



# THE GRANITE NEWS

MARCH 17TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 8

WHITEHEADS CREEK • TERIP TERIP • CAVEAT • RUFFY • HIGHLANDS • HUGHES CREEK

## PEOPLE and PLACES - THE ODD JUG.

The ODDJUG is a tourist based business, run by PAM and EDWARD SPRUNT, just a couple of kms east of the Ruffy township.

Pam is a descendant of the original Noye family – her great grandparents came to the district in 1881, and Ed was brought up on his parents' farm in Sprunts Road, Highlands. They married in 1967 and lived at Highlands while Ed worked on the property. That was then sold, and they bought 18 acres of the Noye property, "Rosehill". Then, it was just a bare paddock, with some huge pine trees. Their house was built, and a small garden established – it was always Pam's dream to extend it, with trees to provide shade and shelter, and to have a garden which led the eye – and the feet – round hidden corners.

Ed worked as a shearer, in a timber yard then at a service station. Now he works on local farms. They had 2 daughters, Tracey and Nicole (and now have a grand daughter Mia). Pam worked as a domestic helper, carer and mothercraft nurse. She cared for the late Peg Gooch of Longwood for a number of years, and they developed a closer relationship, especially through their love of gardens. By 1991 the second section of garden was created with the idea of low maintenance, and a relaxing area.

A few years later, the Jug House was built to accommodate Pam's growing jug collection. This had started with one jug from her grandmother, and snowballed, with friends adding to it, even bringing some back from overseas. Visits to Trash and Treasure markets, Op shops and antique shops have increased the collection to over 1000 jugs. Many are old and unusual, and all are beautiful. Pam also has a collection of thimbles, perfume bottles and other memorabilia. They built the tearooms next to the Jug house, for visitors to enjoy their Devonshire teas (with what must be the best scones in the district!) They have a small plant nursery, and specialize in pelargonium and geraniums and other cottage plants.

Pam and Ed have achieved all this by themselves, and say they can now sit in their tranquil and green garden and enjoy it all with great satisfaction.

By Peg Lade

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Student of the Week Award



This week's student of the week is Kendall for her wonderful reading for meaning. Way to go Kendall!

### JSC End of Term Update:

JSC has run lots of events this term including: Crazy Hair Day, Sunnies for Sight Day and the Baby Photos Competition. We have lots of things planned including a colouring competition, Easter egg hunt and lots of other exciting things.

### Cooking Classes:

Cooking will be on Monday next week. Cooking stew of some form will be Jarrad, Cuchulainn, Kassie, Lachie and Emilie. A special thank to Sharyn for running this program this term. There has been lots of positive feedback not only from the students and staffs sampling the cooking but also from parents who get a day off preparing school lunches. Due to lots of support offered we anticipate running this program in Terms 3 and 4.

### School Visitor:

Meagan Callander came to visit us today to get to know us better as she will be replacing Ms Mildren when she is on leave from Monday April 28th through to Friday June 6th. Meagan listened to us read and we made a list of things that Ms Mildren and Meagan will need to talk about to help Meagan settle in. Meagan is really nice and it will be great to have her at our school.

By Kendall and Ms Mildren

## WELCOME TO ISSUE 8

Thank to the community groups who are sending in dates set for the calendar. Thanks also to Mavis and her team of Ruffy folders. Highlanders, where are you? Phone 57969261 or miranda@activ8.net.au

There will be no Granite News during the school holidays.

HPS had some really positive feedback regarding advertisers on the back page of TGN that I was asked to include in the next TGN. From Allyson - "The electrician has done some work locally and was prompt and efficient! Yeah for him! The 2 wineries being Rocky Passes and Antcliffe Chase have both made donations to HPS from sales at the Hi Arts weekend. Many thanks to them"

## Burnt Creek Landcare Dinner "Our Rivers, Waterways & Wetlands" Monday 31st March, Nagambie

Our guest speaker, Sam Lake is no stranger to the area having undertaken waterway enhancement projects in the Creighton's and Castle Creeks areas to restore native fish habitats. He is currently supervising six projects for the Murray Darling Basin Commission in northern Victoria and NSW involving waterway restoration corridors.

He was recently involved in the Garnaut Report on Climate Change editing the section titled "The Climate Change Consequences for Biodiversity". In past years she has been a leading environmental authority for the restoration of flows for the Snowy River and the Lake Pedder and Franklin River campaigns.

He is currently undertaking a two year project writing a book on drought with an emphasis on its financial, social and political consequences since Australia's settlement.

Sam will spend the day in the Hughes Creek area learning of our plans to develop a restoration project for the 65km Hughes Creek waterway corridor from the Black Range near Caveat to Avenel and beyond to its junction with the Goulburn River.

Contact Sandy Mackenzie if you would like to attend sandymackenzie@ozemail.com.au.

