Around the Traps 2019

Allawah | Argyle Downs | Auvergne | Brisbane | Bunda |
Carlton Hill | Dungowan | Isis Downs | JJAA | Kirkimbie |
Newcastle Waters | Newry | Wrotham Park
OUR TEAM IS PROUD TO CONNECT THE BEST AUSTRALIAN BEEF TO THE WORLD

HEALTH AND SAFETY | LEADERSHIP | TRUST | COMMUNITY | VALUE CREATION

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Cover photo: Centaine Hussie, NCW
I want to start out by saying thank you to all of our team for the hard work and dedication shown in a year that has seen CPC change fundamentally. We’ve had to say goodbye to a number of stations and several team members along the way. I’m very proud of the way you’ve carried yourselves and presented the business favourably throughout the Ribeye process.

The safety and welfare of our people and livestock is always top of mind for me and whilst this continues to be a challenge for our organisation, encouragingly more conversations around safety and welfare are occurring and I hope this leads to better outcomes for all.

CPC continued its involvement with Dolly’s Dream this year, with Kate and Tick sharing their story at the Manager’s Conference and Bernadette and I remain on the board. Manbulloo and indeed all of CPC rallied behind Tinny for a Testie to support Mushy’s treatment. Both causes reminding us to check both our mental and physical health, for ourselves and our families.

Our Board and Terra Firma congratulate you all for your professionalism in showcasing the best of our land, people and cattle to investors throughout the year. Like many of the CPC team they are happy with the results of the sales of Mimong, Comely, Ucharonidge, Argyle Downs, Auvergne, Newry and Manbulloo and also sad to see them leaving our portfolio. Whilst it is tough to see CPC change so significantly, I am pleased at how the transition occurred for properties, people and cattle.

The sale process has now changed focus to bringing a group of investors together, along with Guy Hands and his family, to purchase the remainder of CPC as a whole and fund future opportunities. This will continue to take up my time over the coming months, but I encourage you to get in touch should you have any questions.

Whilst CPC property sales were never far from the headlines, it was pleasing to see several CPC people being recognised for their hard work and for portraying CPC in a positive light on local and national stages. All of our team have achieved success this year and many have not been recognised. A few that have been recognised include, Anna Cochrane who was awarded Community Volunteer of the year in the Australia Day awards, William Bulo was recognised as best up and coming CEO for Indonesia, Glen Brooker graduated from the ARLF Agribusiness Leadership program, Jason Purcell was interviewed about animal welfare for the QLD Country Life, Brooke Barkla and Tammy Kruckow were selected as Nuffield scholars for 2020, Jimmy Beale represented CPC at the National Farmers Federation (NFF) 2030 Leaders Summit and 40th Gala, Jacqui Cannon spoke at the NTCA conference and was selected to participate in the NFF 2019 Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program, Jen Cotter and Jesse Campbell attended the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program, Andrew Caesar participated in the MLA exchange, Nat Boatwright was appointed Secretary for Queensland Livestock Exporters’ Association (QLEA) and Marcus Doumany was elected to the NTCA board.

And of course, there was the Stations Challenge and all of the campdrafts, fishing comps, rugby matches and shows where our people represented their brilliant skills and our cattle to a wider audience. Thanks for continuing to make CPC look so good. Thank you also to those that represented CPC at various professional events and conferences around the country, in addition to...
A FEW WORDS FROM TROY

your membership and participation with numerous industry and community associations.

Understanding of the full Live Export supply chain became clearer for a number of our employees this year with Pak Asril and Pak Tuah from JJAA spending over 6 weeks at Newcastle Waters, getting to see where their cattle start out. Ali Quintana, Andrew O’Kane and Brooke Harwood are participating in the AUSTREX Exchange, seeing what life is like on a live export vessel travelling from Northern Australia to Indonesia.

This year saw yet another failed northern wet season and the unprecedented flooding in the north west gulf. I’d like to thank all of you who’ve had to deal with the ramifications of these events whether it be moving cattle to agistment, a higher than usual stocking level on station and making some tough calls on suffering stock in the paddock. Thanks for all your hard work through these challenging times.

Whilst most development this year has been focused on ensuring there is enough water for cattle on some very dry properties, we’ve still managed to accommodate a few trials and commercial projects; ongoing carbon abatement projects, the 2nd year of the mortality project at Newry, virtual fencing at Allawah, the objective measure of animal welfare trial at Isis Downs and continued improvement of reporting at JJAA.

Externally it has been an interesting year that presented its own challenges and opportunities. The on-going drought in the Eastern states saw large numbers of cattle go to market, however prices were mostly sustained by a substantial increase in demand out of China. The politics of climate change and global economic uncertainty has continued to weigh on markets and consumer confidence, with no end in sight at this point for either issue. Indonesia and Australia both saw elections, with the incumbents winning out in both cases.

As always, I have been impressed by the strength and perseverance of the team that makes up CPC and your ability to keep focused on the task in front of you. Thank you for all your hard work and continued resilience in 2019.

Have a great Christmas and holiday season, keep safe and I look forward to catching up with you in 2020, as the new year presents more opportunities for all of us at CPC.
Finance has continued to travel to stations and JJAA, undertake ongoing training, contribute to the Ribeye process, and deliver core back office functions in 2019 which has been another busy, challenging and rewarding year.

2019 has been defined again to some extent by the Ribeye process, which has not only involved the divestment of several stations and increased herd movements, but has also pushed the pause button on a number of planned system and process improvement projects. In addition, each divestment required separation from the group’s IT and financial management structures, asset audits and adjustments to cattle numbers, and allowed debt to be paid down with the inflowing proceeds.

And although dry spells are nothing new to the Finance team, in 2019 there has been an actual drought as well, which has impacted the whole of CPC and JJAA. The drought has not sadly yet broken, but the finance dry spell was apparently interrupted in about January, leading to the birth of Greg Quinn and wife Liz’s 4th child, Joseph, in October. Joseph has been undertaking a 24/7 spreadsheeting immersion since birth, and is already far outstripping his father in use of Excel power-pivots, which is quite impressive, and in his luxurious hair style, which is not.

The composition of the Finance team has been stable throughout the year, as have most of its members. The team has managed a successful and on-time FY19 audit, the FY20 Budget process, and two quarterly reforecasts, as well as reporting upgrades to incorporate the impact of staged divestments on underlying business performance.

The team has also pushed ahead with investigations of a range of JJAA data issues, and implemented several significant reporting improvements, including several visits by Brisbane colleagues to JJAA and vice versa.

