

I am one of those people who have always boasted I have only been in hospital once in my life since I was born. Be careful what you say as I found myself in St. John of God Midland Emergency department for 12 hours and then in ICU for two days. Then down to RPH. My own fault I would say as I ignored symptoms and didn't realise I was ill. Good lesson to learn. So I can't walk on water and had better realise that. Can't thank all the medical staff enough and be in awe of their dedication and professionalism. Gave my husband a shock as well and he has been amazing. Big thank you to everyone and I will try not to do it again.

Interesting year this as we have not had so much rain as last year (about 630mm so far) but the pasture growth has been extraordinary here. Just as well we have so many cattle. Kassie has been extremely busy and we have all these very cute little black calves running around. Glad they are here as we really need to get this place eaten out as soon as possible.

The better half has been flat out mowing and now into the firebreaks. Unfortunately I am behind on the garden with all my recent excitement. It will all get straightened out soon though. Cricket has started so that replaces the void created by the end of the AFL season.

Western Power are getting the summer well under way with a 22 hour power cut (there was a storm), followed by a 5 hour one the next evening. Then a 4 hour outage and a three hour outage. Hope they haven't switched over to their super sensitive system again as there could be a revolution by the end of the year. Unfortunately the mobile phone towers go out as their back up batteries just don't last. In an area with very poor land line coverage this is unacceptable. Telstra have offered to cover half the cost of providing a generator for the townsite tower which kicks in automatically whenever the power goes. Unfortunately haven't been able to get either Federal or State Governments to match this. Not good in an area such as this. Any ideas where we can source \$50000 gratefully accepted!

There are lots of events coming up with Christmas approaching so remember to check out the facebook pages – lots of information there.

Didn't make the Show this year but hear it was the best ever and thanks to all the people involved in putting the Show on. It is a tremendous amount of work and we are very fortunate to have such dedicated people on the Committee. For a small community we manage to put on two large events a year, the Show and the Field Day. Some effort!!

A very merry Christmas to all of you and a seasonal joke!

One particular Christmas season a long time ago Santa was ready for his Christmas run... but there were problems. Four of his elves got sick, and the trainee elves did not produce the toys as fast as the regular ones so Santa was beginning to feel the pressure of being behind schedule. Then Mrs. Claus told Santa that her Mother was coming to visit. This stressed Santa even more. When he went to harness the reindeer, he found that three of them were about to give birth and two had jumped the fence and were out, heaven knows where. More stress. Then when he began to load the sleigh one of the boards cracked and the toy bag fell to the ground and scattered the toys. So, frustrated, Santa went into the house for a cup of coffee and a shot of whisky. When he went to the cupboard, he discovered that the elves had hid the bottle and there was nothing to drink. In his frustration, he accidentally dropped the coffee pot and it broke into hundreds of little pieces all over the kitchen floor. He went to get the broom and found that mice had eaten the straw it was made from. Just then the doorbell rang and Santa cursed on his way to the door. He opened the door and there was a little angel with a great big Christmas tree. The angel said, very cheerfully, "Merry Christmas Santa. Isn't it just a lovely day? I have a beautiful tree for you. Isn't it just a lovely tree? Where would you like me to stick it?" Thus began the tradition of the little angel on top of the Christmas tree.