

# The Granite News

Caveat - Kobyboyn - Highlands - Hughes Creek - Ruffy - Terip Terip - Whiteheads Creek

Highlands Primary School  
3025 Highlands Road  
Highlands 3660

Ph: 0357969208  
Mobile: 0429969208  
FAX: 0357969307

Volume 1, Issue 26

August 13th, 2007

## INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL

### STUART REID of HIGHLANDS

Stuart is an academically and physically multi-skilled, former Uniting Church minister, who has been living in Highlands since he retired in 1994.

He and his wife, Judy, bought a bush block on Jack's Creek in 1984, and although they were both working full-time in Melbourne, they spent 5 years of weekends building a wonderful solar-powered house to their own design and mostly with their own hands. They made their own mud bricks with their own mud, using an ancient tractor hooked up to help with the mixing. Much of the timber was re-cycled, and they did the roofing and woodwork themselves.

All this was a far cry from Stuart's early life, son of an accountant at Lumleys, and working as an accountant himself for a few years after leaving Scotch College.

He was accepted for the ministry, and completed an Arts degree in History, Philosophy, Greek and Hebrew before attending Theological College. Then he was assistant to the minister of a large Box Hill parish, who died soon after Stuart arrived. By this time Stuart was married with 2 small children. Next was a scholarship to Princeton, USA, to study Christian Education and he obtained his Master of Theology degree. To earn money, he worked as a Christian Educator in a very wealthy parish.

However, eventually they both got homesick and came back to Melbourne to a job in the Presbyterian church as secretary for adult education. This included writing, group dynamics, personal relationships and marriage enrichment programmes. He and Judy ran family camps at Mt Martha, where they made many lifelong friends, including Jill and Jim Davidson of Terip.

By this time, they had a third child, and Judy had a fulltime job. Stuart became involved in the Australian Council of Churches programmes, and did a lot of writing to do with Social

## WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.26

Time for another thank you to our Landcare umbrella group called the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative who provide the funds to employ me to produce this weekly newsletter. Without their financial support we would not be able to maintain this community newsletter.

TGN will be printed on Thursdays but is full much earlier so please send me any information ASAP. Send all information to [miranda@activ8.net.au](mailto:miranda@activ8.net.au)

### The Granite News Heading Competition

Please send me your design and I'll print it. Make sure it is the same size as the existing one. Please send any information to [miranda@activ8.net.au](mailto:miranda@activ8.net.au)

Justice, and was involved in a study with Catholics, Anglicans and the Uniting Church. He wrote several small books, and never had a parish until his "retirement", when he has worked in Alexandra, Euroa, Benalla and Cobram.

Stuart is a community member on the Highlands School Council, helped set up the Purple Sage group here, the local roads committee, member of CFA and Landcare, and most importantly, President of the very successful Hi-Arts committee, which is planning its 5th exhibition in 2008. Stuart believes that Art and Religion will help us understand the way we live, and the next function for Hi-Arts is on 25th August, an "Arts and Ideas Conversation".

It was with great sadness that we heard the news of Kim's death.  
Kim Padgett (McAlpin)

Kim passed away suddenly  
on the 5th August.

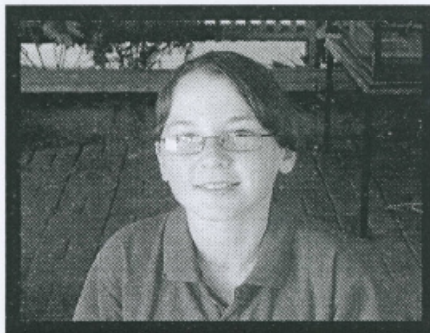
Dearly loved mother of Steve's four children, Ben, Stuart, Kate and Emily.

Sadly missed by Steve.

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### SPOTLIGHT ON ARIEL GRAF

Name: Ariel Leotie Graf  
Birthday: 19th October  
Eye Colour: Brown  
Hair Colour: Brown  
Fav Person: Mum and Dad  
Fav thing: Guitar  
Loves: Listening to music  
Pet hate: Needles  
Dream Job: Host on Getaway  
Fav Sport: Netball  
Fav food: Ice-cream



Quote of the week: "Blessed are those who listen, for they shall learn" Anonymous.