We continued to get finance staff out to the station “coal face” this year - many thanks to all the station managers and the General Managers who welcomed finance staff onto their stations or to their events throughout the year:

• Greg and Salesi undertook asset audits at all the divested stations in the lead up to their settlement dates.
• Nat helped with the weaner feeding at Isis Downs, and the CPC stand at the Ekka, and she and Naree bravely took on the substantial task of keeping Tracy under control at the Nuffield Awards dinner.
• Sue, Naree and Salesi carried the CPC banner through the Bridge to Brisbane on behalf of the lazier members of the finance team (ie Jim)
• Naree and Sue attended the CPC Station Challenge at Kununurra, impressing the Smoko Challenge judges with Naree’s Anzac Bars.
• Craig travelled to most stations again this year, including all the divested stations as part of their transition out of the group
• Raquel and Craig visited JJAA several times, resolving IT, data and reporting challenges and implementing improvements.
• Pak Jenly and Bu Esti from JJAA visited Brisbane, and Jim, Greg and Salesi visited JJAA to continue developing the integration of JJAA into CPC

Throughout all this the team enjoyed each other’s company and supported each other through every challenge – including late in the year when the team rallied together with a real generosity of spirit to help Craig and Salesi through the unbridled grief of the All Blacks abject failure at the Rugby World Cup.

I am again very proud of every member of the finance team, and look forward to another great year in 2020.
Where did 2019 go? The Brisbane team have been very dedicated and working hard to support our people at the stations. It’s been a tough year for everyone especially Carl’s (aka the mayor of Newmarket Road) daily commentary on how the lawn looks outside and feeling helpless with the dry weather conditions. Thankfully there was no drought to the Christmas festivities, we do love a good food baby, but it was evident the team appreciated kicking off the year with a 12-week fitness challenge.

The fitness challenge was put on hold for a week when all of our management teams got together to celebrate another year at the 2019 CPC Conference held in Brisbane. The conference was a great success with two of our own; Nat and Ali being awarded with the People’s Choice award, well done ladies! It was a great night for our Brisbane crew to meet and speak to our station management teams face to face when most of our contact is done via the telephone. The conference was very heartfelt and emotional at times, with special guests Shane Webcke, and Kate and Tick from Dolly’s Dream Foundation sharing their stories and hardships with our teams. Their stories continue to remind us to be there for each other and take the time to work safely together.

The season commenced with another successful JMC and CPC Induction week with our new recruits for 2019 in Katherine, NT at Manbulloo and Charles Darwin University. A big congratulations to Nat for being appointed as the Secretary for Queensland Livestock Exporters’ Association (QLEA). We welcomed Cath Graham into the HR team to assist with our recruitment, training and development needs and said our farewells to Dr. Dean Norris, WHS and HR Manager for his hard work and thanked him for his achievements at CPC.

Tracy stepped up into the HR Manager role and has taken it on with her usual energy and passion.

In April, the team committed to do a “Marie Condo” tidy up and coordinated a charity collection to be distributed for by JJAA in Indonesia. We had Cath, Emma and Troy representing CPC at the inaugural Australian Intercollegiate Meat Judging (ICMJ) conference in Rockhampton speaking to many keen students interested in joining our crew in 2020. After the introduction of the CPC safety pledge, Troy and Tracy had a whirlwind trip to the NT and WA stations to speak about the importance of safety, CPC’s no tolerance to bullying, harassment and sexual harassment and to check in with the teams.

It was all happening in May; the Brisbane team wore blue in support of the Dolly’s Dream foundation in memory of Amy “Dolly” Everett. We were fortunate enough to have Dr Skye Saunders, an expert in gender and discrimination law, visiting our Brisbane crew to speak about her ground-breaking research on sexual harassment in rural Australian workplaces and how to combat the advancement of gender equality together. It was not all blue in May, we congratulated Jacqui who was chosen as one of ten outstanding women from across Australia, to take part in the National Farmers’ Federation (NFF) 2019 Diversity in Agriculture Leadership Program.

Carl won first place in the annual CPC photos competition in the cattle category and miraculously took out first place in the 12-week fitness challenge. Well done to our top five winners in the fitness challenge; Carl, Raquel, Salesi, Sue and Glen, good to see people taking charge of their health and well-being. The health kick didn’t stop there with Jas participating in her first triathlon, Salesi participating in his first marathon, Naree taking her gym journey to the next level,
Glen joining his local Cricket club, Raquel joining the F45 fitness studio, Jacqui completing her first 35km charity walk, Richard hitting the gym at lunch times and Sue continuing to smash her personal health goals and looks fantastic, you won’t even recognise her. Cath, Jacqui and Tracy hosted CPC’s first HR Pastoral group meeting with our industry peers and fortunately Troy was in town and able to join us for a quick chat.

In June, we surprised Ali with a CPC baby shower lunch to start her new exciting chapter. Everyone loved guessing how big Ali’s belly was and if you know our Brisbane team, no food goes untouched so you would think who wouldn’t like eating chocolate even if it is smeared in nappies. We can all blame Ali who decided to have a baby and leave us for Oscar born on the 14th July. We welcomed Ian Florence our new WHS Manager in amongst these celebrations; he may have had second thoughts about joining our Brisbane crew. Ian has hit the floor running, travelling to all of our stations to meet our people and talk safety, it’s been a great opportunity to learn about our business and help support our teams.

Jas was doing what she does best, travelling around to our stations working her magic including partnering on the new virtual fencing activities in Allawah and another university trial at Isis Downs station; we’re all very excited to see the reports.

Andrew, Cath and Jas had a very busy start to August, attending the Michelle Bowden persuasive presentation skills master-class, it is safe to say they will be presenting at all future CPC events. CPC was present again at the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) with a marquee during the beef experience week and the main show event. Thanks to Anna Cochrane, Cath, Jas and Nat for representing and promoting CPC at the event. In mid-August, we had Andrew, Cath, Glen, Jacqui, Naree, Sue and Troy represent the Brisbane office at the 2019 CPC Stations Challenge.

Andrew, Jacqui and Naree cooked up a storm for the smoko challenge and rudely didn’t bring back any left overs to the ones left behind.
Ali brought in our newest CPC recruit Oscar, to meet the team where we discovered Jim had other talents aka the baby whisperer. When you thought that was it with the baby talk, what a great surprise and big congratulations to Emma and Cameron for their exciting pregnancy news. Baby Norris is due in March 2020 and we can’t wait to meet baby jnr...must be something to do with the dry conditions as CPC continues to expand rapidly with more exciting baby surprises, congratulations to Greg and Liz for having baby number four; Joseph Gregory Quinn born on 18th September (Jim is ready for his next babysitting duties).

