



## PEOPLE AND PLACES

*Grant Wheatley is certainly a 'Jack of all trades'. He moved to the Weibye Track two years ago with his partner Natalie and he is a huge asset to the district.*

*Grant grew up in Bridgetown, Western Australia and has gone on to live in every state except Tasmania. His background is aviation. He started off in the air force as an aircraft maintenance engineer, then went on to the Northern territory and worked as a stock man on Brunette Downs. Here his jobs included fixing bores, fence repairs, and new fence constructions. (FYI Brunette Downs is 3.5 million acres)*

*fixing bores and fences and he loved it. After that he moved back to Hawker De Havilland doing aircraft maintenance, then back to Queensland. In 1999 Grant moved to Numurkah, Victoria where he worked for seven years, ending up as production and shift supervisor for Riverland Oilseed Processors. Then he moved to Strathbogie and loves this area- the people, the isolation, the strong sense of community. Interestingly, it is very similar country to that around his birthplace of Bridgetown.*

*Grant met Nat in 2005 in Swan Hill and she now works at Euroa police station as a senior constable. She too loves her work and has been in the police force for the past 17 years. As her work is shift work, they have to juggle their lives to make sure they spend time together. As Grant seems to work seven days a week and is available 24 hours a day, this seems pretty important! They moved to the Weibye Track with Nat's son Lachlan. He is entering his second year as an apprentice carpenter and works for Great Bearlog Homes in Mansfield. He has just spent six weeks in New Zealand doing a log home building course which he loved.*

*Grant does a lot of work in the Terip area but is happy to travel further afield. He does anything! This includes fencing using a hydraulic post driver and pneumatic picket and pipe driver, pump repairs, arenas and round yards, cattle and sheep yards, on site welding, general home, farm and factory maintenance, firewood using a splitting gun for large logs and an explosive blasting service to get rid of rabbit burrows, stumps and rocks.*

*Give him a ring on 0407028122 if you would like to talk to him or email on [agfencing@bigpond.com](mailto:agfencing@bigpond.com), it will certainly be worth your while.*

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Student of the Week

Angus : For super listening and always being the first on the floor ready to learn. Well done!



### Fire Safety:

Last Tuesday Sharyn, Alistair and Peter came and spoke to students about the importance of fire safety. We have been practicing evacuations and the importance of moving calmly and quickly when instructed. This is something that can be reinforced at home.

Students had a chance to look over the fire truck and have a bit of fun with the fire hose! The juniors discussed fire safe clothing and how to 'stop, drop and roll' in the event of smoke or fire.

The seniors focused on ringing 000 in an emergency. We thank Peter, Alistair and Sharyn for their time and dedication to this important program.



### Coles Vouchers:

There was much excitement this week when the Coles voucher sports equipment arrived. We received a croquet set and a set of fox tail balls. Thank you

## WELCOME TO ISSUE 4

Please send articles to [miranda@omnipotent.com.au](mailto:miranda@omnipotent.com.au) or ring on 57969261

A huge thank you to the new postie who has agreed to deliver The Granite News to the Whiteheads Creek, Highlands and Caveat area. If you hear of people still not getting it, please let me know. Email is a guaranteed delivery.

Only 2 places left on the back of TGN, thank you to all our supporters, we wouldn't be here without your backing.

## YEA COMMUNITY HOUSE

The Yea Community House is entering an exciting new era, and you are invited to play a role in determining the future directions of the House and supporting the expansion of its services.

Yea Community House is currently planning a public meeting to discuss the role of the House, to explore the community's needs and wants, to identify gaps in services and to gauge support and interest in maintaining and expanding the House as a community resource.

To this end, the House is seeking community-spirited people with skills, knowledge and life-experience to meet with other like-minded people to contribute input and ideas which will help shape the future of the Community House.

You are invited to attend our public meeting to be held on Monday February 28th at 7.00pm at the Yea Community House, 15 The Semi Circle, Yea. (Next door to the library) A light supper will be provided. This will not be a meeting to recruit committee members, but an opportunity to join with a group of vital, committed people to offer support and advice to the Yea Community House as it moves forward.

