

FARM GATE NEWS

Written & Published By

GRANT SHEDS

SEPT - OCT 2016

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER TO INFORM AND ENTERTAIN YOU



Happy Anniversary

FARM GATE NEWS



What Makes Country Life So Good? ...

Framing for 2 large Grain Sheds on the way to Ryan Sldwill in Ungarie, NSW

COMMUNITY

Who Likes The Dentist

Certainly not Ali! I've had enough dental treatments, particularly as a kid, that I'm in the category of the vast majority that just plain don't like dental visits. But I also know they are necessary.

My dentist is in Adelaide and I recently needed a chipped tooth repaired. Danny insisted he'd drive me down even though I assured him I'd be OK. But he knows that on one visit, I'd struggled with driving home. It was after a root canal treatment. I was in terrible pain when the anaesthetic wore off, and I'd had to stop on my 3 hour journey home to buy fast-acting panadol and wait 20 minutes for it to take effect.

This, he said, was why he insisted he'd drive me down this time. He wanted me safe. He wanted to do this for me. Gosh but I'm lucky to have such a good man...

So, I had my 45 minute dental appointment. All good. When I asked Danny what he'd done while he waited, I finally found out his real reason for taking me down.

He'd just been to a Golf Shop and bought himself a new set of clubs!!!

Gotta laugh though ... he could have just said that's what he wanted to do.

In honour of men who play golf and the lengths to which they'll go to get out more often, I've dedicated the jokes section on Page 8 to Danny!!

5 Year Anniversary FARM GATE NEWS

This Sept-Oct 2016 edition of FARM GATE NEWS marks our 5 Year Anniversary of publishing it. When we surveyed our readers some time ago we received overwhelming feedback that it's being enjoyed by our readers.

"Even better than Stock Journal," one person said. Sorry Stock Journal, you're a South Aussie institution, but I think newspapers no longer have enough stories about "real" people and it seems that's what is enjoyed most about FARM GATE NEWS.

And why do we do it?

We are country people just like you and we recognise that country communities are dwindling and that sense of knowing everyone in your district is also changing.



We came across this fox-laden farm fence near Yapeen, south of Castlemaine, in central Victoria. Apparently, like the Brim silos, it is attracting hundreds of visitors each week. I stepped out of the car to take a photo and was almost set back with the stench but was able to hold my breath to take a quick snap. While this display may offend a few animal activists, it does highlight the fox problem this farmer and others are having.



Ali & Danny in front of the amazing artwork that depicts four local farmers on the Brim silos in Victoria. We visited around 4pm on a winters day and the late arvo sun on the painted silos lit them beautifully.

With this magazine our aim is to reconnect people... give you other people's stories and share country news and useful information.

Many readers already know and understand our background, but for newer readers, turn to page 8 to learn more about us.

Of course, we add info about farm sheds. You wouldn't expect anything less and we get great feedback when we include articles about shed designs and layouts ... why people like the shed they've chosen. It helps others make shed decisions of their own.

"What bloke doesn't want to dream about his next new shed?"

Please let us thank all of the people who have allowed us to interview them and share their stories in our little magazine over the past 5 years. Your stories are the heart and soul of each edition.



Ouyen's wall mural depicting the early days of the settlement.

Road Tripping Victoria

We had to travel to Ballarat and Melbourne twice in the past few months. Since we love road-tripping around this great land of Oz, we were delighted to travel through Victoria in the late winter months.

With rain-washed green paddocks, mild weather and enjoying each other's company, we enjoyed a few days away immensely. We highly recommend that even just a 'long weekend' away from your farm business can replenish your energy reserves.

It was on one of these trips that we called in to visit and interview Steve Millar at Nandaly (between Sealake and Ouyen). His farm story is on page 5 of this edition of FARM GATE NEWS.

As always ... enjoy a short break to read this edition of FARM GATE NEWS and sing out if there's anything we can do to help you with your new shed needs.

Cheerio
Ali & Danny Halupka
Owners - Grant Sheds



You Little Ripper LOCAL AUSSIE LEGENDS

BEAT THE PRICE RISE
Order Your New Shed
Before Friday 14th
October TO SAVE

Fire Helpers Are Legends

Pinery Fire

The devastating Pinery Fire is now well in the past for most people who were not affected by it. But for those in its path, the endless tasks of re-establishing farm: crops, livestock, homes and lives, is an ongoing battle.

