FARNG GATE NEWS

MAR-APRIL 2014

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO INFORM AND ENTERTAIN YOU

FREE BEER Hids April 30 Get a farm shed and enjoy FREE BEER FOR A WHOLE YEAR!



A Rare Insight into Building An EXPANDING FARMING BUSINESS P4-5



To Protect Your Investment 16

PREVENTING DAMAGE By Mice P7

Nominate

AWANG HARWIERS PT

FARMING HISTORY P8







FREE BEER Stories

This is definitely your **LAST CHANCE** to take up our **FREE BEER FOR A YEAR** offer. Your shed must be ordered by April 30 for you to enjoy this year-long bonus!

Join the many farmers enjoying **FREE BEER** on us.

We've had a couple of interesting requests that we've accommodated.

Greg Klopp from Maitland on the Yorke Peninsula ordered a massive 21m x 48m x 6.8m Farm Shed and asked for one carton per month for himself and one carton per month for his Dad because his Dad reckons he deserves it! I'm guessing Dad helps out on the farm.

Chris Mosey of Saddleworth ordered a 12m x 24m x 3.6m Machinery Shed and said he's getting married next year. He will build up his beer stock for the wedding reception. He asked if he could he have half Hahn Super Dry and half Crown Lager so that his guests would have beer options. So, mates don't go around and loot his beer supply or you may not get a wedding invite.

Multiple Copies Per Family

Since running our "Chance To Win \$50,000 competition" (which ends 31/3/14), we've found that our data base of farmers has a lot of double-ups for individual addresses.

It's fine that people from the same family have each entered the competition. That's more chances to win!!

But if you are now receiving 2 or 3 copies of this FARM GATE NEWS mini-magazine, could you contact us to let us know. We'll then tidy up your details on our data base so we don't bombard you with information.

We have around 4000 farmers receiving the magazine so it's a very big list for us to try and clean up without your help.

If you have several families that use the one postal address (eg: Mum & Dad, son & wife) and you'd both like to get the magazine, then that's OK. We're happy to send you one each. But if you are getting more than you want or need, then let us know

Please contact us by any of these methods:

Phone: Freecall 1800 088 528 Fax: 08 8583 5402

Email: admin@grantsheds.com.au Post: PO Box 29, Monash SA 5342

We thank you in advance for your help on this.

Kids Say the Darndest Things!

Our 3 year old granddaughter, Kallie, was helping Danny make dog and boned shaped biscuits. She's sitting on the kitchen bench and she looks up at him and says, "Opa, How come you have cracks on your face?"



Stunned by the question, but quickly realising what she means, Danny says, "They're wrinkles darling. You get those as you get older."

Talk about deflating his ego - but hilarious none the less.

Monash Playground Memories

Did you ever visit the Old Monash Playground at Easter? Wow, what a crowded, fun place it was then.

Cars and buses were parked along all the streets of our little town of Monash and way down the road. There was no way of counting how many visited each day because it was FREE to enter and no-one at the gate. Sadly it is closed now, but regular readers of FARM GATE NEWS know that this superduper, adults & kids, playground was made and maintained by Grant Sheds founder, Grant Telfer.



Closed For Easter

With the Easter and Anzac long weekends so close together this year, **Grant Sheds will be closed from Thursday 17th and back on deck on Monday 28th April.**



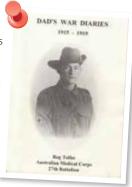
Anzac Day

With Anzac Day coming up, who can pick where this Soldiers Memorial is located? Answer on Page B



War Diaries

Ali's family found her grandfather's handwritten war diaries only after he died back in the 1970's. Aunty Sue (Dad/Grant's sister), typed them up and got around 50 books printed for all the family members, and a 2nd printing has just been completed for the ever expanding family.



It's a very interesting read to see what someone you know and loved, endured during WW1.

"My grandfather was a very placid man," explains Ali. "So to read of his anger and frustration at the lack of clear direction from higher ranks and the long, cold marches - only to be told to return many miles from where they'd come - plus the wet and muddy conditions on the Front in France, was a real eye opener for me. It made the horrors and discomforts of war much more realistic to me."

