



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Take The Time to Smell The Roses

The Rotary Club of will hold the Yea & District Open Gardens weekend on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th November 2012. Twelve exceptional gardens will be open to the public, most for the first time.

Gardens on display range from large country gardens to small town gardens. Some are well established with magnificent trees and one lovely new town garden is showing the promise of the beauty to come.

Nine of the twelve gardens are new openings this year and the three repeat gardens from the inaugural Yea & District Open gardens last year are well worth a second visit as all gardens are constantly evolving and with the opening a little later this year, many different blooms will be at their best.

Many of the country gardens have the added bonus of beautiful settings with expansive views and others offer the serenity of secluded river banks and the sound of water rippling by; a magical place to stay awhile to relax and reflect.

Some of the gardens have specialist plant collections and one garden offers a unique and fascinating collection of historic farm machinery and tools which are tucked artfully throughout the garden. Another two are Land For Wildlife properties and as well as the garden around the house, you will enjoy the enhanced bush and wetland settings.

Yea Garden Club is holding their annual plant sale over the weekend and will offer an extensive range of treasures at bargain prices. The local Seed Savers group will also offer a range of modern and heritage vegetable and flower seeds for sale.

Morning and afternoon teas will be on offer in several gardens and picnic lunches can be enjoyed at several beautiful and well appointed parks nearby or sample the many excellent culinary delights in the local restaurants or cafes.

Gardens are open from 9:30am – 4:30pm each day. Tickets are \$3 per garden or \$25 for all 12 gardens and can be purchased from each garden on the day, or by contacting Elaine White 5780 1274. Maps and garden information to plan your trip can be found at www.yearotary.org.au,

LANDCARER OF THE MONTH AWARD OCTOBER 2012

Perseverance- A tale of Purple to Green

For this month's Landcarer award we would like to recognise the efforts of several people in the Highlands area who have made a substantial effort over the years to control Patterson's Curse.

Peter Cowling, Liz Nixon, Brian Cook and James Simonsen bought their Highlands property in 2005.

The pasture was non-existent and had a heavy infestation of Patterson's curse. Previously there had been sporadic, mostly unsuccessful attempts to control the weed which was spreading quite alarmingly.

The farm is part of the Blue Top Paterson's curse project and in 7 years they have reduced the weeds impact by at least 95 %. When mapping the area's to spray for the helicopter this year it was extremely difficult to find and was only on the most inaccessible parts of the farm. Originally, they had to do up to 3 loads from the chopper plus untold loads by hand with the Highlands Landcare spray unit each year.

Now the farm is covered in Microleena, Wallaby grass and thousands of trees and they are down to less than a load from the chopper and the rest is maintained using a Quad Bike.

You can control Patterson's Curse or you can beat it into submission like these 4 have. It does take time, planning, perseverance and a lot of hard work but the results they have achieved are remarkable. By Scott McKay

MYSTERY CAR TOUR AT RUFFY

The Tablelands Community Centre is giving everyone a chance to view our beautiful countryside and exercise their brains at the same time. Starting at 1pm on Sunday Oct 21st the Mystery Car Tour will give you and your passengers a chance to compete for some great prizes, have fun along the way and see how well you know the district. It all starts at the Tablelands Community Centre (The Old Ruffy School) and will also finish there. The Countryside is looking a picture right now and there couldn't be a better time to go for a Sunday Drive.

All proceeds will go to the TCC at Ruffy. By Justus Hagen

WELCOME TO ISSUE 29

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

Just letting the readers of The Granite News who only receive a hard copy that I will be resigning as editor of TGN at the end of this year.

A huge thank you to all the electronic readers of The Granite News who have sent me such warm messages of thanks for my work as editor of TGN for the past six years. I really do appreciate your

comments. I have asked Scotty to write up a little of the history of TGN and how it came about as many readers probably don't know the story. That will come out next week and I thought it would be fun to include some of the first edition back in 2007. Unfortunately I opened a Trojan horse virus during 2007 and lost a huge amount of work. Some of it was retrieved after putting the hard drive in the freezer for a few days (it worked!) so I'll see what I can dig up.

Dear Miranda,

What a marvellous job you have done over six years with Granite News and I'm sure all readers will be saddened to hear that you have said enough is enough although we do understand the commitment you have put in.