Andrew continued with the surprises but in a different way, as one of the Directors for the Future Warriors Project a charity that supports the Maasai people of Tanzania; Troy and Tracy had the privilege of attending the charity dinner. Ian also continued with the surprises, he’s a keen bowler and one that’s pretty good so it seems, after him and his team took out the championships and won the Cunningham and District Bowls Association – Open Division. There were no other surprises here in September with Cath and Tracy kicking off the 2020 recruitment drive ready for next years recruits.

Well done to our team; Ali, Andrew, Salesi, Jas, Sue, Naree, Tracy and Troy who took to the streets of Brisbane for the Bridge to Brisbane in support of Dolly’s Dream Foundation. Meanwhile, Craig and Raquel were working hard in the streets of Indo with our team at JJAA. The travel didn’t stop there, with Craig and Salesi visiting Argyle, Auvergne and Newry stations who were very well looked after. Glen, Jacqui, Ian, Tracy and Troy travelled to Darwin to meet some of our leadership teams from NT and WA.

A big congratulations to Salesi for receiving his admission as an associate chartered account, Tracy for completing her Certificate IV in WHS, Naree for completing her Diploma of Accounting, Nat for completing her leadership course and Jim and Richard for completing their AICD Company Directors course, what a bright bunch.

In early October, Troy and Jim set off again to the Terra Firma portfolio business conference, this year in Budapest. Whilst we all wished we were in Budapest; Cath, Emma, Jacqui, Jas, Nat, Naree and Tracy attended the Meat Business Women conference in Brisbane. The annual Brisbane office family BBQ was held in October, this year there was lots of diversity with no meat forgotten and everyone leaving the night with their belly fuller than Santa’s!

With the end of the year in sight, we have one more fun event that we’re all excited about, the Brisbane Christmas party with the crew. Our competitive streak will come out during dirty Santa! A big thank you to Anita for organising the Christmas event.

What a year it has been! We wish everyone a nice relaxing Christmas; hoping for a very wet season ready for 2020!

P.s. One last surprise from the Brisbane office with Tracy announcing that she and Dan are expecting a baby in June 2020!
The long anticipated 2018/2019 wet season once again was very patchy and across the Barkly there was totally no effective rainfall at all received. The Western properties had good grass rain over most of the area, however water rain in terms of filling dams and running rivers was well below average. Bundu and Kirkimbie also had no effective rainfall and cattle numbers had to be reduced on these properties.

Waiting for wet seasonal rain to come was not an option for the Barkly and these stations and their crews rolled out of December and straight into January in full work mode and have been working onwards and upwards throughout the whole year.

Cattle movements continued paddock by paddock to areas that had remaining pasture, Ucharonidge was the first place where movements occurred in early January to Dungowan and then Manbulloo and Carlton and then agistment properties. These movements resulted in approx. 60,000 head being relocated.

Having secured agistment properties early we have been able to move our breeding herd around to suit our grass requirements and to keep our breeding herd maintained. It has been a huge effort by all our teams and contractors and their commitment to getting the movements to agistment and general mustering done as quickly and efficiently as possible to ensure the ongoing welfare of our animals was the number one priority at all times. Supplementation and early weaning have been key factors across all our Northern Operations to ensure the cattle are in the best condition possible.

Having the capacity to carry out water development has opened up more country to spread our numbers out across our properties.

This year all NTWA stations participated in the OzHelp Program. OzHelp team members visited all stations and all staff participated in the program. CPC are proud to be recognised as the first pastoral company to engage and present a program such as OzHelp to our stations.

The sale of Ucharonidge from our group of stations saw the departure of Des and Emilie Carey and their daughters Violet and Lily. Des and Em were popular members of our team and we were sorry to see them go and wish them well with their new role as Managers of Kalala Station. At the end of the season we will bid farewell to Montie Lester. Montie has been a valued and popular member of the CPC team, since starting at Newcastle Waters, and then flying the Baron for the last two years. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with Montie and we wish him every success in pursuing his dream of one day flying for the RFDS. From all of us whom have had the pleasure of being on board Pastoral One under your command Montie, goodbye and good luck.

Some other much valued members of the CPC team, whom are moving on to further their careers and explore new horizons, Mike Bailey and Kellie Hall, and Jack O’Donnell. Mike and Kellie have been long term CPC employees and have both made significant contributions to the company during this time. Jack joined us as our first CPC vet living on station and having his knowledge on hand has been a great asset. Thank you Mike, Kellie and Jack, and best wishes for your new opportunities.

Thank you to all the CPC team for a great year where working together as a team has never been more clearly displayed.

“Great things in Business are never done by one person. They’re done by a team of people.” – Steve Jobs.

May 2020 see good seasons, fat cattle, new challenges, and as always Safety is our No.1 priority.
GENERAL MANAGER - QLD

As the sun sets on another year, we can look back and be proud of 2019 for the rough season that was thrown at us and the efforts made by all parties to come through with a healthy herd and the spirits of the team still high. The team is undoubtedly the pillar that supports our livestock through years like this one and I sincerely thank you all for your dedication to CPC.

The flood event in early February hit at Mimong where it quickly turned from “How good is this rain” to “This is not good”, which then flowed to plenty of action and calling in favours to be able to give the cattle the best possible chance at survival after the cold and wet conditions they had to endure. As soon as it stopped raining and we were able to get on the ground we initially dealt with suffering stock then quickly moved to getting feed out to the energy drained stock. It did not take long for the country to start responding, and respond it did, with such a dense growth of quality pasture while the ground we initially dealt with is not good” which then flowed to “This rain by all parties to come through with a healthy herd and the spirits of the team still high. The team is undoubtedly the pillar that supports our livestock through years like this one and I sincerely thank you all for your dedication to CPC.

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As a result of station sales, we then had to say our farewells to Mimong followed up with Comely from the Qld group. When I think about the positive impact that these Stations achieved for CPC and the team members that were able to spend time at these stations over the years of ownership, it was an honor to be part of and we wish Sterling the best with them. Thank-you Mimong and Comely teams for making a smooth and professional transition of ownership.

With these Stations out of the portfolio and the Aussie drought impact, it meant Wrotham, Isis and Allawah have had to do things a little differently this year to be able to absorb some impact. I commend these teams on maintaining positive outlooks and understanding of the bigger picture for the company while still being able to crack out good results with kg’s and calves, well done team.

