

The Granite News

Caveat -Kobyboyn -Highlands -HughesCreek -Ruffy -TeripTerip -WhiteheadsCreek



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INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL

The HILL family, of Ruffy. Recently, I was lucky enough to be driven to the very top of "THE PEAK", (540m), near Ruffy, by Michael Hill who now owns it, and who breeds high quality Angus cattle. The view from the top is one of the most extensive and beautiful in the district. Michael told us that his great-grandfather, Edward Hill (born in Tipperary, Ireland in 1848) was a policeman at Longwood from about 1875. He rode to Ruffy to arrest 2 ship's deserters who were stripping wattles bark at Tarcombe, and liked the country, then lightly covered with Yellow Box and River Red Gums, as well as many granite boulders. As was the case in those days, most of the land was later cleared, but a number of the beautiful old trees survive. In about 1890, Edward was able to select this land, known as "The Peak". His wife, Mary and small children moved to the first dwelling, on the lower Northern slopes, it then being compulsory to live on your selection, and they were later joined by Edward. He also selected "Innisfail", and built the homestead, also buying land at Molka. He employed large numbers of men to clear the land, and eventually had his name on about 8000 acres. Edward and Mary Jane had 6 surviving children, -William, Edward and John (Jack), and 3 daughters. William's family moved to Euroa, Jack sold his land to the Nolan Bros, and bought "Shandon Park" at Longwood. Edward lived at "Innisfail", where his son John lived until his death in 2002, and now John's son, Gerard, lives there. "Connemara" on the Peak was bought back from George Nolan, and Michael (also John's son) and his wife Olga, live there. Three sons of William Hill, -Bill, Jim and Pat, farmed in Ruffy, and the 4th son, Edward, went to the Molka property. Jim's son, William, is the only member of that family still farming in Ruffy. Jack Hill had 6 daughters, 2 of whom survive and live at Ocean Grove. Space only allows a few snippets of these amazing early families, but how far-sighted they were to select land in this wonderful tableland country.

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.25

Still no response for help with folding. It will be printed on Thursdays but is full much earlier so please send me any information ASAP to avoid disappointment.

The Granite News Heading Competition

Feedback from Peg Lade on this heading-"I really like the arrangement of the rocks, but they are not granite. You need to leave out these sedimentary lines. Also granite rocks are not normally this shape, notice the shapes and splits of the big ones on Rockcliff". Please send me your design and I'll print it. Makes it the same size as the existing one. Please send any information to miranda@activ8.net.au

Exercise Classes starting

Annette Cherry will be starting her exercise class again on Monday 13th August at 7pm in the Highlands Hall. Note the new time. Remember to bring your ball and wear comfortable clothing. The exercises are not strenuous and focus on stretching and keeping your body supple, it's well worth

PLANTING DAY

WHITEHEADS CREEK

Help would be appreciated at PLANTING DAY.
Date: Sunday, August 12, 2007, 10am

Where: The Basin 768 Ghin Ghin Rd
Suggested tools to bring: shovels, mattocks, hammers, trowels, Hamilton planters.
Lunch: BBQ lunch refreshments provided by Landcare.
Clothing: Cold/wet weather clothing should be brought along
Directions: Follow the signs from the Highlands Rd/Kobyboyn Rd/Ghin Ghin rd intersection.
Janet Hagen 57904268

Further details: Roger Lilley - 94706494 or 0402292613

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Building Learning Power:

This week's focus is on Imagining. Imagining is all about using your imagination and intuition to put yourself through new experiences or to explore possibilities. It is the wondering what if..?

Junior Room Report:

Last week we went to Yea Primary School to do some sports. We have been learning lots about water and we also have been doing a lot of reading about water. My favourite thing last week was having fun doing running activities. By Emillie

Senior Room Report:

Last week we had a mini project that was on a topic of our own choice. Scotty came in on Friday and we played football. The best part of the week was watching the year 3 and 5's do their practice A1M tests. By Meanold Elliot

Congratulations:

Yet again we have students who through wonderful writing have been awarded prizes in the Murrindindi Writers poetry competition. Michael and Laura were both awarded third place in their respective age groups. Michael's poem was titled Running and Laura's was called Running. Both of these poems are attached to this week's HPS news. Michael and Kelly have had work chosen to be published in the 'Special Forever' book of 2007. This is a great achievement as there are many entries received and only a few published. These pieces of work are also attached to the newsletter.