At a time when community engagement is the "buzz word", Granite News has set a magnificent example of local community engagement with connecting people and promoting the issues that are so critical to our landscape and it's well being.

Congratulations indeed and I would be pleased if these sentiments might be included in your next issue.

Yours, Sandy Mackenzie
Burnt Creek Landcare and Director,
Goulburn Broken CMA

HIARTS 10th ANNIVERSARY ART EXHIBITION

Advance Notice. Yes it's ten years. Our Exhibition will be held on 1st to 3rd March 2013. It will begin with a Gala opening and Preview on Friday 1st at 7.30pm followed by two days for viewing art and engaging with our various Artists in Residence. Interested artists should contact Stuart 5796 9358 or Karli 5796 9396, kadumbia@mac.com Registration forms—www.hiarts.org

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2012

Week 21st October	TERIP TERIP RECREATION RESERVE Mowing Roster Ken & Robyn Richards Helen Mckenzie
Week 21st October	WHITEHEADS CREEK -TARCOMBE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER David Freeman Ralph Provan
Friday 19th October	EUROA PERSISTENT PERENNIALS MLA Demo Site Field Day John and Mary Kelly's Farm 198 Heales Rd, Euroa, Vic 8:00 am - 12:00 pm COST: FREE Breakfast Supplied (From 8:00 am - 8:30 am) Register by Wednesday 17th October to Alison Desmond, DPI Benalla P: 03 57611643 alison.desmond@dpi.vic.gov.au
20th & 21st October	SEYMOUR QUILT AND EMBROIDERY SHOW – The 3rd Seymour Anglican, Quilt, embroidery, knitting, crochet, spinning and weaving Fair is coming in October. Calling all craft lovers and those who create wonderful craft items. The Fair is open to many fields and locals and those from afar are invited to display their wares. Quilters, embroiderers, knitters, crochet folk, spinners and weavers, are invited to display their items at the Fair. Entry forms are obtainable from Anne Foote 5796 2447, Betty Catchlove 5792 1220, Fabric's 'n' More shop, Station Street, Seymour and from Diane Grant. 5794 1720 or email: stardust2011!@bigpond.com
Saturday 20th October	TASTES OF THE GOULBURN - 10.00AM - 4.00PM Entrance cost: \$2.00 adults 18 years and over. No charge for children TOTG Glass \$15.00, or recycle last year's glass with a tag for \$7.50. This annual food & wine festival held in Station Street promotes the very best that the region has to offer in wines, produce, foods, crafts and entertainment. This event provides a family friendly atmosphere which promotes Seymour as a tourist destination, where local & regional community groups and businesses can promote their product as well as heritage train rides from Seymour Railway Heritage Centre. The event runs on the same weekend as Seymour
Saturday 20th October	EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS' MARKET 9am to 1pm, Rotary Park, Kirkland Avenue, EUROA Authentic, community based farmers' market coordinated by the Rotary Club of Euroa More info 0407680320 Meggs.
19, 20 and 21 October	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "The Sapphires" – 99 mins Comedy Drama (PG) 4 stars This fabulous movie has been literally "raking in the dough" and deservedly so, since it was launched a few months ago. As there has been so much interest in the movie it will screen at 8pm Friday and Saturday and 4pm Sunday.
Sunday 21st October	HISTORIC VICTORIAN GARDEN OPENS This is a unique opportunity to visit the 12 acres of historical and National Trust recorded garden at Seven Creeks Estate, near Euroa. The Edna Walling inspired garden together with its Gothic Chapel is to be open for the public for the first time in many years. Seven Creeks Estate was first settled in the 1830's by the family of Eliza Forlonge who purchased the first Saxon Merino sheep to be brought to Australia. The current owners, Ross and Rachael Carrington are generously hosting this garden party, at their home, Seven Creeks Estate. The garden party will raise funds for the Euroa Hospital and Aged Care Accommodation. It will be a gala day, with live music, entertainment, food stalls, plant sales, local produce, jumping castle for the children and much more. Opening times: 10 AM to 4 PM. There is a \$5 donation per head entrance fee. Buses will be running from Euroa township to Seven Creeks Estate. Further information contact Sue Walker on 0438953789
Sunday 21st October	MYSTERY CAR TOUR , a Tablelands Community Centre event 1 pm start Entry; \$20 per car Includes afternoon tea Register at the Tablelands Community Centre (former Ruffy school) Nolan's Road, Ruffy Snags & Burgers – gold coin donation PRIZES include UHF radio, \$100 fuel voucher, Ruffy Produce Store Gift voucher, RM Williams mudflaps, ARB winch strap email; info@ruffycommunity.com.au
Thursday 25th October	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS is back after a winter break. Please come to a community gathering at the Caveat Church on Thursday 25th October at 5-30pm for a BBQ and chat. Everyone is welcome [men, women, and children] to catch up with what's happening in the district. BBQ will be provided BYO drinks and enjoy.
Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th October	ALEXANDRA OPEN GARDENS Just a short drive for Granite News readers will bring you into the magnificent rolling hills and river valleys of the Alexandra district where 14 superb town & farm gardens are open for visitors. Two years of above average rain have resulted in lush spring growth & blossoms. Dry stone walls, views including the landmark Cathedral Mountain, dams, ornamentals, natives, exotics, climbers, espaliers, veggies, compost, no-lawn garden and much more. A special feature this year is the inclusion of the "Town Gardens & Flower Walk" where visitors can enjoy several locations and events all within walking distance of Alexandra. Some gardens offer refreshments, there are quilt displays, a car museum, a garden art sculpture display and performances by "Hot Pans" steel band. www.alexandrapengardens.com.au Ph Mandy 5772 1999.
Sunday 28th October	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS 10.30 at Highlands hall. For more info contact Andrew 0427 96 9297.
Tuesday 6th November	TERIP TERIP CUP DAY Chicken and Champagne Lunch, Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Commencing at 12.30pm. Cost \$20.00 per head children \$5.00 Chicken and welcome Champagne provided, please bring a sweet or salad to share. BYO any other drinks. Cup Sweeps, Fashion on the Field awards for the best dressed, Running of the Annual Terip Terip Cup. Bookings Essential please ring, Kate Wright 5790 4148
Thursday 8th November	ANNUAL OAKS DAY LUNCHEON Lions Club of Seymour Goulburn Inc and Cancer Council Victoria - Seymour Unit invites you to our at the Seymour Race Club on Thursday 8th November 2012. Doors open at 11.30a.m. and Lunch is at 12.45 p.m. Admission is \$25.00 per person (tables of 10) Drinks available at the Bar (NO BYO) Door Prizes... Raffles... Best Dressed... Best Hat... Best Shoes. Tickets available from Leading Edge Jewellery Shop 1 The Mall Seymour. Phone 57990773

