



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Callum Lawson is a local Highlander, who has resided in Highlands for most of his 23 years.

Callum attended Highlands mobile Kindergarten for two years, then Highlands Primary School for five years. He then moved to Seymour East Primary and then completed years 7-11 at Seymour Technical High School. Callum was proficient at Technology Studies, Metal, and VET Engineering, winning major awards. He also was a valuable team leader with the SES cadets. In 2006, Callum commenced apprenticeship training with William Adams, Caterpillar as a Heavy Vehicle Mobile Earthmoving and Agricultural Equipment Mechanic. He completed his 4 year training then was employed by the same company until 2011, fulfilling various roles; workshop mechanic, field service, leading hand, team leader. Currently, Callum is employed by Diesel and Dirt. This company subcontracts labour to mines, in this instance to Watpak, who operate the Iluka Resource Sand Mines at Douglas, near Horsham. Callum's role is as a diesel fitter for breakdowns and preventative maintenance on large mining equipment. This mine is closing at Douglas and Callum will soon move to another mine site, owned by the same company, near Ouyen. He will work 12 hour shifts for seven days, then have seven days off.

In his leisure time, Callum enjoys camping and outdoor activities. Last year he spent three months touring 22,000 kilometres around Australia with friends. His favourite places were Horn Island and the Kimberley region. The CFA also engages some of Callum's spare time. He is third lieutenant for the local brigade in charge of vehicle maintenance, upgrading equipment and improving safety procedures. Other interests include agriculture, designing and fabricating farm equipment, welding, cooking and socialising with friends and family.

In the future, Callum would like to run a successful local business. He hopes to move back to the area on a permanent basis, and buy his own property in the local area.

'LAWSON' is a new business project that Callum and Les are starting together. The Lawson males are used to working together as a team. With some tasks such as metal fabrication, design and construction, Callum will be able to learn from his father's vast practical and technical experience. With other jobs, such as mechanical repairs, earthworks and hole boring, Callum will be the expert.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

John : For really making the most of Young Leaders' Day and wearing a smile on his face all day! Well done!

Horse Riding Lessons

Yea Riding School is offering horse riding lessons for children and adults of all ages on quiet horses and ponies. After school hours and weekend pony club. Bring your own horse or use one of ours. Phone Sarah on 0400289504.

Young Leaders' Day

What a great day. Students are still talking about the guest speakers and the messages presented. This was the largest group we have ever taken for HPS and their behaviour was fantastic. A huge thank you to Robyn Richards for accompanying us and offering to do some follow up with the students.



SOIL HEALTH, FERTILIZERS, PASTURES, GRAZING MANAGEMENT

from 1000am till mid afternoon - packed lunch provided , Saturday 31st March - is now a self drive tour to "Kulaba" & "Habbies Howe"
IMPORTANT - CHANGE OF PLAN - NO BUS. We will now meet at the Kulaba Woolshed, Highlands Road .

WELCOME TO ISSUE 8

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

If you would like to receive The Granite News by email please go to www.highlands.org.au and just **subscribe, it is as easy as that!**

THERE WILL BE NO GRANITE NEWS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

DENNIS SPITERI'S GALLERY

Last weekend we had the pleasure of visiting Denis Spiteri's gallery on Old Highlands Road. It is a while since we have been there and I was amazed by the beautiful park land that Dennis has created. Of course the gallery is always a joy to visit and his latest exhibition is no exception. There are some smaller pastels that particularly caught my eye, as well as his hallmark, vast colourful canvases full of energy and movement.

Dennis has extended this exhibition to the 8th April and I strongly recommend that you take the time to visit. You can phone on 57969373 to make an appointment.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD ENDS EARLY

The Fire Danger Period has ended on 13 March. It was originally scheduled to end on 1 May.

Local Laws re burn-offs still apply - check you local Council.

Also, burn-offs should be registered on 1800 668 511 to save inconvenience for local brigades and prevent false alarms.