It’s been a good year for projects in CPC - once again demonstrating the CPC team’s keen interest in undertaking research and development work both for the betterment of CPC operations and the broader pastoral industry.

We’ve had a year of firsts for CPC and Carbon. We received our first set of Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU) for the Wrotham Park Savanna burning project; 4,703 (for the 2018 calendar year). A fantastic outcome given the extensive fires across Wrotham Park late 2018. We also received our first ACCU’s under the CPC Herd Methodology Project with fantastic results. This project certainly has been a CPC-wide project and thanks to all the teams who supplied data for the project activities.

The Newry Mortality Project has continued to run with its 2nd full year of on-cattle monitoring. With some tweaks to the monitoring devices, Dave and Christie have now been able to bridge the gap between calving-alerts, live-calf identification and calf mortality as it happens (if it happens). This significant tweak to the trial, along with moving a select mob of cows into West-Keep, has delivered some fantastic outcomes for the trial in terms of timely identification of animals and ease of identification in the challenging extensive, Northern Australia environment.

2019 also saw the start of the Objective Measure of Animal Welfare trial at Isis Downs. With clearly defined objectives set for the project, project-launch saw simultaneous activities happening across 2 groups of cattle. A trial within a trial, the team first undertook branding activities to review pain mitigation options with a focus on changes to the behaviour and performance of individuals following the procedure(s). Next will be a review on cow-calf behaviour following calving and a subsequent review on weaning practices to follow in future years. The trial also offers CPC the opportunity to utilise smart-tag technology for the live tracking of animal behaviour and changes in animal behaviour states. We’ve received great feedback on this trial to date and is a credit to you all at Isis.

Virtual fencing commenced at Allawah with the collaring on 95hd of heifers in Bottom Camel paddock (Emus Nest). The pilot trial will help both CPC and Vence work through the opportunities available with virtual fencing with a hands-on approach. Jason has successfully introduced some virtual-fences so far with additional benefits being offered through tracking animal location.

With all these projects there is a wide scope of thank you’s for all the teams who are involved with the successful execution of the project activities. Thank-you Emma and Jas for your continued support and dedication you offer myself and CPC.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas break and thanks all for your hard work throughout 2019. Let’s conjure up a scheme to get the rain and market Gods on our side for 2020.
2019 has been another very challenging year for rain at Allawah with 320mm for the financial year, in line with the rest of CPC, we have managed to maintain our core breeder herd here after culling all empties and culls on type and temperament. This is the first year where there are no calves by Brahman bulls here, we have a multitude of composite calves that will help lift fertility both at Allawah and across all of the company. We are still ticking off goals with the Boran herd not only what we are producing for our own use but with substantial semen sales to the USA.

Cobby and I were lucky enough to go to USA this year and visited some of the Ranchers that we are selling the semen to, they are very much on board and are believers in the Boran breed and what it can do for both themselves and CPC herd. This trip was money well spent with big increases in semen sales due to sales put in place with the USA clients, we looked at their breeder herds and advised which bulls would best help them to reach their target markets in the USA based on their breeders, country types and end customers.

We have spent some money replacing electric fence lanes with 4 barb fences and split some paddocks in half at Emus Nest as well as cleaning out and enlarging a dam at Emus Nest that will give us a much safer water supply once it fills for a major central pipeline.

We currently have about 415 number 18 mainly composite bulls on feed at Lillyvale feedlot at Condamine, these will all go north in mid December to be joined, this is the second year we have done this and it will be an ongoing practice for us. We continue to work with Nindooinba on our Embryo and IVF programmes that are giving great results delivering both composite and pure Boran progeny at larger numbers than we could produce with straight natural breeding.

Amanda joined the CPC team at Allawah in October and has been busy finding her bearings around Allawah and Emus Nest while keeping a keen eye on calving which is in full swing.

Our thanks again are extended to Cobby and Wrotham Park’s Bones and Katie for helping out throughout the year.

As this is our final mailbag / Around the Traps, we would like to thank the CPC team for their friendship over the last 20 years.

Wishing everyone a relaxing, enjoyable and hopefully wet Christmas break.

Jason and Haylee
ARGYLE DOWNS

The season got off to a quick start for Argyle as we had a boat first up. Staff arrived at the beginning of March, completely missing ‘induction’ week, and hit the ground running.

First muster was interesting, mostly for the cook (listening in) anyway. Lots of ‘instructions’ from above and many whiteboard lessons later we learnt what ‘ringing’ meant. All then re located to Ivanhoe to process and truck these cattle out.

Next job was fencing, fencing and a bit more fencing. The crew made it as fun as possible and by the end of the stint (of which there was another later in the year) they could have gone off contracting!

End of May there were a few long faces. Pete decided to send everyone to camp out at Sultan. A tough lesson on… ‘get yourselves better organised’. Drafted 8,500 head to get 3,000 boat weight.

Second major stint at fencing was where girls discovered that heat stroke really does exist. They learnt a lot there about precautions and preparation. About 20 km of new fencing was put in between Argyle and Lissadel.

Tom Shephard graced us with his presence for a couple of days which everyone enjoyed and learnt plenty from. The one and only time someone has silenced Tom with a comeback, and it happened to be the quietest girl in the crew who turned out to be the most rumbustious. I wish I had been a fly on the wall that day!

Some staff also attended the shoeing school and Ronny Wall school.

Beginning of September Anna transferred to Newry and Connor went to NCW. This left us with four girls, who I have to say, did a fantastic job all round.

Improvements, especially in the water department, are always a good thing to see. Seven new troughs and two tanks were put in and a lot of poly pipe laid! Yard maintenance with lots more man gates was ticked off the list too.

Clouds started rolling in mid-September but by all accounts, this was a false start. Like everyone we are desperately waiting. Lake Argyle is at the lowest point it has been in 30 years. This posed lots of issues with stock along the very boggy edges. Girls developed ‘crocodile awareness and identification’ whilst extending internal fences into the Lake. Mud negotiation was high on the list and bogged animals were easily accessed but belly crawling out, just like crocodiles. One large salty was spotted!

Argyle were conspicuous in their absence with Christmas photos. By the time break up came around we only had three girls left. We decided to go for a day trip up the Ord, do photo books and gift vouchers instead of a party as such.

Although our team were young and green, they were amazing in their dispositions and attitudes. We would like to thank them for that as it makes the season easier.

For the calendar year Argyle turned off 7,500 thousand head over 300kg and 9,200 were inducted in.

We wish everyone all the best for 2020.

