



Etiwanderings

Christmas 2013



Farm and Family

We are grateful for another great year on the farm & with the family. Etiwanda was lucky with a fabulous season in 2013, and most importantly for us, a wet autumn and winter, which has set us up for the rest of the year. We have grown a good bulk of feed, which has dried off now into our standing haystack. The livestock have done very well and continue to do well on the dry feed.

The oats crop, which was pictured in our last newsletter, came through for us, we have harvested and now have all the silos full on Etiwanda – it's been awhile since that has been the case. We used YLAD prescription compost mineral blend fertilizer this year, and that, combined with a decent season, made for a healthy crop. Not only did we harvest a great crop, we have left our soil in better condition than it was before, with more organic matter and a nice mix of minerals and compost. We also used the same product in a direct drill pasture cropped paddock of oats. That paddock has grown a power of feed around the oats and has run a stocking rate not usually associated with the Cobar district. This paddock continues to improve in species diversity and groundcover, even though it is running more stock than ever. It makes you question all those folk out there that tell you that farmers and livestock are ruining the planet – our story continues to

show exactly the opposite! Livestock and farmers with innovative Holistic Management practices implemented are one of the key ways to reverse climate change and heal the planet.

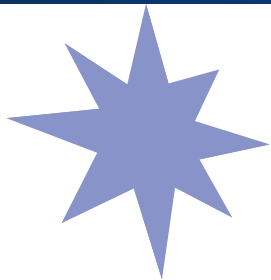
For more info on the YLAD fertilizer we used please see <http://www.yladlivingsoils.com.au/>

Our girls continue to grow and amaze us. Emily turned 13 this year and has had a fabulous year. She has enjoyed playing netball, coaching the under 8's netball team and playing touch football in the summer. Jess has also had a wonderful year. Jess played netball and the flute in the intermediate band. Jess didn't play a summer sport as she had a broken arm to contend with in October, thanks to some high spirited playing at recess! Kids!

Andrew & I are both well and happy. It has been a good year.

Emily & Jess Mosely & Ashlie McLaughlin





Find Me Spot.

The SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger. Small. Lightweight. Powerful

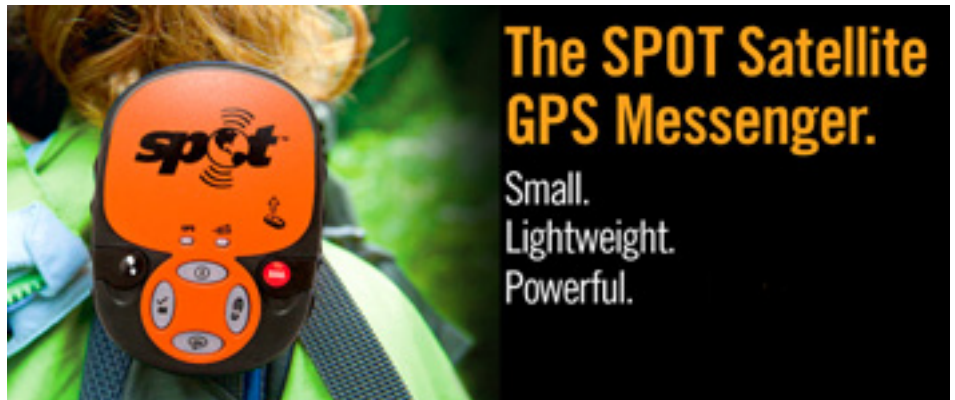
Andrew was lucky enough to experience a trip to Western Australia recently with Michael Rosser from Bourke as part of a Western Catchment Management Authority project to attend a 3 day field day at Meka station near Murchison settlement. They travelled out into some pretty remote station country. They had a fabulous time and saw some great sights. Whilst at one of the farm stays Andrew came across a nifty little safety device for anyone outdoors in areas where traditional mobile phone coverage is patchy or non-existent, it is called the Spot satellite GPS Messenger.

The farm stay was run by a husband & wife and was on one of the big remote stations. The husband is a diabetic and, like a lot of our menfolk, he is out in the paddocks a lot of the time and it is hard not to worry if they are ok. This family had a Spot Messenger and the wife was able to work at home running the farm stay and also keep an eye on her diabetic husband via the tracking and know he was ok, or know when he wasn't and needed help. The SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger provides a vital line of communication with friends and family when you want it and emergency assistance when you need it. Using 100% satellite technology,

SPOT works virtually anywhere in the world, even where cell phones don't.

