

# The Granite News

Ruffy  
Caveat  
Highlands  
Terip Terip  
Hughes Creek  
Whiteheads Creek

## INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL Sammy Strong

Sammy's childhood on the family farm at Dropmore gave her a range of valuable experiences and appreciation of her surroundings. She and her brother had great freedom to explore their environment and developed great initiative and imagination in their games. She values the egalitarianism and the broadening of these experiences while at Highlands Primary School, and experienced both the public and the private education systems in her secondary years before studying for her Bachelor of Landscape Architecture at RMIT. Interest in landscape history led to travel in Europe, Nepal, USA, and working in Germany in landscape architecture and construction for about 2 years. This was a challenging but enriching time of learning a new language and culture, experiencing a whole new landscape of space and plants. Eventually, among other things, the sense of space drew her back to Australia, working in Melbourne for several years in nurseries, garden maintenance, landscapedesign and construction. Revisiting Europe followed before Sammy finally decided to return to Highlands. Seeking more space, a less expensive and crowded way of living, and when "walking down Brunswick Street your 'trackies' was no longer acceptable", she moved back to the farm. Sammy continued landscapedesign and consultancy work locally and in Melbourne, followed later with casual work at Ruffy Store and Elgo Winery. This combined her love of food and wine, for instant creativity, in contrast to longer term landscapedesign processes. She also helped out on the family farm and made her home at Dropmore, gradually restoring and renovating the old barn with its unique character. Sammy values being part of this supportive community that allows her to spread her involvement and time commitments. She has involved herself in several community organisations such as Hi Arts, CFA and recently Landcare. With her interest in environmental issues, she is currently studying for a Grad. Dip in Environmental Management while working part time at the Euroa Arbor-tum as Project Manager and intends to pursue her interest in this field of employment. Sammy continues with some landscapedesign consultancy and "enjoys living with her two loving, greedy dogs!"

## RURAL PATIENT TRAVEL SUBSIDIES INCREASED

The Brumby Government will boost patient travel subsidies by more than \$1 million for rural patients.

The scheme is available for consultations with medical or dental specialists for patients who live more than 100 km from a specialist and where there is no closer specialist to provide treatment.

The new transport subsidy is 17 cents per kilometer. The accommodation subsidy has been raised to \$35 per night. The new rates came into effect on October 1.

## AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL USERS MEETING

Tuesday 13th November  
7.30pm at the Longwood Community Centre  
From 24 July 2007 new Rules and Regulations relating to the use of Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals came into practice. These new Rules and Regulations are quite different to those that they replace and will affect all primary producers and spray contractors who use agricultural chemicals. This meeting will inform you and give you the opportunity to ask questions and seek advice. For more information and/or RSVP please contact Rhiannon Apted on 57354350 or RhiannonA@inet.net.au

## Is anybody interested in being part of a wine appreciation group?



We are hoping to hold regular evenings at the Ruffy store starting soon for those who may want to share, discuss and learn all things wine.

We are aiming for a group of no more than ten each occasion so if this is your interest please contact either Chris Bennett -57 904338 or Naomi McLennan -57904132 to express your interest

Volume 1, Issue 37

5th November, 2007

## WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.37

Please send any articles, advertisements to [miranda@activ8.net.au](mailto:miranda@activ8.net.au). We weren't going to have TGN this week but there was so much to tell you, I had to change that decision!

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Great Space website:  
<http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu>  
has lots of great games and interesting information about different aspects of outer space.

## Enrichment Camp

On the weekend Elliot and I went to the Enrichment Camp at Rubicon Outdoor Centre. We were there with 37 other students from schools in the Seymour Network. There were lots of activities around the learning areas of Science, Maths, Drama, Thinking Skills and Writing. My favourite was drama because it was really fun and needed to step outside my comfort zone. There were lots of teachers who gave up their weekend to come and work with us. Everybody made lots of new friends and had a great time! By Ariel

## Messages from Bike Ed

Thanks to all those parents who delivered bikes to school for Bike Ed day on Friday. Students participated in oval rides, a dirt track ride, safety activities and the senior students learnt how to check that bikes are roadworthy. A special thank to Ariel for organizing this and Peter who helped our students be safer riders

## Senior Room

Home Learning: Kelly, Jack H  
Spelling: Jack H, Elliot, Ariel, Kelly

## Junior Room

Home Learning: Laura  
Spelling: John, Imogen  
Tables: Laura, Daniel  
Counting: Emillie, Kendall, Kaylam

# Classifieds & Community Notices

## Wanted

Parttimepickerfor5daysaweekfor  
approx4to5hours,approxfor4  
monthsstartingbeginningofNovem-  
ber,picking  
Lebanesecucumbersandsomegen-  
eralworkContact57969315after7pm

## Letter to the Editor!

Hi there,

Firstlycongratsonyournewsletter,I  
readwithinterestandappreciatethe  
localcontentitgives....therecentfish  
deathwasespeciallytouching!

