase sheep or kangaroos. As well residents can assist conservation by reducing other potential impacts such as the spread of garden plants into this important and rich woodland habitat.

- Sarah Sharpe

Vale Elaine Leckie

Sadly, our friend Elaine from the aged people unit on the corner of Victoria and Loftus Street passed away suddenly at the end of August at the age of 77. On a beautiful spring morning, family and friends including many Hall residents said goodbye to Elaine at a moving service on 4 September at Norwood Crematorium Chapel followed by refreshments at Hall Pavilion. Elaine will be remembered for her kind and generous spirit and sense of humour and her ability to 'always look on the bright side of life'. Elaine's first job was with the National Australia Bank, which in keeping with the time, she left when she married Bill. Elaine later had a variety of jobs, her last with the Australian Bureau of Statistics in Canberra. Elaine lived in many places around Australia, but settled in Hall more than 30 years ago. In addition to her quiet and sustained love for her family, Elaine made a huge contribution through her volunteer work with Meals on Wheels and as Treasurer for the Village of Hall and District Progress Association for many years as well as being an active member of the View Society and the Blind Society. She loved her garden, nature and bird life as well as jigsaws, crosswords and a particular computer game. Our deep sympathy goes to Elaine's daughter Lisa, her daughter-in-law Nat and siblings Edna and Trevor. 'Miss me but let me go.'

HALL PONY CLUB would like to invite the local community to our Pony Club Show Off Day and In House Show on 12 October from 10am onwards.

The aim of our day is to let the local community know what we do and how much fun we have every Rally!

We will be having a sausage sizzle which will be \$2 and all funds will be going towards the club for more facilities. There will also some great prizes to be in our raffle so we encourage you to purchase a ticket! There will also be games that you can join in, so we hope you can come and get to know your local Pony club better as we have been here for 46 years!

- Jane Doak

Helen White poses on one of six new sets of bleachers for Hall Showground delivered by ACT Sport and Recreation. This is a lead-in to a make over of the Pony Club facilities.



CARNIVAL OF CAROLS

A very special event will be hosted by the Combined Churches' of Hall and District commencing at 5.30pm on Sunday 9 December 2012 in celebration of Christmas, at the Old Hall Primary School Hoskins Street, Hall. Come along and join in the fun of a 'Community Atmosphere' with the Carollers as they wander around the village.



With activities for the whole family, including a jumping castle, sausage sizzle, drinks and prayer tent. So bring a picnic blanket and don't forget there will be lots of carol singing.



In November Yass Landcare and Sutton Landcare has arranged a joint visit to the Canberra Arboretum. The visit will take place from 12 noon on Sunday 11 November. The Arboretum will put on a 48 seat bus to take participants around the site for a special guided

tour by Friends of the Arboretum. If you would like to attend this special visit please RSVP to Jan 6227 1389 - janetandken@skymesh.com.au or Tony - sheronypark@bigpond.com

GOJU-RYU KARATE celebrates one year in Hall. This is a great achievement for our village and thanks go the Progress Association for allowing us to train in the Hall Pavilion. We have had small but steady numbers in pee wees, juniors and adults right through the winter months which shows outstanding dedication to training.

All the dojo training on cold winter nights will be paying off for those students invited to go for their next grading in October. Selected pee wees, juniors and adults will have the opportunity to take the next step in their karate training as their karate skills steadily improve. It's 40 years ago this month since I started training in Goju karate and I continue to enjoy training very much. I seek to improve my skills and pass on this martial art to others.

If you are thinking of trying karate training and are over 5 years of age, come down to the Hall Pavilion on Tuesday nights and watch or join in a training session. Pee wees (under 10s) 5pm-6pm, juniors and adults 6-8pm.

Thanks for supporting karate in Hall and happy anniversary Hall Goju-ryu dojo.

- Sensei Sam

St Michael and All Angels Garden Fete

How good does it get? Perfect spring day, Hall Brass Band, residents and friends meeting, children playing, fresh baked scones with heaps of cream and jam. Gavin Finley led the Hall Brass Band in medleys of toe tapping, get up and dance music. Church elder Neil Manton told our reporter that the Hall Church Fete had been held for over a decade in our village. It has been and will continue to be enjoyed annually. The date of the event is subject to the church calendar with all proceeds going this year to construction of a ramp to assist disabled access. The newly completed stairs also have to be reworked to meet rigid standards.

- Bob Richardson Church Reporter



Angie wins Hall a fair bus fare deal

ACT Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher announced on 7 September that the ACT Government will provide assistance to families of students living in Oaks Estate and Hall by ensuring that they pay the same level of bus fares as other children in the ACT.

