



Around the ridges and a bit beyond

Issue Number 70 **OCTOBER 2009**

A community and school newsletter.

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Please Note: Cut off date for contributions 15th of every month.

Farewell to Shirley and Robert White.

This month Shirley and Robert White will move to Yeppoon after over 40 years together in the district. In this time they have generously given of their time, labour, tools and equipment to help various community organisations. As Shirley said the only community organisation Robert wasn't in was the CWA and he would have needed a skirt for that!

Robert was born in 1943 in Rockhampton and at three years of age moved with his parents to the dairy farm, Hern Hill, Ridgeland. After helping in the dairy each morning he had only half an hour for a wash and to walk or ride his bike to the Calmorin State School. Those were the days of hand milking, seasonal milking and cream supply. In the holidays he cut scrub with his father. After completing scholarship schooling he worked at home and at The Caves, went dam sinking and like many local men, went cane cutting. In the off season he worked at the sawmill and even tried pineapple picking but in a long sleeved shirt, trousers, gloves and boots – it was too hot! While working at The Caves for his uncles for 18 months, Rob met Shirley at the local dances and tennis club.

Shirley was born in June 1945 in Rockhampton and at seven years of age moved to The Caves where her father worked as a contractor hauling logs for the Hinz Sawmill. After completing scholarship at The Caves she took various baby-sitting jobs from Duaranga to Rockhampton as well doing some house cleaning. They married on July 19, 1965 and Shirley's mother said "Where your husband is, you have to be: so if you come home I'll send straight back." Robert worked 12-14 hour days at the Mackay sugar mill and in July it was so cold that Shirley rarely left the caravan. Snow was recorded at nearby Eungella.

On returning to Rockhampton, Robert worked for Shirley's father hauling logs. Geoffrey was born in 1967 when they were in Bundaberg loading cane. In 1968 they went home to help Robert's father on the dairy. His father passed away 10 years later and his mother stayed for 2 years before moving to Rockhampton. It was then that they bought the farm and were milking 60-70 cows in a walk-through dairy and irrigating with pipes and growing their own grain. The family was growing – Carol was born in 1969, Lee 1971, Toni 1975 when electricity and bulk milk came to Ridgeland, and Emma was born in 1983. Rob soon put in a traveling irrigator and an eight-sided herringbone dairy was built in 1987. In 1990 there was a terrible set back when 45 cows died unexpectedly. Milking ceased for six weeks until there was an understanding of the cause of death. It was botulism. A carpet snake had died and was picked up by the grain auger therefore contaminating the feed. Without financial assistance, they bought cows from everywhere and started milking again.

In 1968 Robert joined the Ridgeland Rodeo Committee and The Tennis Club. Both Shirley and Rob enjoyed their tennis and Rob was soon helping with court maintenance. He carted water from Ridgeland Creek to water the sandy loam courts and later helped with concreting the courts. Some of the men including Rob served so hard that they left black marks on the new courts.

Robert was vice-president of the Ridgeland and District Rodeo and Show Association Inc for 3-4 years and has been President for the past 4 years. He has been involved in the continued rebuilding of the yards from timber to steel and in

Dressmaker Gloria Bills Ph 49341125 or 0438 341125
AUCTIONEER Richard Thomson Ph 49271308 or 0438345928
Auto Electrical Laurie' Auto Electrical Ph 49221195 or 0407756046
Batteries Battery World Rockhampton Ph 49229022
Butcher Norm Milner Campbell St Ph 49276616
Cabinet Maker Timber Merchant N Watkins Ph 49 341 243
Celebrant Marriage and Civil Jill C Fry JP Qual Ph 4934 1444
Carriage for Hire Weddings Formals Kelly Bush Ph 0407 162 156
Electrician Possum Power Ian Nicholas Ph 49345116
Earth Moving Tipper Excavator Bobcat - Kelly Bush Ph 0407 162 156
Earth Moving Truck Bobcat ++ Greg Thompson Ph 4934 5587
Earth Moving Truck + Bobcat Hire Geoff Estreich Ph 4934 5958
Equestrian Showdown Rugs Sheree Abotomey Ph 1300900964
Farm & Livestock Rocky Feed & Seed Gladstone Rd Ph 49227307

the installation of an NLIS crush. Rob recalls bringing 6x4 timber from the old wharf in Rockhampton to build yards for the rodeo. Shirley refers to the toilet block at the showgrounds as the 'Rich White House' after George Richards and Robert White who were TAs for the builder Ross Houston! Robert also joined the Ridgeland and District Sporting and Agricultural Association Inc at their inaugural meeting in 1978.

