

# 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 18  
June 4th, 2007

## INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL

A new local is Yolande Palumbo, who is living in a quaint stone cottage on the top of one of the highest hills in Highlands, with a view of the world, and winds to take your breath away. "I love the wind", says Yolande!

Yolande was born in Algiers where her father was an international banker and her mother was obstetrician. She was one of six children, all born in different countries, and went to school in West African countries like Birkenafaso, Senegal, Chad and in North Africa. Yolande's secondary schooling and university were in Paris, where she studied Political Science. This led on to lecturing (but all the students were older than her so that wasn't good, says Yolande) and then a PR job in Paris and New York. She came to Australia with a French husband but she dumped him for an Aussie one (dumped as well!)

Yolande spoke no English when she arrived here, but she soon became fluent, with great help from ABC TV Play School. She also speaks fluent French, Italian, Spanish and a smattering of local African dialects, and she swears very satisfactorily in Arabic. Now Yolande is teaching French in Yea at the Community House and hopes to expand. She does voluntary work in Yea and at Highlands Primary. She also paints in a variety of styles and different medias. She is certainly a bubbling personality with a great sense of humour, she has already made many friends and we hope she stays here for a long time.

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Junior Room Report:

Last week we learnt about fractions. Fractions are made when you cut things up into smaller pieces. We learnt how to take numbers away from other numbers to find out what they equal. I did a project on penguins and learnt that they cannot fly. They wobble when they walk and they swim around looking for food. In music with Pauline, we sang a couple of songs, played a clapping game and did some actions to the songs we were singing. By Cuchulainn

### Senior Room Report:

I did some work about Margaret Thatcher. We all get to do our own activities so we are learning at our own pace. We had some really hard mental maths questions about fractions and we did our spelling tests. I can be really good at mental maths and fractions, if you get stuck on something hard, think of it as fun and it is easier to work through. By Kelly

### Dromkeen:

Last week we went to Dromkeen and met Mini Goss, she signed books for us. While we were there, we wrote our own story and went on a ropes course. Imogen made a book called The Lonely Foal and Kassie made a book called BJ the Talking Dog. It was a great learning experience because there were lots of writing and educational activities based on books. By Kassie and Imogen

### You Can Do It Camp:

Last Monday I went to Rubicon Outdoor Centre where there were activities such as: rock climbing, canoeing, high ropes, roving, and lots more. I made lots of friends from Puckapunyal and Seymour schools. The idea of the camp was to help improve kids' confidence through the challenging activities. I learnt to keep trying, that I

could do things that I didn't think I could do and never give up. It was a great camp. By Elliot

### Student Learning Awards:

Senior Room Home Learning: Ariel  
Spelling: Jack H, Kelly, Jack M  
Junior Room Spelling: Cuchulainn  
Tables: Kassie



HPS Spotlight Daniel Kavanagh:  
Full name: Daniel James Kavanagh  
Birthday: February 18th  
Eye Colour: Blue  
Fav Food: Lettuce  
Fav Story: Back in Time  
Fav Person: Rhys  
Fav Colour: Red  
Pet Hate: Lollies  
Loves: Celery  
Dream job: Carpenter  
Fav thing: Play Station  
Fav place: Highlands



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

Wed June 6th	Ruffy CFA Meeting , Ruffy Hall. 8pm
Monday 11 June	Scribblers next meeting 7:30 Leone's. 1995 Highlands Rd Kobyboyn. We write, we read, give feedback and we eat . Please come Enquires 0500 500 088.
Monday 11th June	Ruffy Store will be open for breaky & lunch on the Queen's birthday Monday holiday
Thursday 14 June	Playgroup shall be at Gaelyn's 10am -12 pm PH 5796 9306
Monday 18 June	Harmonic Singing - 7:30pm At Leonie's
Sunday 24th June	Highlands Ramblers. The NEXT WALK will be in the Highlands area. Meet at the Highlands Hall at 10.30 a.m. Enquiries to Peg Lade - 57 969222
Thursday 28 June	Playgroup at Leone's 10am -12pm 0500 500 088 New members most welcome
Saturday July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Session 1 <b>"Picture Show Man"</b> 1977. In 1920s Australia a travelling showman brings moving pictures to country towns. Session 2 <b>"Newsfront"</b> 1978 A tribute to Australia's newsreel filmmakers. Yea Shire Chambers, open with drinks and nibbles at 6.30p.m. The first screening is at 7.00 p.m. after which we enjoy supper. The second film follows at around 8.30 p.m
Saturday August 11 <sup>th</sup>	Session 1 "Acquitted by the Sea"1940. An ultra short crime film with an ironic twist. "Paths of Glory" Stanley Kubrick's moving study of the insanity of war. Session 2 "An American in Paris"1951. Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron star in this musical built around a Gershwin score. Yea Shire Chambers, at 6.30p.m.

### BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

The WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER. A regular visitor to the sugar feeders in my garden is the White-eared Honeyeater. At this time of year, when few nectar producing plants are flowering, the honeyeaters really appreciate a good slurp of a sugar solution, in unglazed terracotta bowls, hanging from branches of shrubs and trees. The White-Eared Honeyeater has olive green back and yellow-olive front, a large white ear patch, with a black face and grey crown. It sometimes chases away the smaller birds, but in turn, it is constantly harrassed at the bird feeders by the more numerous New Holland Honeyeaters and the larger Wattle birds.