"I have received a number of representations and calls on talk back radio about the significant increase in the student term ticket prices for students who travel to schools in the ACT on Deane's buses," the Chief Minister said. A Deane's term pass suddenly increased in Term 3 to around \$172.50 a term compared to previous rates and an ACTION school term bus pass of between \$60-65. The main proponent was our very own Angie Hazlehurst going in to bat for Hall parents by calling Chief Minister callback and winning! Good job Angie!

"To ensure that all ACT students benefit from our reduced student fares when they travel to school, I have decided that those students who live in Oaks Estate and Hall should not be disadvantaged as a result of living in these villages that are within the ACT.

"This decision means that families who have paid for school term tickets to travel on Deane's buses will be reimbursed the difference between ACT student fares and the Deane's ticket prices from the date the new prices came into effect. This policy, which includes free travel for students who are eligible for the Student Transport Program, will also apply for any future fare increases and will take into account the ACTION student fare at that time," the Chief Minister said.

The ACT Government, through the Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, expects to have the details of this new policy finalised by the end of September 2012, and will be in touch with Oaks Estate and Hall families about the process for the reimbursement of money that they have paid since the start of term 3 this year.

Blessing of the Animals Sun 7 October at 11.00 am

This will be at our regular service time, and will involve a shortened liturgy which includes blessing of pets as well as farm livestock etc. We're hoping many families will bring pets, and perhaps photographs of their livestock - we don't really want anyone to bring a herd of Herefords!

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Village of Hall and District Progress Association Annual General Meeting

Thanks to the old

There was a good turnout for this year's Progress Association AGM on 15 August. Outgoing President Alastair Crombie reported on the year's achievements, including those of the 'special interest groups' under the Association's auspices – the Wallaroo and Spring Range Residents Group, the Hall and District Collectors Club, the Hall Men's Shed, and the Friends of the Hall School Museum. Alastair has had two long stints as President, this last term for five years. Getting a very active website going, developing a serious relationship with the ACT Government, securing the buffer zone around Hall in the Village of Hall Master Plan in 2002, heritage listing of the village precinct and other major planning achievements all fall under Alastair's significant contributions during his terms as President.



Outgoing president Alastair Crombie thanks the outgoing committee



New committee, from left to right, Judy Roberts, Peter Howard, David Fussil, Phil Robson, Gavin Mansfield, Shaun O'Connor, Cassie Elvin, Rodney Barnes, Bob Richardson, David Hazelhurst and Tony Morris. A fine grouping of experience and fresh ideas.

And welcome to the new

This year's AGM saw big changes to the committee office bearers. Newly elected president Gavin Mansfield thanked Alastair and welcomed Shaun O'Connor as Secretary and Rodney Barnes as Treasurer, with Tony Morris and Paul Porteous elected as Vice Presidents to the committee.

I asked Gavin why he stood for President. "Nobody has the time for such things, but you have to make time to do things otherwise nothing ever gets done" said our new President. "I'm looking forward to achieving things. One big thing the Progress Association has to do is manage our community assets like the Pavilion" he continued "communication with the membership is very important. I have an open door policy. Our meetings of the committee are open to everyone and I'd like to encourage people to keep looking at our website (www.hall.act.au) for updates and if there are any questions out there feel free to ask any of the committee members."

- Jo Hall

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Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade

A NIGHT FOR THE NEW

On the night of 8 August 2012, the Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade conducted its 33rd AGM since its reformation after the 1979 Black Saturday Fire.

Efficiently run by outgoing Brigade President, Shane Lenson, the Brigade welcomed a number of newcomers to its ranks with the election of a number of people to new positions.

Operational Team

Captain – Matt Bolton

Senior Deputy Captain – Chris Leonard

Deputy Officer – Andrew Hobson

Deputy Officer – Will Refshauge



Matt Bolton and Richard Fulton were elected Captain and Vice President

And supporting the operational capabilities of the Brigade will be the following elected administrators:

Administrative Executive President – Melissa Riches

Vice President – Richard Fulton

Secretary – Angus McDonald

Treasurer – Bill Henderson

Kate Betts unanimously retained the role of Recruitment and Retention Officer. Enquiries about joining the Brigade or about its activities can be made by emailing hallfirebrigade@gmail.com



Melissa Riches receives the Chief Officer's Commendation for Diligent Service 2012 at the AGM

- Melissa Riches, President

Open day at the Fire Shed

The Hall community enjoyed a fantastic sunny spring afternoon at the Fire Station - a well-resourced facility for the district. Fun was had by young and old and an opportunity for old friends to welcome new neighbours – the De Marcos. The children enjoyed the ride in the truck and the adults, including Hall Collector's Club, enjoyed catching up in the sunshine. Another reason why living in Hall is so wonderful. Thanks to Hall Rural Fire Brigade for a great time. So good, the Mansfield children wrote a very clever poem about a Fire Truck.



