

The Granite News

Ruffy
Caveat
Highlands
Terip Terip
Hughes Creek
Whiteheads Creek



INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL

PETER and PAULINE ROBERTS of HIGHLANDS.

Peter and Pauline have achieved an extremely diversified and rewarding lifestyle - how they fit everything in is amazing!

They met when teaching at Thomas-town Primary School in 1985 and were married in 1986, after moving to live at Homewood, near Yea. Peter taught at Flowerdale, and Pauline was H.T. at Glenburn. They decided that they would never go back to suburban living, and bought a 50 acre bush block at Highlands, with a superb view to the South (and out of the fogs of the valley, said Pauline). With no previous experience, they embarked on building a mud brick, solar-powered house to their own design. This became a fairly long-term project- they always said they would "move in at Christmas", but didn't specify the year! In the meantime, Peter taught at Ruffy for 7 years, then Seymour East, and decided on early retirement. Currently, he has been a casual teacher at Highlands, which he really loves, and is completing a full-time term back at Seymour East.

Pauline moved to Veterinary Nursing in Yea for about 5 years, and then earned a Graduate Diploma in Library and an M.A. in Literature. Currently, she works for the Mitchell Shire as Librarian at Kilmore and Seymour, and drives the huge library van to schools and kindergartens, and as Outreach for new mothers.

They have both been members of Highlands-Caveat CFA for about 18 years, and Pauline is Secretary and an accredited driver and fireman, Peter being Acting First Lieutenant. Peter is coach for the Yea Water Tigers, and is involved with the development of the Yea Wetlands. He is very keen for kids to appreciate the quality of their natural environment. Peter's hobbies are aircraft (he wants to fly in

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.31

This week's heading is Lockie Cameron's second version. Thanks Lockie. I haven't received any more headings at this stage. Please send any articles, advertisements etc to miranda@activ8.net.au or ring on 57969261.

Just a reminder that classified advertisements are free for people who receive The Granite News. The feedback that I have been receiving from people using TGN to sell or give away something has been very positive so that's encouraging.

an aeroplane older than himself) and Pottery, with a Yea group. Pauline has organised 3 very successful Craft UFO weekends at Highlands (her speciality is quilting). She exhibits at the Yea Show, and is now Head Steward of the Pavilion, as well as a horse steward. Her photographs of beautiful landscapes, have won many prizes. She was chosen to sing Advance Australia Fair on Australia Day at Alexandra, and in past years, has performed in Musical Theatre (Fiddler on the Roof) at suburban venues.

Pauline travelled extensively in 1984, for 12 months, including trekking in Nepal, and to Europe. Since 1996, they have both backpacked, using local transport, all over Europe, Canada and NZ. They do walking trips, especially in Switzerland, and have completed the Overland Track in Tasmania, several times. As a change, they go on cycling and kayaking expeditions.

About the only thing they haven't done (yet) is write a book about all these marvellous experiences! By Peg Lade

Garden Advisor needed.

A few people have asked if we can include a section each week on a plant that is suitable for gardens in our district that has low water requirements and will survive our dry summers. Is there anyone out there who would be happy to provide this information? It could be once a fortnight or weekly if you have time. Please let me know if you would be happy to fill this spot, thanks Miranda

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NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHAT AN ENTERTAINING PRODUCTION

Thanks to all those parents, grandparents, family members and community members who came along on Friday night to our production. The students again showed their level of confidence through their performance and put on a highly entertaining evening. It is wonderful to see the hall filled almost to capacity for each of these events as this sends very positive messages of support to our students! Well done everyone! A special thanks again to Susan Bennett for her wonderful scripts and direction.

Senior Student Athletics:

Students turning 9 this year and older, participated in the new look senior student athletics. Students were supported by Tricia Graf, Paula Lade, Lisa Kavanagh, Sharyn Shaw, Rick and Kim Hodgetts and Miranda - not a bad student to adult ratio! Students participated in events ranging from discus, to triple jump through to circular relays. We are consistently proud of the level of effort and enthusiasm with which our student attack these sports days. Watch this space for the announcement of the students who have made it on to zone!

Congratulations to Elliot Lade who was 11 year old age group champion!



WE WISH TO PLANT THE VEGETABLE PATCH BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS AND NEED A LOAD OF TOP SOIL TO BE PICKED UP FROM YEA & DISTRICT GARDEN SUPPLIES. IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE RING ALLYSON

Classifieds & Community Notices

How to regain the balance

What can you do to deal with work-family conflicts, so that the negative effects on family relationships are lessened? Here are some suggestions:

You need to be realistic about what you are able to achieve in one day, or in one week. It is important not to try to 'do it all' and, in the process, create a negative and coercive environment for your family members.