In this edition we've included a personal experience from Alan Harris at Tarlee. Turn to page 4 for that story. I think this photo by the old ute says so much.



The sign says it all. Thanks Fire Fighters and all the other helpers.

Thanks to everyone who helped out in any way to help this farming community recover. Fire fighters, water bombers, local Councils, emergency services, Blaze Aid, volunteer organisations, cash donors, sandwich makers, neighbours, family, friends... the list goes on.

Your Help is Genuinely Appreciated.

Grants For Pinery Fire Damage

Grant Applications Close 4/11/16

Eligible primary producers in the council areas of Clare and Gilbert Valleys, Light, Mallala and Wakefield can apply for funding through the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Assistance Grants programme. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to primary producers who suffered direct damage as a result of the Pinery fire.

The grants are intended to provide short-term, targeted assistance by reimbursing clean-up and reinstatement costs that are not covered by insurance.

Applications close 4/11/16. Fact sheet and application form here www.pir.sa.gov.au/pinerygrant

Or call the Hotline on 1800 182 235 (toll free), or phone the PIRSA Pinery Bushfire Recovery Facilitator on (08) 8207 7847.

Steel Prices Set To Rise By A Massive 7%!

This rise will be on iron, galvanised C & Z section purlin that is used for shed framing, roof purlins and wall girts. So it's a **Mighty Big Rise** on the cost of your new farm shed.

Most shed companies will require buyers to pay the full value of their shed in October, before your shed is even delivered. And then make you take delivery immediately, even if you can't build it yet. Then it will sit in your yard, with high likelihood of weather damage, until you can get it built.

However, we're different. **Order Now - Pay Later***

Order your new shed now from Grant Sheds, pay a deposit and the balance won't be due until you're ready to have your shed delivered.

Naturally there are some limits. But within the next 6-12 months will be OK.

But you don't have long... **Sheds Must Be Ordered By Friday 14th October To Take Advantage Of This Offer**

*Conditions Apply



Local Farmer's Garden Open

Renmark Rose Festival - October 14-23

Grain & sheep farmers, Sandy, Phil & Chelsea Kernich, will have their 'Burrundi Acres' homestead garden open for visitors during this year's Renmark Rose Festival.

The garden, near Yamba, just east of Renmark, is full of colour. It has a huge variety of plant forms and has an array of features from old farm implements, vehicles, old fence posts & wire, metal garden art and water features including a dry creek bed that actually runs when it rains!

I highly recommend you visit as Sandy has an amazing skill in garden design, though she'll likely downplay her artistic flair. Blokes will enjoy the visit too as it's a garden of wide variety.

14 gardens will be open during Rose Week.

Download the program to check the open days other gardens and events.

www.RenmarkRoseFestival.com



Burrundi Acres Open Garden Days October 2016, 10-4pm
Friday-Sat 15-16
Tue-Thu 18, 19, 20
Fri-Sat 22-23



Phil, Chelsea & Sandy Kernich. Yes, that's one of their nine Grant sheds in the photo at bottom left!

Pinery Blaze Highlights FARMER RESILIENCE



An example of hay shed fire during Pinery Fire of November 2015, not at Alan Harris' farm.

"It's one of the biggest jobs of my lifetime...but we're getting there."

Tarlee farmer, Alan Harris, discusses his experience with the Pinery Fires of 2015. The green around his new 12m x 27m x 5.1m Grant Sheds Machinery Shed hides the devastation of his bleak summer months.

Alan and Trish Harris will never forget November 25, 2015. It was the day the Pinery fire tore through their Tarlee property, destroying sheds, machinery and partially burning their home. Alan counts himself lucky in the aftermath of a blaze that claimed two lives, destroyed 91 houses, scorched 82,600 hectares of land, and laid waste to \$40 million of fodder and grain within a space of hours.

