

# GCA NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

SEASON'S  
Greetings



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		appreciate your input and will utilise you
		much more in the future!
		Cheers Karen Penney 0407 823 731



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Former GCA Secretary Cheryl and the Joostens have had lots to celebrate in the past few months, with daughter Chantelle thrilled to announce the birth of her second child, a daughter Bloom with husband Brent and first son Banks.

Then just recently the wedding of their son Tyler to his beautiful bride Jamie at their home in Nar Nar Goon North. Congrats to you all from the GCA.



Photos thanks to Joosten Family



## President's Report 2023

Sitting here writing this report looking out the window, I'm wondering if it is August or December, but it is almost Christmas and well into the 23/24 season.

A lot has happened since my last report. The Triple Crown has been run and won and a massive result for GCA members, in particular Michael and Vicki Hiscock's competitive runs across all three majors and of course Michael's remarkable win of his third Warwick Gold Cup. There is no doubt that Michael's ability to produce his best performances when the stakes are the highest, is one of the best in the world of campdrafting. Vicki's win in the Champion of Champions is possibly the best result a husband and wife team has ever produced at Warwick. Several other GCA members won ribbons but I won't mention all just in case I forget one, but congratulations to all GCA members who had success up in QLD.

The unfortunate weather forecast postponed Hinnomunjie Campdraft which placed it while quite a few members were away competing interstate. It was a great weekend from all reports, I enjoyed seeing

the photos of the life membership medal presentation. So many faces that had a real impact on the GCA that haven't been around for a while like Ron Connley, Peter and Phyllis Sutton. I hope they enjoyed their weekend and are happy the way the GCA has evolved.

Our Kids Clinic was held at Mark and Shelly Ruff's property at Diggers Rest. Attended by 52 kids and just as many parents, they were spoilt rotten for an entire weekend with great instruction, great food and great entertainment. It was an extremely positive and uplifting experience for all involved. I couldn't help but notice the smile on Mark and Shelley's faces when they watched the kids tuck into donuts or ice cream running away telling their friends "it's all free" or watching 20 kids have a game of basketball till they nearly collapsed.

I was so proud of all the kids, not one fall, not one tantrum, every one of them was super engaged, very respectful to their instructor or team leader and an absolute credit to their parents. The GCA has a super bright future.

Buchan Campdraft was a huge success and a fantastic addition to our calendar. It is such a picturesque place and holds a lot of GCA history. A large contingent of local riders tried their hand with a few expressing their keenness to attend more drafts. Lance and Lyric's fundraising targets were met donating \$500 to the Buchan Primary School and \$5000 to the Buchan Pony Club. This contribution enables them to now afford the exorbitant cost of First Aid for their Easter carnival, which was the catalyst for running the Buchan Campdraft event.

Fish Creek draft was a fun weekend with great cattle as usual and the grounds holding up perfectly after persistent rain. A great speech and medal presentation for Alan Mitchell was a highlight of Saturday night. Neil Park has also informed me he is stepping down from the role of main organiser of several drafts. His efforts spanning many years has provided GCA members with countless memories and great times, he has been a leader, a positive role model and an absolute stalwart of the GCA. Thank you Neil for your contribution to the sport of Campdrafting.

Merry Christmas everyone, please be safe over the crazy holiday period and I look forward to seeing you all at Dumbalk Country.

PETER BOULTON

12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

# Committee contacts 2023 - 2024 Season



President - Peter Boulton

Senior Vice President - Glen Rand

Junior Vice President - David White

Secretary/Treasurer - BJ Thorburn

<b>President</b>	Peter Boulton	0427 525 997	<a href="mailto:pjboulton77@gmail.com">pjboulton77@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	BJ Thorburn	0400 143 064	<a href="mailto:gcasecretary74@gmail.com">gcasecretary74@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Sponsorship</b>	Michelle Boulton	0447 451 429	<a href="mailto:mp.boulton@bigpond.com">mp.boulton@bigpond.com</a>



