

FARM GATE NEWS

Written & Published By



JULY-AUGUST 2019

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO INFORM AND ENTERTAIN YOU



Exporting Market For
**NEW WINE
MAKERS** P4-5

**FREE
DELIVERY**

**For Sheds Ordered
Before 31st August**
Up to 300km from Monash
Pro rata rates beyond 300km
*Conditions Apply

We Welcome New
Members To Our
**GRANT SHEDS
FAMILY** P6

The joys of
**COUNTRY PEOPLE
& COMMUNITIES** P3



FARM SHED
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What Makes Country Life So Good?



Searching For A Lady

Wow .. The power of a connected group!

As you may know from the last edition of FARM GATE NEWS, we are involved with planning events for our Monash centenary in 2021.

Amongst other things, that involves capturing the stories of our WW1 soldier settlers from their surviving families.

As part of that, I put out a call through our "Monash, Come Say Hello" Facebook page asking if anyone had any contact with members of the Lobban family. Within minutes one person replied that he knew that Libby Kelly was a Lobban and lived on Kangaroo Island.

So then I sent out an email to all the KI people on our FARM GATE NEWS list to see if anyone had contact details for this lady.

Within 2 minutes I got one reply with contact details and within 30 minutes I'd had 8 replies and in a few days I'd had 14 replies.

I called Libby and yes, she is exactly the person I wanted to speak with. She is 84 years old and going strong.

Thank you SO much Kangaroo Islanders. Your help is really appreciated. I'm ecstatic!

Email Subject:

"Searching For A Lady"

When I wrote the email mentioned above, I thought that "Searching For A Lady" would be a catchy phrase to get my email opened. In this day and age of masses of emails in our inboxes, it might otherwise get ignored.

Just seconds after I clicked the 'Send' button though, I realised with a sinking feeling, that my subject line may be misinterpreted.

Perhaps people would think my email had been hacked and that someone claiming to have Russian brides or similar was sending spam mail through my address.

I can assure you that is not the case and I was delighted when I began immediately receiving helpful replies.

Just goes to show though, that we should be careful with what we type and send.

Country Landscapes



Below right, a beautiful farm photo from Stephanie Rundle of Rundle Farming at Kulpara on the upper Yorke Peninsula. And above, Rundle Farming's Mega Farm Shed & Workshop, purchased from Grant Sheds a few years ago.

Touring Farming Districts

As you'll read on page 3, we did a short farm tour recently around a few country areas. We really do enjoy meeting up with some truly lovely people.

Near Ouyen, Kevin Brown was too busy to see us as he was still seeding and fixing a few issues that had arisen (that's life), but we popped in to inspect his recently built Machinery /Fertiliser/Grain shed.

At Keith we visited Nathan Nutt about some new sheds he's planning and had an accidental catch up with Alan & Bronwyn Morcom. Then it was on to see Charles Ashby at Coonalpyn who declined to be interviewed because he didn't think he had much of a story to tell. We chatted with him anyway and, I can tell you, he does have a very interesting story!

We stayed overnight with ex Loxton farmers, Andrew & Annette Cass, in their retirement location in the Adelaide Hills and then it was on to Tanunda to interview the Barossa Valley Machinery Preservation Society members about the brand new shed they have recently had built.

Next we chatted with Robert O'Callaghan of Rockford Wines. He's an ex Monash 'boy' and is helping us with our Monash Centenary celebrations for 2021.

And finally, we popped in to see Rob and Tracey Broad at Angaston. They are ex-Northern Territory station owners and have several Grant sheds on their Barossa



property. They're a great couple and have really involved themselves in local community groups with Tracey being president of the Lions Club and Rob heavily involved in the Angaston Blacksmith Museum, originally "A&H Toddridge".

Maybe we'll see you "on the road" one day too.

And if you'd specifically like us to visit you, whether it's to share your story, help you make decisions for a new farm shed or any other reason, let us know and we'd be happy to catch up.

It's another full issue this time, so we'll leave you to enjoy the read.

As always, we wish you well in your farming endeavours.

All the best.

