



WELCOME TO ISSUE 6

Please send any news to me at mirandayorston@bigpond.com or ring 57969261.

I am delighted to report that all the advertisement spaces on the back of The Granite News have now been taken. Many thanks to all the people who have taken a spot and to the anonymous donations that we have received to keep the newsletter going, it is greatly appreciated.

MURRINDINDI MAYOR'S CHAIR – Cr John Walsh

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the Hi Arts Festival at Highlands. The festival has been a great success for many years not only for the artists and visitors, but also as a tremendous example of a small community that enjoys themselves through being creative and in doing so punches well above their weight. The paintings, drawings, sculpture, pottery and photography were a great mix of styles and techniques with a healthy smattering of adventurous imaginative work.

I also enjoyed a great night at Ruff Artz – good company, excellent entertainment and as always fantastic locally baked cakes during the interval. Another little treasure of small community drive and enthusiasm.

A key to the longevity of both organisations is that they have a very clear idea of their objectives; matched the objectives to the limitations on their resources; and then focused on producing high quality results. Over the years they have gradually developed their venues to improve event presentations which further builds on, and ensures, their on-going success.

Whether it be music, plays, painting or sculpture, the arts entertain and challenge us. The arts let us escape the day-to-day but can also make us think differently about the status quo. Making each of us more rounded in our attitudes and contributing to community well-being, the arts are also a positive addition to the economy of the Shire. We are very fortunate with the variety and number of artists that live and work within Murrindindi. I encourage everyone to grab a copy of the Arts Guide and Calendar of Events from the Council offices, libraries and Visitor Information Centres then go out and strongly support our arts community. A great way to enjoy yourselves in the Heart of Victoria.

STEP BACK IN TIME

In the last decade of the 19th Century, the residents organised the first annual Creighton's Creek Picnic. These became a major focal point for residents of the Creek as well as surrounding districts until just before the Second World War. It was a time to catch up and compete in old fashioned sports and generally have a good time.

This year there will be the opportunity to revisit those days and see how people in small rural communities got together and had fun.

The original picnic format will be recreated on Saturday March 31 at the Creighton's Creek Reserve.

Stuart Marshall, Chairman of the Creighton's Creek Hall Committee said that activities will include sporting events held at the original picnics, including three-legged races, sack races and egg and spoon races. Other original events, such as the milk boys' race, would probably not be held due to a lack of suitably qualified contestants,

Stuart said that some of the other events people could compete in were based on the skills required for farming in the 19th century such as sheaf throwing. There would also be demonstrations of historical farming practices and stories and poems from yesteryear.

A warm invitation is extended to all interested people to attend this unique afternoon. The day will be a great opportunity to meet people and experience life as it was a hundred years ago. Bring a picnic lunch as activities will start at 1:30. Cost is \$10 per adult, Stuart Marshall 0418 568 882

RED CROSS CALLING

March is Red Cross Calling Month. Residents can expect a knock on their door in the next couple of weeks or so requesting donations to the Australian Red Cross. All monies received are directed to the ongoing needs throughout this country. Please give. All collectors will have official identification and will give a receipt.

From Cindy Hayes

DRAWING ANYONE?

Drawing Group - Anyone interested in drawing/painting etc., and joining a group to meet regularly at the at the old Ruffy Primary School, Tablelands Community Centre? Helen McDougall 57904387 or Ruffy Store.

WOMEN & HEART DISEASE

"Dear TGN readers, I just found out that I have a partially blocked artery and will most likely have to have a stent put in next Monday when I have a coronary angiogram. I am only 55 and did not know I had a heart problem until not feeling well this year and not being able to catch my breath properly when going up a minor incline to lock up my chickens at night.

I am sure most women do not know the statistics. Heart disease kills almost as many women as it does men. On average, it kills 216 Australian women per week or almost 31 women per day.

