



PEOPLE AND PLACES

News from the Tablelands Community Centre-the "Old School"!

The first meetings have been held since the Old Ruffy School was returned to the community late last year. The grounds have been cleaned up and the buildings smell fresh and clean once more. Now the hard work begins! Much of the site's infrastructure needs to be replaced or up-graded. Tables, chairs and other furniture was removed and the toilet block was taken away to another school. The Committee is being careful to conserve any historical material and will draw up an inventory.

An open day in January was followed by a public meeting which elected a Committee of 13 who represented a large part of the Tableland area.

If we consider that the Plateau we call the Southern Strathbogie Tablelands is a unique geographic area its centre (if we exclude the area beyond Highlands) would probably be around the Boathole. The Old Ruffy School is pretty close to that and easy to get to.

From the very beginning the Centre (or Hub) was planned to be a resource for the whole Tablelands Community-crossing Shire Boundaries (Strathbogie, Mitchell and Murrindindi) and including communities from Longwood East to Bungle Boori, Creighton's Ck to Caveat and Highlands. The Committee wants to make all members of our district welcome.

So what do we see happening at the TCC? From the start it was hoped that it would be a centre that could offer the following possibilities: offer educational and training programmes, be able to offer facilities to run Play Groups and Children's activities, Medical support, A base for the Hughes Creek Catchment LandCare Collaborative, a logical point to run field and training days and more. There's enormous interest in getting a community garden (vegies) going and demonstrating that the School can be run on energy efficient lines.

There's a lot of energy and goodwill in the community for this project to succeed-our first steps to getting going are already happening and in the coming weeks the Toilet Facilities project will begin in earnest. Later this year the Time Capsule-sealed at the School Centenary 1986-will be opened. The Committee hopes it will be the first of many more events. The committee is meeting every second Monday at the moment-feel free to come along.

NOTES FROM

HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week

Kendall: For sharing information about her Cradle Mountain hiking holiday. Well done! This photo shows the size of the pack Kendall carried. It included all her food for the whole hike, amazing.



Health sessions:

Natalie Wischer has kindly offered to come along to school and teach students about health. Natalie is a nurse, a diabetes educator and works for Yea Hospital's Community Health and we are grateful that she is willing to share her expertise with us. She will work in both the junior and senior classrooms every second Thursday and cover topics 'You are what you eat', 'Let's get physical', 'Healthy head' and 'Sick'. Yesterday's session was very interactive and informative.

Wanted for Science:

Peter needs small glass jars and bottles with lids for upcoming science activities.

Wanted:

Fine bone china tea cups for an art project students will be completing later this term. Often you see similar tea cups really cheap, in op shops, if you do please consider purchasing for the school.

School Mowing:

Thanks to the Highlands Hall committee who have agreed to continue mowing the school grounds. Scotty McKay organises members of the committee to mow the school grounds on a regular basis and keep it tidy.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 5

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

A huge thank you to the new postie who has agreed to deliver The Granite News to the Whiteheads Creek, Highlands and Caveat area. If you hear of people still not getting it, please let me know.

All places filled on the back of TGN! Thank you to all our supporters, we wouldn't be here without your backing.

A GREAT READ

Thank you to Judy Reid for recommending "The Housekeeper and The Professor" by Yoko Ogawa- a totally charming book about a brilliant maths professor with only eighty minutes of short term memory. 'It is an enchanting story about the curious equations that can create a family where one did not exist before.'

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER FOR HPS

Did You Know?????.....

Highlands Primary School has a Family Engagement Officer!

Lu Sergi is able to assist you and your child with any difficulties that affect education, school engagement and student well-being during the school year.

There may already be signs of your child having problems with.....




- attending or getting to school
 - school work
 - teachers
 - making friends
 - participating in activities
- Early intervention is the key.
OR.....you may have a problem you want resolved, such as:
- How can I be involved in my child's school?
 - How can I help my child with their education?
 - I don't feel comfortable when I go to the school!
 - What can I do about

All problems have a solution.

So if you or your child has any difficulties with school at any time, Lu can help. She can be contacted by phoning the school, texting her mobile on 0434 056 662, or sending an email to sergi.luisa.l@edumail.vic.gov.au.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FIRE DANGER PERIOD FOR THE MUR-RINDINDI & MITCHELL SHIRES WILL END ON MONDAY 7 MARCH 2011.

