

RURAL FRINGE

Journal of the Hall district

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 5

October 2016



Gold Creek Station Out of the Ashes

Community Party to celebrate Gold Creek Station and the Rural Fringe

A terrible fire in the early hours of Easter Sunday 2015 burnt the function centre at Gold Creek Station to the ground.



Since then Craig and John Starr have been working tirelessly to rebuild, with help from many in the Hall community. Craig's vision for bigger and better has resulted in the grand new function centre rising like a phoenix from the ashes. It is a testament to the craftsmanship of father and son, with magnificent pillars, stained glass doors, and a glorious vista through a wall of recycled windows onto the Starr property. Craig wants the new function centre to become the premier 'rustic' wedding venue in Canberra. His first booking is for 3 December and he is furiously working to finish everything in time.

For the last twenty-two years, the *Rural Fringe* has supported local businesses, mainly through advertising. Now we have decided to help Craig launch his new venture by co-hosting a community gathering on

Saturday 26 November for *Rural Fringe* advertisers and the broader community by way of a trial run for Craig and a thank you to *Rural Fringe* advertisers, supporters and readers. We are so proud of our local newsletter with its circulation of 660, we want a chance to celebrate! And we know that the Hall and District community will overlook any minor glitches in proceedings in the spirit of the trial run for the function centre.

Would you like a sneak preview of what Gold Creek Station has to offer at a fraction of the price? Would you like to show your support for this local business and for the *Rural Fringe*? Or are you just happy for any excuse for a community party? No matter your motivation, the *Rural Fringe*



and Gold Creek Station are thrilled to invite you to the Gold Creek Station re-opening event. For only \$30 per person, there will be canapes at 6pm followed by a roast dinner and dessert, with live entertainment.

Everyone is welcome!

Details page 18.



Out and about ... out about



www.mfdays.com

Tickets for this year's Murrumbateman Field Days are now on sale at www.mfdays.com

Murrumbateman Field Days is acknowledged as one of the region's premier events and the flagship annual event for the Yass Valley.

From lifestyle services, plants, gardening, lawnmower races and farm equipment of all shapes and sizes to baby animals and rides for the children – we'll have it all at this year's Murrumbateman Field Days. Tickets are now available online at www.mfdays.com.

Join us on 15 and 16 October for this year's Murrumbateman Field Days – it's a country experience for the whole family!



Saturday 22 October

8am- 2pm

HALL SCHOOL

Sellers to register

\$10 per site

0420 527 916

or

mardie_troth@yahoo.com

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday 16 October
starting at 3.00 pm

This short annual service at St Michael's celebrates the value and appreciation of pets and companion animals as well as livestock and farm animals.

All are invited to bring your pets (suitably restrained please) or a photo if your fur friend is not so comfortable in a social situation. The service will be followed by a sausage sizzle in the grounds (weather permitting).

Saturday 22 October, 10 am - 2 pm
St Michael & All Angels' Anglican Church
Corner of Victoria and Loftus Streets

SPRING FETE

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy all the fun of the fair in the grounds of St Michael's. Snap up delicious home-made goodies, a few plants for your garden, or some pre-loved books, or just relax with something delicious and enjoy the music of Victoria Street Brass, Queanbeyan City Pipe band or the Tongan choir. There will be face painting and games for the kids and plenty of prizes up for grabs in the raffle.

Next door, the Hall Progress Association will be hosting the Great Garage Sale in the grounds of Hall Primary School 8am till 2 pm. Just pop through the fence or stroll around the block to grab some great bargains.
contact: Beryl 0408 488 526

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Highland Spring Fling

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Saturday, 29 October 2016

Arrive to be piped in at 6.30pm

Lairds, ladies and sassenachs, please present
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Prize for best dressed couple

Tickets \$110 each (including alcoholic beverages)

Other fund raising events during the evening
with proceeds to fund the new Hall district bike track

Hall Ball, Hall Hall, Hall Street, Hall

Lang may yer lum reek



Jan Spate's

Bush Bash

Saturday 12 November, 10am

Wood Duck Inn, Hall

The event is being held to show support and appreciation for local vet Jan Spate.

There will be an auction, live entertainment, sausage sizzle/spit roast, kids entertainment, whip cracking demonstrations and more.

To sponsor the event or for more information contact **Bianca Gillard** on 0468 697 097
or biancagillard@hotmail.com

It's that time again!

Street Party!

