

THE GRANITE NEWS

30 TH MARCH 2011 Volume 5 Issue 09

Whiteheads Creek · Terip Terip · Caveat · Ruffy · Highlands · Hughes Creek

PEOPLE AND PLACES

In memory of : Hugh Chalmers Waldron (19/8/1948 – 28/2/11)

Hugh's life was full of a staggering amount of different path ways. I would like to share a brief outline of some of them with Granite News readers.

He was born in August 1948 and was the second eldest of six siblings on a sheep farm in Barringup, NSW. At the age of 17 he moved to Deniliquin and later further south to Melbourne to work as an accountant clerk. Hugh quickly discovered that Melbourne and working indoors was not his passion, he headed to the West to drive tractors and worked in the mine at Mt Tom Price.

The mines provided Hugh with a solid platform of understanding hard work and the finances to begin a travelling binge. He headed to England then onto India, Manilla and Thailand. It was Thailand where Hugh met and married Chi'on and with this partnership also came the beautiful little girl Mon. They returned to Australia and Hugh became the primary career for Mon at an early age. During this time he worked in a number of positions to support them both, some being a store man at the pharmacy in the Children's hospital in Melbourne, a brickies labourer and he even turned his hand to painting houses, which would later prove to be a great skill to have. This was a busy time for Hugh as he was studying part time in the fields of Social work and Aboriginal cultures in which he graduated with honors in both degrees.

At the completion of his studies he took some much needed time off and traveled to Tasmania as a volunteer to help build a Buddhist retreat centre and painted icons (Thankas). He then returned to Melbourne to continue his volunteer work for the Kagyn Buddhist centre in Melbourne.

Hugh continued his work as a volunteer and as an IDSO and found himself working at the Kew cottages when there was a fire and some people lost their lives. It was a difficult time for Hugh and he became a solid support for all involved.

During this time he met Jill, a nurse and they formed a great bond continuing on with his work together. In further chapters to Hugh's life he worked at Rivendell Day Centre – A Mental Health centre in Healesville, Richmond Fellowship Residential Mental Health as the sole worker in charge often doing back to back shifts and night call

In 2001 Hugh and Jill purchased a bush block in Terip on the very top of the range. They commenced living there in a caravan with no running water or power amongst the ferns and wattles while both working. Hugh utilized all of the skills he had developed over the years and built an annex over the caravan with scrap timber and only minimal tools such as a hand saw and hammer. They cleared an area by hand and planted ginseng, (a herb) this the wild life of Terip were very grateful for and no crops were ever harvested.

Jill's day job as a Aged Psychiatric Assessment team manager saw her travelling 1000km weekly and being the first out of Terip each morning and the last in at night. Hugh was working in Seymour in Mental Illness Fellowship. On one of those late nights coming home, Hugh was involved in a serious car accident which took a large toll on his life. He was unable to walk unaided for over 12 months, but in true Hugh fashion he continued daily to become stronger and stronger taking up Sudoku to help distract him from the pain. With time on his hands Hugh looked for a further challenge and became an owner builder of the lovely mud brick home that has the most amazing views. They have sculptured the house into the landscape with mountain views towards Mansfield, Terip, Caveat and Highlands. Jill tells the funny storey of them collecting plaster board from Shepparton in a small car with it strapped to the roof. The car struggled to make the trip up the hill to Terip and on arrival they discovered the roof dinted under the pressure.

Hugh was never fit enough to return to work after his accident but his role as a home career for at first his own mother, Doris became one of his most important tasks in his life. Doris and Hugh spent many hours together in Terip while Jill was working. Sadly the day came when Doris passed away. (2007). Then Jill's mother also required home care after a hospital stay and Jill taking time off work brought her home to Terip to spend her final weeks with her and Hugh. She passed away in 2009. After the passing away of both mothers one would only hope that they would be able to spend the rest of their lives enjoying their house and each other. However this was not to be and in August in 2009 Hugh was diagnosed with the onset of MND. Hugh's life over the next two years became less mobile and more reliant on Jill, but he never gave up his Sudoku. Once again Jill took time out from her nursing career to care for Hugh day and night.

