



BITS OF BOTANY & BIRDS

Bringing Back the Birds

By Lesley Dalziel

Around ten years ago I started putting in our garden while the new house was still under construction. The only existing vegetation was the huge old grey box tree at the front of the house.

The garden is at its best in Spring. It is predominantly Australian natives, but with succulents and a few roses lightly scattered close to the house. We planted dry climate specialists. I also have some pots of tulips, petunias, or pansies, depending on the season.

It is a constructed bushland. In the hot season, it is inundated with a wide variety of birds including 8 species of honeyeater, just now.

I hear Boobooks at night, and once, a Barking Owl over towards Fairholm, where 15 years ago I heard a Curlew cry.

I am getting birds that I thought were dry country specialists, like the Yellow Tufted Honeyeater, and Yellow Plumed Honeyeater.

The bird bath seems to be a meeting place for them, neutral territory. There are 26 species of bird bathing on any one day. There is hierarchy, the littler birds deferring to the Grey Shrike Thrush, and all deferring to the Crimson Rosellas. The New Holland is the dominant Honeyeater, followed by the White Plumed. But a group of little Brown Headed Honeyeaters is so cheerful and happy they ignore the tension and enjoy themselves, regardless.

I have my binoculars and bird book by the kitchen window and can waste an awful lot of time gazing out at the passing parade. It is somewhat like having a litter of pups in the house, you can spend hours just watching. It is a great joy to me and a responsibility.

This is their home, as well as mine.



Lesley's Birdbath is "Ornithology Central"

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week

Emily

For interesting and well planned Show & Tell



School Council

There are 3 positions for School Council this year.

Being on School Council is a great way to understand how the school functions and share your ideas.

If you would like some information relating to these positions please contact me.

The notice of election will be posted at the new office on Monday 11th February.

Nomination forms will be available for a week closing on the Monday 18th February.

Junior School Council

Highlands PS's JSC has a very successful history of event organisation and fundraising.

This week they held their first meeting and have put some plans in place for term 1.

They are interested in having a Healthy Hamburger Day and a swimming afternoon at Yea Pool.

Ongoing fundraising includes the sales of hand knitted socks and handmade cards and soaps, kindly donated by Emily's grandmother.

Money raised from these sales go to Jenny Webb's fundraising efforts in Burma.

By Meagan Callander Principal HPS
5796 9208

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are seeking someone who has good scrapbooking skills to teach a group of enthusiastic students the art of scrapbooking for 2 hours a week.

If you'd like to get involved then please call

Meagan Callander 5796 9208



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME TO ISSUE 5 2013

Contact editor@tgn.org.au Ph: 5790 4007

Now that Whiteheads Creek, Highlands, Caveat, Terip & Ruffy have TGN Drop-Boxes we need **you** to let your neighbours (who don't have email) know that they can collect their copy of TGN from Tuesdays each week. Thanks for your help, 'e-mailers'

FOX HUNTER SEEKS PROPERTIES WITH A RABBIT & FOX PROBLEM

(He won't have to look far! Ed.)

Field and Game Club member, Deitrich is very professional and shoots heaps of foxes and rabbits - eg 24 foxes in 2 weeks around Wallaby Gully & over 100 rabbits in one night recently on one property alone. He shoots as part of the Field and Game Club so all insurances & compliances are covered.

Dietrich will be back around the district from Benalla, Violet Town to Ruffy to Nagambie in February and he needs new landholder contacts. He regularly shoots around Longwood East and Wallaby Gully for Parks Victoria.

If you're interested please contact
HCCC Landcare Coordinator
Janet Hagen 5790 4268

ECHIDNA CORNER

Susan Milroy has really started something with her swimming Echidna story.
Echidnas, You Rock!