FIRE TRUCK

Flat man, such fun, big boots

Ice cold drinks, shared with friends

Round the block in the fire truck
children laughing

Engine humming, exciting

Test drive the truck, lights flashing

Really fun, sausage sizzle,

Under the water, dripping wet
uniforms orange and bright

Cake delicious in the sunshine

Keen children jumped into the truck, sharing Hall community spirit. Talking, grown ups talking into the radio

- The Mansfield children and Helen



A Plan for Summer

With the shift from La Nina to El Nino that we are being promised from the Bureau of Meteorology, it is likely our upcoming summer will be the hot and dry season that is ideal for ice-creams and days by the pool. It is also likely to mean that the threat of bushfires in the region is very real.

Responding to bushfires begins well before Hall's fire trucks roll out the shed and actually needs to begin with you with your bushfire preparedness and the development of a bushfire preparation plan for your property.

Your Bush Fire Survival Plan is one of the best ways to help improve the safety of you and your family before the impact of, or during a bush fire. It's a fact that a well prepared home is more likely to survive a bush fire.

Your plan can also help stop you from making rushed and dangerous decisions at the last moment.

The Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade encourages you



to complete your plan with your family, so everyone knows what they will do if a fire starts.

Keep your Bush Fire Survival Plan in a safe place where everyone can see it. Sometimes, no matter how well prepared you are, things don't go to plan.

That's why, whether you plan to Leave Early or Stay and Defend, you need a back-up plan. Your Bush Fire Survival Plan will help you with this.

You can download your copy of a Bush Fire Survival Plan today from the following website: <http://esa.act.gov.au/community-information/bushfires/prepare-act-survive/>


Remember, preparation is not just about cleaning up around the house and having a plan. It is also about making sure you consider your physical, mental and emotional preparedness to deal with a bushfire. The health of you and your family is the most important consideration you have. That way you can continue to enjoy those ice-creams and days by the pool together in to the future.





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Museum

Musings

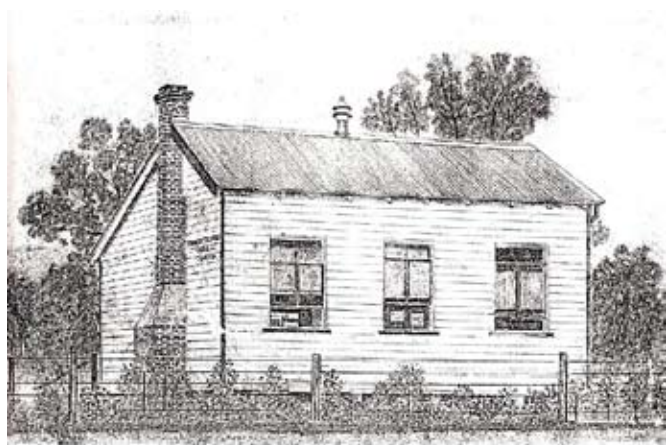
The Hall School Museum, under the auspices of the Village of Hall and District Progress Association (VHDPA), has been successful again in an application for the 2012-2013 ACT Heritage Grants. It has received \$6140, which together with a contribution from the VHDPA, will enable the Hall School Museum Group to work on a project called "Present at Birth - Celebrating Canberra's Early Schools and Teachers". The project will feature an exhibition that will identify, research and tell the stories of Canberra's earliest schools and teachers - those that were inherited when the Federal Capital Territory boundary was drawn in 1911. It will also be developed in digital format for incorporation into the ACT schools curricula. The exhibition will be mounted to coincide with UNESCO's World Teacher's Day in October 2013. More details will be forthcoming as the project gets underway.

A new brochure promoting the Hall School Museum has been produced and copies are available in the Premier Store and the Gumnut Cafe. It will also be circulated through the Canberra Tourism network.

Conservation work on the collection is ongoing at the Museum with new "friends" joining our happy group each Thursday morning, see details below. Work has also commenced on displays for the "Hall Village and District 1913" exhibition planned for ACT Heritage Week in April next year. If any readers have items of interest from that era and wish to loan or donate to the museum we would love to hear from you at email museum@hall.act.au or call me on 0408259946.

There have been more donations to the museum's heritage collection. We have also been given many photographic items from Peter Corrigan, enough to set up a small photographic business including a darkroom. For the younger ones, a darkroom was a place to get your films processed into photographs prior to the digital photography age.

Thanks also to Elizabeth Kilby for the donation of a wonderful painting of Hall School by Margaret Hunter, originally purchased by Ron Winch in 1971.



Talking of photos, I'm always interested in historic photos and I encountered this one in the Victoria and Albert Museum collection. It is of an English school in the 1910's.



SCHOOLGIRLS IN A CLASSROOM
Photographed by J. & G. Taylor
England, 1910-19
V&A. Misc.1056-1992

Don't forget that the Hall Museum webpages are now available on the Hall Village website www.hall.act.au. The webpages contain information on the Museum, news items, photo gallery and how to become a "Friend of Hall School Museum".