# Calendar of Events 2023 - 2024 Season



President - Peter Boulton

Senior Vice President - Glen Rand

Junior Vice President - David White

Secretary/Treasurer - BJ Thorburn

Campdraft	Dates	Contact	Phone #	Email address
GCA Adult Clinic	23-24 Sep 2023	Jordi Stockdale	0421 605 637	<a href="mailto:jc.hensy18@gmail.com">jc.hensy18@gmail.com</a>
Dutson Downs	30 Sep - 1 Oct 2023	Cindy Ryder	0438 502 718	<a href="mailto:cindy.ryder4@bigpond.com">cindy.ryder4@bigpond.com</a>
Hinnomunjie	7-8 Oct 2023	Brenda Flannagan	0409 846 771	<a href="mailto:brendaflannagan67@gmail.com">brendaflannagan67@gmail.com</a>
GCA Youth Camp	11-12 Nov 2023	Shelley Ruff	0417 325 877	<a href="mailto:mru79309@bigpond.net.au">mru79309@bigpond.net.au</a>
Buchan	25-26 Nov 2023	Lance Anderson	0439 866 811	<a href="mailto:lyricalanswers@westnet.com.au">lyricalanswers@westnet.com.au</a>
Meenyan GF & Stony Creek FNC @ Dumbalk	2-3 Dec 2023	Richelle Hengstberger	0429 648 373	<a href="mailto:r.ihensy@gmail.com">r.ihensy@gmail.com</a>
Fish Creek FNC @Yanakie	9-10 Dec 2023	Veronica Park	03 5663 6279	<a href="mailto:neverpark@bigpond.com">neverpark@bigpond.com</a>
Dumbalk Country	28-31 Dec 2023	Kathryn Hengstberger	0403 678 778	<a href="mailto:dumbalkcountry@gmail.com">dumbalkcountry@gmail.com</a>
Yarram	5-7 Jan 2024	Marni Hamilton	0400 143 369	<a href="mailto:marni.hamilton2019@gmail.com">marni.hamilton2019@gmail.com</a>
Sale	12-14 Jan 2024	Michelle Boulton	0447 451 429	<a href="mailto:mp.boulton@bigpond.com">mp.boulton@bigpond.com</a>
Trafalgar	19-21 Jan 2024	Cheryl Joosten	0416 166 027	<a href="mailto:cheryl.joosten@bigpond.com">cheryl.joosten@bigpond.com</a>
MDU FNC @ Dumbalk	3-4 Feb 2024	Gail Baker	0428 644 474	<a href="mailto:jgashdale@hotmail.com">jgashdale@hotmail.com</a>
Yanakie	10-11 Feb 2024	Marni Hamilton	0400 143 369	<a href="mailto:marni.hamilton2019@gmail.com">marni.hamilton2019@gmail.com</a>
Lang Lang	16-18 Feb 2024	Sophie White	0411 720 654	<a href="mailto:sophie.white@bigpond.com">sophie.white@bigpond.com</a>
Bairnsdale Campdraft	1-3 Mar 2024	Sarah Harry	0448 571 936	<a href="mailto:bairnsdalecampdraft@gmail.com">bairnsdalecampdraft@gmail.com</a>
Tarwin Valley @ Dumbalk	9-10 Mar 2024	Carol Tonkin	0497 077 544	<a href="mailto:tarwinvalleycampdraftclub@gmail.com">tarwinvalleycampdraftclub@gmail.com</a>
Salt Creek	22-24 Mar 2024	Tracy Scoble	0407 342 038	<a href="mailto:tracyscoble@icloud.com">tracyscoble@icloud.com</a>
2022 - 2023 GCA Championships	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

## DUTSON DOWNS CAMPDRAFT

The Dutson Downs Campdraft held the first draft for the season on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 at the Sale Campdraft grounds.

With good entries for the first draft we started off at 6am Saturday morning with the One Run Maiden judged by Lincoln Adams and won by Peter Boulton riding Mellow Man.

The Twisted Shoe Novice in Memory of Ricky Morgan had just on 190 runs judged by Steve Ryder with Jarryd Sutton riding Sue Stockdale's Pickles taking home the beautiful garland that Laurel Kane created and the Alex Scott & Staff rug.



