

Blair Briggs sent me this document that outlines some of the plans that Mowbray Park Farms Stays are currently involved in. They are creating a good culture a Mowbray Park Farm Stays. It is worth a visit.

Secretary Hawkesbury Harvest.

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We have a number of on going projects that are revolving around education.

First up is our wetlands project;

As a result of weirs being put in 80+ years ago a beautiful wetlands has evolved, we are fencing it off to grazing animals (non-native) but the fence will not prevent native animals transiting through. We will have two kilometres of trails around the wetlands with rest areas where guests (families & Students) can study the rich bio-diversity with interpretive signage there to assist in identifying flora and fauna. We are planting a wildlife corridor which forms part of the overall project. It is a large (expensive) project which is taking some time, we are grateful for the support, in the form of a grant, from the Sydney Catchment Authority.

This area will form part of our cycle trail that will be available to guest.

It will also be part of our horse trail ride although the animals can not stay within the zone and care will be taken regard traffic management.

We are compiling information as it relates to the indigenous history of this area as well as expanding on the European history. All this will form a 'story' that will be pictorial as well as written and will be displayed in each lodge plus the dining room. Some of this will be outside at different locations around the farm. Our aim is to not only entertain with our wonderful resource but to educate as well; Jacqui and I are very excited about this development, sometimes frustrated at our lack of progress!

Both Jacqui and I are exponents of natural horsemanship, which is learning the language of horses so that we can be better partners to these majestic animals and ultimately trusted leaders to them. We have 10 of our 30 horses enjoying the benefits of natural (no bit in the mouth) and over time all our horses will be used in this way, we are not in a hurry as it is all about safety (for horse and human) we do demonstrate the concepts regularly and find without exception great interest in it.

Each school holiday period we have 5 day camps for 10 to 16 year olds. During these camps we introduce the kids to the sublime art of natural horsemanship.

We have Farm Experience Camps for the kids who wish to have a broad farming experience which includes a couple of horse rides but is not as intense as the horsemanship camps.

In addition to just cleaning the place up and keeping the animals at the forefront of the children's experiences here we have applied for accreditation to 'symmetry sustainable business' a program that requires us to meet certain KPI's of an environmental nature. I will forward to you a better explanation of this program.

So that sums up the culture that we are introducing to Mowbray Park we see this as simply enhancing what is already here, it is a great place to spend time.

Cheers
Blair Briggs.