



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Extract from Cr Sally Abbott Smith, Cheviot Ward Roadside Vegetation Mapping

Council's Environment Projects Officer Sue McNair has recently completed a project to identify regionally controlled noxious weeds on Council's roadsides. The project has also assessed the conservation value of these roadsides, including the quality of habitat and native vegetation.

An evaluation of the conservation value in the immediate vicinity of weed outbreaks is important to ensure appropriate weed control and management techniques are used without compromising the value of the surrounding native vegetation.

This information will be used to improve the planning and coordination of Council's roadside maintenance and road works to prevent weeds spreading. It will also be used to guide the issuing of permits for activities such as firewood collection, grazing and roadside plantings. This information will also assist at a local and regional level when planning fuel load management strategies.

Native vegetation legislation requires that a three-step process be followed when considering native vegetation removal: avoid clearing, minimise clearing when removal can't be avoided and offset unavoidable losses appropriately. The overall goal is to achieve what is known as net gain. This is the outcome for native vegetation and habitat where overall gains are greater than overall losses and individual losses are avoided where possible.

Council has been investigating the options for meeting its offset obligations generated by clearing of native vegetation as a result of its infrastructure construction projects. Council projects which involve clearing of native vegetation, which includes understory plants, groundcovers and native grasses, requires a planning permit. Any permit to remove native vegetation will include conditions requiring specific offsets. There are three kinds of offset requirements, depending on what was cleared: Protection, maintenance and improvement of existing bush patches/areas; Protection of existing trees, usually large old trees; Revegetation: planting new trees and a range of other suitable plants. Should landholders be interested, there may be options in the future for using private land for Council offsets.

www.dse.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Hayley : For a successful gardening afternoon displaying hard work and co-operation. Well done!



ELF Day: (Early Reading is Fun) Day was a huge success. Thank you to the effort families make to provide costumes for their children. I'm not a lover of dress up and I appreciate the time and thought involved in the process.

Mark Wilson was a popular choice with students and everyone was very engaged in his workshops. Thank you to the parents who came along and joined us on the book walk.



ADVERTISE YOUR REGIONAL TOURISM EVENT FOR FREE

Do you hold a tourism event within the Shire of Murrindindi? Your event may be able to be listed in the February to June 2012 Calendar of Events brochure. The brochure is distributed to all Visitor Information Centres within Murrindindi, surrounding regions and Federation Square. Application forms are available from: Council's website - www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/festivalsandevents click on 'Promoting your event' Email lw Wallace@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

WELCOME TO ISSUE 30

If you or your children went to HPS we would love to hear what they are up to. It doesn't have to be 350 words but then again it would be fine if it is that length. Please send any news to me at mirandayorston@bigpond.com

COUNCIL FIRE RESTRICTION PERIOD STARTS

Murrindindi Shire Council's fire restriction period starts Saturday 15 October 2011, which means property owners wishing to reduce fuel loads must obtain a permit to burn.

During the municipal restriction period, residents should contact the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO) Andrew Daly, to discuss their situation and an inspection can be arranged for a permit to be issued.

"It is important that everyone plays a role in fire prevention," Ms Abbey said. "Failure by owners to maintain their property will lead to enforcement action." During the fire restriction period, permits are required in rural areas to burn-off any tree, stump, log or vegetation in excess of 75mm (3 inches) in diameter. Permits are not required for the burning of stubble grass, bracken or vegetation under 75mm (3 inches). People wanting more information on permits should contact Murrindindi Shire Council on 5772 0376.

AERIAL SPRAYING

If anyone is interested in having some aerial spraying done, contractors will be in the Highlands area in mid November (date to be confirmed). It is a fantastic opportunity to knock down large or inaccessible areas of weeds like blackberry and bracken. For further information please contact David Empey on 5776 4343 or 0418694334 email patonair@gmail.com. For information on chemicals that may be subsidized by Landcare please contact Simone Ulstrup on 5790 4146 or email hughescreek1@gmail.com.

