

The Avenue Ranger

Avenue Newsletter

5th Edition

December 2002



AVENUE 'LIGHTS UP' FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

In what international critics are claiming to be the best thing since the *Lobethal Light Spectacular*, Avenue Range is drawing crowds of up to 20 - 30 cars each night, thanks to the Christmas light display orchestrated by the Pomery family.

Trevor, Meredith, Melissa and Megan Pomery moved to 'Aunt Hilda's Cottage' at Avenue Range in 1995. As locals have watched the family transform the existing garden into an off-road oasis, they have also witnessed the annual Christmas light display grow into a public spectacle over the last four years.

"It started as a game with a mate from Bordertown. Two grown men trying to out-do each other at Christmas time", says Trevor.

The Pomery's Christmas light display

had meagre beginnings, with a total of 10 light sets. This has now expanded to the current 37- 40 sets in use.

As the Christmas season starts to emerge, Trevor prepares to erect the mammoth light display, which usually takes him between 10 - 12 hours.

This involves the continual maintenance of approximately 3,500 individual light globes, which is proving to be a very rewarding challenge for Trevor.

"I spit the dummy and chuck 'em in the bin if they give me too much trouble", says Trevor.

The cost for electricity is marginally increased by \$40 - 50 for the month, but it does cause a few inconveniences for the rest of the Pomery family. "I can't use my microwave while the

Inside this issue:

Stan's Story	Page 3
Spilling the Beans with Karena Higgins	Page 4
Your Xmas Star Guide by Crystal Ballz	Page 5
The Roving Eye	Page 7
Jokes of the Day	Page 8
On the Couch with Alan McGurk	Page 9
Junior Rangers	Page 10
Christmas Find-A-Word	Page 11



Trevor Pomery with daughter Megan, and their mainline act - "Father Christmas"

lights are going, or else it throws the switch", confirmed Meredith. They also experience lawn mowing difficulties and a number of sleep disturbances.

The Pomery's lights have consistently drawn crowds from the surrounding district, and the S.A. government has even received several reported sightings from NASA satellites. Unfortunately though, the Pomery's are still not eligible for the *Lucindale Christmas Light Competition*, due to current boundary jurisdictions.

The Avenue Christmas light display can be seen from the 1st of December to the 30th December, from 8:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.



CFS REPORT

by Captain Grey Beard

The fire season for Avenue has started already, with the truck attending a fire lit by lightning in Rod McInnes's scrub, on Sunday 17th November.

Lightning also lit a fire in James' scrub on Saturday 2nd November, but was put out by rain before the truck arrived.

With several fires lit by lightning already, it looks like a summer with dry thunderstorms could keep us busy this year.

It's time to be wearing our pagers as much as possible, and having our private fire units ready to go. Batteries are available for the pagers at the store.

The rosters are out, and the truck has been ser-

vised, so we should be ready for action.

I would like to once again thank Viv and Mark Gould for their valuable service to the Avenue CFS, and advise that Rex and Kay Hocking are now our Crew Co-ordinators.

I hope everybody has a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year, but a quiet summer - fire wise.

John Hensel

If you have not received a fire roster, please contact John Hensel on 8768 7241.



GOULDY'S GAB

by Viv and Mark Gould

Well, here we still are, doing a Dame Nellie Melba comeback, but this will be our last Gouldy's Gab.

Firstly, a big welcome to new proprietor, Vanda Wiltshire, who started at the store on 1st December, 2002. So if you haven't called in to say "hi!", please do so and make Vanda feel welcome to our community.

Other new arrivals to the area are Theo Box at 'Cooinda', Kym Puckeridge and Kate Jones at Pratt's 'Kalinga' property, and our newest arrivals are Sonia and David Poel and family, living at 'Fellwood'. Sonia is Ros Farrell's sister from Melbourne. Welcome to you all!

We wish to thank everyone who came to the Farewell/Welcome party at the tennis courts. Perfect weather and great company. Thank you

to John Hensel and Kay Hocking for their kind words. Not so sure whether we should thank Phil Kuhndt or not, but a very funny speech!

Also, thanks to the people who surprised us at the shop on Friday 29th November. What a wonderful way for our time at the shop to end.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2003.

See you under the Willow tree on Christmas morning.

