

## **FARM GATE ROUNDUP Saturday 10 May 2008**

**David Mason: 4588 2144 (W); 4572 1337 (H); 0411 128 456**

**Interviewer: Simon Marnie**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month so it must be market day**

Today is the Hawkesbury Harvest Farmers and Fine Food Market at the Castle Hill Showground. It looks like it is going to be one of those beautiful May days Simon with a cool start followed by a lovely sunny day. My wife is driving and we are heading down to the markets right now – going to do the shopping early and then have something to eat with fresh coffee with the lovely guitar music in the background. It's a great way to start the weekend.

### **Going to get all the good things for Mothers Day tomorrow**

That as well Simon. I read during the week that flowers are going to be the big thing for Mother's Day this year and there will be plenty of flowers to choose from at the market. Serena from Flowering Eucalyptus called to say they will have plenty of flowers for the mums, so listeners my advice is come early and get them.

We are going to have a traditional roast lamb lunch tomorrow and I have to tell you that the lamb you get from not only the Castle Hill market but also the Rouse Hill market is absolutely superb. There is the traditional lamb as well as the saltbush lamb to choose from.

### **Sunday lunch roast – I remember when that was a tradition**

I have to tell you a funny story set around that tradition Simon

#### **Whats that?**

(The story is about our family cocker spaniel stealing a neighbour's hot roast lamb one Sunday lunchtime in the early 1960s and bringing it home as his contribution as a family member).

#### **What happening on the trail?**

#### **10 May 08 - 11 May 08**

A whole weekend of activities are planned for today and tomorrow in the beautiful Blue Mountains villages of Mount Wilson and Mount Irvine to raise fund for Multiple Sclerosis research. To find out more about that go to [www.mountainsinmay.org](http://www.mountainsinmay.org)

Also this Mother's Day weekend **Fernbrook Garden & Gallery** will support Australia's Open Garden Scheme. The Autumn colour is magnificent, with deciduous trees and berries adding plenty of interest to the 12 acre woodland

garden. Visitors can enjoy the sculpture and Botanical Art exhibitions currently on show. That's at 2 Queen St Kurrajong Heights.

### **Fruit and vege wise?**

Fruit and vege wise there are plenty around with apples still in season and just to remind people the orange season is just around the corner. We will have two orange farms on the farm gate this year and Alan Eagle will tell you more about that in a fortnight. There will be plenty of local and regional fruit and veges at the Castle Hill market his morning as well.

Simon when you were travelling through Europe earlier this year I was telling Ian Rogerson how Governor Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth were the first people to do the farm gate trail when they explored the Hawkesbury area in the first week of December 1810. That story created quite a bit of interest. What I want to do next week is quickly review that story and then tell of how Governor Macquarie also explored the area that covers the extension of the farm gate trail into what are now the Penrith and Wollondilly local government areas.

### **Governor Macquarie sowed the first Hawkesbury Harvest seeds**

He did Simon and it is a fascinating story.

**For all details of all that we have spoken about today go to**

[www.hawkesburyharvest.com.au](http://www.hawkesburyharvest.com.au)

PS

Hawkesbury City Council and Hawkesbury Harvest are promoting this opportunity for all those who might like to get into farming or are interested in Agricultural. In this informative 2 hours could you will hear from Land Rules / Planning experts, DPI, and Hawkesbury Harvest. There will be a panel session for you to ask questions.

If you want to grow just a small patch of vegies, or a full farm come along and listen and ask questions.

You do not get many chances to get planning experts, DPI, Hawkesbury Harvest, Farming Small area experts and climate change people in one room at once so do not miss this.

If you have thought about some form of boutique farming then get along to the meeting.

15th May 6.30pm - 8.30pm  
Deerubbin Centre  
300 Windsor St  
Windsor

RVSP: Fiona Mann, 02 4560 4579