If you would like to join our team of conservation volunteers that meets on Thursday mornings, please come along from 9am until 12noon at the school. Also, if you have any old photos or memorabilia relating to Hall School, the Village or the surrounding district and are willing to donate or allow me to copy them, please let me know at email: museum@hall.act.au or 0408259946.

- Phil Robson
Honorary Curator

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Bridge Back To Life

On 29 July, a soup luncheon fundraiser held at the Hall Pavilion raised \$1,200 to go towards the running costs of Tony's Place. The event was a combined effort of the communities of St Francis Xavier Church at Hall and St Monica's Church Evatt (of which St Francis Xavier's is now a part). There was a tremendous amount of cooperation, generosity and good humour from all the volunteers who cooked soups, desserts, organised the music program and craft stall, and who later participated in the cleaning up process.



Felicity Roberts manning the craft stall

Rhonda Obad OAM is a parishioner of St Monica's Church. She has dedicated her life to helping the young men other people have given up on and started the Bridge Back to Life Foundation after the tragic death of her son Tony from a heroin overdose in 1988. Tony's Place was established to give supportive accommodation to homeless men aged between 18 and 25, provide a living skills program, and encourage

them to become independent and move to their own home. Tony's Place was initially a rental property, but through donations and support the Foundation was recently able to purchase a permanent place.



Mike Fitzpatrick, Bob Richardson and Rod Roberts in heated discussion at the Hall's Men's Shed recent gig at Bunnings

half Men's Shed

The Bunnings Belconnen store has kindly donated a number of tools which has allowed us to get stuck into several community projects, including building a desk surround for the Kaleen School for Autism. The school greatly accepted the work and asked for four more to be made. Another job the men are working on is restoring the table/bench seats that reside outside the Premier Store.

We also manage to fit in a variety of jobs for the school museum, as well as find time for morning tea and to share great mateship. If you'd like to come along and enjoy a cuppa with us, we're open Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am at the Hall Primary School.

- Kevin Stone

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What is your gardening Philosophy?

I find it interesting that gardeners, mostly new, but some old, feel the need to follow a particular approach, somewhere along a philosophical or practical spectrum, that encompasses where and how they grow plants and also how they deal with pests and diseases.

There are endless definitions on the net that can be a problem as I will illustrate below.

ORGANIC GARDENING

Web definition:

- A style of gardening where all the materials used in the garden come from natural sources and not chemically made by man.
- The method of gardening that uses only materials originally found from living things (i.e. composts and manures),
- A term for ways of raising plants without using chemical fertilisers or pesticides.

PERMACULTURE

Web definition:

- Developed in the 1970s by Australian Bill Mollison: "a beneficial collection of plants and animals for use to humans, mostly aimed at the household and community self reliance, and maybe as a 'commercial producer' but only arising from a surplus from the existing system."
- The collaboration of agricultural ecosystems proposed to be sustainable and self-sufficient.
- A form of horticulture concentrating on purposefully creating an ecosystem relying on established knowledge of inter-plant relationships.

BIODYNAMIC GARDENING

Web definition:

- Biodynamic agriculture is a form of organic farming that treats farms as combined and individual organisms, focusing on balancing the holistic development and interrelationship of the soil, plants, animals as a self-nourishing system without external inputs insofar as this is possible ...
- An organic gardening or farming method with a spiritual tinge, using a holistic approach to the soil, plants and animals as a unified ecological system ...
- This farming is based on the same principles as organic farming and while organic and bio-dynamic are similar in that they are grown free from chemicals, biodynamic goes one step further...

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Web definition:

- The use of all suitable techniques of controlling pests in a co-ordinated manner that enhances, rather than destroys, natural controls. If pesticides are part of the program, they are used in moderation and selectively so as not to interfere with natural competitors.
- The coordinated use of information about pests, the location, and pest deterrence and control methods to prevent unacceptable levels of pest invasion and damage by the most economical means while reducing hazards to people, property, and the environment.

A mixture of chemical and other, non-pesticide, methods to control pests.

LUNAR PLANTING

Web definition:

- Agricultural astrology is a type of electional astrology that advises the planting, cultivating and harvesting of crops based on moon phases and astrological signs.

