



PITCHFORK

Pappinbarra Valley Monthly News

Pappinbarra Progress Association

June 2024

Valley Happenings



First Friday BBQ:

Friday 7th June,
6 pm at the Hall.

Bring some
marshmallows to

toast on the open fire. If you are new to the area please come along and meet the neighbours.



Fire training Pappinbarra and Hollisdale: Sat 8th June, 8am

Pappinbarra Valley Emergency Management Committee: Wed 12th June at the Hall

Women's Group: Wednesday 12th June, 9 am at the Hall



All Saints Church Service

Sunday 23rd June at the Pappinbarra Church, 2 pm



Save the Date! July 27 Bush Dance with Lick the Spoon

A great night to remember is guaranteed!!! All ages can participate, have fun and a good laugh. All the dances are thoroughly explained and called. If you are new to the area, come along and meet the neighbours. The campfire will be lit, bring your marshmallows. Light supper provided, feel free to bring your own dinner and drinks.

Full details in July Pitchfork

President's Report

Welcome to the cooler weather. Its nice to know that winter is on its way.

Trivia Night May What a great night! Thanks to Heather and Harvey Smith for their great effort to raise funds for the Hall. It is a huge help and we can't thank you enough. To all the people and businesses that donated prizes, you rock. A round up and full list of our sponsors will be in July Pitchfork.

Shout out this month goes to Kelly Miller, Chris Roelandts and Trevor Smith. You three did great with the list of jobs for the Working Bee Day. Cutting up wood, cleaning the floors in the hall, cleaning the slab and bins, fixing the split plumbing, setting up the chairs and tables for the Trivia night and other odd jobs. Thanks a million.

AGM The date has been set for July 23. Nominations forms will be at the Hall this weekend. I encourage you to think about standing for a position.

Without volunteers that step up and be on the committee the PPA can't function. Its good to have new people on the committee as they bring change, diversity and a whole raft of new skills that really do make a difference. I have been in the valley for 13 years and on this committee for a total of 8 years over two stints. I have met some amazing people, been involved in some wonderful activities and undertaken jobs and tasks that have given me no end of satisfaction. It is a team effort and together you can make sure that the hall remains as a meeting place, a place of fun and also a place of connection and support when disaster strikes.

Happy winter, stay warm.

Lisa McLeod

Hollisdale & Pappinbarra Rural Fire Brigades



Please welcome Sophie, Cooper and Riley, our newest RFS volunteers.

IN CASE OF FIRE CALL 000

Fire permits are not required.

Please notify the RFS and your neighbours at least 24 hours in advance of a burn.

Permit officers: Upper Pappinbarra: Andy Jarrett 6587 6181, Steve Ostler 6587 6090, Anthony Wall 6587 6127 **Hollisdale:** Chris Roelandts 6585 6700 or 0429 310 933, Peter Michael 6587 6022 or 0400 013 803

Another fun and riotous Trivia Night success - Thanks Heather and Harvey!



Thanks so much to Heather and Harvey Smith for another successful trivia night fundraiser for the Hall. We will hear all about it from Heather in next month's Pitchfork.

Farewell Lina Graham 1947-2024

Many people will remember Lina for her modest stall at PPA's Grown and Gathered market, where she sold an eclectic selection of fruit and veges, grown on Maharg Farm, which she and husband Colin Graham bought in 2000. Lina had a little 'stop and save' stall on the road; her beans, zucchini, watermelons, squash and pumpkins were hard to beat.

Colin ('Budgie') was a mechanic, fisherman and gardener. He corresponded with Lina for years, went to the Philippines, met Lina and her family, and did the paperwork. They married in February the following year at the Grahams' King Creek property. "Budgie taught me to use the Yeats Garden Guide," said Lina. "He was always very protective - took really good care of me."

After fifteen years in Pappinbarra, Budgie died in February 2015. Anthony Wall had been a great support to them both; he and wife Jenny continued to help Lina, who stayed on at the property. Harold Stokes, Rob Frost and others also gave Lina a hand from time to time.

In her sixties, Lina managed to get her driving licence; she kept her red P-plates for ten years, as she didn't like to drive fast! She had had lung cancer for more than a year but swore Anthony to secrecy. When it spread to her neck and affected her swallowing, she tried chemo but 'it knocked her socks right off'. The tumour grew rapidly.

She succeeded in reaching her 77th birthday on Sunday 19 May, then decided that was it, dying peacefully four days later, as the dawn sun streamed into her room at Wauchope's Palliative Care.



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There is no breed like feed

We sometimes get hung up (as I do) on breeds, breeds of cattle, breeds of sheep. This breed has better muscling, the other breed has more fat, yet another grows more quickly. In reality the biggest difference we can make to the quality and health of our animals is the feed we give them. The better the feed the sappier (fat cover) the animal. As I reassure my wife, sappy can be a good thing.

Cattle, sheep and other ruminants get most of their nutrition by digesting microorganisms. The microorganisms live and grow in their rumen, then are broken down in the stomach and then travel to the small intestine where they are absorbed into the bloodstream giving nutrition to the animal. The grass cattle eat, feeds the microorganisms (bacteria, micro fungi and protozoa) in their rumen. The better the feed; the higher the protein, sugar and carbohydrates of the grass, the faster the microorganisms breed and the more there are to be digested by the animal.

So how can we improve the protein, sugars and carbohydrates, I hear you ask?

