

The Granite News

Whiteheads Creek
Hughes Creek
Caveat
Highlands
Ruffy
Terip Terip

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July 16th, 2007

The ZOCH family in Highlands

Not many people remember the Zochs, who are one of the early families to come to Highlands, and are commemorated at the Stone Circle at the Highlands crossroads, along with five other families.

Joe Zoch came to Highlands in the 1890s, and built an 8-roomed house on Glencoe, near Wattle Hill, (now owned by Neill Lade). 11 of their 14 children were born while living there. Frank, (Joe's brother), selected land on Gum Rd, -Murray Glen- now owned by the Webb family, and later run by George, his son, who left the district in the 1970s. Joe extended his holding with three 320 blocks (now part of Steve Mathews).

Frank and Joe both ran sheep and milked cows. Joe's wife, Annie, once got lost while looking for the cows in the mountain mist. She was found by Rod Chisholm of Glengarry (now Graham Fern's property). He pointed her in the right direction, and off he went to check on her numerous children at home.

Joe's eldest son, Thomas, changed his name to Foster when he joined up for WW1, as Zoch was originally a German name. Another son, Phil, lived at the end of what is now Chisholm's Road, and had 4 children, all of whom went to the Highlands School. Phil worked as a patrolman in Highlands and Caveat for the Yea Shire Council. Phil and his wife, Eileen, played musical instruments for dances in the Highlands Hall.

Joe's youngest son, Stan, worked for Dick and Cappur Webb on the "Block", now the Lade's "Gleneagles", where his main job was rabbiting. Stan was the champion tennis player at Highlands for many years

Wanted! Port-a-Cot!

Take a Break Child Care starts 16th July in the newly renovated Yea Children's Centre, 4 sessions per week. We need 2 Port-a-Cots. Do you have one to donate to the Yea Community House? Contact Yea Community House 57973070

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.22

Back from the holidays and feeling refreshed.

This week's edition is printed before school returns but will include our regular notes from Highlands Primary School next week.

Hopefully the new photocopier will arrive this week and you will notice an improvement in the quality of the photos soon. Can anyone help us on Friday mornings at 9am to fold the newsletter? Yolande does a fantastic job but it's slow and lonely on your own. It will be printed on Thursdays but is often full much earlier so send me any information as early as possible to avoid disappointment

HiArts - "Arts and Ideas Conversation"

HiArts will hold its first Arts and Ideas Conversation on Saturday 25th August in the Highlands Hall from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Morning Tea and a light lunch will be served. Cost \$10 per person.

These conversations will centre around the theme "What is Art (for)? A number of artists have been invited to present a sample of their work followed by informal discussion. There will be an opportunity to explore an aspect of the Highlands landscape. Participants are advised to include strong shoes/boots/gum boots. Please register by phone 5796 9358 or email kadumbra@mac.com. All are welcome, but places are limited.

Dropmore & Gum Roads Meeting

A community meeting will be held on Monday 23rd July at 4pm to consider the condition of Dropmore and Gum Roads. The meeting will be held in the Highlands Hall. The Councillor Leanne Pleash, the Shire CEO and the Works Manager will be present. It is important to have a good representation from the community. More information Stuart Reid 5796 9358

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

A perfect sunny winter day on 24th June saw about 35 of us walking from the Highlands Hall and along Miranda Yorston's high ridge behind the Rock-cliff house. As usual, the views and rocks were spectacular, gates were not always in suitable places, so we did a few interesting rolls under wire netting fences, (thanks to wombats and kangaroos.) We then headed west, with a perhaps disturbing view of a very large Blue gum plantation along the headwaters of Stewarts Creek. Lunch was beside Gavin Crittenden's shed, with his beautiful big dam. Most of us then walked on to Dennis Spiteri's gallery, for a final look at his photographic exhibition of our Rambling walks. A very satisfactory day!

