

The Granite News

Ruffy
Caveat
Highlands
Terip Terip
Hughes Creek
Whiteheads Creek

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Gerry Martin has written about his experiences in Australia for his old school, Wimborne Infant School. Here is Episode 1 with more to follow next week.

SOUTHSEA IN WW2

My name is Gerry Martin. I am sixty years old. I came to live in Australia in 1962. A retired Melbourne firefighter, I live in the mountains in a little stone cottage in a place called Kobyboyn, Central Highlands, Victoria, Australia.

I have sixteen acres of land, with lots of visiting wildlife. I have two quite revolting looking little pug dogs, who snore quite a lot! Adder and Zac. God! They are ugly!!

I was born in Crofton Road, Milton, Portsmouth. My father was a master builder and my mum was an Irish farmer's daughter. In those days families were much larger. I was the youngest of nine children. Consequently we were not what you would say rich, but we never seemed to go without. There was lots and lots of laughter and heaps of cuddles.

What is the first thing you can remember?

My earliest days are rather hazy. I can remember the smell of fresh baked bread, hot milk and tinned and rain on a hot day. The Second World War changed everything. We in Britain were not prepared for what happened. Everything we called progress came to a sudden stop. Electricity, wireless, motor cars, trucks and lorries all seemed to disappear overnight!

Iron railings on the front walls of houses were cut off and taken away to be transformed into tanks and bombs.

Something that happened were quite fun for us kids. Milk and bread were delivered by horse and cart. It was really something to have a ride upon the cart.

I can clearly remember a great big "Foden" steam traction engine towing a trailer full of huge barrels of beer and unloading them into the cellar of the pub on the corner of Winter and Goldsmith Ave. Some of the corporation double decker buses used to have a trailer with a fire in it making coal gas with a pipe going up to a huge silver coloured bag on the roof of the bus where it was

stored or run the bus instead of using petrol.

In those days we had double summer time which meant it stayed light until 11pm!

At the outbreak of war we were living in Alverstone Rd. After one nasty air raid a bomb landed quite close by and damaged a few houses including ours. So we moved to 54 Carisbrooke Rd where we stayed until the end of the war.

Gerry has written 12 episodes. I'll include episode 2 next week and if you would like to hear more, next year, let me know, Miranda



TAKING 2008 ENROLMENTS NOW

Phone Allyson on 57969208

'I am so grateful to have found Highlands Primary School, and feel my children are very fortunate to have had such a great start to their educational career.' Satisfied parent.

Junior Room:

Spelling: Walter, Laura,

Reading: Kendall,

Counting: Emillie, Kendall

Tables: Daniel, Kassie, Imogen, Laura

Home Learning: Imogen



Willow Removal

HCCC will organize a small willow removal program next year. Priority will be given to waterways at the top end of the catchment, where the problem starts. If you would like to be included, please send me your details including a rough estimate of the size of the problem, thanks Miranda

Volume 1, Issue 41

3rd December, 2007

Fire restrictions are NOW in force.

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.41

Please send any articles, advertisement set to miranda@activ8.net.au. There will be 2 more editions of The Granite News before the Christmas break. It will return when school goes back in 2008. Make sure you send me anything you want printed as apto makes sure that I can fit it in.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCIENCEWORKS EXCURSION

On Wednesday the 7th of November 2007 we all went to Scienceworks.

Atten thirty we went to the Sun, Earth and Moon show. In the show we saw pictures of the sun and some were 3D!

Then went to lots of mini activities, there was a camera on a spinning robot and there was a thing that you talk into and at the other end you could hear it.

Then we went to the Planetarium where there is a huge screen on the dome roof. These seats leaned back so you could see the movie easily, the movie was very long.

After lunch we went to Sportworks. There was lots of activities, some were racing Cathy Freeman, wheelchair racing, speedball where you throw a ball as fast as you can and it will measure it. There were lots of things to test strength, balance, eyesight, jumping height, reaction time and lots more!

Then we caught a train to Southern Cross station and then back to Seymour.

Our favourite thing was Sportworks!

By Elliot, John and Walter

Classifieds & Community Notices

RABBITS

It is time to think about getting your rabbit warrens ripped. It is amazing how many of the pesky critters are running free at the moment. There is a maximum of 80 ripping hours per landowner for which Landcare provides a 50% subsidy. Some site visits will be needed so try and be as accurate as possible about how many hours you will need.

It may help to speak to an operator such as Andrew Shaw to get an clearer idea of time needed. I'll need to know if there is a radical difference, i.e. more than 10 hours in your allocation and the hours that you in fact needed.

