



Hartley District Progress Association Newsletter June 2010

Next Meeting: Monday 7th June 2010 at 7.30pm.

Hartley school building, corner Mid Hartley Rd and G.W.Hwy.

Big Backyard planning meeting at 6.30pm, Monday 7th June — before HDPA meeting

Hartley District Progress Association

Expert to lead planning for Hartley Valley Saturday afternoon on 19 June in the Hartley School Hall

You were listened to on the highway. Now it's time to be listened to on the future of the whole Hartley Valley.

The Hartley Highway Action Group, a subcommittee of the Progress Association, campaigned for a safety upgrade along the existing route of the Great Western Highway rather than the massive new construction proposed by the RTA. That's exactly what \$250 million of 'nation building' funds will be spent on in the next few years.

Now the Progress Association is asking the community to contribute to the Lithgow Council's planning for the future of Hartley Valley.

A community planning workshop will be held on 19 June in the Hartley School Hall from 1.30 to 5 pm.

The community is fortunate that a local landowner, an experienced urban planner, is available to organise the workshop for the Progress Association. Jeremy Dawkins led the transformation of Fremantle at the time of the America's Cup and then established the masters course in planning at UTS. He was Sydney Harbour Manager during the Olympics, and spent the past five years as executive chairman of the Western Australian Planning Commission.

The workshop will consider proposals for the Council's land use strategy, the impending local environmental plan, changes in transport, agriculture and local businesses, environmental challenges, heritage issues and the bicentenary of the 1813 Blue Mountains crossings.

Hartley Highway Action Group Chairman Ramsay Moodie expects the workshop to build on local knowledge and ideas about the future of the valley. It will bring together participants' suggestions and proposals and identify issues which should be considered by Council, RTA and governments. Progress Association President Duncan Wass says the workshop will also discuss ways in which the community can be kept informed and can continue to be involved in plans affecting the valley. Duncan urges everyone interested in the future of the Hartley Valley to come along, and to encourage their friends and neighbours to take part.

HDPA Car Day

Start Clearing out the Garage...

Don't forget Aug 8 is the Hartley Car Day and this includes a Car Boot Sale. The July issue of the Newsletter will have the final details of this day which includes:

- Car Display
- Bike Muster
- Observation Run
- Car Boot Sale
- Family BBQ

We are looking for volunteers to assist on the day so if you are able to give some time (any time is good time) please come along to the monthly meeting or contact a member of the HDPA Committee and remember Community Days work best when the Community pitches in!

Inside every older person is a younger person wondering, 'What the heck happened?'
(anon)

Ghosts of Hartley

After his latest assignment our Cub Reporter is feeling a little 'Blue'—



Surprisingly enough it was yet another dark and stormy night (ok it wasn't – it was the middle of a lovely sunny day – but lets stay in the mood!) when our intrepid Cub Reporter ventured onto the Grounds of Ambermere Rose Inn, which is located across the GWH from the Harp of Erin, whence the 'Grey Lady' and 'Heavy Footed soul' of the last Ghost Story reside. Ambermere has their own GTR (that's Ghost in Residence) and it manifests itself only in the Blue Room. What is the Blue Room? At the western end of the house and away from the dining areas is a small room, that for reasons unknown, has always been painted Blue. Even after the recent renovations the room has remained Blue. Within the confines of this room is a presence that, to all intents and purposes, enjoys the company of children and animals, but, many is the adult who has ventured into the room to feel a chill in the air and a foreboding and thus it has been recorded like this for generations. So if you are feeling Blue and in need of cheering up, our Cub reporter strongly recommends the cheery atmosphere of the Dining area or outdoor eating area!

Everything from Fencing to Rain

Adam's Shed held their most successful Open Day on Saturday 28 May 2010 and once again managed to break a dry spell! The rain however did nothing to dampen the spirits and the steady stream of locals who were out in force enjoying the displays, expert advice, entertainment, wine tasting and of course the Hartley Rural Bush Fire Brigade's Sausage Sizzle. With 13 rural suppliers on display there was something for everyone, from the curious to the serious landholder. Congratulations Adam and the team on your biggest Open Day yet and from Adam, the Suppliers and the team, many thanks to the strong local support.



Adam and Maree at work.

Timeless and back with us...

Saturday evening saw a large gathering of locals and icons of the Australian entertainment industry at the Harp of Erin for the official re-opening of the Gallery. Joe and Carol have sourced many articles of period fashion, art work and bric-a-brac so why not pop in and savour the vibe whilst picking up a bargain or two? Welcome back more of our Valley's living History – The Harp of Erin Gallery GWH cnr Cox's River Rd



Glasses raised at the opening

Hartley History

An article in the Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser (NSW : 1843-1895), Thursday 30 September 1874, National Library

The police station have been burnt to the ground. This is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. There will be an inquiry tomorrow.

Galloping Gammuts Mobile Van, for children 0-5 yrs, meet fortnightly on Fridays 10-12.30 during the school term at the old School. Parents welcome to participate. Contact Meg or Deidre on 6351 3798.

Hartley Appleseeds Play Group meet at the Hartley Old School, Tuesdays 10am until 12pm. Contact Alison on 6351 4296 for more information.

A successful woman preacher was once asked "what special obstacles have you met as a woman in the ministry?" "Not one," she answered, "except the lack of a minister's wife."

Anna Garlin Spencer

..... Meet Your Local Business Personalities

As part of the drive to promote local businesses through the Hartley District Business Directory your Newsletter will now contain articles on those who make their Business in the Hartley District.