## BACK TO SCHOOL REFUND

Under the Education Tax Refund, families can claim up to 50 per cent back on a range of education expenses – up to \$397 for each primary school child and \$794 for each secondary school child.

Parents or guardians who receive Family Tax Benefit Part A for children in primary or secondary school are eligible for the refund, as well as those on other allowances such as the Disability Support Pension.

For more information visit [www.australia.gov.au/](http://www.australia.gov.au/)

## COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011

Fortnight beg 28th Feb	<b>TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER</b> Tim & Cindy Hayes Ian & Cynthia Crawford Both sides of Springs Rd and all four courts
Week beg 27 FEB / 05	<b>WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK</b> Tim Hayes Lindsay Heffer
Week beg 27th Feb	<b>RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER</b> David Sleigh (Ph) 57 904 301 (Mob) 0429 904 301
Continues to 27th March	<b>WildArt @ Old Post Office Seymour</b> 30 painters and sculptors creations on exhibition. Wed to Sun 11am to 4pm & Wed to Sat 6pm – 9.30pm. Browsing welcome. Free entry. 50 Emily St (Old Hume Hwy) Seymour 5792-3170 <a href="http://www.artseymour.com.au">www.artseymour.com.au</a>
Thursday 24th February	<b>ALEXANDRA LIBRARY</b> an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Murrindindi Writers – all aspiring writers welcome 10 am 4F Food, fiction and fun on Thursdays – Bushrangers 3.45 - 5pm
Thursday 24th February	The first of this year's SCP workshops kicks off with a <b>Green Cleaning</b> workshop on 9am – 11am at the Kilmore Family Centre, 7 Skehan Place (opposite Hudson Park) Kilmore. Join green clean expert Bridget Gardner and learn how to keep your home hygienically clean, without harmful chemicals, hard work or expensive products. To register for workshops please contact me on 5734 6357 or <a href="mailto:cathyk@mitschellshire.vic.gov.au">cathyk@mitschellshire.vic.gov.au</a> Check out the calendar of workshops on the website <a href="http://www.sustainable-communities.com.au">www.sustainable-communities.com.au</a>
Thursday 24th	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> Caveat Church 5.30pm All welcome
Friday 25th February	<b>Wildlife of the Strathbogies</b> 6pm at 'Alchera' 232 Gap Rd. FREE BBQ RSVP Jenny 0459023690 Come and look for •Frogs •Possums •Reptiles •Small marsupials Find out HOW wildlife researchers look for and find native wildlife. Longwood East Landcare Group Inc
Friday 25th February	<b>Tapas Night</b> at Rocky Passes Estate 1590 Highlands Rd. Tapas are Spanish savory snacks ... graze all night over a couple of glasses of red, or make a meal of them. To book, please call 57959366 or email <a href="mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au">contact@rockypasses.com.au</a> .
Saturday 26th February	<b>WORKING BEE AT HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL</b> Come along between 9am & 12 noon & help us to clean up the garden before the HiArts Family Film Festival the following weekend. The more people who come along to help, the easier the jobs become. A BBQ lunch will be provided.
Tuesday 1st March	<b>UNDERSTANDING THE CONSEQUENCES OF LONG TERM STRESS</b> Clinical psychologist Rob Gordon is a sensitive and motivating speaker, whose insights will help explain our responses to some of the challenges we have experienced in the past decade. 7::00pm – 10::00pm Yea Golf Club. Bring Your Friends and Family Light refreshments will be provided To book your place at this enlightening free event contact Erin Hoiles or Sue Bass on 5772 0365 or <a href="mailto:ehoiles@murrindindi.vic.gov.au">ehoiles@murrindindi.vic.gov.au</a>
Tuesday 1st March	<b>Alexandra library</b> an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Book Summit Keynote Speaker Mark Rubbo Drinks @ 6.30 7 pm – 8 pm
Saturday 5th March	Please join the Friends of the Euroa Arboretum for a <b>HARVEST CELEBRATION</b> The summer months this year have brought a rare bounty of native seed with cooler temperatures and excellent rainfall. Perhaps you have collected some special seeds yourselves that you are happy to share, or would like to swap some of our harvested seed. Maybe you need a plant identified? Please bring your seed to donate or swap and plant specimens and join us for lunch to celebrate our seed harvest. Join us at 12 midday for a harvest feast. Please bring a plate of home grown/home made produce to share. We will provide beverages and good company! WHEN: 12 midday – 2pm, WHERE: Euroa Arboretum BRING: A plate of food to share, local native seed if you have collected excess or would like to swap seed, and a smile. RSVP: Cathy Olive on 0429 127 399 by Wednesday 2nd March, or email <a href="mailto:cathy_steve4@bigpond.com">cathy_steve4@bigpond.com</a>
4th to 6th March	<b>HiArts Family Film Festival</b> Films for all ages and tastes, feature and short length, including local work. Program in Granite News and on Web site ( <a href="http://www.hiarts.org">www.hiarts.org</a> ) in the week before. Also photographic Exhibition; Spiteri Gallery; sculpture; family activities; music; food and drink. Opening night will feature Don McQueen, Australian Bush poet. People need to register for Opening Night. Queries 5796 9358 or <a href="mailto:kadumbla@mac.com">kadumbla@mac.com</a> .
Saturday 5th March	<b>Yea Country Market</b> , 9am to 2pm (1st Saturday of each month) Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea. Contact: 0409 130 587 or <a href="mailto:yeamarket@gmail.com">yeamarket@gmail.com</a>
Saturday 5th March	<b>The Edible Gardening workshop</b> is on at 1pm - 4pm at the Old Flour Mill, 17 Kirkland Avenue West, Euroa. The speaker is Helen Tuton soil scientist, garden writer and environmentalist from Sustainable Gardening Australia. She was a huge hit with residents when she presented this workshop in Kilmore last year. She will help you learn simple steps and organic strategies to grow delicious home grown fruit and vegetables - from improving soil health (the key to a productive vegie patch), selecting the right plants and keeping them healthy to watering systems and companion planting. The Edible Gardening workshop is sponsored by Goulburn Valley Water.
Friday 11th March	<b>'Drinks on the Deck'</b> 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. "Don't forget the Aerogard!!".