*Winner of the Ricky Morgan Memorial Twisted Shoe Novice  
Jarryd Sutton on Sue Stockdale's Pickles with the Ryder Family*

Many good scores were coming through-out the day continuing onto the Open 4 Open judged by Peter Boddy won by Peter Boulton and Sweet Romance.

## DUTSON DOWNS CAMPDRAFT

Erick Joosten took the whip for the judging of both Junior and Juvenile events which concluded the events for the Saturday. With Saturday being a warm day the kids enjoyed their icy poles after their runs. Lachlan Rand took the blue ribbon in the junior event and Archie Boulton the Juveniles.

Sunday morning started with the Novice 4 Novice judged by Vicki Hiscock with Jane Shelley and Mr Knowitall taking first place, followed by the Ladies judged by Graeme Rozynski . Fiona Gordon was the Ladies winner riding Cass. Another Open 4 Open judged by Rob Lamb was won by Michael Hiscock riding Dolly and the final event was the Maiden judged by Karen Penney under very trying weather conditions. Lukas Roberts riding Ally was the victor in the Maiden.



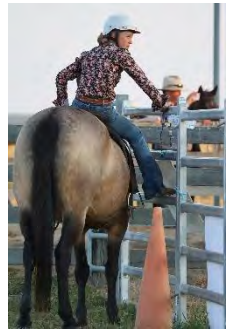
Thank you to everyone who battled the very taxing wind and stuck it out helping keep the draft running. Dutson is a fairly small committee and we would like to sincerely thank everyone that helped with the running of the weekend.

Great cattle kept the draft moving along well and wonderful catering by the Coffee Burger Inn kept everyone well fed.

To our generous cattle donors and cattle carters, thank you for your support. To all of the sponsors and people that donated items for the raffle, thank you your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all of the winners and placegetters, there was some great drafting over the weekend.





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# 40th Anniversary of the GCA

The Gippsland Campdraft Association began forty years ago in 1973. It came about because a branch of the Australian Stock Horse Society was formed in 1972 and a question was raised as to what sort of competitions the members could hold to show their horses.

Ian Gibson suggested campdrafting would do this admirably. Alan Sheridan agreed and they called a meeting on the 3rd of September 1973 at the Presbyterian Hall in Bairnsdale. Present at the meeting were Ian Gibson, Alan Sheridan, Christa Mitchell (Treasurer), Alan Stewart, Ken Howlett, Ronald and David Rogers, Kevin Luxford, Owen Waller, Gerald Ventry, Barry Bourke and Ron Connley.

Owen Waller was elected as the first President, Ron Connley the vice-president, Christa Mitchell was the first secretary and Marg Anderson was the assistant secretary/treasurer. It was decided that the first campdrafting practice day would be held on Alan Sheridan's leasehold near Johnsonville on the 30th of September 1973. It was also decided to affiliate with the Southern District Campdrafting Association.

Originally it was called the Eastern Campdrafting Association, until a general meeting on the 29th of November 1974 when Christa asked what we were east of? So it was then changed to the Gippsland Campdrafting Association at an AGM at the Commercial Hotel in Bairnsdale on the 19th of March 1976.

The first draft to run was at White Acres on Les Whites property in November 1973. Albert Ah Yee won the Open. The next draft was at Hinnomunjie on the 8th December 1973, where Billy Smith from Omeo Station at Coonamble won the Open. Drafting then went back to White Acres in January or February 1974.

Alistair Irving ran a draft at Woodside football oval on the 5th April 1974 where it was very wet. Christa states they had insurance which would only pay out if it rained a certain amount. The rain poured down and she recollects they received almost \$3000.

Ronald Rogers ran a draft at Buchan on 15th February 1974 and another in 1975.

Stratford held a draft in October 1974, White Acres in November 1974, Hinnomunjie in December 1974 (I remember it being quite warm in those days!), Ensay in 1974 (unsure of the month, possibly December with Hinnomunjie?)

Eventually other drafts came into being with Cabanandra, Sale and Maffra all running drafts in 1975. Swan Reach and Wonthaggi ran drafts in 1977. Korrumburra, Bells Point on the Landys property and Tarwin Lower all ran drafts in the late 70's.

The GCA was affiliated with the SCA until a motion was passed on the 16th of June 1985 to become independent of the SCA.