Viv and Mark Gould.



STAN'S STORY

by the Hocking Family



STAN HOCKING

30-4-15 to 24-10-02

A true blue Avenue Ranger, Stan was a lover of family, "The Washpool", people, sheep, dogs, horses, hunting and good times around the bush bonfire.

He was born in Avenue Range, attended school at Avenue Range, worked in and around Avenue Range, played sport for Avenue Range, married and brought his bride Mary to Avenue Range, brought up his family (Marj and Rex) in Avenue Range, was the self appointed Avenue Range welcoming committee, transported multitudes of children, dogs and sheep on the back of the ute and had a deep sense of loyalty.

As a small child he lived with his parents and brothers at Bull Island where the family milked cows and had a butchery business. The meat and dairy products were put on the train and sold in Kingston and Lucindale. The old mulberry tree that still provides abundant fruit each year marks the site of the early Hocking residence at Bull Island.

After they were married, Stan and Mary lived in the house where his grandparents had lived in

Avenue before building a new house on the same block in the 1950's.

Always ready to impart his knowledge and a wonderful encourager, his family and friends benefited greatly from his willingness to share. His youthful exploits, his sense of humour, his "she'll be right" and "have a go" attitude resulted in long sessions around the bonfire and the occasional demerit points at home. (Not only for Stan). The Avenue CFS meetings and call outs rarely finished early.

He was a talented cricket player and traveled with the South Australian Country cricket team to England and Europe in 1954. He was also a very good horseman and trained many harness racing winners. He traveled widely with his horses and delighted in following Rex's exploits interstate. In later years he was a one eyed Crows supporter.

Along with his father and brothers, he was recognised for producing excellent sheep and wool. He loved to attend the annual wool sales, the Adelaide show and the Adelaide ram sales and catch up with friends and other producers. Whenever possible, he took younger members of the family to share and learn from his experience.

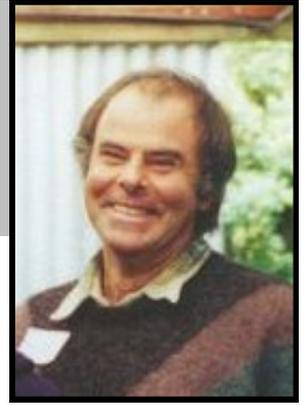
In later years as his disabilities prevented him from caring for himself, he moved to the Kingston Soldiers Memorial Hospital where he endeared himself with staff and residents. He continued to take an interest in life in and around Avenue and looked forward to his trips out to the "The Washpool".

Avenue is richer from Stan's life and he will long be remembered with a smile and a chuckle as an Avenue Range icon and a part of our history.

His family sincerely thank everyone who made Stan's life so full and enjoyable and shared in the celebration of his life on 28th October.

'SPILLING THE BEANS'

With Karena Higgins



Today I spoke with local Farmer and Truckee, Neville 'Mouse' Thomas, who is married to Julie and has two girls, Danielle - almost 16, and Cristy - 14. I asked him to "Spill the beans"!

K.H. Why the name Mouse, Nev?

N.T. I got the name from school. I think it was because I'm small

K.H. If you're Mouse, do you call Julie "Kitty"?

N.T. No, I called her by her childhood nickname once, and nearly got a black eye!

K.H. What name was that Neville? Your secret is safe with me (and Avenue).

N.T. I think it would be safer for me to call her 'Jules'!

K.H. Neville, if you were having a dinner party, who would you invite?

N.T. Steady Eddy!

K.H. So how do you like to relax?

N.T. In a bean bag, in front of the TV, with a cold beer!

K.H. Favourite music?

N.T. The sound of my own snoring!

K.H. When was the last time you embarrassed Julie and the girls?

N.T. We went to a well known chain of restaurant that serves chicken, and when the girl behind the counter asked "what would you like" I replied "pie and chips thanks". And when she asked what drinks we would like, I said "anything cold", the girls told me, "Dad you are soooo embarrassing"!

K.H. Now that you've embarrassed the girls, when have you been embarrassed, Neville?

N.T. The first Easter after we were married, we went to Jules' parents for tea, and Julie's mother dished up English Fillet. I detest English Fillet but was too embarrassed to say anything, so I drowned it in tomato sauce to kill the taste. I get reminded about that every Easter with threats of another serving!