When trying to work out how long he had helped in the bar for the Race Club, Rodeo committee and later the Show committee, he remembered walking out of the bar to take Shirley to the Hospital to be induced for Emma's birth. Then he came home and milked the cows. That was over 26 years ago!

In all their community work Shirley and Robert's only wish was to be home with a little daylight to get the cows in the yard. They would milk in the dark before going back to help at the event.

One of the most memorable occasions on the dairy was when rain fell in the area around Hern Hill. It was a 'town day' and someone mentioned there was rain at Ridgeland but driving home they thought that person was dreaming until they reached Ridgeland Creek – it was over and water was coming through the decking on Young's Bridge on Calmorin Road. The water was running everywhere from there to Hern Hill – Shirley thought, "No milking this afternoon." Robert and Emma went down to check the irrigation pump, which was OK as the rain had fallen where it caused only run-off below the pump. Getting back to the dairy proved to be a challenge; the cows had started to move off through the water that was about two to three feet deep so Robert held onto a cow's tail with one hand and Emma with the other hand. All arrived safely at the dairy. Shirley wasn't impressed because she had fed the calves and was headed home when she realised the cows were coming and would have to be milked after all.

Shirley respected and lived her mother's words and Shirley and Robert's combined community involvement will be greatly missed when they decide to 'let go'. For now, they will make the trip from Yeppoon to support the district they have generously supported for over 40 years together - longer for Robert as a single man here.

Robert said referring to Shirley, "Behind everyman there is a good woman, and this is mine". Robert's personal secretary just smiled.

We wish Shirley and Robert every happiness in their new home and in the next stage of their life.

Thank-you for the opportunity to put this brief story of your life together.
– Jenny Reeve

RECIPE CORNER

Butterscotch Cupcakes

With cream cheese frosting

125g soft butter
1/3 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup golden syrup
2 eggs
2 cups SR flour
½ cup sour cream
½ cup milk

Preheat oven to moderate, 180 C

Line a patty pan with paper cases. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, cream butter, sugar and syrup. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition.

Fold in flour alternatively with combined sour cream and milk, beginning and ending with flour. Spoon into paper cases. Bake for 20 – 25 minutes.

Frosting: In a small bowl, beat cream cheese and icing sugar together until smooth. Spread over cooled cakes. Top with crushed nuts if desired.

Frosting:

250g cream cheese softened
1½ cups icing sugar

Mechanical Repairs

Robo's Motorworks
Wandal
ph 4921 0200

Nurseries

Fitzroy Nurseries
Pink Lily
ph 49272388

Mechanical Repairs

Robo's Motorworks
Wandal
ph 4921 0200

Office Supplies

Sisley's- Denham St
Rockhampton
ph 4927 6177

Painter & Decorator

Interior/exterior
M & S McQuillan
ph 4934 5560

Pest Control

Amalgamated Pest
Control
ph 4921 4255

Pet Shop & Supplies

PJ's Pet Barn
Nth R'ton
ph 4928 0299

**Post Office, Fax
Photocopying etc**

Wandal PO
ph 4927 2101

Real Estate

Ray White Rural
Suzy McNamara
ph 4933 3309

Ice Cream Van

Gloria Bills
Ph 49341125 or
0428341125

Gifts

Australian Country
Living
Ph 49280088

October BIRTHDAYS
Fiona Petersen and Greg Dyer

Wedding Congratulations to CAMERON MCLEAN and DEANNE WEST for their wedding on 17th October being celebrated at the McLean home.

