



PEOPLE AND PLACES

HiARTS – HIGHLANDS ANNUAL ARTS & CRAFTS EVENT PREPARES FOR TEN YEAR MILESTONE

..... dates fixed March 1 to 3 next

HiArts the annual arts and crafts festival and exhibition held at Highlands in the high country between Seymour and Yea is on the cusp of celebrating its tenth anniversary.

What began a decade ago as a low key exhibition to provide a venue for local crafts people and artists largely drawn from the local Highlands resident community and to celebrate the opening of the refurbished Highlands Hall will achieve its tenth anniversary on the weekend of March 1 to 3 next year (2013).

The local organising committee chaired by Stuart Reid has formulated an interesting, active and informative program of events for the approaching milestone event.

As the event has grown in stature HiArts is now attracting guest participants with visitors coming from throughout the Murrindindi Shire, adjacent districts and from many other parts of Victoria and interstate.

HiArts 2013 will open on the Friday evening 1 March from 7.30 pm with a gala official opening and preview with finger food and drinks served in the Highlands Hall.

This is a function for which bookings are required. A \$15 ticket cost applies which will also cover attendance throughout the following two days.

Then over the Saturday and Sunday three artists in residence will highlight the program by demonstrating their practical skills in their areas of expertise.

The artists in Residence will be

Jo Bowman – an acclaimed multimedia artist who has broad experience gained in Victoria, Western Australia and overseas in Indonesia

Coral Robben will be the resident potter over both days. Well known locally for her work in the community Coral has established linkages to the Yea artist community.

The third practitioner will be Ember Fairbairn who is based in the Yarra Valley but has gained an international market for her colourful works in oil.

Ember will be coming to Highlands from a highly successful exhibition in Sydney in November and also from participation in the Yarra Valley Open Studios weekend in September last where she presented a range of her new works.

Over the two days there will be workshops on digital photography including works on display that shows the dramatic landforms and visual dimensions of the local region.

The organising committee takes pride in displaying all the art on show in a creative and sensitive way that does it justice thanks to curator Shanley McBurney.

The artistic program will be matched by the excellent food, plus coffee, local district wines and other beverages served from the Highlands Hall will also be provided at a modest cost.

A membership charge of \$10 will provide for entry over both days of the weekend.

President Stuart Reid says “we are striving to make our tenth year celebration a memorable event that really showcases a diversity of artistic talents and a close connection to the Highlands area.”

Enquiries can be directed to Stuart Reid on 03 5796 9358 or Karli Chase on 03 5796 9396 or by emailing kadumbla@mac.com

Alternatively registration forms and additional information can be downloaded from the HiArts website at www.hiarts.org

There will also be the usual exhibition of all types of arts and crafts in the Hall over the two days which will be available for purchase.

Stuart Reid says that his Committee's expectation is for some 40 craftspeople and artists of all types to present almost 100 works on show and for sale.

“We always show a great variety of works and there will be plenty of opportunities to buy beautiful works of art”. By John Kennedy



WELCOME TO ISSUE 38

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE GRANITE NEWS EDITOR

editor@tgn.org.au

Many thanks for everyone's support, it has been a great six years in the position of editor of The Granite News. I have really enjoyed myself and wish Mavis and Don all the best for 2013.

Merry Christmas to everyone, stay safe and enjoy the break, regards Miranda

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

Final Family Breakfast: This is always a popular event. All students, families and community members are invited to join us for bacon & egg rolls from 9am on Wednesday 19th December. Students will receive awards, their Kris Kringle gifts, reports and Year Book at this event. We are hoping for some donations of eggs for this event. If you have any eggs you could spare we would gratefully accept them.

Darts: Thanks to Philip Wischer who came along to school on Monday and took a session of darts with the students. Everyone really enjoys the activity and they practice their math skills at the same time!

Graduation: Last Monday night we had a lovely evening to celebrate the graduation of Declan, Hayley, John and Walter. The students all made a speech and were presented with gifts and certificates. It was wonderful to have families, staff and community members there to help celebrate.



John, Walter, Declan and Hayley enjoyed cutting and eating their graduation cake.