NEW VET IN THE AREA

Anna Manning has now commenced veterinary practice in the Mansfield/Alex/Yea district, doing mainly large animal practice and is very experienced in both horse and cattle medicine. She is available 24 hrs, all days and happy to travel. Her contact number is 0400369177

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - OCTOBER /NOVEMBER 2011

Week beg 30th October	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOT RFB TRUCK Richard Waugh Roger Broome
Week beg 31st October	Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Craig and Jenny Murphy Brian & Gail Van Rooyen
Thursday 27th October	Secret Men's Business will be held at Caveat Church On Thursday 27th October at 5.30pm. All Welcome.
Friday October 28th	Tapas night at Rocky Passes. 1590 Highlands Rd from 6pm. Call 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au to book. www.rockypasses.com.au
October 28, 29 and 30	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "Kung Fu Panda 2" 93 Mins G) ction /Adventure/Family fun To celebrate Children's week we have another Friday Family Fun Night. Each screening there will be lucky door prizes for children to win. Po (as seen in the first of this series) is now living his dream as The Dragon Warrior, protecting the Valley of Peace along side his friends and fellow king fu masters. However there is always a villain somewhere in the plot ...and this one plans to use secret weapons to conquer China and destroy Kung Fu. Po must look to his past to unlock the secrets of his mysterious origins. All good family fun with action and comedy thrown into the mix. Bring dinner along on Friday night ..doors open 6pm...and make it a family night out!
Sunday 30th October	Highland Ramblers. Meet at Highland Hall 10.30 am. For more information contact Louise Currie 9437 1504 or mlcurrie@bigpond.com
November 2nd 3rd & 4th November	Local professional development work shop: Venue: Euroa Individuals wishing to obtain the assessment competencies from TAE Certificate IV in Training and Assessment Units TAEASS401A Plan assessment activities and processes TAEASS402A Assess competence TAEASS403A Participate in assessment validation Come and join us on one day, two days or all three days (each day one unit will be delivered) Inquires: Robyn Richards r-richards@4upskilling.com.au 0357904303 0407 358191
Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th November	Rotary Club of Yea Open Gardens weekend. Stunning large country gardens and delightful town gardens. Many open for the first time. All have unique features. Open daily from 9:30am - 4:30pm. Tickets and brochures available from Elaine White 5780 1274 or from Yea Visitor Information Centre and each garden over the open weekend.
November 5 and 6	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "Footloose" 113 Mins (PG) Drama/ Musical/Comedy 3 stars This is a new take on the beloved 1984 classic film where Ren (Kenny Wormald) moves from Boston to a small southern town where he experiences a real culture shock. Following a tragedy where five teenagers were killed, local council and church officials have implemented the prohibition of music and dancing. Ren challenges the ban and revitalises the town ... falling in love at the same time. Great music and dancing. Also starring Denis Quaid and Julianne Hough
Saturday 5th November	Dave and Jean Roberts run a 113-ha (280-acre) certified organic beef and herb property at 708 Whanregarwen Rd, Alexandra. Anyone is welcome to join the Yea River Catchment Landcare group on a tour of their enterprise, which includes fenced billabongs and Goulburn River flats. They run a closed herd of 145 head, which are never drenched or vaccinated. Their intensive herb operation produces 400-500 kg of dried herbs from a third of an acre, from an eclectic mix of nettle and red clover to peppermint, lemon balm and more. The tour will start at 10.00 am. Please bring a thermos of tea or coffee and a small plate of morning tea to share. Numbers are limited to 20, so please be quick to respond. Judy Brookes juncball@bigpond.com
5th - 27th November	Darren Gilbert's new solo exhibition @ Gallery 34 in Yea. It will have a wide selection of artwork (pen and ink), sculptures and new paintings on canvas. Opening Friday 4th November, 6.00 to 8.00pm. 34 High Street, Yea. Thursday to Saturday 9am-4pm. Sundays & public holidays 10am-4pm. 03 5797 3222 www.gallery34.com.au
Saturday 5th November	The Yea Country Market occurs every 1st Saturday of each month – 9am to 2pm at Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea. A fabulous array of stalls on offer by local producers, growers and makers, as well as eclectic trash and treasure stalls, all enhanced by local entertainers and delicious food and snacks.
11th Novem- ber	Seymour Women's Health is offering a PAP Clinic for PAP smears and registration with the PAP Test Registry for reminders. Bookings are essential. When: (all day) Where: Yea Women's Clinic, Grace Bennett Centre, Yea Hospital Cost: FREE Bookings: 03 5735 8050
Friday 11th November	"The Nuts and Bolts of Grazing Management" 9.30 am – 3 pm, Tablelands Community Centre (Old School)/ Ruffy Store – Ruffy, Victoria. Cost: Free of charge RSVP: 8th November to Susan Sleight Kate Sargeant and Claire Geri from the DPI EverGraze team will be presenting a practical based workshop on the fundamentals of grazing management. Getting your grazing strategies right can be the first step to a more productive, profitable and sustainable, farming business. This day will focus on grazing strategies as a management tool. The day will cover topics such as: • Grazing strategies for productive and persistence perennials • Managing different pasture types and land classes—getting it right for the whole farm • Using grazing to manage annual weeds • Pasture budgeting and tools for planning ahead For further information, or to register your interest, please contact Susan Sleight on (03) 5790 4301 or 0458 020 939 or susan.sleight@dpi.vic.gov.au
Friday 11th November	'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.

