

Gidge Gossips February 2017

It has certainly been an interesting year so far with 104mm of rain in January and 85mm in February so far. The Wooroloo and Equitus Brooks are flowing and even came up to our bridges at their peak. That is higher than in the winter. They are still going strongly and the paddocks are green. Not sure how long that will last if we don't get follow up showers. Strange summer and no doubt it will present its problems with summer weed. Another big problem is colic in horses. Our greediest mare has hoovered up the green as it appears and inevitably when I went over to feed them in the morning, there she is baring of teeth, pawing of ground and not eating her breakfast. Early stages but time to ring the vet and ask for a visit. It's amazing with animals how plans for the day go out the window and they do it so well.

Yearling sales next week and the numbers of entries are down. Unfortunately with a "buyer's market" for several years a lot of breeders have bailed out. The returns aren't there. This is a shame as there are some terrific stallions coming into the State. We have three lovely foals for next year's sales and here's hoping that markets will have turned for the better. An enormous amount of time, effort and money goes into breeding a good yearling and quite a big dash of love and commitment as well.

Anyway we are enjoying a lovely green, magical, Gidgegannup at the moment. All the trees look as though they have had a wash and are sparkling instead of dusty and tired.

The Movie night at the Rec. Club was rained off and is now rescheduled for Saturday March 11th with a double header – Secret Life of Pets and Hunt for the Wilder people. It is great to see the Rec Club putting on a range of events as well as their Friday night sessions.

Telecommunication problems throughout Gidge, possibly not helped by the rain. Many land lines out and this puts a pressure on the mobile service. Thank goodness the fire risk is not great at the moment. When nothing else works get in touch with the Telecommunications Ombudsman <https://www.tio.com.au/>. They have managed to sort out a few problems for people.

The roadworks have caused some angst as well but these will be completed by the end May 2017 with hopefully a final lot of improvements to junctions next year. Worth it for a safer road. We have now slipped down the list of "dangerous roads" and that is great news.

When seeking information about Gidge try checking out the community website www.gidgegannup.info or the Gidgegannup Community page on Facebook. Huge amount of information on both those sites.

Good to see the Shell now open for business and welcome to Gidgegannup it's great to see you. Interesting how new businesses are opening up in Gidgegannup and adding to our community. Look forward to the new Medical Centre opening later this year. It is interesting to note on Rowe Group's website their blurb about the expansion of the Gidgegannup Townsite and their rationale for development –

“Gidgegannup Townsite has a longstanding rural community, however, in recent years it has seen a slow decline in services and facilities offered within the townsite. The decreased service offering, combined with an aging population, places the existing community at future risk.”

Well we don't seem to be doing too badly. Even the oldies have a bit of life in them!!!

Congratulations also to the Agricultural Society for “making it happen” and getting on with improvements to “Burgo's Bar” and working with the City for other improvements to the Showgrounds. We are extremely fortunate to have areas such as the Showgrounds and the Recreation Grounds and Reserve for our community and the fact that they are protected for our use for many years to come.

And now for our joke and apologies, it is not the best – so send some in to me:

George, the farmer, had so many children that he ran out of names. So he started calling his kids after something around his farm.

It was the first day of school and the teacher asked each child their name. When he got to one of the farmer George's sons, the boy replied, 'Wagon Wheel.'

The teacher said, 'I need your real name boy, to which the lad replied, 'It's Wagon Wheel, sir....Really.'

The teacher, rather annoyed rejoined, 'All right young man, take yourself right down to the Principal's office this minute.'

The youngster pushed himself out of his chair, turned to his sister and said, 'C'mon, 'Chicken Feed', he ain't gonna believe you, either.'