

The Granite News

Whiteheads Creek
Hughes Creek
Caveat
Highlands
Ruffy
Terip Terip

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Global Cooling Dinner

Last Wednesday many Highlanders headed down the hill to attend the Global Cooling dinner at the Yea Shire Hall. Rob Gell gave a weather forecast for 2050 which included fierce storms, damaging cyclones and coral bleaching. The residents of Sydney know something about this already. He predicts social changes such as lawns being banned, community wind farms, shared electric cars, taxes on second houses and 10 star energy rating homes.

Resources GV works with Shires, community organizations, schools etc to reduce the valley's ecological footprint including contamination in recycling bins. They are involved with trialing solar street lights and hybrid vehicles in council fleets. Their focus is waste avoidance, reduction, reuse and recycling.

Victoria is a very poor performer per capita for waste and our consumption is going up.

www.sustainability.vic.gov.au is an excellent site to check out.

The Alternative Technology Association provide advice on how to make homes more energy and resource efficient. - website is www.ata.org.au. There are many government rebates available to help you, and if you can't do it yourself, use GREEN POWER, where the power you use comes from renewable resources. Ask your energy company about how it works. Tree Smart aims to remove CO2 from the atmosphere by planting and maintaining eucalyptus trees. Approximately 0.2 hectares of eucalyptus plantation are required to remove the CO2 emitted by one vehicle per year.



WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.21

Please send all information to miranda@activ8.net.au

Murrindindi Shire Council

Newly appointed Maternal and Child Health Nurse, Liz Gilhoff, brings a wealth of experience to our team, and has a special interest in helping parents who are experiencing sleep and settling problems with their children.

Liz will be working at the Yea Maternal and Child Health Centre each Monday. Parents can attend an open session each week from 9.30am to 12.30pm, and a Parent Group will be run on alternate Monday afternoons from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Contact Liz on 5797 2888 for further details and dates of the Parent Group.

Families will be pleased to know that the Yea Maternal and Child Health Centre will be operating from the new Yea Children's Centre on Monday and Thursdays, starting 21 June.



PATO CHOPPER SPRAYING

If you are spraying Paterson's Curse this year, you need to book up your chemicals with Wales Rural Traders ASAP or send your docket to Janet to receive the 50% refund.

RABBIT RIPPING

You need to make a commitment before the 30/06/07 for the 50% subsidy, ring Janet now 57904268

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

A big thank you to everyone who attended the get together for myself and Brett. It was wonderful to see so many people come together to celebrate our engagement with us. Special thanks to Paula and Miranda for their organising and to the Lade family for opening their home to us. Allyson and Brett.

HPS Spotlight on Kelly Petersen:

Full name: Kelly Ann Petersen
Birthday: Feb 28th
Eye Colour: Pale Green
Fav Food: Pasta
Fav Sport: Footy
Fav Person: Mum
Fav Colour: Blue
Pet Hate: Broken bones
Loves: Mum and Dad
Dream job: Vet
Fav thing: Beanie Kids
Fav place: Lorne



Building Learning Power:

This week's focus is ABSORPTION. When you are using this learning muscle you.... Become engrossed in what you are doing, may not be aware of the time passing, find being absorbed satisfying and rewarding and like the feeling of being stretched in your learning.

Some ABSORBING questions to discuss as a family are: If humans didn't exist, what would happen to the earth? If the moon was hot and the sun was cold, what would happen to our seasons?

Classifieds & Community Notices

Roadside Weeds

If you see any roadside weeds, please remember to write it down and ring Miranda on 57969261 or email her on miranda@activ8.net.au. It is definitely a case of a stitch in time saves nine and the less chemical we have to put out the better it is for the environment and our budget.

HCCC SPRAY EQUIPMENT

The spray equipment costs \$33.00 per day to hire or you can pay \$100 pa for unlimited use. Please report any damage and DON'T fix it. Steve McAlpin is the "approved" spray unit fixer NOT YOU! It is OK to join broken hoses using the tol box supplied parts but that's it. AVOID EMBARRASSMENT, if you owe for past borrowing, you need to pay up before you borrow again.

