

Hartley District Progress Association

www.hartleyvalley.org.au

Email : hartleyprogress@gmail.com



Newsletter Summer 2015

Next quarterly community meeting Christmas drinks and AGM will be held in the Hartley School Hall, Mid Hartley Road, commencing 6.30 pm on **Monday 7th December**. All residents of the valley are invited to attend.

HDPa Annual General Meeting

Come join us for Xmas drinks and nibbles as we negotiate the formalities of our AGM agenda Monday 7th December, drinks from 6.30, Council talking to us at 7pm and formal AGM business to commence at 7.30/40pm.

All committee positions are up for election. Tom Kent steps down as president after two years at the helm; likewise Seamus Casey as Deputy President, Barbara Wheat as Secretary and Ramsay Moodie as Treasurer have similarly served two year terms. If you would like to nominate either to hold office as one of the four person executive or to fill one of the three ordinary committee member positions now is the time to act. Call Barb Wheat our Secretary on 6355 2384 and she will let you have a nomination form (and remember it's not forever, your commitment can be just for a year).

Two Special resolutions, requiring a seventy five percent majority for their passage, will be tabled at the HDPa AGM. The first entails a proposal to alter the constitution to allow the continued membership of resident members who depart the valley. The second resolution to be considered will propose an increase in the annual membership fee from its current level of \$5 to \$10.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday	6th Dec Hartley Kids Xmas Party
Monday	7th Dec HDPa AGM 6.30pm
Sunday	13th Dec Carols at St Johns 7pm
Sunday	21st Feb Open Garden
Sunday	6th March 2016 Clean up Oz
Monday	7th March HDPa Meeting 7pm

Hartley Valley Strategy

Unable to attend our last meeting due to sickness, Melanie Jones and Mathew Johnson from Lithgow City Council will again be with us (7pm sharp) to present the specific proposals council has developed as their Hartley Village (Valley) Improvement Plan. Developed from community consultation and a balanced consideration of our responses to the survey conducted by Council at the beginning of the year, this meeting will see specific proposals for improvement in the valley tabled for your consideration and comment. This is your opportunity to be part of this great initiative by Council and to make your views heard.

Contacting the HDPa:

President:	Tom Kent	4782 5382
Vice Pres:	Seamus Casey	6355 2113
Secretary:	Barbara Wheat	6355 2384
Treasurer:	Ramsay Moodie	6355 2259
Hall Hire:	Barb Johnson	6352 5828
Newsletter:	Susie Moodie	6355 2259

PO Box 123 Lithgow NSW 2790

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the HDPa

Santa will be at Adams shed with his local professional photographer Karen Edwards on 5th and 12th December, Lollybug 6th December both at 9.00 till 10.30 and Old Hartley Post Office Café Sunday 13th December 9.30 till 10.30

Hartley Xmas Party for Kids

Sunday 6th December at the Hartley Fire Shed Hartley Bush Fire Brigade with HDPa. 11am start with fun and games for the kids. Santa will be there at one o'clock. Xmas party food for the kids at 12 midday. To ensure Santa has the right mix of gifts in his bag please rsvp to Doreen Peters 6355 2139.

St Johns Christmas Carol Service

Come and join the Reverend Tim McIver and the congregation of St John the Evangelist at Hartley as they celebrate their wonderful annual Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 13th December commencing at 7pm. All valley residents will be warmly welcomed and following the service are invited to enjoy refreshments across the road at the Roval in the Hartley Historic site precinct.

Trivia Night Success

Our 11th September Trivia Night proved a great success with some sixty people joining the fun. Our thanks to Sharon Howard, Jane and Kingsford Dodd, Toni Tomley, Peter Hurenkamp, Ian, Seamus, Diane and Susie on the social committee for making such a fun night. In particular thanks to Sue and AJ Jack for their role in the evening as a most responsible RSA officer and Trivia master respectively. It was a great night and financially positive as well. The committee's other proposal for a long lunch event in late October was abandoned as it clashed with the Lithgow Halloween celebrations.

Walking Cox's Road

On Saturday 14th November, the HDPa through its 1813 Bicentenary Committee's Western Crossings Trust, will mount a further guided walk on Cox's 1814 road down the escarpment and across the Valley floor down to today's Glenroy campsite on the junction of the Cox's River and the River Lett. Undertaken specifically at the request of the Macquarie Society, included in the thirty walkers are a number of senior heritage people. This will be another opportunity to introduce the heritage treasures of the Hartley Valley to an influential audience.

