

# RURAL FRINGE

*Journal of the Hall district*

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 6

December 2013



Unmade

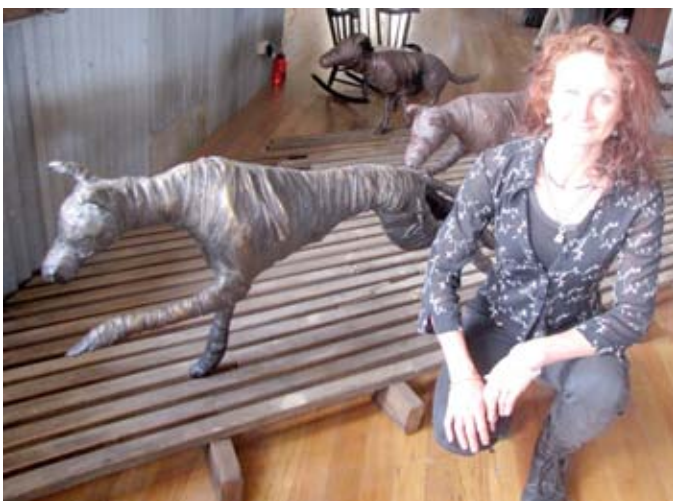
Edges

in Hall

For the last three months six artists have been working with groups and individuals in Hall as part of a Centenary of Canberra project *Unmade Edges – Distinctive Places*. The artists produced a variety of works in response to local narratives ranging from performance art, photographic displays to sculpture.

The Starr's Gold Greek Function Centre provided the perfect venue for the launch of the artworks on 17 November. The launch involved presentation of all the works together with storytelling from the artists and comments by the community members who had engaged with the artists to inform the creation of the works. The Friends of Hall School Museum were on hand to assist with the morning tea and provide a sausage sizzle for lunch.

Works included Amanda Stuart's sculpture *Mongrel Country*, inspired by the tensions between rural communities, their domestic animals and wild dogs.



▲ Amanda Stuart with *Mongrel Country*, sculpted from steel, tannin soaked farmer's pyjamas, blankets and bronze  
photo: Bob Richardson

In addition to holding a number of performances acknowledging biodiversity at Hall Creek over previous weeks, John Reid presented his beautiful photograph taken from an eroded section of the creek looking to One Tree Hill. *Frame of Reference* by Heike Qualitz was a collection of four pieces made with

inkjet on rag to reflect the historic and rural qualities of Hall. Carolyn Young's dramatic work (pictured) has a self explanatory title: *A Shared History of Hall: Nature, Farming, Family*, inspired by conversations with Craig Starr, John Starr and Tony Morris.



▲ Host Craig Starr describes his life growing up in Hall with *A Shared History* as backdrop photo: Bob Richardson

Marzena Wasikowska prepared a photographic album of some community groups in Hall – Friends of the Hall School Museum; the Men's Shed and Hall Rural Fire Brigade – capturing each group's dynamism, unity and inclusiveness. Finally, Kevin Miller's works attempted to capture invisible, significant aspects of the homes of various community members. All up, it was a significant day for those involved, and perhaps an all too rare immersion in the arts for Hall.

## Inside this issue:

- Christmas events and church services
- Opening of the Centenary Trail
- History, reunion, stories, poems and local talent
- Gardening, naturopathy, animal advice
- Local news and views



**Christmas  
in Hall**



**St Michael  
& All Angels  
Anglican Church**

corner of Victoria  
and Loftus Street

**Christmas  
Services**

**Sunday 8 December  
at 7.00pm**

Once again we will celebrate the start of Advent and the journey toward Christmas with a Service of Lessons and Carols at St Michaels on Sunday 8 December at 7pm,

The true story of Christmas is told in six short Bible readings and some old favourite Christmas carols in this beautiful, candle-lit service. Everyone is invited to join us for this simple service, and afterwards for a cuppa under the stars (weather permitting).

**Christmas Eve  
at 10.00pm**

Last year we moved our Christmas Eve service to our church at Charnwood, and it just wasn't the same. For nearly 30 years we have held this special service at St Michaels and this year the tradition continues. Join us at St Michaels in the cool of the evening for this reflective start to Christmas.

**Christmas Day  
at 10.30am**

All are invited to share the joy and celebration of Christmas Day at St Michaels. This year the children will be creating Christingles during the service. "What's a Christingle?" I hear you ask ... come along and find out!

For more information please ring  
Beryl on 0408 488 526



Hall Community  
**Christmas Party**

in the Park

cnr Victoria and Gladstone Streets

**6pm  
Saturday 14 December**

- Santa (and presents)
- Christmas Carols
- Hall Brass Band
- food available  
- buy or bring your own

• Register your child to receive a present on the day. (for a gold coin donation) All proceeds go directly to the Hall Brass Band.

• phone: **6230 2646** or look for registration forms at the Hall Premier Store, Wood Duck Inn or Gum Nut Café



**FOUR WINDS  
VINEYARD**

**Carols by Barrels**

**5:30 – 7:30 pm  
Saturday 7 December**

Come and join us around the wine barrel Christmas Tree, in the vineyard for an evening of Carols by Barrels.

The singing will be led by the vocal harmonies of *The Faumis*. This Canberra group is made up of Kashia (16), Salale (15) and Koebi (10) whose influence comes from gospel and acapella music.

A light supper is included. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for those under 15 and under 5s are free.

**0402 278 371** sarah@fourwindsvineyard.com.au

**9 Patemans Lane, Murrumbateman**

www.fourwindsvineyard.com.au



**Wattle Park  
Uniting Church**

welcomes you all to its Christmas Services



**Christmas Eve  
at 8.00pm**

Traditional Carol Service

**Christmas Day**

Service at **10.00am**

*Many blessings,  
Pastor Bernie*

## St Francis Xavier Catholic Church



**Christmas  
Eve**  
at **6.30pm**  
Carols  
followed by  
**Mass**  
at **7pm**



## Country music

## at the Abbey

by **Hugh Watson**



James Blundell said it all – *this is a great venue, I love playing here.*

James headed a strong cast of country performers at The Abbey on Friday 15 November: Leanne Castley, Col Finley, Brewn' and Hall's own West Texas Crude. As a lead-in to a weekend of country music at the Canberra Country, Blues and Roots Festival at the polo grounds the night rocked from 7.30 until after 11.30pm.

**West Texas Crude** entertained with their own original songs about everything from the plight of country people to the country musical preferences of Kim Jong Il. A new song, **'We're Free, We're Rolling'** written on the Canberra-Sydney train picked up on a conversation between two parolees.



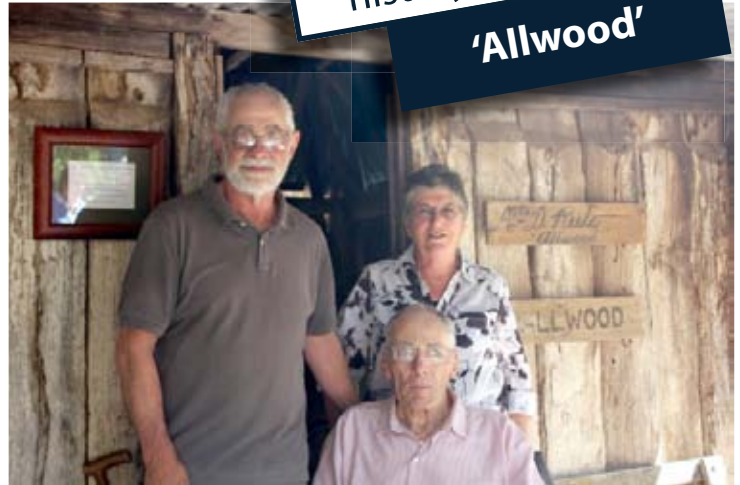
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history at

'Allwood'



Greg Rule with Rod and Judy Roberts on 9 November at the opening of Stage 1 of their restoration project at 'Allwood'.