### First round of Agfund

Is part of the Australian Government's Advancing Agricultural Industries Programme, is now open. It has been set up to help primary producers to manage change and improve profitability. Closing date is Monday 16 July 2007. Further information including guidelines and application forms can be accessed at [www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=CC958243-AD1F-4D0A-9A66B1E089AAE4FB&contType=outputs](http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=CC958243-AD1F-4D0A-9A66B1E089AAE4FB&contType=outputs)

### RAINFALL

129.8 wonderful mms of rain was recorded at "Glentannar", Highlands for May, making 320.2 mms for the year. Terip received 119.2 for May.

### KENDALEE STABLES and KENDALEE FENCING SERVICES.

This business is run by Ken and Robyn Richards of Terip, Robyn being a daughter of Helen Mackenzie. The STABLES have been breeding quality, warmblood horses for the local, interstate and international competition industry for 20 years. Kendalee horses are in every state of Australia, and some overseas, and are mainly for show jumping and eventing. However, many have been highly successful dressage horses. Robyn, James and Kendal ride and compete almost weekly. The FENCING side of the business is run by Ken, who prides himself on putting up quality fences that will last the distance. He works from Terip to Wangaratta to Melbourne, and also builds cattle, horse and sheep yards, and even some town yard fencing. Good luck to another hard-working and enterprising family!



## Classifieds & Community Notices

### Murrindindi Reel Films

This is the fifth year that Murrindindi Reel Films has offered residents of Yea the opportunity to get together to enjoy an interesting selection of films in a pleasant social environment. Our sessions are held at the recently refurbished Yea Shire Chambers and open with drinks and nibbles at 6.30p.m. The first screening is at 7.00 p.m. after which we enjoy supper. The second film follows at around 8.30 p.m. Members can enjoy one or both films and are encouraged to bring guests FREE. New members will be made most welcome. Come along and give it a try this winter. For further information contact: Sally Abbott Smith 5797 8283  
Jill or Tony Dwyer 5797 2480  
Email: jilldwyer@dodo.com.au

Family subscription (or any two adults) 3 programs . . . \$36 p.a.  
2 programs . . . \$26 p.a.

Single subscription  
3 programs . . . \$20 p.a.  
2 programs . . . \$14 p.a.

For around \$3.50 per film, including supper it's the Best value in town!

### 'Be a part of Global Cooling'

Free Dinner / Workshop to be held at the Yea Shire Hall at 6.45pm on Wednesday 13th June. Rob Gell – TV personality, will present the 'Weather Report 2050'; and a panel of experts will outline ways in which businesses can reduce their carbon emissions and make savings. The expert panel members include Rob Gell, Kate Nicolazzo from Grow me the Money – a FREE program that provides Businesses with the help they need to reduce their impact on the environment and save money doing it; Nicholas Nagle, from Resource GV – is responsible for planning the management of municipal solid waste and co-ordination of waste management activities across NE Victoria; Doug Smith from Village Green Environmental Solutions – provides innovative and ethical solutions for business communities to increase profitability and improve resource efficiency; and the Alternative Technology ass. Booking is essential on 5797 2209. The evening is being auspiced by the Yea Wetlands Trust, a charitable environmental organization, established to care for the Yea Wetlands. The Trust is dedicated to the establishment of the Yea Discover-E Centre – a multi-functional Centre delivering environmental learning programs. The event has been funded through the State Government's Business Continuity Program administered through the Regional Development Victoria.

Send information for The Granite News to [miranda@activ8.net.au](mailto:miranda@activ8.net.au)

### HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

Last Sunday's walk took 30 of us to the Black Range at Terip, where Bernie McMahon, a local resident, escorted us through the bush on winding, narrow tracks. For the first time in my life, I thought what fun it would be to be on a motor bike, as we wound our way through Peppermints, Blue Gums and spectacular granite boulders. The creeks were still dry, but understorey and shrubs are recovering well. And of course, there were plenty of interesting fungi, and tantalising glimpses of views into the Yack Valley.

### Mobile Muster

Recycle your old mobile phone in June and Mobile Muster will plant a tree for you for free. Mobile Muster and Landcare Australia Ltd aim to plant and maintain up to 100,000 native trees – offer is valid to 30 June 2007. Further information [www.mobilemuster.com.au](http://www.mobilemuster.com.au) OR Ph: 1300 730 070

### Paterson's curse

is Australia's worst broadleaf temperate pasture weed. Its high seed production (thousands of seeds per square metre), seed longevity of more than seven years and an ability to germinate at any time of year, given the right conditions, contribute to making it such a pest. Below is a photo of a young rosette, keep a sharp lookout and remove NOW!



**Options for Change, farm business management & succession planning** RIRDC's publication looks at a range of farm business management options including a chapter on successful farm succession planning, using case studies from across Australia. Download a free copy from [www.rirdc.gov.au/reports/HCC/03-030.pdf](http://www.rirdc.gov.au/reports/HCC/03-030.pdf)

### Obituary

I have a sad message for the Highlanders. Mr. Ian Russell passed away peacefully on May 26th, 2007. He was our neighbour, whose interests were wide and varied. We spent many hours in vigorous discussion on the political situation, locally and the world. He was widely read, an artist and with his guitar, had a wonderful repertoire of folk songs dating back to Elizabethan times. His occupation before coming to Australia from England was a Foot Plate man or a loco driver, not a train driver, a distinction he loved to make. Mr. Russell was from the era where steam was the mode of transport and so very powerful. We and friends won't forget,

Margaret and Neill Nagle