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - MARCH 2011

Fortnight beg 7th March	TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER Helen McKenzie Bernie McMahon & Sari Wawn Car park and all four courts
Week beg 6th March	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOT RFB TRUCK Peter Wales Jarrod Coysth
Week beg 6th March	RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER John Furlanetto (Ph) 57 953 435 (Mob) 0427 344 956
Continues to 27th March	WildArt @ Old Post Office Seymour 30 painters and sculptors creations on exhibition. Wed to Sun 11am to 4pm & Wed to Sat 6pm – 9.30pm. Browsing welcome. Free entry. 50 Emily St (Old Hume Hwy) Seymour 5792-3170 www.artseymour.com.au
Saturday 5th March	Please join the Friends of the Euroa Arboretum for a HARVEST CELEBRATION The summer months this year have brought a rare bounty of native seed with cooler temperatures and excellent rainfall. Perhaps you have collected some special seeds yourselves that you are happy to share, or would like to swap some of our harvested seed. Maybe you need a plant identified? Please bring your seed to donate or swap and plant specimens and join us for lunch to celebrate our seed harvest. Join us at 12 midday for a harvest feast. Please bring a plate of home grown/home made produce to share. We will provide beverages and good company! WHEN: 12 midday – 2pm, WHERE: Euroa Arboretum BRING: A plate of food to share, local native seed if you have collected excess or would like to swap seed, and a smile. RSVP: Cathy Olive on 0429 127 399 by Wednesday 2nd March, or email cathy_steve4@bigpond.com
4th to 6th March	HiArts Family Film Festival Films for all ages and tastes, feature and short length, including local work. Program in Granite News and on Web site (www.hiarts.org) in the week before. Also photographic Exhibition; Spiteri Gallery; sculpture; family activities; music; food and drink. Opening night will feature Don McQueen, Australian Bush poet. People need to register for Opening Night. Queries 5796 9358 or kadumbbla@mac.com .
5th to 6th March	 'Prometheus' , a series of paintings and pastel drawings by Dennis Spiteri. Hillcrest Studio/gallery open weekend 5-6 March 10am –5pm Exhibition will continue until 3 April and can be seen by appointment during this time. Old Highlands Road, Highlands T 03 57969373 dennisspiteri@activ8.net.au www.dennis-spiteri.com
Saturday 5th March	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
Saturday 5th March	The Edible Gardening workshop is on at 1pm - 4pm at the Old Flour Mill, 17 Kirkland Avenue West, Euroa. The speaker is Helen Tuton soil scientist, garden writer and environmentalist from Sustainable Gardening Australia. She was a huge hit with residents when she presented this workshop in Kilmore last year. She will help you learn simple steps and organic strategies to grow delicious home grown fruit and vegetables - from improving soil health (the key to a productive veggie patch), selecting the right plants and keeping them healthy to watering systems and companion planting. The Edible Gardening workshop is sponsored by Goulburn Valley Water.
Saturday 5th March	RuffArtZ – First concert of the Café Culture Series 2011: 'Belle Musette', Ruffy Community Hall, 8 pm (doors open at 7.30 pm). Bring along a friend and enjoy an evening with music from Paris, the 'City of Light'! For tickets please ring Glen on 5790 4318.
Saturday 5th March	10 am-12 noon: BLACK MARKET: This month it will be at Freya and Ray Grant's, at 19 Nazek Court (off Telegraph Road, just outside Seymour on the road to Yea. Turn right into Telegraph Rd if your coming from the Seymour direction). Freya and Ray have 5 acres with vegetables, fruit and goats, and they make their own goat's milk fetta cheese. They will give a tour of their garden and talk about how they make the cheese. Phone Freya on 5792 2567 or Paul Macgregor on 5797 0229 for more info.
Friday 11th March	'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. "Don't forget the Aerogard!!".
Monday 14th March	Seymour Labour Day Market , Goulburn Park. 9.00 am - 3.00 pm. Run by Seymour-Goulburn Lions Club and Seymour Apex Club. Includes the Great Duck Race at 1.30pm run by Eastern Hill Cricket Club. Carnival activities for the Children, Musical entertainment, Food and drink stalls, Books, clothes, plants, bric a brac, hardware and lots more. Purchase lunch, grab a bargain, watch your duck win, and enjoy music in the Park. Gate entry \$2, Under 16 Free. Site bookings: Betty: 5796-9295
Sunday 24th March 4.30pm White Hart Hotel 63 Hill St Longwood	 <p style="text-align: center;">Rick Steward Roots, rock & acoustic style music from this multi-instrumental one man band genius.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 3rd April 4.30pm 57985203</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Bona Fide Travellers An eclectic mix of country, hillbilly, Cajun, Tex-Mex, cowboy and acoustic blues.</p> 

Classifieds & Community Notices

FAMILY FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAM

Friday Night Opening 4th March
Attendance at the Opening Night is through prior registration 5796 9358 only (\$15 per person).

