



PEOPLE AND PLACES

My wife Christine and I are relatively new to the Strathbogies. We purchased land here at the bottom of Maggies Lane, Ruffy some 20 months ago to provide a "holiday house weekender" rural experience for our grandchildren (13 so far) and we liked it here so much that our original home near Bacchus Marsh is now our "holiday house" and we have built and settled into a full time residence here.

We are now running our business from this lovely location while growing lots of fruit and vegies for ourselves, friends and family plus trying to keep our chooks (lost 3 so far to foxes) and Damara lambs (lost heaps to foxes this year) alive and rapidly learning lots about our new rural lifestyle. A large shoot by some of the local boys (which we very much appreciated) on our property and others around the area recently resulted in quite a few foxes being taken however we continue to see foxes almost daily but now it seems we may have something else to contend with.

Last Saturday morning at around 10.00am we (my wife Christine plus our adult children, Deonee & Leigh and some grandchildren) saw from our lounge room what initially we thought was a black fox however it didn't walk like a fox. It was some 200 metres away from the house on Maggies Lane and crossing into our paddock and heading for Baronga Creek. We have often seen foxes in this location and as such we were able to rationalise the size of it. It was the size of a very large fox.

I have a telescope on a tripod at the window in the lounge room and I was able to look at this creature very clearly and close-up for some 5 seconds before it moved out of view and I was shocked with what I saw. Smooth, shiny black healthy coat and such a huge head, not at all like the big mangy feral cats I have seen in the deserts in Central Australia, but very much like the Panther images I Googled a few minutes after the sighting. Leigh grabbed his camera and took a photo just before it moved out of view, sadly he didn't have time to fit his telescopic lens. That photo is attached.

Last Sunday afternoon the day after our "Panther" sighting we found a dead Damara lamb (about 5 months old) stuck in a hinge lock fence with it's head gone. Are these events

These activities were reported to Strathbogie Council yesterday and they advised that we should inform Janet Hagen who suggested we submit this information to you to share as it appears we are not the only ones who have seen this creature.

Regards, Roger & Christine Morgan



NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

The senior students went to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat last week for a 3 day camp. They enjoyed all the activities, especially gold panning, confectionary making, candle dipping, dressing up in old fashioned clothes.



We ended the camp with a visit to the art gallery and the old cemetery and then headed home with lots of weary but happy children.



WELCOME TO ISSUE 34

Please send articles to miranda@omnipotent.com.au or ring on 57969261

Please, if you hit an animal while driving, stop, check it is dead and if there is a baby, then drag it off the road for the safety of other drivers and the dignity of the dead animal.

Thanks to Jill Davidson for this poem.

'Be wise - treat yourself,
your mind,
sympathetically, with loving kindness.

If you are gentle with yourself,
you will become gentle with others.'

Lama Thubten Yeshe

TOO MUCH GRASS?

SOME POSSIBLE OPTIONS:

- Buy more animals.
- Agist some animals
- Remove some paddocks from the rotation-allow a greater recovery time in weaker pastures.
- Cut silage or hay from paddocks with an annual weed problem prior to seed set
- Allow your PC to go through to harvest. CELEBRATE.

COUNCIL SUPPORTS NEW PLACES OF LAST RESORT

Murrindindi Shire Council has named a further five sites to be designated as Neighbourhood Safer Places - Places of Last Resort.

Those recommended are:
Thornton Recreation Reserve, Thornton
Leckie Park, Alexandra
Railway Park, Yea
Yarck Recreation Reserve, Yarck
Flowerdale Hall, Flowerdale

"NSPs are not community fire refuges or emergency relief centres. NSPs are places of last resort during the passage of a bushfire, and are intended to be used by people whose primary bushfire plans have failed – they do not guarantee the survival of those who assemble there."

HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB

Change of date. The next spinning day will be Monday 15th. November, 2010. Jan Sporry - 5790 4361

