



THE GRANITE NEWS

9TH MARCH
VOLUME 3
ISSUE 06

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

RUFFARTZ SEASONS OF SATURDAYS

Who am I?

Who is ten years old, has thirty heads, thirty legs, one hundred and twenty fingers, can be male or female and have the potential to inspire over a thousand people living in Victoria to laugh, clap, tap their feet, sing, dance and be happy? I am the RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays 2009 and boast fourteen exemplary talented musicians and a first class comedian. The RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays has been delivering a diverse range of quality entertainment to Ruffy Hall for over ten years. The subscription series program consists of four shows spread throughout the calendar year, each of which offers a special live experience that is shared in thirteen regional Victorian towns.

The program for 2009 starts with 'Carneval Strings' a dynamic, traditional string quartet who present a range of music from Baroque and Classical, seasoned with Latin American, lively 50's and 60's Swing Jazz style and European Folk Tunes. The essence and passion of Hungarian folk music becomes obvious as the two Hungarian violinists wander through the audience entertaining the listeners.

Another first is the inclusion of a one man comedy play to the series. "Last Drinks" is written and performed by Damian Callinan and directed by Matt Parkinson. The show debuted at last year's Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

The third show in the series maintains the Aussie feel. "Welcome Strangers" is a super group of four consummate musicians. Their show features tenderly collected versions of all but lost rural Australian fiddle tunes. Every song and tune in the repertoire also has a unique and interesting preamble and usually an accompanying yarn.

Past subscribers will be familiar with the fact that we like to end the year on an energetic high and the New Melbourne Jazz Band have got just the show to help us kick up our heels. This wonderfully uplifting six piece band plays swinging, foot tapping, great to dance to Dixieland Jazz.

\$78 Seasons Subscription ticket. Tickets are on sale from Glen on 5790 4318. The Season of Saturdays 2009 is proudly presented at the Ruffy Hall.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week

Cuchulainn Coulter—For his terrific work with verbs and sharing his knowledge with others.



Thankyou: A huge thankyou to Sharyn Shaw who organised the raffle for HiArts last weekend. Thankyou to all families who donated items.

Singing Group

Students from Highlands have joined with Yea PS and Flowerdale PS to form a combined schools Singing Group. Students involved from Highlands are Walter, Laura, Imogen, Kasie, Emillie, Kendall, Jessica and John.

Our first public appearance will be at Yea's Autumn Fest on Sunday 15 March.

Artists at Work

Below is a photo of Emillie Stafford, Lachie Wischer and Jarrad Gilbert, the next generation of artists. Thanks Leone Gabrielle for your guidance and tuition.



WELCOME TO ISSUE 6

Please send all articles to miranda@omnipotent.com.au

Weed Spotters Wanted

Weed Spotters assist DPI by keeping an eye out for, and reporting, new and emerging weeds. We provide free training and resources to registered Weed Spotters so they can learn to identify State Prohibited Weeds. For more information contact Annie at Department of Primary Industries 40 Ballarto Rd Frankston | P.O. Box 48 Frankston | Victoria | 3199 9785 0109 / 0418 390 871 / annie.lamb@dpi.vic.gov.au

The following poem is especially for Peg Lade because I think she may enjoy it. Get better soon Peg from everyone in the Highlands community.

WARNING

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat that doesn't go, and doesn't suit me,
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves
And satin sandals,
and say we've no money for butter.
I shall sit down on the pavement when I am tired,
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells,
And run my stick along the public railings,
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens,
And learn to spit.
You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat,
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go,
Or only bread and pickle for a week,
And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats and things in boxes.
But now we must have clothes that keep us dry,
And pay our rent and not swear in the street,
And set a good example for the children.
We will have friends to dinner and read the papers.
But maybe I ought to practise a little now?
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised,
When suddenly I am old and start to wear purple! By Jenny Joseph