"My grandfather was from Broken Hill before the war and then came to Monash after the war, taking up land as a Returned Soldier Settler."

We hope you enjoy this edition as much as we enjoy preparing it for you. We've had feedback from some people saying they enjoy it so much that they keep them all. We'd love to hear your feedback, plus suggestions for future editions.

Ali & Danny Halupka Co-owners, Grant Sheds



FREE BEER Ending



Get a farm shed and enjoy FREE BEER FOR A WHOLE YEAR!

Reward Yourself All Year Long With a Fridge full of ... Frosty Cold ... BEER.

It's been a real bastard of a summer, I'm sure you'll agree! Record heat- waves ... Weeks of stinking hot, 40-45° degree days, when ending the day by pulling the lid on an icy cold beer seems like the only life-saving thing that's kept you going.

And many smart farmers have taken advantage our LIMITED TIME offer of

FREE BEER FOR A YEAR!

Now we're heading into autumn. Warm, still days and cooler evenings ... when taking a moment at the end of a busy working day, to sit down on the front ve- randah, or with mates in the shed, and a quiet coldie, takes on a more relaxing, wind-down quality.

Order your new farm shed from Grant Sheds before April 30 and you can enjoy your FREE BEER all year long...! It's your LAST CHANCE.

Get all the details on the enclosed flyer of this edition of FARM GATE NEWS!



Get Your NEW SHED and FREE BEER Now! FREECALL: 1800 088 528

LOCAL AUSSIE LEGEND



Each year, Danny joins around 200 Harley motorbike riders for the Drivers Parade at Adelaide's Clipsal 500, V8 Supercars Race.

Each rider takes a driver, crew member or pit girl as pillion passenger on a lap of the track just before the main race. Danny's passenger this year was driver, Shane Van Gisbergen.

The low rumble of any single Harley becomes a thunderous noise when it's 200 Harley's idling around the track. Awesome if you love that distinctive sound!

Danny's Day At Clipsal 500 V8 Supercars Race

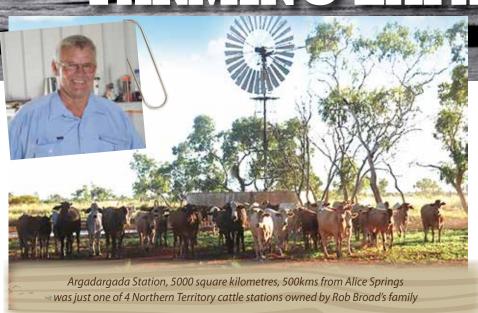


Danny swears he wasn't looking, but it doesn't explain his dropped lower jaw. I think someone should close it for him.! "The girls wanted a photo with ME, not the other way around," claims Danny feebly!

By the way, Danny grows a beard just once a year, specially for this event. This one he started at Christmas and removed only days after the Clipsal event at the beginning of March.

Interesting Fact: Harley Davidson's target market is NOT bikies. It is men, aged 45-55, who like to look tough for a while. Danny is Ali's "bad boy"!

A Rare Insight Into A Leading Family's FARMING EXPANSION



Rob Broad is a larger than life character who has spent all his life on pastoral land in South Australia and in the Northern Territory. Now 63 and living at Keyneton, near Angaston in the Barossa Valley, with his wife Tracie, Rob has shared a great many of his stories with us.

Born at Burra in SA's mid-north, he then grew up in the Booborowie area until 1965 when his father, Harold John Broad, dissolved the 'Broad Brothers' partnership, that he'd run with his brother Colin. Going out on his own, Harold registered the company name "Harold Broad Pty Ltd" and most of his future properties were owned under this name and run by himself and his sons, one of which was Rob.

They owned Gluepot Station, on the Morgan to Overland Corner road, which Rob's father Harold retained when the Broad Brothers partnership dissolved around 1960. Gluepot was 200 square miles and they ran mostly sheep.

In 1965, Rob's family moved to Markaranka Station, on the Murray River between Morgan and Waikerie, which was 3000 acres, with irrigation, on which they grew fruit and lucerne and ran sheep and a few milking cows.

In 1968, the Broad family bought 3000 acre Old Canowie Station, halfway between Jamestown and Hallett, and sold Markaranka and Gluepot.