K.H. Thanks for your time Neville, but before you go, what's your dream truck?

N.T. Anything that we own, that the bank doesn't!

YOUR XMAS STAR GUIDE

by Crystal Ballz



ARIES: March 21 - April 20

Throw out the old jocks and knickers, as I can see plenty of new ones coming your way this Christmas. Believe me, a fresh change will do you good.



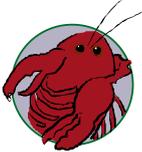
TAURUS: April 21 - May 20

Taurus people often spend up big at Christmas time. This year, try and spend it on someone other than yourself.



GEMINI: May 21 - June 20

Just because you are the sign of the twins, does not mean you have to eat for two! Spare a thought for your poor scales.



CANCER: June 21 - July 22

It's the silly season again, and the Crab will be doing a fair bit of sidestepping. One step forwards, two steps back, three steps sideways.



LEO: July 23 - Aug 23

Leos like nothing better than to spend Christmas with family. This year, spend it with your own.



VIRGO: Aug 24—Sept 23

You have a flair for decorating at Christmas time, but remember; Mistletoe is to get kissed under, not to get pissed under.



LIBRA: Sept 24 - Oct 22

A better balance between partying and sleeping is needed this year. The effects of last year's Xmas are still showing.



SCORPIO: Oct 23 - Nov 21

I see travel on the horizon again this Christmas. Let's hope it is not in the back of a Paddy wagon again like last year.



SAGITTARIUS: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Bad news. The visitors from hell are returning this year. Pack up and leave while you still have time.



CAPRICORN: Dec 22 - Jan 20

It is better to give than to receive, so try to smile when you receive your credit card bill. It is a reminder of all you gave.



AQUARIUS: Jan 21 - Feb 19

This year when you pull out your suit, get the right one. Last year you looked like an idiot under the Christmas tree in an Easter Bunny costume.



PISCES: Feb 20 - March 20

You know you've had too much to drink when people tell you that you look like Rudolph. His nose is supposed to be red.

SOLVING SINGLE SOLUTIONS

by an Avenue bachelor



I am reluctant to disclose my name, however, think that my recent experiences should be recounted so that single people can avoid the pain that has been inflicted upon myself.

Traveling to Adelaide recently with my daughter "Kate", a name that we will use as a substitute so that no one is hurt, I felt confident that the long months of sharing my bedroom with a blow-up sheep would be over.

After putting in 4 months of hard work with Chris Conroy, my daughter "Kate" actually commented that any fitter and I would end up with a 6 pack. I had no idea what she meant, but in front of the mirror, which ever way I looked, it seemed more like a carton than a 6 pack.

Six plastic containers of courage at the test match with a friend, we will call "Phil, made me realize that tonight was the night, and the "Arkaba" was the place.

Now some people call the "Arkaba" "Grab a Granny", but to me a mature person is like a *Padthaway Estate Cab. Sauv.* A bit of scrubbing up, the imitation *Polo* from Penang, R.M. Williams boots shined to perfection, R.M. Williams shirt, and very nice tight fitting jeans around the important areas, made me feel very special.

On entering the "Arena" at the Arkaba, I was stunned by the selection that had to be made. It was like a Hugh and Claire Bainger heifer sale – all shapes, sizes and colours.

It wasn't long before I noticed a tall shapely figure poised in a silent corner, wearing a long flowing red dress, kitten heels and stylish Gucci bag. Our eyes seemed welded together for a short, but infinite time. Time enough for me to realize that this was it.....this wasn't the eye contact that I exchanged with Pom, Terry Rivett or Rex Hocking, when looking into their faces.

The thought of Pom, Terry and Rex made me brave enough to approach this wondrous beauty, and ask for her name. "Samantha" I was graciously informed. Now, I rarely say those three words, and don't believe in love at first sight, but the last time I had feelings like this was then I stole my older brother's tattered *Playboy* magazine and read it behind the garage.

I noticed the strong square shoulders of Samantha. A

good strong jaw. Hands that excited me. Hands like many women in Avenue – strong and knuckley from good honest work.

A dance. Yes! A dance, you idiot, ask her. Forget about all the envious idiots giving glances and chuckling at my chances. She wants a dance, Oh God, give me the strength and grace!