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING

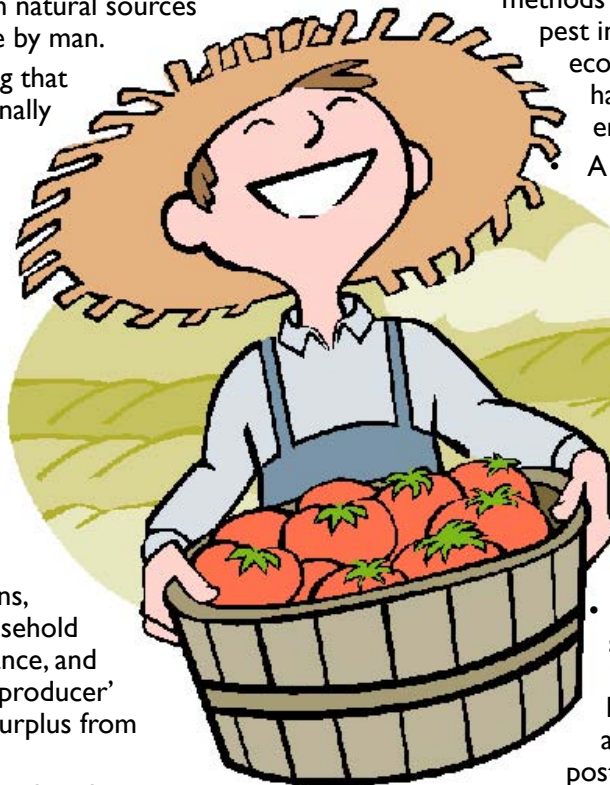
Web Definition:

- Sustainable gardening ... comprises a disparate group of horticulture interests that share, to a greater or lesser extent, the aims and objectives associated with the international post-1980s sustainable development and sustainability programs developed to address the fact that humans are now using natural biophysical resources faster than they can be replenished by nature. Included within this compass are those home gardeners... that [sic] integrate environmental, social and economic factors in an attempt to create a more sustainable future. Organic gardening and the use of native plants are integral to sustainable gardening.

As noted above there is every variation to a gardener's belief which is often based on faith rather than science. There are followers that try to convert others to their approach and are completely intolerant of other people's beliefs. Then there is the spectrum of believers within each philosophy, from extremists to moderates, and also, you will find atheists, agnostics and skeptics.

There is a large overlap between all the approaches, but like the basic respect for human life and kindness to others, we can now apply this to gardening by treading as lightly as possible on the earth.

- Lisa Walmsley



A Gold and Silver for Hartley Lifecare

At a recent Gala Dinner to celebrate 50 years of service and 25 years of the Hall Markets several long term volunteers, including Margaret and Tony Morris of Hall, were granted Life Membership of Hartley Lifecare for their long and dedicated volunteer services.

Hartley Lifecare, formerly known as the ACT Society for the Physically Handicapped, was formed 50 years ago by a group of parents, all with children with a disability. From these humble beginnings in a room at the back of the Canberra Hospital, Hartley has worked with dedication and determination to increase and improve the services they provide to those between the ages of 12 to 60 living with a physical and complex disability in the ACT and surrounding region.

Hartley Lifecare is supported by the ACT Government through Disability ACT and actively fundraises through events and the Hall Markets. Over the many years Hartley has been fortunate to receive generous community support which has been necessary to improve and maintain service-delivery standards, particularly in the face of continued growth in the demand for services.

Hartley Lifecare makes practical use of the funds

raised by providing continued delivery of flexible and responsive services and programs to people living with a disability, their families and carers.

Services include:

- full-time residential care and facilities (nine group houses and hostel)
- residential respite care and facilities (about 60 clients per year)
- outreach programs to support people in their own home
- assistive technology program
- workplace training and development
- community access programs
- transport service (seven vehicles, four with wheelchair access)
- recreation programmes

Past and present Hall residents have been and are receiving the benefits of Hartley Lifecare's extensive support services for many years.

New volunteers and sponsors to assist with the markets or other fund raising activities throughout the year are much needed and always welcome. If you are interested, contact Hartley on 6282 4411.

- Tony Morris

SMOKE-FREE

The 2012 season was one of highs and lows for the Renaissance Homes Hall Bushrangers. After a relatively slow start to the season and a raft of injuries, the squad found themselves digging deep to make a late charge for the finals. The first grade side finished the season in fourth place, and finished the regular season in style by putting on one of the clubs great wins and scoring three late tries to seal a well deserved victory at Victoria Park, Yass. The day was also a great day for Hall as the second grade side sealed their minor premiership by securing a bonus point against the Yass Hoggets.

The semi finals saw both sides travel to Cooma to take on the Red Devils, with their first grade side claiming third spot and a home ground advantage for the minor semi final. Second Grade put in a valiant effort but ultimately lost 15 – 12. First grade saved one of their best performances of the season for the finals, beating the Red Devils for the first time in 2012, 20 – 15.

With a win for First Grade, and a loss for Second Grade in the first week of finals, both sides found themselves off to Yass for the second time in three weeks for the last semi final. Confidence was high among both grades but it just wasn't to be. Second Grade lost to eventual premiers Goulburn 22 – 10 and First Grade bowed out of the competition to runners up Yass, 36 – 22.