Community What's On Calendar - November 2010

Fortnight beg 1st November	Terip Terip mowing roster Tim and Cindy Hayes Ian and Cynthia Crawford Both sides of Springs Road and all 4 courts
Week beg 7th November	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOT RFB TRUCK Doug Halpin James Matters
Thursday 4th November	Lions Club Seymour Goulburn Inc and Cancer Council Victoria - Seymour Unit Invites you to our Annual Oaks Day Luncheon at Seymour Race Club Admission \$22.00 (tables of 10) Drinks available at the Bar (NO B.Y.O.) Door Prizes Raffles Mystery Draws Best Dressed Best Hat Sassy Shoes Tickets available from Leading Edge Jewellery Shop 1 The Mall Seymour NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT DOOR Proceeds from the day will go to Cancer research and Lions projects.
Thursday 4th November	Murrindindi Cultural Consultation Workshop Yea Golf Course 10:30am – 4:00pm If you have ever said: We have no.....We need more.....Why can't we.....about local art or culture, then this is the event for you. Come along and have the opportunity to voice your artistic and cultural values, and visions for the future. Mentor and facilitator Janet Shultz, will lead us through this fun filled day, where we will explore the cultural needs of your wider community, your vision's for the future, as well as explore new ideas and look at ways to move forward. Please join us in this workshop to have your say. Places are limited so an RSVP is a must. Contact Erin Hoiles or Sue Bass on 5772 0365 or email ehoiles@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Friday 5th November:	Ruffy Art Show 7.00 pm 'Meet the Artists' Preview Tickets: \$12.00 Ph: Glen 5790 4318.
Saturday 6 & Sunday 7th	Ruffy Art Show 10am - 5pm Ruffy Art Show & Sale. Entry \$5 Children under 16 free.
Saturday 6th November	The Yea Country Market , showcasing local producers, growers and makers, is a community event with a gold coin donation entry – funds from entry to be donated to local charities each month. Many and varied stalls, the best in fresh local produce, arts and crafts, children's activities, playground and skate park. Accompanied by a backdrop of live music, relax and enjoy a latte while taking in the ambiance and fun at this beautiful historic site – the Yea Railway Park
Thursday 11th November	Terip Terip Tennis Club BBQ. @ 6pm All welcome for a BBQ tea and hit of tennis from 6pm. Please RSVP to Cindy 5790 4226 or Sue 5790 4277
Thursday 11th November	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Murrindindi Writers – all aspiring writers welcome 10 am
Friday 12th November	'Drinks on the Deck' at Highlands Community Hall from 6.30pm. Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome - especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power.
12th Novem- ber to 3rd January 2011	Exhibition of Artworks & Sculptures by Wild4Art @ Ruffy Group exhibition. Featured artists Janet Matthews, Vida Pearson, Rodger Scott and Darren Gilbert. Opening Night. 12th November, Drinks & canapés from 5.30pm to 7.00pm, Dinner from 7.30pm (bookings required). at Ruffy Produce Store 26 Nolans Road. Ruffy. Victoria. 3666 Open. Fridays from 11.30am, Weekends and public holidays 8.30am to 6.00pm
Friday 12th November	Gallery 34 , Yea. Our next Exhibition is by Ben Simpson titled "Bull & Horse" opening 12th November at 6pm. A photographic exhibition, Ben captures the nature of horses and cattle through his work. Ben is an internationally recognised photographer and operates a successful marketing company based in regional NSW. His works have been used in campaigns around the world. For a preview refer to our website www.gallery34.com.au and for past, present and future exhibition detail.
Saturday 13th November	Highlands Community Hall Working Bee. Please come along & join the hall committee for a working bee at 9am. Jobs to be done include putting the final coat of paint on the back wall of the hall, some patching inside the hall, and general weeding, pruning, brushcutting etc. A BBQ lunch will be provided.
Saturday 13th November	Black Market 10am - 12pm: Swap & sell your home produce at this local food exchange and "open garden". This month it's being hosted by Mauro and Debbie del Frate (home of Palmanova olives and olive oil), 305 Blue Top Rd. Contact Paul Macgregor on 5797 0229, diversity@diversity.org.au , or the del Frates on 5796 9363 for more information
Sunday 14th	Terip/Ruffy Uniting Church Holy Communion Service 11.15am
Monday 15th November	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Vintage Readers – Grey power reading group 2 – 4pm
Tuesday 16th November	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Tuesday Show – Inspiring Indonesia 1-2pm
Saturday 20th Nov	White Hart Hotel 7.45pm - Barb Waters & the Mother of Pearl - Their songs are country smooth, sweet as honey T: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com Barb Waters hails from Mt Buffalo and will be bringing her four piece band to Longwood for a night of smooth country music. Entry is \$\$\$ Free.
Saturday 20th	DAVE PLOTEL LIVE AT GADDS We have an international jazz guitarist coming to our function centre. Early

Classifieds & Community Notices

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT NETWORK – Strathbogie Ranges.

Everyone is invited to join a community discussion about the establishment of a Conservation Management Network (CMN) in the Strathbogie Ranges. The CMN provides opportunities for increased capacity of Landcare and other community groups through funding opportunities and increased networks. The Goulburn Broken CMA is providing initial funding to establish this CMN.

Please join us on the 5th of November at 6:30 pm, Maygars Hill Winery 53 Longwood Mansfield Rd. Longwood East. Tea/ Coffee and supper provided. For further information and to RSVP by 1st November please phone Jenny Wilson 5820 1115.