Classifieds & Community Notices

HAS ANYONE SEEN LOCAL NATIVE CALLISTEMONS?

Callistemon (bottlebrushes) often grow in damp or wet conditions, e.g. along creek beds, rocky watercourses, boggy areas, peaty granitic heathland, or areas prone to flood. There are a few species that are indigenous to Victoria. However, in my travels around our district I haven't noticed any wild callistemon growing, but maybe someone else has? Write a reply to the Granite News, or contact me directly: Paul Macgregor, ph 5797 0229. diversity@diversity.org.au.

BOOK REVIEW

It's not all about YOU, Calma!
By Barry Jonsberg

Another little gem from Jonsberg, who blasted his way onto the Australian teenage publishing scene last year when his first novel, *The Whole business with Kiffo and the Pitbull*, was shortlisted for the Australian Children's Book Awards. Not only has history repeated itself, as this one is also shortlisted, but Calma Harrison is back as the narrator and, as the title suggests, the selfishly preoccupied main character. Egocentric, sharply observant, she of the rapier tongue and sarcastic wit Calma is definitely a force to be reckoned with. The narrative is lively and written from an adolescent's view of the world with humour more in evidence than angst. A sequel that doesn't disappoint.

By Pauline Roberts

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS

We need you to help make 20cm squares to make up blankets to send to Third World countries. Wool is available at HPS and finished squares can be returned to school. I will be collecting them at the end of November and arranging for them to be packed up and sent off. From Trish Uden

WANTED! HI ARTS SPONSORS

HiArts is hoping to appoint an 'artist in residence' as part of its Art Exhibition in March 2012. To finance this project, HiArts is inviting people to become part of the HiArts Sponsorship Family. In return sponsors may have their names/logo displayed at the Exhibition, and depending on the amount of sponsorship, on the HiArts website. Contact Karli 5796 9396 or Stuart 5796 9358

A CLEVER INVENTION

A quirky but clever idea - contributed by Trish Harrop. Cut up a disposable water bottle and keep the neck and top as shown in the photo below.



Insert the plastic bag through the neck and screw the top to seal.



From Cathy Koning, Sustainable Communities Coordinator, Mitchell & Strathbogie Shires
www.sustainable-communities.com.au

R U OK DAY

Breaking unhealthy habits can be daunting. However, you don't need to take on healthier habits all at once. It's best to start slowly, be flexible and realistic about what you can accomplish each day. Try hanging out more often with people who practice healthy habits or keep things interesting by exploring new parks and routes as part of your exercise regime. For more getting healthy tips, visit SANE Australia: <http://www.sane.org/projects/mind-body/660-healthy-living> Cheers, Bridget Clarke
Community Health and Wellbeing Development Officer
clarkeb@humehealth.org.au

FREE PLANTS AND TREES

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Contact Janet 57904268 .
jhagen@harboursat.com.au

FOX AND WILD DOG BOUNTY

The Australian government has re-introduced a bounty on foxes and wild dogs. Eligible hunters will receive \$10 for each fox killed and \$50 for each wild dog killed, subject to the Victorian Fox and Wild Dog Bounty Terms and conditions.

FOX

Acceptable entire fox scalps, including both ears, the skin surrounding both eyes and the nose, will be rewarded at \$10 each.

All Victorian residents and landholders are eligible to submit acceptable fox scalps.

(proof of residency will be required)

WILD DOG

Acceptable submissions of wild dog must be a single piece of skin and fur running from the snout, incorporating the ears and along the back including the tail, will be rewarded with \$50 each.

Evidence of land ownership or land lease in Wild Dog Control areas in Victoria is required.

Evidence of current financial membership to the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia, Field and Game Australia or the Australian Deer Association.

The animals must have been collected in Victoria in Wild Dog control areas.

COLLECTION

Entire fox scalps will be collected at the following local DPI depots:

Benalla- 89 Sydney Rd Benalla. The next collection date is Wednesday 9th November 2011 10:30am-12:30pm.

Broadford- 5 Mollinson St Broadford. The next collection date is Thursday 10th November 2011 10:30am-12:30pm.

Fox AND Wild Dog:

Mansfield- 128 Highett St Mansfield. The next collection is Wednesday 9th November 2011 2:30pm-4:30pm.

For further dates and terms and conditions please check the DPI website at

www.dpi.vic.gov.au/bounty or contact the DPI customer Service Centre on 136 186

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