Out on the dance floor I notice that we are given a wide berth. Not that it comes as a surprise, as Samantha and I were very much like the John Travolta movie, *Saturday Night Fever*.

A slow moving Phil Collins number, and we are both entwined as one. Then a loud and quick Mambo, and I am flying through the air, R.M. Williams boots picking up a pair of false teeth as they fly shoulder high. She has the strength of a man, but the grace of a woman.

I am petrified she will ask if I have children and be put off. However, over the music I hear something muttered about a 'big boy', and have to disclose that yes, I do have a big boy.

I quietly inform Samantha that I have a nearby room that we may be more comfortable in. However, brushing her face with mine, I was surprised by the roughness of it.

To cut a long story short, and nobody needs to know the details of what happened between **Sam** and myself, it seems that sex changes are readily available in Adelaide!

Driving home with my daughter, who we will once again call "Kate", so that identities remain anonymous, I feel hurt, betrayed, sun-burnt, over-weight, unattractive – all the things women feel once a month.

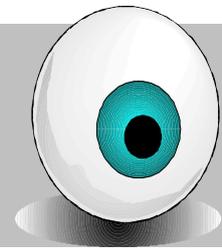
I at least know that Rusty is my kelpie dog and he is a dog. I know that if you lock rams and bulls away long enough from ewes and heifers they aren't that fussy. But really.....shouldn't I have been able to tell?

The last thing I want to have happen is my family find out about this, but I had to tell someone.

Regards,

Dismayed, deceived and distraught.

THE ROViNG EyE !



Picture This

1. Mr. calls young dog to kennel to lock up.
2. Young dog bolts and hides behind Mrs.
3. Mrs. grabs young dog by the collar and starts to drag him to the kennel.
4. As they pass Mr., Mr. delivers a well-placed kick to the young dog.
5. Young dog sinks teeth into Mrs.' buttocks!

Tension was thick between all involved for a few days, but all is now well between Mr. & Mrs. Z.

The Eyes have it!

It is widely know, and accepted, that Researchers have identified that a small percentage of shrinkage to the female brain occurs during pregnancy, due to the enormous hormonal changes.

This world wide theory has recently been confirmed right here at Avenue Range, with one of our very own test cases.

The pregnant women concerned was removing her eye make-up after a long, hard day. She soaked the cotton swab with make-up remover, and expertly wiped one eye, and then the next.

All of a sudden, she starts screaming in horror. The pain was intense. Oh my God, what was wrong with her eyes??!!!

It turns out that Kerry was removing her eye make-up with fingernail polish remover! Ouch!

Free Fallin'

It seems that not only has a young Avenue bachelor fallen in love, but he's fallen for something more than that.

Mr 'X' apparently pulled off the main road to let his lovely lady overtake, but found that someone had inconveniently shifted the original landscape, and he was slowly getting a 'close up and personal' view of the Jackie White's drain!

I'm sure you would like to publicly thank Widge for pulling you out, Anthony?

A HOLIDAY RECIPE



I recently asked a friend of mine for a recipe for a Christmas lunch I had been invited to attend. And with great risk attached, I have decided to share her recipe, and nominate her for the *Avenue Range Housewife of the Year Awards* for 2002.

CORN, CHEESE & BACON MUFFINS

- 2 Bacon rashers, rind removed
- 2 cups plain flour
- 2 tspns baking powder
- 310g tin creamed corn
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 2 cups grated cheese

Put a ribbon in your hair. Chop bacon, fry lightly and drain on paper. Sift flour and baking powder. Refresh your lipstick. Make well in centre. Mix

corn, eggs, bacon & milk together.

Wash the children's faces (you never know when hubby might just pop in!!) Pour corn mix into flour mix and add half the cheese. Mix quickly (rush rush!!).

Three quarter fill muffin tins with mix. Sprinkle with cheese (I don't do this however you may wish to!). Bake at 190°C for 20 minutes or until they are all puffy and perfect, ready for hubby to come in and have a nice snog and cup of tea!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Oh, and then open the wine, invite me over, send the kids outside to play in the dirt with 10 bags of lollies, tie the ribbon on the dog, tell hubby it's toasted cheese sandwiches for dinner (made by him), and by that time I should have arrived!!