Alan explains, "It wasn't all that hot. It was just a nasty wind. And now, with modern farming techniques, it's all big paddocks, and once it gets in the corner of a paddock, it's 300 acres before it gets to the next paddock...which is the same thing. There's no break in between of grazed out paddocks or fallow or anything. Nowadays, it's just one big paddock virtually."

At its peak the fire travelled at 80km/h with a front that stretched 40 to 50km.

It rapidly changed directions, destroying up to 800 acres a minute.

Fire crews could barely get close, at times aerial bombers could not be used for smoke and it left the community of South Australia's mid-north reeling in its wake.

For Alan, the warning came the night before when the Country Fire Service instigated a total fire ban, but little could he envisage the devastation that would come.

"We were told it was going to be a bad day so we stopped harvesting about midnight. I left the header in the paddock with the fire unit standing beside it. It just turned out a dirty day. About 11am we saw smoke about 35km to 40km away, and within three hours it was here."

At the time the fire was taking hold Alan was in Roseworthy on his way home.

"I decided it looked too dangerous to travel north, so I stopped there and by the time I got home it was all done anyway."

Travelling back he was amazed at the intensity and unpredictability of the blaze.

"There'd be a patch not burnt, and then another tongue would go through. I nearly got home and I thought 'Oh yeah, we're all right'. But then when I turned off the main road I could see smoke in the house yard and I thought 'No, we're not all right'."

Although Alan's property was on the edge of the front, the fire destroyed sheds, machinery, fencing and grain crops. It also travelled into the yard destroying the garage and part of the house. Luckily, the blaze cut through his sheep paddock but avoided the corner where his stock were sheltering. It also missed his shearing shed full of wool awaiting sale.

Alan explains within days the community had rallied and was rebuilding. His insurance assessor was onsite within 48 hours, while the neighbour helped get the house back in order and opened his home for showers and barbecues. He also suggested Grant Sheds for rebuilding.

Alan chose to combine the insurance from his three sheds to purchase two new sheds from Grant Sheds:

1. 12m x 27m x 5.1m Machinery Shed, that is open on one side with 3 x 9m beams, (our most popular farm shed) and
2. 7.5m x 9m x 3.3m Garage.

**Beat The 7%
Steel Price Rise**

Order Before October 14th

To SAVE

12m x 27m x 5.1m

Machinery Shed with 3x9m beams

\$27,914 ex factory, inc GST

With Added Bonuses

Valued at up to \$4200

*Conditions Apply

He is delighted with the experience.

The farm shed was erected by the Grant's team, while Alan built the garage himself.

"It's been a big load off our mind, because you know the sheds is only one portion of the problem. We had to eye and assemble the tillage equipment to concentrate on getting the crop in the ground for a start. And fencing, we had 15 kilometres of fencing to do. You have to get the boundary fence done so you can contain your stock and all that sort of thing. It's one of the biggest jobs of my lifetime I suppose."

As the rebuilding continues, Alan remains philosophical.

"The secret I've found is that, all right, we've lost a lot, we've saved a percentage, and we've got to concentrate on what's left and move on...You know the sun still comes up in the morning and it's another day."

Blaze Aid Volunteers Appreciated

Alan asked us to recognize the invaluable assistance of the volunteer organization "Blaze Aid" whose members assisted with clearing 240km, and replacing 80km, of damaged fencing. Their efforts boosted morale of fire affected farmers and was a wonderful contribution to all communities affected by the Pinery Fire.

Diverse Farming Requires CAREFUL MANAGEMENT

At Nandaly in the Mallee Country of central Victoria, the Millar family's association with Grant Sheds goes "back a few years". They bought their first Grain shed almost 20 years ago, a Machinery Shed in 2006 and most recently they had another Machinery shed erected by Grant Sheds.

The three sheds cater to the diverse needs of the growing farm, which is run by Steven and his parents, Darren & Joan. In total their holdings span 17,500 acres and span a 50km stretch, with the top end being 30km from Ouyen and the south end being 15km from Sea Lake. 16,000 acres is dedicated to grain and legumes this year, with the remainder either chem fallow or grazing only with a small flock of sheep.

"We've got a fair mix," Steven explains. "Obviously, the traditional wheat and barley make up a fair proportion of it. We've stuck with a little bit of canola, and then we've got basically lentils, chickpeas, field peas, and we do a lot of vetch hay."