Greg is a grandson of David and Agnes Rule who built the original slab cottage in the late 1800's.

Visitors are welcome, but please contact Rod or Judy on 6230 2436 to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Check out the new

## Grass is Greener

website

**[www.grassisgreener.org.au/](http://www.grassisgreener.org.au/)**

a collaboration between ACTEW Water and Greening Australia. This is a place to share stories of improved land management and to see what's happening on the other side of the fence. You can discover some of the steps that landholders in our region are taking to increase productivity, protect their stock, increase property value, reduce erosion, increase water quality and bring birds back. Get to know some locals, whether they be large-scale production farmers, owners of a bush block, or the project staff who help make it happen. ACTEW Water and GA are encouraging other landholders and Natural Resource Management groups in the Capital Region to get involved and tell your stories.

If you have a story to tell, or would like to do something on your place go to:

[www.grassisgreener.org.au/get-involved/](http://www.grassisgreener.org.au/get-involved/)  
to register your interest.

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## All about me...

*I'm writing to tell you all about me,  
By the end of my poem I hope you'll agree.  
That the things that I am, and the things in my heart,  
Would make me a good leader, so now let's start!*

*I'll begin with my family, we live out in Hall.  
There's my Mum, and my Dad, one's long and one's tall!  
There's me and two brothers; one is my twin,  
And don't forget Molly, a dog with a grin!*

*Piano's my interest, has been for three years,  
Playing for pleasure is music to my ears!  
Netball and tennis, are two sports I play,  
Along with the school-work I do every day!*

*I'm organised, prepared and open to others.  
You have to be when you have two brothers!  
I look out for people who don't seem to fit in,  
Supporting each other makes us all win.*

*Our school is the best, but all schools can be better,  
I'll listen to your ideas for our future.  
I'll work for you, work for us, hard as I can,  
A happy, safe, fun school is always my plan.*

*Whether part of the Leadership Team or not,  
I'll always support you no matter what!  
I promise to be thoughtful, helpful and kind,  
After all this, have you made up your mind?*

*Mackenzie Hazlehurst, remember that name,  
Without me as your leader it won't be the same.  
So vote for me when Election Day comes,  
And I'll be a great leader, for everyone!!*

Mackenzie is 11 years old,  
and wrote this poem for  
her next year's Year 6  
College Leadership Team.

*Congratulations Mackenzie,  
on a fabulous poem  
- whether you win  
the election or not!  
(ed)*



*To Craig and Belinda Morris, a daughter, Emily Juel, born 24 September, 2013 in Burnie, Tasmania. Sister to 2 year old Lucy.*

*Grandparents Julie and Greg Welsh and Margaret and Tony Morris are overjoyed.*

Hall Community

Fire Unit No. 13

by **Bob Richardson**

Based on experience from the past, namely the catastrophic Canberra fire of 2003, there is a probability that Hall Village residents will face a fire emergency with only the Hall Community Fire Unit to ensure your safety. This warning was presented by Hall Rural fire Brigade Captain, Mattie Bolton at the poorly attended community meeting on Wednesday 20 November 2013. Hall Village CFU has designated our streets into five zones. Each zone will have a leader and a deputy who will call at your house soon. Each zone comprises approximately 20 houses. It is vital for the safety of you, your families and pets that your volunteer CFU and Rural Fire Brigade have current and accurate data on your preparedness (plan). Every house in Hall Village will receive a survey delivered and collected by your zone leader or deputy.

For more information, contact Hall CFU Team Leader, Bob Richardson, 0407 071 245.



## ACT and NSW reach breast screening deal

Women living in New South Wales on the outskirts of Canberra can again access breast screening services in the ACT.

The ACT and NSW governments have signed an agreement to fund 1,000 screenings per year for NSW women, which is about 20 appointments per week.

In 2011 BreastScreen ACT stopped servicing women from across the border because of funding issues.

ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher says concerns have been raised by women living in areas like Yass.

'We received significant feedback from NSW women who found it difficult to attend a NSW screening clinic during business hours,' she said.

She says the cross-border agreement is a win-win for all involved.

'While NSW was sending out a BreastScreen van to areas like Yass, it wasn't the most convenient way for those women to have it,' she said.

The screenings are free to women over the age of 40, with those aged between 50 and 69 years encouraged to have a mammogram every two years.

'Regular screening has shown to be of significant benefit in terms of reducing deaths from breast cancer in this age group,' Ms Gallagher said.

Remote

## Health Research

by **Owen Pidgeon**

Felicity Pidgeon has just completed her research in Canada and the United States of America on the topic of 'Providing Allied Health Services to Remote Indigenous Communities'.

The young Felicity attended Hall Primary School in the late 1980s then went on to Canberra High School, Lake Ginninderra College and then to Charles Sturt University. She has been working with the Northern Territory Department of Health for the past eight years as an occupational therapist. She completed a Masters of Remote Health with Flinders University in 2012, graduating in May 2012.

Felicity is part of the Darwin based Remote Aged and Disability team with primary responsibility for East Arnhem Land communities. She will usually visit for one week each month the communities at Maningrida and Nhulunbuy and also take care of people who need to travel into Darwin for hospital care.



This year the Winston Churchill Trust awarded 109 Fellowships across Australia with just six awarded to persons working in the Northern Territory. Felicity has undertaken a six week study tour which has included visiting some quite remote locations in north eastern Canada in Baffin Island. She spent time with the Inuit community at Iqaluit and visited the Nunavut community at Rankin Inlet.

Allied health workers in the remote locations of Canada rely very much on flying into the remote communities, sometimes travelling 2,000 kilometres when undertaking their regular visits.

The last port of call was Flagstaff in Arizona, south of the Grand Canyon. The allied health workers can visit most of the Navaho Indian families by road, with most within 2-3 hours driving times from the centre.

It is sheep country but there are no fences and many of the houses and sheds are in quite remote locations.

Felicity has concluded that each team in these various locations do have some quite different procedures and timeframes. However, the assessment tools that are used in those countries are exactly the same as those used in Australia. Differences and similarities but all deserving of good health care, despite the large distances to regional centres and hospitals.

Vale

### Elsie Roy Logue



*Our sympathy goes out to Lee Corrigan, former editor of the Rural Fringe, and her family on the loss of Lee's mother, the lovely Elsie, who peacefully passed away on 26 November aged 87 years. Elsie's funeral is scheduled for 3pm on Friday 6 December at Mitchell Crematorium.*

*At a later date her ashes will be taken to Pinjarra in Western Australia (where she grew up) for interment.*



*Centenary Trail: 'Trail Head' at the corner of Hall and Hoskins Street (story page 6)*



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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.

## Centenary Trail

opens

Chief Minister Katy Gallagher, helped by a gang of young children, cut the ribbon to open the Centenary Trail on Sunday 27 October. In front of plenty of witnesses the Chief Minister committed herself to walking one section a month for the next seven months, to complete the Trail. A big crowd of well over 100 was on hand for the occasion, and most of them set off later to 'Try the Trail'. The word is that the walk to the lookout on One Tree Hill will take you 50 minutes or so.



