

JUMBUCK NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 1

March 2011

Tribute to Sandy

The year has started with an enormous low for the Maclachlan family with the death of Alexander Hugh Maclachlan- "Sandy" - the sixth child of Hugh and Fiona. He was living independently on the Gold Coast, studying agriculture when he died on the 13th January 2011, at 37 years of age and what follows is in part an excerpt from the eulogy delivered by his siblings at his funeral.

He spent his childhood growing up at "Glen Devon", attending Mt Pleasant Primary School and then further education with six years at boarding school in NSW and Victoria.

As a child he had a vivid imagination which often involved military activities and he was something of a pyromaniac- he loved setting fire to things!

He had travelled overseas and always had a unique ability to get to know local people and his travels were often more of tales of the people he had met than the things he had seen.

He was kind, gentle and thoughtful, always there with an encouraging word when people were feeling down or in difficulty. One of his greatest assets was his beaming smile which could light up a room.



Sandy, Callum and Jock MacLachlan

He was fortunate to have parents who nurtured him until the day he died. They both pushed and cared for him but never accepted laziness or excuses. They were a wonderful combination for him.

His big heart, infectious smile and endearing spirit were always a big part of family gatherings and his lovely demeanour to nieces and nephews was very special.

He was not only a brother and great supporter - but had spent much of his working life on company stations. Notably Mt Victor (with Jock), Madura Plains (with Ted Grabovac), Lake Everard (with Harry Palmer) and for a long time at Glen Devon (with Richard Hentschke) and it is worth sharing an amusing story of Richard's which made us laugh:

"Every now and again Sandy would ring up and say – "Rich, we have a small problem", it might be that a tractor and feed trailer had gone down a steep hill sideways and couldn't be shifted except by the big tractor from the mine! But it was only ever a small problem. Although if his father, brothers or myself had an incident such as leaving woolly sheep in a paddock at shearing time or getting bogged it was always a major 'cock up' and in Sandy's words "you should have known better".

Throughout his life and now in his death, he has taught us many things. Above all he teaches us about true courage and stoicism, in the way he faced his challenges in life, and however tough they were he rose above them. He never gave up searching for ways to get more out of life.

He remains an inspiration to those who knew him. For one who was dealt a rough hand from a young age with health and learning difficulties, he made the very most of what he had, and regardless of the fact that he suffered many setbacks in life, picked himself up off the canvas many times and soldiered on. Much loved, he will never be forgotten.

Callum and Jock

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MD's Comment

The first three months of the year have provided some very welcome relief to parts of the country and in others resulting in the best seasonal conditions seen since 1974. Further to this, the wool market has met uncharted territory with an inevitable supply squeeze forcing prices up and the merino back in favour.

Sheep prices are also peaking at all time highs with the recent Jamestown sale on March 17 bringing unprecedented prices with \$216 for cull ewes, \$137 for 7 year old ewes and \$115 for last year's wether lambs. We have more going into the April 14 sale and hope prices can be maintained.

Congratulations to **Daniel McCready** ex-Meda on winning "employee of the year" for 2010 - he is \$1000 better off as a result! Dan started work in the stock camp at Meda last year. He is a conscientious hard worker who digs deep when things get tough, uses his initiative to get things done. We look forward to seeing him back again for the 2011 mustering season.

The winner of our photographic competition was **Tarna Rogers** of Mulgathing who received a prize of a full outfit of RMWilliams clothing and hat. Well done to her with a lovely photo of some of the crew there loading a wool truck. Her photo can be viewed on the website.

With this being the first newsletter for the year, we hope that 2011 is a prosperous and safe year for all at Jumbuck, staff and their families.

Callum and Jock
Ω



Gary Tapscott, Callum and Henry MacLachlan and Greg Foster at the very successful March market in Jamestown.

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Blina / Ellendale

Not unlike many other parts of Australia, Blina has had a massive wet season. We are still experiencing monsoonal activity as this goes to print. We received 350mm through October, November and December; followed by 800mm for the calendar year to date. Consequently we are still unable to access most of the station by road, with plenty of surface water still all over the entire run. We have been unable to get the mustering season underway as of yet.

Cattle look in good condition, with little buffalo fly annoying them. However the feed is well and truly rank and many areas of blacksoil waterlogged. Substantial burning off will be required to facilitate fresh pasture. This will mean that our weights of sale cattle will be down a bit. However we have secured contracts at record prices for our early turn off steers and cull heifers, which will go a long way to improving our bottom line.

A new season has brought many new faces to Blina. We sadly farewell Boreman **Mick Green** and his partner **Heidi Chick** who have returned to New South Wales. In two years Mick has done a huge amount of work involving extensive repairs to watering systems and the installation of new infrastructure. His skills, work ethic, and loyalty will be sorely missed. **Heidi Chick** had developed into a vital part of the stockcamp, and made her mark on Blina in bringing along a string of colts that will be coveted plant horses in the years to come. We wish them the best of luck.