2013 will see the Bushrangers look to progress from the success of 2012, with the hope that many young players return. The Hall Bushrangers have also entered into a 12 month partnership with ACT Health, teaming up to promote a smoke free lifestyle. Thanks to this partnership

the Hall oval will receive a new electronic scoreboard and will be smoke free for all Bushranger and Hall King Brown cricket

games.

Thanks must go out to the sponsors and the Hall community for making 2012 such a success. The club would like to thank all those involved and look forward to promoting a healthier lifestyle for all in 2012.

HALL LEGEND Jim Rochford celebrated his 99th birthday at his home in Gibbs Street, Hall. Jim was honoured by his family and friends.

Left to right: Jim and Margaret Cox, Alan Coulton, Jim Rochford, Michele and Chris Rochford, Francis Telfer and Jan Coulton.

Photo Bob Richardson



Hall Rotary Club News

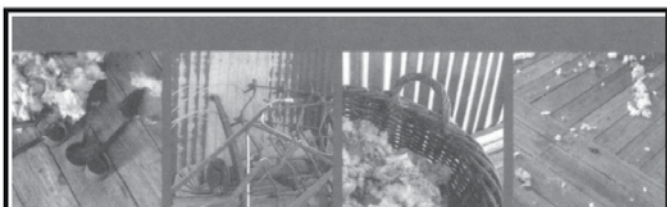
The Rotary Club of Hall celebrated the wedding of two of its members, Chris Edwards and Janine Linklater from Fraser on the first day of spring. It was a wonderful day for the lovely couple with the ceremony being held in the beautiful grounds of the property of Suzanne Carter who is also a member of the Hall Club. It was indeed a very happy occasion as it is not often that two of its members tie the knot.



Wedding of Chris Edwards and Janine Linklater on the property of Suzanne Carter

Beth Cox with her father Neil when she spoke to the Hall Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Hall is again pleased to sponsor an exchange student. Beth Cox from Daramalan College will spend 2013 in Japan under Rotary's Youth Exchange Program. Beth has been learning Japanese at school for a number of years and next year she will be trying out her language skills as she will be living with several Japanese families during the year and be attending school in Japan. She will only be speaking Japanese and will experience first hand Japanese culture and learn about the traditions of the country. Beth recently spoke to the Club about her expectations for her year as an exchange student.



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We want to showcase the talented youth of the area, so please help us out! Pick up an entry form from your school's front office or download from www.classicyass.com/classicyouth. Forms can be returned to schools. (Open to High School age and older/upwards)

An initiative of Yass Valley Youth Council
For more information contact Caitlin Nelson: 0419 346 550

Term 3 at Hall Pre-School

Throughout Term 3 the Sleepy Bears have learnt all about Arctic regions of the world and became very passionate about the plight of the polar bears. Some of the children wanted to share their learning with the wider community and decided to make posters encouraging everyone to "help save the polar bears." Some of the suggestions that the children gave were to change lights bulbs in your house to energy saving light bulbs, turn off the electricity when not using it, and leave the car at home when you only have a short distance to travel.



Constable Kenny Koala came to visit us and spoke to us about littering and taking care of our environment!

We went on the Action Bus Wash

excursion in August, which was fun and enjoyed by all who attended.

The Sleepy Bears took part in the popular Judoroo program, which is run by Hill Sports Academy. This is a five week gross motor program which teaches the children safe falling techniques and judo holds. It was a well-run program which was of great benefit to the children. Thanks to Steven Hill for the excellent organisation and running of the program.

As spring approached the Sleepy Bears became very interested in the flowers that were blooming and the bees that were hovering around the




Judoroo was a popular part of our gross motor program in Term 3.

blossom trees in our playground. This led to some fun and interesting activities relating to spring time and in particular, bees. We went exploring our surrounding environment to find blossom trees and observed what the bees were doing. We learnt all about the bee life cycle and even made some delicious honey biscuits! We finished our term off with an excursion to Floriade, where we got to see our gnomes that had been previously painted at preschool. A big thank you to all of the parent helpers who accompanied us on the day.

- Cindy Condon
Classroom Teacher, Hall Preschool

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Australian Year of the Farmer in Hall

Val Jeffrey (candidate for the ACT Assembly), John Starr and Chris Newman, author of *Gold Creek: Reflections of Canberra Rural Heritage*

The ACT's Australian Year of the Farmer 2012 Conference was held recently at John Starr's property Gold Creek West, Hall. One hundred and seventy ACT lease holders gathered with family and friends to celebrate and plan for their future. Phil and Yvonne Robson presented a display of Hall Museum items. Some 400 in total attended and were amazed by the newly constructed conference centre and shearing sheds.

Pics and text: Bob Richardson



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Open Day at Hall Vet Surgery

On Sunday 16 September, Hall Vet Surgery, instead of doing their annual information night, celebrated Helen Purdam's 30 years of being a vet in Hall with an Open Day. With over 300 attendees all engaged with different displays and activities, and many with their dogs, the day became a celebration of all the different ways we can enjoy spending time with our canine companions. Many thanks to Natalie, Pauline and the rest of the Hall Vet crew for putting on such a great day.