Open Garden Day

Our thanks to local horticulturist Steve Vella for opening his Wild Meadows garden on Cox's River Road to us in early October. Fifty or so locals were given an insight into Steve's vision for the commercial open garden and nursery business that he is building in the valley.

Our next open garden day will be held on Sunday 21st February between 10am and midday at Forty Bends Farm, Sarah and Brendan Childs home on Forty Bends Road (see below).

Forty Bends Farm Update

The peony season started very early this year at Brendan and Sarah Childs' property at Forty Bends. Their herbaceous peonies were in Potts Point florists over two weeks before any others from NZ, Victoria, Tasmania and Northern Tablelands. The weekend afternoon teas that they put on as a fundraiser for the Lithgow Brass Band ran through October/Nov and again, attracted locals, Mountain and Sydney visitors.

Next year they will have an open garden with the Hartley District Progress Association on the Sunday morning, 21st February 10am till midday and HDPa will provide morning tea. The peonies will be starting to die down, but it is a good opportunity to learn some of the secrets of getting peonies (a fascinating local niche industry) to bloom. Also, those interested in dressmaking classes can have a look at the workshop where classes are held.

This year Sarah and Brendan have also initiated an innovative concept for young (25-40 year olds) living and working in the Lithgow, Hartley, Rydal etc area. They have had dinners using the farm produce, where young community members socialize, network, discuss and initiate ideas. The last for the year will be the end of November. If you know of someone who fits this demographic who might like to participate email Sarah at sarah@sewingemporium.com.au.

Back to Hartley

With weather that was close to perfect, Back to Hartley was a roaring success. The ever popular snake man, kids' dancing, idle convicts and their villainous redcoat guards, ancient machinery and their roughneck minders, and a visit to the courthouse, all helped to make for a memorable day. Food abounded with the Cafe's queue for coffee being well tolerated and the queue at the Fire Brigade Canteen well worth the wait for delicious homemade pies, sandwiches and sausage rolls served up by Doreen and her wonderful team, a treat on the day.

2016 Hartley Business Directory

February/March will again see the publication of the HDPH Hartley Business Directory. As in previous years we will assume the renewal of existing entries and issue invoices accordingly in early February. New advertisers are invited to contact Barbara Johnson on 6352 5828 by the end of January. Advertisers enjoy publication in the A5 size directory published in March, inclusion in the abridged business directory listing included in newsletters and listing in the Hartley Valley Community website. For anyone wanting to promote their services in the valley we will deliver your flyer with our quarterly newsletter for \$25.

Our thanks to Barb Johnson who does such a sterling job organising the business directory and taking hall bookings helping to raise money to maintain the community's Old Hartley School property.

Xmas Present Time

The book, A Moment in Time by Joan Kent, the curator of our acclaimed 2013 exhibition of the same name, represents an ideal Xmas present that offers a tantalising insight into the rich heritage of our valley.

Copies signed by the author are available at \$25 each. Simply call Ramsay or Susie Moodie 6355 2259 to arrange purchases and pick up.

Hartley Recreational Reserve Trust

The background to the Trust is incorporated in the policy of the Crown Lands Department of NSW towards the management of the immense acreage of Crown Lands in the state.

In the Hartley area there is about 500 acres of crown land which is looked after by the above mentioned trust.

The area of obligation includes the old school at Hartley and its grounds and buildings.

When the school closed in the 1970s the Dept of Education gave the responsibility of management and upkeep to the Crown Lands Department who incorporated same in the HRRT.

The HRRT, as with all Crown Lands Trusts, is under the control of the appropriate Minister of Government. The NSW Government appoints Trustees to manage, on their behalf, the listed reserves.

In the case of the HRRT, we have three reserves under our control. The details of these areas are to be found in the Government Gazette.

Trustees are appointed for a period of five years. The reserves are usually given under license to applicants who have a responsibility to control noxious weeds and feral animals. The fees charged are quite low but do provide some income stream to the Trust.

All major projects undertaken by the trustees have to be financed by successful application for grant assistance from local authorities and the Government itself.