## Classifieds & Community Notices

### CAVEAT CHURCH

A meeting at the Caveat Church on 12 March was attended by 25 enthusiastic people. Through the HCCC (Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative), Landcare have secured a 20-year lease – for \$1 and a bottle of red! This is due to the initiative of Scott Mackay (Sec of HCCC) and will enable us to get grants for repairs and upkeep of the building. \$7000 is in hand already.

The church is a district icon, and was built in 1956 on land donated by the late Doug McAlpin. Money was raised by raffles and donations, which came from all over Australia, and even USA and Canada, and was organized by the community of European-born residents of the district. Some names were Kopianica, Hlinka, Yuritta, Lebidka, Pietka, Strnatka, Andrusiak, Spaniak, Krzuik, Razga and Salo. These families came from the Ukraine, Poland, and Slovakia, from the 1920s to 1950s. The building was designed and built by Peter Yuritta with the help of local volunteer labour. The church was opened and blessed by Bishop Fox, and the marriage of Emil Kopianica and Anne Hlinka (Michael's parents) was celebrated soon after. (They attended the meeting too!)

A large Yellow Box on the Kopianica farm was felled and taken to Ruoke Sawmills in Alex and rain on a piece. The cross was made by them for no charge. The Bell Tower was made with nearly all local labour and the bell was especially cast in Germany. The picture on the Bell Tower is of St Isador – the patron Saint of Farmers. Next was the Grotto, many tons of local granite being delivered to the site, and a statue was placed in it before it was blessed by Monsignor Hannan. That statue was broken some years ago and was replaced by the Bafum family who live close by.

Four weddings have been held in the church – Emil and Anne Kopianica, Terry Williams and Duncan Taylor, Sue Conos and Shaun Donnelly, and Jacinta McLennan to Andrew Vroland. Several christenings, and one funeral (that of the first Peter Lebidka) have taken place.

The church was de-consecrated some years ago, but 2 well-attended non-denominational Christmas services were held in 2006 and 2007.

A gathering at the church ("Secret men's business" – but women also attend!!) is held on the last Thursday of each month, with a BBQ, BYO

drinks, chat to your neighbours and join in the Footy Tipping!

The meeting elected Rick McAlpin as President, Jan Sporry as Secretary, Vice President – Jeanie Webb (Gibb) and a committee of Michael Kopianica, Quentin Pritchard, and Chris Bennett, with John Sporry as Project Manager. Matt Smith offered to replace a couple of windows for free, and already some participants of the "Community Training Scheme" have started sanding the exterior, demolishing gold fences and guttering etc.

A water tank and toilets are urgent necessities, but the interior is in quite good condition.

The Rovers (from nearby Mafeking Park) have indicated their interest.

This building will provide a focus for informal gatherings, especially for the Caveat people, but also for the wider community. Goodwork, Scotty!  
By Peg Lade

### Thank you from HPS

Florence & Phil Brown who live in Ruffy brought six bags of magazines for the children, in excess of fifty magazines!!! Many thanks.

### AUSKICK AND NET, SET GO, YEA

(netball for 5-11 year olds) Registration night will be on Friday 18th April 4pm. Training will commence will commence on Friday 2nd May. Auskick Starting time 4.30pm Net, Set Go Starting time 3.30pm Any queries please call Auskick - Trevor Aldous Ph: 57972185 Net, Set Go - Kim Slavin Ph: 57973204.

### Yea Equestrian Riding School

Horse riding lessons for beginner to advanced on quiet horses and ponies. Starting at \$17.00 Holiday program running PH: 0400289504 Sarah

### Fumie's Visit

Some of you may remember Fumie. She was a student teacher from Japan who was at HPS in about 1995. She will be in Melbourne from the 6-10th May and would like to visit HPS during that time to catch up with anyone who is available. Please ring Allyson on 57969208 if you would like more information on her visit.

### BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

SWAMP GUM *Eucalyptus ovata* - is one of our common trees which occurs periodically on swampy flats and poorly drained slopes.

The leaves have wavy, rather ragged edges, and they are a favourite food for koalas. It hybridizes readily, especially with Manna Gums (*E. viminalis*) and its flowering period starts in March.

The fruits have a flat top, with the valves NOT protruding. The very similar Mountain Swamp Gum (*E. camphora*) has projecting valves on the fruits. In Tasmania, the Swamp Gum is *E. regnans*, which is our Mountain Ash.



### Left Behind After the HiArts Exhibition

Some beautifully made pottery objects & articles of clothing were left behind following the HiArts Exhibition. If any of them belong to you please contact Judy Reidon 57969358.