Equipment is kept with the following people:

1. Janet Hagen
2. Michael Kopanica
3. Rob Hayes
4. Scott McKay

DEATH OF TREES DURING THE DROUGHT

People have been talking about the number of trees that have died during the drought. Now that it has rained, we are interested in monitoring those trees to see if there is any regeneration. We need your help. If you see any patches of dead trees, photograph them if possible, record their location as accurately as possible and email to Janet jhagen@bigpond.com. Janet will keep all these records together and monitor the sites over time to establish the degree of the problem which is the beginning of solving it too.

THERE WILL BE NO EXERCISE CLASSES DURING THE HOLIDAYS. BE READY TO START AGAIN ON TUESDAY 17TH JULY 6.30PM HIGHLANDS HALL.

Winter Dung Beetle release

The first colony of winter dung beetles has been released in the Highlands area and hopefully another one is coming soon. They should spread, so watch out for them but remember that some drenches will kill them so do your research carefully before choosing a drench.

Free to a Good Home

2 comfy rolled arm chairs in light coloured fabric.
Call Stuart & Sonya on 9699 1601

Vermicast Liquid

It is made out of worm castings. \$2.00 per bottle, dilute 1 part to 10, 600ml bottle. Put it on your garden and watch the plants go whoosh. Available from the Ruffy Store. There's an honesty box and bottles out the front so you can pick them up at any time.

Plant Sale Planned

The Euroa Arboretum annual plant sale is planned for 5th and 6th July. Plants will be suitable for gardens, shrubs and groundcovers and some grasses. Plan a picnic at the arboretum and attend the plant sale.

TERIP TERIP COMMUNITY DINNER
SATURDAY 11TH AUGUST, 2007
AT THE REC RESERVE
6PM FOR SHERRIES AND NIBBLES
MEAT SUPPLIED, BYO DRINKS
\$15 PER PERSON
\$5 FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
PLEASE COULD YOU BRING
A SIDE DISH, SALAD, OR DESSERT?
RSVP, WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST
LU CRAVEN - 5790 4011
FRANCES LAWRENCE - 0432 324 929

The first Landcare coffee morning was held last Friday at the Ruffy Store. We enjoyed a delicious coffee, thanks to Helen, and we folded The Granite News. We looked at the new aerial photograph of the Hughes creek catchment, which is very exciting. The map is on display at the Ruffy Store so have a look at the "big picture". The plan is to identify critical areas for wild-life corridors for future planning and the priorities for tree planting. After looking at the map, we decided to work with Brian Leahy at Glenlyon to plant 1,000 trees next spring.

For Sale

Toyota Camry station wagon, wide body, air conditioning, new tyres, 6 months registration, good condition, \$3,000. Phone Susan 57904338

Booking the Highlands Hall:

If you want to book the wonderful Highlands Hall for any meeting or event please contact Sue Peterson on 5797-6395 and she will look after you. Tables and chairs also for hire.

FREE HARDWASTE DISPOSAL

Due to the implementation of recent Worksafe Guidelines discouraging the manual handling of waste, Murrindindi Shire Council has recently resolved to discontinue its hard waste collection service to properties within the municipality.

Council is giving residents the opportunity to dispose of hard waste material free of charge.

This is available at the following Transfer Station sites on the dates listed:

YEA - Saturday 30 June & Sunday 1 July 2007.

Only hard waste material (such as scrap metals, white goods, furniture, timber, empty paint tins, mattresses etc) generated from properties within the Murrindindi Shire will be accepted free of charge and residents must present a current "Tip ID Tag" or a copy of a current rates notice to the transfer station attendant on arrival as verification.

For further information, please contact Council's Assets & Infrastructure Dept on 5772 0333.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

A minor correction on the subject of WALLABIES (see G.N.20) has led me to digress from Botany and Birds! The only species of wallaby in this part of Victoria is the SWAMP or BLACK Wallaby. There are a number of species of Rock Wallabies in Northern and Inland Australia, and the Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby is the only one found in far eastern Gippsland. Some populations of Swamp Wallabies have a white tip to the tail. Wallabies (as do Bandicoots) dig up and eat underground fruiting fungi, which germinate after passing through the gut. These young fungi then attach themselves to the roots of native trees and shrubs, and form a mutually beneficial relationship with them. The fungus actually takes up water and nutrients and passes them on to the host plant. The fungi get energy from the host in the form of carbohydrates. So once again, we find how important it is, to have understorey vegetation for the wallabies and to benefit the establishment, vigour and growth of larger trees. (I don't think we need a picture of a wallaby !)