Ridgeland's SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to those students who received reward for the efforts at the Redback parade this term. After a long term it is great to see the efforts being rewarded. Well done Ethan, Connor, Jacob, Keallan, Kaitlyn, Joel, Laura and Lauren on your Redback rewards. The other pleasing aspect was the roll up of parents who came to watch the students being presented with their award.

Last week I attended a meeting with contractors, engineers and architects, to discuss the construction of the new Resource Centre at the school. Engineers and other pre-construction contractors will be completing ground assessments over the school holidays. Once this process has been completed and the plans are signed off, we are expecting construction to start in the early part of 2010. A draft plan of the building is available for perusal at the school and any suggestions for minor changes are sought prior to the final plans being drafted.

Finally as the school holidays approach, I would ask for those in the community to be vigilant of activity in the school grounds. Just last week Rockhampton schools were again targeted by vandals and thieves, causing damage to school buildings and property. If you notice any suspicious activity please contact School Watch on 13 17 88 or the school mobile on 0429 552 362.

Brad Carlson Principal

Ridgeland & Districts Sporting and Agricultural Assoc News

New office bearers for 2009/2010:

President: Robert Bishop, Vice Presidents: Stewart Jones & Kevin Pearce
Secretary: Dianne Bull; Treasurer Leonie Thompson.

Library News TumbleBooks- they're fun, fabulous, and best of all..

free! TumbleBooks is a hot new database specially for children available via the Rockhampton Regional Library catalogue and access portal. Listen and watch ebooks online, read a review, write a book report and play games. All you need is a library card to access this great resource. Recent releases include *50 Below Zero Word Search*, *Matthew and the Midnight Tow Truck*, *Mud Puddle*, and *Scaredy Squirrel Makes A Friend*.

Contact your local library - Rockhampton city 49368265,

and Berserker St Nth Rockhampton 49285800.

Correction for Business Directory: KELLY BUSH Excavator Hire & Horse Drawn Carriage
Ph 49341261 MOB: 0407 162 156

**Please take your rubbish to the refuse stations and don't
throw your cans and takeaway packaging out on the road**

Real Estate

Ray White Rural
 Geoff McNamara
 ph 4933 3309

Tanks

SW Kele - precast
 Concrete grids etc
 ph 4927 4505

Tyres

Robo's Tyreworks
 Wandal
 ph 4922 2702

Upholstery

Strop's Upholstery -
 motor, marine etc
 ph 49272137

Mechanical Repairs

Robo's Motorworks
 Wandal
 ph 4921 0200

Veterinary

Capricorn Vet Surgery
 Rockhampton
 ph 4927 3688

Veterinary

R'ton Vet Clinic
 all hours
 ph 4928 4266

Water Services

Bell's Water Supplies
 Drinking & Stock
 ph 4933 1752

Water Services

McCracken's Pumps
 & Irrigation
 ph 4922 3680

Hay & Fodder

Delrosa
 Ph 49341135 or mob
 0418 155 819

**Mechanical Repairs
& RWC etc**

Cliff Munro
 Ph 49224882

SCOUTING -SOUTH Rockhampton Group

Boys and Girls for new members are welcome.

Three nights FREE trial.

Warripari Den – 31 Eton St:

Joey's 6&7 yrs will restart when we have a leader

Cubs: 8-10 yrs Wed 5.30-7pm contact Betty Hite ph: 4926 3034

Cubs: 8-10yrs Thurs 5.15-7pm contact Tom Upton Ph 4933 2780

Cubs: 8-10yrs Fri 5.30-7pm__contact Tom Upton or Jeff Roder
 0402597050

Scouts 11-15yrs Thurs 6.30-8.30pm contact Daniel Sos ph 0438751609

Venturers 15-18yrs contact Steven Kydd Ph 49285028

Rovers 18-26 yrs contact Steven Kydd

Group Leader Gary Murray Ph 49212542 - For all section and leader enquires

Never look down on anyone unless you are helping them up

Riddle: Why is O the loudest vowel? – all the others are 'in *audible*'

Polocrosse and Sports Club News

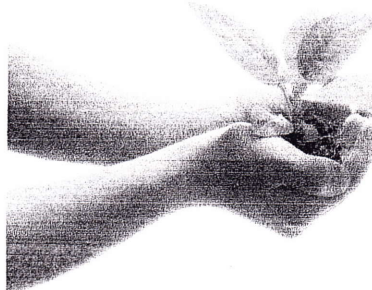
The Alton Downs team travelled to the Polocrosse Championships final at Oakey near Toowoomba on 5th and 6th September. Unfortunately these were cancelled due to heavy rain Friday night. (lucky them). The teams have done very well this year.