Heart disease kills four times as many women as breast cancer. That's over 11,000 women who die of heart disease every year in Australia. Cancer organisations have done an excellent job raising the profile of breast cancer. The Heart Foundation encourages women to be as vigilant in looking after their heart health as they are about their breast health.

Thanks heaps, Kind Regards, Christine" For more information go to www.heartfoundation.org.au

"CELEBRATING OUR ENVIRONMENT"

Local Stories, Successes & Challenges

Friday 30th March - Violet Town Community Centre - from 9:30am

Trees, Climate Change & Sustainable Water Use

A great day at our well known "Eco Village" of Violet Town presented by the Strathbogie Shire and supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA and Caring for our Country (Aust Govt). The program includes: Prof Snow Barlow (Melb Uni and Badginnie Vineyard) - Challenges and Opportunities presented by Climate Change

John Dainton - (former Chair of GBCMA 1997 - 2002 & of Goulburn Murray Water 2001-2004) - Sustainable Water Use


Greg Moore - The Value of Trees in our Environment, Parks & Roadside as Climate Changes.

Meet at the Violet Town Community Centre for a cuppa from 0930 and lunch & wine tasting beside the Honey-suckle Creek

Please advise attendance for catering by 26th March to 5795 0000 (office hrs only)

From Burnt Creek Landcare newsletter

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - MARCH /APRIL 2012

Week beg 25th March	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK Peter Gremlick Rob Hayes
Week beg 26th March	RUFFY FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER 1St Lieutenant David Sleigh (Ph) 57 904 301 MOB 0429 904 301
Week beg 25th March	<i>Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Ken & Robyn Richards Helen Mckenzie</i>
3rd March– 1st April	 <p>GALLERY 34 PRESENTS CHARLES BLACKMAN'S WONDERLAND</p> <p>Thursday– Saturday 9am to 4pm Sundays and Public Holidays 10am-4pm Jo Miller PH 57973222 www.gallery34.com.au</p>
March 6th - April 1st	All New Art Exhibition by Yea artist Meg Heres @ Mitchelton Winery Cellar Door Gallery Nagambie Open 7 Days 10am -5pm Free admittance 03 5736 2221 Artist 04 0034 0279
Thursday 15th March	TERIP TERIP RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE MEETING at 7.30pm at the Rec Reserve. We'll be having a quick meeting to decide upon the schedule of events at the Rec Reserve for 2012. All welcome. Please contact Andrew Holloway on 57904080 or andrewholloway1@gmail.com for more information.
17th and 18th March	Euroa Community Cinema "Iron Lady" – it will be interesting to see if Meryl Streep receives an Oscar for her performance as Maggie Thatcher in this outstanding movie.
Wednesday 21st March	The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), Hume region invites you to attend a workshop with Dr Rosemary Roberts . Her particular interests include babies and young children's learning and developing well-being from birth to school, the impact of self-esteem on early learning, and ways to support families with the youngest children. 10.00 am – 12.00 noon, Yea Council Chambers, The Semicircle, RSVP: Lauren Soyer soyer.lauren.l@edumail.vic.gov.au Ph: 03 5761 2140
Saturday 24th March	SUSTAINABLE SMALL FARM TOUR Tracy and Anthony have built their house in a location to maximise the sun and they have built a lovely garden. They have a fabulous chook pen – the ultimate for chooks! Tracey and Anthony run beef cattle on their property. They have been very thoughtful in every aspect of their property planning, including protection of a lovely swamp. Come and be inspired and while you're at it, learn about managing your own chooks from John Hunt – President of the Alexandra Poultry Club! A light lunch will be provided. Meet: 255 Buxton-Marysville Rd, Buxton Time: 10am – 1pm Guest Speaker – John Hunt – President, Alexandra Poultry Club RSVP: Judy Watts 57360105, or uglandcare@gbcma.vic.gov.au
Sunday 25th March	Highlands Ramblers are off again. Come along to the first walk for the year. Contact Andrew Shaw PH 0427969297
24th and 25th March	Euroa Community Cinema "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" – this is also up for awards! The original movie was shown at Euroa which was possibly the only place it was screened in the area. We had an amazing response as people came from Shepparton and all places to see it. This version is excellent – possibly better than the first from what I have heard!
Thursday 29th March	Secret Men's Business will be held again at the caveat Church. Everyone in the district is welcome to attend a BBQ which is supplied. BYO drinks and enjoy.
Saturday 31st March	Creighton's Creek Picnic at the Creighton's Creek Reserve Events Include: Stepping the chain, Sheaf tossing 50 yard dash – many categories, Horseshoe tossing, Sack race, Skittles, Farm skills competitions, Inaugural "Let's Elope" Hobby Horse Stakes, 3 legged race – and many more. Displays: Penny farthing and historical bicycle display, Clydesdale horses and Horse drawn carriages, Historical firefighting equipment., Experience a day out in the 1890s, Bring a picnic lunch and picnic chairs, Devonshire afternoon tea provided. Events start at 1:00, Cost \$10 per adult, children free
Sunday 1st April	Yea Wetlands Committee invites you to a fabulous family and friends fun function. Focus of the day is freshwater fishing, fun as you throw a frisbee, frolic in the fields of the Wetlands or feed your face with food. Whilst feeding your famished stomach with fresh french bread, succulent roasts followed by flapjacks topped with fresh fruit and frozen freme'. The fare for the festive fishing and feasting will set you back a fee of sixty dollars per family or funds of twenty dollars per person. First rate fermentation of the grape variety will be available at a fiver per glass. Some factors that might influence the running of the day are fog, Fahrenheit, freak frost, or feral foreign bodies. Favourable footwear on your feet is advisable. Pre-purchase your tickets from Yea & District Community Bank branch 66 High St., Yea Commences: Four Thirty PM at the Flat Plat, Cummins Reserve
GOOD FRI- DAY LUNCH 6TH APRIL	RUFFY CFA GOOD FRIDAY LUNCH All welcome to come along to the annual Ruffy CFA Good Friday Lunch. Raffles, collections for the Royal Melbourne Hospital Good Friday Appeal and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Lunch served between 12:30 and 2pm, \$12 Adult, \$5 for Kids. All proceeds to the Ruffy CFA. For enquiries please call: Sally Kubiel 0407904335 John Furlanetto 0427344956 Ros Goodwin 0437004006