From Sonya McLennan



From Lesley Dalziel



From Libby Head

COMMUNITY IMMINENT EVENTS CALENDAR - JAN/FEB 2013



CFA ROSTERS
W/C Feb 10th

- **Whiteheads Creek/Tarcombe..... Driver: Chris Head Assistant: Michel Becks**
- **Ruffy 4th Lieutenant Matt Ulstrup's Team**
- **Terip Terip..... 1st Lieutenant Ed Greenwood's Team**

Exhibition Open until Monday 25th February	GALLERY 34 34 High Street Yea A Group Exhibition Titled 'On Home Ground' by Marion Bruere, Mary Hyde and Julian Bruere Gallery Times: Thursday to Sunday 9am-4pm Mondays 10am-4pm & Public Holidays 9am-4pm Contact Grace Leslie 57973222 info@gallery34.com.au
Monday 11th February 8:00pm	TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE @ RUFFY Old Ruffy School, Nolans Road Ruffy Monthly Committee Meeting Everyone Welcome Contact John Furlanetto 5795 3435
Saturday 16th February 10:30am	ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH—HIGHLANDS vs RUFFY Hume & Hovell Cricket Ground, Strath Creek Players needed for both teams (No 'ring-ins' this year Scotty!). Cost per Player—\$80 inc Buffet Lunch Guests Lunch—\$35 Bus will run from Ruffy via Highlands ~\$20pp Any GENUINE locals from either Highlands or Ruffy who wish to play Contact Doug Maclean 5790 4387
Saturday 16th 8:00pm & Sunday 17th February 4:00pm	EUROA CINEMA "The Sessions" 95 mins (MA) Drama ****+ 4.5 stars A remarkable story about a man, who as the result of polio as a child, has lost the use of his body from the neck down. He has a desire to lose his virginity and his carer suggests he uses the services of a sex surrogate. Although the subject matter is incredibly sensitive, the movie does not take itself too seriously & there is humour behind the agony & ecstasy. Stars <i>Helen Hunt, William H Macey and John Hawkes</i> .
Saturday 16th February 2pm—5pm	HILLCREST GALLERY 33 Old Highlands Rd, Highlands A special preview of ' Angels ' an exhibition of paintings by Dennis Spiteri. RSVP by 11th February. Phone 5796 9373 or Email: dennisspiteri@activ8.net.au The exhibition will continue until 31st March. Gallery Hours 10am—5pm
Saturday 16th February 6:30pm BBQ 8:00pm Show	LIVE IRISH MUSIC & DANCE plus FREE FAMILY BARBEQUE Ruffy Hall, Nolans Rd., Ruffy A fun family night of Irish Revelry with a live Irish Band, dancing and supper to follow. Everybody Welcome. No Entry Fee. Sponsored by Ruffy Community Action Group. Contact Sharron 5790 4329
Wednesday 20th February 10:30am-2pm	POSITIVE AGEING Yea Chambers, Yea Shire Office Community Forum and Consultation Come along, get involved and enjoy the day Presentations from Local Organisations - Lunch - Entertainment - Community Consultation
Friday 22nd February 6:00pm	ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek The popular Tapas nights are back. Come along for a relaxed evening. Bookings a must. Ph: 57969366 or Email: contact@rockypasses.com.au
Saturday 23rd February 9am-12noon	WORKING BEE at HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL Preparation for 10th annual HiArts Exhibition Come and join us as we prepare the grounds of the hall for HiArts. Weeding, pruning & brush-cutting are our main tasks. Bring appropriate tools. Contact Judy Reid 5796 9358
Thursday 28th February 5:30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks
Friday 1st March Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd	HI ARTS EXHIBITION Highlands Hall, Highlands Artists wishing to exhibit can download applications from the web www.hiarts.org . Entries need to be in by Feb.12th and exhibits with the Curator by Sunday Feb 24th. Contact Stuart Reid 5796 9358 or Email: kadumbla@mac.com
Saturday 2nd March 9am-2pm	YEA COUNTRY MARKET Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea Showcasing local producers, growers and makers offering an array of stalls, the best in fresh local produce, arts and crafts, children's activities, play ground and skate park. Gold coin donation entry
Saturday 2nd March 5:30pm	MUSIC & TAPAS at ROCKY PASSES 1590 Highlands Rd. Whiteheads Creek "True Lies" live band plays Jazz, Blues & Roots music. Cost is \$40pp for Food & Music. Bookings Essential. Contact 5796 9366 or contact@rockypasses.com.au
Saturday 2nd March Showtime 8:00pm	RUFFARTZ Ruffy Hall, Nolans Road Ruffy. The evening presents a double bill Ventriloquist Sarah Jones performs her own work "Sarah Doesn't Play Well with Others" followed by Denis Coard with his sequel "The Umpire Strikes Back.....May the Farce Be With You" BYO Drinks. Coffee & Cake available at interval. Contact Glen George on 5790 4318

Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

CRICKET—HIGHLANDS v RUFFY

In the annals of cricket history there is no greater rivalry than that which exists between these two teams.

