

The Granite News

Ruffy
Caveat
Highlands
Terip Terip
Hughes Creek
Whiteheads Creek



PEOPLE and PLACES.

A challenging and unusual native garden at Highlands has been developed by GREG YOUNG on the north facing 45 degree slope of this granite boulder covered hill.

Greg has 720 species of plants, this being about 3,500 actual plants, not counting trees. Many of them are low growing and have been sourced from Goldfields Re -Vegetation, near Bendigo.

In earlier years, the garden had many set-backs, from dry seasons, and from Greg living in Melbourne. After heart surgery in 1999, he retired and now lives mainly at Highlands. "No longer a blockie" says Greg!

As a young man, Greg came to Highlands 40 years ago, on a social visit to the Lade family. He was a Company Secretary, and had his own business, "The Record Collector". With a partner, he bought a bookshop, "Readings", amalgamated it all, and it rapidly expanded. He worked at all this for 30 years. He was always passionate about film and classical music, and played the classical guitar. His wife, Lynn, is a professional musician, and has now retired from teaching.

Soon after discovering Highlands, Greg bought 300 acres of farming land, and established a loose and happy partnership with Alistair Lade in coloured sheep and Perendales. Together, they re -arranged and completely re -fenced and developed the land, planting thousands of local trees, especially on the south side of where Greg planned his house.

This was built in the 1990s by David Underwood, a local building designer, on a flattened -out terrace, with an absolutely stunning view of the surrounding countryside. Without the foresight of early tree planting, he may have been blown to Avenell!

In 1985, the Highlands Primary School desperately needed to move from the Hall, and Greg sold 1 hectare to the Education Dept., so now we have our wonderful space and facilities near the

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.32

Thank you again to Jan Gardner and her very kind mother, Gwen Davies for folding for the past 2 weeks. Would someone else like to offer to do it once a month to take a bit off the load from Jan?

Please send any articles, advertisements to miranda@activ8.net.au or ring on 57969261.

Just a reminder that classified advertisements are free for people who receive The Granite News.

crossroads. He had also donated a narrow corner of land so that the Pioneer Stone Circle of 6 granite boulders could be established to mark the District Centenary in 1982.

Greg leased another corner for a nominal rent to Highlands Landcare, and the present Arboretum was planted about 1990.

Alistair Lade now leases Greg's land, and Greg spends most of his time caring for, and expanding his interesting garden, planting more trees and enjoying the many birds and koalas it attracts.

He gets great pleasure from the Wedge-tailed Eagle soaring at eye level and great exercise from madding more and more granite rocks to embellish the garden and surrounds.

Student Awards:

Senior Room:

Home Learning: Kelly
Tables: Jack H, Elliot, Kelly
Spelling: Michael, Jack H, Kelly

Junior Room:

Home Learning: Laura, Kendall,
Walter, John, Emillie, Imogen
Tables: Laura
Spelling: John
Reading: Kendall, Emillie
Counting: Kendall

A sad death at Highlands

Primary:

Little Silver our fish sadly passed away on Monday. We respectfully gathered around the toilet and said our last farewells before Emillie flushed it down the toilet!

Farewell Little Silver.

Volume 1, Issue 32

24th September, 2007

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

ELF Bookwalk:

It was difficult, due to great costumes, to recognise many of our students last Wednesday as they wandered purposefully down the main street in Yea, stopping to listen to many stories being read by volunteers. Students showed their appreciation by clapping at the end of each story and saying thank you. Many story readers mentioned how lovely they were and how well they listened. Congratulations to all of those families who created costumes and helped get into the spirit of this event.

Wetlands wander:

To tie in with the Bookwalk, students wandered through the Yea Wetlands. We were very fortunate to have senior students who had been at the wetland the week before, as they were able to give us a comprehensive guided tour and point out some plants of interest. We just managed to avoid getting caught up in the Plug the Pipe demonstration by crawling under the fence as the gate had been locked to keep the pollies in!

Christmas Raffle:

Thank to the enormous effort from Sharyn Shaw and Alister Lade we will be printing our raffle tickets and sending a booklet of ten, home to each family on Thursday. First prize is a \$2000 travel voucher, 2nd prize is an accommodation, dinner and breakfast voucher to the value of \$500 at Stonelea, 3rd prize is an accommodation and dinner package to the value of \$400 at Bridges on Meninger at Moama. We aim to raise approximately \$4000 to go towards the construction of a new learning facility here at HPS. The raffle will be drawn at the Community Christmas breakfast on Friday December 14th.