Thanks for the recipe 'V'!!!! 😊 hehe



JOKES OF THE DAY

Supplied by Karena Higgins

There was an old couple concerned that they were starting to forget things. So, they went to the doctor and the doctor said that they were in perfect health and that forgetting things was a part of growing old. He suggested, however, that to help them they could write things down and then if they forgot they just had to look at the piece of paper.

The couple thought this was a wonderful idea. Latter that night the wife said to her husband, "I would love a bowl of strawberries". So the Husband said, "that sounds like a nice Idea I'll get them for you". As he got out of his chair she said, "don't forget to write it down". He replied "I can remember a simple bowl of strawberries".

She then said, "actually dear, would you put

some ice-cream on the strawberries for me and you had better write that down". He said", no worries", I can remember a simple bowl of strawberries and ice-cream". As he was almost to the door the wife said, "actually love, in the fridge there is a can of whipped cream, would you mind putting a squirt of whipped cream on top of the ice-cream and strawberries? But remember what the doctor said you had better write that all down".

He said, "Look princess, I can remember a bowl of ice-cream, strawberries and cream".

After 10 minutes with him banging around in the kitchen he brings in to her a plate of bacon and eggs. The wife say's to her husband, "You should have used a note, because you forgot the tomato sauce"!!!



Supplied by Phil Kuhndt

The Angel's Story:

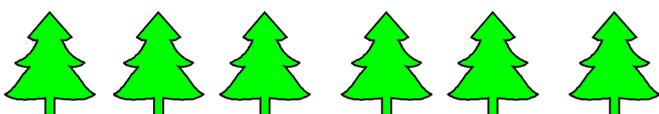
One morning, a few days before Christmas, Santa slept in and was a bit late getting to his North Pole factory.



When he arrived, the elves were on strike, the carpenters were having a RDO, the seamstress was off sick, and the reindeers had wandered off. It was not going to be a good day!

Just then, there was a knock at the door, and when Santa opened it, an angel stood there. "Hello Santa", she said, all sweetness and light, "I'm here to deliver your Christmas tree. What shall I do with it?"

So THAT is why the Angel always sits on top of the Christmas tree!!



Supplied by Anon.

A gay man decides to get a tattoo. On arrival to the tattoo artist, he spots a picture of Evander Holyfield.

"Oh! He's my favourite darling. Can you do him on the cheek of my behind?" He asked the tattoo artist.

So, it was done. On the way out of the store, he spotted another picture on the wall, this time Mike Tyson.

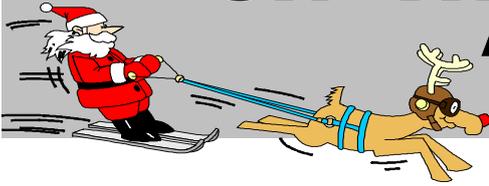
"Oh, good Lord!" the queer blurted out. "I just adore Iron Mike! Can you do him on my other cheek?"

So it was done. On returning home, his boyfriend says, "Well, drop your trousers and give us a look."

He dropped his pants and showed his new tattoos. His boyfriend gasped and replied, "I think our relationship is over! I sure as hell ain't getting in the ring with those two!"

'ON THE COUCH'