"Mum and Dad still play a fair role in it, more in the stock side of things. They've got a few sheep running around and we've started feed-lotting lambs. I do the cropping and then I've got a couple of workers as well."

Crops are rotated with two years of cereal followed by a year of legumes to maximise yield. During harvest time the grain is carted to the local co-op, but when things aren't busy on the farm, the Millars also run trucks, carting grain in bulk to Geelong or Melbourne, and spot loads to the local area.

"Basically the trucks are just for moving our own product.

"We've been able to pick up a lot of markets just because we can deliver grain, when they want it."

Sheep have also been a worthwhile investment. After harvest, lambs are brought in to feed on the stubble before moving into the feedlot around April. There, they are fattened up on seconds grain, hay, straw and F1 barley before heading to market. Commanding up to \$209 per head, Steven notes "lamb prices are pretty handy at the moment."

While the diverse nature of running stock, growing grain and carting means multiple income streams, it hasn't been without its hiccups. Marketing their own grain leaves the Millars open to the business forces of the grain trade.

"There's been a few grain traders go broke over the last few years," Steven notes. "We were lucky



Danny from Grant Sheds with Steven Millar at his Nandaly farm in Victoria, with the Millar's two Grant Sheds Machinery sheds in the background.

enough we only lost one B-Double (worth of grain)."

With a value of over \$13,000 per load, Steven says the experience could have been a lot worse.

But overall, the benefits of selling their own grain outweigh any negatives. An additional bonus of having their own trucks is they can store crops like lupins, and then transport it when prices spike. "The main aim at harvest time is just to get the grain out of the paddock."

This is where the grain shed has been invaluable over the years.

Lupins are stored in the open-ended Grain shed, with concrete barriers erected to allow the Millars to fill a section depending on the crop size. The balance of the shed is used for vehicles.

Steven agrees most years you can pick up extra income by storing the grain. "If you can afford to sit on it and you are not pushed for cash flow then the grain storage gives a higher and constant cash flow though the year."

And after almost two decades use, the Grant Sheds quality build and customer service brought the Millars back to Grant's for their most recent addition of a Machinery shed, measuring 30m x 15m x 6m. That's 20 years of Grant's association with yet another growing farm.

The Millar's have invested in 3 large Grant sheds:

12m x 21m x 5.1m Grain Shed
12m x 24m x 4.8m Machinery Shed
15m x 30m x 6m Machinery Shed



Steve's 4 Important Tips To Avoid Getting Stung With Grain Trader Insolvencies

1. Talk to your neighbours - Ask about their experience with any traders you're using or considering
2. Watch for alarm bells - Slow payments, making excuses for not paying on time etc.
3. Listen to your gut - If you are feeling uncomfortable with a trader, take notice of it.
4. Be wary of backyard and small grain traders

Even if you are not a grain farmer, this wise advice is just as relevant to whatever you are producing and selling. It always pays to see how information in a story (even if not your exact farming type) may still benefit you.

BEAT THE PRICE RISE
 Order Your New Shed
 Before Friday 14th
 October TO SAVE

So Many Good People In Our FARMING COMMUNITIES



We've recently heard that hundreds of thousands of dollars in unclaimed Australian Barley Board share dividends belonging to local farmers and former ABB employees have been listed in the State Government Gazette.

The list, published on March 10, 2016, showed about 1000 names owed money from ABB share dividends that were never claimed. The amounts owed vary from about \$10, up to almost \$160,000 to a Balaklava resident.

We thought we'd bring it to your attention here so you may be able to check the list for any unclaimed funds for you, your family or friends.

If left unclaimed, the money ends up in State Government coffers ... and you wouldn't want that if it's yours... would you? The ABB list of unclaimed money is published here: http://www.governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/documentstore/2016/March/2016_015.pdf

I had a quick look at this link and can see a number of names of people who receive our FARM GATE NEWS on the list so it would be worth a quick check if you or any deceased family members may have held ABB shares. Check also for company names.

If you look at the document that the link takes you to, the Gazette index shows that the "Unclaimed Monies Act 1891" starts on page 872. But the PDF document only goes to P160 and the unclaimed monies starts on P30.