SPACE IN TERM 4

Our theme for next term is space. Students have begun discussing what they already know about the topic and what they might like to discover. These questions and 'wonderings' will be displayed in each classroom to allow students to continually build upon their understanding.

There will be a family based space project in term 4 that will go out to families in week 2. This should be a really interesting term of discovery.

Classifieds & Community Notices

The Murrindindi Climate Network invites you to attend a public candidate forum on climate change for the Federal Electorate of McEwen on Monday, October 8th at the Yea Shire Hall.

The Murrindindi Climate Network (MCN) was formed in April 2007 by concerned residents, local community, Landcare groups and institutions who wanted to actively combat and mitigate climate change. MCN is interested in understanding climate related policies on the Federal, State and Local level with a view to contributing to solutions.

Tourism, agriculture and small business sectors of our area are beginning to recover somewhat from the extended drought so far, but it may continue into the future. Coming to grips with the scientific forecast on increases in seasonal weather variability related to climate change, adaptation, mitigation and community resilience is on everyone's mind.

In this context the candidate forum is vital for informing voters about their Federal House of Representative candidate's policies regarding climate change.

John Pettigrew, an ALGore presenter and local farmer, will set the scene on this important topic with his opening address. The Federal Candidates will then have an opportunity to present their climate change policies to the audience, followed by questions from the floor. The evening will be facilitated by Cr. Bob Flowers, Mayor of Murrindindi. It will also be covered by the local radio station, UGFM, and broadcast in a Climate Change Special on Thursday 18th October, from 6pm to 8pm.

The following four Federal Candidates will be attending the evening: Fran Bailey from the Australian Liberal Party, Robert Mitchell from the Australian Labor Party, Steve Meacher from the Australian Greens and David Scott Kane from the Australian Democrats.

Don't miss out on this chance to find out what your political representatives plan to do about an issue that affects the future of us all, especially your children. Let the politicians know that climate change deserves their immediate attention.

For more information and/or interviews contact Jenneke on:
Phone: 0433199978
Email: info@murrindindiclimatenetwork.org.au
Web: www.murrindindiclimatenetwork.org.au

Highlands Landcare AGM

All positions on the executive committee are declared open

We are calling for nominations for members of the executive Committee. There are 7 members on this committee. Positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will be decided by the committee after the elections.

Please send in your nomination to Jeff Swain by the 4th October
Jeffrey.swain@defence.gov.au

HELP

HPS is looking for a community member who has some skill and interest in the area of digital photography to assist with our school photos. We are looking for someone who is able to take the photos as well as 'jazz' them up a little through Photoshop or a similar program. Remuneration is negotiable with Principal for time, materials and expertise. If this might be you - please contact Allyson on 57969208.

Looking to rent/borrow an exercise bike for the remainder of the year to assist with recovery from a broken leg. If you have sitting around moonlighting as a clothes hanger and would be happy to see it used for its original purpose please contact Allyson on 57969208.

Wanted: playpen for puppy/child.
Please phone Marisa on 57969360



La Trobe students on their bogs survey. Come and talk to them on the 26th October. They will meet you at the Highlands Hall at 3.30pm and take you out to the bog to see what they have discovered. Wear gumboots!

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

SPOTTED and STRIATED PARDALOTES.

These tiny birds are quite common here, -the Striated is most often seen around buildings, and the Spotted, (which has brilliant orange on its rump and white spots on a black head) seem to prefer higher foliage of Eucalypts. Both build nests in earth banks or in a tree. The friendly Striated nests in my garden under the iron roof of a shed, and I have seen them entering and leaving their excavations in the wall of a rammed earth house. The Spotted has a call like "Zoo -kee-nee", and the Striated goes berserk with "chip -chip, chip -chip" when it is nesting.



I have only had one response to the offer of running a Mental Health First Aid course in Highlands/Ruffy. If you were interested but forgot to reply please contact me as a p, thanks, Miranda

For Sale

Calfpuller \$75.00.
Single tyneripper/pipelayer \$250.
Phone (after 6pm) 57904225.

Exercise Class

There will be no exercise classes during the school holidays, 24th Sep and 1st October but they start again on Monday 8th October. It is not strenuous but great for stretching and improving your flexibility. Come and join us and give it a try.