# Classifieds & Community Notices

## WETLAND TENDERS

Expressions of Interest for Wetland Tenders, Strathbogie Ranges close on 28th February 2011. To get a free, no obligation site assessment before then please phone Jenny Wilson Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority on 58201115

## MOLESWORTH GAP - CAVEAT STATE SCHOOL

3693 1909 - 1963

There will be a Caveat State School centenary held on April 9th at Betty and David Ladbury's, Caveat. 11.00 A.M. onwards BYO meat, etc BBQ.S provided. A reunion of many faces who were educated at the school. If anyone has photos please send them to us as we are collecting (scan first so that originals do not get lost or damaged) Please place names of people if known. If anyone knows any families please send me a email or phone 57976255. The committee is Rick McAlpin, Ted Sprunt, Michael Kopanica, Andrew Shaw & Jeannie Webb  
[jeanniewebb@harboursat.com.au](mailto:jeanniewebb@harboursat.com.au)

## MOWER FOR SALE

Highlands Primary School is selling their Deutscher F26 self propelled mower/slasher which is in excellent condition, \$1,200 ONO PH 57969208

## SALSA AND ZUMBA CLASSES

Melbourne's #1 Latin dance/Zumba instructor Fabio Isak will have you having fun in no time. No experience needed....all fitness levels welcome. All sessions FREE BYO water Grand Opening 25th Feb then last Friday of every month until July Time; 7.30pm Salsa / 8.30pm Zumba Do one class or both. Venue: St Lukes Hall; 1 Pelissier St Yea All enq call Michelle ph.:5797 2525