The trustees are all volunteers from the local community and the trust is tightly controlled by the Crown Lands Department in all matters of management.

Clean up Hartley 2016

Join us to do a community clean up of some of the valleys rubbish hot spots. Sunday 6th March 2016 the day before our first general meeting in 2016. Meet at the Historic Hartley school site 10 am on the 6th or register your intent to commit to a specific clean up area ahead of the day by calling Seamus Casey 6355 2113 in the week before.

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ARBORIST	Andy Tree Man	Pruning, Lopping, Milling	0439 278 130
AUTOMOTIVE	Mt Vic Service Centre	Sam Millar	4787 1811
B and Bs	Glenroy Cottages	Cottages and camping grounds	6355 2186
BUILDING	Darren Anderson Constructions P/L	All building works	6355 2448
	Marjanac Design	Design/Construction since 1980	0491 160 400
CAFES etc	The Lollybug	Lolly store	6355 2162
	Alchemy	Wood Fired Pizza	6355 2056
	Collits Inn	Restaurant	6352 4442
CARPENTRY	Mark O'Carrigan	New work, restoration& repairs	6355 2777
	Ben Dikic	Decks, pergolas, doors	0413 354 523
CARPET CLEANING	ALM Carpet Cleaning	Andrew	0435 752 493
CINEMA	Mt Vic Flicks	Arthouse cinema at Mt Victoria	47871577
CHIMNEY SWEEP	Andrew Clark	Your Local Chimney Sweep	0447 871 583
CLOTHING/EQUESTRIAN			
	Hartley Store and Saddlery	Clothing and equestrian supplies	6355 2165
EDUCATION	Marie Majanac	Maths tutor all levels to HSC	6355 0261
ELECTRICIAN	Mark O'Toole	Bobcat & trenching machine	6355 2488
EARTHMOVING	B & R Barber Earthmoving	Brad Barber	6355 2186
FIREWOOD	Ross Howard	Quality firewood	0418 344 344
	Rob Jolly	Great firewood	6355 2278
GALLERY	Talisman Gallery	Metal art and jewelry	0407 723 722
LANDSCAPING	Cliffords Landscapes	Design and construction	0410 552 294
	Grant Maundrell	Landscape architect/construction	0407 933 834
MOWER AND CHAINSAW REPAIRS			
	Hartley Chainsaw & Mower Repairs	Andrew Lawson	6355 2336
NURSERIES	Maple Springs Nursery	Fabulous maples and much more	6355 2140
PAINTING	Kay Decorating & Painting	David and Catherine Kay	6355 2270
PARTY HIRE	Lithgow party Hire	All the gear for a great party	6355 2438
PHOTOGRAPHY	Karen Edwards	Fun, family, events, photography	0414 857 764
PLUMBING	Mick Linhart Plumbing	No job too small	6355 2251
PRINTING	C&W Print	All commercial printing	6351 4806
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	Rob Jolly	Reliable Property Maintenance	6355 2278
RURAL SUPPLIES	Adam's Shed	Stock feeds, fencing, produce	6355 2096
SOLAR POWER	Hartley Green Power	Sun and wind power solutions	6355 2299
SOLICITOR	Le Fevre & Co	All areas of law since 1907	6352 2699
STONE MASONS	Mountain Stone Design	Michael Campbell 0400 277 818	4787 1340
	Heritage Stoneworks	Bill Holmes- Stone Mason	0421 367 257
SURVEYOR	Anderson Surveying P/L	Subdivisions, set-outs, boundaries	6351 3476
TRAVEL AGENT	Cruiseabout Lynne Anderson	Flights, cruises, tours, accomm	6355 2406
TIMBER	Dam Ard	Posts, beams, barn doors & more	0428 428 345
WATER TANK MAINTENANCE			
	Pristine Water Systems	All water problems - call Phil	0437 578 199
YOGA	Muma Yoga	Pieta	0405 719 812
VETERINARY	Hartley Veterinary	Veterinary services	6355 2272

2015 HDPa President's Report

This year has been very special in many ways. In an attempt to attract greater participation from our Community, we have revised our Meeting procedure by reducing the number of Community General Meetings to four held quarterly, with emphasis on social content. This has resulted in attendances increasing two to threefold over the previous 12 months.