Ali & Danny Halupka

Owners - Grant Sheds



SEE YOU AT THESE FIELD DAYS

Speed Field Days
JULY 31st-AUGUST 1st

Riverland Field Days
SEPTEMBER 13th-14th

Yorke Peninsula Field Days
SEPTEMBER 24th, 25th, 26th



You Little Ripper... Grant Sheds LOCAL AUSSIE LEGENDS



Local legends, Bronwyn & Alan Morcom of Keith, SA

Danny and Ali visited a few farming people in the Ouyen, Keith, Coonalpyn, Adelaide Hills and Barossa Valley areas during a multi-day "road-trip" in May.

After travelling from Ouyen, we arrived in Keith in the upper south east at around 4pm. We did a quick look around the town and popped into a community craft shop (not Danny's idea of fun, but he came in anyway).

We were wearing 'civvies'. That is, we didn't have Grant Sheds uniforms on. Another man in the shop started a conversation and asked us where we were from. Danny

Volunteer Of The Year

said we were from the Riverland and the conversation continued. During the talk I made a comment related to Danny and used his name while talking.

As soon as I did, the man looked harder at us, pointed to us and proclaimed...,"Grant Sheds!?"

Turns out he receives FARM GATE NEWS and his son owns a Grant shed. He was delighted to chat with us. He must have felt like he should know who we were when we walked in, but wasn't quite sure.

And we learnt more about him!

He was Alan Morcom. And ...on that very night...Alan was to receive an award for "Volunteer Of The Year" for Keith.

His community work includes:

- 50 Years in the CFS!
- Probus
- Men's Shed
- Purple Paddock Community Craft Shop
- Show Society
- Lay Preacher
- Farming and grandkids

Phew ... that's a long list that Bronwyn proudly shared with us. It was only after we left that it dawned on me... when one person of a partnership is heavily involved in their community, the other often is too. So I phoned Alan and got Bronwyn's long list:

- Radio Operator & assisting the CFS (almost 50 yrs)
- Probus
- Purple Paddock Community Craft Shop
- Show Society
- Church Community
- Hospital Auxiliary
- Floral Art

Obviously, just as heavily involved as Alan. .

It's what sets country communities apart ... that strong sense of rolling up your sleeves and doing whatever it takes to help out.

Good on you both Alan and Bronwyn Morcom. You're an inspiration in your community and in our FARM GATE NEWS community.

Well done ... We're real proud of you!

If you know some Local Legends in your district, please let us know so we can highlight their great work here in FARM GATE NEWS. They deserve to be recognised at every opportunity.

Country Artworks

During the trip mentioned above, we discovered that the town of Keith has a few murals in the town. There is the one on the fire station (see top of page 2), as well as this one (at right) in the local servo and a few others on shops. They were really well done and make an interesting feature of the town.

At Coonalpyn, travellers are encouraged to stop awhile to view the silo mural (bottom left) along with a truly beautiful mosaic art mural at the town toilet block (bottom right) and artworks in the pedestrian tunnel under the railway line.

These are delightful ways to promote country towns and get tourists to stop.

Well done Keith and Coonalpyn!



A Boutique Winery BRIGHT FUT



Looking into the main shed through the open sliding doors, from the lean-to on the front. And at top of page, David Dreckow and winemaker Martin Moran.

At Hahndorf in South Australia, family-owned Mordrelle Wines is quickly establishing itself as a premium boutique label with a growing domestic and international market.

The label is a joint venture between winemaker Martin Moran, his wife Michelle and her parents David and Jane Dreckow, and features an emphasis on sparkling wines which have been recognised with numerous awards.

Martin is an accomplished winemaker, originally heralding from Argentina where he completed an engineering degree in agriculture, specialising in viticulture. He soon came to Australia where he met Michelle and worked with some of the biggest names in the South Australian wine industry.

It was when he and Michelle were engaged that Martin decided to embrace his winemaking passion on a more personal level, as David explains:

"Martin decided he wanted to make some sparkling wines for their wedding. We received such a wonderful response from all who tried it, we decided to produce local wines from the Adelaide Hills. That was 2010, and here we are."