FOR SALE:

Highlands, Fassifern Road. 50 acres undulating bushland with 4-5 BR home. All timber 2 storey home. 2 bathrooms plus ensuite. Solar power with back up generator, gravity fed rain water, 2 seasonal springs, granite/tree fern gully, ph/internet connection, LPG stove/oven and HWS. Country kitchen with combustion stove running hydronic heating. The split system air con helps keep the home comfortable all year round. Cleared fenced house yard, inground pool (used for garden water), utility sheds and enclosed workshop, ménage or huge shed site beside home, organic fenced mature orchard of approx 80 trees. Wonderful active community, 10mins to primary school and 25mins to Yea. Please contact Greg to make any queries/ inspection time. Ph. (03) 5796 9360 email: highlander@dragnet.com.au

MESSAGE FROM EDWINA

RIPPING HOURS: Can you please email me at hughes.creek1@gmail.com to let me know if you have organised an excavator to come to your property and to organise an inspection. Due to the vast number of hours committed (860hours), I will only be doing inspections of properties whom have 30 hours or more committed. So anyone whom does not need an inspection can get started immediately, all of the ripping needs to be finished before the end of the year. Many Thanks, Edwina McKay HCCC Facilitator

HIGHLANDS MOWING ROSTER

Volunteers required please contact Scott McKay 57969259 or scottmckay@activ8.net.au

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

Austral Bear's ear
(Cymbonotus preissianus)

This yellow daisy flowers briefly over spring and dies right back for the rest of the year. It has a rosette of large, thick soft leaves and is most commonly found on the shaded forest floor.



10 TIPS FOR A HEALTHIER HEART

Are you concerned about your heart health? Here are ten tips to help you look after your heart.

Quit smoking now. Twelve months after quitting, your increased risk of dying from heart disease will be half that of a continuing smoker.

Include wholegrain cereals, legumes, fruits, vegetables, seeds and nuts in your diet and lower your risk of heart disease.

Walk briskly for 30 minutes a day and reduce your risk of heart attack by one-third.

Maintain your friendships. People with supportive friendship networks are at less risk of heart disease.

Eat more fish. Oily fish like tuna, sardines or salmon are rich in omega-3 fatty acids and will boost your good cholesterol.

Switch from milk to dark chocolate. When eaten in moderation, dark chocolate is good for your heart.

Limit yourself to no more than two standard glasses of alcohol a day if you are a man or one glass a day if you are a woman.

Avoid salty and high sodium foods and don't add salt when preparing or eating your meals.

Have a diabetes test. Uncontrolled diabetes can damage your artery walls and contribute to heart disease.

Make fitness fun. Choose activities that combine exercise and socialising like Pilates, water aerobics, dancing, cycling or yoga.

Source: Better Health Channel www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Yea Community Health - Yea & District Memorial Hospital – phone 5736 0410
Alexandra Community Health - Alexandra District Hospital - 5772 0800

FIRE RESTRICTIONS IN MURRINDINDI SHIRE

Murrindindi Shire Council has entered its fire restriction period (25 October) and it is imperative that people obey guidelines.

Our Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO) Andrew Daly can assist landholders with questions about the municipal fire restriction period. By calling Mr Daly landholders can make arrangements to have him come to their property to inspect windrows and if they are in a condition to burn. A permit can be issued on the spot.

Council is also assisting the clean up process by providing a free hard and green waste disposal service at its Resource Recovery Centres UNTIL 24/12/10.(Transfer Stations). This service is being supported through the Bushfire Recovery Fund.

With Council providing a free waste disposal service, we hope that people will take full advantage and make sure that their properties are fire ready.

Council's website www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au does have guidelines as to what can and cannot be disposed at the recovery centres and I would also ask residents to make sure they separate their green and hard waste materials.

WANTED

Person to do 5 to 10 hours per week General farm/garden/handyperson duties
Small flock sheep mgmt/chainsawing/fencing/gardening etc etc
Location is North East Ruffy
Please phone Roger 0437 771 580

LOST DOG

Ruffy/Hughes Creek district
Two year old female white & black Staffy/Foxy cross.
Wearing a red collar with Strathbogie tag. Answers to the name of "Fleck".
Last seen Sunday Oct 24th. Please call Mavis Cook 5790 4007
or the Strathbogie Ranger 5795 0000

WORK WANTED

I am looking for farm work of any kind from the 12th to the 21st November.
I am happy to work with animals, fencing, tractor work etc
Please phone Oliver Yorston on 57969261

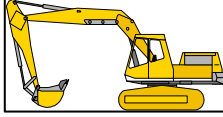
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