



PEOPLE AND PLACES

'STRAWBERRY FIELDS' GETS THE NOD

On Wednesday October 8th, the Murrindindi Shire Council granted a planning permit for the *Strawberry Fields-- Arts, Music & Camping Festival*.

The Highlands Community Committee met last Monday night to discuss fund-raising opportunities at the Festival. Committee members Jim McCooley, Callum Lawson, Melanie Bronca, Judy Cameron, Scott McKay, Joanne Welch, Alistair Lade & Richard Clarke resolved to meet weekly up to and immediately following the Festival to ensure that all possible fund-raising opportunities are explored in support of the Highlands Hall, Highlands/Caveat CFA and the Highlands Primary School.

Community members who wish to volunteer to help with fundraising are invited to contact the committee s.fieldscc2014@gmail.com or call Jim McCooley 0418 532103.

Although this event has created differing opinions we hope that the community will get behind the largest fundraiser undertaken in the Highlands and Caveat district. *By Jim McCooley*

WELCOME to a TANKER... FAREWELL to the DRIVER !

There was a good turn out last Sunday at the Ruffy Fire Shed to inspect the prospective new Tanker that is promised for delivery in 2015.

It's fair to say though, that many of the Ruffy CFA members had attended primarily to farewell one of the Brigade's most respected members —Jack Jury. Jack has served the Ruffy Brigade for 20 years and has been a CFA Volunteer for 35 Years.

The Ruffy Brigade presented Jack with a 35 Year CFA Service Medal and an engraved memento in appreciation of the wonderful service he has given to the Brigade and the Community. Jack & Annette have bought a farm at Barham NSW.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week — Bonnie



For demonstrating leadership skills at the Junior Sports Day Well done!

Aboriginal Cultural Day

We had a wonderful day last Friday, at Flowerdale where we participated in Aboriginal Cultural Day.

We were able to participate in traditional Aboriginal dances, create some artwork, listen to Dreamtime stories and had our faces painted. We also watched Azza perform some traditional dances while he was painted in his tribe's traditional paint. Pancakes played the didgeridoo and then all the teachers were able to listen to the secret sounds made by the didgeridoo.

By Sue Watson—Principal, HPS



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME to ISSUE 36 2014
Contact editor@tgn.org.au 5790 4007

READERS' WRITES

"When I heard there might be a music festival in the district which would double as a community fund-raiser, I thought, "What a great idea." When I heard there would be 3,500 festival-goers, I thought, "That's a lot for our roads to cope with."

When I heard that it was to be held in late November, I thought, "What about the fire risk?"

People started to google Strawberry Fields and a new picture of this "music and camping" festival emerged.

Held near Tocumwal for the past three years, the picture is one of drug and alcohol-effected drivers, arrests for drug possession and trafficking, far-reaching music noise, considerable litter and bad debts.

I read the planning application.

Music will play almost continuously from 4pm Friday to 9pm Sunday. At least 1000 cars (not counting set-up/take-down crew trucks) are expected to travel along the School Bus Route. In the event of fire, they "have a plan". I read the plan; it did not allay my concerns.

I (and others) wrote letters of objection to the Murrindindi Shire Council. I (and others, including the Yea Police) spoke against the granting of a permit at the council's Open Forum on October 8th.

Of the four people who spoke in favour, two were employees of Strawberry Fields, neither of whom had previously worked on this event.

The council voted 4-1 in favour of granting a permit for the festival, to be held at 609 Gum Rd, Caveat, on November 21st-24th.

This festival is inappropriate for a small, rural community. It presents serious safety concerns and constitutes a major imposition on local residents. The negative aspects far outweigh any imagined benefits."

—Susan Bennett, Caveat



Departing member—Jack Jury, receives best wishes from Ruffy CFA Captain John Furlanetto

Farewell Foxy Finder

Marcia & Arthur Telford are leaving the District—two more climate refugees bound for Van Diemen's Land. Marcia has been our champion Foxy Finder, but we smugly report that she met her match in Issue 34 !!