Classifieds & Community Notices

"RABBITS & FOXES and FIRE PLANNING & PROTECTION (Year-Round Jobs)"

Saturday 24th March - Upton Hill Fire Brigade - 1000 am to late afternoon (Lunch provided)

Directions - Turn into the hills opposite the Avenel Roadhouse, after 400m turn left into Upton Road then proceed 13kms to the end of the bitumen for another 800m to the new fire station - a bit like Federation Square - its near impossible to miss!

With green grass everywhere and soaked paddocks, readers might well ask "What a season to talk about controlling rabbits and fire protection - are we going to drown them and is the CFA now the Country Flood Authority?"

However we are being confronted with an extraordinary season which will launch a likely plague of rabbits and provide a huge grass and fuel load for next summer's fire season. Even now we might consider how we are going to keep fire breaks clear by strategic slashing/mowing, grazing or spraying.

Tingay's Landcare Services will start the day with a demonstration of excavator ripping and bait laying at "Glenogil" at 1000am (the entry ramp is the first on the right after the steep climb up the escarpment on Upton Road - about 9kms from the Freeway). Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences of 1080 and Pindone baits with carrots and oats as well as fumigating and harbour destruction. Briefing notes will be available.

Barry Noye, Creighton's Creek has produced a marvellous Ute Guide to Rabbit Control which will be available (free of charge) on the day. This guide has been funded under the Granite Creeks Project.