Friday 28 October
from 4pm

There is to be local produce, Fruit and Veggies, Mushrooms, Olive Oil, just to mention a few, also Craft stalls, Felt Maker, Woodworker, Hair and Beauty, Face Painting and Balloons for the kids. Marching gals, music for dancing and Neil Dickinson, Canberra's famous sculpture artist, will be here showing off some of his works. And of course our wonderful Axe men with competitions and demonstrations.

If you would like to have a stall or whatever to show off some of your handicraft etc, please contact **Anne O'Connor** on **0467 033 284**.

This year it is our aim to raise money for a kids' bike track, here in Hall. Donations before or on the day would be gratefully received.

Please remember your community support is so important so come along, enjoy and meet your neighbours.

Last year we had over 800 people attend and it was a great night.

So come on Hall, lets do it again!

Please note: ACT Territory and Municipal Services has authorised the road closure for Victoria Street from 2pm to 11pm on 28 October

Catch up in the Park

For those who would like to have a relaxed couple of hours in the beautiful surrounds of the Village Park!

On the first Sunday of the month, at 4pm (excluding January) bring your afternoon refreshments, picnic rug or chair to the Well in the park at Gladstone Street and enjoy the company of neighbours and friends. It is very casual and relaxed – come for a few minutes or stay as long as you like. Everyone very welcome.

Next Catch up: 6 November 2016

enquiries:

Margaret Monahan 0419 251 512



President's page

The VHDPA annual general meeting was held in August 2016. This year saw the end of the maximum terms for several of the executive positions. Thank you to David Hazelhurst as President, Tony Morris as Vice-President and Rod Barnes as Treasurer. The new committee has many familiar faces and a very warm welcome to two brand new faces – Cally Hannah as Treasurer and Alan Jenkins as committee member.

As amply covered in many previous editions, after many years the securing of tenure at the school site and the pavilion has been achieved. The task ahead now is to ensure arrangements for these keystone facilities are sustainable for the association.

In the meantime, the various groups of the association are going strong and remain wonderfully rewarding for those involved in them. Become

a friend of the museum, visit the museum, hire the pavilion or the cottage for your next function, visit the men's shed, get involved in the Community Fire Unit, attend a committee meeting, contribute to the next edition of the *Rural Fringe*,

Tony Morris longest sitting VHDPA committee member, of over 20 consecutive years

Brenton Philip elected VHDPA secretary for his second year



Outgoing president, David Hazelhurst



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A black and white photograph showing the interior of a shearing shed, with wooden stalls and equipment visible.

THE SHEARING SHED

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Thursday	9.00 – 8.00
Friday	9.00 – 5.30
Saturday	8.00 – 1.00
Waxing and Tinting	
Thursday	4.00 – 8.00
Saturday	8.00 – 1.00

A black and white photograph of a building facade with a window and a door.

Unit 1/2-4
Victoria Street
Hall ACT 2618
6230 2284



▲ Alan Jenkins, committee member

or best of all take steps to develop an idea or project that no one else has thought of or achieved as yet – the committee and the association may well be able to provide assistance or resources.

A defining characteristic of Hall and the district is that it is a village and community of people, not just buildings and properties. Your membership and involvement in the association or its affiliate groups is a great way to enjoy our local community. It is never too late and there is always something of interest to be involved with.



▲ Cally Hannah, Treasurer



▲ Wallaroo rep Barry Huckstepp

poetry

Sleight of hand
These are messages written in dirt
And rubbed away with a quick
boot sole
Even then the fear of the trace,
Unerasable, the archive that
can't be destroyed
The way a word written
on a foggy mirror returns
With the next flush of humid air.

Anon

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DARRALEE QUARRY



Darralee Quarry has recently been re-opened. It was one of the RTA's main sources of road base for many years.

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paulwyer@fertspread.com

Community Fire Unit training day

fire awareness



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To find us, take the Wallaroo Road, turn left at Southwell Road, then right at Brooklands Road
then left into Woodgrove Close. We are at the end of Woodgrove Close.

Local make-up artist movie premier

Blue World Order is the first major movie that local make-up artist Rania Yallop worked on 18 months ago, and it will premier at the Canberra International Film Festival on 5 November, so get your tickets now!

Rania was one of two make-up artists working on the movie, and put in very long hours applying her artistic talent at the various locations for the movie. This included special effects and sometimes making Jack Thompson, Jake Ryan and the other actors look grubby. Qualified with a Diploma in Specialist Make-Up Services from the Canberra Make-Up Academy, besides movies and corporate promotional videos, Rania does bridal, photographic makeup, special occasions, music videos, body art and special effects make-up – either at their studio on Victoria Street or in your home or workplace. A recent project was for TranzAustralia Makeovers.

You can contact Rania at rania.yallop@gmail.com.