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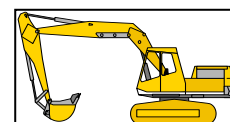
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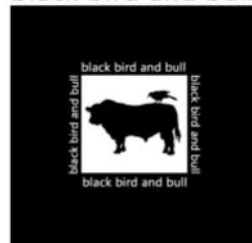
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Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON



11 Open Gardens in Alexandra District

This year Alexandra & District's Open Gardens Weekend celebrates 24 years of offering superb town and country garden viewing. The finishing touches are now underway in the eleven lovely gardens open to visitors on Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th October.

With the optimism that accompanies warmer spring weather, garden owners have worked hard preparing their properties for

visitors to enjoy a wonderful weekend when the local district is looking superb. Among the eleven gardens open this year, four are located in Alexandra township, one at Thornton and Eildon, one at Acheron & Taggerty and three in Buxton and Narbethong areas.

The range includes small cosy enclosures, large established gardens, new & developing gardens, a garden with oriental touches, farm properties with stunning views and vegetable & fruit gardens.

Many of the open gardens are offering special features at their venues.

Live musical performances by Gary Soloman at 'White Lotus' in Narbethong, Guest Speaker Leanne Gillies from Flemings Nurseries at 'Araluen' in Acheron, plant sales at the Goodman garden in Alexandra, a quilt display and Eildon Wood Workers items at the Jones' garden in Alexandra, distinctive 'Lizart' sculptures by Alistair Mason at 'Myston' in Alexandra and morning and afternoon teas at several venues.

See the Garden Guide book and website for details:

www.alexandraopengardens.com.au

Single entry \$4 or \$30 admission to all 11 gardens includes free Garden Guide book. Tickets and Guide Books are available at each open garden, The Alexandra Visitor Information Centre and The Alexandra Garden Centre.

Funds from the Alexandra & District Open Gardens Weekend are distributed to local community organisations. **Come ... be inspired!**

TERIP TERIP TALK TALK

Working Bee at the Recreation Reserve

Many hands made a huge job happen - Many thanks to those who attended the working bee on Sunday 5th.

With the sun shining and the day fit for pleasure, many people put their hearts and backs into cleaning jobs and worked tirelessly to spring clean the club house and the surrounding area. Mowing, spraying, trimming of shrubs and trees, leaf raking, window cleaning, fence painting and the place looks great and ready for the recreation events and tennis season ahead. Special thanks to the brown dog who kept the workers fed and watered !

New Tennis Court Surfaces

Plans for the new court surfaces are falling into place and the club is hoping for a grand opening at the annual tournament in January.

Once again a big thank you to everyone who has helped fund-raise or donated over the past 18 months and turned the project into a reality.

Congratulations

to Ross and Jodie - now both, Penny's, who recently tied the knot.

We hope your day was a special one and we wish you all of the best in the future.

Speedy Recovery

Mervin Penny, Les Sloan, Jim Davidson and Shirley Norward

- We hope you're all recovering well.

Cheers--Helen McKenzie

Do you know someone outstanding?

Have you thought about nominating them for an Australia Day award?

Nominations are open in the following categories:

- Murrindindi Citizen of the Year
- Murrindindi Young Citizen of the Year
- Murrindindi Community Event of the Year

These awards provide all Murrindindi Shire residents with the opportunity to pay tribute to our outstanding local achievers.

Download the nomination form from our website www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au, pick up an application form from any council office or call Sarah Light on 5772 0341

Nominations close at 5pm on Friday 28 November 2013



Local Contractors Wanted—Strawberry Fields Festival

The organisers of the **Strawberry Fields Festival** are committed to using as many local businesses as they can. Festival requirements will include

Supplies—Hardware, Plumbing, Camping etc **Equipment hire**—Grader, Fork lift, Cherry pickers, Water tanks, Cartage, Rubbish bins & Skips. **Materials**—Crushed rock, Shade sails, Flooring, Old carpet, Marquees, Safety signage. **Trades-people & Workforce**—Mechanic, Plumber, Electrician, Traffic Crew, Clean-up Crew.

Accommodation—Local self-contained accommodation.

For a complete list see the Highlands Website www.highlands.org.au

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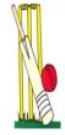
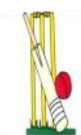
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FINDING FOXY

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COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR OCTOBER/NOV 2014

TODAY!