Chief minister Katy Gallagher, Shane Rattenbury and school kids cut the ribbon to announce the Centenary trail open.

photo: Bob Richardson

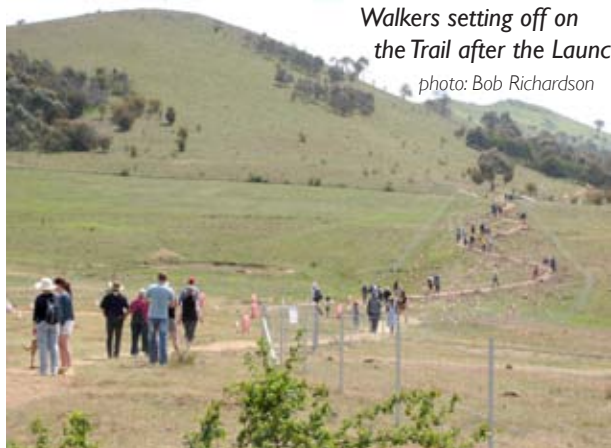
'Try the Trail' Day was based at the school, where there was free fruit and water, a Rotary BBQ, tea coffee and cakes, a complimentary map of the Trail and 'passport' for recording the sections walked. Music was added to the occasion, before and after the Launch, by 'Sparrow Folk', and then by 'Andrew and Mahesh'. Many walkers took the opportunity to visit the Hall School Museum and associated exhibitions.

Most of the Trail uses existing pathways. The section northwards from Hall is the longest newly constructed part of the Trail - and one of the most scenically attractive. The Trail will go from the Hall reservoirs up onto One Tree Hill, following the border round to the Mulligan's Flat Nature Reserve.

The Trail is a Canberra Centenary 'legacy' investment. Costing some \$3 million, it will be promoted as Canberra's prime outdoor recreation experience for visitors and locals. This presents great opportunities for Hall and district - beginning with the village's 'retail' businesses.

Walkers setting off on the Trail after the Launch.

photo: Bob Richardson



## Back yard chickens

## and Avian Influenza

Kate King

Hall Veterinary Surgery

Back yard chickens are just as vulnerable to Avian Influenza as chickens in large commercial operations. They risk infection with the virus from wild waterfowl and their faeces.

To minimise the risk house poultry in wild bird proof enclosures and ensure their feed and water is indoors where wild birds cannot access it or contaminate it with their droppings.

Poultry drinking water should be clean and effectively sanitised. Do not pipe it directly from a dam, river or stream that may be contaminated with waterfowl faeces.

If you see any sudden, unexplained mortalities, birds with swollen heads, faces or eyes, unusual respiratory disease or discoloured or swollen combs call your vet immediately. Australia has had several Avian Influenza outbreaks, although not the strain dangerous to humans, yet.

New introductions to your flock should be kept separately for 2-3 weeks after arrival.

If your water supply is not chlorinated town water then chlorinate the water. Dam, river or creek water could be contaminated with waterbird faeces and a potential source of Avian Influenza infection in an outbreak. Check the Department of Agriculture website for directions on chlorinating the water supply.



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introducing

## Natural health care to Hall

by **Anita Kilby**

Local naturopath Anita Kilby is delighted to bring natural health care to the Hall district. Naturopaths take the time to get to know you and all the issues in your life that impact on your health (diet, exercise, sleep patterns, family history, emotionally, work and relationship issues, etc), so that we can together negotiate a tailor-made health improvement plan.

A long initial consultation, lasting at least an hour, enables us to discuss your health issues in detail to find and treat the underlying cause of any problems. We won't just treat the symptoms only to have them come back time and again.

Based on the principle that the body has an inherent ability and wisdom to heal itself, we will seek to bring your body systems back into their natural balance so they can function as nature intended. Using targeted diet, exercise and lifestyle changes plus herbal medicine and supplements (but only if absolutely necessary), we will aim to develop the most cost effective and manageable plan that you will be able to maintain, adjust and build on for a healthy lifetime.

Disease prevention through improved health is far more effective than treating problems once they have occurred. Combining a preventive outlook with improved awareness and education of the factors that contribute to your health risks is a main focus in our consultations and treatments.

Most health concerns can be effectively treated and managed with natural therapies, from chronic long standing issues to recent developments. Take advantage of my opening discounts to improve your health over the summer break.

Call or visit me for an obligation free discussion of what naturopathic health care can do for you.

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Saturday ☐ 8.30 am to 12 noon

Evening appointments available on request

Office also open on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 5pm and all day Friday, so call or pop in for a chat to discuss how we could work together to improve your health

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or visit 2/10 Victoria St, Hall

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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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Hall  
has Talent

**Rohan Hazelton** son of Amy and Tony



The amazing Rohan Hazelton, age 12, has been accepted into the Australian Ballet School's Interstate/International Training Program level 2 to commence in 2014.

Based in Melbourne, the Australian Ballet School is Australia's national centre for elite vocational classical dance and the school of The Australian Ballet. Rohan's program welcomes him into the Australian Ballet School and offers elite training on top of his regular training with Gungahlin Dance Academy. Competition is fierce for entry to this training program with only 300 students aged 9 to 12 years old accepted each year from all Australian states and internationally. It can be the precursor to full time training with the Australian Ballet School.

Rohan, son of Amy and Tony (proprietor of Hazelton Auto Repairs in Hall and man about town, fondly known in our household as Tony-at-the-garage), started his dance career at the tender age of four. His interests have included ballet, jazz, contemporary, tap and hip hop and he's covered off singing and drama too with his Royal Academy of Dance training.



Rohan has danced his way through numerous Eisteddfods from Bathurst to Cowra, Sydney to Wagga Wagga. He already has a stack of achievements and awards under his belt. In 2013 alone, he won the award for '12 years and under' and the 'junior ballet

encouragement award' at the Bathurst Eisteddfod and the 'most entertaining tap routine' at the Brindabella Eisteddfod in Canberra.

How proud are Amy and Tony of Rohan's determination, skills and commitment. 'Rohan is a very special student with such wonderful potential for dance and the performing arts' said Rohan's teacher, Jo McKinley, Director of Gungahlin Dance Academy. 'With continued hard work and dedication, and the support from his family, I know he will grace Australian stages professionally in years to come. He shows talent in many genres of dance and has such a quirky and bright personality. I look forward to seeing him reach his full potential and to what he surprises us with in the future! I am very proud of his achievements this year, in particular his acceptance into the Australian Ballet Interstate Training Program and also making the finals of the Ballet Teachers' Workshop in Melbourne.'

Congratulations Rohan from the *Rural Fringe* and all our readers. Such strength, agility and grace! I will be checking out Tony's skills in these areas next time I ask him to fix my car.

If you are very quick, you may be able to get tickets to see the Gungahlin Dance Academy perform the ballet *La Fille Mal Gardee* at the Q - Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre - on 5 and 6 December. I understand Rohan has a leading role, as a chicken!

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Thursday	4.00 – 8.00
Saturday	8.00 – 1.00

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Hall ACT 2618  
**6230 2284**



**action on  
Weeds**

**in the Wallaroo, Hall and Spring Range areas**

**Karissa Preuss** Ginninderra Catchment Group



On Sunday 10 November, Ginninderra Catchment Group ran the first in a series of workshops that will assist landholders in the Wallaroo, Hall and Spring Range areas to better manage paddock weeds.

Alison’s presentation focused on weed identification, why plants become weeds, the role of soil health, bare ground and grazing pressure in managing paddock weeds and how to integrate weed management into long-term property planning.