Alan McGurk with Jackie Fogarty



- Alan: *After being on the trail of the elusive Clair Bainger, and failing to share a few bottles of Yellow Glen, Champas, and her famous scones and jam, I decided that a Bundy and beef afternoon at the 'Widget' house may provide some goss.*
- Alan: Now Jackie, lets get this straight for everyone in Avenue, no-one calls their child "Widge". What's his real name?
- Jackie: David.**
- Alan: And the starting place for this love tryst?
- Jackie: Funny enough, I got lucky at the Pokies one night.**
- Alan: Compared to a Poker machine, did you think him a good sort?
- Jackie: Yes, I thought him a good sort then, but times change.**
- Alan: Indeed they do Jackie. First date, any recollections?
- Jackie: Yes Alan, Alice Springs Rodeo.....and Bundy.**
- Alan: Is there something 'special' about David when he is naked that you would like to share with the readers?
- Jackie: I would have to say the clothes on the floor make the biggest impression.**
- Alan: Obviously a caring, new aged gentleman, our David, but does he have any irritating habits?
- Jackie: His riding style can be rough when he occasionally uses spurs.**
- Alan: I recently read in the *Women's Weekly*, an article by Maggie Tabbera saying that if you laugh together, you love together. Has Dave a sense of humour?
- Jackie: I hope so!**
- Alan: Last fight with David, can you disclose?
- Jackie: WeeeeIIIIII.....Yes! It was Hursty interfering with Charmaine in the bull ring, and Widge still paying her.**
- Alan: As you would Jackie, I don't think even I could tolerate that type of behaviour, even though there was this Dutch girl once that I Don't worry, long story.... Any changes to Dave that you would like to make?
- Jackie: Yes, his residential address.**
- Alan: A couple of quick ones Jackie, who wears the pants?
- Jackie: Dave does. I just tell him which ones to wear.**
- Alan: And a description in 3 words?
- Jackie: I CAN'T.**
- Alan: Thanks Jackie. Oh alright - I will have another one, but that's 6 each we've put away. Hey, that little Brahman bull seems friendly, Jackie, but he.....Oh #*%\$#! LETS RUN!!!

JUNIOR RANGERS

by Nicole Miller



Q: What do you call a man who stands around and makes faces all day?

A: A clock maker?



Q: What do you get when you cross a dog with a cat?

A: An animal that chases itself.

Q: Why did the boy throw butter out the window?



A: Because we wanted to see a butterfly.

Q: What can you hear, but not see, and only speaks when it is spoken to?

A: An echo



Q: What is invisible and smells of carrots?

A: Bunny farts.

Q: What is the difference between broccoli and boogers?

A: Kids don't like to eat broccoli.

Q: What is big, red, and eats rocks?

A: A big red rock eater.



Q: Why can't it rain for two

 days straight?

A: Because there is a night in between.

Q: What starts with P, ends with E, and has millions of letters in it?

A: Post Office

Q: What happened to the wooden car with a wooden engine and wooden wheels?



A: It 'wooden' go.

Q: What did the traffic lights say to the car?

A: Don't go now I am changing.

A: How did the idiot fall on the floor?

A: He tripped over the cordless phone.

Q: What did the farmer say when he lost his tractor?

A: Where's my tractor?

Q: Why did the idiot climb the glass wall?

A: To see what was on the other side.



CHRISTMAS FIND-A-WORD

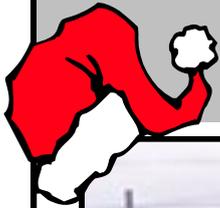
by Nicole Miller

C	H	I	M	N	E	Y	L	O	R	A	C	P	H	E	X
L	F	L	O	P	E	Y	E	H	G	T	Y	R	F	J	M
J	H	A	S	H	G	L	J	K	G	T	D	E	F	G	A
E	F	T	T	H	V	L	I	U	R	S	E	S	D	T	S
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**ANGEL
CAROL
CHIMNEY
CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS
FAMILY
FATHER CHRISTMAS
HOLLY
JESUS CHRIST
LIGHTS**

**NOEL
PRESENTS
PUDDING
REINDEER
RUDOLF
SANTA CLAUS
SLEIGH
TINSEL
TREE
TURKEY**

**WREATH
XMAS**



MYSTERY PERSON



Who is this mysterious Avenue identity, and what is he doing???

- * Have a guess and place your entry at the Avenue Store.
- * Clues will be released, if necessary, over the next week.
- * The Winner will be announced on Monday 23rd December.

Last edition's Mystery Person was
"Meredith Pomery"

Congratulations to 1st prize winner
Neville Thomas !

COMMUNITY NOTICES



NEW BUNDLES

Congratulations to
Sally, Chris and Andrew Klose
On the arrival of their precious
son and brother

"Oscar Harold"

on 28.11.02



NEW BUNDLES

Congratulations to
Louise and Peter Stock
On the arrival of their beautiful
baby daughter

"Jessica Louise"

DOG SCHOOL

If you are interested in
attending the
**'Working Dog & Stock
Handling'** School,
in early January,

PLEASE contact Rex Hocking
A.S.A.P.

Ph: 8766 0032

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**THE
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**The Washpool
Kelpie Stud**
Rex & Kay Hocking

**HAWDON
SUFFOLKS**