

# The Granite News

Highlands Primary School  
3025 Highlands Road  
Highlands 3660  
Highlands.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ph: 0357969208  
Mobile: 0429969208  
FAX: 0357969307

Volume 1, Issue 17  
May 28th, 2007

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### SALTWATCH

-18TH MAY - Poppe Davis and Brad came to school on Friday to teach us about Saltwatch. We brought in water samples and tested them to see how much salt there was. Poppe brought a poster that showed us how much salt there was in the Goulburn River. Kendall's water only had 30 EC's of salt which is really good. All the water samples that we tested were pretty good.

By John Bennett

### Junior Room Report:



This week Ms Mildren came back and we have done spelling tests, tables tests and learning about fractions. We measured our heads, legs, waists and arms with crepe paper and then glued them onto a sheet of paper that had a shadow of our head on it. We made some "Who am I questions?" to go with them. We have also talked lots about 'Q' words.

On Friday we had Poppe and Brad come in and talk to us about salt in the water. It was interesting to see the results of our water testing.

By Imogen

### Senior Room Report:

This week we have been focusing on fractions and adding them up, multiplying them and subtracting them. With Peter we are focusing on graphs and will be next week as well. We have done spelling tests, tables

## WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.17

Please send all information to  
miranda@activ8.net.au

tests and challenging ourselves in mental maths. We have been working on our letters to Duncan Mclean about what our dream ambitions are, as part of a competition.

We have also been finishing our poems and have sent them of for another competition. We have done Salt watch with Poppe Davis and Brad to test the salinity level in our water and have come up with great results.

By Ariel

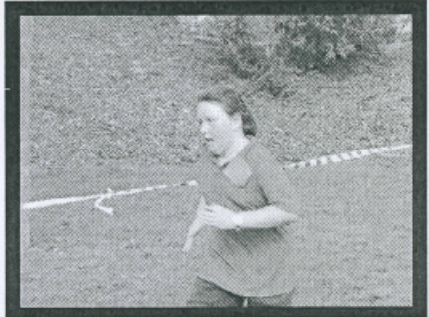
BBQ lunch: Thanks to Alistair Lade who came in last Thursday and cooked our BBQ. Students and staff donated a gold coin to cover the cost of the sausage and hamburger. The money will go towards a worthy cause, yet to be decided.

Campers: This week sees Kassie Shaw and Imogen Geffert off to Dromkeen. These girls will be working with Mini Goss who is an author and illustrator of 'When Mum Was Little' and 'When Dad Was A Teenager'. Elliot Lade is off to Rubicon for the You Can Do It Camp focussing on a whole range of personal development activities. We know these 3 students will enjoy their time and learn a great deal from their experiences.

## Cross Country:

Congratulations to those students who participated in the cross country at Flowerdale PS last week. Students spent a month training for this event with specifically measured and timed runs 3 days per week.

Congratulations to Michael Shaw and Jack Mitchell, who will be participating in the ZONE Cross Country and to Elliot Lade who is the first emergency for his age group. Special mention also goes to Kelly Petersen who improved her placing by 3 students from last year. Great effort everyone!



Michael Shaw and Kelly Petersen running to the finishing line

**If you don't empty your letterbox regularly, send in your email address and we will email the newsletter to you**



## Classifieds & Community Notices

### Direct Seeding for Revegetation and Collec- tion of Local Seed.

A field day was held at the Euroa Arboretum on Fri. 27th April. The focus of the day was direct seeding for revegetation and collection of local seed. Personnel from Trust For Nature, Greening Australia, DPI, DSE, Melbourne University and the GBCMA presented the latest information on the benefits of direct seeding for large scale revegetation projects. They were supported by local contractors who demonstrated practical techniques for seed collection and commercial machinery available for direct seeding. Some of the key points which emerged were:- ~ Our landscape has been depleted of much of its natural vegetation.

~ A 30% natural vegetation cover supports relatively healthy and sustainable ecosystems and offers maximum

productivity to farmers.

~ There are a variety of reasons for wanting to revegetate your land and identifying these will assist planning and outcomes.

~ Direct seeding is no longer experimental.

~ Weed control is the most crucial factor for success.

~ Weed control can be achieved by a combination of "scalping", spraying and burning.

~ Cover crops can be used to remove excess nitrogen from the soil 12 months prior to direct seeding.

~ Some sites can be successfully revegetated by fencing and control-grazing and selected species can be reintroduced by using either tube stock or small scale direct seeding techniques.

~ Local seed can be collected by individual landholders or can be sourced through the Goulburn- Broken Indigenous Seed Bank at Dookie.

~ Local contractors are available to

carry out direct seeding projects in our area.

For further information, please contact Jenny Webb PH 57969236(Highlands Landcare). Janet Hagen PH 57904268

### Wanted to Sell

Large solid pine cot with mattress \$65.00 Baby's change table with 2 shelves and bath \$35.00  
Phone Gaelyn 57969306

### Highlands CFA Tin rattlers needed

Queen's Birthday weekend.  
8th, 9th AND 10th June  
CFA volunteers and community members are needed to rattle the buckets and sell firewood as a major fund raiser for the CFA  
Ring Jenny Webb PH 57969236 to do your bit on a 2-3 hours shift, thank you.