Ginninderra Catchment Group (GCG) is a community organisation that supports and coordinates landcare activities in the northwest Capital Region. GCG has recently been awarded funding from the Australian Government to work with landholders in a coordinated, catchment-scale approach to weed management. The ‘Action on Weeds’ project is working to assist landholders in the region to plan, implement and monitor land management activities for improved weed control.



This workshop provided an interesting and informative introduction to integrated and holistic approaches to weed management. Local landholders participating in the workshop described the day as ‘inspiring’, ‘fantastically informative’ and ‘extremely useful’.

Upcoming activities for the ‘Action on Weeds’ project include:

- develop an integrated weed management plan
- weed management for horse owners
- native pasture competition for weed control
- herbicide training and accreditation
- native seed collection
- grazing management for weed control

The first workshop for this project was presented by Alison Elvin, an experienced rural educator, practising farmer and Director of Natural Capital Pty Ltd.

GCG also has information, equipment and links that may be useful in your weed control.

If you would like to be involved in the ‘Action on Weeds’ project or have any questions please contact Karissa Preuss at Ginninderra Catchment Group. phone: **(02) 6278 3309** or email: **landcare@ginninderralandcare.org.au**



# Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade

**Matt Bolton** Captain

## Hall Brigade heads to the Blue Mountains – a timely reminder to get prepared!

Thursday, 17 October 2013 or Red October, will be another day that is remembered in Australian history for fires burning out of control. This time it was the Blue Mountains in NSW. Fuelled by dry conditions and an extreme weather pattern several large fires started burning out of control. Later that same afternoon the ACT sent two taskforces, Alpha and Bravo, to the Blue Mountains to assist our NSW Rural Fire Service colleagues. The taskforce was made up of volunteers, ACT Parks and ACT Rural Fire Service Staff. With three fire fronts and uncontrolled fire activity, it was not surprising that a request came through to relieve the ACT crews in the Blue Mountains.



Hall Brigade's Phoebe Burgoyne-Scutts and Jesse Kaus back burning on Mt Banks Rd *photo: Matt Bolton*

Hall Brigade had a crew ready for deployment within the hour and they left Canberra on Monday 21 October. The crew was to be part of Taskforce Delta, with an additional taskforce, Taskforce Charlie, also deployed. The Hall Brigade crew, consisting of Senior Deputy Chris Leonard, Jesse Kaus, Bill Henderson, Phoebe Burgoyne-Scutts and Adrian Ranse, departed Canberra to replace the Southern Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade tanker crew; while I departed Canberra earlier that morning as Taskforce Delta Leader for a handover prior to the crews arriving in the Blue Mountains. Taskforce Delta was well resourced consisting of five Tankers, 1 Bulk Water Carrier, an OAC (Out Of Area Commander) and TFL (Taskforce Leader).

On the Tuesday, the first day on the fireline, the Taskforce Delta crews worked in the Mt Banks Rd area, off the Bells Line of Road fire. The crews back burned a significant area under very demanding conditions. The conditions varied from being unable to burn anything due to light rain falling and no wind, to a crowning fire within two minutes of ignition.

On Wednesday 22 October the crews were moved to the Hat Hill Sector to patrol and mop up. Weather on the day was severe and the control lines and crews were

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tested with wind gusts in excess of 85kph. Luckily the lines held and no outbreaks were detected in this sector.

At the same time Hall Brigade had a crew on standby at Hume Air Base here in the ACT ready to respond to any outbreaks or fire activity across the region. The crew, consisting of Deputy Captain Andrew Hobson, Deputy Captain Angus McDonald, Anna Jamieson-Williams, Nick Dahlstrom and Fiona McWhinnie had all given up their time to be ready at a moment's notice to respond up to four hours' drive from the ACT. Thankfully no strike team requests were made of them on the day, but I am sure that the community felt safer knowing that volunteers were there and prepared to go at the drop of a hat.



Hall Brigade's 'taskforce Delta' crew return to Hall  
photo: Matt Lenson

Meanwhile in the Blue Mountains, the Taskforce Delta crews returned to the Hat Hill Sector on Thursday to patrol, strengthen and consolidate containment lines. All the ACT crews worked well and achieved the tasks set out for them in very trying conditions. There is no doubt that this work was crucial in protecting the Blue Mountains communities from Blackheath to Glenbrook.

The ACT Taskforces, Charlie and Delta, returned to Canberra on Friday afternoon, with crews tired but in very good spirits.

The NSW fires provide a timely reminder for people to get prepared for the bushfire season now, as it is bearing

down on us more rapidly than normal. Clearing away combustible materials from structures around your property, having adequate accessible water sources in case of fire (including hydrant points) and having a complete and up-to-date bushfire plan are essential activities. As part of your plan, householders need to discuss if they are prepared to stay and if not they must

be prepared to leave early and know where the evacuation centre is and how to get there. And don't forget to include your pets in your plan!

If you decide to stay, you must ensure your property and fire equipment, such as pumps and hoses, are working now, not when the fire is upon you. Also, you must be aware that for fire trucks to access water sources, such as tanks, pools and dams, they require quite a large access entry point at a minimum 3m wide by 3m high.


More information, resources and tips can be found on the ACT ESA website [www.esa.act.gov.au](http://www.esa.act.gov.au) and the NSW RFS website [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au).

The Hall Brigade trains on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 1900 hrs (7pm). If you are interested in joining the Brigade or would like more information please feel free to come along and meet our team at the Hall Brigade Shed on Loftus St Hall on one of our training nights.

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Hall

# Bushrangers

by **Andy Dunbar**

With summer almost here, the King Brown Hall Bushrangers King Browns cricket side has seen plenty of action. Rumour has it several of the players are readying themselves for the inevitable breakdown of Shane Watson over the course of the Ashes.

After a couple of very close games, the King Brown Bushrangers have managed their first win of the season. As a side on the ascendency, it was fitting that the Bushrangers were able to dispatch the opposition, D-Baggies, who opted to bat first for a mere 76. For the first time ever, the King Brown Bushrangers had managed to bowl a side out before drinks. Both Nigel Page and Kenny Powers were able to take outstanding figures, of 2 for 9. Such figures were thought to previously be unobtainable for the King Browns but the older players have set the standard for the younger team members.

With the standard set in the field, the Bushrangers were hoping to seal an emphatic victory off the back of their perceived strength, their batting. Whilst the run chase was not without hiccups, having two players fall very cheaply and Nigel Page waddle back after a duck, the Bushrangers battled their way to a well-deserved



first victory for the season, and third in three seasons. Things might be looking up for the 2013-14 King Browns.

In other Bushranger related news, 2014 will see an updated format for the Monaro first grade competition. The next iteration will see the Young Yabbies join, moving from their previous home at Southern Inland Rugby. This is great news for the competition and for the Bushrangers. I'm sure there will be some great bus trips to be had and a new foe to meet on the footy field next season. Keep an eye out in the next edition of the *Rural Fringe* for crucial dates for next season, including the start of pre-season training.

With 2013 all over, the Hall Bushrangers would like to wish the community a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

We look forward to seeing you all down at the hide out next season.

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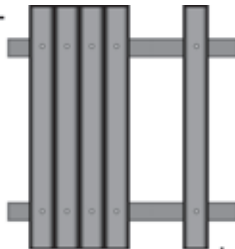
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# Hildred's Hut

by **Ernie the Echdna's mate**

Hildred took up land and built a Hut on 120 acres (48.5ha) about two miles from Tallagandra School on a bullock wagon road from Goulburn to Hall. The road passed along Tallagandra Lane from Gundaroo, past Hildred's through what was known as 'mine paddock' on Spring Range Road and followed Cow Hollow Creek to Wattle Park Homestead then turned south at the eastern border of Glenwood Station towards Hall Village.