See historical photos of these stations on page 8 of this edition of FARMGATE NEWS.

Interestingly, when Rob's parents were first married, they were droving a mob of sheep along the road for feed, camping out with a horse and cart that contained their bedding and food ("That era's version of a mobile home," laughs Rob"), and they passed the gates of Old Canowie. Rob's father said to his mother, "Wouldn't it be nice to live there." And of course, many years later they did.

Next was Muljarra Station in 1972, just across the road from Old Canowie, and then some country east of Burra, which was a part of Caroona Station, where they had around 4500 sheep.

In 1980 a bold step was made as they travelled into outback Northern Territory and bought Jervois Station, 320kms north-east of Alice Springs and, 4 years later, also purchased neighbouring Jinka Station. Outback Northern Territory life must have agreed with them as they bought Etadunna Station (pronounced 'Eather-dinna') on the Birdsville Track in 2000.

In 2000 they purchased 5000 square kilometre, Argadargada Station, 500kms north-east of Alice Springs on the Sandover Highway. They ran cattle on all the Northern Territory properties.

As these stations were bought by their family company, Harold Broad Pty Ltd, their land-holdings were ever increasing (only a few were sold). The properties were either managed by family members or outside managers were employed. Some of whom were good and some were terrible. As is often the case, managing staff was always a challenge.

When asked why they started buying properties in the Territory, Rob says it was the best return on investment they could find. The price of the properties was relatively low and the number of cattle you could run on them was quite high, so you didn't have so much capital invested.

Outback Adventures

Rob has some amazing stories from the out-back that could make your hair curl on end, but he says he'd be talking for a week or more if he started rattling them off. For me, I'd be happy to listen. Here's just some of them:

Flying Doctor to the Rescue

They had to call the Flying Doctor to Jervois Station when the manager's son got hit in the face by a piece of a wood that broke off as his dad was trying to pull a stump out. His face was badly smashed up.

The station manager's wife called the Flying Doctors and told them to bring their light air-craft, but when they arrived it was in their big plane. The airstrip was soft and the plane got badly bogged. It took two weeks before they could get it out. "They were lucky they stopped where they did," says Rob, "because they only had a matchbox distance between the propeller and the ground." "Any further and they'd have lost the propeller."

Bath Time Luxury

Tracie adds another one about bath time at Jervois. They had what they called a "Jinny". It was a 44 gallon drum, set up inside a bricked in area. They'd light a fire under the 44 to warm the water in it ... and then jump in!

"And that was only back in about 1980-1984," adds Rob. "It was 1984 before we got an electric hot water system."

"Farmer Wants A Wife" Races



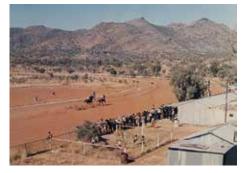
Rob met his wife Tracie at the Hart's Range Races – about 140km out of Alice on the Plenty Highway. Rob had carted a load of horses into Alice Springs from Jervois. His sister, brotherin-law and nephew





were with him in the truck and they all debated whether to go to the races or not.

Tracie was a nurse at the Alice and, with a group of friends, they were also deciding whether to attend. Both groups did go and that's where Rob and Tracie met ... at the Harts Range Ball. "Well actually it was held in a tin-shed, on a concrete floor," laughs Rob and then adds, "Three of the nurses actually met their husbands that night and Tracie was one of them."



In an amusing small twist to the story, their son Ryan met his wife Cat at the Harts Range Races too. She was governessing up Alice Springs way and Ryan was working on "Arg" when they also met at the races.

Rob met Tracie in 1981 and they had 2 sons and a daughter, adding to Rob's first born son. Ryan and Damien are now both at Streaky Bay where Ryan works for well known local, 'Snowy' Meiers, running his Ceduna Bulk Haulage workshop, and Damien runs Ryan's 4000 acre farm with him. By

the way, Snowy Meiers has Grant Sheds farm sheds on his farms too.

Rob & Tracie's daughter Alicia is in Alice Springs where her husband drives Tanami triple cattle crates, and their youngest son, Tom, works for an earthmoving company in Jamestown.

