

NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2026

A message from Jo..

Another summer done and dusted.... I wonder what March will bring, hopefully not another Cyclone Alfred like last year.



The ongoing closure of Waterfall Way is still creating headaches for us, as it is everyone. It was very pleasing to see so many people at the meeting in Dorrigo on Monday 16th February, and to find out the impact the closure is having. Freight to the plateau has affected us, with couriers only running a few days a week, semi-trailers having to come via Grafton, and delivery from us to anywhere on the coast is certainly adding to the costs of running our business, plus other issues too numerous to mention. Not sure we are receiving the answers we want to hear, but at last somebody is listening, we hope! We have tried some alternate tracks through the bush to avoid doing the Summerville's Rd, Gordonville route, but I really can't recommend them, maybe they could be an alternative permanent fix to Waterfall Way if some money was spent to upgrade them – goodness know how much money has already been spent attempting to fix the Gordonville Cutting over the past few years, to no avail. I have been given a very old hand drawn map of roads that were in existence before the Gordonville Cutting, one I believe is being used again now by a few people, it is on private property. The other thing I found interesting is that there were two river crossings – called a "Shortcut to Thora" – one is the present crossing at Gordonville, suitable when the river is low, the other, further upstream. The markings on the map indicate that section was being used in 1922. It also shows the existing road at the Gordonville Cutting was opened in 1938. All very interesting.

Peter has ensured our customers receive the parts they have been waiting on, with him making a couple of deliveries during the month to our customers as far south as Kempsey and Wauchope and all places in between. I am sure our customers appreciate the extra service we have provided.

February saw a staff change; Brad Nolan has left to pursue his other interests and earthmoving business. We wish him well.

February also saw Lucas Pitkin return for his last year at TAFE in Tamworth, Oliver Sampson will do the same in early March. Both boys do a Block Release of one week at the TAFE College six times a year. Paris took a week or so off as well. Bill Reynolds will be taking annual leave during March.

During February, Gary and I were made "Patrons" of the Dorrigo Show. We have been exhibitors and donors at the Dorrigo Show for every year we have been in business (almost 43) except the Covid Years when the show was cancelled. Personally, we haven't missed many shows during our lifetime, except for 2025 when heart surgery for Gary took precedence. I still remember as a kid, getting a new outfit to wear to the Dorrigo Show – the days when it was an important social event when everyone "dressed to the nines" – now that is a saying from the past! Thank you to the Committee for awarding us this honour.

During February we were notified that we had attained "GOLD" status with Kubota – this is achieved through meeting sales, service, and parts goals for the previous year, and relies on all our staff contributing to this result. Also, having loyal customers is probably the most important part of the award! Thank you to everyone.

Until next month, *Jo*



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