

The Granite News

Ruffy
Caveat
Highlands
Terip Terip
Hughes Creek
Whiteheads Creek

INTERVIEW WITH A LOCAL

John & Lu Craven

John grew up on the Terip family farm, the eldest of three boys. He remembers walking or cycling to Terip school & occasionally in snow. After Euroa Higher Elementary School, John worked on the farm for a year before pursuing other options with the wool broking firm Young husbands. Keen for further education with thoughts of Veterinary Science, it was in about 4th year at Uni he realised he was actually OK at studying and really was going to graduate!

While with the Department of Agriculture, further study at Melbourne Uni and in Canada followed before returning to the Attwood Vet Laboratory, becoming its Director for 17 years. After 5 years as Regional Manager for the Dept of Ag John became a Program Manager for the Dairy Research & Development Corporation, prior to setting up a consultancy business assessing and reviewing research projects and organisations. Now on the Board of Food Standards Australia & New Zealand, John described himself as a "serial retiree"!

Marriage to Margaret in his final university year meant he was a "kept man" (!) and they later enjoyed their family of 3 children before illness led to Margaret's death in 1986. The amazing thread of connections materialised as 4 years later, John's sister-in-law who worked with Lu, introduced them and there is history! Lu had a very interesting life including building a mudbrick home in her previous marriage, raising 4 children, and a career as an Occupational Therapist at the Alfred hospital.

In the '90's, John and Lu lived in Melbourne often staying in the old Terip home while visiting John's mother Marion in Euroa. After her death, the farm reverted to John with weekends at Terip continuing and the decision to build in 2001 and move permanently in 2006.

Lu enjoys rural life because of the contact with the community, the farming, the animals and the general serenity. After immersion in theory and lectures, farming practice beckoned to John providing an opportunity to learn more and improve, as well as re-connecting with the community in which he grew up.

By Jill Davidson

Highlands Caveat CFA

Important Notice

Please note that as of the 11th October John Kirkham has returned from leave of absence to his position as captain of the HCFB.

Margaret Kirkham will be returning to her position as Communications Officer on the 1st November 2007.

Scattered Trees Funding approved

Highlands Landcare has received \$41,925.45 from the Federal government for their COST project -Conserving Our Scattered Trees Project.

This project aims to protect, restore and enhance our mature paddock trees which are dying due to drought, stock, fertilizer application, insect attack and many other problems. For more information ring Miranda PH: 57969261

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

TASMANIAN BUTTONGRASS - *Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus*.

This is a coarse tussock perennial reed, growing in swamp to more than 1m. high, with taller flowering stems, ending in an inflorescence of dense, spherical head.

It is one of the more unusual plants growing in the peat swamps at "Glentannar", Highlands.

The group of Latrobe University students, who have done bog surveys in our area, will show us, and tell us, more about the fascinating flora and fauna of the bog on Friday 26th October. Not to be missed!



Volume 1, Issue 36

22nd October, 2007

WELCOME TO ISSUE NO.36

Please send any articles, advertisements to miranda@activ8.net.au.

There will be no The Granite News for the weeks of the 29th October and 5th November. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Senior Room:

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



Junior Room:

Home Learning: Kaylam
Spelling: John

Laura Bennett's award winning poem

I am a Piano

What cords do I play?

What comes next?

I can do this.

Don't give up.

I have finished this song,

I can rest now.

I have done it.

They loved that song,

I will do another song,

What song will I do?

HORSE GROUPS URGED TO APPLY FOR SUPPORT

LOCAL not-for-profit, non-racing horse organisations are being urged to apply for financial assistance from the Brumby Government.

The Member for Seymour, Ben Hardman, said groups which voluntarily cancelled their events to help stop the spread of Equine Influenza were eligible to apply for grants from a government support fund of \$500,000.

"Groups including pony clubs, adult riding clubs, dressage and show jumping clubs, agricultural societies, breed societies and sporthorse groups that cancelled events should apply for a grant"

Classifieds & Community Notices

Part Time Job

Very much a part-time job available in Seymour. Three days a week, 1 1/2 the next, every 2 months. Involves bagging magazines for posting. Hours 9-5pm or possibly flexible. You don't even have to drive to Seymour if you don't want to, you can come with me. Contact Sue on 5797 -6395 until 21 October or 5792 -4000b/h from 22 October.

For Sale

Brand new Wilson Pro staff 9 piece junior golf set (rh) suit 12 yrs and under. Won in raffle. Ideal Christmas gift. Phone 57969310

Wanted

Part time picker for 5 days a week for approx 4 to 5 hours, approx for 4 months starting beginning of November, picking Lebanese cucumbers and some general work Contact 57969315 after 7pm

Mount Buller Field Day

Programme

9.30 — Arrive at Spurs for morning tea.