Quote of the week: "Don't worry that your children never listen to you, worry that they are always watching you." Robert Fulghum.

Classifieds & Community Notices

WHOLE FARM PLANNING COURSE.

This will be running and will probably start in September, it has been put off to allow a couple of participants to attend. Please contact Sarah Challis directly if you would like to be involved. I really recommend it to everyone, large farmers and smaller landowners as it is a great help for future planning, priority setting and very informative. Contact Sarah on Ph. 5761 1573 Mob. 0419571208 sarah.challis@dpi.vic.gov.au

REMINDER 1080 UPDATE

Bait users must register by the 24th August 2007 via the Bait Hotline 1300101080

BITS of BOTANY and BIRDS

WATER CRESS (Rorippa nasturtium - acquaticum)

An article in the August issue of "Gardening Australia", with some excellent recipes, prompted me to investigate the watercress which is growing in some of our local creeks. This plant is cultivated as a salad vegetable and was deliberately naturalized in the 1800s. It should not be eaten directly from streams, as cattle and sheep may have contaminated waterways and vegetation with liver fluke. However, I have collected some stems from a nearby creek, washed them thoroughly, and in no time, these have produced roots, and hopefully I will be able to grow my own supply of a healthy variation for summer salads. (Hippocrates believed that the healing properties of watercress were so great that he built his hospital by a stream, to grow it on site!) A well established area of watercress is growing on Kopanica Creek upstream of the Dropmore Mineral Springs, so we should see it on our next Highlands Ramble.



TREE PLANTING

Wanting to plant trees this time next year? Think ahead. This year Janet Hagen ordered 19,000 and they have nearly all gone. Some people will be disappointed when spring comes along and they begin thinking about

CFA TRAINING NOTICE

1. Training is scheduled for the firefighters of each HCRFB shift as follows:

Shift A.	18 -19 Aug 07
(Ldr -Peter Roberts)	15 -16 Sep 07
	06 -07 Oct 07

Shift B.	04 -05 Aug 07
(Ldr -Jeffrey Swain)	08 -09 Sep 07
	13 -14 Oct 07

Shift C.	11 -12 Aug 07
(Ldr -Frits Pompe)	01 -02 Sep 07
	20 -21 Oct 07

2. Firefighters are requested to check their shift roster and contact their Shift Leaders shown above for further details and to indicate availability.

A Message for The Ruffy Store

"Never mind watching too much of the Tour de France, judging by his French, Neil should be drug tested. "Lefait'enfoncer latete" means "the fact of shoving your head in...". Where would that be? I do have an idea... now all I have to do is find Ruffy's store and investigate the new set-up to shed light on what is on offer!" from Lagrenouilles supreme (the supreme frog)
Yolande

And to continue on with this theme, "When Insults have Class"

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."
-Winston Churchill

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary." --William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)

"A modest little person, with much to be modest about." -Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." --Clarence Darrow

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HELICOPER SPRAYING OF PATTO

If you are in any doubt about whether you have this extremely invasive weed, please ring Miranda and she can visit your property and help you identify it. The photo below is a rosette that you could be seeing now.



Rainfall

At Highlands, there was 108mms for July, making 472.8 so far for the year. Terip had 93.6mms, making 393.8 for the year. Quite heavy snow fell at Highlandson 17th -18th, but it didn't settle at Terip. Certainly parts of Ruffy were white. We had very low maximum temps, making July like an old-fashioned winter!

I have had several requests to post some explanations of some of the readings being displayed by the weather station. I have taken these from the details supplied by the manufacturer of the weather station and others sources and placed them on the Glossary Page on the website for those who are interested. The web site is www.granitehillsweather.id.au