Culturally they are very different.

The Highlands team, run by a benevolent dictator of little talent is a multicultural team – they will take anyone (We are that desperate).

Ruffy on the other hand is an autonomous collective, that claims a type of racial purity by only selecting their players from Ruffy (and the surrounding suburbs of Longwood, Euroa, Creighton's Creek, Terip, Yarck, Melbourne and Canberra).

The much maligned score book, which often goes into hiding immediately following the contest, shows that after 11 encounters in 6 years at either the Hume & Hovell or Ruffy Cricket Grounds, Highlands is one up.

Some would say that this is a fair indication of the competitive evenness of the two sides while others would say it's an indication of the scorebook being equally manipulated at the end of each game.

Once again Ruffy and Highlands will be entering that cricketing cauldron at Strath Creek on Saturday 16th February. For the first time Highlands will be without two of their 'ring-ins'.

Grunta "the death bowler" who has finally succumbed to the reality of no knees and Alan Jarrott who left most of his left leg embedded in a soccer ball before Christmas and is still having trouble walking without it.

Ruffy on the other hand is looking at the return of "Young Harry" Sleigh who is replacing Marcus Hill. Marcus having the only valid excuse to not play for his home town in this most vital of matches, and that is to be playing serious cricket somewhere else.

Selected Teams: (subject to variation pending outcome of ASADA investigations)

Highlands—M Shaw, S McKay (c), J Madden, J Holyman, G Philpot, A Shaw, F Welsh, B Kelly, J McCooley, H McAlpin, J Rumbold.

Ruffy—D McLean (c), G Ginnivan, F Haig, "Poss", H Sleigh, R Mitchell, J Toy, R Hines, R Eddy, R Haub, Geoff, S Rowan, D Sleigh, D Cook

* Bus from Ruffy at 9am sharp, picking up at Highlands 9:30 am

* Game starts at 10:30 am

* Cost \$80 per player includes lunch

* Non players lunch \$35

* Rowdy Spectators encouraged

JAZZY MUSIC at ROCKY PASSES

On Saturday March 2nd, Rocky Passes Winery is taking their Tapas Night soiree to a new level with live music to accompany your meal.

"True Lies", a group that have been playing together for many years, will entertain you with Blues, Jazz, Rock, Country, and Roots music, including songs from greats —Lucinda Williams, Joni Mitchell, Steve Earl, Otis Redding and Bruce Springsteen.

"True Lies" also have a folio of original material that's crafted in the same spirit.

Come along for Tapas from 5:30pm —

Music starts at 6:30pm.

Cost is \$40pp Food & Music.

Bookings essential.

Call 5796 9366 or

contact@rockypasses.com.au

BE AWARE OF LOG TRUCKS

Pentarch Forestry Services are harvesting the pine trees on Spaniaks Road, Highlands.

They travel on the roads to Seymour and Euroa.

They try to avoid times when the school bus is operating although this isn't always possible.

As they will be on our roads until March 2013 we will need to take extra care.

If you have any concerns

Contact Angelo La Spina

03 5277 1540 or 0403 530065

FOUND

This little lost dog, a female, she is really a most gorgeous little dog. Someone in our area must own her, she was found footsore and thirsty on Koboyboyn Road after a day at the races (no-one there knew her) and she made the trip out to our place.

We are very keen for her to get back to her home.

People can learn more about the saga by calling Lesley on 0428 339989

By Lesley Dalziel & Ursula James



TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

WANTED — PASTURE HAY

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Sales & info about the Damara breed

www.campruffy.com/damara.html

Contact Roger 5790 4166

LOST—at DROPMORE FIRE

Steve Farrar loaned his UNIDEN 5Watt handheld UHF radio to someone at the recent Dropmore fire. It was last seen in the vicinity of the Highlands/ Caveat Tanker & an extensive search by Les Lawson has failed to find it.

If you can help, please call Steve

0447 775247



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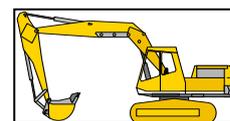
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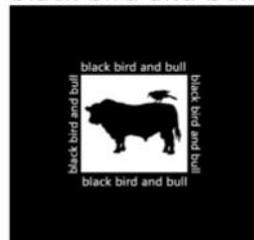
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