



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Here are three book reviews from Pauline Roberts to start your winter reading.

Disordered Minds – Minette Walters

I must admit that the last couple of Minette Walters' books have left me less than satisfied with too many red herrings and rather unsatisfactory endings. However I think that she is back on track with this one. A 33 year old murder and subsequent suicide are being questioned by a local councilor who thinks that there may have been a miscarriage of justice. When anthropologist and author Jonathan Hughes becomes involved with her theories the pace picks up considerably. The ending is somewhat ambiguous but the plot's twists and turns make for a very good read.

Avenger – Frederick Forsyth

It's been quite a while since I've read a Frederick Forsyth novel, but his most recent book Avenger reminded me why his publishers call him 'the master storyteller'. It was fantastic. Forsyth places his characters in the most amazing places and situations and the reader becomes engrossed with their lives and embroiled in the wider political implications. A tight plot, an unforgettable hero – Cal Dexter, and concise, gripping descriptions make for a fast, racy read. And of course the Forsyth trademark of not one but several twists in the tale make for a fitting finale. Great stuff.

My Sister's Keeper – Jodi Picoult

I should know better than to start a Jodi Picoult novel when I have other things to do with my life such as sleeping, and eating and work! I never learn. So, as usual, not much was done until the last page was read and the book thoroughly enjoyed. This author is amazing. Her novels never fail to hold you in their thrall and My Sister's Keeper was no exception. Anna was created a designer baby – the perfect genetic match for her sister Kate who has leukemia. She has undergone countless surgeries and transfusions in her short 13 years of life without demur, but as her parents look to her to provide the lifesaving kidney that Kate requires, she begins to question their motives and whether she has any meaning or importance to them other than as a source of genetic material for her sister's survival. She decides on a course of action that stuns her entire family if only she has the courage to pursue it to the end. Stock up the freezer first!

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

Clay tiles:

Maree and Leone are organising an art fundraising project which consists of past and present students, families, staff and community members decorating a clay tile that will then be fired and displayed as a lasting memory of the history of HPS. Tiles can be decorated by anyone, we are asking for just a small donation for each tile. We invite families, ex students, community families etc to come along and decorate their own tile. Spread the word to anyone you think may be interested.



Peg and Doug Lade were among the first to test their creative talents.

Recognition Ceremony:

What a lovely celebratory morning! A huge thank you everyone who attended and helped out in any way for Wednesday's Recognition Ceremony. Your assistance is truly appreciated and helped make it such a successful morning. Guest speakers Andrew Shaw and Alistair Lade shared their memories of school life at HPS- which were very interesting and entertaining and gave us all something to compare with our own experiences. We are blessed!



Welcome:

Maree Worthington has joined us at HPS and will work across the school each Wednesday for the rest of the year. Maree is completing a course through CAECA which includes a certain amount of hours placement in a school setting. We are very lucky to have her energy and enthusiasm.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 14

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

We need to teach the next generation of children from day one that they are responsible for their lives.

Mankind's greatest gift, also its greatest curse, is that we have free choice.

We can make our choices built from love or from fear.

Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

WINTER READING

I don't know how Pauline Roberts has found the time to do some book reviews for The Granite News readers but I am eternally grateful. With the arrival of winter sooner than expected I am in serious need of some engaging literature. Here are some of Pauline's suggestions with more to follow. Thank you so much Pauline and if anyone else would like to add their suggestions, please send them in.

This year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens once every 823 years. This year we're going to experience four unusual dates. 1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11, 11/11/11 and that's not all... Take the last two digits of the year in which you were born - now add the age you will be this year. The results will be 111 for everyone in whole world. Thanks to Susy Barry for these facts.



SMS ALERTS

YOU CAN RECEIVE SMS ALERTS BY TEXTING 3717 TO 0428 428 092, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE THAT YOU ARE REGISTERED FOR SMS ALERTS FROM POLICE / CFA. FROM Ken Howson

WANTED

Maree Gilbert is planning an art project for HPS students, making mosaic stepping stones to display in our garden. She needs any ceramic tile off cuts or bits, broken mirrors, glass beads, anything of interest that we can cement to paving stones. Please drop anything you are happy to part with into the school, we will put them to good use and you can come and admire them!

