

President's Report - June 2016



Winter is now with us and the expected rains have not disappointed – so far at least! As the days shorten and the temperature drops your Hall's Committee are preparing to implement some of the initiatives that have been

planned during the warmer months.

The Hall now has a defibrillator. It's the same make and model as the defibrillator located in the Acheron CFA fire truck. Initially there will be training of the Acheron Hall's Committee and some CFA personnel, to become familiar with emergency procedures.

Upgrading of the Hall's kitchen equipment is underway. This will make our Hall more attractive for caterers and community members wishing to hire the hall for that special occasion. It is pleasing that there has been regular usage of the Hall during the summer with a community music group and a community fitness group meeting there each week. Additionally we have our local book club which meets on the second Wednesday of each month.

Please keep in mind that the Acheron Hall's annual dinner will be Saturday Night - August 13th. There will be a "Celtic" theme. A great night to enjoy with family and friends.

A few years ago we had a fund raiser of specially bottled Acheron Hall wines. These were very popular and your committee has decided to organise another bottling. We have Riesling and Shiraz, from the Murrindindi winery, Sedona Estate. The price will be \$12.00 per bottle. Available from July. Sounds good!

Cheers

John Thorp

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Acheron Hall's Winter dinner Sat 13th August 7.00pm

This is our major fund raiser for the year so come along, on your own or with a group & support us. Be quick to book, as places are limited.



Cost: \$50.00 per person for a delicious Celtic dinner. Tables of 8.

Bookings, call: Bronwyn 0429 174 904 or Anita 0428 360 886

If you have any items you wish to contribute to the Auction please contact a committee member.

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Email us if you have any news for the next newsletter on acheronhall@gmail.com Contacts: President: John Thorp 0417 036 142

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Acheron CFA recognises 265 years of combined service

At its biennial general meeting on Sunday 22nd May 2016, Acheron CFA recognised a combined 265 years of service at a special awards ceremony.

Captain Alan Harding and CFA District 12 Operations Manager Justin Dally presented the awards at the Acheron Hall.

Justin thanked the members for the great service they had made to the Acheron Community and the CFA.

Brigade Captain Alan Harding spoke of the increasing number of call outs in recent years, with 27 call outs in the past two years. He highlighted the recent improvements to the brigade,

with a new station and new tanker. The tanker has recently been improved with a new live reel and new quick fill pump. The tanker is now also equipped with a new AED following the generous support from the Community in raising funds last year.

Alan thanked the Brigade for their diligent work and continuing support. He acknowledged the resignations of long time secretary and treasurer Corrie De Klijn, who is soon heading north and Marita Evans, wishing them both well.





The following awards were made: 40 year Medal – Neil Webster 30 year Medal – Helen Godfrey, John Turner, Michael Purcell 25 year Medal – Bev Dick 15 year Medal – Corrie De Klijn, Dorothy Durant, Jamie Walker, Garry De Klijn

10 year Medal – Mary Finch, Gwen Dick, Tim Buckley

5 year Certificate – Alan Harding, Paul Redshaw, Simon Turner, and Jonathan Buckley.

Stella Webster was also formally thanked at the meeting for her many years of service to the brigade.

The Brigade elected the following to serve on the Brigade

Management team over the next 2 years: Captain - Alan Harding 1st Lieutenant and Training Officer- John Allen 2nd Lieutenant and OHS - Tim Buckley 3rd Lieutenant and Secretary – Andy Lloyd 4th Lieutenant – Murray Ross Community safety Co-ordinator – Bev Dick Treasurer – Sue Moran Apparatus Officer – Peter Moran Chair - John Turner Communications Officer – Helen Godfrey

Acheron Hall available for hire

Don't forget, the Acheron Hall is available for hire for your next function party, wedding, dinner, meeting, etc. It has a well equipped kitchen; tables and chairs for 80 people as well as extra seating in the form



of pews; a shaded outdoor area and wheelchair access.

COST

Meetings and small gatherings:

Half day: Less than half day: Parties and major events: \$2.00 gold coin donation from each participant
\$50
\$15 per hour
Locals \$100
Non-residents: \$200

BOOKINGS:

Barbara Gamble on 0417 013 701 or barbaramgamble@bigpond.com

Acheron summer/autumn rainfall - 2016

This past summer and autumn seemed very dry. Yet there was still a tinge of green. Around the district we saw bore drilling rigs and dams being scraped. Quite a few of us were acting on the assumption that climate change was now a reality and that reliable water would become even more precious.

Just how dry was our summer and autumn? We had over a 100mm in the last days of January and then good rain in May. Not a lot in-between. 301mm in total for Dec. to May.

This was more rain than in the previous summer/autumn. And nearly as much as the year before. This year's 301mm rainfall

compares with the previous ten years average rainfall, for the same months, of 313.8mm. The lowest rainfall was of 206.5mm in 12/13. The highest was 527.5mm in 10/11. Quite a wide variance.

Our past summer/autumn was only marginally dryer than we could have expected, but it was not received at regular intervals.

Please note that rainfall measurements are taken on the east side of the river and readings will vary with locations.

If you received this newsletter by mail or hand and if you have access to the internet, please consider sharing your email address with the committee and it will save the environment as well as a lot of time, effort and cost. acheronhall@gmail.com