The **Hallen** family have returned from holidays to Ellendale outstation, and it will be good to have **Andy** running the waters again on the Ellendale side. (Once he can drive around again). **Andy** has been busy over the wet with major maintenance to plant

and machinery and ongoing repairs to the house at Ellendale.

After a year in the stockcamp, **Andrew** "It didn't look that deep" **Bates** has been promoted to Boreman at Blina and we wish him luck in this role. **Andrew's** boiler making skill were put to extensive use by management over the wet season with many, many packets of welding rods, cutting disks and oxy bottles going by the wayside. **Andrew** is looking forward to the country drying out so he can swap his welding mask for a set of stillsons and a trough broom.

We were very lucky to have **Jason Deacon**, formerly of the Blina Oilfield, come to join us. As an auto electrician and mechanic by trade he has come in very useful over the wet season and assisted by **Andy Hallen** and **Andrew Bates** has done a phenomenal amount of work on the mechanised plant at Blina. It is now up to us to keep it that way. We welcome 2011 Headstockman **Cameron** "No; that was already broken" **Brown** from NSW, Stationhand **Casey Schmidt** who has come further west after two seasons in the Territory and from across the Tasman we welcome **Nicole Buchannan**, and **Mandy Trevathan**.

We also have three recruits from the WA Ag school presentations conducted last October; **Blake Robinson**, **Mick Thorn** and **Luke Longford**. We also welcome back **Lauren Vaughan** for her second year at Blina. **Lauren** seems to have caught the bug that makes it hard to leave the Kimberley. Rattling the pots and pans this season is **Marion Eastham**, from Victoria- who is growing accustomed to the snakes! Luckily Housekeeper and the real boss of Blina, **Mandy Kain** has decided to return for another season at Blina for fear that we will let her much improved gardens fall into disrepair.

Last year's Grader Driver, **Stu Jones** has been down at Bulgunnia assisting with shearing over the wet season and we are extremely grateful to have him returning to Blina later in the month. So is the manager of Woolworths Liquor in Derby, with Carlton Dry sales being down 70% over the wet season! It will be fantastic to have Stu back on the machine, which has received a major overhaul, in 2011.

The wet weather has caused some interesting times at Blina, with stores and parts having to be floated across the swamp for most of the Feb, March and April. All new staff this year were floated in as well, with plenty of false crocodile stories and high jinks to boot. Most of the Kimberley highways have been cut off at some stage this year, with freight, stores and bus services all being interrupted. It has also been hard to get to the pub.

We also lost all communications north of Broome for around ten days with damage to the fibre optic cable. This gave management some well earned respite from Head Office. **(and vice-versa!)** Being basically confined to the homestead vicinity, we have been

able to address some projects that have fallen by the wayside in recent years. The monstrosity of the Blina metal dump has been hand sorted, stacked and cleaned up; which provided us all with some intensive boot camp style pre-season fitness carrying steel, bore column and windmill parts all over the place.

Hopefully the country will dry out again before long, and we will be able to run the horse plant in, belt some shoes on and get amongst the mustering. Till next time.

Matt Wood

Ω



Oscar Range



Andrew "It didn't look that deep" Bates was trying to get back to Blina, after a day off, when he drowned his car in 600mm of water.

Ω

Bulgunnia

The year 2011 has begun with very good rainfalls. Early in January we received a very tidy 17mm of rain, this did a lot of good for the country. But then at the start of February we received 156.8mm in a week. This has been followed by another 33mm, making a total of 206.8 since the start of the year. This total is a record amount of rain for the first two months of the year at Bulgunnia. The previous best was 162.8mm in 1938.

With all the rain we have large amounts of water in swamps. Once again the eastern side of Bulgunnia is by far the best. Bulgunnia swamp has about ten feet of water something that I have not seen before. All the bigger swamps on the eastern end are full or nearly full. The swamp at the house came to within 2 feet of the top of the levee bank, not quite as much as a previous flood which came to within 6 inches of the top. The water in the swamp made the Station Hands quarters unliveable and we had a foot of water through the workshop and the outer buildings. The water has now gone down enough for us to use the workshop and the Station Hand quarters will be useable in about three weeks time. While it was raining and the swamp started to fill we had some frantic moments shifting machinery and electrical items to higher ground. At one stage we had two tractors bogged trying to retrieve a portable pump jack. We got the tractors out with the help of the grader but had to leave the pump-jack and as luck would have it the rain steadied up and the flood waters didn't rise over the pump-jack.

With the large amount of rain so close to shearing we had to postpone the start date. We eventually started on the 23rd of February. With so many swamps full of water any droving trips have to be carefully planned to avoid bogging large numbers of sheep in the soft edges. But even with the best planning we still have to pull on average 20 sheep a day out of bogs.