CALLUM LAWSON

Many thanks to Netta Lawson for the excellent article she has written about Callum. Many people are singing his praises as a diesel mechanic and he already has a list of clients waiting to have their tractors serviced by an expert. We are very lucky to have him in the district.

THANKS TO THE LOCAL ADVERTISERS, KIND DONATIONS, GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY AND HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE FOR HELPING TO FUND THIS NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - MARCH /APRIL 2012

Week beg 9th April	RUFFY FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER <i>George Noye 57 904 246 (Mob) 0432 928 301 (UHF Ch) 15</i>
Week beg 8th April	<i>Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Craig & Jenny Murphy Brian & Gail Van Rooyen</i>
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.
Friday 30th March	Tapas night at Rocky Passes from 6pm - 1590 Highlands Rd Whiteheads Creek. Please call 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au to book.
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.
March 31 and April 1	Euroa Community Cinema – "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" Set in 1973, this dramatic thriller is about the inner workings of Britain's Secret Intelligence Service. Adapted from the novel by John Le Carre (which no doubt everyone has read) the movie has received rave reviews and should please those die-hards who have such high expectations.
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 froyo. 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. Pre-purchase your tickets from Yea & District Community Bank branch 66 High St., Yea Commences: Four Thirty PM at the Flat Plat, Cummins Reserve.
Tuesday 3rd April	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 On the Couch expand your reading with the latest books, wine & laughter 6.30 – 8
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
Saturday 7th April	Yea Country Market 9am to 2pm at Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea. Enquiries about the market can be directed to 0409 130 587 or yeamarket@gmail.com. The April Market is on Easter Saturday and provides a wonderful opportunity to pick up the freshest of produce for Easter cooking and treats.
Thursday 12th April	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Executive meeting 7.30pm, Highlands Hall, all welcome
Thursday 12th April	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Holiday Activities- Star Wars Fun 3-4
Friday 13th April	'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.
April 14 and 15	Euroa Community Cinema "The Descendants" 115 mins Comedy / Drama (M) 4 stars George Clooney plays the role of a man facing several dilemmas. His wife is in a coma following a boating accident, he has to make a decision about some land which is part of an inheritance and then his daughter informs him that his wife has been having an affair! We join the family on a roller coaster of emotions which challenges them all ~ even in the fabulous setting of Hawaii.
April 18th	CARBON IN FARMING SESSION An Invite for all landholders & community members to attend: Confused by all the jargon about Carbon in Farming and the Carbon Farming Initiative? What are carbon credits? How will you be affected? What are the \$ benefits and how can you access them? Charlie Sexton - GB CMA Presents an evening session on the Carbon Farming Initiative. 7.30pm RSL Hall – 27 Murchison St, Broadford Supper Provided Please RSVP by 11th April to allow for catering, Sonia Sharkey, SWG Landcare Facilitator 5734 6312 or email: swg_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
Tuesday 24th April	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Blokés Café – laid back drinks and a yarn with mates 6.30 – 8

Classifieds & Community Notices

BULL SELECTION

Paringa Livestock will be holding an informal discussion about bull selection on Tuesday, 27 March (from 5 pm) at the Murrindindi Community Hub, Murrindindi Rd, MURRINDINDI. Drinks and a light dinner will be provided.

Anyone is welcome, but please RSVP by Monday, 26 March (Tom or Olivia: 57 972 743 or 0434 146 795). This discussion will be a precursor to a whole morning on bull selection for the commercial breeder some time in July (to be confirmed), ie: what type of bull you should target for your enterprise, interpreting EBVs, assessing a bull's conformation (from feet to the beer can department), choosing an easy-calving bull for your heifers, hybrid vigour, longevity, bull testing pre-service, vaccinations, etc. Live bulls (culls and breeders) will be viewed as part of the morning's exercise.

