

OB1 OB1 essentials

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February 2013 Bulletin

This bulletin was going to be about the new directions that Obi Obi Essentials will be taking during the year. However the rain event over the Australia Day weekend has briefly usurped the plans and refocused our thoughts on keeping livestock safe and fed and checking on the fences.



Sadly our appaloosa, Dante (affectionately called Dotty) died on Saturday. Thank you Marcus from the Kenilworth Vet Practice for helping us look after Dot and making sure that his last minutes were peaceful ones. Dante was the last of a line of horses that have been on this property since our children were youngsters and learning to ride, twenty five years ago. We all regret that his leaving means a change in our historical perspective, but we also welcome the challenges that will come with our decisions and new plans for the future.

As often happens in life, the Thursday before the weekend, our new herd of fifteen steers arrived and that was just after the first two Dexter cows established themselves in another paddock. The two Irish girls are part of the new plan. Share-farming is a word that has been in my vocabulary for some time and with great excitement and anticipation we can say that Jay, our sharefarmer is energetically and efficiently working towards planting his first crop of vegetables by the end of February. The small cows will be used to graze the area, followed by the pigs and finally the chooks. These animals will all contribute their manure and soil turning to allow this farm to continue on its journey of organic sustainability and to use inputs that are already on- farm.

Finally, I want to flag the Kenilworth Food and Wine show which will be held on Saturday, 30th March which is during Easter. This is an opportunity to see what local producers are doing in this area as well as supporting them by buying their product. Although this event always happens when we are picking and processing our olives, we are hoping to be part of the festival this year.

From our place to yours,

Alexina.