The main access road from Bulgunnia to the bitumen is four wheel drives only and is still unusable by semi trailers and will remain so until Challenger mine repairs the bog holes. We have had to made detours around swamps that have covered the road. With the road to the bitumen unusable we are sending sheep to market via Mulgathing. This route adds another 5 hours to the trip.

With the excellent rain the stock and country are all looking very good. This rain has set Bulgunnia up for another good lambing.

I would like to thank staff members **Cheryl Miller, Ali Simon** and **Sam Stenson** and casuals **Stuart Jones, Tobias Johansson, Kasey Furness** and **Greg Player** for their efforts during this wet period.

Shane Miller Ω



Compound under water.

Ω

Commonwealth Hill

It's been a fairly good start to the year. 142.8 mm of rain to the end of March and on top of an early wet summer last year has set us up for at least one or two years. All the dams on the Commonwealth Hill side are full, bar one and unfortunately only 1 of the 5 dams on Mobella are full – the rest are below half.

We shored 23 500 sheep at the Commonwealth Hill shed for 600 bales and should shear a few less at the Jumbuck shed for a similar amount of bales. Given the rain we've had in the last couple of months, we are definitely going to be having a few stragglers.

As per normal camel activity is on the increase again and I'm sure **Mick Tobin** our new dogger will get sick of dealing with the fence damage. We can now welcome a few new permanent staff members that have arrived since the last newsletter, **Stacey Brinciau** Mobella's new Jillaroo, **Andrea McHardy** our new pilot and **Mick Tobin** our new dogger. We also have a few handy backpackers that have been helping us out at shearing: **Andreas** the Dane, **Leander** the Yank, **Sophie** the Swede and **Ryan** the Canadian Mountie.

Simon Robinson Ω

Glen Devon

We at Glen Devon experienced a great sadness at the loss of our son **Sandy**, in mid January, and our heartfelt thanks go to all those who were at the funeral and who have supported us since. It has been a great help.

We have experienced amazing summer rains with over 50mm in February, followed by 150mm in March, which has left the property verdant green, as it might normally look in September. The strike of clover for this time of the year is amazing. As a result, supplementary feeding of barley was halted very soon after it got started.

Crutching got under way on the 15th March, but due to the heavy rains, took two weeks to complete. There were losses of about 60 in the ewe hoggets, mostly due to fly in December, but otherwise numbers turned up very well. We received 508 cents per kilo for our picked crutchings, which represents \$960 per bale for crutchings! Needless to say, all the ewes and the hoggets are in great buckle.

Calving started in late February/early March. So far we have marked 43 calves but are a little disappointed that 5 have either died or been born dead.

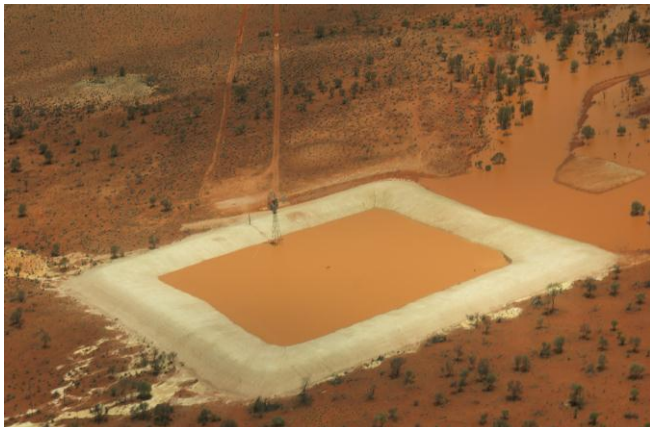
Inspection of the olive crop with one of our buyers indicates that we can expect our biggest ever crop, approximating 130 tonnes of fruit. As might be expected of course, all the other growers in the State have big crops, which will mean over supply and depressed prices, i.e. the law of supply and demand.

On the staff front, we have said goodbye to **Matt** and **Mel Haines** after twelve months with us. Both of them have done exceptionally well and we wish them every success in their new job with Jumbuck as Manager of Madura Plains. They take with them a lovely little filly called **Sally Maria**, who arrived on Saturday 2nd April.

We welcome **Glen Keenan** and his wife **Jess**, also with a new baby. They arrive ready to start on April 11th to take Matt & Mel's place.



Mary's pet crow - Andrew



Boulder Dam

Ω

H.G.M.

Ω

Gunbar & Tiarra

Gunbar and Tiarra have had a massive season in 2010 and 2011 has started off with plenty of rain as well. 2010 ended up with 24 inches at Gunbar and 23 inches at Tiarra. In 2011 so far, we have received seven inches at Gunbar and 4.5 inches at Tiarra. The feed across both stations is very thick and high with grass brushing the handle bars of the motorbikes during mustering.

