



THE GRANITE NEWS

SEPTEMBER 15TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 28

WHITEHEADS CREEK • TERIP TERIP • CAVEAT • RUFFY • HIGHLANDS • HUGHES CREEK

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Discovering the Dordogne

The Dordogne in France is a beautiful and fascinating region both above and below ground. On our recent trip to Europe we spent several days there exploring its meandering back lanes, its pre-historic secrets and meeting incredibly friendly locals.

This quiet relaxed area, with its gentle rolling hills and peaceful river valleys, has been attracting humans for some-time now – 18,000 years to be exact and it is these ancient people's underground legacy that make this chunk of France such a fascinating place.

The Dordogne has 4 distinct areas – Perigord Noir (black) so-named for its dark forests, Perigord Blanc (white) due to its limestone cliffs, Perigord Violet (purple) where wine grapes are grown and Perigord Vert (green) where the fields are home, briefly, to geese and ducks that become processed canard and pate.

The entire area is dotted with small towns and villages, mostly built from timber and honey-coloured stone, and in many cases dating from medieval times. Strategic clifftops sport the remains of small, ruined castles that were literally the pinnacles of power in their time. But while the architecture here is definitely picture postcard stuff the really amazing artwork is deep underground.

We visited the pre-historic sites of Grotte de Font du Gaume and Grotte des Combarelles at Les Eyzies and discovered the incredibly detailed and unbelievably accurate paintings and engravings of animals found in this area 15-18,000 years ago. Bison, reindeer, horses and mammoths all leap off the tunnel walls, as the creators of these masterpieces cleverly used the relief of the rock formation to give perspective and depth to their illustrations, an artistic trick of the trade that wasn't rediscovered until the Renaissance!

But the great mystery is not so much how they achieved these fantastic creations but WHY they did so in the first place? Because all this stunning artwork was created, several hundred metres inside the dark bowels of the earth, by the dim light of an animal fat lamp, with just 3 colours of paint and a stick, or with shaped stone tools and a reindeer antler. Why?

No-one knows, but it's truly an incredible achievement!

Pauline & Peter Roberts.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Student of the Week

Everyone for the wonderful performances we saw on Friday night at the school production. What a fantastic evening.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Meagan Callander to the position of Acting Principal at Highlands Primary School in Term 4 2008.

Many of you will already know Meagan as she did a fabulous job as Acting Principal in Term 2 while Allyson was busy getting married.

Ruffy Store Dates

FIRST FRIDAY October 3
Our regular first Friday of the month dinner is on October. Please call or email to book but bar open as usual come as you are.

Saturday Sept 20th Dinner 6.45pm
CD Launch 7.45pm Alpine songstress of soul, JoJo Smith - CD launch and dinner. www.jojosmithsoul.com

Saturday Sept 27th
AFL Grand Final afternoon with big (ish) screen, a convivial way to view the Great Spartan event but wait, there's more - also featuring the Grand Province of Ruffy Annual Footy Tipping presentation and BBQ

We are busy and popular; unless you book you may not get a seat,

OPEN FRIDAY LUNCH FROM 11.30AM
SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS OPEN FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH 8AM TO 6PM. Bar and table service.

Welcome to Issue 28

There will be no Granite News during the school holidays.

Ghin Ghin Rd Bridge Closure

Apparently there may be some scope for altering the dates and or times, although there is a fairly narrow window in which to do the works without interrupting school traffic so if anyone can think of anything of dates or events within the window of 29/9 – 3/10, 8.30 am -4.30 pm that requires the bridge to be open, or any other businesses that might be affected, they should let Engineering know ASAP on 5772 0333.

Regards Cr Leanne Pleash

CAE Book Suggestions

The Weather Makers by Tim Flannery
5 Stars

This was an extremely thought-provoking book which generated much discussion. We were all stimulated into doing more to help reduce CO2 emissions. Many members said they were very pleased to have read it – it should be compulsory reading – and, if not for the book group, they would not have read it.

Wangaratta

Careless by Deborah Robertson
4 ½ Stars

What a great read! Deborah Robertson's characters were so real that (as one member put it) if you saw pictures of them you would know who each of them were. The attention to detail – normal, everyday things we all take for granted – was remarkable. Great discussion and definitely a writer to look out for.

Portarlington

Seymour Agricultural and Pastoral Show

4 October Seymour - Kings Park, Tallarook Street This annual show includes competitions for farmers, cooks, gardeners and hobby farmers and entertainment for everyone. For more information contact Diann Schrapel on (03) 5792 1089 or schrapel1@activ8.net.au.

