



FARMING & ENVIRONMENT

Recognizing Water Weeds in the Strathbogie Ranges

Highly invasive water weeds pose a serious threat to Australia's waterways, which are vital resources for industry, biodiversity and recreation.

Water weeds can form dense floating mats, the underwater growth can choke a waterway and can pose serious hazards to swimmers and boats.

Many spread very quickly .

For example salvinia (*salvinia molesta*), can double its mass every 4 days in ideal conditions.

Early detection and rapid response offer the most strategic and cost effective form of water weed management.

We don't have significant lakes and rivers in the Strathbogie Ranges where floods, boats, boat trailers and fishing can spread weeds but the dumping of aquarium or fishpond plants into dams and creeks is an activity capable of spreading these exotic water weeds. Mistakenly growing weeds as garden vegetables (eg alligator weed) can also occur. Buying prohibited plants at community markets is another problem.



Water lettuce *Pistia stratiotes*

Not all aquatic plants are weeds. There are many native species that are meant to grow in our streams and dams.

Some water weeds can be difficult to see while others look spectacular with beautiful flowers. They can be sorted into three categories. Floating weeds (surface), submerged weeds (under the water) and emergent weeds (on the banks).

If you find an unusual plant that appears to be spreading rapidly in your pond or wetland please contact your local Landcare Coordinator (who has recently attended an aquatic weed training course) for assistance with identification and control methods.

Contact Janet Hagen 57 904268

jhagen@harboursat.com.au

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week *Rick*



For his enthusiasm, interest and good attitude on last week's Hut Walk. Well done!

Woolshed Dance Working Bee:

A huge thank you to all the families and community members who attended Saturday's working Bee at Habbies Howe. The Clarke, Richards, Bennett, McKay, Stafford, MacDonald, Gilbert and Hayes families worked hard to complete numerous jobs in preparation for Saturday night's fundraiser.

Thank you also to Sonia and Stuart, community members, for arriving and helping out with tasks. This is a major fundraising event for HPS and it has been great to have so many families and community members chip in. The money raised benefits all students at the school so please find an hour next weekend to help out. Many hands make light work!

Yea Lions Club Donation:

Last Thursday Ruth Crockett and Judy Murfin from Yea Lions' Club presented a cheque to Highlands Primary School. We are very grateful for this donation. School Captains Lachie and Kendall explained that the money will be used to assist with the swimming program, camps and other activities at HPS.



By Meagan Callander-Principal HPS



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

READERS' WRITES

* *"It is with a physical sickness in my stomach that I write this week to inform our community that the unsympathetic clearing for a fence line at Branjee is now a totally cleared site. The only evidence of this nine year old publicly funded wildlife corridor, which I visited for a second time two weeks ago, was steel posts that once supported the fencing wires and burning piles of publicly funded native vegetation.*

Total destruction, total devastation is how I describe this act, not only for me a part time paid environmentalist for nearly two decades, but more importantly for our Babblers and other native fauna. This destruction just can't be replaced overnight.

Our Strathbogie Shire must lead and start working with our community groups, our people and our organisations that care so deeply for the environment. An education campaign is the first step to inform our community that the Shire values native vegetation. And in valuing native vegetation, it will enforce the Native Vegetation Provisions (52.17) in the Planning Scheme including any Offset requirements.

I have always considered that every dollar that I have worked with through environmental works on private property is like a dollar out of my own pocket. This clearing is very personal as I facilitated the works on this property and many others. I am fully committed to protecting these publicly funded works and will work with the best method or methods that will achieve this. I am looking into retrospective 10 Year Management Agreements, Overlays in the Planning Scheme to protect these works and signage at all sites."—Susan Sleight



Editor's Note:

Susan's work was profiled in TGN Issue 12 as Landcarer of The Month for March 2013