Hildred fashioned his dwelling from wooden slabs, wooden pegs and wire with bark and corrugated iron roofing and compacted clay floors. There was also a stable, cow bails, yards and a shelter shed with straw thatched roofing. All were built using local timber from his block, primitive hand tools, initiative and hard physical work.

Water was carried 50 metres (54.7 yds) from a natural spring dug out by hand to form a small pool which supplied the household, animals and garden.

The land was poor and provided only subsistence living but the Hildred family survived and grew over several years.

The dwelling started as a slab single room containing a mud and stone open fireplace and served as kitchen, living and bedroom. As the family expanded additional rooms were built at all angles off the sides of the hut with extra skillions attached as the family grew to eight children. As times got tougher the Hildred family sold up and moved on.

One of my treasured childhood memories was a trip to stay overnight in the hut. On a late spring day we left in warm sunshine with a horse drawn wagon full of hay into which we kids had burrowed to make comfortable seats for the trip. Halfway through the three hour journey (about 10 minutes in a vehicle today) a freak storm came around Spring Range and pelted us with hail, sleet and rain leaving us wet and frozen.

Cold and shivering we had to sit in wet hay for the next hour and a half and we were really glad to reach the hut. The main room still stood but the white ants had eaten the poorer timbers in the added rooms which had collapsed into heaps of old timber and twisted roofing iron. We quickly assisted the adults repair the fire place, replace a few slabs in the wall and start a roaring fire. We then had to fill in the rabbit holes in the clay floor before stuffing chaff bags with straw to make a comfortable bed for the night.

Once warm and sustained with food and toast cooked over the open fire, we wrapped ourselves in woollen blankets and fell asleep listening to the remnants of the storm pass over and the wind whistle through the cracks between the slabs.

We awoke next morning to a breakfast by the fire and a dry, sunny warm day. After eating we helped the adults unload the wagon then climbed on board and headed for home. What a great adventure for an eleven year old!

All that exists of Hildred's hut now are two bare clay patches and some trees of paradise around where the stable stood.

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# Kinlyside/Hollinsworth reunion a storytelling weekend

by Patricia Kinlyside

Kinlyside and Hollingsworth were familiar names in Hall Village around the time of Federation and the naming of Canberra as the Federal Capital. Malachi and Susan Hollingsworth had arrived in Hall in 1896 to take over the license of the Cricketers' Arms Hotel and George Kendall Kinlyside arrived in 1898 to set up his Blacksmith, Wheelwright and Coach-building Establishment in Victoria Street. Malachi died in 1898 and Susan carried on as licensee of the Cricketers' Arms until 1905, after which she ran a guesthouse on the corner of Victoria and Gladstone Streets. George fell in love with Susan's daughter, Ada Myra Hollingsworth. When they married in 1910 the connection between the Kinlyside and Hollingsworth Families began.

About a year ago, the grandchildren of George and Ada (Munday, Kinlyside and Kimber Families) and the great-grandchildren of Susan and Malachi (Munday, Kinlyside, Kimber and Hall Families) began preparations for a Reunion of the two families to take place during the Canberra Centenary Year. We wanted to honour our family pioneers who came to this district between 1841 and 1861 - many decades before there was even a thought of a National Capital. We wanted to remember their heroic efforts in the hope that our younger generations would be inspired by their courage, resilience and enterprise in the face of challenging odds.

The Reunion took place over the weekend of 2-3 November. It took the form of a 'pilgrimage' on Day 1 to sites associated with the lives or resting places of our ancestors and a family picnic on Day 2 in the grounds of the Hall Village School. The focus was on telling the stories of our pioneers, connecting with 'cousins' from various branches of the family and the sharing of information and hospitality. Seventy-five distant or close "cousins" were present on Day 1 and well over 100 on Day 2. All were either direct descendants of



▲ Kinlyside/Hollingsworth clans gather at 'KENMYRA' (3 Palmer St Hall) to celebrate Canberra Centenary. The cottage KENMYRA was built in 1910 by George Kinlyside.  
photo: Bob Richardson

Thomas and Elizabeth Kinlyside or Malachi and Susan Hollingsworth or married into the families of their children and grandchildren. Those who attended were those we could contact personally. There are many more out there whom we could not find, especially among the Hollingsworth and Curran descendants. Should any of these 'cousins' chance to read the *Rural Fringe* and wish to make contact, even though it is after the event, please do so through Patricia Kinlyside on [patkin@bigpond.com](mailto:patkin@bigpond.com).

Our 'pilgrimage' began at St. John's Churchyard, Reid, where 10 of the 11 original Kinlyside, who arrived from Scotland on the 'Hero' in 1839, lie buried: Thomas and Elizabeth, John, George, Grace (Austen), Alison (Cook), James, Mary (Johns) Alexander and Thomas. The eldest daughter, Janet McDonald is buried in Cobar but her husband, Alexander McDonald and a number of their children and grandchildren are buried at St. John's. A tour of the grave sites and memorials enabled their story to be told. The School House Museum at

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St. John's was the perfect place to remember the Kinlyside/Murty connection. The Murty Family lived at the Old Canberra (Ainslie) Post Office and their children George Lockie Murty, George Kendall Kinlyside, Annie and Agnes Murty are on the school register. From the Schoolhouse we proceeded to St. Ninian's in Lyneham. The original slab bark Presbyterian Church on or about that site was built by George Kinlyside Senior and his brothers around 1862. The Murty Bible dating from 1875 is in safe keeping in the archives of St. Ninian's. Our next port of call was the Hall Cemetery where Keith Kendall Kinlyside, John and Clara Hollingsworth are buried among the gum trees. After lunch at the Homestead we proceeded to Hall Village, which holds the story of the Kinlysides and Hollingsworths at the site of the Cricketers' Arms Hotel and in the Memorial Grove which honours Clyde Hollingsworth, killed in World War I; in the former Kinlyside Hall, locus of many village activities in the early days; in the Hall School where Hollingsworths, Buckmasters, Kevans, Halls and Kinlysides sat in desks and were taught by the great C.W. Thompson. The finale to our 'pilgrimage' was a visit to the cottage built by George Kendall Kinlyside for his bride Ada Myra Hollingsworth around 1909/10 at 3 Palmer Street. The current residents, Bob and Helen Richardson, hosted a celebratory afternoon tea for those who made it to the end of the 'pilgrimage' rewarding them with a slice of a commemorative cake decorated with the original name of the house

'Kenmyra'. Kinlysides and Hollingsworths were delighted to see the tin pressed ceilings of the original rooms, to wonder about the original fire place and the lack of a bathroom and to enjoy the hospitality of our gracious hosts. Thank you, Helen and Bob, for bringing our 'pilgrimage' to a satisfying conclusion.

The stories continued into Day 2 in a picnic atmosphere in the grounds of the Hall School. Cousins were able to view the 'Hall & District 1913 Exhibition', take in a silent movie at the recreated Kinlyside Cinema and compare and exchange photos and information between family branches. We are grateful to the Hon. Curator, Phil Robson and the Friends of the Hall School Museum for making the school grounds and the facilities of the museum available to us. It was a most appropriate place to hold our Kinlyside/Hollingsworth Reunion 2013. Hopefully the stories will continue to be told until the next reunion.