Over the past nine years the family has turned that passion into a business. Martin sources grapes locally from vineyards in Mylor, Lenswood, Basket Range, and Langhorne Creek.

A particular grape variety of interest is Malbec, which is grown in Australia at Langhorne Creek.

David notes Malbec is also the premium grape variety of Argentina and Martin's family and friends in Argentina have been suitably impressed with the Australian style Malbec he has produced.

At present, Mordrelle Wines presses about 30 tonnes of grapes a year, but steadily production is increasing.

"It's just steady growth," David says. *"We didn't want to do it too quickly. We wanted to be able to afford to do it without getting ourselves into strife, especially at this stage in my life."*

Up until about a year ago, their prime market was domestic, but in the past 12 months Mordrelle Wines has also been

shipping their product to China.

"It looks like that will increase, because the guys importing it into China are pretty enthusiastic, and I hear they're pretty keen to do more than they did last year. So, we might have to increase our production."

With the recent dry weather, however, grapes are proving a little harder to come by.

"Down in Langhorne Creek they're mostly irrigated, but here generally they don't do as

much irrigation. That results in less tonnage, but it can also improve the intensity of the flavour."

In a bid to accommodate growing production, the family recently commissioned a new 'Grant' shed where grapes will be pressed, fermented and bottled.

The shed has been constructed on the family's property, which is shared with his brother's dairy farm. David explains the new addition will allow a designated purpose-built area for wine production.

"We did a few extensions on the previous shed and enclosed the carport, but it was time to get our house back, so we decided we needed a shed."

Measuring 12m x 18m, the Grant Shed also features a large 6m x 18m lean-to (undercover verandah).

"With winemaking and vintage, and fermentation, we needed this space under cover. Then we put in a mezzanine floor as well, and underneath that, we've put in our bottling line."

We are storing our dry goods, cartons and a few spare bottles up the top, out of the way, to keep it nice and dry. We've also insulated to maintain a reasonable temperature for the barrels and for the wine."

David notes stable temperature is important for the wine storage, with the ideal temperature below 25 degrees.

The Shed is Excellent

"Shed quality is excellent (design and workmanship).

Service all the way through from meeting Brenton at the field day (because he took me seriously) has been great.

Installers were the best.

- No-nonsense blokes
- Accuracy was excellent
- No time wasted
- Very organised and helpful
- Very quick work."

**David Dreckow
Mordrelle Wines**

ne Label With A URE AHEAD

"It'd be nice if it was a bit lower, so we might even do some things like install sprinklers on the roof for those extremely hot days but the insulation has done the job well so far.

We're thinking if we need to, we'll end up dropping an insulating curtain down where we put the barrels, so we've got an area that's a bit more sealed than what the rest of the shed is."

As for their experience with Grant Sheds, David says from beginning to conclusion, it was a smooth and simple process.

"It was jolly good. Right throughout the whole process, it was just amazing. Easy, uncomplicated.

"Grant's gave us the information to decide what we needed to do.

The drawings were good, the information was good, the prices were good, and we were very impressed with the installation."

David notes Grant Sheds also worked with the family to improve the design and shed positioning along the way.

"We didn't want to cut down too many trees because we want to take advantage of the shade as much as we can as well.



The new Mordrelle Wines boutique wine-making shed where grapes will be pressed, fermented and bottled.



"Then it just made it a bit easier for work area and flow through, and the current design will probably help us to extend if we need to in the future."

Already the label has an impressive local following having received numerous accolades in the local industry. Their original vintage received a silver medal in the museum category at the Adelaide Hills Wine

Show, and this year received a gold medal and trophy for their Barbera from Langhorne Creek.

David notes in the future they may further expand production and also look to developing a cellar door. In the interim, Mordrelle Wines is a local business gaining rapid recognition with a bright future ahead.



The lean-to added to the front of the Mordrelle Wines shed has become even more useful than they first expected, so it's been a welcome addition to the original design.

Shed Design



The main shed is 12m x 18m x 5.1m with a 6m x 18m lean-to.

The main shed has 4 x 4.5m wide sliding doors (behind the tractor in the photo above) which gives wide and easy-access into the shed.