TO HEAR ABOUT BUSHBROKER AND HOW IT WILL OPERATE

In March 2006 the Victorian State Government launched BushBroker, a native vegetation credit registration and trading scheme to facilitate vegetation removal, offsetting and protection under the new approach. Michael Crowe, Policy Officer with the Land Stewardship and Biodiversity Group in Melbourne, will talk about Bushbroker, how it will be managed, and its implications for the North East Region. 25TH JULY, 11AM - 12.30pm

BENALLA THEATRETTE, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SYDNEY ROAD BENALLA This will be an opportunity to ask questions and to find out the 'nuts and bolts' of the how the scheme will be managed and how credits can be established and managed to provide an income for landholders whilst satisfying the requirements of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management - A Framework for Action 2002. To view detail of the scheme online: <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/DSE/nrence.nsf/> Link View/90D1EEF7733B9CD7CA256FA4001617CE4F65BBF1E5A3A721CA25720C00167A65#Opportunities

Classifieds & Community Notices

Highlands/Caveat CFA

At the recent general meeting of the Highlands/Caveat RFB, the brigade's Captain - John Kirkham and Communications Officer - Margaret Kirkham decided to take leave of absence from their positions for the next 4 months until 31st October 2007. The other executive members have taken over their duties for this time and are acting in the following positions.

Acting Captain - Andrew Shaw

Acting 1st Lt - Peter Roberts

Acting 2nd Lt - Jeff Swain

Acting Comms Off. - Jono Rumbold

3rd Lt - Frits Pompe, Secretary -

Pauline Roberts and Treasurer -

Sharyn Shaw remain unchanged.

Given the severity of the recent summer seasons, and the publication of new CFA wildfire manuals some winter training will be happening this year and lieutenants will contact their crews shortly with regard to dates, time and place.

BITS of BOTANY and BIRDS

CRESTED PIGEON.

On 22nd June, I saw 3 Crested Pigeons sitting on an overhead electricity wire at Terip. While these are very common birds over most of Australia except Southern Vic, I have only seen them on two occasions in our tableland country, and I would be most interested to hear of other local sightings. The experts used to say that forests inhibited the spread of these pigeons into S.E. Australia - it would be unusual for tree decline to actually favour a population of a bird species!



Subaru S/Sedan for Sale
DL (4WD) manual wagon, almost new tyres, reconditioned engine, carefully serviced, registration November.
\$1800 or best offer. 5796 9358

Hire of Wine Glasses
HiArts have a quantity of wine glasses (250ml) and champagne flutes for hire to groups. \$4 per dozen plus breakages. Available for groups and private functions. Phone 5796 9358

For Sale

Toyota Camry station wagon, wide body, air conditioning, new tyres, 6 months registration, good condition, \$3,000. Phone Susan 57904338

RAINFALL for JUNE.

After a good start in early June, it was a very disappointing month's rainfall - in fact, one of the lowest June totals for years. Highlands had 43.8 mms, making 364.8 for the year, and Terip had 32 mms, with a year's total of 300.2 mms. July- we have had excellent rainfall at H'lands and Terip so far.

Highlands Landcare Group

Greetings Highlanders, it's the turn of a new financial year and time for Landcare subscriptions. Just \$25 for standard membership gives you the right to hire the Landcare equipment. Or better still, \$100 gives you free access to the equipment! This includes: GPS Unit, Spray Unit, Backpack Spray units, Pneumatic Steel Post Driver, Bunny Blaster, Rabbit smoker, 3 Tine Ripper.

The preferred payment method is EFT to our bank account:
BSB 063 545

Account 1012 2292 (include your name in the details).

Otherwise a cheque made out to Highlands Landcare or Cash to Highlands Landcare Treasurer, 2848 Highlands Road, Highlands 3660.

Thanks in advance, Jono Rumbold
57969344

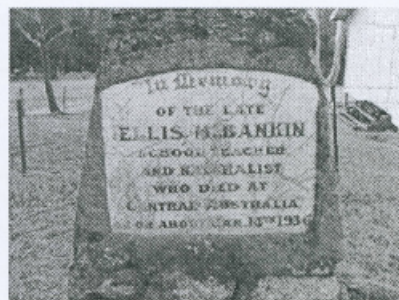
Year 9 Euroa Secondary College

"My Life and Climate Change" School ground tree planting project.

Sam Strong of Euroa Arboretum volunteered her time and expertise to assist the Year 9's in the choice of plants along with their location and planting details. Hughes Creek Landcare Network donated 200 plants to this worthwhile project.



The Amazing Story of Ellis Bankin



Many of you will have noticed this memorial cairn erected on the Hughes Creek roadside at the site of the old Hughes Creek Primary School.

Ellis Bankin was an adventurous young teacher appointed to the tiny rural school. A keen naturalist, he would have enjoyed exploring the Hughes Creek while boarding with the Jeffery family at Kestrelvale.

Ellis preferred experiencing geography rather than teaching it. He died while trying to get to Ayres Rock during his summer holidays on a 350cc Triumph side valve motorbike in January 1936.