Feed at Gunbar is still quite green in places. The stock are looking very well and we should get a good lambing with 16000 ewes joined. Some ewes at Tiarra are not in as good a condition as you would expect, due to the big spear grass year which has really knocked some of the sheep around. A lot of time was spent by **Stewart** and **Justin** ploughing breaks through the speargrass so the sheep could get in and out of the waters.

With the big season comes the other menace of flies which have hit us really badly. even striking sheep a week off the board. We have jetted twice and treated the sheep again at crutching time with the wet weather continuing.

The Lachlan River has flooded out twice in the past few months filling all the lignum country along the river. The wet weather has also meant we have been unable to bring the cattle home from agistment due to high rivers and rainfall north of Bourke.

With plenty of feed here for the cattle and cattle prices going very well, we have sold some steers to the feedlot averaging 462kg and 921 dollars/hd. Hope to bring the cattle home as soon as crutching is finished.

We are currently in the process of crutching with Tiarra completed and Gunbar with 7000 still to go rain delaying the process for a few days.

Repairs to yards and fences are continuing at Tiarra. **Angela** has painted the rest of the interior of the Cogie house and **Stewart** and **Julie** have painted some of the interior of the Tiarra house.

Col Andrews is back at Gunbar repairing and painting the shearers quarters.

Dominic Jennings

Ω



Speargrass problem for Dominic



Covering the Oat pit

McCoys Well

It's been a very wet start to 2011!

In 2010 we ended up with a total rainfall of 391.4 mm as the last three months were quite wet.

To date in 2011 we have already recorded 298 mm. 220 mm of this fell in 48 hours at the end of the first week of February. This particular rain event caused enormous damage to most of the station tracks – and all of the council roads in the district. Although we were lucky to avoid losing dams of water, we have broken many wing banks. We have lost the water in the Lagoon that surrounds the house dam because the pressure of so much water broke the lagoon walls towards the centre area. The water ran towards Whyngoon and has settled in South Lagoon. This body of water was approximately 5 kms long by 3 kms wide and up to 15 feet deep at the time of filling. The level has dropped about 2 feet at this time of writing.

Three windmills are affected by this. In fact, the 8 foot Southern Cross in South Lagoon is only revealing about 10 feet of its tower at the moment and the tank and pump shed are still under water. All flood water from McCoys Well, Old Whydown and East Whydown flowed into the Paratoo Creek and cut the Barrier Highway to Broken Hill for a couple of days.

Crutching began on March 2nd and it has been interesting trying to muster and generally move about with so much water and damage to move through. There have been some sheep losses from the floods and we still are finding the occasional flood damaged fence line. The crutching team has been moving from Paratoo to McCoys Well and back again week by week, as we both have the same issues with moving around the properties.

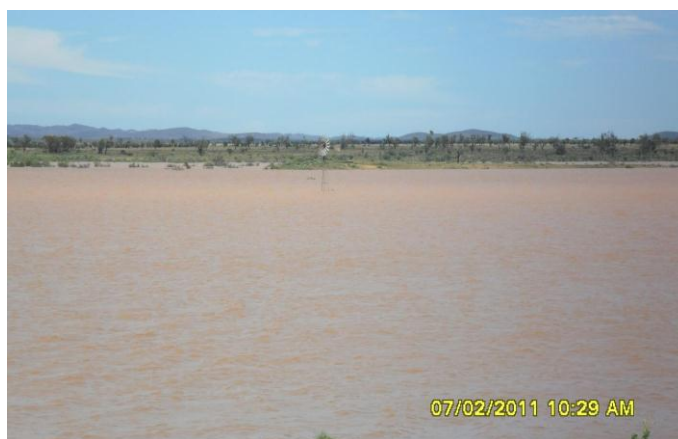
Today (March 21st) we have been hampered by more weather, receiving another inch of rain just when we have only 3 or 4 days of crutching left to work through. All sheep are being jetted at the same time.

Since our last report we have had several workers come to assist us. **Nathan Wescombe** commenced employment, along with our nephew **Bradley Heinjus**, who helped out for a couple of weeks of the crutching.

Graeme Barry Ω



Matt and Brad at crutching.



South Lagoon Windmill.

Ω

Madura Plains

Madura Plains has had more than its average rainfall for the year already. This caused problems for new Manager **Matt Haines** who had to unload all his furniture at the old Madura Homestead because he could not get through to the Moonera Homestead. He then had to drive back to Adelaide to wait for the arrival of **Sally Maria** before he could return to take over the running of Madura Plains.

Matt, Mel and baby **Sally Maria** expect to be at Madura Plains this weekend – 9/10 April. Work will be divided between dealing with any fly problems, getting all waters operational and starting preparation for shearing – which is only 6-8 weeks

off.

Backpackers **Leo Aubry** and **Sune Oestergaard** as well as permanents **Mike Szorenyi** and **Shae Sutton** will be joined by **Simone Talbot** to help **Matt** run Madura Plains.