The addition of the 6m wide lean-to, along the length of the shed, provides an additional undercover area to give additional protection against wet weather in winter or penetrating heat in summer.

The shed is insulated to maintain a reasonable temperature for the stored wine inside.

An area of mezzanine floor was installed to achieve the most efficient use of space and provide storage for some of their consumables (dry goods, cartons, bottles etc).



We Welcome New Members To Our GRANT SHEDS FAMILY

We are delighted to welcome the following people into our "Grant Sheds Family". As you can see our members (shed buyers) come from a broad geographic area and buy a wide range of shed types. And there are lots who have bought multiple "Aussie Tough" Grant Sheds over the years. I've marked those in blue and with a red asterisk *. The number of 'Grant' sheds they've had is in blue brackets (). It's quite amazing to see how many repeat-buyers we have and just how many sheds they've bought. Do you think that's because they are delighted with their Grant Sheds experience?

We thank you all sincerely for your ongoing faith in our sheds and in your relationships with us.

Strong Sheds, Great Builders, Building Relationships, Communication and Service. That's what we do.

*Ed Neumann (3)	Mundulla	Hay Shed	18m x 32.4m x 8.2m	Joe Medaglia	Dareton	Machinery Shed	9m x 7.2m x 3.6m
David Heinrich	Coonalpyn	Hay Shed	15m x 18m x 4.5m	*Neil Klingner (4)	Crystal Brook	Hay Shed	9m x 19.05m x 5.1m
Kym Martin	Watervale	Machinery Shed	15m x 30m x 5.1m	*Sam Venning (3)	Lameroo	Machinery Shed	12m x 15.24m x 5.1m
Mark Lynch	Ouyen	Machinery Shed	12m x 18m x 5.1m	Davin Goulden	Paringa	Garage	6m x 6m x 3m
*Richard Harkness (3)	Tintinara	Machinery Shed	10.6m x 14.4m x 5.1m	Peter & Jackie Schulz	Loxton	Machinery Shed	15m x 48m x 5.1m
*Clare & GV Council (2)	Tarlee	Fertiliser Shed	7.5m x 9m x 2.4m	Angove Winemakers	Renmark	Verandah	4.8m x 7m x 4.9m
Patrick Ross	Lucindale	Hay Shed	9m x 18m x 4.2m	Tim Lawrie	Baramera	Machinery Shed	12m x 34m x 5.1
Jim & Janey Thring	Robe	Machinery Shed	9m x 14.4m x 4.2m	*George & Pat Gum (2)	Pinnaroo	Garage	7.2m x 10.4m x 3m
*Ian Newbold (2)	Yankalilla	Hay Shed	15m x 24m x 5.1m	Josh Dowdy	Binnun	Machinery Shed	12m x 27m x 5.1m
*Peter Ruston (3)	Balranald	Machinery Shed	11.2m x 28.1m x 5.1m	Paul Wiencke	Paringa	Garage	7.5m x 10.8m x 3.6m
Gary Cockshell	Loxton	Garage	8.5m x 6m x 3.6m	*Phil & Sandy Kernich (11)	Keith	Garage	10m x 21.6m x 3.6m
Nick Pratt	Penola	Machinery Shed	12m x 36m x 5.1m	Michael Chigwidden	Clare	Machinery Shed	15m x 33m x 6m
Charles & Edward Dolling	Wokurna	End wall addition		Wayne Lee	Broken Hill	Machinery Shed	7m x 20m x 4.2m
Barry Sweetman	Renmark	Garage	6m x 10m x 3.6m	Andrew Prior	Hampden	Hay Shed	12m x 24.3m x 6m
Jim Sangster	Willalooka	Machinery Shed	15m x 18m x 5.1m	Lee Williams	Mundulla	Machinery Shed	9m x 18m x 3.6m
Ian Carr	Willalooka	Hay Shed	12m x 16.2m x 6m	Rohan Scott	Ceduna	Additions to Existing shed	
David Pendle	Renmark	Machinery Shed	12m x 18.2m x 4.2m	James Starling	Wangolina	Fertiliser Shed	7.5m x 12m x 2.4m
John & Shelly Selga	Renmark	Industrial Shed	6m x 18m x 3.6m	*Glen Harris (4)	Kingston OM	Machinery Shed	12m x 18m x 4.5m
Rodney Mengel	Strathalbyn	Garage	12m x 15m x 4m	Mark Clothier	Flaxley	Hay Shed	9m x 21m x 5.1m
*Stuart Scholz (5)	Wudinna	Fertiliser Shed	7.5m x 15m x 2.4	*David Rasheed (3)	Kingston SE	Hay Shed	15m x 24.3m x 6.3m
Peter & Sue Morris	Kingscote	Machinery Shed	12m x 27m x 5.1m	Bruce Cameron	Loxton	Garage	6m x 12m x 2.4m
*Ashley Rowe (5)	Ardrossan	Machinery Shed	9m x 30m x 3.6m	Trevor Preston	Hampden	Hay Shed	12m x 22.5m x 5.1m
*Sid Boulton (3)	Werrimull	Machinery Shed	9m x 18m x 5.1m	Ian Mudge	Telowie	Bulk Grain Shed	15m x 30m x 6.3m
Mike Stanfield	Waikerie	Verandah	3.6m x 7.5m x 3.3m	Jordan Wilksch	Yeelanna	Hay Shed	30m x 32.4m x 9m
Seb Townsend	Padthaway	Machinery Shed	12m x 27m x 5.1m	Jeremy Boddington	Binnun	Machinery Shed	20m x 24m x 5.1m
*Geoff Flight (2)	Loxton	Machinery Shed	12m x 15.24m x 5.1m	*Graham Mee	Taylorville	Garage	7.5m x 12m x 3m