↑ Rania's makeup on Ashleigh Wilson for a shoot with Nudgepix

Directed by local film-makers Ché Baker and Dallas Bland, *Blue World Order* is a high octane action/sci-fi starring Jake Ryan (*Wolf Creek*), Stephen Hunter (*The Hobbit*), Billy Zane, Jack Thompson and Bruce Spence, and filmed entirely on location in Canberra.



↑ Rania (centre) made up the zombies

After a nuclear war decimated the northern hemisphere, an infectious bacteria threatens to destroy the surviving population. When a self appointed government called 'The Order' distribute

an immunisation to the bacteria, via a massive Electro-Magnetic Pulse they also secretly deliver a bio-tech virus, giving them the power to control the population. One man remains immune to the Order's virus. Now he scavenges the wasteland searching for a way to keep his unconscious daughter alive, unaware she is the last child on Earth, and the key to the survival of mankind. Unlike anything to come out of Canberra before now, this high concept film makes the most of the bushland environment and locations in the ACT. See *Blue World Order* and you will never look at Black Mountain Tower the same again. This is the very first time the Preview cut will be screened, giving

Canberra locals an exclusive peek at this highly impressive post-apocalyptic adventure ahead of its international release.



Jake Ryan photo courtesy of <http://www.bwomovie.com/>

Tickets for *Blue World Order* 5 November screening are available on the Canberra International Film Festival website at ciff.com.au

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New Dru Yoga classes commencing

Barbara Baikie is a qualified Dru Yoga teacher with a passion for taking Yoga to everyone. She will commence Dru yoga classes in the cottage on 11 October 2016 at 10 am for a 9-week term.



Dru Yoga is a graceful and potent form of yoga, based on soft flowing movements, directed breathing and visualisation. With its foundations set firmly in ancient yogic tradition, Dru Yoga works on body, mind and spirit to rejuvenate your whole being.

It improves strength and flexibility, increases core stability, builds a heightened feeling of positivity and brings deep states of relaxation.

Dru Yoga is designed to be practised by people of all abilities, all fitness levels and all age groups. Everyone can benefit – beginners as well as those more experienced in practising Yoga. Dru is a style of yoga that can be quickly dipped into or learnt in more depth over a lifetime.

Cost of the classes is \$10 each week or \$85 for the term; reductions for concession holders or seniors. Contact Barbara to book in **0419 477 959**.



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Yass Valley Council Election

by **Victoria Karabin**

On Saturday 10 September residents from the Yass Valley region voted for their new councillors. As of 1 August 11,637 electors were enrolled to vote, however only 9,322 votes were counted.

The results were released on 19 September and the nine councillors were elected are as follows in order of election:

1. Rowena Abbey (Group E)
2. Jasmin Jones (Group B)
3. Geoff Frost (Group C)
4. Allison Harker (Group E)
5. Cecil Burgess
6. Mike Reid
7. Nathan Furry
8. Michael McManus
9. Kim Turner



Rowena Abbey
Sourced from rowenaabbey.com.au

Of the nine councillors elected five were re-elected from the previous term. Two candidates requested a recount following the announcement. However one was denied and the other was later withdrawn.

Cr Rowena Abbey is an independent politician and was elected as Mayor of the Yass Valley Council in 2012. She was elected position one and is part of Group E, whose aims are to make the starting and expansion of small businesses an easier process through a new business liaison officer, fixing the roads in the Yass Valley through improving repairs and sealing dirt roads, improving the water quality in Yass and advocating for grants and support from State and Federal governments.

Cr Abbey grew up on a cattle property where she says she learnt about hard work and to respect everyone. She moved to Yass with her husband over 20 years ago and believes her family, business experience and community involvement have created a good background for her to lead the Yass Valley community and assist in its future growth.



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What's happening in the district?

Murrumbateman

Murrumbateman Field Days

19 East Street, Murrumbateman

Saturday 15 October: 8am – 5pm

Sunday 16 October: 8am – 4pm

The Murrumbateman Field Days are a great event for the whole family. With over 400 exhibitors, there is plenty to see and do.

Murrumbateman Village Market

Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds

Saturday 22 October, Saturday 12 November and

Saturday 26 November: 9am – 1pm.

With plenty of stalls with food, wine, crafts, animals, horticulture and more there is something for everyone to look at.

Festival of Flavour

Murrumbateman Recreation Grounds

Saturday 29 October: 10am – 7pm

Sunday 30 October: 10am – 4pm

There will be plenty to tempt your tastebuds with the finest food, wine, beer, ciders and more from the Canberra region on offer at this Festival of Flavour.