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - MAY/JUNE 2011

Week beg 30th May	TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER Craig and Jenny Murphy Brian & Gail Van Rooyen
Week beg 29th May	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK Michael Laker M Greer
Wednesday 25th May until Sunday 12th	Jill Maclean's latest exhibition is to be held at 69 Smith St Gallery at 69 Smith St Fitzroy Opening: Thursday 26th May 6-8pm with brief formalities at 7pm. This exhibition is a photographic installation using photography and textiles with an emphasis on family issues.
Wednesday 25th May	The Yea Library are pleased to have well known author/illustrator husband and wife team, Janet and Andrew McLean, holding workshops for local school students at 10am, 11am and 1:30pm. Nearly all of their Picture Books have been on the Children's Book Council Short List awards whenever they publish and they have a new book coming out this August, and Yea Children will have the opportunity to have a sneak preview. The public are welcome to sit in on the children's class sessions.
May 26th & 27th	Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and Ag Concepts (ACU) invite you to register for the popular ' Confident Livestock Marketing ' workshop. The two day workshop will give lamb and beef producers an insight into information to assist with making enterprise specific, confident livestock marketing decisions. Workshop details: Venue: Euroa - "Butterfactory" Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm Cost : \$200 for educational funded eligible participants and \$250 for ineligible participants, includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea and course materials. The workshop is aligned to the Diploma level competency from the Rural Production Training Package. For further information please contact GOTAFE Industry Trainer Robyn Richards: Ph 0407358191 richards@4upskilling.com.au
Thursday 26th May	A welcome to attend Secret Men's Business , a community gathering at The Caveat Church on the last Thursday of the month, for everyone. Come and enjoy a BBQ and chat, BYO drinks.
Friday 27th May	Whitehead's Creek Landcare Group What's happening to the weather? Is the climate really changing? 6.00PM, at the Whitehead's Creek Hall The Landcare group will be presenting Greg Smith long time project manager for the VFF who will lead a discussion on the issues of the weather and climate as we are experiencing it now. He has a Masters Degree in Rural Science and has a good understanding of the vast array of climate statistics available to us. On the same evening Janet Hagen, Landcare coordinator extraordinaire will be giving a presentation on Conservation Management Networks as previously announced which will have implications and opportunities for us in this Landcare District. This a dinner presentation with fabulous desert on offer. As it is sponsored by the VFF, it will be free. To RSVP call 57924212, or email carger@aussiebroadband.com.au
Sunday 29th May	 <p style="text-align: center;">FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AFTERNOON</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Come along and join in singing, games and afternoon tea. Everyone welcome 2pm Ruffy-Terip Uniting Church Hall. Your local church sharing with the community. For further information contact Verena ph: 57904309 or Susan ph: 57904333</p>
Sunday 29th May	 <p>Blue Times Blue at The White Hart Hotel 4.30pm 63 Hill Street, Longwood 3665 T-03-57985203 E- white.hart@bigpond.com Bookings essential Return taxis- Price per person \$10 Euroa/ Avenel / Longwood East \$15 Nagambie \$20 Seymour/ Violet Town</p>
Monday 30th	Ruffy Rural Fire Brigade -post season meeting at the Ruffy Hall 7.30pm
Saturday 4th June	Black Market at Caro Morris and Mark South's straw bale house and garden, near Tyaak
Saturday 4 June,	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 5th June	"Tableland Community Centre (Old Ruffy School) Chair Muster " between 10am and 3 pm.
Friday 10th June	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.
Wednesday 29th June	HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT CFA Low Structure Course to be held at Alexandra CFA Shed on Weds June 29th, July 6th Weds or Thurs July 7th at Wangarratta Training Facility, open to all CFA members. If anyone is interested please contact either Sharyn 0357904297 or Peter 03 5796 9301 asap for numbers to run this course. NB: We must have numbers to run this course so please let us know asap. Thanks, Sharyn Shaw
Friday 1st July	Next Meeting of the HCCC will be at 7.00 pm Friday the first of July at Rocky Passes tapas provided. Too good to miss really.

Classifieds & Community Notices

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE NOW

Do you want to gain a better picture about how Australian farmers are improving their biodiversity management practices?

If so, check out some of the results available from the Agricultural Resource Management Survey at: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/about/caring/sustainable.html#reporting>

Run by Australian Bureau of Statistics for Caring for our Country, the survey is the first of what will become a biennial report on what farmers are doing to conserve and protect biodiversity on their land and to manage their soils.