Note: The shed numbers listed in () above are going by our computer records. Given Grant Sheds 67 year history, it's quite possible our numbers may be lower than truly correct. If you know you have more Grant sheds than listed, please give us a call to update and correct if for us. Thanks

If you would like the same pleasure and peace of mind, let us help you plan your new farm shed. Phone us on 1800 088 528



69% bought a 'Grant' shed due to their own past experience or the experience of someone they know and trust in their advice.



40% = Existing Grant Shed owners buying from us again.



29% = Referrals from existing Grant Shed owners & people who have always known of Grant Sheds.

That makes us very proud of what we do and also grateful to you for putting your trust in us to build your new Aussie-Tough shed.

Thank You



Ideas To Help You With Your FARM SHED SOLUTIONS

**FREE
DELIVERY**

**For Sheds Ordered
Before 31st August**
Up to 300km from Monash
Pro rata rates beyond 300km
*Conditions Apply

MAKING HAY

Season by season and generation-by-generation, our company has had the privilege of guiding a great many farming family enterprises in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales – agriculturally and financially. And of course these days, you can't separate the two.

Inevitably some degree of change is part of the process. We rarely encounter any operation that cannot benefit by challenging 'the way it has always been done'.

It's not a panacea – but one of the steps we have been recommending to traditional broadacre farmers is to think about development of a hay enterprise, complementing their grain growing. And we have encountered surprisingly little resistance to the idea. Because in many cases, it makes very simple sense.

Some of the potential benefits of hay production for broadacre farmers are:

- Improved crop rotation = greater net productivity
- Diversification of income streams = risk management. There are reasonably reliable domestic and export markets for fodder
- A good head start in weed control management, especially given resistance issues
- Ability to switch from frost affected crops or those that might be failing due to a dry spring, where hay can provide a substantially more profitable (and predictable) income
- Ability to attend to hay production in the (relative) downtime prior to the grain harvest.

There is usually some element of cost in any risk-mitigation strategy and in this case it's erecting one or more hay sheds, which is why I am writing in this magazine.

We have seen farmers opt for hay caps and then see the value of their crop heavily diminished by rain and discolouration. Our view is that you do not minimise risk by taking another risk.



**"If you're going into hay production,
your first investment should be a hay shed"**

A hay shed will:

- Avoid the cost, work and risk involved in using caps
- Keep your product safely stored, such that you can choose to sell when pricing is best, typically in the winter months
- Conversely, be paid storage fees by exporters who buy your crop on spec as they wait for the right moment to sell
- Create efficiencies. You have your product in one spot and ready to be assessed and go, rather than scattered. This makes life easier for buyers = competitive advantage and repeat business.