Things were a lot different in those days, the secretary and president ran a lot of the drafts as they didn't have individual committees, so organisation and tidying up afterwards was done by a few members of the Association committee.

*John Coates states he remembers going a day early to Bairnsdale to muster cattle prior to the draft. Others remember mustering cattle at Landys and Warrigul Creek.*

*Arenas were not quite the same as today. The grounds were never plowed up and Hinnomunjie was run in the middle of the race track so after the cattle had finished their run they just disappeared "over the Hinnomunjie horizon" according to Gerald Ventry and were mustered later on. So there wasn't as much cattle containment as there is nowadays.*

*In the very beginning there were no front gates, just a couple of blokes with bags to block up. There used to be two judges which changed to one when the SCA rules changed.*

*The GCA began the helmet wearing rule and the SCA followed.*

*The kids of the day were put to good use running score tickets from the judges to the secretary's office until they began to use blackboards to write on.*

*There was time to have a lunch break when a beer or two might have been consumed before starting up again. An advertisement for Hinnomunjie draft in 1974 states that the draft will start at 9am sharp! What a luxury that would be. It also stated that riders compete at their own risk. A little bit different from these days of insurance and liability.*

*It was agreed among a few of the old crowd that transport in particular has changed a great deal and some felt that the horses have improved immensely, but others felt that there were horses in the past who were just as good if not better than many present day ones.*

*One thing that everyone agreed on was that we always had a lot of fun and made some fantastic, lifelong friends. There are numerous stories and tall tales to be told, many of them extremely funny.*

*It is a testament to the sport of campdrafting that original members became friends; their children who grew up together are mates and now their grandchildren have become friends too. Three generations of families are travelling and competing together.*

Article submitted by The GCA 40th Anniversary Committee.



*The tradition continues.*

*Ron Connley & Matt Clark bring the mob in for the Hinnomunjie Draft 2013*



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## GCA ADULT CLINIC – 23<sup>RD</sup> & 24<sup>TH</sup> September, 2023

This year we had a lot of interest and new faces at our GCA Adult Clinic which was fantastic to see, welcoming new members to our much loved sport.

Kathryn and I put our hands up to run the clinic this year. Without every single one of these girls, Tracy Scoble, Beejay Thorburn, Sarah Harry, Heidi Smith and Camille Shaw we would not have pulled it off. Unfortunately due to dairy farming commitments, Kathryn couldn't be with me on the day but the amount of phone calls she received by me over the weekend, it was like she was there any way!

We had five groups of 10 riders with 6 instructors. Nathan Wilson ran through dry work exercises, teaching us how to get your horses soft and working off your legs. Peter Boulton was on the whiteboard on Saturday and working with riders on their campdraft runs on Sunday.

Bruce O'Dell taught in the camp on Saturday with cattle and on Sunday doing dry work exercises. David White worked the mechanical cow and shared his knowledge with different things to help riders. Charlie Hengstberger and Toby White were in the arena on Saturday with riders tracking the motorbike around the course learning placement and checks, and on Sunday they were working with Pete on rider's campdraft runs. Each rider got a minimum of two runs on cattle.

It was a fantastic two days of riding with lots of learning. Our instructors were all fantastic and devoted all their time to each rider. I cannot thank them enough. The feedback from all riders was amazing. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and gained a lot of confidence and knowledge.

Kathryn and I would like to thank Tracy Scoble for taking on the catering organisation. Trace went above and beyond and made sure everyone was fed and so much more. Trace, you were absolutely amazing and I could not have done this without you. Thank you to Colin Stockdale for carting some of his beautiful cattle to get us started in the morning as a last minute request. Tom Ford and Emily Cruikshank for supplying the remainder of the cattle for the rest of the weekend to allow 50 riders to be able to work cattle both days, this was amazing and greatly appreciated.

Dean Cameron for carting all Emily and Tom's cattle as well as jumping on the bbq and helping out where ever he could. Thanks to the Hengstberger family for the use of their motorbikes, and supplying the beautiful meat which was kindly cooked by Steve Holland and Janelle Kennedy in their fancy smoker, the meat was absolutely "Divine".