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email: john@lpcanberra.com.au

postal address: **PO Box 282, GUNGAHIN, ACT 2912**

street address: **3/10 Victoria Street, HALL, ACT 2618**



Yass

Breast Screening NSW Van

Yass Showgrounds

10 – 28 October

The Breast Screen NSW van will be visiting Yass Showgrounds and offering free mammograms, call 13 20 50 to make a booking.

Yass Farmers Market

St Augustine's Hall and Grounds, Meehan Street, Yass.

15 October, 5 November and 19 November

10am – 1pm.

The Yass Farmers Market is held on the first and third Saturday of the month, entry is by gold coin with funds raised going towards local and international projects.

2016 Classic Yass

Banjo Patterson Park and Riverbank Park, Yass.

Saturday 5 November

Vintage fashion, cars and more, dress up in your favourite vintage clothes and head down to this fun free event. More information at www.classicyass.com

Classic Yass 60s Dance Party

Yass Soldiers Club.

Saturday 5 November: 8pm

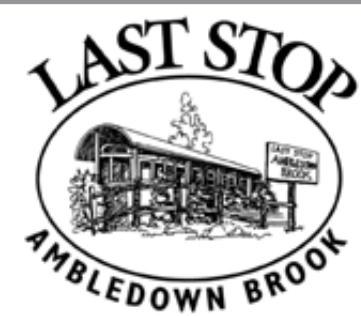
Sydney band 'The Hips' will be playing the classics! \$10 pre-booked and \$15 at the door. More information at www.classicyass.com

Yass Rodeo & Team Yarding

Yass Showgrounds

12 and 13 November: from 8am

Celebrating 30 years since the sand area was built, tickets available at the gate.



*Our vintage carriages have come to rest
in picturesque and peaceful surroundings,
and so can you . . .*

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Local business

Redbrow Garden

'Redbrow Garden', winner of more Canberra and Region Tourism Industry Award categories than any other tourism business, including Ecotourism, Unique Accommodation and Visitor Experience, will be sold by auction at the Kurrajong Hotel Canberra on Thursday 6 October.

The tranquil lakeside oasis incorporates a unique guest house accommodation in four lakeside ensuite rooms and a popular wedding venue where numerous couples have tied the knot since 2004.



Located on the outskirts of the nation's capital close to other acclaimed businesses including Poachers Pantry, Clonakilla Winery and Robin Rowe Chocolates, the property and associated small business enterprises will be sold with the retirement of well known tourism industry couple, David and Elisabeth Judge.

As David reflects, 'After a lifetime of involvement in the Australian tourism industry at all levels, we are losing the battle against the ageing process and have finally decided to slow down and spend more time with children and grandchildren. I have recently started as a volunteer guide with the Australian National Botanic Gardens and I'm looking forward to that very much'.



'Redbrow Garden' has been a true labour of love for David and Elisabeth, transforming a bare and barren sheep paddock in 1997 into one of the state's most inspiring gardens which has been featured in a number of prestigious gardening magazines. They have planted over 30,000 trees on an area the size of a few football fields.

The extensive gardens, surrounding a large lake and wetland habitat, have been the venue for many fund raising events, including the Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group, the Children's Medical Research Institute and Australia's Open Garden Scheme.

Redbrow Garden Guesthouse, which has provided four star accommodation for hundreds of couples, families and common interest groups from Australia and overseas, was opened in 2004 by television personality and writer Mary Moody and Canberra radio gardening guru Mark Carmody. The property has also been featured on *Getaway*, *Sydney Weekender* and dancer and actor Paul Mercurio's television series, *Mercurios Menu'*

Details of the auction can be provided by Simon Southwell (0427 755 997) and George Southwell (0429 838 345) from Ray White Rural in Hall.



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Letter to the editor

Dear Transport Canberra and City Services,

My name is Tobias Palethorpe. I am a resident of Hall ACT and a student at Holy Spirit Primary School in Nicholls.

I am writing to you to alert you to safety issues for bike riders using Victoria St, Hall between Gladstone St and the Barton Highway and urge you to consider the construction of a bike path along that stretch of road.

I try to ride to school as much as possible. This involves me riding along Victoria St, Hall to join the bike path\lane on the Barton Highway before moving onto the dedicated bike path adjacent to Clarrie Hermes Drive.

The stretch of road along Victoria St Hall is a thin single lane road with absolutely no road shoulder, making it very hazardous to ride along when being used by cars, especially when there are cars travelling in both directions. My parents do not like me to ride along this stretch of road, but there is no alternative. Furthermore this stretch of road has a high volume of cyclists now due to the opening of the Centenary trail, with many riders using Hall as an entry\exit point.