Community What's On Calendar—March/April 2009

Weeks beg 9th March	Terip Terip mowing roster Merv Penny Max & Joan Eddy Car park and all 4 courts
Week beg 8th March	Ruffy CFA Roster David Sleigh Team : (Mobile: 0429 904301) Bill Eddy Jack Jury Ray Padgett Bill Hill John Goodwin Ros Goodwin Phoebe Hill Fred Wawrzik
13th March.	David Francey BUSHFIRE BENEFIT 7.30 pm Tickets \$40 BBQ dinner & show; \$20 performance only Bar Open - no BYO Book Now 5790 4387 ALL PROCEEDS TO THE MURRINDINDI BUSHFIRE APPEAL Bring plenty of cash for donations
Friday 13th March	'Drinks on the Deck' at Highlands Community Hall at 6.30pm. Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new.
Saturday 14th March	White hart Hotel, Longwood 7.30pm Salty Dog 2002 Australian blues band of the year .Call White Hart on 03-5798-5203 to book.
19th March	WHC Landcare is organizing an information night and meeting at 7.30pm at the WHC hall. Kate Stothers from the DPI will be there to share with us her wonderful presentation on sustainable farming and biodiversity. Lesley and I heard her presentation at the biolinks forum last year and were both very impressed as I am sure you all will be. Please make an effort for this one as you will surely be rewarded and of course there will be a great supper after and a chance for a chat. See you all soon, Carol Braun.
Friday 20th March 2009	Euroa Arboretum If you didn't make it last time, here's another chance before the wet autumn sets in (we wish).....at the Euroa Arboretum dam to enjoy a relaxed evening in the flourishing bushland park. At our last gathering in February we met some of the people who have helped make the Arboretum what is today, as well as welcomed many new faces. We also watched the Micromagic sailboats navigate their way around the dam and swimmers doing laps! We loved it so much, we're doing it again! Bring something to throw on the barbie and a bevvie to sip while enjoying the setting sun and starry skies. From 6pm onwards. Salads & nibbles provided. Please RSVP by 17.03.09 Sam: 0429 127 399 or Shirl: 5795 2500
Friday 27th March 2009	Free Indigenous Seed Collection Workshop What is it all about: The session is designed to introduce participants to all aspects of collecting seed – identification, collection, extraction, cleaning and storage of indigenous species. The workshop will cover include a basic theory session and a practical session in the afternoon. Ballarat Region Seedbank—La Gerche Gully Sawpit Road, Creswick (old Landcare Centre Site) Time: 10—4 Supplied: Comprehensive notes, tea & coffee. What to bring: Pen & paper, plant identification books and hand lens - if you have them. Please wear clothing and footwear appropriate to the weather and outdoor conditions. Your own Lunch . Contact Andrew Pearson or Anne Ovington – 03 5345 2200 andrew@seedbank.com.au, anne@seedbank.com.au
21st March.	Highlands Caveat Recovery Tea . More information next week. Mark it in your diary now.
Sunday 22nd March	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS - will meet at Highlands Hall at 10.30 am, or at the corner of Gum Road and Moore's Road, Caveat at 10.50am, for a wonderful walk from Gum Rd over a hill (not too steep) with a spectacular view to everywhere, then on to Woolshed Creek and to Dropmore. Contact Andrew Shaw 57904297 Ring Andrew before coming to check the walk is going ahead.
Thursday 2nd April	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative monthly meeting 8pm Whiteheads Creek Hall. Please come along and see what this group does and have your say in the directions that you think are important for a sustainable future.
Sunday 5 April 2009	Open Day - Holden Flora & Fauna Reserve @ 10:30am end of The Strand, Sunbury (Melway 382 F9) Jacksons Creek EcoNetwork, together with ParksVic & MelbWater, invite you to explore this little-known 96ha Reserve adjacent to Jacksons Creek. The Reserve was set up to preserve threatened species of the local area and it harbours Platypus, Peregrine Falcon, Growling Grass Frog and the Earless Dragon. It also contains highly significant remnant native grasslands, grassy woodlands and scrubland and has spectacular geological sites along Jacksons Creek. There will be guides to explain the Aboriginal heritage, as well as the precious local fauna and flora, and to conduct you around the Reserve's beautiful geological formations. Come and see these, plus the work being undertaken by Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria to restore and preserve this area.
9th April to 17th May 2009.	An exhibition by J. Darren Gilbert. Monkey Tail Collection 3 New drawings, paintings and sculptures of Australian wildlife and anthropomorphic elements. www.monkeytaildesign.com Opening Night. 5.30 to 8.30 Thursday 9th April 2009. At Ruffy Produce Store. 26 Nolans Road. Ruffy. Victoria. 3666. T. (03) 5790 4387 E. store@ruffy.com.au W. www.ruffy.com.au Open Friday 11.30 to 6.00 Weekends and public holidays 8.30 to 6.00

Classifieds & Community Notices

CHALLENGE TO GET MOVING

FAMILIES are being urged to get healthier and more active together and take part in the Premier's Active Families Challenge.