To claim money still with ABB, a company now owned by Viterra, contact Computershare Investor Services on (08) 8236 2300 or 1300 850 505

Romance in Arno Bay



Probably hard to believe, but this photo is inside John Masters Grant shed.

John is from Arno Bay and sent us this photo of his shed all dolled up for his & wife Mel's wedding reception.

They've since extended the shed and he says they could fit another 100 guests now.

So we're waiting for an invitation to your next party John!!?

Does anyone else have photos of shed parties or unusual uses?

Field Day & Farm Visits



Trevor Bottrill, Monash SA bought his 4th Grant shed and I think he has some old ones as well.



Mason Siviour, Cowell, SA called in to see us at the Eyre Peninsula Field Days after buying a new shed.



Brian Smith, Nundroo near Ceduna was at the EP Field Days. His shed is 15mx30mx6.3m shed with 2 leantos



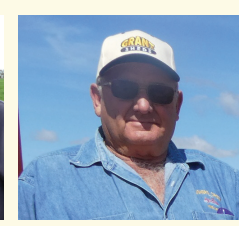
We visited **Ben Davey** at Kadina earlier in the year. His 12m x 25m x 4.8m shed may be in our next edition.



Andrew Whitehorn, from Koolunga in the mid north SA, here with son Benjamin purchased his 4th hay shed this year.



Sue & Newton Lines of Wasleys invited us to lunch when we visited to interview them. Their story will be in next edition.



John Trezise from Renmark visited us at the Riverland Field Days recently.



Tony Trezise also visited and has just ordered a new machinery shed for his Renmark property.



12m x 27m x 6.3m Machinery Sheds
 Two of the three identical sheds that the Byrne Group of farms & vineyards purchased. Each has 3 x 9m wide bays for easy access for wide machinery or for hay storage.



Ideas

To Help You With Your

FARM SHED SOLUTIONS

BEAT THE PRICE RISE
Order Your New Shed Before Friday 14th October TO SAVE

Beat The 7% Steel Price Rise
Order Before October 14th To SAVE
Prices listed are ex factory, inc GST
With Added Bonuses Valued at up to \$4200
*Conditions Apply



\$29,594
Only until 14/10/16

12m x 36m x 5.1m Hay Shed

Andrew Whitehorn at Koolunga SA chose this open both ends hay shed for storage of different hay types from each end.

Features: Open Both Ends. Ideal for storing hay from each end or easy drive-through for your long machinery combinations when not filled with hay.

FAST TAX DEPRECIATION RATES ON SHEDS FOR FODDER STORAGE

Farmers and other primary production businesses can still claim accelerated depreciation on sheds used for fodder storage.

This includes Hay Sheds, Grain Sheds, Silage Sheds, Sliding Roof Sheds used for stock feed and sheds used for storing stock feed for any other stock (eg. cattle, pigs, chickens, goats, alpacas and other stock animals that are part of a farming business

Primary producers can deduct the cost of fodder storage sheds over just three years, instead of up to 50 years previously. Importantly, these measures are available to all farmers, not just those who are classified as a small business. And there is no restriction on the value of your purchase on these sheds for fodder storage.



If you would like to discuss these new Tax Depreciation Rates for Fodder Storage Sheds, please contact **Ben Trengove**, Agribusiness Specialist at William Buck Chartered Accountants and Advisors on **(08) 8409 4333**.



*Please seek independent accounting advice to check the status of this information and your own specific circumstances.



\$31,853
Only until 14/10/16

15m x 27m x 6m Machinery Shed

The Millar family of Nandaly, Victoria chose this design because they like open ended sheds.

Features: Open One End Machinery Shed gives easy and very cost effective, 15m wide end-access for wide farm implements while the length of the shed is great for long vehicles and farm equipment.

You can see here that the grain auger takes up the full length of the shed and their harvester comb or trucks are usually parked in there as well.

** Note: Price shown is for 27m long shed, not 30m
If used for hay storage, this shed qualifies for **Fast Tax Depreciation***



\$28,384
Only until 14/10/16

Approx 554 tonnes grain storage capacity

12m x 21m x 5.1m Grain & Machinery Shed

Another Millar family shed. This Multi-Purpose Shed is always working for them. It's the "full time" benefits that makes it a great investment.