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## My Friend Sammy

Looking back on those long hot days of last summer it now seems a long time ago. But it was really towards the end of the summer, when the mornings once more had a crispness about them and the evenings demanded something a little bit more warming than cotton tea shirts, that this reminiscence begins.

I remember that particular afternoon as if it was yesterday. I was sitting outside in a shaded part of the garden – under the canopy of one of the large plane trees that lined the driveway leading up to the family home. Engrossed in a book by a favourite author and lulled by the solitude of the surrounding rural countryside I felt that I had almost become part of the garden landscape that surrounded me. Only the occasional gentle breeze which disturbed the leafy foliage and fluttered the pages of my book kept me tethered to reality.

Occasionally I would look up from my reading to savour the tranquillity of my surroundings and perhaps also ensure that I was still part of the landscape and hadn't drifted off into some virtual reality. It was on one such occasion that a slight but sudden movement caught the corner of my eye. At first I could discern nothing save for the slight swaying of grassy blades and the gentle rustling of tree leaves. However, I had no sooner returned to my reading when once again I caught a sudden movement at a spot where the lawn gave way to the more natural bushland part of the garden. That was when I first saw Sammy.

Of course I didn't call him Sammy at that time. I mean he didn't come up to me and introduce himself as such nor did I have any real reason for thinking that he was a 'he'. No, the name kind of evolved as our relationship developed and the gender thing was, I suppose, just a matter of convenience. Maybe it had something to do with male bonding as well. (We can be a strange breed at times: ask any woman!)

My new acquaintance didn't hang around for very long. He was aware of my presence and while he didn't wink or nod at me as a way of saying G'day, his overall demeanour seemed more than courteous. Not for the first time did I ask myself who the trespasser was here. Not wishing to give the impression that I thought he might be an unwelcome visitor and anxious to make him feel that his presence was both natural and mundane, I returned to reading my book but at the same time tried to surreptitiously study my visitor from a distance. I didn't actually see him going but when next I looked up he had gone. I waited a short while to see if he would return before going over to have a look around where he had been. I couldn't find one telltale clue which would attest to his ever having been there.

The following afternoon saw me once again ensconced in my favourite garden chair and engrossed in my novel. It was another balmy summer's day – the silence disturbed only by the occasional raucous cackle of some itinerant kookaburra. This time I didn't even notice his coming. I looked up and he was there.

We exchanged looks and also imperceptible nods of the head by way of acknowledging each others presence. Once he was satisfied that his surroundings were secure he curled up and to all intents and purposes seemed to doze off in the warmth of the afternoon sun. I think that day he spent about an hour in the garden and once again his departure went unseen.

Over the course of the next few weeks we grew more comfortable and relaxed in each other's company and for my own part I always looked forward to his visits. It wasn't that we did things together but rather it was that inner pleasure that some of us derive from quietly sharing the companionship of a friend.

And it wasn't everyday that we had these dalliances. Just as I had other duties that demanded my presence elsewhere, perhaps the same was true for Sammy; although in truth I cannot recall an occasion when he was absent.

Sometimes I thought that maybe I should try and develop our friendship by leaving out some food for him. But somehow this seemed demeaning. I mean, friends are equals. I did, however, regularly leave out a

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bowl of water from which he would leisurely sup: after all, who knew what distances he had to travel.

And then one day Sammy didn't turn up. Nor the next day. Nor the next. And those summer afternoons were never the same again. I suppose I felt that after what I thought was a developing close friendship, then there should have been some form of goodbye.

I did see Sammy again – it was several days later – and it was a warm afternoon. At least I think it was Sammy. I remember also that I cried.

I had noticed old Harry from a neighbouring property waving to me from the fence line. He was holding up something that he wanted to show me. As I made my way across to him I was increasingly able to discern the size and shape of what he was holding. And the closer I got, the more my heart pounded and my steps faltered.

'Isn't he a beauty' whooped Old Harry, triumphantly waving his trophy in the air. 'I ambushed him with a metal rod across his back a few days ago. I thought the bugger had got away but I found him this arvo next to the fence line – stone cold dead. I reckon he was heading for your place.'

His long sleek body hung limply from the noose of fencing wire that enshrined his head – the eyes dull and lifeless. I tried to look away from the sight that confronted me – tried to regain some sort of composure that would suppress the tears that were welling up in my eyes – but I could feel Harry staring at me in a bemused bewilderment.

'What's up fella', he queried sympathetically: 'You look as if you just got news of a death in the family.'

Oh, Harry, if only you knew, I thought to myself. And aloud I said "No, it's nothing – just a bit of red eye from the pollen in the air. I'll be right soon."

Harry turned his attention back to his prize and said: 'You know the damndest thing is that when I snuck up behind this fella, he turned around at the last second and stared me in the eye. And you know, it wasn't a look of anger or hatred but a look more of surprise and betrayal. I still kinda find it hard to believe. I'll tell you something else. I reckon he could have bitten me if he had wanted to before I hit him. Go figure that out.' He scratched his head to lend emphasis to what he was saying, and then added 'I'm going to chuck him in the gully down by the creek – there won't be much left of him in a few days time.'

'Give him to me Harry' I replied in a voice choking with emotion 'I've got the very place for him.'

'Fine by me' said Harry as he handed over the piece of timber to which the fencing wire had

been crudely attached and from which the lifeless body was suspended. I mumbled some parting pleasantries to Harry and headed off. I knew exactly where I was going. There is a meadow adjacent to the homestead on our property which I often retreat to for solace and comfort of the spirit. And it was there that I dug his grave. I undid the wire that imprisoned him still and after carefully wrapping him in a white shroud – a freshly laundered Irish linen pillow slip – I placed him carefully in his final resting place and replaced the earth that I had earlier removed. On top of his grave I placed a large flat rock on which in white paint I printed a simple inscription.

Was it Sammy I buried? I will never be completely sure but in my heart of hearts I feel certain it was.

The summer has long gone now and the evenings are closing in. It is too cold to sit outside and read anymore. But I have a new routine which I follow when time permits. I pull up a favourite armchair next to the porch windows through which the late afternoon Autumn sun streams. But before I open my book I make a short pilgrimage to the meadow, brush the fallen leaves from the grave stone and murmur a silent prayer. To some people he would be nothing more than just another one of those pesky eastern browns – something to be wary of, even frightened. But to me, in echo of the epitaph I wrote on his grave stone, he will always be – *My Friend Sammy*.

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In the event of a bushfire, it is very important as a horse owner to have pre-planned actions and proper information to make rapid decisions that may save your horse's and also your own life. It is your choice to evacuate or stay, but remember you are responsible for developing your own plan, putting it in place and letting family, neighbours and friends know your plan. For more information on preparing your property, house and yourself, please see NSW rural fire service website <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/>

### Assess Your Risks

- What are your major vulnerabilities? Secluded properties, dirt roads, bush and scrub, limited water supply.
- What can you do to minimise the damage? Clear dry/dead scrub, empty full gutters, invest in water pumps or generators.
- What plans do you have in place for evacuation, transport and alternative accommodation for your horse(s)?
- Who do you need to contact and are the details at hand?

### Before the Event

- Take a careful look at your property and identify the safest place for your animals. For horses this needs to be a large area, access to water with minimal scrub and grass and the ability to run/flee.
- Prepare for the possibility you might want/need to evacuate (check with your local veterinarian, police, animal control, or rural fire service for routes and recommendations).
- Find several alternative stabling zones and check the entry requirements for each. Be sure to have agreements arranged for your animals in advance. EPIC normally offers accommodation when bushfires are around.
- Prepare an ID packet for each horse, including photos of the front, rear and sides, brands, age, sex, breed, colour, registrations, unique IDs and microchip numbers.
- Write down any special feeding instructions; list any medications with dosage; record the name and phone number of your prescribing veterinarian.
- Be sure all vaccinations and medical records are in writing and up-to-date.
- Take records with you. Records left at home may be damaged or destroyed during a disaster.
- Check for alternate and large water sources. Have a fresh water reservoir of at least 40–80L per horse per day with hay available for 48–72 hours.