There are opportunities for some spectacular photography on today's stours.

10.00 — Native Vegetation Walk

Breakout into two groups and head up the walking path from Spurs towards the summit. You will see several interpretative signs along the path. Take time to read these and take the opportunity to ask questions about what you see on this walk.

11.30 — Waste Water Treatment Plant

You will see the treatment process from beginning to end. Water treatment in a remote location has to be 'state of the art' to satisfy environmental requirements. This plant delivers clean water into the Howqua Valley. See how this is achieved through these separation and chemical treatment processes.

1.00 — Lunch at the Black Cockatoo Bar, Mt Buller Chalet.

2.00 — Arrive at the Snowflake Factory See how this remarkable system works to produce 'man made snow'.

3.00 — Close. Check out the Mt Buller Museum, La Trobe Building, before you leave.

Bookings Essential. Ring Poppe Davis PH 57360108 or 0427866328

Gearing up for a climatic election at the McEwen electorate Candidate Forum

The night was clear and a little chilly as around 75 local community members gathered at the Yea Shire Hall in anticipation for their local member's response to the pressing issue of climate change. The evening promised to be an interesting and enlightening event, as it is seldom that the local community gets the opportunity to compare all their Federal Candidates' political and personal viewpoints on the issue of climate change and what can be done to reduce the impending problems which it encompasses.

The evening was opened and chaired by Bob Flowers, Mayor of Murrindindi. The four Federal Candidates for McEwen who came to speak included Robert Mitchell, the Labor Party candidate, Steve Meacher, the Greens candidate, Fran Bailey, the Liberal candidate and David Scott Kane, the Democrat candidate.

The guest speaker for the night, Tricia Phelan from Environment Victoria, gave an engaging and informative presentation on climate change. The talk set the scene presenting the latest scientific findings released earlier this year by the International Panel on Climate Change, including the impact of human produced greenhouse gas emissions on sea level rise, arctic sea-ice melt and natural disasters, including the ever present and potentially permanent drying of four already parched continents. Tricia also provided principles and targets to reduce greenhouse emissions. Look up The Big Switch website www.thebigswitch.org.au for details.

It was then the candidates turned to show what their parties were going to do to tackle climate change. Three questions were given to the candidates in advance of the forum to ensure they were able to get their parties message across. The three questions were: (1) Will your party sign the Kyoto Protocol? Please explain your reasoning, (2) Please state clearly your parties aim emission targets and your immediate plan to achieve these, and (3) What is the greatest opportunity for the McEwen electorate in a carbon economy?

There was an overwhelming agreement that climate change is a pressing issue and that immediate steps need to be taken to tackle climate change. However, there were very different viewpoints on how this could be

achieved. The Liberal candidate, Fran Bailey, was the only speaker to say that her party would not ratify the Kyoto protocol, as it did not cover developing countries such as China and India, but that other forums such as the Asia-Pacific Partnership would provide the opportunity to define an emission reduction path. However, the Liberal party could not be drawn to say what its exact targets would be to reduce greenhouse emissions.

In contrast, the other candidates all confirmed that their parties would ratify Kyoto in order to adhere to a concrete binding greenhouse emission targets for developed nations and to move forward together with the developing nations in a Post-Kyoto agreement. Where as the Labor party aims at a 60% reduction of 2000 levels by 2050, the Greens said they would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% of 1990 levels by 2020 and by 80% of 1990 levels by 2050. With respect to alternatives to fossil fuel based energy production, the Democrats said that they would aim at a mandatory renewable energy target of 25% by 2020 and 50% by 2050. Similarly, for the Greens renewable energy should also be promoted by means of a mandatory renewable energy target starting with 15% by 2012 and 25% by 2020, with a feed-in tariff system and regulations providing a strong incentive to switch to renewables.

On the last question, all candidates agreed that the McEwen Electorate could play a major role in a carbon economy through green initiatives and via schemes such as tree-planting and renewable energy technologies such as solar.

This event was organised and run by the Murrindindi Climate Network in conjunction with Acheron Valley Watch. It was recorded by David Buchanan and will be broadcast on the 18th October on UGFM from 6 until 8pm. This recording and further information regarding the outcomes of the forum will be available on the website www.murrindindiclimatenetwork.org.au.