Free to good home: x1 young bantam rooster. Beautiful colours. Ring Natalie on 57973015

What's On Calendar—September, October, November 2007

Week beg 24th Sep	Terip Terip mowing roster Sue Martin, Tim Andrews & Andrew Hollaway, Around Clubhouse and all 4 courts
29th Sept	Coming event at Ruffy Store - Grand Final on the "medium" screen, followed by BBQ
Sunday 30th Sept	Terip Terip tennis club working bee at courts 10.00am
Sunday 30th September 2007	<p>Strathbogie Regional Wine Tasting & Lunch, White Hart Hotel, Longwood, 3665, Contact: Carl Durnin 0425-797623, The White Hart Hotel, Longwood in conjunction with Strathbogie Ranges Wine Region will be hosting a free tasting event, featuring the wines from the Strathbogie Region. The day will commence with a lunch featuring local produce and matching wines. Tastings will be available from 2.30 - 5.00pm, with the winemakers in attendance to answer all your questions.</p> <p>A small, yet unique pocket, just 1.5hrs north of Melbourne, Strathbogie Region is home to a small number of vineyards producing highly acclaimed wines. Strathbogie's terrain is very diverse with many areas elevated, providing the wine-makers with a wide climatic variety. Along growing season is reflected in the styles of wine produced, with Shiraz and Cabernet featuring strongly. Wineries including Elgo Estate, Longwood Winery, Maygars Hill, Plunkett Fowles, Dawson & Wills and Kithbrook Estate will be represented on the day.</p>
Thursday 4th Oct	Terip Terip tennis training commences - 6.00pm. All welcome
5th Oct	Ruffy Store First Friday Dinner. This will be our first BBQ for the year if weather is OK.
5th October	Highlands Landcare AGM 7.30pm Highlands Hall. Guest speaker is David Middleton, who was the senior vet at Healesville Sanctuary and established the interactive animal hospital. He will be talking about this and other general wildlife care topics. All welcome.
Saturday 6th October	CFA Family Day at Rochford Wines 11 - 5 FREE! RSVP 28th September. Special guests include Joe Camilleri & the Black Sorrows, Deborah Conway and Briana Lee Band. If interested in going, tickets are limited please ring Pauline 57969301
8th October	Next meeting of Scribblers, Leone 0500500088. All welcome
Monday, 8th October	ELECTORATE OF MCEWEN CANDIDATE FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE 7.30pm to 9.30pm Yea Shire Hall The Murrindindi Climate Network invites you to attend a public candidate forum on climate change for the Federal Electorate of McEwen (article on page 2)
Saturday 13 October	<p>Little Athletics</p> <p>Little Athletics is a great way for children to participate in physical activity and learn new skills in a fun and inclusive environment. Little Athletics focuses on each athlete's personal best achievement rather than competing against their peers. Murrindindi Little Athletics registration day will take place at 11am at Leckie Park, Alexandra.</p> <p>This season will start on Saturday 20 October with warmup at 8.30am and session starting at 8.45am, and will finish at around 10.30am. The entire season will be conducted at Leckie Park on Saturday mornings. If you have any questions prior to registration please call Jenny on 57722554.</p>
Mon 22 Oct	(4th Mon Month) Harmonic Singing at Leone's All welcome 0500500088
Friday 16th & Saturday 17th November	<p>Spring is sprung, The grass is riz Time for some more Mad Hatters' biz!</p> <p>Yes it's on again! Another Mad Hatters' production written by the prolific, the entertaining, the amazing Susan Bennett. When: performances on - mark your calendars now. Where: the usual 'theatre' Highlands Hall. What: "Lifewith Kiri" Kiri being spoiled, middle-aged cat! Good fun, good food (BYO) good company. Tickets available soon.</p>
26th October	Highlands Landcare General meeting, The Limnology students from La Trobe University have offered to take community members to the bog to show their findings. Meet at the Highlands Hall at 3.30pm This will be followed by a BBQ Dinner at 6pm, meat and bread provided, bring a salad to share. BYO plate, cutlery and drinks. The talk by Tammy Weaver on Underground water will start at 7pm. The La Trobe students will then give a formal presentation at 8pm and are happy to answer any questions. Ring Jenny Webb PH 57969236 if you need more information. Please come and support this interesting evening.
1st November	HCC Exec Meeting Whiteheads Creek Hall, next to CFA shed 8.00pm. All welcome, come along and hear all the exciting activities that this group is involved in, it is a really dynamic group and an easy way to find out what Landcare is doing for you.
Friday 14th Dec	Highlands Community Christmas Breakup. Form to be decided. Put the date in your diaries.

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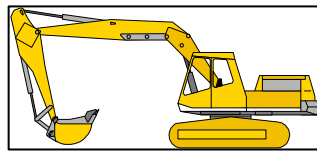
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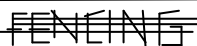
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