

CHRISTMAS ADVERTORIAL

Love the feel of the great outdoors? Braidwood Outdoors has something to please everyone on your gift list this year.

For the gardener we have an exclusive range of DeWit handcrafted tools, hand-

made in Holland, built to last and will most likely become toolshed heirlooms. There is a beautiful new range of 'Hair on Hide' leather wallets and bags for the ladies, as well as stylish but functional handbags, belts and jewellery.

For the man about the house we have Australian-made gun slings, Akubra hats, belts, torches, binoculars and the always popular Leatherman Multi Tools. We also stock a range of archery and hunting gear and spotlights, as well as camping gear, pocket knives, thermoses and caps.

We have a large range of Wrangler, Thomas Cook and Ariat jeans and shirts for both men and women. And what little girl wouldn't be delighted to receive a pair of pink, embroidered cowboy boots? So come in and let the team help you with your Christmas shopping this year.



Great Christmas gifts for everyone.

Firearms & Accessories, DeWit Garden Tools, Akubra Hats, Australian-made Gifts from Didgeridoos, Wrangler, Thomas Cook, Ariat & Roper Boots, KEEN Footwear, Oilskins, Knives, Binoculars, Torches and Spotlights, Camping Equipment, Leatherman Tools, Clothing (outdoor & Fashion) ... Almost everything!!

Experience the great outdoors and get back to nature.

Come in and see us. We look forward to helping you out and sharing a yarn or two about your great adventures.

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



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Each end of financial year every hospital auxiliary has to put in audited financial returns to the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW Inc, which is our head office.

These figures are coordinated, consolidated and supplied to the Ministry of Health.

As a reward to various auxiliaries, prizes are given in various categories such as, Metropolitan Hospitals, Country Hospitals and Multi Purpose Services. Certificates are also given for auxiliaries that raise over \$500 per member and over \$20,000 per auxiliary and the most money raised per category. For the past seventeen years Braidwood Auxiliary has won a certificate for both those amounts.

In the 2016/2017 financial year the auxiliary raised \$51,011.73 and in so doing won the plaque for the most money raised by a Multi Purpose Service. Little Braidwood with its twenty members beat all the other Multi Purpose Services in NSW, all thanks to the generosity of the residents of Braidwood and the hard working auxiliary members.

Well done team

Frank Judge on our quiet achievers



FRANK AND JILL JUDGE.

HIT THE ROAD RIK

Stories from the road

Erika Mordek drives herself to abstraction

As a commuter between Canberra and Braidwood, I do most of my thinking in the car — me, the road and the big expanse of sky and country, possibly some music — no distractions.

The mind is free to wander, and doing so I craft the most excellent sentences for any potential blog; these are lost as I have no recourse to pen and paper or a voice recorder.

The mind is such an incredible piece of machinery; hence the problem with the free flow of connections is that from one idea an innumerable amount of connections come in quick succession, and before you know it you are on a totally different track. One minute you are thinking about the clouds, and the next you are off on some tangent about Australia's political structure.

What is interesting about the drive is its changing landscape: paddocks sectioned off by tree enclosures, planted at least 10 years ago. Unsurprisingly, sheep and cattle dot the landscape. New homes springing up like mushrooms. Please remember that I haven't driven this road as often as you; I've been away for seven years.

In my head I can recapitulate my day's work, brain dump as it were, and leave the office behind.

I have a new job, you see. At least for a little while I will be reference librarian. I will answer tricky copyright questions or tell you how to order pictures. Some answers are straightforward, others circuitous.

Let me tell you about Frank H Johnston. To say that Frank H Johnston was interested in cattle would be an understatement. He wrote monographs on the state of cattle breeding in Australia. He travelled to Argentina, Japan and the United States to research cattle breeding. He was most concerned about dwarfism in Hereford cattle.

What bought him to my mind are his innumerable photos of Australian cattlemen. The National Library of Australia houses some 13000 negatives of his photographs, taken between 1951 and 1961. You could say that anything taken in black and white, anything 'retro' is 'cool', but within his photos he had an eye; he captured a person, a sense of a place, as well as capturing thousands of shots of Hereford beef.

Frank travelled the outback regions of the Northern Territory, South Australia and Queensland to interview and document cattle breeders. His photos capture incredible moments of intimate social interaction between the people working on the stations he visited.

I was asked to find his photo. Imagine sifting through thirteen thousand photos. We have boxes of his papers, published and unpublished manuscripts; folders upon folders of uncatalogued negatives and photographs. Where do I even start? At photo number one. As I waded my way through his well documented photos of cattle, stockmen



ORIGINAL THUMBNAIIS OF FRANK'S PHOTOS.

and squatters, I realised I had very little chance of finding an actual image of Frank. After all, who photographs the photographer?

I was just about to give up when I found the photo of Frank and the pig [below].

What a lucky break!

I've been thinking about Frank H. Johnston for days now, not so much because I'm interested in cattle, but because he was a relatively unknown man doing extraordinary things.

The world is full of 'little' people doing big things, for the sheer love of it. They don't do it for the prestige, nor for any financial gain, but simply because they can.

And while institutions and the media fawn and bow and collect artefacts from the 'big', important figures, I put to you that the world is a better place not necessarily because of these 'big' people, but due to the efforts of the quiet achievers.

I hope that you get the chance to discover someone and tell the world about their achievements.

What will I think of next on my commute? ■

FRANK H. JOHNSTON AFTER A PIG SHOOT.