They use their Grain shed for temporary grain storage at harvest or longer term storage of lupins. It can also be used to protect farm vehicles and equipment when not full of grain.

While the up-front investment is greater than a straight-forward Machinery Shed, the fast tax depreciation currently available on grain storage sheds and its dual purpose ability make it a great investment right now.



Above: At the opening of his new Glossop factory in 1964, Grant Telfer with daughter Jenny, wife Margaret and parents Doris & Reg Telfer.

The Grant Sheds story started way back in 1952 when Ali's dad, Grant Telfer, started the company.

You might not know his name, but most people do remember the 5-acre Monash Adventure Playground he built here in Monash SA over a 20 year period from around 1970-1990 (see photos below).

So many families had fun on the 200-plus pieces of playground equipment he added over the years. It was free to enter all day, every day and had slides (including 3 that were on a 45' tower, spiral slides, helter skelters, etc); more than 30 types of seesaws, flying foxes and even basic roller-coasters. It attracted more than 300,000 people a year from right across SA and interstate.

Sadly it had to close in the early 1990's when insurance companies saw playgrounds as high risk.

Anyway, Dad retired in the early 1980's and now Danny and Ali own the business, after working in it for many years (Ali 36 years and Danny 31 years).

We're also proud to say that our efforts haven't gone unnoticed. Ali was nominated and then won the Riverland Women In Business Award and was a finalist for the SA Telstra Business Women Awards in 2004. It was our unique relationship building with customers that helped secure those achievements. I tell you that not to brag in any way, but instead so you know a bit about our 64 year history, not just in supplying strong farm sheds, but also to show you that we really do love to give back to our community and are proud of our country background and our caring, helpful and friendly natures.

The Grant Sheds business has gone from strength to strength and we always understand that helping other people makes life, and business, fun and rewarding.



45' tower with Figure-8 slide, Long Straight slide and Wide and Bumpy slide



1989 Melanie Harrington (our daughter and now our admin person) with her 'Pa' Grant Telfer



1992 Danny & sons Tony (top) and Brenton on the Tarzan Rope Swing



1992 Melanie (centre) & Brenton (hanging off the side) of a Rotary Cone



1982 Danny & Ali's wedding photo at Monash Playground.

MONTHLY HUMOUR



Our jokes this edition are dedicated to GOLF.

Explanation of why is on page 2 in the "Who Likes The Dentist" section.



"You have fits of rage, followed by temporary spells of euphoria, all within several hours. Are you, by chance, a golfer?"

When I was your age . . .

Brenton loved golf. One day he arrived at a golf course hoping for a tee time, and the starter asked if he'd mind making up a twosome with another golfer, an older man (Danny) who had thinning hair and a greying beard. Brenton couldn't say no, and they both teed off and started down the fairway.

To Brenton's pleasant surprise, his partner was a reasonable golfer, and they played a close game. When they got to the 18th tee, Brenton saw a tall pine tree standing directly between him and the green.

"You know," said the older man, "when I was your age, I'd just tee up and hit my ball right over the top of that tree."

Brenton took it as a challenge. He selected his club, teed up, and slammed his ball hard and high. The ball rose into the air, then hit a branch, ricocheted off the trunk, and flew right back to land not three feet from where he had teed off.

"Of course," said Danny, "when I was your age, that tree was only 12 feet tall."

Golf

A man was walking down the street when he was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless man who asked him for a couple of dollars for dinner.

The man took out his wallet, extracted ten dollars and asked, **"If I give you this money, will you buy some beer with it instead of dinner?"**

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago," the homeless man replied.

"Will you spend this on green fees at a golf course instead of food?" the man asked.

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless man. **"I haven't played golf in 20 years!"**

"Well," said the man, **"I'm not going to give you money. Instead, I'm going to take you home for a shower and a terrific dinner cooked by my wife."**

The homeless man was astounded. **"Won't your wife be furious with you for doing that?"**

The man replied, **"That's okay. It's important for her to see what a man looks like after he has given up drinking and golf."**