PROPERTY CONDITIONS AND NEWS

RAINFALL REPORT

On Friday 14th February 45mm of rain fell gently. This is the biggest rainfall event in two years. Over the last two years we have only had 50% of our normal rainfall, so conditions are extremely dry again.

STOCK REPORT

In January we mustered, weaned, treated and preg tested. All weaners have been sold along with cull cows. 440 PTIC cows are in Nooran.

We have de-stocked heavily due to the ongoing dry conditions.

The addition of a cover over the main workplace at the cattle yards was greatly appreciated by the workers this year - a much needed improvement. Steel was purchased at clearing sales and iron from the woolshed and other structures were utilized.

New cover on yards

CAMPGROUND FIRE

On 1st February a lightning strike started a fire in the campground. We had had over 10 days of above 40 degree temperatures and that day was 47degrees.

Quick action by Mick and Sue Hanna averted what could have been a disaster. We were able to contain it with our fire truck until trucks from Oxley Station and Tupra arrived. Boyong also arrived with their loader and two further trucks from Maude and Hay to completely dowse the fire burning in logs and the tree canopy.

Attempts to save Norm Quick's hut proved futile and it was apparent that the focus had to be on the rest of the campground. Unfortunately, we ended up losing Norm's hut, which is disappointing but it could have been a lot worse – another 15-20 minutes and the whole campground would have been ablaze.

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CAMPGROUND FIRE (cont.)

Norms' hut

We are grateful to our neighbours and the Hay Rural Fire Brigade who were all very responsive and helpful. Luckily our fire truck was full of water and fire ready. Mick and Kate purchased the fire truck for themselves some years ago. The Hay Rural Fire Brigade have thanked us for being pro-active in having some equipment on hand.

Cleaning up

We can't stress enough the importance of insurance. Norm advises to make sure you all have ample cover. This is attainable through **Robert Sturzaker.** Norm's hut is the second claim which has been paid out on. The first one was tree damage to a hut.

These are the risks that we try to avoid by carrying out tree lopping and clearing of the campground. There is always more to do, it is ongoing, but it is worthwhile for everyone's safety.

The aftermath

NEW MANAGERS' HOUSE

The new managers' house started the building stage on 3rd February in the middle of the extreme heat event and is progressing well.

Tess waiting to move into the new house

EASTER 2014

Toopuntul is again gearing up for another action packed Easter Program!

GOOD FRIDAY (18th APRIL)
Social Clay Target Shoot
- Commencing approx 1.00pm
- Cost: $20.00/head

Fish BBQ (at tin shed)
- Commencing approx 6.30pm
  - BYOG and chairs
- Cost: Adults $15.00/head. Children $5.00/head. (No charge for small children)
  - meat available for non fish eaters

IMPORTANT: Please let Kate know numbers and preferences by **Friday 11th April** for catering purposes

EASTER SUNDAY (20th APRIL)
Family activities
    Easter Egg Hunt, Games, Colouring Competition and Duck Race
Volunteers needed:
1. Organiser for easter egg hunt
2. Organiser for games
3. Organiser for colouring competition

(Please let Kate know ASAP if you are able to help)

Evening Fireworks at the airstrip
    If you wish to attend, please deposit your donation (if you have not already done so)
Social gathering in the evening at the tin shed (BYO everything)

Easter Camping Fees Reminder: Shareholders -$40/family (*Those with or without an allocated site including partner with own children under 21 years & own grandchildren under 16 years*).
Guests -$70/family (*Includes own children under 16 years*)

USING YOUR SMARTPHONE AS A GPS @ TOOPUNTUL

Did you know that most current smartphones, such as Iphones and Android phones can be used as a GPS with Google map display, even if you don't have mobile coverage – such as at Toopuntul?

You will need to do some work before you arrive – and this is best done on wifi or with good mobile coverage. The process is as follows to be able to load the maps of Toopuntul:

1. You must have Google Maps installed as an application, and GPS enabled

2. Open Google Maps, type Toopuntul into the search box, select Toopuntul Road, Maude – this will zoom to a point halfway along the road, north of the Airstrip

3. Click on the menu and select Satellite to show the satellite imagery of the map area. You need this as it will show many of the tracks, none of which show on the general map data.

To then download this imagery, you need to move around the map to the various parts of the property – zoom in just enough to be able to see major tracks. You will have to download every section of the property individually, so don't go in too close, or your phone will run out of storage.

Once you have a reasonable area covered that you can see enough, tap on the search box, which will open a menu, at the bottom of that menu click on the 'Make this map area available offline'. This will download and save the map.

Move to the next section (keep a little overlap) and do the same. Repeat until you have the whole property downloaded.

Then, when you are at Toopuntul, open Maps, and the system will automatically display the saved imagery and show where you are, even if you have no mobile coverage. You can zoom in or out.

If you need help, get your home tech support (kids) to do it for you.

Help info is here: https://support.google.com/gmm/

TOOPUNTUL WEBSITE – www.toopuntul.com.au

There are now a series of sections for Shareholders in the secure section of the website. The login system has had a few issues lately but is now fixed.

Once you have logged in you can see the page (left), which has information on all aspects of the camping fees and requirements, plus photo galleries.