WEEDS

John Hammond will be out spraying weeds on our roadsides again. Please mark any weeds on your roadsides to make it easier and quicker for him. Greenflurotape is available from Janet Hagen, Ruffy Store and at Highlands Primary School,.

It's time to put in your orders for Brush Off, Wetting agent and Round Up to receive the 50% subsidy from Landcare. Please ring me with your orders so that I can let Peter Wales know who's on the list. You can then collect the chemicals from him at half price.
Thanks Miranda Ph 57969261

HCFB MESSAGE

Sincere thanks to all those people who provided food for the CFABBQ on Sunday. Your help with the catering was greatly appreciated... Jenny Webb

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

Final event for the year was an overnight camp on Woolshed Creek near Dropmore on 24 -25th November. Not many of our regulars attended, but we had 13 adults and 13 children, including Andrea Whitaker and 6 Cub Scouts from Yea, and several new Ramblers for next year.

It was a beautiful spot beside a weir, with plenty of rocks and flowing water for exploration. We had a short walk on Saturday, and then a challenging climb on Sunday to magnificent views to the West, North and East. Even the kids said "Wow!"
Thank you to Andrew Shaw for selecting the campsite and for leading the walk, and to Roger Strong for permission to use his property.

And my thanks to all Ramblers for wonderful company and enthusiasm during the year.
From Peg Lade.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

ROCK ISOTOME (Isotoma axillaris) is a low bushy perennial which grows in rock crevices, and its colourful blue star-like flowers are showing now.

The white latex in the stems is slightly toxic, but not dangerous, so don't pick a bunch as a present for your mother, as happened to one local.
The Swamp Isotome (Isotoma fluviatilis) is a mat-like plant with small flat blue flowers, visible now in damp areas.



Highlands Caveat CFA

At the last executive meeting of the HCRFB Margaret Kirkham tendered her resignation as Communications Officer for the brigade.

The brigade would like to thank her for the exceptional service that she has given in this position for more than 11 years.

Sharyn Shaw (Deputy Comms. Officer) will fill the casual vacancy that has been created as a result of this.

There will be another Pre-season meeting of the brigade held on Thursday 6th December, commencing at 7.30 with a talk by Fire Ready Victoria. All welcome.

WAR MEMORIAL GRANTS PROGRAM OPENS

APPLICATIONS are now being called for the State Government's Restoring Community War Memorials Grants Program.

The Member for Seymour, Ben Hardman, said the program provides funding of up to \$10,000 to help service organisations, local councils, schools and community groups to preserve, restore and enhance local war memorials and honour rolls.
For more details visit www.veterans.vic.gov.au or phone Information Victoria 1300366356

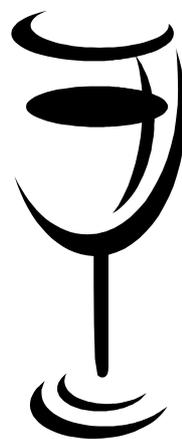
For Sale

Two Dorset Rams, 31/2 years old, shorn and drenched.
Phone 57904298.

GrantsLINK

GrantsLINK makes it easy to find suitable and relevant grants for your community projects from the many Commonwealth grants that are available. GrantsLINK also helps you find the best source of funding and assists you to complete application forms.
<http://www.grantslink.gov.au/index.aspx>

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



We are hoping to hold regular evenings at the Ruffystore starting soon for those whom you 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 has your interest please contact either Chris Bennett -57 904338 or Naomi McLennan -57904132 to express your interest or get further details.

For Sale

Freedom Furniture beige faux suede chaise lounge \$100 [ono]. 57969366



"Merino Marbles" (Sheep Manure) Great for your garden \$3.00 each bag

\$2.50 each bag if 10+ bags
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Free

Corner computer desk. Imitation wood laminate. Ph 57969360

Could the lady who wanted the rooster from a while ago please ring back?? He is getting close to the wood block and we would much prefer to give him a home. Thanks ph: 57973015