A BBQ lunch will follow at the fire station and Janet Hagen and Bertram Lobert will discuss the program and incentives available under the Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network. These incentives include fencing, revegetation & weed control on selected sites such as rocky outcrops, wetlands, streams and biolink corridors

The main purpose of the fire planning and protection program after lunch will be a group discussion sharing knowledge and experiences and a self-assessment exercise for those present to evaluate how well prepared they are and to rate their capacity and circumstances from 1 (low risk) to 5 (extreme risk).

Aspects covered in this self-assessment exercise include fire-breaks, water supply and access, building security, equipment and vehicles, livestock, neighbours, your capacities & vulnerabilities. The exercise will promote considerable discussion as it is being undertaken.

Those coming, who have experienced bushfires, might think about the lessons they learned and how they might

advise newcomers and those that have not been in a fire. The tragedy of Black Saturday was primarily a lack of understanding of fire behaviour and planning and a failure to take early action under extreme conditions. On that day in the Kinglake fire, the majority of deaths were after the SW wind change and half were evacuees on or near roads.

This is a valuable exercise which complements and extends the value of CFA briefings such as community fire guard meetings at the start of the fire season.

This field day is presented by the six landcare groups in the Granite Creeks Project in conjunction with the Burnt Creek Landcare Group and the Upton Hill Fire Brigade. It is funded by the Goulburn Broken CMA.

Please advise attendance for catering as soon as possible to Sandy MacKenzie 5796 2088 (leave message)

From Sandy MacKenzie

Burnt Creek Landcare Coordinator

WATER HYACINTH A THREAT TO OUR WATERWAYS

Landowners in the Seymour area are urged to report any sightings of the highly invasive weed water hyacinth to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) after an infestation of the plant was discovered in a fish pond in Seymour.



ALEXANDRA LIBRARY

an essential part of your community!

NEW: Mahjong EVERY Friday 2pm
Come and learn Bridge every Monday

FOR SALE

GE 300N Twin Tub Washer

Excellent working order

\$95 - ph 0437 771 580

SOIL HEALTH and STEEP HILLS FARM TOUR

Join us on a tour of two local properties Kulaba and Habbies Howe

David Freeman, Kulaba, and Scott McKay, Habbies Howe, will lead us on a tour of their farms and share their experiences and lessons learned in:

- | **Soil management** - considerations and practices
- | **Pasture and grazing management**
- | **Landscape and biodiversity restoration** - impacts on productivity and lifestyle
- | **Experiments** - successes and failures

Saturday 31st March , 10am—5pm

Bus departs from Seymour , Notes, morning tea and lunch provided, Bring appropriate clothing and footwear

RSVP essential by 23 March, first in best dressed , Sandy MacKenzie 5796 2088 , Rhiannon Apted 5736 0108 rhiannona@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Brought to you by the Goulburn Broken CMA Beyond SoilCare project, Burnt Creek Landcare Group and Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative, with funding from Caring for Our Country

"OUR COUNTRY ROADS - MAINTENANCE, SAFETY, VEGETATION & WEEDS"

Tuesday 3rd April - Upton Hill Fire Brigade - 1000am till 1400pm BBQ lunch

Directions - Turn into the hills opposite the Avenel Roadhouse, after 400m turn left into Upton Road then proceed 13kms to the end of the bitumen for another 800m to the new fire station.

A discussion of road issues including by-laws and regulations, funding and maintenance, safety, hazards, roadside vegetation and weed control will include Dr Bill Sykes MP at the new Upton Hill Fire Brigade from 1000am.