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Community What's On Calendar—October/November

Weekbeg22ndOct	TeripTeripmowingroster Daryl&AnnCox,Bernie&SariMcMahon BothsidesofSpringsRoadand all4courts
Mon22Oct	(4thMonMonth)HarmonicSingingatLeone's Allwelcome0500500088
Thursday25thOctober	WaterwatchSpringBugSurveyswithGlendaWoodsLearnmoreaboutaquaticinvertebrateswithour localexpert.9.00amHughesCreekatPicnicGroundnumber1.HughesCreekRd.Justoffthebitumen comingfromSeymour. Sunday28thOctober(tentative)1.00pmCreightonCreekatJohnNielsen'sproperty3.00pmCreigh- tonCreekatJimShovelton'sproperty Thesedates/timesmaychangeslightly,soifyouarethinkingofjoiningme,pleaseringandletmeknow oneithermyhomephone57972417ormymobile0428321545. Bringgumbootsorwaders,readingglassesifyouusethe,ahat,blockoutetc.Helpersalwayswel- come.Lookforwardtocatchingupwithsomeofyouatsomeoftheplaceslistedabove.
26thOctober	HighlandsLandcareGeneralmeeting,TheLimnologystudentsfromLaTrobeUniversityhaveofferedto takecommunitymemberstothebogstoshowtheirfindings.MeetattheHighlandsHallat3.30pmThis willbefollowedbyaBBQDinnerat6pm,meatandbreadprovided,bringasaladto share.BYOplate, cutleryanddrinks.The talkbyTammyWeaveronUndergroundwaterwillstartat7pm.TheLaTrobe studentswillthengiveaformalpresentationat8pmandarehappytoansweranyquestions.RingJenny WebbPH57969236ifyouneedmoreinformation.Pleasecomeandsupportthisinterestingevening.
Saturday,October 27th	TastesoftheGoulburnatthehistoricSeymourRailwayStationandsurrounds. 10amto4pm.
Sat.27Oct.	Saturday27thOctober10am -12pmatRockyPasses1590HighlandsRd...theBLACKMARKETre- turns. Whythe"BlackMarket"youask? WhenLeoneGabriellewasayoungandnaivetravellerinexotic places,shekepthearingabouttheBlackMarket...butshecouldneverfindit! Well,there'snothingsinisteraboutthisBlackMarket,exceptthatitcutsoutthemiddleman,side -steps transportandstorageandhasnutritiousfood! Wekindofliketheideaoftheold,townsquarewithits localmarketforlocals. Itshouldgetmoreinterestingastheseasonprogresses. Ifyouhaveanyexcesshomeproduce...eggs, vegies,fruit,skills,opinions,songstoswaporsell...orifyou'djustliketobuy...comealong. Ifthere's nothingthattakesyourfancy,youcanjustsitinthesunandchatorplaybocce.
Sun.28Oct	RockyPassesCellarDoorOpenSundays11am -4pm
October28th	HighlandsRamblersThenextwalkwillbeintheSwitzerlandRangesarea.MeetasusualattheHigh- landsHallat10.30am.EnquiriestoPegLade57969222.
6thNovember	ChickenandChampagneCupDaylunchtobeheldattheTeripRecreserveat1pm. BBQ -BYOdrinks andglassandasaladordessertto share.Prizesforthebestthat,raffles,etc.\$14ahead
Friday16th& Saturday17th November	Springissprung, Thegrassisriz Timeforsomemore MadHatters'biz! Yesit'sonagain!AnotherMadHatters'productionwrittenbytheprolific,theentertaining,theamazing SusanBennett.When:performanceson -markyourcalendarsnow.Where:theusual'theatre'Highlands Hall.What:"LifewithKiri"Kiribeingaspoilt,middle -agedcat!Goodfun,goodfood(BYO)goodcompany. Ticketsavailablesoon.
Sunday18th November	RockyPassesCellarDoorOpenSundays11am -4pm
1stNovember	HCCCExecMeetingWhiteheadsCreekHall,nexttoCFAshed8.00pm.Allwelcome,comealongand hearalltheexcitingactivitieshatthisgroupisininvolvedin,itisareallydynamicgroupandaneasywayto findoutwhatLandcareisdoingforyou.
19thNovember	HighlandsLandcareExecutiveMeetingTime.8pmLocation.JennyWebb's.Allwelcome
Friday14thDec	HighlandsCommunityChristmasBreakup.Formatto bedecided.Putthedateinyourdiaries.

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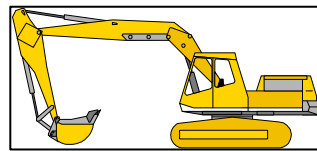
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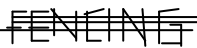


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