And to add just a few more stories from Rob's father's lifetime:

"Dad used to go out dancing. There'd be a whole heap of blokes take off in his old Model T that they used to have the crutching plant on. He used to go crutching all up through the bush and then they'd go out in it on Saturday nights." Rob reminisces

"Or they'd spend all week shearing or crutching and then on weekends walk stock back to Booborowie. He still holds the record on that as far as I know," adds Rob.

"He's apparently made the front page headlines on the Barrier News in Broken Hill for the biggest mob of sheep ever walked into Broken Hill. Seven and a half thousand in one mob from Wanaaring in north-west NSW, a drove of 400 odd kilometres. That was in the late 1950's I reckon."

Moving Back to S.A.

After a family break up, Rob exited Harold Broad Pty Ltd, the partnership which had included his father and brothers, and made the move back south to his current Barossa Valley location. The as yet unnamed property is just under 400 acres of gently undulating grazing land and Rob says they like the area for its country location that is also in close proximity to services in Angaston, Tanunda and Nuriootpa and a short drive to Adelaide – something they wouldn't be used to after so many years outback!

While Rob & Tracie have no stock of their own on the fertile but rocky property yet, they are currently free-agisting cattle for friends whose property got burnt out in the Eden Valley bushfires in February this year.

These people lost virtually everything in the fires – all their water tanks, pumps, fencing and all of their breeding ewes. The only luck they had was that they didn't lose their house. "It was pretty scary with the fires," says Rob.





The comparison between burnt out areas near Truro in Feb 2014 and the plentiful grazing available on Rob's new property near Angaston.



Here are the properties owned by "Harold Broad Pty Ltd" between 1960 and 2000

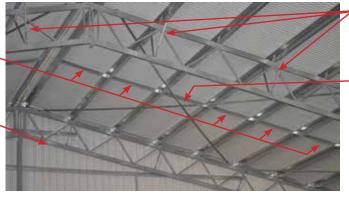
Gluepot Station 200 square miles, mostly sheep 1960 3000 acres, Irrigated land-Fruit, lucerne, sheep & milking cows 1965 Markaranka Station Old Canowie Station 1968 3000 acres, half way between Jamestown and Hallett, sheep 1972 Muljarra Station 1600 acres, across the road from Old Canowie 1975 Caroona Station 14,000 acres,east of Burra, 4500 sheep Jervois Station 1000 sq miles, 320km's out of Alice Springs, cattle 1980 1984 Jinka Station 1100 sq miles, alongside Jervois Stn, cattle 2000 **Etadunna Station** 5000 sq kms, On the Birdsville Track, cattle 5000 sq kms, 500kms from Alice Springs on the Sandover Hwy 2000 Argadargada Stn

CRUCIAL DESIGN FEATURES

You may not be aware of in Grant Sheds OWJ-UB Range For Very Large Span Sheds

'Bridging' braces one purlin to another, half way between roof trusses, in every bay. They prevent twisting of the purlins and they are fitted in the roof and walls.

Super-Strong OWJ (Open Web Joist) Roof Trusses are made of heavy duty RHS steel for the top and bottom chords and the webbing



Flybraces, from bottom chord of roof truss to purlin prevent the roof truss twisting under extremely windy weather conditions.

Cross Bracing in the roof and walls is made from strong and solid RHS steel, not just thin, flimsy strap bracing that many other shed companies use. They are attached with 16mm bolts.

Every piece of bracing interconnects in the shed to stiffen it and to transfer wind loads back through the structure and into the ground where it dissipates. Bracing left out by cheap shed companies, or lazy builders, may cause the building to fail.

Despite doing a lot of research with 4 shed companies (excluding Grant Sheds because he was unaware of us when initially searching for a shed), Rob was unfortunate to first order his shed from an Adelaide-located, WA-based, shed company that then went out of business.

As a victim to that company, he lost the \$5000 deposit he'd already paid to them for the plans to submit to his council. "It turns out they were already going under when they took my money," Rob laments. "They finished up going through the hoop."

Before he lost his money, Rob had spoken with Grant Sheds builder, Steve, about erecting that shed for him. Steve was doubtful about building this competitor's shed, as he had serious concerns over its design.