The bike path would be highly beneficial to other residents of Hall and visitors to Hall who wish to have the option of riding to Hall rather than using a car. This is compounded further by the fact that no Action Buses service Hall.

Regards,

Tobias Palethorpe. Alexandra St Hall

PS I have attached a photo of the area below for your reference.



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Gut health – the basis of all health

by Anita Kilby

Ever heard of tight junctions? It's nothing to do with road traffic! In the digestive tract the cells that line the gut are held together by protein molecules (called tight junctions) that prevent things inside the gut from freely gaining access to our bloodstreams. It's similar to how our skin cells prevent things outside of us getting into us.

The gut is the internal interface between the outside world and our inner workings. It needs to be very selective about what it allows into our bloodstream, keeping out microorganisms (bacteria, parasites, fungi etc), digestive enzymes, undigested food, toxins and other harmful substances. Properly digested food is absorbed into the cells that line the gut and is transported across them into the bloodstream. The tight junctions are able to slacken to allow particular substances to cross directly.

When the lining of the digestive tract is damaged, or the tight junctions allow harmful substances to cross into the bloodstream, the immune system springs into action to defend us from these foreign invaders. Antibodies can be formed against foods we regularly consume, leading to food sensitivities or allergies. Inflammation levels throughout the body increase with increased levels of these foreign substances in the bloodstream. Body cells become more reactive, releasing inflammation producing substances more readily than normal.

How the increased inflammation manifests for the individual will depend on their susceptibilities. It could cause arthritis, digestive symptoms, food reactions, skin reactions (eg hives, eczema, dermatitis), fatigue,

anxiety, depression or mood swings. Many conditions have been linked to this 'intestinal permeability' including type 1 and 2 diabetes, inflammatory bowel diseases, obesity, cardiovascular disease, liver disease, autoimmune diseases and even mood/psychiatric disorders. Intestinal permeability can also worsen symptoms in conditions such as autism. As you can see the effects of poor intestinal health can affect a wide range of seemingly unrelated conditions.

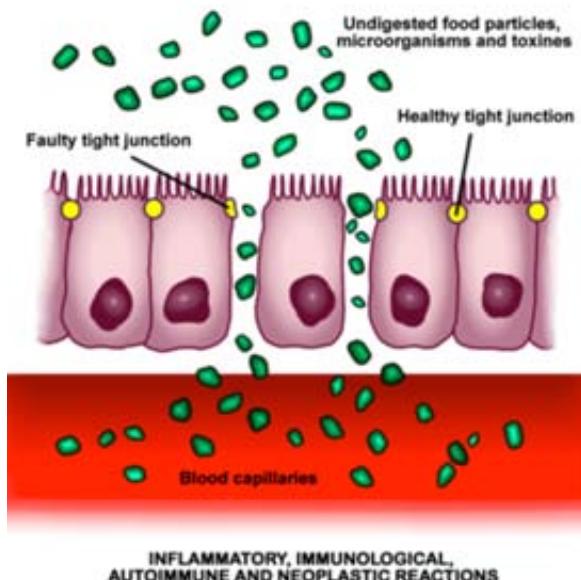


Image by BallenaBlanca - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=48122216>

receptors on the gut lining cells and trick the tight junctions to open, allowing them to slip through into the bloodstream. All of these can increase inflammation in the digestive tract and increase leakage through the tight junctions.

An important part of a healthy digestive tract is the bacteria that live there. Bacteria perform many essential roles in maintaining the health of our intestines by: keeping potentially unhealthy bacterial numbers under control; maintaining the health of the digestive mucous membranes; digesting food components we can't digest; producing vitamins such as vitamin K2 and producing anti-inflammatory compounds. We couldn't function without our bacteria! We need to look after them for our own health's sake.

We can dramatically affect the health of our digestive tract with the foods we eat. A diet high in fats and refined sugars and carbohydrates (eg white flour), and low in fibre (vegetables) will promote unhealthy bacterial populations. Beneficial bacteria love lots of fibre! We can help rebalance our bacterial populations with appropriate probiotics. There are many supplements and herbs that help reduce inflammation and repair the lining of the digestive tract (eg fish oils, curcumin, glutamine, slippery elm, licorice). Identifying and removing any irritants is also essential to obtain lasting health improvements. A naturopath can determine the right course of action for your particular circumstances.