SEYMOUR LIBRARY HOURS EXTENDED

As of Monday 2 April, the Seymour Library will open:
Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm
Saturday 10am to 1pm.
Enquiries: 5782 1322

WANTED TO BUY

Trailer, 6 x 4 to 7 x 5 - Must be in good condition. Please contact Stuart - 0412805872

FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Week 1 Mon 2 Apr to Fri 6 April
Easter stories, songs and craft. Come along and make an Easter Rabbit Mask

Euroa Library Wed 4 Apr 11-12
Violet Town Library Thu 5 Apr 11-12
Nagambie Library Thu 5 Apr 2-3

Week 2
Origami craft- Come along and make origami rabbits
Euroa Library Fri 13 Apr 2.30-3.30

CHILDCARE NEEDED

Child Care needed for 8 yr old boy. Care involves school pick up from Highlands PS - transport to Yea and after school care in the child's home. Some 'light' household duties also. Must be responsible and reliable and enjoy fun activities. Must be flexible and available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm-6pm. Wages negotiable. must have references and own transport. to start asap. please call Marisa :0417 133 409 or 5797 3295 or email mlgo@deakin.edu.au.

FOX ON THE RUN- \$500 PRIZE UP FOR GRABS

The "Fox on the run" competition is due to commence on June 1st 2012. The competition will run for the month of June only, and submitted evidence of foxes shot will be required.

Details of what evidence will be required will be given to those who register their teams no sooner than 1 week prior to the competition start. Foxes will be tallied and the winners will receive a trophy and grand prize of a \$500 voucher.

Teams must register their interest before June 1st to be eligible to compete.

Teams can consist of individuals or groups of 6 people maximum. Teams must be residents within the Hughes Creek Catchment OR have permission to shoot on properties within the catchment. (Ruffy, Highlands, Caveat, Terrip Terrip, Whiteheads Creek, Dropmore, Tarcombe)

Hunters must have appropriate license and permission to shoot on properties if applicable. To register your team please email Simone on hughes.creek1@gmail.com prior to June 1st. If any landholders wish to be involved by having a "fox drive" on their property, you can also forward details to Simone on the above email address.



SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP

If anyone is interested, or knows of someone who may be interested in having soil testing done for free, and attending a workshop please email or call Simone to register your interest. It is a fantastic opportunity to get some baseline data for your property and have instruction on how to analyse the results. Once we have the numbers to run a workshop the soil testing kits will be made available, and instruction on sample taking can be given if needed

. We have a narrow window prior to winter setting in to get good samples so please consider getting involved.

Phone: 03 5790 4146 email hughes.creek1@gmail.com

TRAVEL THE SILK ROAD

Join us at the Alexandra Library on Tuesday 17 April 1-2pm for an adventure exploring the exciting history of Silk. Sericulture or silk production developed in china 5000 years ago and quickly became a luxury fabric worn only by the Chinese elite. The process was kept a secret for 3000 years and was eventually spread by emigration and even espionage. The Silk Route was the network of tracks across Eurasia that served as the main vehicle of trade and communication for thousands of years. Turkey neatly placed at the convergence of the east and the west along the route became major trade as silk became the staple of pre industrial trade. The ancient silk market in Bursa Turkey built in 1491 remains the centre of silk trading in the Middle East. John Fairfax returns to the Alexandra library to take us on a whirlwind tour of the history of silk production and the influence of the Middle East and Islamic art on its style and production. John's talk will be followed by a Turkish afternoon tea and a display of gorgeous scarves, bags, jewellery and wall hangings.



BOOK REVIEW

The Black Dog Gang – Robert Newton

Set in The Rocks area of Sydney in 1900, this fast paced novel will definitely appeal to teenage readers, notably boys. Mickey Collins and Frankie Maguire's friendship didn't exactly commence with a mutual attraction, but as the weeks go by they develop a bond that becomes unbreakable. Dealing with the hard lot, that was life amongst the slums of Sydney more than a hundred years ago, Newton has created a realistic backdrop of the rat plagues, disease and the turmoil of domestic violence. On a lighter side the Black Dog Gang's members all have their own idiosyncrasies that endear them to the reader and make Mickey's position all the more untenable today.

By Pauline Roberts

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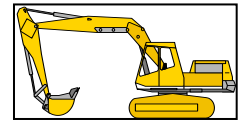
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