Thanks to Rawlinna's **Dennis Nash**, who has filled the gap running Madura before **Matt** could start. As well as bringing general plant up to scratch **Dennis** has been servicing and fixing the Station's HF radios.

Seasonal conditions are now excellent and Madura Plains should be able to increase numbers and produce an excellent wool clip as well as surplus sheep.

Ω

Mount Victor/Plumbago

The first quarter of 2011 has seen unprecedented rains in most of pastoral South Australia with Mt. Victor being no exception. After recording an above average rainfall in 2010, 150mm recorded for the first quarter of this year sees us in an exceptional feed situation, which for us after many years of drought is a relief.

Crutching has just been completed, the sheep found to be in robust condition and carrying a significant quantity of wool. Luckily very little fly activity was evident; Jetting of the maidens was carried out in late January and was of benefit.

Repetitive repairs on roads and flood fences were consistent over the summer, with the same damage occurring almost weekly due to the heavy summer rains. The fences are now all repaired, however the roads will take years to repair, with relocation required in some areas.

Confined to the homestead on many occasions long awaited wet weather jobs were able to be carried out, the most significant being the replacement of the draft, force and internal yards at the Mt Victor shed, and the replacement of the shearing board at Plumbago.

We wish **Simone Talbot** the all best for her transfer to Madura Plains, and thank her for her help over the last 6 months, and welcome her sister **Bianca** to the staff.

It is expected the current green feed will be available throughout autumn, providing valuable green feed for the lambs expected to start dropping within the fortnight.

Harry Palmer
Ω

Meda/Kimberley Downs

Saturated best describes Meda and KD. Since the 1st of November 2010 we have received 41 inches [1025mls] of rain at the Meda homestead and 43 inches [1075mls] at the KD homestead. Over a meter of rain at each homestead.

Thankfully this rain has fallen in a consistent and steady manner, allowing water to drain to the coast down the May and Meda River systems without any significant flooding.

Cattle on the western or coastal end of the Meda/KD run have been on green feed since May 2010. As a result they are looking very well, as are cattle in most other areas. Although on the lighter sandy country, breeders are not looking as well, as the grass has become tall and lignified, and the poorer quality swamp grasses have choked out a lot of the high value perennials, whom do not enjoy extended periods with wet feet.

Major flooding across most of Northern and Eastern Australia has damaged roads and infrastructure and has limited the amount of cattle making it to ports to be exported to Indonesia. As a result supply has tightened and demand increased pushing the price in excess of \$2.00 for steers 260 to 350kgs and close to \$2.00 for heifers in the same weight range.

Wet conditions have had us in the workshop for the last 8 weeks. To keep cabin fever at bay, and to allow operators a comfortable work place, **Don Harris** and **Danny Darby** have installed air conditioning units in the Mack R600 truck and Cat 12G grader, as well as routine maintenance to all machines and plant.

I would like to welcome back **Mitch Bradford**, **Tim Kilgour** and **Shelby Davis** for the 2011 mustering season. In addition, **Katelyn Verrall** who has taken on the governess position at KD.

Jamie Laurisson Ω

Mulgathing

It has been a long shearing for the crew at Mulgathing. With the exception of those who were lucky enough to still be on holidays in January, the remainder of us have been going non-stop since Christmas!

Shearing was finally completed this morning with 34,759 shorn and 966 bales pressed. One of the bigger shearings I have been a part of, it has taken nearly eight weeks to complete, after plenty of wet days pulled the operation to a grinding halt.

We are however placing our sheep back out onto some very good feed, after receiving eleven inches of rain to the end of March. With such a good year on our side, the 25,000 sheep we intend to carry off-shears will do exceptionally well.

Lamb tailing will commence mid June, with early arrivals already on the ground. Hopefully we can give them the best start in life despite being born in a yard!

I would like to thank the steadfast crew of Mulgathing **Tasha Masters**, **Joe Jackson** and **Kerry Fullwood** over the past three months for their outstanding efforts in getting sheep together despite being understaffed and overworked! If it wasn't for the good seasonal conditions, mustering with two bikes could have become quite a headache!

We also welcomed three new staff once shearing was underway, with English backpackers **Chris Dickinson** and **John Cunningham** making the transition well. **Suzi Northcott**, from Kangaroo Island is now a month in and finding her feet.

A big "Good luck" goes out to **Kerry Fullwood** who leaves Mulgathing mid April to take on the Overseer's role on Bulgunnia. **Kerry** has been with us close to three years and it has been great to see her grow and develop her skills to a point where she has been able to take on this responsibility.

James Barry
Ω



Looking into the swamp



Drafting at shearing.



Mulgathing complex – those with eagle eyesight will see the Overseers house, well in the swamp.