OverthepasttwomonthsIhavebeen  
pushingMitchellCounciltoundetakea  
CommunityForumontheNorthSouth  
Pipelineandtheimplicationsbothposi-  
tiveandnegativethatthepipelinewill  
have. LastnightMitchellCouncillors  
votedtorunacommunityforumon11  
DecemberinSeymour. Many residents  
throughoutthe areahavevoicedcon-  
cernsandthisisanexcellentopportu-  
nitytohearfirsthanddifferentperspec-  
tivesandaskquestions. Ifpeoplewant  
detailstheycontactmeon5799  
2942orthisemail. Thevenueisbeing  
negotiatedatthemomentbyMitchell  
Council.

Cheers MikeLaker  
WhiteheadsCreek

## BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

Forthepast4weeks,wehavehada  
veryunusualvisitor -aBLACK  
TAILEDNATIVEHEN -whichIsee  
everydaynearourgardendand  
swampatHighlands.Itlookslikea  
bantam,withorangelegsanda  
cocked-uptail. Thesearequitecom-  
moninsomepartsofAustralia,and  
aresupposedtodisperseinpairsand  
flocks. Someyearsago,Isawabig  
groupscuttlingawaynearasandhill  
ontheBirdsvilleTrack,butthisisa  
firstsightingforHighlands.



## Living in Highlands - Our artistic perspectives...

Gettingtogether

Sharingourcreativethoughtsand  
ideas

AboutlivinginHighlands

AHighlandsMosaic

Acommunitypaintsitsideasofliving  
inauniquelandscape

Comeandjoinustotalk(anddraw)  
abouthowyouseeparticularlocal  
issues/themesandwouldliketopre-  
senttheminajoint'mosaic'artwork  
tobeshownatthenextHiArtsexhibi-  
tionon1st&2ndMarch2008.

Wehopetomakea'mosaic'ofsmall  
canvasespaintedbyYOUandcom-  
binedtomakeaspectaculardisplayof  
talent,ideasandartisticmethodsthat  
canbecomepartofapermanentdis-  
play.

TheeveningwillbehostedbyJanet  
Fogarty,anaccomplishedartteacher,  
artistandowneroftheFlourMillGal-  
leryinEuroa,whowillhelpguideusin  
techniquesandideasbeforewehead  
offwithourcanvasesstoworkonover  
thesummer.

BYOSketchingMaterials

WewillstarttheeveningwithaBBQ  
at6.30pm. BYOMeat

WHERE:HighlandsHall

WHEN: 23rdNovember,2007,  
6.30pm.

RSVP 16.11.2007

Marcia 57969256

## For Sale

BrandnewWilsonProstaff9piece  
juniorset(rh)suit12yrsandun-  
der.Woninraffle.Idealchristmasgift.  
Phone57969310

## HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

16people,allmuchbetterwalkers  
thanme,bravedtheviciouswindson  
Sunday28thOctober,towalkalong  
thehighridgeoftheSwitzerlandFlora  
Reserve.Wemarveledattheenor-  
moustrees,bothdeadandalive,in  
thisrockyarea,andwereinterestedto  
seethedecayingremainsofdwellings  
frommanyyearsago.

Nextwalk -SeeWhat'sOncalendar.

## Upper Hughes Creek Landcare Group

hasnotmetforawhileandwewould  
liketogethingsgoingagainbyholding  
asocialevent.

Thehighlightoftheeveningwillbea  
screeningoftheclassicfilm'LifeonA  
SheepFarm'.FilmedinRuffyinthe  
early1960'satStrathearn.

Learnaboutwhatthelandcaregroup  
canofferyouinthecomingyear.

Suggestideasforfutureeventsand  
projects.

Formneighbournetworks.Weekenders  
andNewlandholdersespeciallyinvited.

DiscusspossibilitiesfortheTablelands  
CommunityCentre.

GrantInformation,Referencematerial,  
EquipmentforHire,PestPlant&Ani-  
malcontrolPrograms,Revegetation  
Projects,WholeFarmPlanning.Field  
Days.



StanArtiridgeandSarahChallisat  
WholeFarmPlanningFieldDay

InformalSocialEvening.FreeBBQ

Bringyourownsaladtoshare,Meat,  
vegieburgers,bread,wineanddrinks  
supplied.