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - DECEMBER/ JANUARY 2012

Week 23rd December	TERIP TERIP RECREATION RESERVE Mowing Roster Jim & Jill Davidson Helen & Chris Bradbury
until Monday March 11th 2013	<p>OUTDOOR POOLS IN SEYMOUR, BROADFORD AND TALLAROOK Outdoor pools in Mitchell Shire are open over the Summer Season from the first weekend in December to Monday of the Labour Day Weekend in March.</p> <p>Seymour War Memorial Outdoor Pool, Lesley Street, Seymour. Phone: 5799 2688 Operating Hours: Monday to Friday 2pm - 7pm, Weekends 12noon - 7pm, School Holidays 12noon - 7pm.</p> <p>Broadford Outdoor Pool, Hamillton Street, Broadford. Phone: 5734 6200 Operating Hours: Monday to Friday 2pm - 6pm, Weekends 12noon - 6pm, School Holidays 12noon - 7pm. This pool has recently been revamped!</p> <p>Tallarook Outdoor Pool, Main Street, Tallarook. Phone: 5799 1456 Operating Hours: Monday to Friday 2pm - 6pm, Weekends 12noon - 6pm, School Holidays 12noon - 7pm. Should the weather drop below 21 degrees, outdoor pools will remain closed and the operation times will not apply. However, on days when the weather is above 26 degrees, the outdoor pools may remain open for longer. Staff members reserve the right to alter these hours if weather conditions are deemed unsatisfactory or in the case of minimum attendance. All children under the age of 10 must be supervised by an adult over 16 years in all aquatic areas.</p>
Monday 17th December	<p>OPEN PRESS CONFERENCE with the Strathbogie Shire Councillors and Executive Management. This will take place at the Nagambie Regatta Centre @ 4pm. This is your chance to meet our new Councillors, ask questions and find out more about the future direction of the Strathbogie Shire. Get the interviews you want! There will be plenty of opportunity to ask the BURNING QUESTIONS... and get honest answers. Please don't miss this opportunity. Send through your RSVP by the 12th of December. There will be light refreshments available afterward. Purdey Wikman Manager Communications Strathbogie Shire Council Office: 03 5795 0155 1800 065 993 purdey.wikman@strathbogie.vic.gov.au www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au</p>
Thursday 20th December	<p>SEYMOUR STREET PARTY & STOCKING DRAW 4.00pm to 7.00pm Seymour Retailers, Seymour Business and Tourism and Mitchell Shire combine for the culmination of our Christmas activities and the draw of the giant Christmas stocking. The annual Christmas Stocking Draw will be held at 6pm in Station Street. Entries can be made following any purchase from participating retailers throughout Seymour. There will be several draws on the night and the total value of the prizes is estimated at around \$4000.00. For more information contact: 03 5799 2596</p>
Friday 21st December	<p>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS Last Tapas Night for the year at Rocky Passes from 6:30 pm. Why not have a night out before the Xmas busy-ness starts. To book, please call 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au</p>
Monday 24th December	<p>CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE A Christmas Eve Service will be held in the Caveat Church at 5pm Sing some carols and share the Christmas Narrative and the "story of the Recalcitrant Shepherd". All welcome. 5796 9358</p>
Saturday 5th January 2013	<p>ANNUAL TERIP TERIP SOCIAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT 10.00am start Enquiries Frances Lawrence 0427 904 262 – Cindy Hayes 5790 4226</p>
Friday 11th January 2013	<p>'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 for power.</p>
January 12 and 13	<p>EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "Argo" 120 mins (M) Bio/Drama/Thriller 4 stars Argo offers an offbeat slice of history from way back in 1979 when the American Embassy in Teheran was stormed by Iranians. During the onslaught six Embassy official escaped and took shelter in the Canadian Embassy. In this film adaption of the story, Ben Affleck plays the role of the person who is asked to come up with a way to extricate them from the country without being found out.</p>
January 19 and 20	<p>EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "Beasts of the Southern Wild" 120 mins (M) Drama / Fantasy 4 stars Awarded Camera d'Or in Cannes this year for best first film as well as the International Critics Prize. This is a movie that is quite different to anything else as many of those featuring in it are not professional actors. It provides a unique insight into the living in the bayous of Louisiana as seen by six year old "Hushpuppy" with her Daddy Wink. A levee separates the world of Hushpuppy from the rest of the developed world. A wonderful mix of social realism and magic realism. A story about the sort of people we never get to meet in a part of the world just off the coast of America which is so remote and different.</p>
Wednesday 23 January 2013	<p>MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL meeting Eildon Primary School (Multi Purpose Room) 6.00 pm</p>
Wednesday 20 February 2013	<p>POSITIVE AGEING Community Forum and Consultation Come along, get involved and enjoy the day Presentations from Local Organisations Lunch Entertainment Community Consultation 10.30am to 2.00pm Yea Chambers, Yea Shire Office</p>