LOST - Trailer tyre Trailer Tyre on black rim Lost along Dropmore, Kaponica, Springs and Top Roads 57 969 276

Community What's On Calendar—September/October/November

Week beg 15th	Terip Terip mowing roster Geoff & Jan Penny Mark Ireland Car park and all 4 courts
14th-21st September	Whiteheads Creek/ Tarcombe RFB Truck Roster Geoff Halpin Glen Watson Doug Halpin Glen Christensen
Thursday 18th September	Direct Seeding Field Day Bus tour of a number of properties around the Longwood Plains District, looking at different aged projects, successful application, threats and management. Pick up points: Benalla, Violet Town, Euroa RSVP essential. Please phone Jim Begley, DPI Benalla on 57611574
Thursday 18th September	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative (HCCC) monthly meeting, 7.30pm Whiteheads Creek Hall. All welcome
Thursday 18 September	Direct Seeding Revegetation Bus Tour Hosted by Department of Primary Industries, Euroa Arboretum and GBCMA. Bus tour of a number of properties around the Longwood Plains District, looking at direct seeded revegetation projects, successful application, threats and management. Pick up points: Benalla, Violet Town, Euroa. TIME: 9:45 am- 3:00pm EVERYONE MEET Euroa Arboretum (take the Melbourne side Euroa exit off the Hume Freeway, head towards Euroa township, and take the first gate on the right off the freeway overpass, see map below). 8:45 am Bus pick up, Benalla Bus depot, Nunn St. 9:15 am Bus pick up, Violet Town Post office Lunch provided RSVP Tuesday 16 September Bookings essential. Please phone Jim Begley, DPI Benalla on 57 611 574, to register your interest.
Saturday 20 September	Seymour Bushland Park – Nest Box Installation Day 9.30am, come along to the Seymour Bushland Park and help us put nest boxes in the trees for animals not fortunate enough to find a suitable nesting hollow. The Seymour Men's Shed and students from Seymour Technical High School have built some wonderful nest boxes. We are now ready to install them. A BBQ lunch will be provided for all volunteers on the day. Just bring a hat, sunscreen, suitable shoes and lots of enthusiasm. Seymour Bushland Park is on the Goulburn Valley Highway, 5 kms east of Seymour. Please email or call to confirm you attendance for catering purposes: contact Kristy, on (bh) 0357346 382 or email seymourbushlandpark@gmail.com. Check out the new website: http://seymourbushlandpark.googlepages.com
Wednesday 24th September	Kanumbra/Yarck district. 9am to 12 pm Join one of Victoria's leading herpetologists, Peter Robertson, in the hunt to find this elusive lizard. Past volunteer surveys of this kind have increased the known population of the Striped Legless Lizard dramatically. Outdoor clothing and footwear required. BYO lunch. For more information and to join the hunts, please contact Bertram Lobert, on phone 5790 8606.
Thursday 26th September	Secret Men's Business BBQ at The Grotto, Caveat Church from 5.30pm, held every last Thursday of the month. All welcome.
Sunday Sept 28th	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS will walk from near Mt Broughton to the Switzerland Road, where we will have cars to bring us back to Highlands. Meet at the Highlands Hall at 10.30 am. Leaders - Peg Lade (57969222) and Andrew Shaw(57 904297)
Friday 3rd October	Dr Susan Lawler will be the speaker at Highlands Landcare AGM. Her subject will be Australian Freshwater crayfish (including yabbies). Highlands Hall Sausage sizzle at 6.30pm.
Saturday 4 October	Womindjeka Day (Welcome Day) 2pm Yea Wetlands, High Street The day includes an afternoon of informative walks and fun activities showing the beautiful wetlands at their springtime best, followed by a community barbeque at dusk and a campfire corroboree at nightfall. For more information call 0408 576 588 or email info@yeawetlands.org.au .
Saturday & Sunday 4 & 5 October	Farm Gates and Shed Doors Rocky Passes Estate and other producers of the Goulburn River & Ranges Region are throwing open their farm gates and shed doors to invite you in for a 'look around the back'. Jump on your bike or in the car or ride the tour bus and travel around from door to door. For more information www.goulburnrandr.com.au
Sunday Oct 5	Terip Tennis Club working bee at courts - 2.30pm
Thursday October 9	Terip Tennis Club training commences - 6pm - New members are most certainly welcome and even if you're not interested in playing on Saturdays you can still come along for a hit on Thursday nights!
Thursday 30th October	Secret Men's Business BBQ at The Grotto, Caveat Church from 5.30pm, held every last Thursday of the month. All welcome.
Saturday 22nd November	RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays presents - Bric a Brac - dance, nostalgia & romance 8.00 pm, Ruffy Hall. Contact Glen on 5790 4318 for tickets (\$26 ea.) or information.