## Family Film Festival

People wanting to attend the Gala opening on Friday 4th March need to register by Monday 28th. \$15 per person (includes a weekend pass). 7.30pm finger food and drinks, followed by Don Mc Queen Bush Poet of the Year 2008-10 and the screening of 'Duck Soup' a vintage Marx Brothers film. Dress 'Outrageously!' Contact Stuart 5796 9358 [kadumbra@mac.com](mailto:kadumbra@mac.com)

## BERGAMOT

### (Citrus bergamia)

Bergamot is an upright tree that grows to 12m but under cultivation it is pruned to 4-5m in height. It bares fruit which is generally globoid to 7.5cm, the peel is thin and smooth but rather tough. The fruit is too sour to eat so the trees sole purpose is for the production of essential oil. It takes its name from the small town of Bergamo in Northern Italy where it was originally cultivated. An Italian family, the Feminis, in the 16th century, developed eau-de-cologne in which the essential ingredient is Bergamot. This stimulated the production of the oil. Bergamot oil is produced by cold expression from the peel of nearly ripe fruit. It has a fresh citrusy aroma but is phototoxic on the skin so care must be taken.

Bergamot's chemical composition is that of linalyl acetate, limonene and linalol and its primary uses are in the digestive, immune, nervous and urinary systems and also skin care. It is useful in relieving colic, flatulence and indigestion. It has been found to inhibit cold sores (herpes simplex), chicken pox and shingles especially when blended with 100% essential oils of Lavender and Tea Tree. Bergamots antidepressant property make it a wonderful oil for those who are tense, anxious or depressed. It is also recommended for the treatment of cystitis and urinary tract infections if used in the early stages i.e. 3 to 4 drops in a carrier oil added to a sitz bath as it may prevent the infection from spreading. Bergamot is an excellent oil in treating acne, skin infections and oily skin. It is an ingredient in metier foaming facial cleanser. A hot compress of Bergamot can be used on boils to draw out the infection.

Caution is needed when dealing with essential oils so for more information on the use of Bergamot or any other essential oil please contact Megan at 'metier aromatherapy', [Info@metier-a.com.au](mailto:Info@metier-a.com.au) or call on 0417 314 559. Megan is an enrolled nurse and aromatherapist and works from her home in Seymour as a therapeutic and relaxation massage therapist. .

## RUFFY STORE CLOSED

The Ruffy store will be closed next weekend, February 25,26 and 27 – reopening Friday 4 March

## FOR SALE

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[mplunkett@gvchs.com.au](mailto:mplunkett@gvchs.com.au) Bookings are essential! To book contact Broadcare on Tel: 57 842 043

Dates: Thursday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 30th March and 7th April, 2011(6 sessions)

Time: 10.00am-12.30pm

Venue: Broadcare Community Centre  
Total Cost: \$20.00/person

## ERADICATING EUROPEAN WASPS IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

February to April are the months when European wasps are multiplying and Murrindindi Shire Council is encouraging people to take action to reduce numbers.

European wasps can be identified by their bright yellow and black bandings.

"We encourage people to contact Council if they think they have located a European wasp nest on Council property. Our officers will visit the site as soon as possible to destroy the nest."

An owner or occupier of property, who is aware that there is a wasp nest on the property, must take steps to remove it. Wasp nests are usually in the ground, but can occupy wall cavities, tree hollows, river banks and other confined spaces. There is no soil mound around the hole to indicate its presence as they carry the excavated soil from inside away so nest identification is usually during the day when wasp activity is at its peak and large numbers of wasps are leaving and re-entering the nest.

"Given the level of activity occurring during daylight hours, it is important that people avoid the treatment of nests until the evening. European wasps react to noise vibrations and are very aggressive and can deliver multiple and painful stings," Cr Abbott-Smith said.

For more information on European wasps visit [www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au). The website provides information in identifying European wasps and their nests and procedures on safe eradication measures.

People requiring assistance or want to contact Council should ring 5772 0366.

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