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR - JUNE 2013

<p>Now until Sunday 16th June 11am—4:30pm</p>	<p>DARREN GILBERT'S "WILD4ART" EXHIBITION The Light Factory Gallery 21 Brougham St., Eltham</p> <p>Another stunning exhibition of wildlife art by local artist Darren Gilbert</p> <p>Gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday. Contact 9439 1206 or www.thelightfactorygallery.com.au</p>
<p>Thursday 6th June 10:30am-12:30</p>	<p>RUFFY PLAYGROUP Tablelands Community Centre@Ruffy Nolans Rd., Ruffy</p> <p>This Month it's Cut & Paste/Colouring</p> <p>Cost: \$3:00 per Family. Bring a small plate of food to share. Contact Sally 5790 4335</p>
<p>Friday 7th June to Monday 10th June</p>	<p>MAFEKING PARK MUDBASH Mafeking Rover Park, Caveat Dropmore Rd, Caveat</p> <p>The Rover Scouts' annual Mudbash, with an "Open Day " Sunday 9th June being an excellent opportunity for people to come and see what Rovers is about. Contact Louise Pocock 0433 151326</p> <p>The Mudbash is run under Confederation of Australian Motorsport regulations.</p>
<p>Saturday 8th June 8:00pm Sunday 9th June 4:00pm</p>	<p>EUROA CINEMA "Goddess " 104 mins (M) Comedy / Romance / Musical *** 3.5 stars</p> <p>A story about a young mum who is isolated while her husband (Ronan Keating) is away. Her husband installs a webcam so they can communicate but he is out of range most of the time. So Esplpeth (Laura Michelle Kelly) decides to sing to the world. Her work goes viral and is picked up by advertising guru (Magda Szubanski) which is when all the fun starts. The music is fun, bouncy and the movie is a feel-good, fun-filled fantasy.</p>
<p>Sunday 9th June 11:15am</p>	<p>St. DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH, TERIP-RUFFY Ruffy Road, Terip Terip</p> <p>This service with Holy Communion will be conducted by Minister Fred Jungwirth. All welcome. For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</p>
<p>Friday 14th June 6.30pm</p>	<p>LANDCARE COMMUNITY AWARDS DINNER Murchison Community Centre</p> <p>Free dinner and buses from Longwood & Euroa. All Landcare and Conservation Management Network members are encouraged to attend. To book your seat Contact Janet Hagen 5790 4268</p>
<p>Friday 14th June 6.30pm</p>	<p>'DRINKS ON THE DECK' at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>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. Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247</p>
<p>Saturday 15th June 9am-1pm</p>	<p>EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa</p> <p>"Meet, Greet, Eat & Shop" A wonderful range of farm fresh produce from "local" producers. Contact Leah Jones 5795 1886 or hunaleah@mcmmedia.com.au</p>
<p>Saturday 15th June 9am-6pm</p>	<p>HISTORIC RALLY ASSOCIATION "PowerPlay" Rally Sprint Yarck-Caveat-Terip</p> <p>The Rallysprint is a one day event and will be based at the Koala Country Orchards Packing Shed on Maroondah Hwy in Yarck. It will run 'closed stages' in the local district under authorisation of CAMS, Murrindindi Shire, Vic Police & Vicroads. Contact Mike Conway 0412 590 984</p>
<p>Saturday 15th June 6pm</p>	<p>MIDWINTER CHRISTMAS DINNER Terip Terip Recreation Reserve</p> <p>All are invited to celebrate a Midwinter's Christmas with the Terip Terip community. Adults \$25—Children Free</p> <p>Please come dressed in your best Christmas Outfit Contact Kate Wright 5790 4148</p>
<p>Monday 17th June 7:30pm</p>	<p>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE@RUFFY Nolans Road, Ruffy (Old Ruffy School)</p> <p>Monthly Committee Meeting, but everyone is always welcome. Contact Kerry 5790 4392</p>
<p>Sunday 23rd June 11:15am</p>	<p>St. DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH, TERIP-RUFFY Ruffy Road, Terip Terip</p> <p>This service will be conducted by James Carter. All welcome. For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</p>
<p>Friday 28th June From 6pm</p>	<p>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT Rocky Passes Winery 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek</p> <p>The popular Tapas Nights provide a relaxing way to end the week by enjoying great food & wine with friends. Contact 5796 9366 or Email contact@rockypasses.com.au</p>

Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

MISSING



Answers to "Sooty" Last seen in Ruffy area

**Please Contact Jim McCoey from Caveat
if you spot our much loved moggy 5796 9126**

HIGHLAND RAMBLERS REPORT 26TH MAY 2013

On a lovely May day, a leisurely walk was undertaken on the property "Granite Hills" which has superb views over the Goulburn Valley.



'Granite Hills' old shearer's hut

We indulged in fresh country air, sociable company and magical vistas. Wildlife highlights were the sighting of eagles, numerous Flame Robins and kangaroos.

Thanks to Richard and Angela for allowing us onto their property.

The Ramblers will have a winter layoff and resume on the 29th of September.

By Geoff Lade

HISTORIC RALLY TAKES A TURN IN THE HIGHLANDS

The Historic Rally Association is running the PowerPlay Rallysprint in the Yarck-Caveat-Terip district on Saturday 15th June

The Rallysprint is a one day event and will be based at the Koala Country Orchards Packing Shed on Maroondah Hwy in Yarck, from 9.00am and finishing at 6.00pm.

The event is for 2 wheel drive vehicles only, and is an all gravel special stage event. The cars will leave the service park area at one minute intervals and transport (not race) down the Hwy then travel North up Molesworth Dropmore road.

North of Jeffreys Rd the road will be closed to the general public between 10am and 6pm, the cars will be timed along the 5.6kms up to Highlands Rd.

They will then transport (not race) along Highland Road/ Caveat Dropmore Rd, Springs Rd and turn back onto the gravel and travel south along Terip Rd until the second closed road section starting just south of Black Range Rd.

Once again they will be timed over the 8kms ending just before Yarck Rd and will then transport back to the service park .

The transport sections the cars travel along are not closed to the general public and crews will be required to obey all road rules and will also operate at an event enforced lower speed limit so as to avoid any problems with local traffic on the day

Crews will complete 2 laps in a clockwise direction and 2 laps in an anti clockwise direction.

The organisers encourage any locals who may be interested to visit the service park and look at the cars or talk to the crews should time permit during the long break.

There are unfortunately no spectator points on the specials stages but spectators can see the cars leave the start and finish the timed stages should they wish.

We aim to run a safe event for all and bring something new to the township of Yarck on an annual basis. The event organisers would like to thank the Koala Country Orchards, the local CFA, the Yarck Hotel and the township of Yarck for its assistance and support.

The event is run under the authorization of the Murrindindi Shire, The Confederation of Australian Motorsport, Victoria Police and VicRoads.

For any further information please contact Michael Conway - Historic Rally Association, 0412 590 984

Casey Southurst - Local Law Officer, Murrindindi Shire Council, 03 5772 0376



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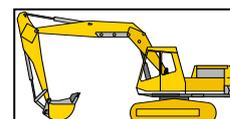
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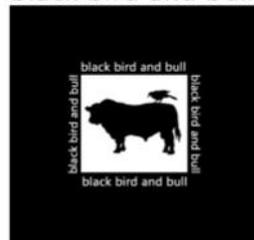
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