Alton Downs Polocrosse team and Calliope team have been invited to play a demonstration game on Yeppoon's Main Beach on **October 11th – Sunday** morning for Pine Fest. Please come along and support them and enjoy the day there.

There will be NO CHRISTMAS CAROLS at the Polocrosse Grounds this year as there is so many other activities on.

AUSTRALIA DAY 26th JANUARY 2010 events and celebration will be held at the Club so keep that afternoon and evening free for family fun and games.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RIDGELANDS STATE SCHOOL FOR
 Winning Best School Garden
 Prize: \$250 Sponsored by Fisher's Nursery**



WHAT' S ON

Indoor Bowls

held 1st Saturday of every month at Alton Downs Hall all welcome.

Alton Downs Hall Committee

Sid Hoare is the booking officer for Community Hall. 49341147.

T Hoare Ph 4934 1493

J Chippendale 4934 5120

Alton Downs Hall Dances

24th October, 2009

Please note date change

Commencing at 7.30pm

Music by Man in Black

Phone Joyce 4934 5120

Tom 4934 1493

Date Claimer

Licensed Christmas

Karaoke in aid of

Ridgeland's Hall Funds.

Saturday, 5th December, 2009.

6.30pm at Ridgeland's Hall

SEE YOU THERE

NOTICES

For Sale

Nissan X-Trail

October 2005, ST, 2.5Ltr

Approx 87,000kms 5

speed manual Bullbar,

spotlights, new tyres.

RWC and rego

\$19,900 ono

Ph: 07 4934 1119

Mb: 0429 341 119

Please leave a message.

For Sale

Border Collie pups(male)

Proven working parents,

both part of contract

mustering team.

Sire "Marty" top scored

into final Ag-Grow

working cattle dog trials,

2009 and finished second

in Open plus won both

Maiden and Novice.

Full brothers and sister

can be seen working

cattle. \$300 each

M & K Williamson

4934 5104

For Hire.

Chairs for hire for

functions. Contact the

Ridgeland's State School

P&C.

Phone: 49345518.

Alton Downs Fire Brigade.

Emergency Number is 000.

Fire permits must be applied for **48 hours** prior to burning off.

For permit contact your fire warden.

Free to Good Home

Collie/Cattle dog X

2 males; 3 females

12 weeks old

Wormed & vaccinated

Assortment of colours

Mother has good

temperament, ideal

working dog.

Ph 4936 8893 (AH)