Classifieds & Community Notices

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

The RED WATTLE BIRD is a well-known, mottled brown, large Honey-eater, with fleshy red "neck wattles" behind the eye, and a pale yellow belly. It builds an untidy nest in a fork of a tree, some metres from the ground. It is quite aggressive to smaller birds, but in my garden, the others wait their turn at the nectar feeders. Occasionally, they become a pest of vineyards and orchards, especially if there is bush nearby.



WANTED TO BUY

Suzuki Stockman, preferably registered. Please ring Peter 041935 6404

FREE TRAVEL FOR SENIORS FESTIVAL

SENIOR Victorians will be able to travel free on the state's public transport network as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival celebrations during the week October 5 to 12.

Bookings can be made at staffed V/Line stations or V/Line ticket agents, metropolitan Premium stations or by phoning 136 196.

"Seniors do not even need a ticket to travel on the metropolitan transport system or regional town bus services; they just simply show their Victorian Seniors Card upon request.

For more details about the festival visit the website www.seniors.vic.gov.au/seniorsfestival or phone 9208 3053..

Yea Tennis Club AGM

Members and the public are encouraged to attend the meeting at 7.00pm Wednesday 1st October 2008 at the tennis club.

Also, anyone interested in playing in the Spring night competition call Natalie 5736 0461

Regards
Natalie Wischer

MERTON HALL REUNION

"If you are an Old Grammarian from Melbourne Girls' Grammar School (Merton Hall) living in the Yea district and would like to catch up, a lunch has been organised at Marmalades in Yea on Wednesday, 15 October at 12:30 pm. Please contact Marilyn Cooper (May '66) on 5796-9368 or by email on marilyn317@bigpond.com if you would like to attend so that Marmalades can be advised of approximate numbers."

Adopt-a-Stream Program

The Adopt-a-Stream Grants Program is a 2006 election commitment made by the Government. It is a program that allows local community and interest groups to apply for dollar-for-dollar funding grants to conduct habitat improvement works on their local stream to benefit recreational fishing. It has been set up as a separate program to the Recreational Fishing Grants Program to focus work on habitat improvements. It will run until June 2011. This grants program is a "hands-on" way for local residents and interest groups to get involved in improving the habitat of a local stream for the purposes of enhancing recreational fishing and have fun at the same time.

Under this program you could implement a small project like a one-off clean up day, or a stream celebration, or a larger project like pest plant removal, native revegetation or re-snagging.

Adopting a stream is a great chance for community groups such as angling clubs, civic groups, churches, schools and youth groups to get involved in protecting Victorian waterways, learning more about the natural environment and Victoria's precious waterways, and enhancing recreational fish habitat.

What is the Adopt-a-Stream Grants Program? <<http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenfaq.nsf/LinkView/8302A204D505B18CCA2574AC002787606AA8A0155835E25AC A25740900180F2E>>

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WE CAN ASSIST IN COMPILING YOUR SPECIES LIST IF REQUIRED. A FEE MAY APPLY TO COVER ADDITIONAL TIME.

A 20% DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED TO CONFIRM YOUR ORDER. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN PLANTS ARE READY FOR COLLECTION. PAYMENT ON COLLECTION OF PLANTS CAN BE MADE BY CASH OR CHEQUE.

All our stock is grown in 3cm forestry tubes. Retail sales are possible of stock once orders have been completed. Please ask us about available stock.

The Nursery is open Thursdays-Fridays, 9am -4pm.

SEED RAISED STOCK: ie. Eucalypts, Acacias, Dodoneas, Calytrix

1-50 PLANTS	\$1.80
50-100 PLANTS	\$1.50
100 + PLANTS	\$1.30

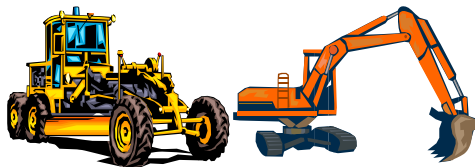
CUTTING RAISED STOCK, RARE OR THOSE DIFFICULT TO PROPAGATE: ie Wildflowers, Bursarias, Correas, Grevilleas, Banksias, Eutaxias, Pulteneas, Allocasuarinas, ETC

1-50 PLANTS	\$3.50/3.00
depending on species-please ask	
50-100 PLANTS	\$3.00/2.50 depending on species-please ask
100+ PLANTS	\$2.50/ \$2.00 depending on species -please ask
10CM POTS:	\$5.50
14CM POTS:	(ie. Xanthorea major) \$8.50
GRASSES, SEDGES	
1-50 PLANTS	\$2.50
50-100 PLANTS	\$2.20
100+ PLANTS	\$2.00

Rocky
Passes



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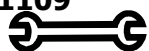
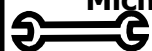


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