7.30pm. Drinks and finger food.
Don McQueen Balladeer.
History of Habbies Howe
Duck Soup

Saturday 5th March

10am Doors open 'Time for Coffee!'
10.30am **Babe G**
12 noon Lunch period
1.30pm **Storm Boy G**
4pm **Hugo and Josephine G**
Bolero G
6pm BBQ Meal
7pm **Babakiueria PG**
Amelie MA !5+
Vertigo PG

Sunday 6th March

10am Doors open 'Time for Coffee!'
10.30am **Bush Christmas G**
Tulip G
Holding On G
12.30pm Lunch period
1.30pm **Insignia PG**
Melancholy Death of Oyster Boy PG
Malcolm M

Full program & description of films and other activities available at Highlands PS, local libraries, Hall Notice Board & www.hiarts.org.

CATTLE PREG-TESTING COURSE

The YRCL group is offering a two-day course. It will be run by Jenny Sim of All State Agricultural Service on two nearby properties in Limestone, near Yea. Anyone is welcome.

DAY ONE: Morning theory and a session with the Pregnancy Artificial Cow; afternoon - hands-on practice in the yards

DAY TWO: Morning – short theory session and more fun with PAC; afternoon – extensive hands-on practice in yards.

There will be cattle at various stages of pregnancy to practice on (and no doubt some empties!).

The course is limited to ten people – first in, best dressed.
WHEN: 3rd-4th May
TIME: To be confirmed
LOCATION: 141 Monkey Creek Rd, LIMESTONE 3717
COST: Approx. \$250/person (if we get ten people) BYO: Lunch
Please register with Judy Brookes (57 972 563 or juncball@bigpond.com).

I LOVE PARIS IN SUMMER AT RUFFY

If you were to fly to Paris now you would be greeted by a chilling six degrees Celsius. If you are living in regional Victoria we suggest that there is an alternate way to experience Parisian culture that doesn't involve expensive airfares, jetlag or annual leave. For your convenience and entertainment pleasure RuffArtZ has arranged for a little slice of Paris to come to the Ruffy Hall this Saturday 5th March.

The trio Belle Musette specialise in presenting the music of Paris from the 1930's to the 60's. Their choice of music spans the traditional waltz through to tango, instrumentals, gypsy swing and chanson (popular French song.) You can expect to hear songs like C'est Si Bon, La Mer, La Vie En Rose, Non Je Regrette Rien, Padam Padam, (Edith Piaff), C'est Magnifique, I Love Paris, Chanson d'Amour, Les Champs Elyseés, Bei Mir Bistu Sheyn (Andrew Sisters) plus many musette waltz and Gypsy Swing jazz tunes.

This show is the first in a series of four shows which comprise the RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays 2011, four live theatre experiences that have been especially selected to entertain, inspire and delight audiences. It has an emphasis on diversity and quality.



THANK YOU

A very big thank you to the twenty people, including Bonnie, who all worked so hard last Saturday to spruce up the grounds of the Highlands Community Hall in preparation for the Highlands Film Festival next weekend, 4th - 6th March. It is all looking wonderful and ready for a great Festival.

BLUE SOFA BED FREETo give away

In good condition - but covering slightly faded SEE ATTACHED PHOTO
FREE to anyone who can collect from Ghin Ghin Road Whiteheads Creek
Phone Mobile: 0409 413 768 to arrange pick up. Will need 2 people to lift.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

Stinking pennywort Hydrocotyle laxiflora

This short groundcover herb is very common in shady forest floors. Its leaves are roundish, 30-40mm in diameter with scalloped edges. From late spring to early summer the small flowers grow together to form marble-sized balls which give off a rather sour smell, hence the name. Over Christmas we had masses in flower and the smell filled in air in their vicinity.



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RABBIT RIPPING MESSAGE

Hey everyone!

This is urgent for people whom are involved in the rabbit ripping program. If you have already ripped, you need to send me your invoices via email hughes.creek1@gmail.com or via post 7/4 Stanley St South Yarra 3141 Melbourne. If you have not yet ripped, you need to get going, the ripping needs to be done ASAP otherwise you will lose the 50% subsidy. If you have not yet organised an excavator to come to your property you need to do it now!

We are also running a roadside spraying program over the next couple of weeks. Anyone whom has seen any blackberry, broom, St John Wort, Patersons Curse or Gorse, along our roadsides, please let me know, so we can spray these areas. Edwina McKay

Rocky Passes

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