Activities arranged by the committee during the year that have proven most popular with our Community include quarterly visits to a variety of local gardens which have typically attracted attendances of some 50 people. We thank those who so graciously opened their gardens for the enjoyment of all. The Trivia Night was a first for us, attracting some 60 local attendees who were quizzed on their local knowledge amid much hilarity. Happy Hour held at the School and Hall last autumn was very much a fun night enjoyed by a large local attendance. Our thanks to all those who made these activities such a success.

As an element of formal business, we facilitated meetings to enable the community to inform itself and properly consider the proposed extension of the Hytec Austen quarry. Now approved, the final outcome of this process is currently being negotiated. We also facilitated meetings with council over strategic priorities and budget development for the region and Council's proposal to create a strategic development plan for the Hartley Valley.

On the heritage front, in April the 1813 Committee combined with the Sydney-based Macquarie Society to commemorate the Bicentenary of the first Christian Church Service conducted west of the Blue Mountains held at Glenroy in 1815. More than 400 visitors attended the commemoration, where Dame Marie Bashir delivered the inaugural Macquarie Oration.

Guided walks on the 1814 Cox's Road were continued, commencing at the summit of Mt York, descending the mountain to Hartley Vale Cemetery, then along public roads to the Hartley Historic School, then across private farmland to Glenroy. A further walk has been planned for November. The Association has been widely complimented on the professionalism and local knowledge of the organisers. Through the same trust we also completed the date signing of a number of heritage assets in the valley as a pilot program to demonstrate the potential of a broader date signing project. We also saw the Moment in Time exhibition leased by the Bathurst Historical Society, with the support of Bathurst City Council, as a key element in Bathurst's Bicentenary celebrations.

With the assistance and financial support of the Hartley Recreational Lands Trust (which takes primary responsibility for the management and maintenance on behalf of the community of the Historic Hartley School and Hall and crown lands thereabouts and down along the River Lett) and Lithgow City Council, we were able to paint the exterior of the School and the Hall as part of the ongoing maintenance program. The use of the Hall for public meetings as well as private functions makes it a popular venue, rentals providing a reliable source of funds to defray operating costs.

Once again HDPa had teams of volunteers on the ground for Cleanup Australia Day (1st Sunday in March each year) for the collection of rubbish and litter from our roads and off road laybys.

We continued to publish and distribute our HDPa quarterly Newsletter to 650 mailboxes in our catchment area and we maintain and upgraded our HDPa Website and Facebook page to better inform our local community of the issues confronting us in times of bushfires as well as other community events to be enjoyed in the Hartley Valley.

(continued overleaf)

All of the foregoing have provided a social environment for our Community to meet and enjoy the very special place we have chosen to live. On a business front, we maintain modest cash reserves which will be separately reported upon in the Treasurer's Report.

We gratefully acknowledge all volunteers (far too many to acknowledge individually) who have given their time and use of their facilities to deliver the events and public service over the past 12 months. That said, we are in great need of new volunteers to continue the management of this very special asset and all that it provides for our collective enjoyment in the future. A warm welcome is extended to all to attend the AGM to be held in the Schoolroom on Monday 7th December. The evening will be a festive affair, so do please come along.

I have enjoyed the role of President over the past two years, but as Joan and I have most reluctantly relocated to Katoomba, I will not be seeking re-election. We wish Progress every success in the future and remember our years here with you with much affection. We hope to remain a part of the unique Hartley Valley community.

Tom Kent
President 9/11/2015

Spotted a Quoll?

Do you have native vegetation on your property?

Have you seen Quolls in the area?

Researchers from the University of Wollongong are interested in the occurrence of the Spotted-tailed Quoll on private land in New South Wales. One particular area is around Capertee, Jenolan and Lithgow, to the west of the Blue Mountains.

How can I help?

If you have seen a Quoll in the past 10 years, we would like to hear from you. The following information would be required:

- Approximate date of the sightings (if you have multiple sightings, please list these separately).
- Location of the sighting, as specific as possible, for example a property address or where possible, specific coordinates.
- What was the Quoll doing at the time (such as eating your chickens or crossing the road)
- Your contact details, such as an email address in case we need any further information on your sighting.

For further information or to communicate your sightings, please email Dr Chris McLean chrismc@uow.edu.au or contact Huw Evans huw.evans@lls.nsw.gov.au



A Spotted-tailed Quoll recorded during the remote camera survey