Peter and Judy
AUVERGNE

It’s that of year again, as things are starting to wind down and we all start looking to the skies for clouds. 2019 has seen a very busy and challenging year. As for the majority of us across the Top End, the 2018/2019 wet seasons saw our second wet season in a row with less than half our annual rainfall during the wet. So as 2019 kicked off, we knew we were in for a dry year. Thankfully, a cool dry season and hard work from the team saw everything work to our favour and we all got there in the end!

The beginning of May saw the start of our first round, things got very busy with three separate stockcamps getting stuck in to things. Thanks to RJM and Farrcombe contracting to helping our operations our through the year, we couldn’t have done it without them!

As first round finished up, June saw a busy month of preg testing our dry cows to keep in line with our segregation program. Earlier in the year we held a preg testing school at Auvergne, run by Peter Letchford which a few of our staff attended, along with others from CPC stations.

The end of June saw our sales program step up a gear, with sending 24 decks of cows all the way down to Naracorte in SA which was well worth it in the long run!

July kicked off with Tom Shephard running a stock handling school at Auvergne, all of the staff thoroughly enjoyed the school and the skills they gained were very evident. This month also saw our heifer program swing in to action and kept our station stockcamp busying preg-testing, while Farrcombe contracting swung in to action to give us a hand to get some early weaning done so we could stay ahead of the very dry conditions to come.

August saw things start to slow down a bit, with most of the staff attending and competing at local campdrafts across the district, amongst these were Costello, Kununurra, Pussycat and Katherine. Mid-month saw the annual company event of the station challenge held in Kununurra, what a fantastic event it was. Auvergne were lucky enough to come home with 3rd place overall, which everyone was stoked about! Thank you from all of us at Auvergne for all of the effort from all organisers to put together such a great event together.

September and October saw more cattle work, as the dry year kept us busying moving livestock about to keep ahead of water and feed issues. Second round of our wet cow program took place, along with our aged cow program, and early weaning program.

November seemed to be our quietest month of the year, which saw a handful of our August calvers processed and their weaners sent to the EWP at Carlton Hill.

With all staff finishing up in mid-December, we had time to celebrate what a great year we had a Lake Argyle Resort for a couple of nights.

Thanks to all staff, from myself and Wayne for all of the hard yards you have done this year, we definitely could not have done any of it without you. As for those moving on to new adventures, we wish you all the best. We look forward to welcoming new and transferring staff in 2020, let’s hope it’s a wet one!

All the best and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Wayne, Emily and Leif
A dry start to the year for the majority of rural Australia was no different at Bunda, with mustering for the year beginning earlier than normal due to the season. A February start saw us pulling off weaners before destocking aged cows and heifers leaving behind a core breeding herd that has seen us through the remainder of the year.

This year we started with a new Head stock person, Charles and Leading hand, Maitie who were well supported by the team that returned from the year before, Sheridan, Ali, Sarah, Shannon, Mark and Laurie as well as Maddy who came down from Argyle Downs. We also had Ben and Tom come for their first year at Bunda and Victor and Michael who have kept everyone fed throughout the year.

First round kept everyone busy with the usual jobs of mustering, drafting, pretesting and weaning as well as a few days at Carlton Hill to walk some of our destocked heifers away. We again had a Wild contracting crew help us out for two weeks early in first round to help get weaners off, allowing cows to cycle, helping line them up to calve at the right time of the year.

This year the team halter broke several of the stud bulls and heifers and took them to Kununurra show where they won Champion Brahman, Champion pen of the show, Best over-all exhibitor as well as placing in many other category’s before moving across to Katherine Show. In Katherine they also won 1st Place Led section – Any other breed heifer 6mths and over, 1st Place led section – Any other breed bull 6mths and under 36mths, 1st Place - Breeding stock unled class pen of 3 bulls 2yrs and over, 1st place - Breeding stock unled class pen of 3 females 2yrs and under before the crew then headed to do a week at Auvergne.

The crew also managed to make it to a few drafts and rodeos through the year, bringing home a few ribbons, some sore heads and better stories. In August the CPC station challenge was held in Kununurra at the Rodeo grounds, where all the CPC stations from NT and WA as well as some of the Brisbane office team gathered to compete over 2 days in a variety of events from horse riding to cooking. The end of the two days of competition saw the Bunda Team winning overall, a great result. A big thanks to everyone who helped with the organisation and planning leading up to the event and to all the stations for their help over the week of the competition.

At the end of August, Tom Shepard and Ronnie Wall came out to Bunda to do a coacher muster and combined horse school in the bush country to the north of Bunda. In 4 days, the crew mustered and walked 220 cleanskin cattle 40km while spending time working on their cattle handling and horse skills.

In September the crew went to Carlton Hill where they spent 5 weeks helping out mustering at Knox Creek and in the Early Weaner Program at the station where they got to see a bit more of the supply chain that makes up CPC.

In late October we had our Christmas party in Darwin where we all spent the day deep sea fishing with everyone catching a fish, something not usually achieved when working on the edge of the desert. After the weekend we managed to bring a large amount of fish and a few good stories from Mitchell Street back to Bunda.

With the end of the year rapidly closing in, cattle are still in a good condition however feed is getting lighter, we still have around 3000 weaners to come off before finishing up with cattle work for the year. In the meantime, there are still plenty of jobs to keep everyone busy! On behalf of Shannon and myself a big thanks to all the team at Bunda for their hard work through a tougher than normal year, as well as to the contractors and ring-in’s who have helped make 2019 an enjoyable and successful year despite the season.

All the best for the remainder of the year, and a Happy Christmas and New Years to all, from the team at Bunda.

Jimmy and Shannon
CARLTON HILL

As we write this years Around the Traps we are still in full swing. The build up to the wet has begun with 71mm of rain at the homestead in the last week and through some of the paddocks. The camp has been at 8 mile walking heifers and putting in tanks and poly. The few people at the homestead have been doing maintenance jobs.

This year has been busy, challenging and rewarding. We had a total of 636mm over the wet which gave us the great start to what has been another successful year at Carlton Hill.

Jeremy, Kate M, Mike and Kellie stayed over the 2018-2019 wet to feed the poddies in the Early Weaning Program. With the wet being steady it meant that the tractors and mixers weren’t getting bogged and we could get concentrate and corn in without any problems.