The challenge will start on Sunday March 8 and encourages all Victorian families to complete 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days between March 8 and April 19.

'The Victorian Government believes good nutrition and physical activity will play a key role in turning the tide against the looming epidemic of diabetes and obesity.'

All registered families will receive a free 15 visit family pass to attend YMCA centres across Victoria and a 15 per cent discount at Rebel Sport stores.

Families also have the chance to win some fantastic prizes including sports equipment for their local primary school, YMCA family memberships as well as Rebel Sport vouchers and other prizes.

To register for the Challenge and get some tips on being active visit the 'Go for your life' website

www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au or phone the Go for your life infoline on 1300 73 98 99.

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BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS



WHAT BIRD IS THAT?

"I was able to take this morning out of our living room window. I was soooooo excited when he/she alighted in a swish of sound firstly on our skinny window ledge & tapped on the window!! I wonder if you can tell me what kind of bird he is, we looked in our bird book and the nearest we could see is a Powerful Owl, which they say is sparsely distributed over most of Victorian range country. When he flew away all the other birds quickly flew away also, so I thought he might be an enemy of theirs!!

Whatever he is I was thrilled and to have him right there in front of me, we have a wonderful display of bird life here but non so wonderful as he!!"
From Mavis Cook

RUFFY BOOKCLUB

'Our last meeting discussed 'The Secret River' by Kate Grenville. This was an excellent night as we explored the relationship between the early settlers and the aborigines, the role of women at that time and how marriages change when honesty is compromised.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on the 1st April. Our book is 'Veronika Decides to Die' by Paulo Coelho. The discussion will be led by Jill Davidson and held at Verena's on the Wybie track. If you would like to attend ring Verena on 57904309 and she will give you directions or put you in touch with someone to share a lift.

'The Slap' by Christos Tsiolkas will be our book for May. The discussion will be led by Jono Rumbold and held at Jill Davidson's home.

Bush Telegraph

'Bush Telegraph' enables Victorians to report behaviour on public land, including parks, that could damage the environment, is anti-social or is suspicious. Phone 'Bush Telegraph' – 13 2874 (or 13BUSH on your keypad). Callers can remain anonymous.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

The Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative is looking for any community members who are willing to help landholders in the Flowerdale and Glenburn areas with bushfire recovery work.

We are assisting with the recovery work on four properties, owned by members of our neighbouring Upper Goulburn Landcare Network, who have been badly burnt out in the recent fires. These people need our help to get their lives back on track. The scale of the clean up and rebuilding jobs are overwhelming for a farming family and we would like to offer them a hand.

Stage 1 : Help is urgently needed now with removal of burnt boundary fencing, clearing of fence lines, recycling of fencing materials, restoration and repair of internal fences, stock yards, sheds, gate ways and watering systems.

Stage 2 : Later in the season : Erosion control, pasture restoration, garden restoration, tree plantation replacement, weed control, general moral support.

I am asking for anyone who is able to volunteer some of their time, 2 days – 1 week, over the next few months (week days or weekend) to contact Janet Hagen 57 904 268. jha-gen@harboursat.com.au

A timetable and roster sheet will be drawn up once we know how many crews we can send. I am hoping to recruit four crews: Ruffy - Terrip, Caveat -Highlands, Whiteheads Creek, Hughes Creek -Avenel. Anticipated starting date 16th March 2009.

Skilled and unskilled volunteers, retired or working, male and female, bring your own tools and equipment as these farmers have lost their sheds with all their contents, imagine that!

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all those volunteers, and others who supported the

committee, who helped to make the HiArts Exhibition & Festival such a great success.

Rocky
Passes



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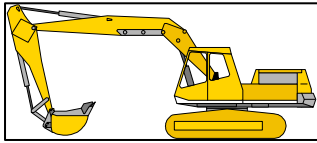


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