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Dear Editor,

Thank you people of Hall.

As you will all read elsewhere in this edition of the *Rural Fringe*, the launch of West Texas Crude's second album at The Abbey on Saturday 18th was a fabulous night, raising over \$12,000 for Inflammatory Bowel Disease Research at the Canberra Hospital.

My main job on the night was to make a short speech thanking people for coming and for supporting the band, our family and our chosen charity.

To quote from my speech:

When Hugh initially came up with his grand plan nearly six months ago I was doubtful that we could get 250 people to come to The Abbey on a cold winter's night to launch WTC's second album.

I was obviously very wrong because I had seriously underestimated our marvellous Hall community. I always knew that we could rely on our family and friends to support us but this response has been truly overwhelming.

Hugh and I know that the people in the IBD unit at the Canberra Hospital do outstanding work but our family story has obviously struck a chord with many others. Paul Pavli has been our children's specialist for over 10 years now. There have been times when I have spoken more to Jan Platten and Paul Pavli than anyone else. We can't thank them enough.

So, we started with just three tables of 10 - one for our family, one for the band and one for my sister and her family. And then the bookings started rolling in and by the end we were turning people away. Just for the record 15 of our 24 tables have a Hall community connection.

I guess that figure sums up why I still feel upset driving past our closed but still beloved Hall PS every day on the way home. Hall PS was crucial to creating our sense of community which is very much on show here tonight.

I would also like to thank David Kilby for agreeing to MC the night for us and David of course too falls under the Hall mantle.

Both on the night itself and in follow up emails, Dr Pavli and the Canberra Hospital IBD team commented on the strong sense of connectedness of the Hall community. The night very much reminded me of past Hall community events which often, but not always, revolved around the school – the True Blue Do, the New Blue Do, bonfires and cracker nights, the Hall PS Centenary to name a few. (I gather Trudy and Gavin are organising a main street event on 6 December.)

The school has gone (for now) but, judging by your response to our fundraising event, a strong sense of community obviously remains. Thankfully Hall shop (no, we definitely DON'T want home mail delivery), the preschool, the rugby club, the pony club, the bushfire

Letters to the Editor

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brigades, Hall Rotary, the museum, the men's shed and the cottage are all still thriving local institutions.

I'd like to conclude by making a few specific thank yous. Thank you to:

Jo Hall for booking the first non family, non band table and for getting the bookings rolling.

Trudy Mansfield and Yvonne Robson for spreading the word and badgering people to death on our behalf.

Yvonne Robson for personally rounding up 24 people.

Alexandra and Hoskins Street residents and other friends for responding to my letter.

Tamara Arnold, Brian Goldstraw and Chris Edwards of Hall Rotary for supporting our fund raising.

My favourite stall holders at the Capital Region Farmer's Market for donating \$800 worth of produce vouchers for the raffle which raised \$2200!

Allyson Gell, Suzanne Carter and Mandy and Brent Perry for your generous cash donations.

All our generous sponsors for donating such marvellous auction items – Matthew Herbert and LJHooker, Poacher's Pantry, Little Bridge Wines, Pounding The Pavement Pots, Café Injoy, Spence Family Butchery, Versatile, Gum Tree Pies, Leigh's Collectibles and Julie Storer at Your Skin, Gold Creek. The auction raised \$5200!

I'm so pleased I live in Hall.

Heartfelt thanks to you all,

Ros Brydie



Dear Editor,

The word mine is all too often a four letter derogatory word.

Thinking of exploration we conjure images of people pillaging the land; leaving behind a post apocalyptic landscape of polluted groundwater and massive holes.

My family has a property out on Spring Range Road and the area is indeed very dear to me. I love its rolling landscape and curving gravel roads. I've worked for 8 years in remote exploration, spent years in the Canadian Arctic, the Australian deserts and the jungles of PNG. I have worked extensively on every kind of resource project imaginable from oil and gas to gold exploration, and I've lectured on the subjects of resource production and consumption.

We live in a country that's built on the back of the resource sector. The resource industry is the lifeblood of our western way of life, from our rapid consumption of fossil fuels to power our ute's, our tractors and our chainsaws to the minute amounts of gold in all our electronic equipment. As an Australian population our ability to consume is drastically outpacing our ability to deliver resources.

Our culture faces a serious paradox. How can we continue to lock the gate to resource projects and still expect to consume the very same resources? It's worth keeping in mind that every yard is in effect someone's back yard; and the fuel you buy and the metals you consume are extracted from another part of the country or globe. Australia imports raw and processed materials from all over the world, oil and gas from PNG and around the globe, industrial diamonds from Africa, base metals and precious metals from South America and Africa. In some cases the aftermath of third world resource extraction is exactly like the apocalyptic world mentioned above, as with the case of the Niger Delta. But our culture has the mantra, "what's out of sight is out of mind".

