

Gidge Gossips April, 2016

Happy Easter to everyone.

Isn't it great that the **Footie Season** has started again and what must it take to play AFL in 40 degrees. Hope all the tipsters are doing well and all got Richmond last night. The Bulldogs will be under way soon and another exciting season for everyone.

Must admit I have lost interest in Cricket – just too much of it. Unfortunately the Hills Cricket competition has rather died through lack of players.

So many sports for people to play they are spoilt for choice – and then we have **Cycling** and didn't we all know it on 13th March, 2016. Great idea to have an International Cycling Event come up to the Hills but so poorly planned it was laughable. Traffic gridlocked throughout the Hills and the Swan Valley. Planes, appointments, interviews, operations missed and so the list goes on. This Event was backed by Tourism WA and the organisation was undertaken by a group called CIC, who apparently are unable to respond to telephone calls or emails. This is coming back in September we are told and the numbers of Cyclists could increase significantly – the community needs to know the date and what measures are going to be taken to ensure that it is managed far more efficiently. It might be Called Gran Fondo but quite a lot of people would say it was a Grand something else!

Just a thought what if Gran Fondo meets the Peter Brock cruise, - that could be interesting.

Having said the above the **Midland Cycle Club** will be holding their annual event on 10th April and details are elsewhere in this edition of the Gidgegram. They have given us a great deal of notice and hope they have a great day.

Mud on face – after warning everyone else about stock straying the little bull jumped ship again to see the girls over the road. Thought he would be happy with all his girls around him but, no, directly he comes within cooee of cows he hasn't seen for a time off he goes. Definitely will be banned to the back paddock from now which is surrounded by barbed wire.

The **Rain** – this certainly belted down. We had 48 mm spread over a couple of hours so it wasn't too bad but reports of 95mm in some parts of Gidge. Extensive flooding and fences down. The Wooroloo Brook is now flowing through our place but the Equitus has gone into pools again. Hopefully there will be rain tomorrow and that will keep the green going.

Now it has cooled off it's full on gardening and getting the vegie gardens ready for winter. Have taken the shade cloth down which protected them over summer and did a very good job and weeding. Planting next week. Fantastic time of year for gardeners.

Simmo the new puppy is growing fast and is extremely interested in gardening – likes pruning and digging particularly.

Rural Watch note: A white Toyota Landcruiser with an aluminium tray-back, round headlights, no roo-bar and possibly with blue and white Victorian number plates, has illegally entered several properties. Land-holders have given chase to the male driver but without success. Residents are encouraged to report any sightings of this older style vehicle.

And so – the joke:

Old Podgy - Prize Rooster

Thomas was a chicken farmer; his farm was dedicated to the fertilized egg business. In his farmyard, Thomas had 450 young hens to lay the eggs. Incidentally, at this stage the female hens are called 'pullets'. Now to fertilise the eggs, which the pullets laid, Thomas had 12 male birds called roosters.

The farmer kept careful records, and any rooster that didn't perform went straight into the cooking pot and a replacement introduced. Thomas found this task time consuming, so he bought a dozen tiny bells and attached one to each of his roosters. Cunningly, each bell had a different ring tone so Thomas could tell from the comfort of his porch, which rooster was performing.

So now Thomas could sit on his rocking chair and tick the boxes on his efficiency report simply by listening to the bells. The farmer's favourite rooster was Old Podgy, a very fine specimen he was, too. But on this particular morning Thomas noticed Old Podgy's bell hadn't rung at all! Thomas went to investigate.

The other roosters were chasing pullets, their bells-a-ringing. The pullets, hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover. But to Farmer Thomas's amazement, Old Podgy had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job and walk on to the next one.

Thomas was so proud of Old Podgy, he entered him in the Worcester County Fair and he became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result... The judges not only awarded Old Podgy the No Bell Piece Prize, but also they awarded him the Pulletsurprise!