

## Duntroon Digest April 2025

The weather Gods smiled on the organizers of the Dansey's Pass Trail Ride on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. Last year the ride had to be canceled due to the risk of fire. But this year the rain that has been the bane of cropping farmers, proved to be a blessing for the Duntroon School fundraiser.

Billed as the longest one-day trail ride in Australasia, there were 1216 riders on the day to tackle the tracks. Congratulations and a hearty "well done" to all the people involved in this major undertaking.

For those who have never done the Dansey's Pass ride, but wondered how it might be, there is a splendid video created by Shane Karst to watch on YouTube that captures the action and the terrain.

[Dansey's Pass Trail Ride 2025 Extreme and Tussock Tracks.](#)

The rain this "Summer" has kept the lawns growing, and just when it seemed the lawns in front of Saint Martin's Church were going to look ungodly, someone was seen with a hand mower dealing to them. Just another act of community service by Geoff Keeling. Thank you, Geoff.

Moisture was exactly what was required for the new plantings down beside the information kiosk. The area sustained damage after a fire last year and it was decided to landscape it with the intention of keeping the view to the Duntroon Wetlands. At the last working bee Lloyd Grafton, Sarah White and Mel Jones tidied the area up and cut back branches and planted shrubs. Katrina Moffat has added some Kowhais to the area too. This should create a colourful display in years to come.

Another person with a penchant for flowers is the Domain caretaker. Steve has taken it upon himself to put flowers in front of the Domain building. These have brightened the place up and inspired many compliments from the campers. His vegetable garden is a focal point for some campers too.

The Duntroon and District Development Assn, have several projects on the go at present. Anne Phillips-Vira has drawn the committee's attention to the prospect of developing the Sexton's shed at the Duntroon Cemetery. To date, the shed stonework has been professionally cleaned. The next step will be to fix the spouting. Then, an appropriate table will be installed to hold the records and files that Anne has so diligently compiled and will be made available to the public.

Another project is the maintenance of the Gaol building. Like Nicol's Forge across the road, the Gaol enjoys many visitors throughout the year. Both buildings are authentic connections to the past and deserve to be preserved. There is a Give a Little page for donations toward the required maintenance to Nicol's Forge. Readers can follow the link provided. Every donation is much appreciated.

[Nicol's Forge Funding](#)