Classifieds & Community Notices

FOR SALE

2 small push bikes: Blue bike - suit boy 4 to 6 years - basic style - \$30 - Pink bike - suit girl 4 to 6 years in good order \$50
Computer desk on wheels - with CD holder and cupboard - \$50
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PH Jono 57969344

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BOOK REVIEW

At the beach: Postcards from Crabby Spit – Roland Harvey

A nostalgic summer memory as Henry and Penny's family head off to the beach for their annual summer holiday. Great illustrations with all sorts of humorous inclusions dance across each double page spread. A postcard addressed to Grandma on each page tells the reader what the family is up to. A map of Crabby Spit on the endpapers also helps to locate all the places mentioned in the book and, to complete the fun, there is an absent-minded cyclist, who loses one of his belongings on every page, for the reader to find.

By Pauline Roberts

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

An uncommon bird orchid

The Common bird orchid (*Chiloglottis valida*) grows in colonies in shady dampish spots throughout the district but is frequently unnoticed as it is short and inconspicuous. It has two green leaves which lie almost flat on the ground, and one short green to dark purplish flower which resembles a baby bird's open mouth, the lower petal trembling in the wind.

Or so I thought, until a couple of years ago in Caveat I found a couple of plants which had two flowers. Advice from an orchid expert was that this is something like a 1 in 10,000 occurrence and that next year the plants would revert to just one flower. Well they didn't – last year there were once again two plants with two flowers.

This year there were at least six with two flowers. The orchid expert was very surprised. The plants die away completely over winter and resprout from tuberosities each spring. I'll keep on monitoring them each spring and see how many "uncommon" common bird orchids we can get up to.

By Louise Currie



The photograph below was taken at the Homewood fire last weekend by Jono Rumbold using his phone.



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Faculty of Veterinary Science, The University of Melbourne, 250 Princess Highway, Werribee, Vic 3030.
(Donations are tax deductible.)

We investigate reports of sick & dead wildlife from free ranging populations in Victoria to understand baseline wildlife health & detect changes. This is important because wildlife health can affect biodiversity conservation & ecosystem health, & can interact with biosecurity & the health of domestic animals & people.

Please contact us to report sick and dead wildlife from free ranging populations of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians in Victoria.

Pam Whiteley 0400 119 301
pamw@unimelb.edu.au

Platypus. We want to examine dead platypus to determine the cause of death and collect samples for toxicological tests.

Kangaroos and Wallabies. We are keen to investigate reports of uncoordinated, wobbly or apparently blind macropods. Kangaroo blindness virus is spread by midges. Phalaris staggers from pasture, and toxoplasmosis (from cat faeces) are other possible causes of in coordination and death. Eye and nasal discharge, sneezing and tail twitching have also been reported. If you see kangaroos or wallabies with any of these signs of disease, please contact us.

Parrots, cockatoos and lorikeets can have beak & feather disease caused by circovirus. We need more information about bird species infected, the distribution and virus strains.

Botulism in wetlands. If you see dead, weak, or partially paralysed water birds over summer, please let us know. These deaths could be due to botulinum toxin, produced by bacteria that can persist in the environment.

Frog deaths have been reported after rain, possibly due to chemical toxicity. Chytrid fungus infections are also important causes of frog deaths and population declines. We can test for these.

Samples can be transported overnight for investigation.

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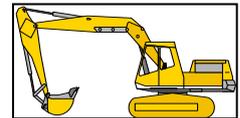
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