In Australia our resource sector is under an overwhelming magnifying glass of scrutiny. We have some of the safest and most environmental mine and exploration sites in the world, and the resource sector is an enormous benefit the overall Australian

Letters



to
the editor

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way of life. The mining industry is one of Australia's most heavily regulated industries. Every new mining proposal created is subject to a gauntlet of no less than 10, state and federal government department approvals. It's worth pointing out that mining operations account for 0.1% of NSW land usage, and a scant 1.4% of the state's water supply compared with nearly 50% of that same supply being consumed by agriculture.

A modern exploration campaign of drilling, core sampling and surface sampling is extremely non-intrusive. High grade deposits can be explored for and mined with an ever increasingly smaller footprint.

I encourage residents of the area to be cautious, ensure that explorations companies are conducting their operations in an environmentally sensitive and responsible manner and ensure that people whose land is disturbed or consumed receive a fair slice of the profits. With that being said I also encourage people of the region to keep an open mind, understand that the new Ford or flat screen TV recently purchased was constructed from minerals extracted from some other rural region. The houses, cars, electronics and building supplies your grandchildren use to build their lives will come from mine sites being developed in the years to come, and the minerals we built our life from came from mine sites discovered 10-20 years ago.

Tony Morley

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Too soon after the passing of Elaine Leckie, over the last two weeks Hall has suffered the loss of two people long associated with the Village.

On Saturday evening 22 September, **Jim Kroezen** tragically died in a road accident.

Jim, with his wife Allyson Wedrat (former *Rural Fringe* editor) are the owners of Hall's pub, The Wood Duck Inn. Jim was a very popular character in the Hall community and will be sadly missed. Members of the Hall community and patrons of the Wood Duck have rallied to support Allyson at this sad time.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Allyson and family.



Jim Kroezen, left with mate Glen Krummer pictured in May showing off their patented stubbie-glove ... Mr Kroezen died in hospital after falling from his motorised bicycle.

Photo: Karleen Minney

Published in the *Canberra Times*, September 23, 2012.

Hans Klefisch passed away peacefully in Clare Holland House on 8 September, aged 84. Hans migrated from Austria in the 1950's. He built a house and lived in Alexandra Street for many years where his family grew up. He is buried in Hall Cemetery.

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STOP PRESS: Australia Post's survey in September confirmed less than one percent of Hall village households want to have a home mail delivery service so current arrangements will remain. Long live Hall Post Office!

from the Editor . . .

This spring edition of the *Rural Fringe* is coming out when the weather seems to have finally changed from the longest, coldest winter I can remember, and a few days out from the ACT election. I was wondering what, beyond their general policies, the benefits for Hall and the district would be from each of the parties so I wrote to our five MLAs to ask them. Interestingly, I only received replies from two – Meredith Hunter (Greens) and Alistair Coe (Liberal). Not a squeak from our two Labor MLAs Mary Porter and Chris Bourke and nothing either from Vicki Dunne.

Meredith said “Over the last four years I have enjoyed regular contact with the Hall Progress Association and have attended several community events many that focussed on the wonderful history of the village and surrounding district. The Greens were successful in retaining preschool places, securing a master plan process and have lobbied the government on issues such as support for the museum and public transport. I look forward to an ongoing relationship with the residents of Hall and encourage as many as possible to participate in the master plan process as I believe that it will be important in retaining the character and vibrancy of the village.”

Meanwhile Alistair said there are lots of things he’s worked for that would be of interest to Hall residents. Some of the suggestions he has put to the ACT Government for consideration are:

- upgrades to the Hall bus interchange, including signs and speed calming measures
- support for the Hall Museum, including the grant application for a Conservation Management Plan
- replacing street signs

- improved street lighting at the intersection of Victoria and Gladstone Streets to be installed this financial year
- lobbied for pedestrian, cycling and riding paths along Clarrie Hermes Drive

Alistair says he has enjoyed meeting with members of the Progress Association, the Men’s Shed, School Community and attending the Sheep Dog Trials, Museum, School Centenary celebrations and other events.

We will also have the option of Chic Henry and the Motorist Party who will strive for less red tape for business, tougher sentencing in ACT’s courts, and repealing the ban on plastic shopping bags.

So who to choose? I for one will always remember that the only majority ACT Government we have had was able, without any community consensus, to close Hall primary school and some 20 other ACT schools. So the biggest consideration for my vote will be to try and ensure a minority government. I encourage you all to make your vote count.

Until next issue
Jo Hall

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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.

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June issue deadline is 10 May

August issue deadline is 10 July

October issue deadline is 10 September

December issue deadline is 10 November

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