It was Hugh's wish to die at home in Terip and Jill with her dedication, skills as a nurse, consistent smile on her face, kind and loving words supported him in making that wish come true. On my visits to them Jill reminded me of an angel slipping up and down the hall attending and checking Hugh regularly.

Hugh's funeral was held at the Buddhist Retreat in Healesville a place that both Hugh and Jill had spent a lot of time, and made many great friendships.

Although the Terip community has only known Hugh and Jill from early 2000. They are regarded as fantastic friends and great neighbors. They both supported the local community celebrations and our New Year eve parties. Many of the Terip community members would not have been aware of Hugh's achievements in life. His life was far too short and the Terip community give their deepest sympathy to Jill, Mon and two lovely little granddaughters.

By Helen McKenzie

A few words from Jill:

We both thought we were so fortunate living in our own home in a beautiful area. I was able to stop work and we were able to have 12 wonderful months living in the present.

With your beard, ponytail and twinkling eyes you travelled into my heart. It didn't matter to you that your travelling days were put on hold. Together we took a spiritual journey with our perfect teacher and found happiness together in our piece of paradise. My heart is filled with love and grief for now too soon you must travel on. Jill

Your life was one of travel and adventure. We loved the stories of the shenanigans you got up to. With your mo and cheeky grin you travelled into my life. It didn't matter that I wasn't your flesh and blood. You gave me the strength to look at life positively. You taught me to be the radical person that I am. My heart is filled with love for you Dad. Mon



	COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - MARCH/APRIL 2011
Week beg 4th April	TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER Neville and Sue Debney George & Trish Uden Around clubhouse and all four courts
Week beg 3rd April	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK Chris Head Roger Broome
Week beg 3rd April	RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER John Furlanetto (Ph) 57 953 435 (Mob) 0427 344 956 (UHF Ch) 15
Friday April 1 at 8pm, Satur- day April 2 at 8pm and Sun- day April 3	Euroa Community Centre 4pm. "The King's Speech" 118 Minutes (M) Drama/History 4 stars Due to public demand we will screen on Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 4pm This is the movie everyone has been keenly waiting for and many people who have already seen it are keen to see it again. With awards coming from all directions its impact has been extraordinary. This is the true story about how the current Queen's father was forced to take on the throne and how he overcame a speech impediment which made public speaking an agonizing embarrassment. A down to earth Australian elocutionist Lionel Logue—played by Geoffrey Rush—takes us through the processes of restoring the King's confidence in a unique way. Also starring Colin Firth. Judi Hanlon Strathbogie Shire Council Toll Free: 1800 065 993 www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au
Saturday 2 April	Yea Country Market, 9am to 2pm (1st Saturday of each month) Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea. Contact: 0409 130 587 or yeamarket@gmail.com
Sunday 3rd April	HIGHLANDS / CAVEAT CFA MEETING and RECON End of season meeting 9:30am at Highlands Fire Station Reconnaissance of local back tracks (Lades Rd, Mathews, Fernlea, Spaniaks Rd, Jacks Crk, Chisholm Rd, Mt Broughton) BYO 4 wheel drive, picnic lunch Departing Highlands Fire Station 10:30am Enquiries Alistair 57969276 Andrew 0427969297
Sunday 3rd April	Local Artist's Second solo at local Gallery – both the Artists and Gallery are multi-award winners and internationally recognized! Ross Paterson @ Old Post Office Seymour Opening 11am to 4pm. An Exhibition of oil, watercolour and pastel paintings by acclaimed Goulburn Valley Artists Ross Paterson. Exhibition open Wed to Sun 11 to 4 & Wed to Sat eves 6 to 9 until 12th June. Also open every day over Easter 11 to 4. 50 Emily St Seymour www.artseymour.com.au Phone (03)5792-3170
Tuesday 5th April	BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND An evening with Dr Rob Gordon Clinical psychologist Rob Gordon is a sensitive and motivating speaker, whose insights will help explain our responses to some of the challenges we have experienced in the past decade. 7::00pm – 10::00pm Yea Golf Club Bring Your Friends and Family Light refreshments will be provided Admission is free, but for catering purposes please RSVP to Erin Hoiles or Sue Bass on 5772 0365 or ehoiles@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Friday 8th April	'Drinks on the Deck' at Highlands Community Hall from 6.30pm. Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome - especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power.
Friday 8th April	Whitehead's Creek Landcare Group Annual General Meeting at 5.30PM At Seymour Bushland Park (Telegraph Road Entrance) Free barbecue See the Nightlife of Whitehead's Creek Guided by Peter Mitchell and Barbara Moss Janet Hagen will explain where we sit, in the new Strathbogie Conservation Management Network, and what it means for us. RSVP: 57921848, or 0428339989
Sunday 10 April	The Upper Broken River Landcare Group invite you to their Animal Care and Animal Enterprises Day 10.00am - 1.00pm Where: Mansfield Showgrounds - 3rd entrance on Mt Battery Road Animal Care - horse and ponies, poultry, Wildlife (a special presentation for children), What to do if you find a snake in your garden Animal Enterprises - White peacocks, Shepherd dogs (Maremmas), Bee keeping, Alpacas, Wiltshire Polls (shedding sheep), Dairy goats. \$5.00 for individuals, \$10.00 for families Children are very welcome. For further information please contact: Amanda on 0412 071 791
Saturday 9th	Come along to the Violet Town Market for some fantastic local produce and goodies. Gardening guru Vasili will be filming at the market and at various locations around Violet Town for his TV show Vasili's Garden which screens on Channel 31. He will also be giving a presentation on 'How to Compost' at 10am. There is no need to book for this event, just visit the market and enjoy the day.
Saturday 9th April	WORKING BEE AT HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL Come along on between 9.00am and 12.00 noon and help us to fix up the hall and surroundings. The more people who come along to help the easier the jobs become. A BBQ lunch will be provided (with Scotty's sausages). Regards, Judy Cameron
Friday 15th April	COMMUNITY TOURANDINFORMATIVE WALK Back by popular demand! JOIN A GUIDED TOUR Kinglake National Park, local reserves, roadsides and private properties Find out more about weeds, plants that look like weeds, things that simply look 'green' and how we can manage them. Parks Victoria, Upper Goulburn and Kinglake Landcare Groups with Department of Sustainability and Environment, Murrindindi Shire Council and expert botanists Depart: 9am Kinglake RAC building, cnr Kinglake-Heidelberg and Kinglake-Healesville Roads until lunchtime, followed by an optional leisurely walk in Kinglake National Park. RSVP essential: limited places on the bus, lunch provided RSVP and enquiries: 13 1963
Saturday 16th	Sustainable House Tour Presented by BEAM Mitchell Environment Group 10am – 3pm Various locations
3rd & 4th May	There is a Cattle Pregnancy Testing Course being offered @ 141 Monkey Creek Road, Limestone 3717. Contact person is Judy Brookes <u>juncball@pigpond.com</u> or phone 5795 2563.

Classifieds & Community Notices

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

HPS is running a bulb fundraiser. Catalogues are available from school. Closes on Monday 4th April.

Yea Community Bank Colouring Competition: Congratulations to Lucia Clarke who won the junior section of this competition and James MacDonald who won the senior section. Will Clarke came second and Jessica Bennett third. These students receive a voucher when they open an account with the Yea Community Bank.

Art Projects: Thanks to Sharyn and Maree who have initiated some art projects for the students. Today Maree taught us how to make felt balls and on Friday 29th April Sharyn and Maree are going to teach us how to make candles. We'd be grateful for any extra adult help on these days, come along and join in the fun. We still need china tea cups or old wine glasses for the decorative candle making. If you have any, or see any in op shops or at markets, please consider us!

Yea Autumn Fest: The Singing Group performed extremely well at the Fest last Sunday and the crowd really enjoyed the sing a long at the end. It was great to see so many parents and students there, thank you to families for transporting students to Yea and coming along and supporting us.