Classifieds & Community Notices

A FERAL FEAST- STINGING NETTLE RAVIOLI

(Recipe taken from Australian Gourmet Traveller April 2012)

Nettles can be eaten when they're young, as is done in many parts of Europe. Cooking or drying neutralises the toxic components, and nettles can be used as a salad or used in any dish as you would spinach. Nettles are high in nutrients such iron, magnesium and nitrogen. If you get them out before they set seed they can be added to compost or dug in as a green manure crop.

INGREDIENTS:

700g Firm ricotta
40g each of pecorino and parmesan, extra to garnish
2 egg yolks, plus 1 egg for egg wash
250g cavolo nero (black leaf cabbage-similar to Kale or spinach)
100ml olive oil
60g butter chopped
6 cloves of garlic sliced
2 tbs golden raisins
2 tbs thyme

NETTLE PASTA DOUGH

100g nettles
250g plain flour
2 eggs

METHOD:

For the pasta dough blanch the nettles until bright green, refresh, drain and squeeze out excess water, finely chop then combine with flour and eggs, process in food processor to combine. Turn onto a work surface knead until smooth 3-5 minutes, wrap in plastic wrap and set aside at room temperature for approx. 1 hour.

Meanwhile process cheeses yolks and nutmeg in a food processor until combined, season to taste and refrigerate until required.

Divide dough into four, working with one piece at a time feed through a pasta machine or roll out until desired thickness is achieved.

Place tablespoons of ricotta filling at 2cm intervals along half the pasta sheets. Brush around fillings with eggwash, top with remaining pasta and press around firmly to seal. Cut into ravioli squares transfer to a lightly floured tray and refrigerate until required.