We often have heard exporters say words to farmers to the effect of, "I am happy to buy your hay provided that it goes straight from the paddock into your shed or ours." They don't want surprises and generally will pay a premium for convenience, and confidence in the quality of your offer.

Sure, it's not for everyone. But for many enterprises, hay production is a great leveller and leads to greater confidence. That's the rub. With confidence you can steadily move forward and grow. You might not win the lottery that happens when all the stars happen to align, but you surely sleep better at night. So maybe consider making hay while the sun shines, and even if it doesn't.

Ian Dodgshun

Managing Partner, Dodgshun Medlin

DODGSHUN MEDLIN
LAND BUSINESS LIFE

Dodgshun Medlin guides the rural enterprise and personal wealth strategies of farming, industry and other commercial interests throughout a broad sweep of country Victoria, South Australia and well beyond.

See www.dodgshunmedlin.com.au

**NEED OR WANT
A NEW SHED
BUT DON'T HAVE
ACCESS TO THE
FUNDS REQUIRED?**



In the past, finance companies haven't been keen to finance sheds without taking some form of real estate security.

However new options are now available that may allow you to finance your new shed without the need for real estate security.

Finance is a topic that is not easy to give plain and simple advice for in one article here.

Your own personal requirements really need to be considered so that advice can be tailored to your specific circumstances.

If you wish to investigate finance options when investing in a new Grant Sheds farm shed or commercial building, let us know.

We have a great contact in the finance industry. He's a country boy at heart too, with his own rural properties, so he understands farmers.

He is one of the most switched-on finance brokers we've met and can find you competitive rates and finance over varying terms, to suit your requirements.

His company has assisted clients within all industries including agriculture, transport, earthmoving, aviation, aquaculture, wineries – in fact for any industrial sheds used for commercial purposes.

If this is of interest to you, let us know and we'll put you in touch. Then you'll get the best advice and the right finance solution for your new farm or commercial shed.

Avoid Grain Harvest Time Delays & Hassles Increase Your Profits

On-farm Grain Storage Sheds Allow a FAST storage of grain at harvest time. This reduces stress and allows you to get your crop off quickly.

Discover how your **NEW FARM SHED** can pay for itself

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"How Switched on Farmers Make More Money with Their Sheds"

Visit www.grantsheds.com.au/moneymakingfarmsheds/

Or phone **Freecall 1800 088 528**
And ask for the
Money-Making Farm Sheds Info Pack

It includes real life stories on how savvy farmers are using their sheds for both farming and financial gain.



FREE DELIVERY

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Up to 300km from Monash
Pro rata rates beyond 300km
*Conditions Apply



This 20m x 60m x 5.1m Grain Shed is one of many Grant shed investments made by Andrew & Annette Cass when they owned their Loxton farm, before retiring. They were keen advocates for on-farm, in-shed grain storage.

MONTHLY HUMOUR



Circumcised

A teacher noticed that a little boy at the back of the class was squirming around, scratching his crotch, and not paying attention. She went back to find out what was going on.

He was quite embarrassed and whispered that he'd just been circumcised and was quite itchy.

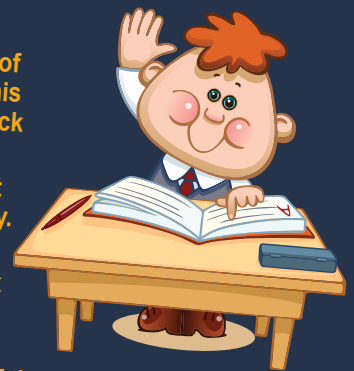
The teacher told him to go to the principal's office. He was to telephone his mother and ask her what he should do about it.

He did this and returned to class.

Suddenly there was a commotion at the back of the room. She went back to investigate only to find him sitting at his desk with his penis hanging out.

"I thought I told you to call your Mum!" she said.

"I did," he replied "and she told me that if I could just stick it out until lunchtime, she'd come and pick me up from school!"



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