Community What's On Calendar - June/ July/ August

Thursday 28 June	Playgroup at Leone's 10am -12pm 0500 500 088 New members most welcome
Friday 29th June	Highlands/Caveat CFA meeting 7.30pm Highlands Hall. All welcome
Friday 6th July	Ruffy Store First Friday Dinner .Could be special! Need to book
5th & 6th July	Euroa arboretum Plant Sale. 9.30 am to 4pm each day. Contact Sammy Strong Ph 57969275 The first Saturday of every month is a friends of the arboretum working bee and catch up, all welcome. It starts at 9am and morning tea is provided.
Thursday 12 July	Playgroup at Kylies. 10-12am
Saturday July 14 th	Session 1 "Picture Show Man" 1977. In 1920s Australia a travelling showman brings moving pictures to country towns. Session 2 "Newsfront" 1978 A tribute to Australia's newsreel filmmakers. <i>Yea Shire Chambers</i> , open with drinks and nibbles at 6.30p.m. The first screening is at 7.00 p.m. after which we enjoy supper. The second film follows at around 8.30 p.m
Monday 16 July	Harmonic Singing at Leone's 7:30pm
SATURDAY, 21ST JULY	WORKING BEE!! TO ERECT NEW GARDEN SHED AT THE TERIP TERIP RECREATION RESERVE AT 10 AM FOLLOWED BY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE ALL WELCOME COME ALONG AND HAVE A FUN MORNING!!
Saturday 21st July	Whiteheads Creek/Tarcombe CFA Dinner. Christmas in July and CFA Medal Presentations, 6.30pm Sherry. 7pm Delicious dinner. Door prizes and raffle. BYO Drinks, tea and coffee provided. Tickets \$22.00 per head. Ring Nancy Halpin PH 57991688 and Julie Stokes PH 57991516. Please book before 14th July
Sunday 22nd July	Highlands Ramblers walk 10.30am Highlands Hall. From now on the walks will always be the 4th Sunday of the month at the Highlands Hall at 10.30am. This one will be somewhere in the Dropmore area and Sammy Strong will be helping lead it.
Friday 3rd August	Whole Farm Planning Course starting .Make sure your name is down. Ring Janet on 57904268
Monday 6th August	Highlands Landcare Executive meeting, Jenny Webb's place, 7.30pm All welcome
Saturday August 11 th	Session 1 "Acquitted by the Sea"1940. An ultra short crime film with an ironic twist. "Paths of Glory" Stanley Kubrick's moving study of the insanity of war. Session 2 " An American in Paris"1951. Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron star in this musical built around a Gershwin score. <i>Yea Shire Chambers</i> , at 6.30p.m.
SATURDAY 11TH AUGUST	TERIP TERIP COMMUNITY DINNER AT THE REC RESERVE, 6PM FOR SHERRIES AND NIBBLES MEAT SUPPLIED, BYO DRINKS, \$15 PER PERSON, \$5 FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, PLEASE COULD YOU BRING A SIDE DISH, SALAD, OR DESSERT? RSVP, WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST LU CRAVEN - 5790 4011 FRANCES LAWRENCE - 0432 324 929
Sat. 25th August	RuffArtz "A Season of Saturdays" presents Sanfona. All shows begin at 8pm at the Ruffy Public Hall and delicious cakes and coffee are available at interval.
Sunday 26th August	Highlands Ramblers Walk Highlands Hall 10.30am
Friday 21st September	I know this is a bit ahead but it is not to be missed. The HCCC AGM and the theme is "Ten Things To Do With A Rabbit". There will be an opportunity for everyone to participate so mark it in your diary now.(Date especially chosen so weekenders can attend!)

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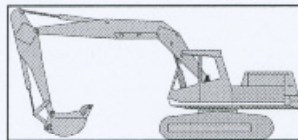
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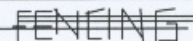
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