THANKS RUFFY PRODUCE STORE

How fortunate we are to have such talented caterers in this area utilizing local produce. Our family (plus recently extended family from Canada) would like to thank Helen, Chef Nigel, Doug and staff for the fabulous banquet which they prepared for our recent 'at home, marquee, garden wedding'. The delights Nigel created were not only a feast for the eye, but beautifully hand crafted and delicious. Various canapés were relentlessly delivered to our guests in the garden by smiling and helpful wait staff. The smorgasbord of desserts were more than any of us really needed after the main meal of delicious chicken or succulent Habbies Howe beef.

Anyone contemplating a very special function at home, as we did, do not hesitate to call on the excellent catering services of Helen, Nigel and team at the Ruffy Produce Store.

Ange and Wes Jeffery "Falcon Vale" Tarcombe

Kangaroo Grass Themeda triandra

One of the easiest native grasses to recognise, Kangaroo grass has large wide seed spikes with long awns (thin bristle-like projections sticking out from the seed). In late summer these turn a rusty red-brown. The grass is around 1 metre tall and there are extensive clumps along roadsides in the district. I was surprised to find it is also a native to South Africa and parts of Asia.

By Louise Currie



WHITEHEADS CREEK AGM

Whiteheads Creek Landcare is conducting its AGM "in the field" this year. on Friday 8th April. We are meeting opposite the Telegraph Road entrance of the Bushland Park and will start with a barbeque at 5.30PM Sharp, followed by a very brief meeting and a talk by Janet on the Strathbogie Conservation Management Network, and what it means to us.

Last June we planted out a link in the chain that is a major North South habitat corridor, Lambing Gully Road. This has been a long time dream, and who would have guessed the trees would later drown! Bernard O'Sullivan supported the project and David Lawrence helped Landcare members prepare the site.

The Newton family came out in force as did many Landcare members, and a great day was had by all. That sort of enthusiasm shows us the Landcare ideals are not dead. After the more formal side of the meeting on the 8th, we will take an evening walk to look for arboreal mammals, led by esteemed Field Naturalists, Peter Mitchell and Barbara Moss. Phone 57921848 or 0428339989 to RSVP



Thanks to Leslie D'Alziel for sending this photo of a squirrel glider

WELCOME TO ISSUE 9

Please send articles to miranda@omnipotent.com.au or ring on 57969261

A very special thank you to Helen McKenzie for writing such an sensitive and thoughtful obituary of Hugh's life.

Thank you to Susy Barry for sending in this poem.

Listen to the Exhortation of the Dawn! Look to this Day!

For it is Life, the very Life of Life. In its brief course lie all the Verities and Realities of your Existence.

The Bliss of Growth,
The Glory of Action,
The Splendor of Beauty;
For Yesterday is but a Dream,
And Tomorrow is only a Vision;
But Today well lived makes
Every Yesterday a Dream of Happiness.

And every Tomorrow a Vision of Hope. Look well therefore to this Day! Such is the Salutation of the Dawn!

Kalidasa (350 - 430)

THE AUSTRALIAN BEEF INDUSTRY

-a changing playing field

Cattle producers are invited to join the BetterBeef Network and the MLA More Beef from Pastures programs at a FREE workshop that will provide insight into the direction of the domestic and international beef industry and deliver technical information to assist you to maximise beef production within your enterprise.

Speakers Include....

Tim McCrae - Meat and Livestock Australia, David Blackmore - Blackmore Wagyu.

Dr John Webb Ware - The MacKinnon Project, Dr Rod Manning - Davilak Pastoral and MS&A , Dougal Purcell - DPI Victoria

FRIDAY 8th APRIL, Blackmore Wagyu, Halls Flat Rd, Alexandra RSVP by Monday 4th April Alison Desmond, DPI Benalla, 03 57611643 or

alison.desmond@dpi.vic.gov.au

WANTED

Second hand hothouse or greenhouse. Any condition. Prepared to come and dismantle. Contact Sarah on 0357734239 or 0423276574.



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