### Building Learning Power

Reasoning When you use this learning muscle you: create logical arguments, spot flaws in other people's arguments, deduce what might happen and look for evidence.

### Pottery Report:

When I went to pottery Dad said, "You could have made a mustard pot because I need one!" I felt very confused because it was my first time. When I first touched the clay it felt solid and hard. There were tools we had to use like a comb, knife, needle and a sponge. We made a cube, pots and pans. The clay looked blue/white. We used glue but it is called slurry. When I was doing it I felt great.

By John Bennett Grade 1



## Classifieds & Community Notices

### Highlands Landcare Group

Greetings again Highlanders, its time for Landcare subscriptions (we've only received 9 so far). 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! 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  
jr@omnipotent.com.au

### Exercise Classes started

Annette Cherry started her exercise class again on Monday 13th August at 7pm in the Highlands Hall. Note the new time. Remember to bring your ball and wear comfortable clothing. The exercises are not strenuous and focus on stretching and keeping your body supple, it's well worth the effort so come and join us.

### BITS of BOTANY and BIRDS

The BLUE FACED HONEYEATER is a bold and friendly bird, about the same size as a Wattle Bird, but with a shorter tail. Adult birds have a bright blue skin patch around the eyes. It is common in N. and E. Australia, but seldom comes South of Bendigo. Half a dozen were recently seen in Seymour, and it has been recorded from Alexandra. It is not yet on my list for Highlands, but keep a lookout!



### TREE PLANTING

Wanting to plant trees this time next year? Think ahead. This year Janet Hagen ordered 19,000 and they have nearly all gone. Some people will be disappointed when spring comes along and they begin thinking about planting. Have a plan and order now for 2008. Phone Janet on 57904268

### Congratulations

Victor Oles and Candi Westney for their excellent review by James Halliday of their Rocky Passes Estate 2005 Syrah **.5 stars**, 94 points, and listed as one of two Best Wineries of the regions in the Upper Goulburn region.

"Intense blackberry, plum, liquorice and prune on both bouquet and palate; excellent structure with ripe tannins and good length, top quality" Victor and Candi run their tiny vineyard on Highlands Road. They have 1.6 hectares of shiraz and 0.4 ha of voignier grapes, growing vines with minimal irrigation and preferring organic and biodynamic soil treatments.

MURRINDINDI FAMILY DAY CARE ARE RECRUITING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE CARING FOR CHILDREN?  
CAN YOU PROVIDE A WARM, SAFE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT?  
DO YOU WANT TO BUILD YOUR OWN SUCCESSFUL HOME-BASED CHILD CARE BUSINESS? WE HAVE A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU! FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN EARN UP TO \$700 PER WEEK FROM YOUR OWN HOME APPLI-CATIONS FROM SMALL TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS WELCOME  
More information : Heather and Finn on 03 5772 0362

### Rabbits Control

Many landowners are in the process of receiving a visit from the DPI to ensure that they are eradicating rabbits on their property.

The DPI acknowledges the enormous amount of ongoing work that is being done by many landowners.

This programme aims to support these landowners by ensuring that all landowners maintain these high standards. It is very frustrating for people who are doing "The Right Thing" to have neighbours who do not address their rabbit problem. So give them a smile when they arrive and support this important work.

### Babysitter

Required for 3 yr old 1 to 2 days per week between school hours, work from your house or mine.

Call 03 57904297

### For sale: Farm fresh Extra-Virgin olive oil

Available direct from your local grower. Fresh olive oil bares no relation to the bulk oils sold in supermarkets. We have excess to our requirements for \$15 per 500mL bottle. Contact Maro on 5796 9363 or D.Delfrate@latrobe.edu.au, if you wish to experience the difference.