### Thanks From Judy

A big thank you to those who braved the weather on Saturday 19th May to work at the Highlands Community Hall. Together we weeded and mulched the garden and planted all the native plants from the Euroa Arboretum that we had kept alive in pots over summer.

Thanks also to Steve Horne for fixing our leaking roof, and Steve McAlpin for doing all those awkward jobs.

### Student Learning Award

Senior Room Home Learning:  
Michael, Ariel Spelling: Michael,  
Jack H, Kelly, Elliot, Ariel  
Tables: Jack H, Elliot Ariel

#### Junior Room

Home Learning: John  
Spelling John, Kassie, Laura,  
Imogen Reading: Kendall

HPS Spotlight on Imogen Geffert:



Full name:	Imogen Merri Geffert
Birthday:	Feb 12th
Eye Colour:	Brown
Fav Food:	Ice cream
Fav Story:	Lily Quench series
Fav Colour:	Brown
Pet Hate:	Being sick
Loves:	Mum and Dad
Fav thing:	My horse
Fav place:	Queensland

### Exercise Class in Winter

We have decided to combine the two exercise classes for winter. The class will begin at 6.30pm and go for an hour. This will start on Tuesday, 29th May at the Highlands Hall. Come and join us, it's lots of fun and really good for you!

### Caveat Church Tipping Competition

Doug Mclean, Michael Kopanica, Quentin Pritchard & Scott McKay all backed 4 winners in a row so the prize money jackpots for the next round. To join and become rich below your wildest dreams- see you at Caveat Church last Thursday of the month. From Scott McKay

### RuffArtZ

presents Sanfona Saturday August 25th. And The Gut Bucket Jug Band Saturday November 17th. Bookings 5790 4318

Seen any roadside weeds? Ring Miranda PH 57969261 and let her know where they are for spraying.



### Community What's On Calendar - May/June/July

Thursday 31st May	Come to the Caveat Church for Secret Men's Business, last Thursday of the month, includes wives, significant others, children and an assorted variety of canine companions.
Friday 1st June	Highlands Landcare presents "Bats, fascinating creatures of the Night" with Dr. Lindy Lumsden, Highlands Hall, 7.30pm This should be a very special night and There will be delicious local wine and cheese (rumour has it that Jeff Swain makes a rather fine camembert) at 7pm. To get us in the mood for bats. We do need to know numbers to cater adequately so could you please ring Jenny Webb on
Friday 1st June	The Ruffy Store first Friday of the month dinner. Please book to avoid disappointment PH 57904387
Sat / Sun 2nd-3rd June	Open week-end at the Spiteri studio/gallery "Hillcrest". "A Highlands Ramble" A Photographic Exhibition by Dennis Spiteri - consisting of photographs taken on the "Highlands Ramblers" walks since 2003.
Sat/Sun 2nd-3rd June	UFOs Unfinished Objects, Highlands Hall . Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 10-4pm Talk to Pauline if you would like to join her to finish off all those crafty things that you have been meaning to finish for years. Ph 57969301
Frid/Sat/Sunday 1st, 2nd, 3rd May	Highlands CFA tin rattling / fund raising at the Rovers' Mudbash, Caveat. Ring Jenny Webb PH 57969236
Saturday June 2nd.	RuffArtZ presents Zulya and the Children of the Underground Bookings 5790 4318
5th Jun	World Environment Day Visit <a href="http://www.unep.org/wed/2007/english">www.unep.org/wed/2007/english</a>
Wed 6th June	Yea High School Year 7 2008 Parent Information Night 7.30pm
Wed 13th June	Global Cooling Dinner Workshop 6.30pm Yea Shire Hall
Friday 15th June	Landcare morning coffee, Ruffy Store 10.30am We will be using our new aerial photographs of the area to identify future corridors. It is also an opportunity to talk about any other Landcare issues that you may like to raise. Come and join us, Janet Hagen and Miranda Yorston

### **BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS**

What makes a fern a fern? A fern has no flowers or fruits, and it reproduces by spores rather than seeds. These tiny one celled spores are wind borne and may germinate in a moist, shady place into a beautiful, heart shaped green plant called a pro-thallus. This produces male and female cells called gametes, which fuse to form an embryo. The embryo develops roots and leaves and becomes a fern plant, with a single rhizome or underground stem. In tree ferns, the rhizome is the trunk. In Australia, there are 456 species of ferns, with 112 of these being found in Victoria.

Some of our local examples are Fishbones, or water ferns, Ground ferns, which include Bracken and Maiden hairs and relatives, and of

course Tree ferns.

Now that we have had this wonderful rain, ferns which looked dead will be coming to life and delighting us with their beauty and variety. By Peg Lade