The season started early with plenty of grass, fat cattle and 10,000 poddies in the Early Weaning Program. Luckily we had transfers and a couple of first years who came up in early March to give us a hand to prepare for the year ahead. After another successful Junior Management Conference at Manbulloo and First Year to CPC Induction at CDU everyone was back here and first round had begun. We had RJM Contracting and McDonald and Sons Contracting come and help us complete first round. The Kimberley’s hot humid weather was in full force and everyone had to acclimatise quickly with a change of clothes at smoko and lunch as they were saturated in sweat. It didn’t take long for Jeremy and Bill to work out the ways of the fresh camp. This year we have been lucky with the training offered through CPC. It started at the end of February with Glen and Mike heading into Kununurra for the Grazing for Profit Course. The end of March was the First Aid Course or the refresher for everyone here at Carlton. Mid May we had Bunda come across and join some of our crew and complete Bill Huttons Shoeing School. End of May we had Tom Shephard do a two day Efficient Stock Handling School. Early June we had the ladies from Oz Help come and speak about Mental Health. Mid August, Ronnie Wall came and completed a two day horsemanship school with the camp. End of August, Tom Shephard was back for another two day cattle handling school. At the end of November Jeremy and Kate M head to Townsville to do the Grazing for Profit Course.

We have seen some more improvements this year with the big one being water development to utilise country that hasn’t been used before. A Bobcat and implements, new back up generator and new motorbikes.

The water developments were much needed here this year. Red Rust and Murray Hockey Contracting has put the fence lines in, ran poly, connected tanks etc. With the Barkly struggling with the lack of wet season, it meant that Carlton Hill has had to take on a lot of Newcastle Waters, Dungowan and Bunda cattle. A total of 20,000 head has been trucked to us adding to the 42,000 head already here. This year has been a huge year with 62,000 head in total. Carlton Hill had a smaller wet which meant less surface water. The surface water had dried up and we started with bore/ water problems in July. The camp then walked cattle out to utilise country that we hadn’t used before.

Walking them to the new tanks and troughs that were installed.

While cattle work did take up majority of our time we made sure we attended social events throughout the year with us attending a couple of campdrafts and rodeos as well as the CPC Challenge. Everyone at Carlton Hill had a fantastic time at the CPC Challenge this year with it being held in Kununurra. The green grass and great facilities made it a comfortable and a great few days.

Easter was spent in Darwin enjoying 4 days off. We also made the journey to Katherine for the ASH draft and the Katherine Show. As well as the Tinny for a Testie Rugby match in Kununurra which was organized by our Early Weaning Supervisor, Tylah Bonisch and Manbulloo. The next event for us is our Christmas Party in early December. We are all off for a few days of fishing and other fun activities. Thanks to Bunda for looking after Carlton and the Early Weaning Program so we can all go away for it.

With all of the mid round social events, second round mustering came up very quickly. Thanks to Bunda and Newcastle Waters for sending over camps to give us a hand. With everyone’s help we completed mustering before it got uncomfortably hot out at camp. While we were half way through second round some exciting news
came through that Kate Smith (Early Weaning Supervisor - who is currently on maternity leave) and Henry Anderson (Carlton Hill contract helicopter pilot) had a beautiful baby girl – Ziggy Belle Anderson. Everyone was extremely excited!

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped out this year. Best of luck to those moving on and for the people returning to Carlton Hill, may you have another fantastic year! We hope all stations receive a huge wet and you all have a great Christmas and New Years!

Kate Murphy
On behalf of the Carlton Hill Crew
EARLY WEANING PROGRAM

Due to obvious reasons this will probably be a little shorter than normal as I have only been running the Early Weaning program for just over two months. Kate Smith is greatly missed but a massive congratulations to Henry and Kate on their arrival of baby Ziggy.

Myself and my small family of six dogs and two ponies made the small journey over to Carlton Hill from Legune to run the Early Weaning program in late August. This was a fantastic career opportunity and as some of you may know me ‘I grabbed the bull by the horn’s’ and hit the ground running with roughly 6,000 head in the program at the time.

Kate abandoned us within a week and Timothy Malone and myself were left to further exit 2,000 head of fresh mickeys and heifers. In this time we also received 4,614 head of poddies that are now happily inducted and munching on corn, concentrate and hay till their little bovine hearts are content.

We will be gearing up for next months poddies to arrive from Bunda which will be roughly 3,000 head. Hopefully within the next few weeks the poddy pens will be lightened off to make room for more of the little critters.

Happy holidays, have a cheer and share a beer, Christmas is nearly here.

Tylah Bonisch
Looking back on the year we have had at Dungowan it has been a very busy year that has gone by so quickly with so many different people staying with us for certain stages of it.

The year started with the unusual event of mustering in January to shuffle cows around to make room for heifers from the Barkly properties dealing with a non existent wet season. The first of the heifers arrived from Ucharonidge in early February followed by more in March from both Ucharonidge and Newcastle Waters.

Overall the season at Dungowan was well below average rainfall but we were lucky enough to be in a better position than our southern neighbours. With large areas of underutilised country available the decision was made to invest in water development to retain and spread the current breeders and the heifers received.

Daley Driven were engaged to undertake the clearing of roads, fence-lines and poly lines, laying of poly and installing tanks and troughs. Three new bores were drilled by Northern Water Services and then equipped with solar pumps by Lands Water. Hockeys Rural Contracting did all the fencing and installed spear gates and built panels for fencing off the tanks. All the tanks, troughs and poly were supplied by Northern Stock Water.

Blighty and Chris from Daley Driven parked up their big red bus in the Dungowan Compound for over 4 months. Other than operating the wheel dozer and grader Blighty and Chris happily helped out anywhere and everywhere and we very much enjoyed their company and their antics. Thanks so much Blighty and Chris! Kelly and the boys then arrived with the monstrous D10 dozer to lay the poly and were done and gone in a flash. Next to move in were Steve Smith and the SLS Building team whose job it was to build the tanks and install all the troughs. And finally in September the water was connected, pumps running, tanks filling, and cows have moved out onto new areas to graze.

We only had a few staff based here this year. Roy Kunnoth was on the grader for about 5 months on and off and did a great job on the roads and was always keen to ride a horse and chase some cows too. James (English) and Hannah (American) did their 88 days helping out with bore runs, fencing and cattle work. Markus Vogel has done a full season - bore-running, repairs, welding, putting out lick and hay, grader driving, stock work you name it and Markus has it done it and done it well. Sadly for us he is heading home to Germany next month and we will miss him immensely. Dan Reeve was part of the stock camp that came to muster and we gladly welcomed his transfer across here from Newcastle Waters in August. He has taken over the bore runs with zest and anything else that’s going on Dan wants to be a part of it – no job too big or small. Thank you very much Markus and Dan for all your hard work. We hope it’s been very rewarding and a lot of fun for you as well.