He had crossed the Nullarbor to Perth and then began tackling places hardly seen by white men let alone traversed by an adventurer on a Trumple, rough remote treks from Broken Hill to QLD through the Cobbler Desert, up to Alice Springs and then the extremely lonely Strezelecki Track. So Ellis, though an experienced traveller, was defeated by this land of wave after wave of sandhill and he paid the ultimate price. Exactly what went wrong isn't clear. Naturally there would have been heatwave conditions and perhaps pushing the Trumple over endless soft sandhills finally got him. Maybe lack of water? He wouldn't have been able to carry much.

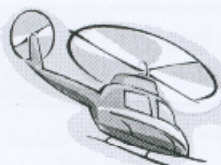
His body was found by a search party a month after he left Ernabella station near Mt Conner, 90 kms short of Ayers Rock.

He was buried with little ceremony where he was found. Intriguingly, the bike was still in working order. The grave's location faded into obscurity. It lay undisturbed for 43 years, until rediscovered during a cattle muster. Later a 50 year memorial service was held and a plaque erected to celebrate a spirit compelled to experience life beyond safe boundaries.

Thanks to Wes and Angela Jeffery for sharing this story. Janet Hagen.

Community What's On Calendar - July/ August

Saturday 21st July	Whiteheads Creek-Tarcombe CFA Dinner. Christmas in July and CFA Medal Presentation. Whiteheads Creek CFA/ Landcare Hall, 6.30pm
Saturday 21st July	Working bee to erect new garden shed at the Terip Terip recreation Reserve at 10am followed by a sausage sizzle. All welcome, come along and have a fun morning!!
Saturday night 21st July	"Dinner with The Cook and The Chef", The Ruffy Store. \$45.00 per head ,plus drinks, for a 3 course meal. Bookings PH 57904387
Sunday 22nd July	Highlands Ramblers walk 10.30am Highlands Hall. From now on the walks will always be the 4th Sunday of the month at the Highlands Hall at 10.30am. This one will be somewhere in the Dropmore area and Sammy Strong will be helping lead it.
Thursday 2nd August	HiArts Annual Meeting 7.30pm in the Highlands Hall. All are welcome. Why not also join "Friends of HiArts":- \$5 per adult pa \$1 for children up to and including 15 years
Friday 3rd August	Whole Farm Planning Course starting .Make sure your name is down. Ring Janet on 57904268
Monday 6th August	Highlands Landcare Executive meeting, Jenny Webb's place, 7.30pm All welcome
Saturday August 11th	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.
SATURDAY 11TH AUGUST	TERIP TERIP COMMUNITY DINNER AT THE REC RESERVE, 6PM FOR SHERRIES AND NIBBLES MEAT SUPPLIED, BYO DRINKS, \$15 PER PERSON, \$5 FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, PLEASE COULD YOU BRING A SIDE DISH, SALAD, OR DESSERT? RSVP, WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST LU CRAVEN – 5790 4011 FRANCES LAWRENCE – 0432 324 929
Monday 13th Aug	Next scribblers' meeting, venue to be announced.
Sat. 25th August	RuffArtz "A Season of Saturdays" presents Sanfona. All shows begin at 8pm at the Ruffy Public Hall and delicious cakes and coffee are available at interval.
Sun 26th August	Highlands Ramblers Walk Highlands Hall 10.30am
Friday 21st September	I know this is a bit ahead but it is not to be missed. The HCCC AGM and the theme is "Ten Things To Do With A Rabbit". There will be an opportunity for everyone to participate so mark it in your diary now.(Date especially chosen so weekenders can attend!)



Landcare Helicopter Spraying of Patterson's Curse

Most landholders in our catchment use Patons Aerial Services at Mansfield .
The pilot is David Empey 57 76 4343 Mobile 0418 694 334 dvempey@yahoo.co.au .The Rates quoted below for herbicide application are last year's but should give an indication of cost

Machine	Load Capacity	Area of Patto per load	\$ per load	\$ per ha for application not including herbicide
	30 litres per			
Bell JetRanger	400 litres	13 ha (32.5 ac)	\$495	\$38 ha
Robinson R22	100 litres	3.1 ha (7.75 ac)	\$116	\$37 ha small areas

Contact Miranda or Janet to be included in a group booking of the helicopter . Landcare gives a 50% subsidy all herbicides and wetting agents used to control patto . Landholders should deal directly with David Empey regarding recommended herbicides and wetting agents .