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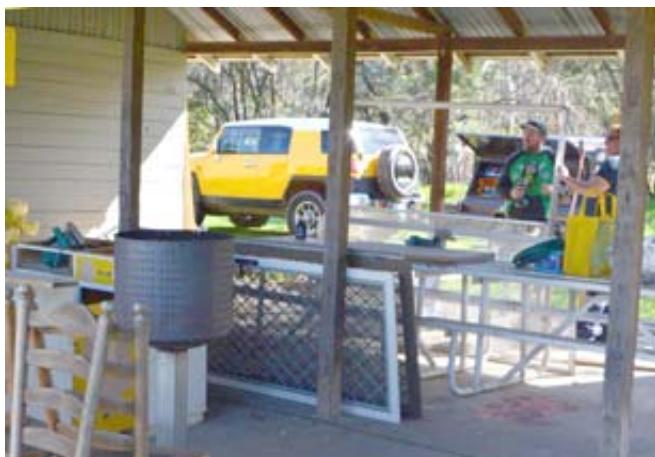
Out and about ...



Recent heavy rain and wind toppled old pine trees in Hall. The Crockers in Hall St narrowly escaped damage to their home.



Doug Antess, engineer on the recent construction on Cotter Dam, with Alan Boyd, Men's Shed foreman. Doug delivered a lecture on Cotter Dam construction.



Hall Collectors and Hall Woodchoppers combined in a working bee to repair and upgrade their club house.



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Behaviour problems in horses

by **Cassie Duddy** Canberra Equine Hospital

Most people during some stage of their horsey career will have seen horses carrying out strange activities like cribbing, wind sucking, weaving, stall walking or wood chewing. These are all what you would call stereotypic behaviour also known as vices. They are basically thought to be domesticated negative behaviours, which are usually damaging and unhealthy habits repeated throughout the day.

Have you ever watched a horse rock from side to side, almost like they are in a kind of trance or daze? This behavior is termed 'weaving' and unlike some other vices that are thought to be brought about due to boredom, this vice is thought to be in response to anxiety and stress. Horses are social animals and therefore this stereotypy is generally caused by being in constant isolation, a lack of companionship or the horse is generally unhappy with its environment. The horse will rock their head, neck and body back and forth or from side to side, whilst remaining in basically the same spot usually with their head over the stable door. Research conducted has proven that this abnormal behavior tends to occur more frequently in horses that are stabled all day, having only one view point to look out from, as well as horses that are not surrounded by other horses or animals for company.

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Allowing your horse to weave for a significant length of time can become harder to control at a later stage when it becomes a more established behaviour and is extremely damaging to the horse's well being. The transferring of weight from one leg to another can result in both joint and soft tissue damage as extra stress is put on the tendons and ligaments of the foreleg. Swelling of these internal structures along with hoof growth can also become deformed due to the unnatural wear of their hooves. The horse may even lose condition as energy is used throughout the day to carry out the behaviour.



Preventative measures such as the use of anti-weave grills and mirrors along with other opportunities to increase social interaction can be used to help minimise this behaviour. This may include stabling several horses together in a barn or providing additional fields of view for the horse to be able to interact with its environment and neighbours. Studies have revealed that weaving is significantly reduced when stable box design allows direct contact between horses, stables have back doors that open up on to pasture or simply by opening up windows within the barn. All help provide mental stimulation by allowing more visual stimuli, odors and sounds for your horse to interact with in its environment.

Here are some easy ideas you could try first to prevent or help minimise weaving from occurring:

- Provide high fibre feed through the use of slow hay feeder bags to make our friends work harder for their feed.
- Engage your horse in lots and lots of physical activity each day to tire them out.
- Ensure they have adequate time out to pasture each day.



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Museum Musings

Phil Robson

Honorary Curator



Thank heavens we are now in spring after the cold wet winter. However, this did not stop the hardy Friends of the Museum who continued their work over this time in preparing for the visitors over the next few months.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Friends was held in August and I was re-elected as Honorary Curator (there were no other nominations!), Val Wiseman was elected as Secretary and Olga Minion as Treasurer. After the meeting Jill Waterhouse from the Australian National University gave an interesting talk on the Molonglo Internment Camp.



↑ Hall friends of museum AGM 2016. Phil Robson with the heritage bell to control the meeting

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School Flier

Vicki Coleman created the design and Mardie Troth wrote the text for a new flier to be emailed out to primary schools. It is hoped that the flier will attract teachers and their students to visit the museum. There are many items that the students can experience by seeing and touching that are relevant to the 'Then and Now' area of history curriculum for year 2 to year 4 students.



Conservation and Museum Practice course (Ellie, May and Nicola) becoming volunteers to assist with the Gillespie Collection and Hamid Bin Saad has commenced an internship with the museum studying the Indigenous collection.