Rob spoke with Steve again after losing his deposit, and Steve told him he should buy a Grant Sheds shed. Rob took his advice and has been delighted with the result, saying that he found Grant Sheds processes "Excellent!"



UB (Universal Beam) Columns - Big & very solid. And note the heavy facia plate and roof truss to column plates. Bolted together with 8 x 20mm high tensile, grade 8.8 bolts makes this a super strong connection.

"You certainly met my expectations," said Rob. "We went up and saw your company at Monash. That's where it all started and I couldn't fault anything, to be honest"

It's a damn big shed. It's 24m x 42m x 5.1m (80' x 140' x 17') and made using extremely strong Open Web Joists (OWJ) roof trusses and Universal Beam (UB) columns.

"I found Grant Sheds processes Excellent! I couldn't fault anything."

Rob Broad, Keyneton SA

It took builder Steve and his team of 3 just 9 days to build. Even slightly breezy weather can halt the building process when the sheets of roof iron are 12 metres long, but they were lucky with the weather this time and, of course, they have a lot of large, expensive equipment to be able to build large sheds quickly and safely.

Rob was amazed to see just how well it went together with the builders not having to drill a hole anywhere in the framing, because everything just fitted together so well.

When asked if he'd return to Grant Sheds if he needs another shed in the future, Rob's immediate answer was a resounding, "Definitely!"

Some other big sheds Rob has purchased for his stations in the past from other shed companies, he says were, "...very flimsy."

"And that's the reason why I went for this one," he

adds, referring to the OWJ and UB structure in this massive Grant Sheds farm shed.

Rob says that our builder pointed out to him that, "My roof here had no spring in it. It just didn't move!" Where as "quite often when you're on some of those other sheds, it can be like a trampoline. You can get in the middle of the gable and they do move," Rob points out from experience.

By coincidence, on the day we were interviewing Rob, a truck driver delivering rubble knew about Grant Sheds because his father, Kevin Howard on Kangaroo Island has a Grant shed as well. Again, it's a small world.



The flybraces that stop twisting of the roof truss in certain high wind, uplift conditions. This baby's not going anywhere!



Four super heavy duty, 30mm footing bolts connect through thick, welded base plates ensuring solid connection of the shed to the ground. Many shed companies use piddley little 16mm or 20mm footing bolts.

This shed's concrete floor is to be floated under the base plates so no height clearance is lost when the floor is laid.



SA graingrowers are being warned of the potential for a mouse plague this autumn! Annoyingly, a perfect storm could be brewing!

The reasons:

- Spilled grain in paddocks during the bumper 2013 harvest. While the percentage of grain spilled in paddocks during harvest will have been the same as any other year, when there is a bumper grain crop, that small percentage still equals much more grain on the ground and therefore a great food source for a larger number of mice.
- Barley crops damaged by strong winds last spring.
- Recent summer rains increase weed growth and provides mouse habitat.

These conditions have given the ideal scenario for a rapid build up of mouse populations and growers have reported sightings of fresh mouse holes in paddocks.

Authorities are encouraging growers to take steps to discourage a potential increase in mouse populations. Measures to curb mouse breeding include:

Heavy grazing with sheep after harvest
 Managing weeds to reduce mouse habitat

- and food sources
- Cleaning up spills of grain around silos, field bins, augers, silo bags and sheds
- Removing or reducing cover including weeds, rubbish and clutter
- Rolling stubble to expose mice to birds
- Baiting at seeding and monitoring crops afterwards as rebaiting may be necessary.

Mouse Control Fact Sheets are available at www.grdc.com.au and then do a search for 'Mouse Fact Sheet'

Mice can cause severe economic, social and environmental damage during plagues, damaging crops, stored products and equipment.

Mice Also Cause Stress on Humans & Livestock

The problems of mouse plagues are not simply economic. They also pose a major threat to health and welfare, inflicting stress on humans and livestock. Mice also carry a number of diseases which affect humans and livestock including Salmonella.

Danny had a beautiful Appaloosa horse many years ago who died from Salmonella poisoning. The vets

said it could have been caught from something as simple as mouse, rat or bird droppings in the feed or water. We were horrified and didn't know of the following deterrent product back then or we'd have been using it in the feed shed and stables.

