

An age-old craft creates an impressive feature

Dry stone walls have been used on the south coast from the 1800's. They were born out of necessity - land needed to be cleared of stone so pasture could be grown for livestock, and the livestock needed fences to contain them. The waste rock, a natural local material, was put to a practical use.

Brett Hofman, of Stonehedge Dry Stone Walling and Masonry, is passionate about building with stone. He gained his international dry stone walling qualifications in Scotland, working on walls that were up to 1000 years old, honing his skills in using age-old techniques of building without mortar or cement, or foundations. The walls are held together by friction and gravity. Brett selects each stone to ensure that it is a perfect fit to key the wall together.

Most types of stone can be used - the skill is in making use of what is available. If none is available on-site, rock can be quarried and brought in.

A dry stone wall has many advantages. It is fireproof, windproof and longlasting and can be used where other materials cannot, such as across rocky ground where fence posts cannot be driven; over tree roots; in water; on boggy ground; on very steep slopes; on bedrock - almost anywhere. As well as functioning as a fence, the wall provides shade and shelter for livestock and also a habitat for small birds, insects and native flora. A dry stone wall is completely recyclable - it can be easily removed or realigned.

Not only is a dry stone wall practical, it can create an impressive entrance to your property or an attractive garden feature. Even fireplaces or whole houses can be built in this way.

There are infinite opportunities for using dry stone work - your imagination coupled with Brett's enthusiasm and skill can create something special.



2007 SMALL FARMS & RURAL LIVING FIELD DAY

Sunday 23 September
10am-3pm

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Planning has started for the 3rd SMALL FARMS & RURAL LIVING FIELD DAY to be held at Berry Showground.

The Small Farms Field Day Committee would like to invite businesses, landholders, breed societies, sponsors and anyone who provides products or services to local rural landholders, to exhibit.

The event has attracted over 1,000 visitors each year and raises valuable money for local charities. The focus this year is on Weed Management and will run in conjunction with the 14th Biennial NSW Weeds Conference to be held at the University of Wollongong. A number of weed control companies and leading researchers have been invited to participate in the field day and share their knowledge on the management of local weed species.

Enquiries: Andrew Britton, Small Farms Coordinator 4232 3200 email: abritton@southerncouncils.nsw.gov.au or download a copy of the application form from the web:

www.smallfarms.net.au

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A logo for Stonehedge Dry Stone Walling & Masonry. The text is set against a background of a stone wall. The logo includes the company name, a list of services (Design, Build, Restore), and contact information for Brett Hofman, including a phone number and an address in Berry, NSW.

STONEHEDGE
DRY STONE WALLING
& MASONRY

- Design
- Build
- Restore

Brett Hofman
0402 406 192
50 Lidbetter Road Berry 2535

A logo for Parkwood Pines Wholesale Farm Trees. The logo features a stylized tree and the text 'parkwood PINES WHOLESALE FARM TREES LEYLANDII PINES'. Below this, it lists services like Windbreaks, Shelter, Privacy, and Hedges, and mentions 'Fast even growth (6 metres in 10 years)'. It also states 'LARGE ORDERS WELCOME' and provides a phone number and the names of the owners, Graham & Michele Hayes.

parkwood
PINES
WHOLESALE
FARM TREES
LEYLANDII PINES

Windbreaks • Shelter
Privacy • Hedges
Fast even growth (6 metres in 10 years)

LARGE ORDERS WELCOME
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