Taking the time to supervise and discipline your children properly is critical to having happy well-behaved children. Letting bad habits develop can make life difficult for everyone. Good parenting takes time and, before the situation gets out of hand, it is important to set aside time for dealing with behaviour problems in children.

Getting your children to help with various tasks can be good for them in terms of training, and can also relieve you from the stress of trying to do everything. Even young children can often help with tasks around the home such as putting away toys, setting the table, and putting out rubbish.

You may need to set some priorities on how you use your time. Which tasks are important, and which can be left, if need be? For example, is having a tidy house more important than providing nutritious meals? Are clean windows more important than happy children? We all have different priorities and need to set ones that we can live with.

It's important to set aside times when the whole family can be together and have a good time. No matter how busy the schedule, quality time with family members is necessary for building good relationships. If you want your children to remember their childhoods positively, you need to spend time with them and plan fun activities.

It may be necessary to reassess your present work environment and ask the following questions: Should I discuss with my employer my need to balance work and family demands more effectively? Should I look for a more family-friendly work-place where I can work fewer hours, or where the hours can be worked in a more flexible way? Is job sharing a possibility?

From an article by Professor Patricia Noller, director of the University of Queensland Family Centre on www.kidslife.com.au For more information contact Meredith at Hume Region Parent Education Service, Tel: 58 233 200

For Sale

Calf puller \$ 75.00.
Single tyne ripper / pipe layer \$250.
Phone (after 6 pm) 5790 4225.

INTERNATIONAL RIVER HEALTH CONFERENCE CANBERRA Oct 14-17th

Congratulations to Elliot Lade, Ariel Graf, Michael Shaw and Jack Mitchell who have been selected to attend the International River Health Conference in Canberra.

The Goulburn Broken CMA are sponsoring these students' attendance as well as parent helper Peter Graf. Students will benefit from the experience of discussing environmental issues with student delegates from other catchments and hearing what the natural resources professionals have to say about global climate change. We wish Peter and these 4 students the best of luck as the head off to Canberra.

Thanks to Peter for agreeing to attend and to the Goulburn Broken CMA for making it possible for these students to attend through their sponsorship.

HPS Student Awards:

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

Junior Room:
Tables: Imogen, John
Spelling: Imogen, Laura, John

Pests & Diseases Image Library
Quarantine and plant health are critical to the economic, social and environmental well-being of Australia. The Pests and Diseases Image Library (PaDIL) was set up in 2004 and now includes diagnostic photographs and information on more than 1000 pests and more than 100 diseases. PaDIL is an Australian Government initiative, developed and built by Museum Victoria's Online Publishing Team, with support provided by DAFF and Plant Health Australia (a non-profit public company). There are a number of other project partners. Visit www.padil.gov.au/

Anyone for pottery?

If any person is interested in learning pottery in Yea one evening a week next term please contact Sharyn, we need 10 people before we can book a night, so please ring 03 57904297, we have 6 interested now.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

COMMON BIRD ORCHID (*Chiloglottis valida*)

This is a delightful, low-growing orchid, with 2 basal, ovate leaves and a single flower, which looks just like a baby bird opening its beak. It is quite common in this district, usually near the trunk of a Eucalypt, and doesn't seem to mind the ground being disturbed, e.g. by road machinery. It flowers in September and later in the spring. I once found an extensive colony on Burgess Rd, near the Yarrck Flora Reserve sign.



Has anyone got an old, working computer that they don't need as mine has blown up!? Phone Lisa 57969124

HELP- HPS is looking for a community member who has some skill and interest in the area of digital photography to assist us with our school photos. We are looking for someone who is able to take the photos as well as 'jazz' them up a little through Photo-shop or a similar program. Remuneration is negotiable with Principal for time, materials and expertise. If this might be you- please contact Allyson on 57 969208.

Looking to rent/borrow an exercise bike for the remainder of the year to assist with recovery from a broken leg. If you have sitting around moonlighting as a clothes hanger and would be happy to see it used for it's original purpose please contact Allyson on 57 969208.