Ω

Rawlinna

This year has started off as well as any year could for Rawlinna. Our average rainfall had been recorded by the end of February. The sheep brought in for shearing were all healthy, our summer consisted of two days over 47 degrees and then the rest were perfect for droving and growing grass.

Rawlinna is still in a rebuilding phase after a debilitating drought that occurred two years ago, so this year number building has been the result of kind seasonal conditions. Our sale sheep numbers were halved and all remaining stock will go onto fresh feed off shears.

The only down side to all this rain was that the roads became impassable to trucks for the majority of shearing. The sale wethers were shorn at the end of February with the intention of selling them hot off the board. We finally trucked them away on the 2nd April. Only one road train of wool was lifted during shearing, so the wool stack grew to 808 bales. Keeping that much wool dry became one of the major challenges of shearing. Depot overseer **Wayne Stockdale** excelled in his effort to keep the wool stack neat and dry during such a busy period.

As is always the case, shearing is only ever achieved through hard work and commitment of all staff. Thank you to all for their tireless efforts.

Michael Simons.

Ω



Sunset



Some of the three roadtrains of wool at Rawlinna, Waiting for the roads to dry out. (Four more road trains were due in at first light on 2nd April to load surplus sheep.)



Four Roadtrains loading surplus sheep.

Ω

Springfield

Springfield has experienced some good rains throughout the summer and all dams have thankfully remained at either near full or full levels throughout.

The tops of the cross bred lambs were sold in early November with good average weights. Thankfully pastures held on and the last of the lambs were sold by the end of December.

Craig Hage came in mid November to cut and bale

a total of 156 bales for the season. The pasture hay was of reasonable quality and we were able to get it in the shed before any rain damaged it.

With reasonable rains and warm steamy conditions in early December all sheep were simultaneously treated for the prevention of fly strike and foot bathed. This proved to be successful in stopping the fly wave.

The dreaded footrot program started in early February and we have just finished the third and final inspection. We have had some successful results considering the wet and warm conditions experienced throughout the summer.

Crutching and the drenching program have also just been completed with all the ewes being placed onto good pastures ready to lamb. Thank you to **Rose Ross** for her help throughout crutching and the footrot program.

Toby Thomas
Springfield Station

Ω

Staff Profiles

Jo Truslove

I was born in Wellington, New Zealand. I come from a very sporty family hence most of my childhood revolved around weekend sports. I grew up living and breathing Rugby....so naturally I love the game and the All Blacks!

Other than sport one of my other passions was travel. When I finished school I got a job as a travel agent. After 4 years and a few overseas trips....including one I won to Hawaii.....I decided at 21 it was time to do my Big OE (overseas experience).

In April 1997 I headed to Europe for 8 months and then back to London where I was based in the usual antipodean flat with Aussies and Kiwis working and saving to continue travelling the world, with one of my highlight trips being Egypt!

I was a travel agent in London and then a recruitment consultant which led me into an Office Manager role for an Advertising company.

In 2001 I decided that it was time to go home for good and that I was now ready to study. I went to University and got a Diploma in Event Management. This seemed to complement my organisation and people skills in the jobs I have had over the years. When I graduated I got a job as an Events Manager in

Auckland, which involved managing large sporting events, music concerts like the Big Day Out, and lifestyle shows. I was working 7 days a week and 10 hour days.....full on but loved it!

I meet my husband (Blake) in Auckland in 2003 through my work. He was playing Basketball for the NZ Breakers; I was the Event Manager One thing lead to another and we got married 2 years later and had our son, Carter in 2006. As Blake is an Aussie and kept saying he was from the lucky country.....and he finally convinced me to make the move to Adelaide in 2008 and had our daughter Chelsea here in the July of 2008...the rest is history.

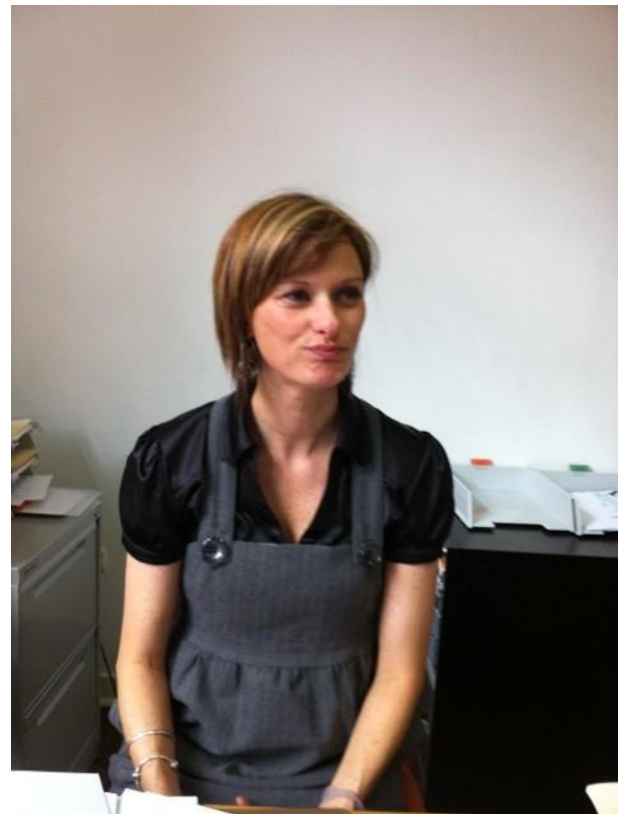
I have been at Jumbuck now for 9 months, and have enjoyed learning a different industry. I have met some lovely people, who make coming to work a pleasure. I have not met everyone yet out on the Stations, but have spoken to you all, and yes I am the one with the kiwi accent always up for a kiwi/sheep joke!