### Watch out for this weed, Paterson's Curse!



### Energy Saving Tip

When your screen is white - an empty word page, or the Google page, your computer consumes 74 watts, and when it's black it consumes only 59 watts. Mark Ontkush wrote an article about the energy saving that would be achieved if Google had a black screen, taking in account the huge number of page views, according to his calculations, 750 mega watts/hour per year would be saved.

In a response to this article Google created a black version of its search engine, called Blackle, with the exact same functions as the white version, but with a lower energy consumption, check it out.

[www.blackle.com](http://www.blackle.com) <<http://www.blackle.com/>>

Use this site as your search engine and do your bit for the planet

### "When Insults have Class"

"He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know."

- Abraham Lincoln

"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."

- Groucho Marx ; I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - Mark Twain



## Community What's On Calendar - August/September

Saturday 18 th August	Ruffy Store 'The Cook and The Chef 'do dinner with Andrew Cameron & Longwood Wines \$45 pp plus drinks. Need to book - 5790 4387.
23rd-24th August	La Trobe students for Limnological survey A group of 2nd year Environmental Management They will be staying at "Kobyboyn" and doing an extensive study of 3 bogs at Strong's, Lade's and Steve McAlpin's. Interested community members are invited to attend the 'Kobyboyn' shearers' quarters on the evening of 23rd August to talk to students and staff and discuss specimens found.
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.
Saturday 25th August	HiArts – "Arts and Ideas Conversation" HiArts will hold its first Arts and Ideas Conversation 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 kadumbia@mac.com. All are welcome.
Sat. 25th Aug	BEAM Mitchell Environment Group Dinner & Guest Speaker Night 6.00pm-9.30pm A talk given by popular author Leon Costermens on plants, plant communities and their relationship with general habitat. Tallarook Mechanics Institute Hall, Tallarook. Cost: adults \$30 children under 16 \$20. For catering purposes RSVP by Fri 17th August. Ph. John Brissett on 57841970 or Caroline Morris on 57841177.
Sun 26th August	Highlands Ramblers Walk .NEXT WALK will be following Kopanica Creek from Antcliffe's Chase to the Dropmore Mineral Springs. Meet at Highlands Hall at 10.30 am , or at Antcliffe's Chase front gate at 10.45. Enquiries to Peg Lade 57 969222.
August 31-Sep 3 .	Euroa Community Cinema— "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" Fri & Sat 8pm . Sunday 4pm
Saturday 8th September	Basic Cheese Making Course - Back by popular demand -in this day workshop you can make your own cheddar, wensleydale,fetta,parmesan,gouda or haloumi cheese! Just bring an ice cream container so that you can take your finished product home .Times : 10am - 3 pm Cost :\$70 (includes lunch )Venue :Euroa Community Education Centre. Contact : 57 952 777
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!)
5th October	Highlands Landcare AGM 7.30pm Highlands Hall. More details coming but it should be very interesting so put it in your diary now
26th October	Highlands Landcare Executive meeting, 8pm. Jenny Webb's place PH 57969236 if you need directions. It was great to have Brien Cook and James Simonsen at our last meeting, all welcome.

Land Water & Wool: managing for sustainable profit – publication  
Land Water and Wool is a joint program supported by Australian Wool Innovation Ltd and Land & Water Australia. The managing for sustainable profit publication is a final report from the 5 year research and extension program to develop better ways of management for more profit and a healthier environment on wool growing properties. Copies can be accessed at [www.landwaterwool.gov.au](http://www.landwaterwool.gov.au)

### Vermicast Liquid

It is made out of worm castings. \$2.00 per bottle, dilute 1 part to 10, 600ml bottle. Put it on your garden and watch the plants go whoosh. Available from the Ruffy Store. There's an honesty box and bottles out the front so you can pick them up at any time.

### FOR SALE

Grundfos Pressure Tank. Model PT8.  
\$200.00 Pls. phone 57908670.

### Roadside Weeds

If you see any roadside weeds, please remember to write it down and ring Miranda on 57969261 or email her on [miranda@activ8.net.au](mailto:miranda@activ8.net.au). It is definitely a case of a stitch in time saves nine and the less chemical we have to put out the better it is for the environment and our budget.