This Edition we look more closely at:

MT VICTORIA SERVICE CENTRE THE FARMHOUSE ANTHILL ANGUS MEATS

MT VICTORIA SERVICE STATION

Like a good Doctor or Bank Manager you like to follow a good Mechanic... Mt. Victoria Service Centre

...and with over 18 years experience you can't go past Sam and Toby from the Mt. Victoria Service Centre. In fact if you have ever needed the services of the NRMA between Mt. Irvine, the Blackheath Weighbridge, Zig Zag and River Lett then chances are you will already have met the boys, as they are the Country NRMA agents for our Valley. Sam bought the Service Centre about 8 months ago and the business has been steadily growing as more and more people spread the word about the professional, friendly and affordable services provided by Sam and Toby. Having moved to the region in 2001 Sam, Sharon and their four children count themselves as locals, with Sam still pulling on the 'Whites' for the Lithgow 1st XI Cricket team.

It is more than just a professional mechanical service, courtesy car and rego checks that they provide. Toby loves his turbo powered cars and Sam his dirt bikes so between the two of them, if it's got an engine and runs on (or off) the road, Sam and Toby from the Mt. Victoria Service Centre (located at the Caltex Service Station Mt. Victoria) can keep you going - happy motoring!

Phone Sam or Toby on 4787 0881



Toby and Sam

THE FARMHOUSE

The Family was there in the early days...

Chloe, daughter of Sharon and Mark Tofler who bought the Farmhouse in 2001, is the fifth generation of the family to live and work in the region and their family can trace the unique history of the Farmhouse through their family history. You don't get much more local than that! Located on the GWR towards Mt. Victoria the Farmhouse has many unique and historical features from hand hewn timbers, convict bricks and a display of early photos and memorabilia to explore whilst waiting for your hearty farmhouse breakfast, tasty lunch or delicious morning/afternoon tea (some of the early history may make you blush!).

Mark, a builder by profession and son Kieran, a professional Carpenter (Kieran runs a Carpentry Business in Little Hartley - see your Hartley Business Directory) provided the much needed TLC required to get the Farmhouse back up and running and Sharon, the vision to incorporate the Lolly Shop that now stocks over 500 different "Old Fashioned" lollies, as well as a collection of handbags and mugs which have proven to be very popular, as have Chloe's coffees which are from Fish River Roasted - Tarana.

With Mark currently building interstate and son Adam, now flying in Queensland, the Toflers have the business up for sale, so if you are looking for a friendly and locally focused business with a significant passing trade (including many regulars who do the Bathurst/Mudgee to Sydney run) then there is potential for you at The Farmhouse. Regardless, you will always get a smile and great service at The Farmhouse - a big part of our Valley's history.

Phone Chloe or Sharon on 6355 2262



Sharon and Chloe

ANTHILL ANGUS MEATS

'It's the Old Way of Farming – people think its new but its not'...

Katrina Prescott returned to Ant Hill Angus farm (405 hectares along Jenolan Caves Rd) in 1990. The farm belonged to her father (a local GP of many, many years standing) and was in need of some TLC and that is exactly what the property got and the Angus cattle still receive. It took five years for Katrina and partner Narelle to return the land to its natural, chemical and stress free state.

You may think stress free an unusual term to use in referring to farming, however it is the best way to describe the lives that the livestock enjoy. A careful breeding program, subtle herding practices and lush hormone free pastures and spring water ensure a quality of stock that provides only the finest of meat.

Ethically and sustainably farmed and carefully chosen in limited numbers, the meat is hung for 21 days, then processed and packaged right there on the farm to ensure that only deliciously tender, full-flavoured beef makes it to your table.

If you have ever had a good, aged steak, you know it is more tender and flavourful than what you typically buy in the store. The reason for this is that aging allows natural enzymes to breakdown the hard connective tissue in meats and for water to evaporate away concentrating the flavour.

Ant Hill meats are also Low Mile Meats – the beef travels once or put differently there is only one degree of separation – from the farm direct to you – so that benefits you and



Katrina and John

the environment! Not content with all this quality the meats (except for sausages) are cryovaced and labelled for your convenience. Cryovacing is the process whereby air is extracted from the product under pressure then the package is heat sealed. It enables the beef to be kept in the refrigerator for 1 month after packaging. It can also be frozen for up to 6 months without changing the tenderness or flavour of the beef.

Katrina, Narelle and Butcher John are standing by to provide you only the finest Angus meats – delivered to you front door, so why not give Katrina a call on 0418 341896 or visit their website www.anthillangus.com.au.

A family budget pack is also available from Callan at Iris & May - Modern Country Living (see your Hartley Business Directory for contact details). There is no substitute for quality – Bon Appétit!

They seek them here – they seek them there!

Members of the Hartley Rural Bushfire Brigade providing courtesy snags at Adams Shed Open Day. One thing is for certain – when they are needed the volunteers of the RFS will be there for you!

Community Service helping everyone.



Members of the Hartley Rural Bushfire Brigade

Notices ...

to place a free ad please email secretary: dunja_alexander@hotmail.com

Hartley Bushfire Brigade Annual general meeting is on Sunday 20th June 10am for Members

Report a fire: RING 000

Hartley Captain – John Lovegrove 4355 2460

Secretary of the Hartley Brigade – Lynda 4355 2460

Kanimbila Captain – Guy Tesoriero 4787 1361

Secretary of Kanimbila Brigade – Nancy 4787 1369

Hartley District Progress Association contacts:

President – Duncan Wass 6355 2043

Vice President – Seamus Casey 6355 2113

Treasurer – Barbara Johnson 6355 2017

Secretary – Dunja Alexander 6355 0214

Hire a Hall – Pam Day 6355 2154