Regards Lockie Cameron

Community What's On Calendar - August/September

9th August	Playgroup at Gaelyne's place 10 - 12 noon Ph 57969306
Saturday August 11 th	Session 1 "Acquitted by the Sea" 1940. A nutcracker short crime film with an ironictwist. "Paths of Glory" Stanley Kubrick's moving study of the insanity of war. Session 2 "An American in Paris" 1951. Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron star in this musical. <i>Yea Shire Chambers</i> , at 6.30 p.m.
SATURDAY 11TH AUGUST	TERIP TERIP COMMUNITY DINNER AT THE REC RESERVE, 6PM FOR SHERRIES AND NIBBLES MEATS SUPPLIED, BYO DRINKS, \$15 PER PERSON, \$5 FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, PLEASE COULD YOU BRING A SIDEDISH, SALAD, OR DESSERT? RSVP, WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST LUCRAVEN -57904011 FRANCES LAWRENCE -0432324929
Monday 13th Aug	Next scribblers' meeting, at Adam's sat 7.30pm
Sat. 25th August	Ruff Artz "A Season of Saturdays" presents Sanfona. All shows begin at 8pm at the Ruffly Public Hall and delicious cakes and coffee are available at interval.
Saturday 25th August	Hi Arts - "Arts and Ideas Conversation" Hi Arts will hold its first Arts and Ideas Conversation in the Highlands Hall from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Morning Tea and light lunch will be served. Cost \$10 per person. These conversations will centre around the theme "What is Art (for)? A number of artists have been invited to present a sample of their work followed by informal discussion. There will be an opportunity to explore an aspect of the Highlands landscape. Participants are advised to include strong shoes/boots/gumboots. Please register by phone 57969358 or email kadumbula@mac.com. All are welcome.
Sat. 25th Aug	BEAM Mitchell Environment Group Dinner & Guest Speaker Night 6.00pm - 9.30pm A talk given by popular author Leon Costermenson plants, plant communities and their relationship with general habitat. Tallarook Mechanics Institute Hall, Tallarook. Cost: adults \$30 children under 16 \$20. For catering purposes RSVP by Fri 17th August. Ph. John Brisseton 57841970 or Caroline Morrison 57841177.
Sun 26th August	Highlands Ramblers Walk. NEXT WALK will be following Kopanica Creek from Antcliffe's Chase to the Dropmore Mineral Springs. Meet at Highlands Hall at 10.30am, or at Antcliffe's Chase front gate at 10.45. Enquiries to Peg Lade 57969222.
August 31 - Sep 3.	Euroa Community Cinema - "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" Fri & Sat 8pm. Sunday 4pm
Saturday 8th September	Basic Cheese Making Course - Back by popular demand - in this day workshop you can make your own cheddar, wensleydale, fetta, parmesan, gouda or haloumi cheese! Just bring an ice cream container so that you can take your finished product home. Times: 10am - 3pm Cost: \$70 (includes lunch) Venue: Euroa Community Education Centre. Contact: 57952777
Friday 21st September	I know this is a bit ahead but it is not to be missed. The HCCC AGM and the theme is "Ten Things To Do With A Rabbit". There will be an opportunity for everyone to participate so mark it in your diary now. (Dates especially chosen so weekenders can attend!)

Caveat Footy Tipping Scores

Name	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5
GREG	SWANS	MAGPIES	CATS	SAINTS	ROOS
SCOTT	SWANS	CATS	MAGPIES	EAGLES	ROOS
RICK	SAINTS	CATS	MAGPIES	EAGLES	SAINTS
JAN	CATS	SAINTS	EAGLES	DEMONS	SWANS
JOHN SPORRY	CATS	MAGPIES	TIGERS	BOMBERS	ROOS
DOUG	SWANS	CATS	CROWS	BOMBERS	DEMONS
MICHAEL	SAINTS	SWANS	CATS	LIONS	ROOS
CHRIS	SAINTS	CATS	SWANS	MAGPIES	EAGLES
JACK	DOGS	CATS	CROWS	BOMBERS	MAGPIES
QUENTIN	SAINTS	POWER	CROWS	EAGLES	ROOS
DAVID & BETTY	CATS	SAINTS	SWANS	MAGPIES	EAGLES

Together

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's
mind
And they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher, the tools she used
Were books and music and art;
One was a parent with a guiding hand
And a gentle, loving heart.

Each agreed they would have failed
If they had worked alone,
For behind each parent stood the school
And behind the teacher, the home.
(Thanksto Jenny for sending in this poem)

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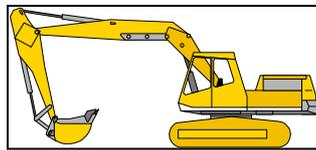
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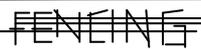
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