It may also be useful sprayed in your farm sheds, tractors and farm vehicles to stop mice setting up house in those and therefore also prevent damage to wiring hoses etc when the mice decide to start chewing on those.



Danny Halupka with his Appaloosa 'Dreamy' and youngest son Tony. This photo was taken as we were returning from a 300km, 10 day trail ride in the Gawler Ranges on the eastern Eyre Peninsula in 1997.

Nominate Amazing Farmers in Awards



ruce & Val Bassham celebrate their Bassham Wines success

Val & Bruce Bassham are members of our Grant Sheds Family and have been featured in our FARM GATE NEWS on two previous occasions.

They have just been honoured with being listed in the nationally contested Winestate Magazine's list of the best 2013 wines!! Congratulations.

Their Barmera based "Bassham Wines" won listings with a 1st in the Other Red Varietal & Blends category for their Lagrein and were also listed for their Montepulciano.

Bruce is heavily involved in the Riverland Alternative Wine Group (RAWG) having been involved with it since its inception.

Bruce & Val made the bold move to alternative wine grapes and organic wines 4 years ago as

a way of Bruce & Val Bassham celebrate their success.

FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

We nominated them in the Kondinin Australian Farmer of the Year awards last and vehicles, home area and garden. It acts on the senses of year but in typical Aussie fashion, they thought they didn't do anything special and didn't complete the application. Of course they are also very busy people too. So we are going to nominate them again this year because they are certainly deserving of the accolades.

If you, or anyone you know, deserves to be nominated you can do it on this web site: www.FarmingAhead.com.au/FarmerOf Year

Animal & Bird Repellant

Want to keep birds, mice and rats out of your shed?

Deter birds, mice rats, dogs and cats with this easy to use, spray-on product that effectively repels birds from your sheds, farm machinery smell and taste of birds entering treated areas, repelling them without harm.



For a Price List & Order Form Contact Grant Sheds

Phone: **08 8583 5262** or Email: *sales@grantsheds.com.au*



CHIEF BEST FOR

People On The Land...A Little Bit Of History

Here are some historical photos of properties and farming, related to the page 4 & 5 story about Rob Broad. We found these on-line. There's a lot of interesting information available when you 'Google' a subject, but you can also spend (or waste) a lot of time doing so. It's enjoyable though when you find something that interests you.



Old Canowie Station - Harvesting teams. WC Dowden and Mr McKenzie snr & others driving 4' 6" strippers c1920 (before the Broad's time).



Canowie Station. Managers house & grounds c1872. Perhaps similar to how Rob's parents saw it when droving past around the 1940's when they idly day-dreamed about living there.



Canowie Station. Horse drawn wagon loaded with wool for Adelaide c1880.



Team of 18 pulling Wool Bales at Ettadunna Stn In 1885 a shearing shed was built at Etadunna. During the 1897 season more than 28,000 sheep were shorn at the Etadunna shed which had 16 stands, 8 for native shearers and 8 for the whites. More than 22,000 sheep died soon after because of a severe drought.



Canowie Station Woolsheds with wool bales loaded onto a horse-drawn wagon c1872



MONTHLY HUMOUR



Fairy Politics I met a fairy today who granted me one wish.

"I want to live forever" I said. "Sorry" said the fairy, "I'm not

allowed to grant wishes like that, try something else."

"Fine" I said, "I don't want to die until Julia Gillard is reelected as Prime Minister"

"You really are a clever mongrel, aren't you?" said the fairy.



"Definition"

resilient: (adj.): capable of bouncing

back from or adjusting to challenges and change



WHOSE HUSBAND IS HE?

One morning, three women are on the 4th green at the golf club when a man suddenly runs by wearing nothing but a bag over his head.

As he passes the first woman, she looks down and says, "Well, he's certainly not my husband."

As her passes the second woman, she also glances downwards and says, "He's not my husband either."

He then passes the third woman who also looks down as he runs passed her.

"Wait a minute," she says. "He's not even a member of this golf club."



Answer: The Anzac Memorial shown on page 2 is at Burra SA

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