I would also like to thank Richelle Hengstberger's mum (gran) for all the beautiful slices and salads. Melissa Healey, John Cocks and John Baillie for helping with all the meals and catering. Richelle Hengstberger for also being our backbone of the day helping with anything we needed: catering, running to town, baby sitting, catering and also giving up her van for our instructor Nathan. Tammy for making sure the grounds were perfect and doing first aid. It was fantastic how everyone just chipped in to get it done. Tanya Rand offering her oven and racing home to cook many, many trays of scallop potatoes, Allison Boulton for bringing salads.

It was such a great community where everyone came together which made a fabulous clinic!

Thank you Jordi Stockdale  
*(Report & Photos thanks to Jordi)*

GCA ADULT CLINIC CONTINUED....



Many thanks to Instructors Nathan Wilson, Peter Boulton, Bruce O'Dell, Charlie Hengstberger & Toby White

GCA ADULT CLINIC CONTINUED....



Congratulations to Mark Ruff – Photo Liz Speed also to Shelley Ruff and Russ Bradley in the Cutting Arena



Congratulations to Brett Staines on winning the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria's recent event at Licola on Jack – photo thanks to MCAV



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## GCA YOUTH CAMP NOVEMBER 2023

The GCA 2023 Youth Camp 2023 was held at Mark & Shelley Ruff's beautiful property in Diggers Rest. It was a mind blowing experience for the kids and parents alike, with instructors being brought in from all over Australia to share their vast knowledge and expertise. The GCA would like to extend a huge thank you to Pete and Toni O'Neil, Jason and Rachel Leitch, Tom Thorburn, Janie Shelley and Nick Taylor for the generous donation of their time and efforts in teaching our young ones. Also thanks to Wellington Livestock for the beautiful run of cattle and for the transportation of those cattle. And of course Mark and Shelley for their outstanding hospitality. It truly was a wonderful weekend that these kids will never forget.





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Many, many thanks to Rhonda Stephens for her beautiful photos of Ron Connley and Phyl Sutton and the Hinnomunjie scenery.



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# CAMPDRAFTING UP NORTH - THE TRIPLE CROWN - CONDAMINE, CHINCHILLA & WARWICK

What a great trip it was for our GCA Riders, hats off to all, especially Michael Hiscock for winning his third Warwick Gold Cup (and Aidy's 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Vicki Hiscock for winning the Champion of Champions. Michael also won the Restricted Open at Chinchilla on Mewburn Bewick so their truck was aflutter with ribbons, cheques and prizes!



Thanks to Sarah Phelan for these two photos

## CAMPDRAFTING UP NORTH - THE TRIPLE CROWN - CONDAMINE, CHINCHILLA & WARWICK

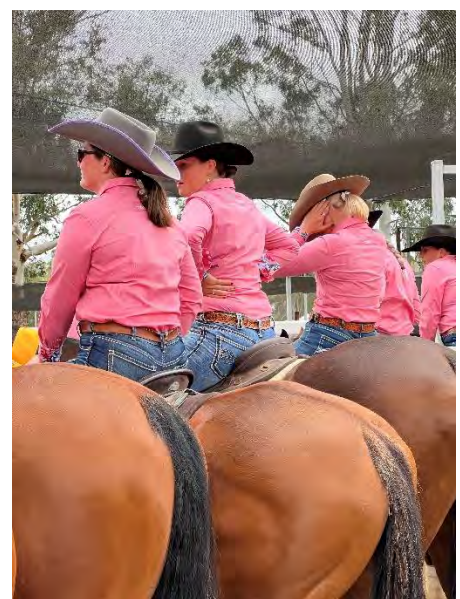


Congratulations to Paige Nancarrow who won the Ladies at Warwick on One Stylish Oak and also to Marni Hamilton and Trinity McInnes who placed equal 8<sup>th</sup> in the same event.

Marni, Jarryd Sutton & Lauren Wain together with Laurel Kane and Carol Tonkin travelled up to the Big Three together this year and had an awesome time with lots of laughs and fun (some to be left on the trip perhaps!).