Jo

Ω

(Jo is Callum's Personal Assistant as well as doing requisitions and accounts. She is well known for her sunny disposition and ability to cope with difficult and assertive customers.)

Jo Truslove



Fay Law



Fay Law was born and brought up in a small, but quaint village called Brymbo in Wales, UK. In the early 90's, Fay's father, a steelworker, was offered a job in Johannesburg, South Africa. With the steel industry having all but collapsed in many parts of the country, the family decided to emigrate to the warmer climes of the African continent. After finishing school, Fay was offered employment as a receptionist with a labour broking company, marking the start of a 17 year, unbroken term of employment. After a short space of time, Fay was offered the opportunity of becoming a labour-broking consultant, which she grabbed with both hands, building up a large and loyal client base. For over ten years, Fay also served as the general manager of the firm, responsible for all staff management, payroll, and company representation at industry hearings - over and above her role as a business winner and client service consultant. In 2008, Fay and her family made the decision to emigrate to South Australia to escape the precarious political and social environment in South Africa, which had by then become the crime capital of the world.

After a series of misfortunes, Fay, her husband and her young son eventually relocated to Adelaide in January 2011. Fay joined Jumbuck Pastoral in March 2011 as a Data entry person, thus taking the strain off the girls in the Office...

Ω

Station Email Addresses.

Note the changes in Office staff Email addresses.

HGM:

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jock@jumbuckpastoral.com.au

Callum MacLachlan:

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Bulgunnia: bulgunnia@bigpond.com

Blina: blinastn@activ8.net.au

Commonwealth Hill:

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Jumbuck House

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Ω

It must be true!!

Anyone who has filled out a Jumbuck Requisition will understand the frustration of receiving something entirely different to what you order; sometimes the office staff, through no fault of their own, have trouble interpreting our language. **(Or writing!! Ed)** A certain Kimberley manager decided to turn the tables on a certain someone at Jumbuck House by ordering the following; Urgent: To suit Mitsubishi Dual Cab Truck Model # FK 417 WS16 Chassis# 6D16775252 3x Front wheel studs, 1x Set of front Spring Bushes, 1x Set rear brake linings and 1x Flux Capacitor. Poor Jo had plenty of amusement trying to urgently chase down the flux capacitor which made time travel possible. Obviously Back to The Future is yet to screen in NZ!

(More mature staff members will remember the "Back to the Future" movies and the DeLorean

DMC-12 car which had a Flux Capacitor as a power source).

A new staff member at Elders Derby also had some interesting responses to her inquiries into to an urgent request for 20L of psuedoephadrine! The wet season can turn us all a little stir crazy; and Ellendale Boreman **Andy Hallen** left a list of small electrical problems with his Toyota for Jason Deacon to attend to whilst he was on holiday. He returned to find a little card sitting behind the glass on his instrument panel. " Hi Andy, I fixed everything else but couldn't get this 4WD light going; so I left this here to take your mind off it. xox Jason. "

Staff at Blina that where recruited from the WA Ag Schools Presentation are a little miffed; they didn't recall pruning trees, sorting out the rubbish dump and straightening bent star pickets on any of the slideshows at the presentation! An extended wet season has meant that they will have to wait a little longer before "living the dream".

Ω

HOLMESEY

It was Robert Holmes from Derby town, who
drove the grader by day

He'd hung up his spurs given the ringing game
away

His camp he made were the black soil meets the
red

A place called Sailors Camp where he slept on a
rusted shearer's bed

It was chilly July evening and the moon was full
and bright

It rose from the horizon to make shadows in the
night

Holmesy's sole companion was his old bull terrier
dog

He made his tea and dragged up a beefwood
night log.

His old bushman's hat he removed from his baldy
head

Then he unrolled his swag and clambered into
bed

From no exposure to the sun, his pale baldy head
reflected the moon light,

In fact, it was like a beacon shining white and
bright

An old red bull with arthritis and failing eyesight
wandered by

From the corner of his eye, Holmesy's head he
did spy

Salt it is a scarcity in the inland Kimberley were
the cattle run

The old bull he was sure Holmesy's head was salt lick
in a drum

After due consideration and some contemplation
The old bull staggered in to satisfy his salt
depravation.