0458 406839

Alton Downs Polocrosse & Sports Club

BAR OPEN

Friday Nights

MEETINGS

QCWA

Ridgeland's Branch meets

9.30 am 1st Wednesday of

month

Stitch and Chat Group

Meets 9.30am

2nd & 4th Tuesday of

month. QCWA room

All welcome

Phone: 49345120

Show Meeting

Tuesday 13th Oct, 2009

7.30pm

Morinish Landcare Field Day

Strathmure, Marlborough

October, 14th 10.00am

Topic: Bellyache Bush

Fitzroy Northern Area Ratepayers Meeting

Ridgeland's Hall

November 2nd, 7.30 pm

All welcome

The Faraday Rural Fire Brigade AGM and Ratepayers Meeting

will be held at Ridgeland's

Community Hall on

Friday 6th November at

7.30pm. New volunteer

members are always

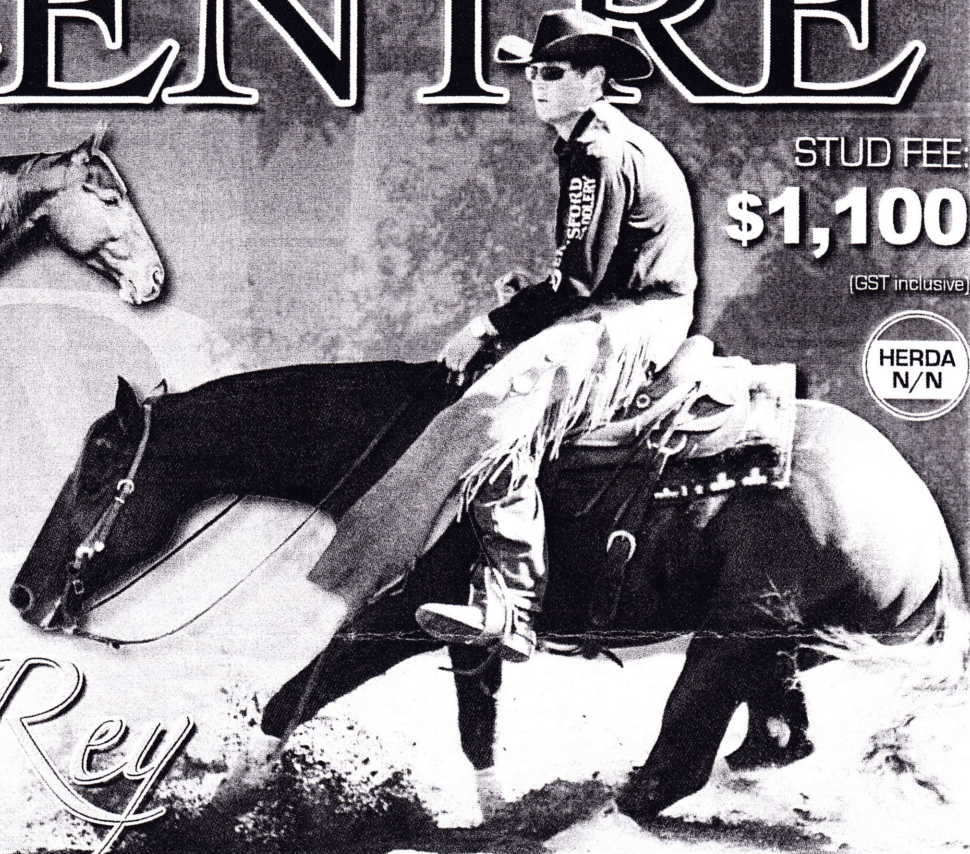
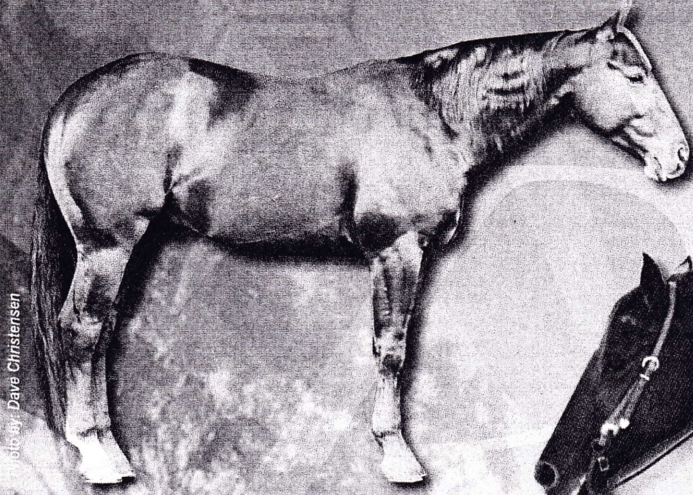
welcome

AI CENTRE

STUD FEE:
\$1,100

(GST inclusive)

HERDA
N/N



ARTISTIC *Rey*
Dual Rey (U.S.A.)
ARTISTIC REY
Docs Artist

Alton Downs - Rockhampton

- will be accepting mares to AI to outside stallions, safe facilities. Mare care second to none, close to airport for semen pickups, experienced equine vets.