Others to place and or do well up there were Ken Boulton, Mark & Shelley Ruff, Mat Holz, Fiona Gordon & Georgia Goff, however well done to all our GCA Riders

who gave it their best shot, like Lauren Wain who scored on her first run up at Warwick.



Thanks to Lauren Wain for these two photos

# HINNOMUNJIE DRAFT 2023

Hinnomunjie is the oldest draft in the GCA being the second draft to run in 1973. Ron was on the first GCA committee and started and ran Hinnomunjie for many years. Us three girls would walk cattle from our property out to the draft which took all day and back home afterwards. There were some interesting trips over the years!

We had a lovely dinner on Saturday night in the hall with many thanks to Grant Mitchell and Hannah Richards for preparing and delivering it, also to the ladies who dished it up and cleaned up.

Sunday was a different day, with a very cold wind blowing. Our Open for Open although small, had some fantastic drafting. We finished the weekend with the Stone Axe Novice using cattle from Jim Pendergast who has been a very generous cattle donor over the years.

We finished at lunchtime which was lucky as the rain came in while we were cleaning up.

I would like to thank Andrew Sutton, Lisa Fisher, Stuart Stagg, Erica Coulthard, Joe Jordan, Sharon Cooper and the Mitchell girls for all your help, BJ for your help before, during and after the draft with the online program, our judges, Rhonda Stephens and Karen Penney for all your help with photos and everything else, the people who spent all weekend in the yards and Kero and Faulks for making the trip up the hill to present the badges, announcing and helping in general.

I would especially like to thank Bernard Flannagan for all the work he did on his own, this draft would not have run without him.

We hope you all had a great weekend and that you come back next year.

*Thanks to Brenda Flannagan for this lovely report and Rhonda Stephens for her awesome photos! Also some of mine!*



## Buchan Station Campdraft

The inaugural Buchan Station Campdraft was a picturesque way to spend a weekend with Tara Creek running through camp and along the back of the camp, green grass, Angus cattle and green rolling hills.

It started with the idea of covering the \$5000 ambulance bill for the Buchan Pony Club's One Day Event, however the planning quickly snowballed.

While it wasn't the first ever draft at Buchan, it was the first at Buchan Station.

The initial 750 runs registered was a shock to the organisers' system, despite there being two other drafts running the same weekend! Numbers decreased to about 660 after scratchings which was more easily managed.

Aided by a very handy crew of family members and local volunteers, the shadecloth was put up in the last week as the finishing touch and the draft was ready to roll.

Cattle were sourced locally from the Woodgates, the McColes, the Coates and also Bayrook Pastoral up at Gelantipy. Cattle also came from Bairnsdale thanks to Brett Lancaster.

Lance built the camp from trees sourced out at Suttons place and some rubber from a local quarry, while the portable panels that made the backyards and the arena were from several generous people.

After the event, the \$5000 donation became a reality, and the Buchan Primary School also received a \$500 donation. Our backyards blokes were second to none and the help in the office was very much appreciated.

Thanks also must go to the generous Hayden family for lending their property, Buchan Station, and their cattle for the draft. *(Report thanks to Lyric Anderson, Top Photo thanks Rhonda Stephens.)*



# 2023 - 2024 NEW YEARS CAMPDRAFT

**DUMBALK COUNTRY CAMPDRAFT**  
**28 - 31 DECEMBER**

## **EVENTS:**

**Open 4 Open**  
**Maiden**  
**Novice**  
**Ladies**  
**Juvenile**  
**Junior**

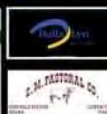
## **Feature Longhorn** **OPEN**

**2 Rounds**  
**Winner takes home**  
**\$15,000 CASH &**  
**7ft Longhorns**

## **OPEN 4 OPEN** **SHOOTOUT**

**100% Payback**

Matchmaking Open 27th November @ 7pm Via ICompete for 48 Hours or when entries are full



PRESIDENT / SECRETARY:  
IAN HENGSTBERGER 0428 595338  
RICHELLE HENGSTBERGER 0429 648373  
EVENT SECRETARY:  
KATHRYN HENGSTBERGER 0403 678778  
Keep updated on Facebook @ DumbalkCountryCampdraft

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