For sale: young goldfish 50c each. Mainly black but some will turn gold. Not suitable for tanks. Ponds only. Phone 5796 9360.
Wanted: playpen for puppy/child. Please phone Marisa on 5796 9360

Free to good home: x1 young bantam rooster. Beautiful colours. Ring Natalie on 5797 3015

Community What's On Calendar—September/October/November

Week beg.24thSep	Terip Terip mowing roster , Sue Martin, Tim Andrews, Andrew Hollaway Around Clubhouse and all 4 crts
Thursday 20th Sep	Highlands/Caveat CFA Executive Meeting Highlands Hall 7.30pm
Friday 21st September	HCCC AGM and the theme is "Ten Things To Do With A Rabbit". Contact Miranda if you would like to attend PH 57969261
Saturday 22nd September	The Black Market is on again ,Drop-in and informally swap, buy or sell local produce, offer a class, music or point of view ... drink coffee and chat ...play bocce? 10am - 12pm at Rocky Passes 1590 Highlands Rd
Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd September	Farm Gates and Shed Doors, Join the growers, wine makers, chefs and producers of the Goulburn River and Ranges Region as they throw open their farm gates and shed doors and invite you in for a 'look around the back'. To download the guide to Farm Gates and Shed Door, go to ... http://www.goulburnrandr.com.au/Files/brochure.pdf
Sunday 23rd September	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS. Next walk will be to "The Peak", north of Hughes Creek. Meet at the Highlands Hall at 10.30 am or at Brian Leahéy's front gate at 10.50. Enquiries to Peg Lade 57 969222.
Mon 24 September	(4th Mon Month) Harmonic Singing at Leone's All welcome 0500 500 088
Sunday 30th September 2007	Strathbogie Regional Wine Tasting & Lunch, White Hart Hotel, Longwood, 3665, Contact: Carl Durnin 0425-797623, The White Hart Hotel, Longwood in conjunction with Strathbogie Ranges Wine Region will be hosting a free tasting event, featuring the wines from the Strathbogie Region. The day will commence with a lunch featuring local produce and matching wines. Tastings will be available from 2.30-5.00pm, with the wine makers in attendance to answer all your questions. A small, yet unique pocket, just 1.5hrs north of Melbourne, Strathbogie Region is home to a small number of vineyards producing highly acclaimed wines. Strathbogie's terrain is very diverse with many areas elevated, providing the wine-makers with a wide climatic variety. A long growing season is reflected in the styles of wine produced, with Shiraz and Cabernet featuring strongly. Wineries including Elgo Estate, Longwood Winery, Maygars Hill, Plunkett Fowles, Dawson & Wills and Kithbrook Estate will be represented on the day.
5th October	Highlands Landcare AGM 7.30pm Highlands Hall. Guest speaker is David Middleton, who was the senior vet at Healesville Sanctuary and established the interactive animal hospital. He will be talking about this and other general wildlife care topics. All welcome.
Saturday 6th October	CFA Family Day at Rochford Wines 11-5 FREE! RSVP 28th September Special guests include Joe Camilleri & the Black Sorrows, Deborah Conway and Briana Lee Band.If interested in going, tickets are limited please ring Pauline 57969301
8th October	Next meeting of Scribblers, Leone 0500500088. All welcome
Mon 22 Oct	(4th Mon Month) Harmonic Singing at Leone's All welcome 0500 500 088
26th October	Highlands Landcare General meeting, Time to be arranged. The Limnology students from La Trobe University have offered to take community members to the bogs to discuss their findings. This will be followed by a BBQ and talk by Tammy Weaver on Underground water. Ring Jenny Webb PH 57969236 if you need more information. All welcome.
1st November	HCCC Exec Meeting Whiteheads Creek Hall, next to CFA shed 8.00pm. All welcome, come along and hear all the exciting activities that this group is involved in, it is a really dynamic group and an easy way to find out what Landcare is doing for you.
Friday 14th Dec	Highlands Community Christmas Breakup. Format to be decided. Put the date in your diaries.

Creativity

What follows is cheating probably, but after the Arts and Ideas day, I went back to good old Wikipedia on the web to see what they said about creativity. As I'd hoped, I found a lot of common sense information about how we all use creativity in our daily lives. For those people who don't have time to read the full 22 pages at the moment, I've picked out a few interesting comments. There is no single, authoritative perspective or definition, but a good every-

day definition of creativity is that it is simply the act of making something wholly or partly new. Put in a slightly more puzzling way, it consists largely of re-arranging what we know, in order to find out what we do not know. Creativity has been attributed variously to divine intervention, cognitive processes, the social environment, personality traits, and chance. It has been associated with genius, mental illness and humour. Some say it is a trait we are born with; others say it can be taught with the application of simple techniques.

Although popularly associated with art and literature, creativity also plays an essential part in our daily lives and in most occupations.

Where would farmers be if they weren't creative? Or parents? Or teachers? Wikipedia goes on to discuss many more aspects of creativity, and it is a topic well worth pursuing, when or if you have time.

As a short cut, take a few moments to make a list of the creative things you've been done lately, and I'm sure you'll be pleasantly surprised.

By Sari Wawn