Grant

The museum has again been successful in the annual ACT Heritage Grants Program, receiving a grant of \$7,500 to digitize elements of the Gillespie Collection, including the interviews that are recorded on reel to reel tapes and cassettes and photographic images on slides and old photos. This will capture this important historical information that otherwise would deteriorate on the old tapes and cassettes etc. It will also enable the museum to load these digital images onto its website.

Garage Sale

Don't forget the Museum's Garage Sale on 22 October. Bring along your old unwanted goods and rent a site for only \$10 and turn these items into cash. Contact Mardie Troth to register for a site on **0420 527 916** or email **mardie_troth@yahoo.com**. The funds raised will help the museum continue its great work. The garage sale will be held in conjunction with St Michaels fete. So for the price of one visit to Hall you can experience two special events!

Look forward to seeing you all at the Garage Sale!

gardening

Ten ways to manage weeds

by Lisa Walmsley

With our unrelenting rainfall this winter, it is fair to say that weeds are going to be a huge problem this spring. Really, who wants weeds? We all have better things to do than spend hours toiling over weeds. Total obliteration is improbable as weed seeds live up to 20 years in the soil, but you can seriously reduce the weeds in your garden.

Here are some tips for weed reduction:

Mulch – it's no secret, mulch is the ultimate. Straw, hay, compost etc. There is a fine balance between not too thick and too thin, but I think 10cm is about right. Mulch will help keep weeds at bay, moderate soil temperature, hold in moisture, limit evaporation, reduce splash on plant leaves keeping them cleaner and reducing fungus. As an added bonus, mulch breaks down and composts putting organic matter and humus back into the soil.

'Roundup' (glyphosate) – not everyone's favourite and much has been written about the ill effects of overuse of this chemical. Having said that, many of us do not have the luxury of any other form of control, and used with caution (exactly as prescribed) a few times of year, it is going to give your garden some weed relief.



Newspaper – laying a thick layer of newspaper on your soil, followed by a little mulch to anchor the paper, works as a great weed barrier. Prepare your soil, add manure or compost and worm castings, water in well, then add a layer of newspaper and mulch. This will suppress any weed seeds already in the ground and hopefully prevent or reduce germination of new seeds on top. You can tear a small hole to plant. Newspaper will break down and form organic matter in your soil.

Plastic – I have spoken in detail about weed mat, which should be against the gardening law. However, if you have a particularly weed infested area that you wish to turn into a garden bed you can lay plastic down to suffocate and suppress weeds. Depending on the weeds you wish to eliminate, the plastic may be removed after six weeks, more if you have very persistent weeds. The compounding benefit is warming your soil to start your bed early in the season, especially if it has been particularly cold.

Cardboard – this has a similar affect as newspaper, although because it is thicker, the results can be better.



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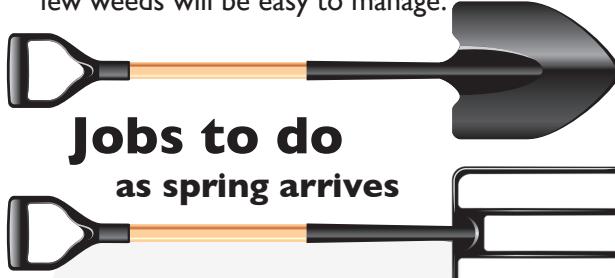
Dense planting – once weeds are restricted from sunshine, or have to compete for moisture and nutrients, they tend to wither away. Maybe consider erring on the overplanting side in areas of prolific weeds.

Vinegar – plants hate this stuff, buy a spray bottle from the \$2 shop and hit those weeds to your heart's content. Be very careful you don't hit your tomatoes or prize plants because it's non discriminatory and will take out the lot. A dog cone works well to keep the spray directly on the plant of choice.

Boiling water -- Just pour it on.

Eat them – dandelions, violet, sorrel can all go in your salad or green drink.

Pull them – yep, that's the good old fashioned labour intensive method. If you can manage a daily walk in your garden, pulling a few weeds will be easy to manage.



- Finish fertilising flowering shrubs and roses (roses and fruit trees should be pruned and mulched).
- Plant marigold seedlings.
- Apply fertiliser sparingly to lawns after rain.
- Plant strawberries.
- Control weeds by spraying paths and edges or using one of the above tips.
- Prune hibiscus by one third, feed lightly.
- Deadhead bulbs as their flowers finish to ensure they produce flowers and not seeds next season.
- Prune, feed and mulch citrus trees.
- Clean up rock gardens.
- Increase water and fertiliser for indoor plants, they may appreciate dusting at this stage too.
- Feed the garden with organic materials: manure, blood and bone, compost or mushroom compost.
- Spray stone fruit with Bordeaux mixture if you have a bad fungal problem, which is a potential problem this year.