Blanch cavolo nero, drain, refresh and set aside. Heat oil and butter, add garlic, raisins, thyme and cavolo nero and stir until garlic is tender.

Cook ravioli in boiling salted water until al dente 2-3 minutes, drain and add to frying pan, toss to combine. Serve with shavings of parmesan.

From Simone Ulstrup

BOOK REVIEW

One Night – Margaret Wild

Margaret Wild is well known for her award winning picture text books, but in recent years she has turned her considerable talent to writing for Young Adults. This is her second story for 'older kids' and like her first one is written as a verse novel. It is a fantastic, compulsive read. One Night explores the repercussions of 'one night' at a party. Gabe, and Helen in particular, are irrevocably altered and as result of their actions. Wild uses sharp, brutal observations of her character's personalities and the reader becomes a part of their world. Don't be put off by the structure of the novel, the characters are worth caring about and the plot is tightly drawn.

By Pauline Roberts

SOUTHEAST AUSTRALIAN TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

The southeast Australian temperature outlook averaged over October to December 2012 shows that: warmer days and nights are more likely over southeast Australia

This outlook is mostly a result of persistent warmer than normal waters in the Indian Ocean, with a lesser influence from warmer than normal tropical Pacific waters.

The chances that the average October to December maximum temperature will exceed the long-term median maximum temperature are above 70% over most of southeast Australia, with slightly weaker odds in northwest SA. Probabilities rise above 80% over Victoria, the southeast agricultural districts of SA, the southern half of NSW and eastern Tasmania.

This means that for every ten years with ocean patterns like the current, about seven to eight October to December periods would be expected to be warmer than average over these areas, with about two to three being cooler.

Outlook confidence is related to how consistently the Pacific and Indian Oceans affect Australian temperatures. During the October to December period, history shows this effect on maximum temperatures to be moderately consistent over most of SA, Victoria and northeast Tasmania.

More information on this outlook is available Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 5.00pm local time by contacting the Bureau's Climate Services Melbourne - (03) 9669 4949

NATIONAL WATER WEEK- 21st- 27th OCTOBER 2012

To celebrate National Water Week, Twilight Family Fishing events will be visiting towns in the catchment during October.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the native and feral fish species that live in our waterways, as well as try their luck at landing a fish. Other activities may include:

Fishing and Casting Competitions
Know your limits, Fishy games
Bait, knots and hooks
Tastes of the creek cooking demonstrations, Free sausage sizzle
www.gvwater.vic.gov.au/education/waterweek or for more details contact waterweek@gvwater.vic.gov.au

IT'S A BOY

Peter Krickic and Susan Milroy would like to welcome the birth of their new baby boy Blake Patrick Krickic.

Born on Susan's Birthday at Seymour Hospital on the 28/9/12, 10lb 9oz.

Congratulations to Andrea (Sound Imaging) for getting the date spot on, but no he didn't have a spray pack on his back!

Big thank you to all the hospital staff at Seymour and to all who have sent gifts and messages of congratulation.

PAINT NEEDED

The Highlands Primary School's mini stage is being painted. If anyone has leftover undercoat and wishes to donate it please call Leone 5696 7290 . Anyone wishing to help paint most welcome. Undercoating is so much fun.

FOR SALE

Large round family hardly used TRAMPOLINE with net and blue padding on springs \$200 ph. Leone 57969290

leone_gabrielle@yahoo.com.au

'RIDE WITH YOUR HEROES'.

On Sunday 25th November 1000 push bike riders will arrive very hungry at the Highlands Hall for lunch. Yes! 1000 riders! This will be a great fundraiser for the Highlands community. If you would like to help us prepare 1000 salad rolls & barbecued sausages on that day please contact Judy Cameron (5796 9247) or Judy Reid (5796 9358).

THANK YOU

Many hands make light work! A big thank you to those joined in the working bee at the Highlands Hall on Saturday 13th Oct. The rain stayed away & we achieved a great deal. We then enjoyed a relaxed BBQ & went home very satisfied with our efforts.

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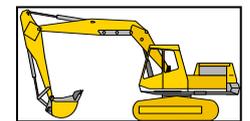
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