We had staff from Ucharonidge and Newcastle Waters come over to help out with mustering. A huge thank you to Des, Snowy, Laura, Meg, Charlotte, Dan, Chris, Jack and Kyle, Kaila, Nikki, Dan, Archie, Murt and Doc for all your hard work walking cattle, drafting, branding and pregtesting. Second round saw a different Newcastle team - DJ, Archie, Johno, Nikki, Ivan and Bryce come over. Markus and Dan joined them as well. DJ ran a “Best Panel Yard” competition. They were given the opportunity to design a yard at one trap each and judged on handling, flow and safety – the winner being German engineer, Markus Vogel. Thank you to all the staff and contractors who have been a part of the team this year.

We wish you all the best for 2020

Suzie and Dave
ISIS DOWNS

In January we welcomed back seventy percent of our 2018 crew with the addition of Kelsey, our fabulous cook, Ellen and Danny in our stock camp. As always with our team at Isis Downs, culture is incredibly important and over the year we have made some small changes to find our 2019 dream team, welcoming Coen in August.

There were flooding rains in March which saw Clementine, Harriet and Agatha cut off from school for two weeks and a couple of cricket games in the wool-shed to bide our time until the waters went down.

As seasons tightened we have taken in cattle from Newcastle Waters and managed changes in stock resulting from the floods at Mimong, and the sales of Nockatunga, Mimong and Comely. As always there was a steady flow of weaners from Wrotham. In June we put two mobs of heifers on the roads with drovers and our crew found time on their weekends to try their hands at droving. We managed to find a couple of agistment blocks to maintain our breeding stock.

As a bit of fun we welcomed a stylist to Isis Downs in May to help the team find what colours suited them and how to dress to impress. We ran a two day horse school in response to the team wanting to do more cattle work on real horses rather than steel ones. We have also participated in a few local events including the Isisford Sheep and Wool show where the team modelled the newest fashions in workwear, the Isisford Fishing Competition and the Yaraka Gymkhana where Andrew showed the younger members of the team how to ride like a Boss. In August the crew pooled their money to purchase one day of labour from Andrew and one of our neighbours in a charity auction to support the Isisford Race Club.

Towards the end of this year, in preparation for 2020, we shuffled a few staff around to provide growth and development in different skill sets. Our Boreman, Doug has moved into the stockcamp and Richard has moved across to be our Boreman. We also welcomed Joe and Claudia from Wrotham Park for a month of work in-between mustering rounds.

As we write this, there are smiles all around Isis Downs as over four inches of rain has fallen in an early summer front. This year has been a succession of management decisions to find a balance between utilising pasture after flooding rains in March and April and conserving feed as the year dried out. We had five months in a row without a drop of rain.

We are very excited to welcome back all but one of our team next year and we wish Ellen all the best as she moves to Brisbane to study Nursing.

Anna and Andrew
It has been a good but challenging year at JJAA, we had a large intake of drought cattle at the beginning of the year filling up the feedlots, which was good because Ramadan saw strong demand in the market as a result of no Indian Buffalo stock. This went from April to about mid-September, and we were able to meet demand and sell much higher than budget due to the extra cattle on feed. Since cheaper IBM is back in the market in September, sales have become more difficult.

A tsunami at the beginning of the year in the Lampung and Banten province saw damage and the loss of some family and friends in the local community. The tsunami was caused by a slip of parts of Krakatoa Mountain, and the main wave mostly hit Banten area. JJAA was able to provide outreach to the people affected at this time and it was great to see all the community coming together.

We lost Pak Yendri our Marketing Manager earlier this year at 46 years old, he was a lifelong team member and great friend who had built amazing connections with all the JJAA customers and team over the past 17 years. Everyone misses him greatly, he was the type of person that nothing could ever phase him, a lot of wisdom on the beef market in Indonesia and we miss listening to him sell cattle and just not taking no as an answer when he asked for a discount. In his last days, he greeted everyone, brought us cake, and motivated many of us to work hard and be happy. Quote Pak Greg Pankhurst “Pak Yendri is probably up there selling Padang food, cattle and keeping a good eye on us all”.

A long dry season meant some challenges for the supply and price of commodities this year has left us a bit low on water. Even after complete restocking of silage earlier this year, we are now running low. In Lampung we have built a wastewater treatment plant this year, which will make JJAA the first feedlot in Indonesia to have a complex treatment plant. It will allow JJAA Lampung to be in compliance and a leader in environmental audits going forward.

We had an employee gathering in Lampung which was an amazing race. It was certainty entertaining trekking around Bandar Lampung City with the whole Lampung team following the clues to get the key to get to the next destination. In Medan they had a Karaoke party to celebrate, where Yani took out the award for the best singing. We had a Buka Puasa (breaking fast) with Pak Greg and Pak Dicky at Suak Sumatera to celebrate Ramadan, which was a lovely night with some of the more senior team members.

Indonesian Independence Day was celebrated together again this year, with a flag ceremony and some games. Batik day was also a hit where the whole of Indonesia dressed in their batik attire. We actually discharged a boat at the time, so everyone was in the cattle yards in their best shirts! The team took the initiative to have a photo competition, please note the photo with the pallets entered by our Medan team which was the winning photo.

This year Arya from feeding team in Medan and Hendri from team breeding went to Australian Indonesia breeding training, where they went to Kalimantan and Australia to learn new management skills in breeding. Our local farmer program also received an award for 3rd place in the QUT farmer partnership program. The JJAA breeding program is now in 8 local villages, with 46 farmers and around 200 head of cattle. Pak Asril and Pak Tuah went to Australia with the CPC/JJAA exchange program, they had a great time and thank you to CPC for hosting.

We have welcomed some new staff this year, Dennis joins the feeding team as a graduate in Animal Nutrition and NIAP alumni. Nurul to the GA team and Mursyid to the cattle team. We wish Pramana and Iwan good luck as they prepare to be married at the end of the year, it’s about time these two bachelors got hitched and we all look forward to having a great party.

We’d like to wish everyone at CPC a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year. We are all looking forward to the next year ahead and hope to see you soon.

Brooke and the JJAA team
Newcastle Waters Station had to hit the ground running in 2019. The new year brought fresh faces to CPC and Newcastle, with managers Marcus and Ally Doumany and their daughter Primrose, starting in early January. With very few storms over Christmas, the work didn’t slow down at all, and what we didn’t know at that stage was that we were in the middle of one of the worst wet seasons in the Barkly’s pastoral history. With a total of only 164 mm of rain in a 12-month period, our teams were in for a challenging year.