RUFFYHALL6pmSaturday10thNo-  
vember2007

RSVPRandaThrelfall0427100783or  
JanetHagen57904268  
jhagen@bigpond.com



"MerinoMarbles"(SheepManure)  
Greatforyourgarden\$3.00each  
bag

\$2.50eachbagif10+bags  
Deliverybyarrangement  
PhoneEllioton57969276

## Community What's On Calendar—November/December

Weekbeg5thNov	TeripTeripmowingroster AlanandBettyRenfree,KenandRobynRichards AroundClubhouseandall4courts
Sunday 11th November	Live at the White Hart, Longwood...THE BAND WHO KNEW TOO MUCH For over a decade The Band Who Knew Too Much have branded their sound around the world, a highly energetic act that is at home singing on the festival stage, busking unplugged on the city streets, or anything in between! Hear them live at The White Hart Hotel, 63 Hill Street, Longwood, 3665 3.00-7.00pm Free Entry 03-5798-5203 e: white.hart@bigpond.com
Monday November 12th 2007	Top Secret Willow Control Workshop Learn the dark secrets of the DRILL & FILL method from the masters of willow death . The GBCMA Meet under the Boathole bridge at Ruffy . 11am Christine and her men will be waiting to pass the skills and potions on to all who wish to practise this dark art .
Friday16th& Saturday17th November	Springissprung, Thegrassisriz Timeforsomemore MadHatters'biz!  Yesit'sonagain!AnotherMadHatters'productionwrittenbytheprolific,theentertaining,theamazing SusanBennett.When:performanceson -markyourcalendarsnow.Where:theusual'theatre'Highlands Hall.What:"LifewithKiri"Kiribeingaspoilt,middle -agedcat!Goodfun,goodfood(BYO)goodcompany. Seeinsertformoredetails.
Sunday18thNov	RockyPassesCellarDoorOpenSundays11am -4pm
Sunday18th November	Highlands-CaveatCFAREconnaissanceDay Agreatdayout"discovering"theneighbourhood.DepartingfromtheHighlandsHallat10am.
19thNovember	HighlandsLandcareExecutiveMeetingTime.8pmLocation.JennyWebb's.Allwelcome
24-25thNovember	HIGHLANDSRAMBLERSareholdinganovernightcampon,onWoolshedCreek,upstreamof Dropmore.Redflagswillshowyouthewayfromagateonthesouthsideoftheroad,oppositeDropmore Homestead.ArriveearlyafternoonontheSaturday,leavemid -afternoononSunday. Wewillcampinasheltered,flatspotbesideabigpoolonthecreek.Twogoodwalksareplanned,leavingfromcamponSaturdayafternoon,andonSundaymorning(say,9am). BYOabsolutelyeverything,goodwaterinthecreek.Nopets,butbringyourchildren.PleaseringPeg Lade -57969222 -toadviseofyourintentions.Cancelled,ifTOTALFIREBAN.
Saturday24th November	BlackJackareanononsenseHardRockin'CoverbandplayingthebestClassicPubRockfromallera's AlwaysLIVEandAlwaysLOUD!!!BlackJackcametogetherin2005withtheideaofperformingthe songsthatnooneplayedanymore.Asagrouptheydecidedtofocusonaformulathatwassimple -ifit rockeditwasgood.Inthisdayandageit'srarethatyougetabandthisgoodthatstillhasthepassion andthespiritofarockscenethatisalltoooftenlacking.  HearthemliveatTheWhiteHartHotel3.00 -7.00pmFreeEntry
Sunday25th November	Highlands-CaveatCFATracyDayVisit.TracywillbereturningtoHighlandswithherfamily.BBQlunchat theCFAHall.Allwelcome,11.30amstart
Thursday6thDec	AnotherpreseasonHighlands -caveatCFAMEETINGattheHighlandsHallat7.30pm.Allwelcome.
Sunday9th December	DanEnglandwontheheartsofthenationwithhissoulfulandangelicvoice,dreadlockedhairstyleand warmcharismatobecomeoneofthemostpopularfinalistsofAustralianIdol. DanhasnowcompletedhissecondEP"TheDeconstructionofDanEngland."CollaborationswithJeff LangandMichaelStangelhavemadethisEPsomethingyoumaynotexpect. Ittreadsthefineofrock&blueswithhonestyanddesperationineverylyricandnote.Hearitliveat TheWhiteHartHotel,63HillStreet,Longwood,36653.00 -7.00pmFreeEntry t:03-5798-5203e:white.hart@bigpond.com
Friday14thDec	HighlandsCommunityChristmasBreakup.Formattobedecided.Putthedateinyourdiaries.

The Granite News acknowledges the following sponsors.

Thank you for supporting Highlands Primary School and our community.

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## Ruffy Produce Store

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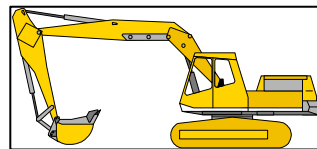
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