With his old tongue hot and raspy, he took a mighty
lick

Upon Holmesy's head, it made a vivid mark, and
saliva dribbled

Down like an oil slick

Holmesy he awoke with a hell of a start, sat up and
gave a terrified shout

An alien had marked him of that he had no doubt
Well his old dog flew out and grabbed the bull by the
snout

The bull charges forward to disengage the dog, his
head

ended up under the shearer's cot.

With a bellow like a lion, he upended bed, Holmesy
the whole bloody lot

Well this is it thought Holmesy as he cart wheeled
through the air.

Alas, he landed safely in the gravel beside his old
camp chair.

These days Holmesy, well he still camps upon his
shearer's cot.

However, a beanie or cap you will find placed firmly on
his head right on top.

As for UFO's and aliens, well he keeps his eye out
For the Holmes they are out there of that there is no
doubt.

JSL

Manager to Shearing contractor for the 20th time.
"Shear the *%#@ing wool off them. We want them
properly shorn!!!"

Shearing contractor to Manager "You're really lucky
you know!! By leaving the wool on they are avoiding
heaps of locks! The wool will be there for next year!!"

General News.

25 Years

Monica Walker has been with Jumbuck for 25 years, starting on the 7th February 1986. She started as BH MacLachlan's secretary and continued on as HGM's Secretary. She is now Jock's Secretary as well as doing requisitions and accounts. Monica's service was recognised by the Directors at the last staff meeting.



The flowers are another story. A Manager rang the Personnel Manager and said "I want you to do some serious crawling" He had some freight that Monica had arranged transport for. Thinking he could do better he changed the carrier and the destination. "Then is all went to hell" he said. "Monica is going to be so angry!"

Monica listened to the story with an ever widening smile and when it reached the end she picked up th phone and told the Manager "It's going to cost you *****"

The only person that was surprised when the flowers came was Monica!

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It was true!!

About 8 weeks ago, whilst sitting on the verandah at 6am a startling sub-sonic boom was felt and heard, by all the staff. Being overcast we thought it might have been a low flying jet. I was contacted by the PIRSA,s seismic recording branch this week which identified it as an earthquake around the strength of 3. Since then their equipment has recorded 9 aftershocks, which we have not felt. The epicentres were identified in Tin Hut North, close to the dam. It should be noted however that slight cracking to the homestead internal plaster and cornices has increased. Closed investigation has also identified every hanging picture within the house is not straight, most of them leaning southwards.

Harry Palmer – Mt Victor. Ω

Footy Tips

17 have joined the Office footy tipping competition. It promises to be a challenging season with the teams closer than in years past. HGM remains a threatening cloud on the horizon as he will be going away near the end of the competition. Past experience shows us he is psychic when he tips in advance.

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November

The Company entered a team in the Movember Moustache growing competition, which raised money for Beyond Blue and prostate cancer research. **Ben Hammond**, who grew a Pancho Villa style was probably the best while **John Bennet's** motheaten excuse was so bad that two of his sponsors asked for their money back!

We had some celebrity sponsorship when **Erik Thomson** sponsored Toby Thomas. Erik stars as Dave Rafter in the popular TV show "Packed to the Rafter"

Congratulations to the Jumbuck team who raised an amazing \$5701.00. Best individual effort was \$1738.00, raised by John Bennet.

Ω

RECRUITMENT

Photographic Competition

The winner-

Tarna Rogers from Mulgathing.

Ω



Second prize was won by

Kerry Fullwood from Mulgathing
For her "Dawn Muster" James in VH-SQO can be
seen at 2 O'clock in the sunrise.



Jumbuck has had a successful recruiting drive to the West Australian Ag colleges and will be considering the process again for 2012. The combination of hard practical experience, a love of the outback life and the silver tongue of **Matt Wood** painted an enticing picture for the students. With the late start to the season some of **Matt's** protégés have pointed out that he never mentioned cleaning up the dump or straightening star droppers as part of his presentation.

Jumbuck is going to follow the same strategy in SA and hope to visit 6 agriculturally oriented High Schools in May. It is to be hoped that we have as much success as **Matt** and **Jamie** did.

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Births, Engagements Deaths and Marriages

Jumbuck would like to congratulate Simon Robinson and Katie Sullivan who are getting married on 4th June at Caloundra

Congratulations to Mel and Matt Haines on the birth of baby Sally Marie, on Saturday the 26th March.

On behalf of all staff members both past and present we would like to express our deepest sympathy to Hugh, Fiona, Airlie, Jock, Islay, Brooke, Callum and their families on the sudden, tragic death of Sandy

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