We plan to have representatives from Vic Roads and Strathbogie Shire present to contribute to the discussion on this issue of concern to residents, landholders, fire brigades, school buses, heavy transports and all other road users in these challenging times of weather damage and budget constraints. Please advise attendance for catering to John McGregor 5796 2533 From Burnt Creek Landcare newsletter

Rocky Passes

Tastings & "blackboard menu" lunch
Sundays 11am - 5pm



Tapas bar last Friday of the month from 6pm

Bookings 57969366
1590 Highlands Rd
www.rockypasses.com.au



OPEN 10 - 5 every day of school & public holidays then Thursday to Monday
CLOSED - Tue|Wed|Christmas Day|August
Wheels friendly, groups welcome!
471 Upton Rd Avenel | T 03 5796 2667
Family fun with Ned & the Kelly Gang!

www.avenelmaze.com.au

metier aromatherapy

therapeutic massage
relaxation massage
french clay facials
hand & foot massage |
gift vouchers available

phone megan 5799 0284
www.metier-a.com.au

HABBIES HOWE BEEF

Mature, well hung & available. Prahran, Yarck, Ruffy or Habbies

5796 9260

www.habbieshowe.com.au



Phone Ian on

: 0408990487

: 57904328

Registered Electrical Contractor:
License No. 16959



TRADESMEN

Specialising in

renovations, alterations, and repairs. Shed erections, concrete floors, paths, paving etc.
Contact Ken on 5797 6255 or Michael on 5795 1109



FRANZ KLOFT MECHANICAL REPAIRS
Repairs & service of vehicles

Tyres, Windscreens, Batteries, Brakes, Exhausts, Wheel alignment, Automatic transmission

Phone 57952910
38 Railway Street, Euroa
FREE QUOTES

yeswebsites

Simply Great Websites

For a free quote, email jr@yeswebsites.com.au or call Jono: 5796 9399

yeswebsites.com.au

Shopping Carts a speciality



Abseiling, BMX bikes, 9 hole golf course, cabins, camping and much more.

Bookings: 0423 006 667
Site ph: 5797 6351

www.mafekingroverpark.com



Integrated Management Systems
Work Health and Safety
Quality & Environment
Policies, Procedures, Inductions
Safety Plans, Risk Assessments, SWMS, Certification & PreQual
Ph: Roger 03 5790 4166

KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS



PH. 0357 904 235
MOB. 0429 804 235

RABBIT RIPPING, DAMS, DRIVEWAYS
GENERAL EARTHWORKS & MACHINERY HIRE

The Shed Cafe/ Restaurant

Thursday Dinner to Sunday Lunch

Weekend Breakfast from 9.00 am.

Groups by arrangement

2 Fully Self Contained Cottages

Lindy 0402 001 522

Cafe 5799 1595

www.trawoolshed.com.au

8447 Goulburn Valley highway

black bird and bull



picture framing

and studio gallery in Terip Terip

57904167 or 0419131650

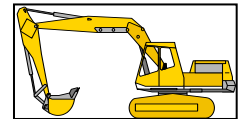
ruffy
producestore
www.ruffy.com.au

open lunch fridays
wood fired pizzas
every friday night
weekends & holidays
breakfast from 8.30am
lunch from 12 noon
bookings a good idea
phone 5790 4387

AG Fencing & Contracting Services

All fence constructions,
Equipment maintenance & Pump repairs,
Blasting Service,
"Not sure if we do it?"
Give us a call 0407 028 122

A.J. & S.L. SHAW EXCAVATIONS



GENERAL EARTHWORKS

Andrew 0427969297

Sharyn 0437281072

Digit Downs Deco

Painting, Maintenance, Design, Decoration

Neil Doran

Ruffy

0415037731

DigitDowns@gmail.com

BAILEY'S FUNERAL SERVICES P/L

27 Highlands Rd, Seymour
Offering a caring and professional service
Prices starting from \$3500
Cremation, \$4500 Burial plus cemetery fees.
Contact Garnet on 57992007 24 Hours.

Reserved

for

GEORGE EMBLETON

Rodwells
A RURALCO BUSINESS

Come see Rodwells Yea for all your Farm Supply requirements, From Fencing & Animal Health needs to Agronomic Advice.

Call Ryan Furlanetto 57 972 086
Free Delivery Available

Reserved for
Chisholm & Shaw

Reserved for
Wales CRT

RESERVED FOR
CALLUM LAWSON

RESERVED FOR
CAVS