The surveys will track trends and changes in the national, state and regional land management practices using data from up to 33 000 farms.

The first survey, compiled in 2007-08, provides the baseline for future assessments. The results now available on the Caring for our Country website include information on the extent and management of native vegetation, wetlands, creeks and riverbanks and covenants for protection purposes. More information on soil management practices will be added shortly.

HABBIES HOWE JACKAROO MEMOIR

Local author; local story

Taggerty resident Michael Thornton has written a memoir about his years as a jackaroo. A major part of the book is about his year at Habbies Howe. The book will be released by Penguin on 27 June. Michael will talk about the book and sign copies at the following events:

Ruffy Store, Saturday 2 July at 3pm

Alexandra Library, Tue 5 July 6.30pm

Gallery 34 Yea, Saturday 30 July, 3pm

Visit

www.michaelthorntonbooks.com.au

FOR SALE...

For reluctant sale, cos I get attached to my cars, but I can't justify owning two of them!! One little green machine - Subaru Impreza sportswagon 1990. One owner, serviced regularly, registered and with a mere 478,000kms on the clock - mostly country driving! \$2,200. If interested and you want to give it a good home. Registered until march 2011. Please ring Pauline on 57969301 after 7pm.

HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE NOTICE

New Facilitator Required

Duties include pest plant and animal management

The Highlands arboretum

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Up to 32 hours a month

Travel expenses and remuneration on application.

Apply to hughes.creek1@gmail.com or 57969259

HIGHLANDS and CAVEAT CFA -MUDBASH FIREWOOD

Thanks to, Callum, Pete, Peter, Susan, Ray D, Ray F, Mat, his brother Braydon (and his son), Steve, Roger, Scott, Sammy, Rick, Gatsey and his newly discovered son Peter for three parts filling the woodshed at Mafeking Park.

BUT we need to fill the woodshed before the Mudbash

On Sunday 29th May there will be another working bee between 9.00-12.00 midday. If you can volunteer please contact Les Gates on 57969242.



Guess where this is and who is in it. Hint: Think Euroa and medicine

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Budding young photographers will have the opportunity to show off their camera skills through a photographic competition being supported by Murrindindi Shire Council.

"The image needs to symbolize 'what Murrindindi means to me' along with a clear description in 25 words or less what the photograph represents. We are looking forward to some outstanding images."

All the details are available at the youth website www.youthmurrindindi.com, the competition is limited to two photographs per entry. Ideas could include a landmark, person, place, town, street, animal. It could also be a community, sporting or social event.

Entries close 24 June. Contact Murrindindi Shire Council on 5772 0713.

BITS OF BOTANY AND

Grey guinea-flower *Hibbertia obtusifolia*

We have several dozen of this small shrub, barely more than a groundcover, growing in one small patch of our block. It seems to prefer dry, poor soil in sun or part shade. The grey-green leaves are 1-2 cm long, thickish and slightly hairy. The soft flowers about 3 cm across, the 5 bright yellow petals each indented at the top. They generally flower in spring and early summer.



RIVER YARNS WRITING COMPETITION

The Goulburn Broken Water Week Committee invites you to write a fiction or non fiction short story or poem with the theme RIVER REFLECTIONS.

Entry is free and open to residents of the Goulburn Broken Catchment. The following prizes will be offered for each category:

Primary: Story category 500w limit, poem category 100w limit
1st prize \$50 book voucher, 2nd prize \$25 book voucher

Secondary: Story category 1000w limit, poem 100w limit
1st prize \$75 book voucher, 2nd prize \$50 book voucher

Open: Story category 2500w, poem 200w limit

1st prize \$200, 2nd prize \$100

Entries close FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2011 and must include:

- * Entry Title
- * Author Name
- * School Name
- * Category: Short Story or Poem
- * Age Group: Primary, Secondary or Open
- * Residential Address (Open Age Group only)
- * Phone Number (Open Age Group only)

Winners will be announced during National Water Week 16-22 October 2011 For more information please contact waterweek@gvwater.vic.gov.au or phone 5832 0469

ANSWER: Jill and Mal in a national park somewhere in the USA.

Rocky Passes



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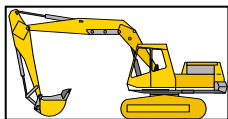


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