- Keep trucks and trailers well maintained and full of fuel.
- Keep insurance coverage current and adequate.
- Consider an event where you might be unable to save/evacuate all your animals. Make a priority list. Familiarise family and farm personnel with the list in case you are not there when the disaster occurs.
- If your horses are on shared agistment properties, make sure you know what the evacuation and fire plan is for that property.

It's a good idea to have an emergency kit packed, which should include:

- Metal trash barrel with lid
- Tarpaulins
- Metal water buckets
- First aid items
- Betadine/Iodine or Chlorhex/Hibitane solutions
- Flamazine (Silver-based antibacterial ointment), BurnAid &/or Intrasite Gel
- Anti-inflammatories (e.g. Bute)
- Gauze squares and bandages (Combine, Elastoplast)
- Foot bandages (disposable nappies, animalintex)
- Eye ointment
- Portable radio, torch and extra batteries
- Fire resistant, non-nylon leads and halters with name tags (eg pet tags). Leather is a better option as it will not melt.
- Knife, scissors, wire cutters
- Duct tape
- Livestock markers or paint (e.g. paint phone numbers on side of animal)
- Leg wraps (non-nylon)
- Lime and bleach/disinfectant

### Bushfire Plan

Here are some pointers as to how to manage your horse in the event of a bushfire. Remember evacuate early if you plan to do so. Keep in mind horses are flight animals and need the ability to run and jump in a catastrophic event.

- The safest area on the property for horses is the largest! Open all internal gates to allow horses to move between paddocks.
- Keep external gates closed and do not let horses out onto roads as they might cause accidents which you will be held responsible for.
- If possible give access to paddocks, arenas and round yards without scrub or long grass, and ideally sand and dirt areas.

- Don't leave synthetic halters, leads, flymasks or rugs on your horses as these will melt and cause serious burns to your horse and yourself. Take all of these off if a fire threatens.
- Use fire resistant materials such as leather halters and metal buckets.
- Fill all troughs, sinks and metal buckets with water. As much water as possible in case you cannot return that day.
- Wet horse down.
- DO NOT lock in barns, stable and small yard, because this prevents their ability to flee.

Remember your own protection

Although it is hot, the best and smartest option is to cover yourself.

- Use cotton fabrics. Wear long sleeves, trousers and hats
- Leather gloves and boots
- Protect your eyes and mouth with wet bandanas

Practise your plan

When disaster strikes, remain calm and follow your plan! Remember it is vital to be able to leave early in any mandatory evacuation to avoid getting stalled in traffic and create unnecessary hardships.

After an event

- Notify family, friends and officials that you are okay and whether you stayed or evacuated. Use phones, radios, internet, signs or word of mouth.
- Inspect your premises carefully before turning out horses. Look for foreign materials (tin, glass, nails) and fallen fences or power lines.
- Be careful leaving your animals unattended outside. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered, and your horses could easily become confused and lost.
- Check with your veterinarian or State Veterinarian's office for information of any disease threats that may exist because of the situation.
- If you find other horses, use extreme caution in handling, and work in pairs if possible. Keep the horse contained, isolated, and notify authorities as soon as possible.
- If any horses are lost, contact local authorities.
- Paterson's Curse takes the opportunity after a bushfire to flourish. Please monitor and keep horses off infected paddocks.

First Aid

Burns are not something to take lightly as only the external damage can be seen, and even this takes time to develop. Internally your horse may have smoke inhalation and burnt/damaged airways which can take up to seven days to show up. Please always call a veterinarian to discuss care for your animals following a fire.

- Check your horses all over. Note any swellings, bald patches, lumps, increased breathing rate and odd breathing sounds.
- Check the horse has good flow of air out each nostril.
- Offer cool water to drink.
- Cold hose your horse all over and keep the hose on swollen areas for more than 20 minutes.
- Please be aware of putting ointments on burnt areas of your horse. Some ointments such as, Prednoderin, can slow the healing process. Check with your local vet first and keep it simple by using Flamazine (silverzine) or Medical Grade Manuka Honey (regular honey can cause Clostridial infections), and cold water to help reduce inflammation, pain and infection. Chilled, sterile saline is much better than cold water for burns but this may not be available.
- Burned hooves can deteriorate rapidly. Please seek veterinary care immediately.



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## Gardening

### without landscaping

by **Lisa Walmsley**

Recently I attended the Melbourne Landscaping Conference with the title *Design for the Future – Models from the Old World, Challenges for the New*. I have to admit there were speakers and new thoughts in design that step way outside my comfort zone, but also left me wanting to know more. Here are a few of my thoughts that roughly brush over a new wave of garden thinking.

If you have a freestanding house in Australia, you probably have a yard. And if you have a yard, you probably have some lawn, some shrubs and trees, and perhaps even a few flowering plants. It's a simple set of givens: house = yard = landscaping. This formula is so ingrained in our cultural DNA that it is hard to even imagine an alternative. Think about where you live. Now try to imagine all of the lawns, shrubbery, and planting stripped out of it. What could possibly replace it?

One of the speakers Juan Grimm from Chile, lives on a very exposed headland on a thin peninsula that is beautiful, yet brutal in its natural landscape. The soil is entirely sand and rock; desiccating winds batter the shoreline daily; fires regularly burn large portions of the landscape and sea surges from hurricanes inundate large portions of the peninsula every few years. All the plants have landed there on their own, but are now maintained to optimise their survival. May I say the pictures were stunning.

In areas near by, in spite of the harsh climate, a rich mosaic of grassy dunes, woody scrub, and maritime forest plant communities thrive. These are some of the most beautiful and endangered native plant communities in the south America. The plants literally hold the thin peninsulas and barrier islands in place. Without them, the land would literally wash away in the next hurricane, making the bays and populated cities they protect entirely vulnerable. While not as diverse as other plant communities, the dune and scrub communities are remarkably resistant to invasions of exotic species. For once, the native plants appear to be more adaptive than exotic generalists. Rather like the banksia forests on our south coast of Australia.

What I find entirely interesting is the fact that this is a new way of having a garden almost entirely

devoid of landscaping. It is almost as if the native dune communities swept through, around, and under the houses. Wild beach grass, dune scrub oaks, and cabbage palms cover the ground right up to the base of the houses.

Another speaker, Louisa Jones, a Canadian now living in Provence, France, really encourages the thought that wild and formal are not as far apart in garden design as previously thought and that no single perspective should be given the main privilege.

It has become apparent that wild plant communities are actually becoming a natural part of the culture of places in spite of us all (with a few exceptions), and new 'wild' environments are being embraced as part of the charm of the place.

Would this integration of residential development and wild plant communities work well in our country? Could this be a model for a new kind of Australian landscape? Would there be cultural acceptance of this anywhere beyond coastal, tourist towns?



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October and November have been very busy months for the Museum with the launch of a new exhibition 'Present at Birth – Early ACT Schools and Teachers' by the ACT Minister of Education, Joy Burch, and the launch of 'Try the Trail Day' from the Hall hub by the Chief Minister Katy Gallagher. After the Trail Launch she took the opportunity for a tour of the Museum.