Returning staff started coming back from holidays early, and some of our first years even came up before induction week. By the time February came around, the drought action plan was in full swing, with four camps mustering the worst drought affected paddocks across both Newcastle and Ucharonidge, to move cattle to better pastures.

At the same time, we had two contracting camps working on the Early Weaning Program, to re-enforce bunks and fencing in three pens. We also added an additional three pens, to take our capacity to 10,000hd. Through February and March, there was practically standing room only in the Newcastle Kitchen!

Since the start of the year, approximately 60,000 head were removed from Newcastle Waters and Ucharonidge. They were sent to northern agistment properties in Arnhem Land, some aged cows went to the abattoirs, and 1700 Stud bulls spent two months on Queensland stock routes with a drover. For a while it looked like the trucking would never end. We had some weeks where we were trucking 7000hd in a seven-day period. And we were not the only ones. The roads of the Territory rattled constantly with the thundering of Road Trains, carting cattle anywhere that could offer some grass.

By early July trucking out of cows and bulls finished up, shifting focus to the Early Weaning Program. Here the trucking continued, and over 8,000 exit weaners were sent to Carlton Hill, Isis Downs and agistment property Gunbalanya between July and September.

The sale of Ucharonidge Station in June was a sad time for our Barkly group. The settlement meant we said goodbye to Des and Emilie Carey and their two beautiful girls Lily and Violet after three years with CPC. We sent them off with some celebration, and they are not far away, securing a management role at Kalala Station, just up the road.

The positive out of this was that Newcastle Waters gained the Ucharonidge team, with Snow (Brendan Daymond) and his crew of six making the move across. They soon went to Manbulloo then on to Carlton Hill to help there too. The Newcastle Camps have done some good travelling this year, rotating through time at Dungowan Station to complete the mustering and preg-testing there, and trips to agistment blocks like Ooratippra Station, north east of Alice Springs.

One of the highlights of the year was the CPC challenge, which was a bit of a change from the Spell Bore event of previous years, not only with its new name, but new venue. Everyone agrees that the change is incredibly positive, and the beautiful grounds in Kununurra were hard to beat. Their facilities were fantastic and Jimmy and Shannon at Bunda, and all involved, did a wonderful job of organising it. Newcastle Waters brought home second place overall, with almost all our staff members competing, and incredible effort and great skill was shown right across our whole team.

Around the station we’ve seen some great times, a highlight of which was our ‘Newcastle Olympics’ where Hot Dog Eating really sorted the men from the boys. Our investment in a karaoke machine has been a fantastic business decision, and features heavily on our regular Saturday Barbecue nights, where Hawaiian shirts are standard attire. Our next big events are Melbourne Cup Day by the pool, and our Christmas Party. We are so grateful to our team for all their hard work. It has been a tough year, and we know that it has been about as busy as they come, but everyone has risen to the challenge, and upheld the welfare of our herd in trying conditions. Thank you to everyone for their efforts, staff and contractors alike, we could not have achieved what we did this year without you all.

Now we’d better get back to our rain dancing.

Marcus and Ally, Paige Walling and Simon Everingham
NEWRY

A delayed start, all new faces and some big weaners saw a busy first round for all at Newry. We welcomed our Head Stockperson, Jesse and his wife Jade to Newry and the season began. With weaning completed by the end of May we started on the preg-testing and heifers. All ran smoothly.

Mid round brought some well-deserved rest and some time away for a quick break. Jesse and Jade welcomed their first baby boy, Kassidy Campbell.

After a great few days for the CPC Station Challenge held in Kununurra, we were back into it.

Second round was very ordinary with heat and very little grass, we had to feed and care for quite a lot of livestock. In the end, all was achieved, and some early storms brought easier times.

A great Christmas party followed by the birth of our second daughter, Beth.

Staff began to depart for the year had finished and Christmas rolled around. Thanks to everyone at Newry that made it possible and for all your hard work for the season.

Dave, Ellie, Lacey and Beth
Another year has gone by quickly but a good year season wise. After not a bad wet, the season started with one new first year, Maddy Teague to join the team. Dale Watson took over running the camp this year with Jonesy (Jack Jones) moving on after 4 years. Bones (Justin Bell) ran the weaner camp first round and did a great job handling some big numbers at times. Claudia Stokehill as always on the job with pregtesting and spaying and running weaner camp second round. Bones, Amber Grieve and Paddy (Dale Parker) all spent some time learning how to operate the dozer and clearing around 100 kms of fence lines in between rounds. Katie Williams and Joe Fisher spent some time at Allawah and Isis Downs lending a hand and from all accounts enjoyed something different and new.

We had the same bore runners keeping the water and lick up again this year, Errol Gilbo and Damien Andrews. Shannon Van Oorde joined us early in the year to help Damien out over at Gamboola. All the usual reliable contractors again this year with Walshy (Scott Walsh) still managing to bring in a few ferals here and there. Jock Ross has been jack of trades this year from the normal machinery work, yard building and setting up new troughs etc. at some new bores we put in this year. As always Robbie and Robyn White are as efficient as ever with mustering their normal paddocks plus some fencing and weed control jobs. Bruce Parker also doing a great job keeping the yards empty and organising the trucking program. Ronny Wall and Tom Shepherd were back again to do their schools and yet again very successful. Everyone took a lot home from both schools. A fair bit of in-house training also done on waters, mills, machinery and some new fencing when the time permitted.

Most attended the local Rodeos and Campdrafts including; Normanton, Laura, Eureka Creek and Chillagoe. All the girls rode a bullock at Eureka Creek and showed some of the boys up. Our local races were held again with nearly all the parents coming for a visit and letting their hair down. The races were very close with Maddy coming second to an outside horse. Suzie Parry-Okeden left us after 2 and half years to try “Semi-retirement”. We wish her all the best and thank Suzie for an outstanding job keeping us fat and happy. Adrien Sergeant joined us at the end of August and has kept the culinary delights coming.

Thank you to all our fantastic Staff, Contractors, CPC Head Office Team for all your support and hard work throughout 2019. We wish you a relaxing Christmas break and Happy New Year.

To those not returning next year; - Dale Watson, Michaela Biggin, Joe Fisher, Jake Tabone and Maddy Teague, thank you so much for the effort and determination you have shown during your time at Wrotham Park we have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and wish you all the best.

Thanks and Cheers!
Cobby, Kirsty, Scott, Max, Charlie and Grace
CPC STATIONS CHALLENGE