Community What's On Calendar—December/January

Weekbeg3rd December	TeripTeripmowingrosterTimandFrancesLawrenceJohnandLuCraven BothsidesofSpringsRoadandall4courts
5thDec	InternationalVolunteerDay –Visit www.ifrc.org/voluntee/volday.asp
Thurs6thDec	CFAFirereadyVicmeetinghasbeenarrangedtobeincorporatedintothe HCFBGeneralMeetingonthe 6.12.07. Allcommunitymembersaremostwelcometoattend. Bushfiresandgrassfiresareanaturalpartof ourenvironment. Youcansurvive,butyoumustbeready. SummerFireSafetyis averyimportantis- sue. Findouthowpreparedyouare! Comeearlyat7.00PMtomeetwithother residentsandhaveachat beforetheofficialstartofthemeetingat7.30PM. FortheinformationofallBrigademembers,therehave beenalotofpreseasonitemsthathave developedoverthelastmonthwhichthemembershipneedstobe madeawareof. ToprovideabetterservicetotheHCFBmembers,the Agendaforthemeeting isgoingto be providedinadvanceofthe6.12.07regardingtheitemsthatwillbediscussedandwillbesentoutwithinthe nextweek. Lookingforwardtoseeingyouallonthe6.12.07. JohnKirkham
Friday,Decem- ber7	The2007StrathbogieRangesWineRegionShowDinnerandCelebrationisbeingheldattheRuffyPublicHall from7pm. TheShowspecificallyfocusesonthewinesmadefromgrapesgrownwithinthestrathbogie Ranges.TicketsfortheDinnerare\$90.00perheadandwithalimitof80places; Forbookingsorforthe de- tails,pleasecontactCameronAtkins,SecretaryoftheStrathbogieRangesWineRegionon0428340545,03 57985563
Sat8thDec	FIREGUARDMEETINGToprepareforthecomingfireseason,thefinalFireguardmeetingswillbeheld TheOldHighlandsRdgroupwillmeetatJudy&LochieCameron's(firsthouseontheleftinGraniteHillsRd), 10.30am,whiletheCaveatgroupwillmeetatSue&TrevorPeterson'sat2pm.Allresidentsarewelcometo attendeithersession,especiallytheLadesRdandFassifernRdfireguardgroups.Thisfinalsessionwillre- viewhowtoprepareandactivateyourfireplan,andphonetreeswillbesetupforpeopletostayinformedand connectedduringafireoroverthefireseason.AnyenquiriespleasecallLeannePleashon57969200(please note:LeannewillgetbacktoyouintheweekleadinguptotheFireguardsession).
Sunday9th December	DanEnglandHearitliveatTheWhiteHartHotel,63HillStreet,Longwood,36653.00 -7.00pm FreeEntry:03 -5798-5203e:white.hart@bigpond.com
9thDecember	2pmFamilyChristmasServiceattheRuffyTeripUnitingChurch.Thefamous'FirewindBand'from VioletTownwillentertainandsupporttheCarolsinging.Comealongandenjoythiscommunityser- vice, followedbyafternoontea
Monday10Dec	LastScribblersfortheyear 7:30pmatLeone'sBringaplatetoshare.0500500088
10thDecember	TablelandsCommunityCentrelastmeetingfortheyear. 7pmattheRuffyPrimarySchool.BYOeverything,BBQprovided.Comealongandhearwherethe groupisuptoandenjoythesocialoccasion.
11thDec	InternationalMountainDay –Visit www.fao.org/mnts/intl_mountain_day_en.asp
Friday14thDec	HighlandsCommunityChristmasBreakup.Formatisbeingdrawnupnow. PaulaLade,asHighlandsSchoolCouncilpresident,willMCtheevening. SharynShawhasadirectlinewithFatherChristmas.Hehasaskedallparentstoleavetheirchildren'spre- sents,clearlylabelledatthepriamaryschoolbeforethenighttomakesureheknowsjustwhoiscoming. IfyouwouldliketobeincludedontheagendapleaseemailMirandaaseveryoneismostwelcomeand encouragedtoparticipateinsomeway.RaffleticketsforHPSwillbeavailableatthedoor.
Friday21stDe- cember	CricketmatchRuffyVSHighlandsatRuffy.Moredetailscomingbutmarkitinyourdiary.RingAn- drewShaworScottMckaytoofferyourtalent.
24thDecember	ChristmasEveChurchService AChurchServicewillagainbeheldintheCaveatChurchat5.00pmonChristmasEve. Allarewel- come. ItwilltaketheformofthetellingoftheChristmasStorytogetherwithcarolsinging.
SaturdayJanu- ary5,2008	TeripTeripAnnualTennisTournamentfrom10amEnquiriesHelenMcKenzie57904211orCindyHayes 57904226

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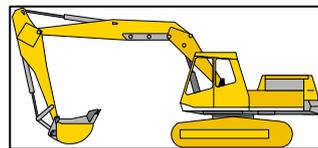
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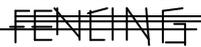
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