The new exhibition has again been popular with a lot of interest shown in the material gathered and presented. A number of visitors have contacted the Museum with additional information on the schools which will be added to the extensive database that is on the Hall Village website [museum.hall.act.au/schools.html](http://museum.hall.act.au/schools.html). If you have not yet seen the latest exhibition come along to the Hall Museum any Thursday morning from 10am to 12 noon or the first Sunday of the month (Hall Market day) between 12 noon and 3pm. All the displays will be open to visitors.

The Hall Museum has been again fortunate to receive further financial grants from ACT Heritage to instal a disability ramp into one of the buildings, funds for conservation and display materials and furniture and assistance to stage an exhibition for the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival in April next year on 'Pioneer Families of the District'.

The Museum has also been awarded a Community Services Grant from the National Library of Australia for an assessment of the School Museum and collection for national significance. This recognition will enable the Museum to seek further grants for conservation, storage and display of collections. It will also provide the opportunity for wider promotion and therefore more visitors to the village.

The award was presented by the Director General of the National Library Ms Anne-Marie Swirtlich who commented on the Community Services Grants program: "The program showed the commitment by the National Library, along with its partner institutions and the Federal Government, in encouraging communities to care for the nation's heritage, be it in small country towns or capital cities. 'It is all about working together to help spread the message that if we don't preserve our history now, it could be lost forever' she said. 'Through sharing this knowledge, the information can be taken back to the communities where it is most needed to ensure that local heritage collections are still there for future generations'.

The Museum, the cottage and old school site was the venue for the Kinlyside/Hollingsworth families reunion on 3 November. It was great to see the descendants of the Kinlyside and Hollingsworth families who were heavily involved in the Hall Village

community in the early days. They toured through the various displays and were particularly interested in the *Hall & District 1913* which featured artifacts, photos and stories of their ancestors. Well done to Pat Kinlyside, Joan Christie and Eileen Wignall who organised and ran the event.



Anne-Maree Schwirtlich presenting the Hall School Museum's award to Phil Robson.  
Photo by the National Library of Australia.

Seven artists from the *Unmade Edges – Distinctive Places Arts Project* have been regular visitors to the Village capturing photographs and staging live performances at Hall Creek. Some of the old artifacts and treasures from the Museum and the Mens Shed, including the volunteers will feature in the project. The culmination of the project will be an exhibition of the artists work at Gold Creek Function Centre.

There has been continuous streams of visitors to the Museum from various Seniors clubs and a recent visit by the ACT Veteran and Vintage Car club. The word is spreading and a lot of interest is being shown by the wider ACT community. With the grants and plans for more exhibitions for the Museum, 2014 will be another busy year for the Museum.

All the (tired but still dedicated) volunteers from the *Friends of the Hall School Museum* wish all the Hall & District Community a safe and happy Christmas and trust that you continue to support your museum in 2014.

A busy few months in Hall!

Even the last few weeks we've seen:

- 'Try the Trail' Day, including opening of the Centenary Trail by the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher
- Launch of a new exhibition at the Hall school - 'Present at birth. Schools and teachers of the Capital Territory 1913'
- Launch of the ACT Centenary Ride – a celebration of the role of horse in the history of the city
- a Country Blues and Roots festival, and
- major reunions for the Kinlyside and Southwell families.

It's great to see so many events allowing us to celebrate and share with others what's special about Hall.

The Association continues to advance community interests and address community concerns. Recent financial support has included donations towards the Hall Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade's restoration of a heritage fire truck and the construction of a disabled access ramp at St Michael and All Angels church.

I'm pleased to report, after representations from the Association and negotiations led by Peter Howard, the authorities at Canberra Cemeteries have agreed to a compromise on the signage at the Hall Cemetery. The large sign at the main entrance will be moved to a more discrete location and be replaced with a small sign and both signs will be repainted in heritage colours. The Committee agreed this balances the Canberra Cemeteries' requirement for consistent information at all ACT cemeteries, with presenting the information at Hall in a way that's sympathetic to it being a small, rural cemetery.

We've also re-engaged with Traffic Management and Safety at Roads ACT on resident concerns about speed within and nearby to the Village, as well as safety issues with the School Bus Interchange. I expect to be able to provide further news very soon.

Most importantly, during the celebrations marking the opening of the Centenary Trail, the Chief Minister had a tour of the school site and talked with Association members about developing a long term solution for its future use. Since then, the Committee has commenced discussions with Government officials. Our next step is to re-engage the community to confirm a vision for the school site that we can advance with the ACT Government. We will be working up a proposal for discussion at a community meeting early in 2014. See the [www.hall.act.au](http://www.hall.act.au) for details on how to get involved.

Finally, with Christmas fast approaching, on behalf of the Committee, may I wish you and your families a happy and safe festive season. See you at celebrations around the Village.

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from  
the Editor

As Canberra approaches the end of its centenary year and after several frustrated attempts, Robert and I finally managed to see Skywhale in all her glory and take our first ever selfie. Huge accomplishments for us.



Since then the centenary celebrations have really turned to Hall it seems. For a few weeks we were infused with artists and their art, from sculpture to photography to crawling out of the creek (front page).

'Unmade Edges' was a welcome enrichment for our communal soul. The Kinleyside/ Hollingsworth reunion (page 14) and involvement of the Hall wineries in creating Centenary Wines are just two other ways that Hall was involved in the centenary celebrations. I have only just learned about Centenary Wines, where a Riesling, Shiraz and Sparkling have been specially selected and blended from the best of Canberra wineries including of course Hall wineries. Purchases from Allan Pankhurst on Woodgrove Road via Wallaroo Road.

Completion of the Centenary Trail was very significant for us. I just loved walking from my house to the top of One Tree Hill and back on the morning Katy Gallagher officially opened the trail on 28 October. I have been back a couple of times for shorter evening walks when the light and the views are stunning. I've been delighted to sight a wedge-tailed eagle on one such walk and an echidna on the next (not entirely sure if this was Ernie or another of Ernie's mates). Besides the joy of having such a trail on our doorstep I hope we are able to capitalise on the increased number of walkers and cyclists in Hall.

The end of the centenary, the end of a year and a time for reflection and celebration of our community and families.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful season.

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](http://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
- April issue deadline is 10 March
- June issue deadline is 10 May
- August issue deadline is 10 July
- October issue deadline is 10 September
- December issue deadline is 10 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](mailto: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](mailto:ruralfringe@hotmail.com)

The views expressed in this journal do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Sub-editor or the VHDPA.

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### Season's Greetings from the Rural Fringe

Thank you to all our readers and advertisers for supporting the Rural Fringe in 2013.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year from your Fringe Team of volunteers:

- Jo (editor),
- Bob (sub-editor and roving reporter)
- Gail (layout artist)
- Andrew (guest layout artist)
- Kevin (proof-reader)

### Letters



to  
the editor

Here's your chance to raise issues  
and to engage in community discussion,

email: [ruralfringe@hotmail.com](mailto:ruralfringe@hotmail.com)

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**Wattle Park  
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Traditional Carols  
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Christmas Day  
10 am**

**St Michael  
& All Angels  
Anglican Church  
8, 24, 25  
December  
see page 2 for detail**

**St Francis  
Xavier  
Catholic Church  
24 December  
Carols at 6:30pm  
Mass at 7pm**

**Hall & District  
Community  
Christmas Party  
14 December  
6pm**

**Carols  
by Barrels  
Four Winds  
Winery  
7 December  
5:30 pm**