Local Matters: Wallaroo Rural Fire Brigade

by **Victoria Karabin**

Every month the restaurant *Grill'd* runs a donation program where they give \$500 back to the three local community groups. Each group gets its own jar and when you purchase your meal you're given a token, you then choose which group you would like to support and fill their jar.



The tokens are counted and the group with the most receives \$300 and the other two receive \$100 each. The Wallaroo Rural Fire Brigade recently had a Local Matters Jar at the *Grill'd* in Belconnen, where they also had a jar last year. They received \$300 in their last collection with the money raised going towards new portable radios purchased for each vehicle.

'The money raised from there will continue to support the brigade in many and various ways, such as with equipment and catering,' said Luke Amor, secretary of the brigade.



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From the editor

So much rain! The lawns and the weeds are taking over. Thanks to Lisa Walmsley for timely advice on weed control. And to our Community Fire Unit for making preparations for the coming fire season when I expect the risk of grass fires will be higher than ever.

But it looks like the onslaught of rain is diminishing as the Hall and District community plan to celebrate spring in style and abundance. I have never witnessed so many community events in October and November, and these do not include what's happening in Murrumbateman and Yass!

16 October: Blessing of the Animals

22 October: Garage Sale

22 October: Spring Fete

28 October: Street Party

29 October: Highland Spring Fling

6 November: Catch up in the Park

12 November: Jan Spate's Bush Bash

26 November: Community Party at Gold Creek Station

We hope you will support them all. Everything put together by enthusiastic volunteers and all for good causes. We especially hope to see you at the community get-together at Gold Creek Station supported by the Rural Fringe. We think this is the first time the Rural Fringe has co-hosted an event and it's a great opportunity to get a sneak preview into Craig Starr's fabulous new venue and celebrate local business and the Rural Fringe!

Until next time,
Jo Hall

The Rural Fringe – ISSN: 1329-3893

The Rural Fringe is a community newspaper published in 600 copies every second month by the Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc (VHDPA) and distributed free to mailboxes of the 2618 postcode. It is also available online at www.hall.act.au. This publication is funded by the advertisements 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 10 January	August issue deadline is 10 July
April issue deadline is 10 March	October issue deadline is 10 September
June issue deadline is 10 May	December issue deadline is 10 November

It is the policy of the VHDPA that articles which are dominantly 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)

large (quarter page) \$80 medium (eighth page) \$40 small (three sixteenth page) \$30

Other information

Editor: Jo Hall

Sub-editor: Bob Richardson Enquiries to the Sub-editor on 0407 071 245 or ruralfringe@hotmail.com

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Out of the Ashes

Community Party to celebrate Gold Creek Station and the *Rural Fringe*

Saturday 26 November

at Gold Creek Station

6pm canapés and drinks

Roast dinner and dessert

Live entertainment

After first drinks a bar will be open

Tickets \$30 each

To book tickets, please email

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BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS

Jacinta Happy 16th | 19th September

Sarah Happy Bday | 10th September



WINNER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH JULY

Chloe, Congratulations!

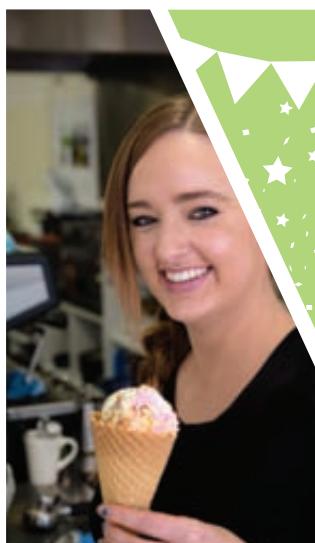
Chloe is a beautiful hard working local girl. Chloe has an amazing voice and recently sang for everyone at our Pizza Night. Chloe is a very valuable part of our team. Thanks so much for your hard work.

*Customers please vote for the employee of the month for October and November.

WINNER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AUGUST

Miranda, Congratulations!

Miranda is a highly motivated worker, very helpful and a dedicated employee with a flair for baking. A pleasure to work with, thankyou for all your hard work Miranda.



IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN HALL STREET PARTY

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THANK YOU

We have had so many great recipes including two muffin recipes from David Fussel and Miranda James. As well as a great cheesecake recipe from Alison Shepherd and a brownie recipe from Kay Murtha.