We purchased one for Andrew and he straps it on his arm when he heads out mustering at Etiwanda – I can keep an eye on his location from here in Orange on my laptop with the "track me" feature, and he only has to push a button on the device which will text and e-mail me and four other people if he gets into trouble. The GPS tracking makes finding him easy and quick in an emergency. It is not expensive and provides great peace of mind. We are in no way affiliated with the company – just wanted to let you know about this great product!

All the info and pricing can be found at <http://www.findmespot.net.au/>

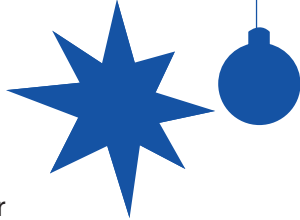




New Stud Rams

We purchased two new sires from the National White Dorper Sale this year. Both rams are structurally sound, very well-muscled and are great on their feet. The ram on the left is smaller framed, thick set ram, whilst the ram on the right is a bigger framer, long stretchy ram, still with plenty of muscle. The bigger ram is Andrew's pick of the two – I like them both and

we have ewes that will suit joining's with both these lads. We also kept a very nice draft of new sires from our own breeding that we are watching grow out and are looking forward to using in the stud next year. We believe that these rams should provide some important traits & diversity to our gene pool & look forward to seeing their lambs.





2013 On Property Rangeland Ready Sale

Buy your rams from someone who breeds them like they ought to!



Done and dusted for another year! Despite tough seasonal conditions throughout a large slice of our ram clients' areas, we were very pleased to have achieved a 100% clearance of our Rangeland Ready rams on sale day at Etiwanda. Prices were back a bit this year on previous years, which is not surprising considering how tough the weather has been for a lot of folks. Mother Nature keeps things interesting for all us farmers..... she is female after all!! We were very happy with our sale and another bunch of Rangeland Ready rams have headed out to work. We are sold out of working age rams until our autumn drop rams are ready. We do have some commercial ewes for sale at the moment – if you are looking for ewes please give Andrew a call on 02 68373797.

My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe
Jimmy Durante
(1893-1980)

Quote Worth Requoting



TED Talks

I'm hooked!

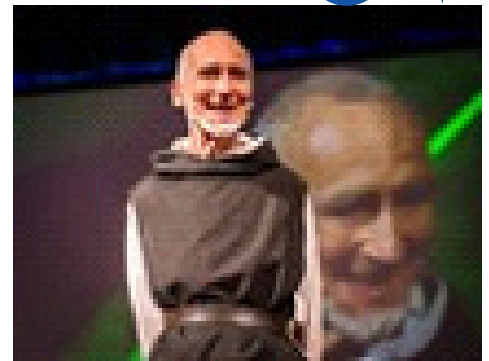
Ever since Allan Savoury gave his TED talk on Holistic Management earlier this year, I have been fascinated with the some of the 1500+ amazing Ted talks available on the web. I had heard of the TED talks previously but "never quite got around to having a look" until Allan's talk, and now I am hooked. I have watched lots of them over the past few months – they are not long, and provide amazing inspiration and information on all sorts of topics. My favourite one so far is "Want to be happy? Be Grateful." Just have a watch and see what I mean, 700,000+ other

people have already watched it on YouTube.

Want to be happy?? Be Grateful.

The one thing all humans have in common is that each of us wants to be happy, says Brother David Steindl-Rast, a monk and interfaith scholar. And happiness, he suggests, is born from gratitude. An inspiring lesson in slowing down, looking where you're going, and above all, being grateful, it is just wonderful!

http://www.ted.com/talks/david_steindl_rast_want_to_be_happy_be_grateful.html



FAMILY NEWS

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Merry Christmas!
From our family to yours, we would like to wish a safe and happy Christmas!

Thank you for your business and friendship throughout the year, we are very grateful for your support.

With best wishes Andrew,
Megan, Emily & Jess

Special thanks to our good friends Ian McLaughlin & Kerrilie Peatey for all their help. Kerrilie took all the Etiwanda photos in this newsletter