<p>Sunday 19th October All Day</p>	<p>DARLEY SEYMOUR CUP DAY Seymour Racetrack • \$150,000 Darley Seymour Cup • Spring Carnival action with Big Screen • "Seymour Travel" Fashions on the Field • Live music from Cameron Tapp Family atmosphere and FREE kids activities</p>
<p>Tuesday 21st October 7:30pm</p>	<p> HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT RURAL FIRE BRIGADE at the Highlands Fire Shed This is the 2nd in the 2014 series of Training Sessions. All Members are encouraged to attend Contact Jim McCooley 0418 532103</p>
<p>Saturday 25th October Some Time in the Afternoon</p>	<p>CITY vs COUNTRY CRICKET MATCH at the RCG (Ruffy Cricket Ground) The tradition continues with the first of the season's Cricket Match Challenges. The Ruffy Cricket Ground is in great shape, the perimeter Oaks are waiting to shade vociferous spectators and the combatants are thankful that their industrial deafness prevents them hearing the creaky knees, hips and elbows. Everyone Welcome, especially the kids. Contact Scott McKay to register 5796 9259</p>
<p>Saturday 25th October 8:00pm Sunday 26th 4:00pm</p>	<p>EUROA CINEMA "Magic in the Moonlight" 98 mins (PG) 3.5 stars Comedy / Romance A wonderful cast graces this movie...Colin Firth, Emma Stone, Jackie Weaver and others...which is about a family on the French Riviera being hoodwinked; and an illusionist who is sent to rescue the family and expose the charlatan. It is a case of science versus fantasy, what is fake and what is real, and some interesting magic being woven—and some of this concerns the heart which is where the romance comes in. A delightful bit of entertainment and lovely scenery!</p>
<p>Saturday 25th October and Sunday 26th</p>	<p>ALEXANDRA OPEN GARDENS 11 Different Venues Among the eleven gardens open this year, four are located in Alexandra township, one at Thornton and Eildon, one at Acheron & Taggerty and three in Buxton and Narbethong areas. Single entry \$4 or \$30 admission to all 11 gardens includes free Garden Guide book. www.alexandraopengardens.com.au</p>
<p>Saturday 25th October & Sunday 26th From 10:00am</p>	<p>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE—WORKING BEE at the Old Ruffy School The Community Centre will be one of the venues for the upcoming RUFFY ArtFest and we need to do a heap of work to ensure that the grounds and the internal space are in good shape. For more information Contact Fiona Steel 5790 4369</p>
<p>Sunday 26th October 10:15am</p> <p>Note Change of Venue</p>	<p>ST.DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY For this 4th Sunday of the month members and friends will travel to Strathbogie to share in the church service there, have lunch and visit Huntley Farm Roses Nursery. We look forward to seeing a few new faces. Meet at the car park of our church, Ruffy Road, Terip Terip at 10.15am to arrange car pooling. We will be back about 3.15pm. For more information, please contact Verena Weinmann, 5790 4309</p>
<p>Monday 27th October</p>	<p>RUFFY HALL COMMITTEE MEETING Ruffy Community Hall, Nolans Road Quarterly committee meeting and all welcome. Contact Sharron Batt 5790 4329</p>
<p>Thursday 30th October 5:30pm</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Saturday 1st November 9am-2pm</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Sunday 2nd November 9:00am</p>	<p> RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE—Pre Season Meeting at the Ruffy Fire Shed Radio check with Euroa group at 9 am then Pre-Season meeting for all members at 10:00am. For any further information Contact John Furlanetto 0427 344956</p>
<p>Friday 7th November 4pm to 7pm</p>	<p>COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION—GHIN GHIN BRIDGE REPLACEMENT at the Highlands Hall Residents and others interested in the bridge works are encouraged to attend this 'drop-in' session to be updated on the scope of the project including the implications for residents and others of the short term closure of Ghin Ghin Bridge. For further information contact Paul Valente 5772 0706</p>
<p>Saturday 8th November & Sunday 9th From 10:00am</p>	<p>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE — 2nd WORKING BEE at the Old Ruffy School The Community Centre will be one of the venues for the upcoming RUFFY ArtFest and we need to do a heap of work to ensure that the grounds and the internal space are in good shape. For more information Contact Fiona Steel 5790 4369</p>