Younger grass. Younger grass has more protein, sugars and carbohydrates and is more easily digested by the animal. We want more young grasses in our paddocks for healthier, stronger animals. Of course, slashing cuts old grass providing more organic matter for the soil which promotes new growth. Rotational grazing (putting your livestock into a small number of paddocks for short periods) also promotes younger grass as it allows paddocks to be rested and therefore the grass recovers and grows. This has the added advantage of lowering the parasite burden of livestock as the parasites die in the rested paddocks as they are not being ingested to complete their lifecycle. We tend to think tall grass is good, this is not always the case as tall grass can be old grass.

Grass type. High quality grasses include winter grasses like Rye Grass, Oats, and Microlina (a native grass). High quality summer grasses include Kikuyu and Prairie Grass. All of these grasses have higher protein and sugar levels than most other grasses. Medium quality grasses include Setaria, Rhodes grass, Carpet

grass. These medium quality grasses can be improved if they are kept young as they rapidly become poorer quality feed as they get older and larger. Poor quality grasses which will not sustain an animal (the animal will go backwards) if it is the only grass they can access include Giant Parramatta Grass, Bladley Grass, Whiskey Grass, Love Grass are very poor-quality feed. These poor-quality grasses have higher lignin content which is

less digestible and the higher fiber makes the animal feel full when they have not had enough nutrition. Cattle can physically eat less per day of these poor-quality feeds and for every kilo they eat they are getting less nutrition than they would get from better feed.

Soil fertility. Plants will only grow as well as the soil will permit. Soil quality is very complex and we are still learning about it. Suffice it to say, soil nutrients, pH, water availability, soil type and soil microorganisms all play a crucial role in soil fertility. We can get our soils tested for nutrient levels and pH which can inform our pasture management.

Lazy Dog



Slashed young Kikuyu with oats sewn into it for winter feed



Sappy cows in a paddock of Kikuyu



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Vale Jean Young.

Jean Young, who used to live on the Pappinbarra Right Arm, died on Monday 26 May 2024. Our condolences to her son David and daughter Debbie. (She opened her eyes, said goodbye to them both, the closed them and passed on. As Jenny Wall said, "How good is that?") Jean did the hardanger embroidery on the All Saints altar cloth.



Pocket Floss exhibition showcasing Pappinbarra

The opening night of the Pocket Floss exhibition, on the 14th of May, was a grand success, and a marvellous night was had by all. The exhibition showcases an excellent representation of (mainly) young artists including Pappinbarra locals, Sophie Aplin, Nina McGahey, Mitch Illsley, ex-Pappinbarrian Molly Taplin, and me. Thank-you to the Wauchope Chamber of Commerce and all those who contributed including Gary Rainbow for opening the show, Tess McGahey and Noah Barter for sales on the night and Ali Mackerel for serving wine. The exhibition is running until Saturday June 1st so if you haven't seen it already, drop by the Wauchope Art Gallery in High St and check it out.

Emma Frost



Pappinbarra's Pocket Floss artists (left to right): Mitch Illsley, Sophie Aplin, Nina McGahey and Emma Frost

Wauchope Community Arts Council presents

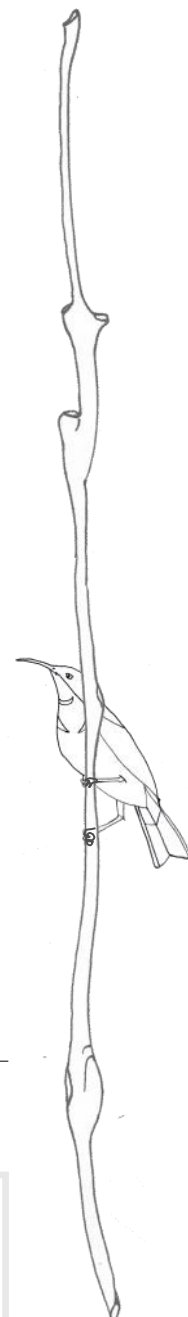
Karen Lee ANDREWS

WAUCHOPE ARTS HALL
SATURDAY JUNE 8TH
DOORS AT 7:30PM PRE-SALE TICKETS: \$35 (\$30 FOR MEMBERS)

More details + ticketing link at wauchopearts.org.au or on Facebook

SCAN FOR TICKETS

Pappinbarra local musician, Sophie Aplin, is playing with Jim Newman as support act for soulful blues singer Karen Andrews on the **8th of June** at the Wauchope Arts Hall. Ticketing link at wauchopearts.org.au.



To connect with Pappinbarra Valley residents for trading, swapping, selling, information and other services go to **Pappinbarra Community Connect** on Facebook

Pitchfork

Do you have suggestions for items in *Pitchfork*? Contributions welcome. Contact Angela by email angfrost@hotmail.com or phone 65876035. (Copy may be edited for reasons of space or clarity. The views expressed in *Pitchfork* are not necessarily those of the PPA).

Advertising Contact Caroline Hemmings, 0439 016 071, caroline.13@bigpond.com.

Circulation: 225 hard copies; over 100 by email. Comes out the Wednesday before First Friday.

Production: Angela Frost angfrost@hotmail.com

PPA

President: Lisa 0418 220 138 ppa.president2021@gmail.com

Next PPA Committee meeting – June 11th 6:30 pm at the Hall. Interested members welcome.

Hollisdale Hall Hire - booking essential. Contact Harvey 0414 375 333.

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