Peter & Marg Dunn
ALTON DOWNS 4702 Rockhampton

Phone: 07 4934 1304

Mobile: 0427 588 320

F: 07 4934 1305 • E: idunn@mrbean.net.au

STUD FEE:

\$1,500

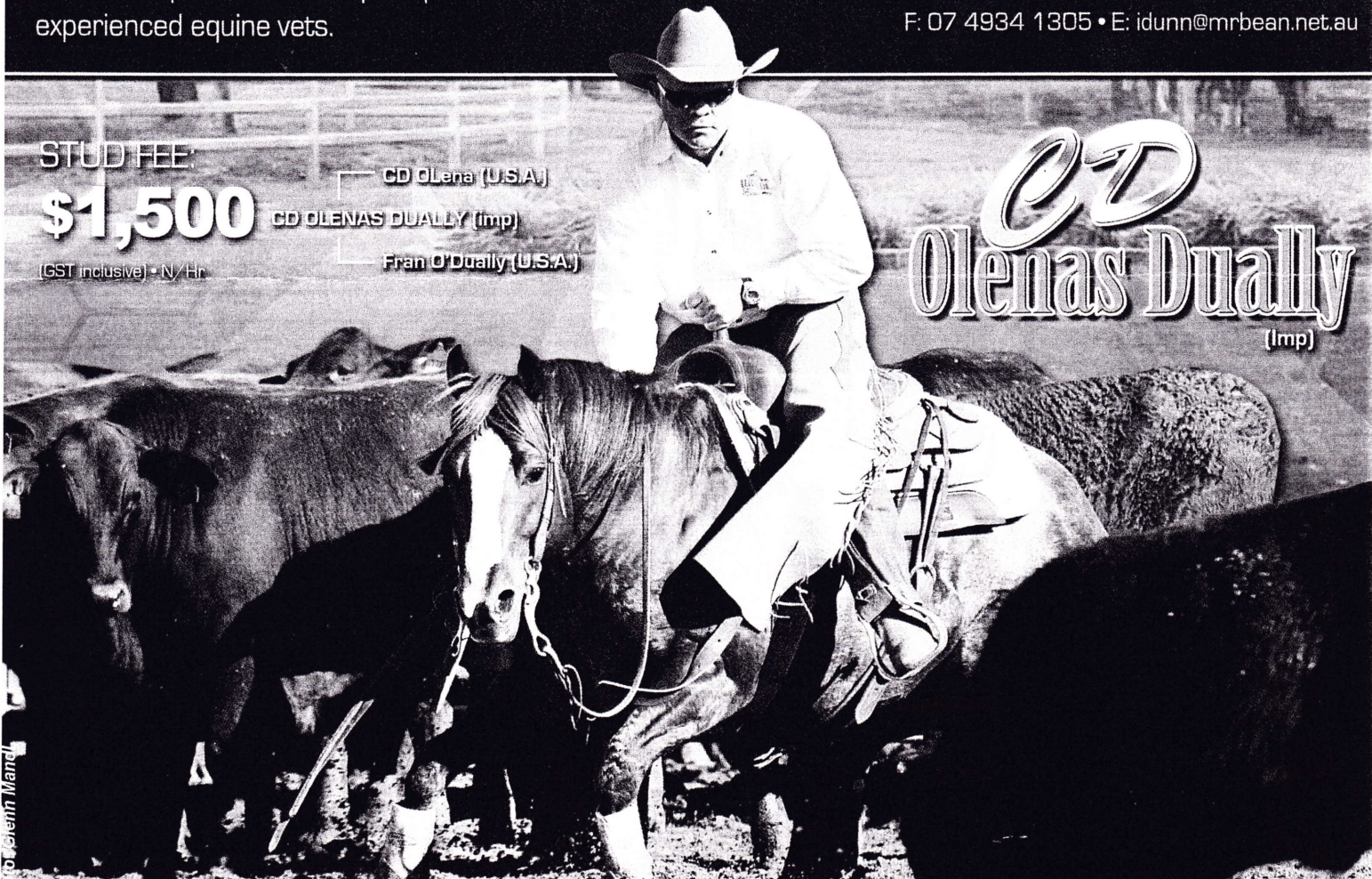
(GST inclusive) • N/Hr

CD Olena (U.S.A.)

CD OLENAS DUALY (Imp)

Fran O'Dually (U.S.A.)

CD
Olenas Dually
(Imp)



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