### CPR Level 1 Course

On Wednesday 9th April Highlands/Caveat CFA will be holding a CPR Level 1 course at the hall for some of its members, commencing at 7pm. If anyone else in the wider community is interested in acquiring CPR skills, please contact Pauline Roberts 57969301 before 31st March. Cost will be \$35, which is a small amount for learning how to save someone's life.

## Community What's On Calendar—March/April/May

Weekbeg 17th March	Terip Terip mowing roster Jim & Jill Davidson Les & Sonia Sloan Highlands-Caveat CFARoster Crew A	Around Clubhouse and all 4 courts
20th –28th March	<b>Monkey Tail Collection 2. A closer look at Australian Wildlife.</b> New drawings, paintings and sculptures by J. Darren Gilbert. at Ruffy Produce Store 26 Nolans Road Ruffy Central Victoria 3666. Open weekends and public holidays 8am until 6pm, Friday lunch (03) 57904387 www.ruffystore.com	
20th March	HCRFB General meeting 7.30pm at the hall, all welcome.	
27th March	Last Thursday of the month BBQ at Caveat church. BYO drinks, enjoy a sausage and catch up with friends	
Saturday 29th March	Atlas... the FIRST meeting of the HCRFB Junior Brigade members will be held on midday at the fire shed. If anyone aged 11 -16, who has not already registered, is interested in becoming a junior member of the brigade please contact the Secretary 57969301 for further information.	
Saturday 29th March	Strath bogie Landcare Group. Free Bustrip to Cranbourne Botanical Gardens.. Contact Bill Wells 57908563 to book a seat. The bus will stop at the Longwood Cemetery Cornertop pickup travellers from Ruffy, Terip and Longwood East.	
Saturday March 29th	Black Market: 10am -12pm - shares low, low kilometer food with your neighbours. Please bring your excess veggies; eggs; jams and pickles... enjoy conversation, and please bring something to share if you'd like to stay for lunch. In the Kitchen at 9am (Peg Lade's orange cake)... Enquiries -Candi 57969366 or Leonie 57969290.	
Sunday 30th March	Highlands Ramblers next walk will be from Andrew Shaw's, on Gum Road, through bush on Woolshed and to Sprunt's Road. Meet as usual at the Highlands Hall at 10.30 or Andrew Shaw's front gate at 10.50. Enquiries to Peg Lade 57969222., Andrew Shaw PH 57904297	Creek,
Monday 31st March 2008	2008 Burnt Creek Landcare Start -of-Year Dinner Guest Speaker: Prof Sam Lake "Our Rivers, Waterways & Wetlands" What are we leaving for following generations? 6.00pm At the "new" Tabilk Tavern, Nagambie Contact Sandy if you would like to attend <b>sandymackenzie@ozemail.com.au.</b>	
5th April	HCRFB night training exercise on at 8pm. Further details TBA.	
Saturday April 5th	6pm Autumn Community Gathering Ruffy Hall Come along and help us farewell day lights saving and welcome them in. Free BBQ tea. Brings salad to share. Everybody welcome Ruffy Community BBQ Theme of the evening 'Share a Joke'	
Sunday April 13	Poetry @ Ruffy 3.00 –5.00pm at the Ruffy Produce Store. Petra White had such a good time here last September that she's coming back with her friends Elizabeth Campbell and Lucy Holt who are also poets. You will find some of their poems at www.johnleonardpress.com. As usual, the event will be informal so there will be plenty of opportunity for conversation and readings from the floor. We haven't any funding for this event, so we will charge \$5.00 per person to contribute to the poet's travel costs. For more info ring Sari - 57904352 emailsariwawn@bigpond.com	
Thursday April 15	Storyteller Gael Cresp brings alive the ancient tales of Greece & Rome. All the heroes and heroines, the excitement, wrath, revenge, tragedy and gory bits. A spell binding couple of hours at Alexandra Library 5.30-7.30 Includes yummy tea Forages over 10 More details 57720348	
Sunday April 20th	4pm Ruff Art Z presents Matinee performance of CJDennis' Ginger Mick at Gallipoli by Petty Traffickers Company in the Ruffy Hall Bookings 57904318	
Thursday 24th April	Last Thursday of the month BBQ at Caveat church. BYO drinks and enjoy a sausage for \$2 and catch up with friends and neighbours.	
FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 2008	TERIPTERIPANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE AT THE REC RESERVE AT 9.00am TO BE FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA ALL WELCOME ENQUIRIES TODAY RYL COX Phone 57904345	
SATURDAY 26TH APRIL	CAR BOOTSALE AT TERIPTERIPRECREATION RESERVE FROM 10AM REFRESHMENTS AND LIGHT LUNCH AVAILABLE \$15 CARBOOTOR SMALL TRAILER \$20 UTILITY \$25 LARGE (TANDEM) TRAILER \$3 TRESTLE TABLE HIRE Come along to sell off your unwanted treasures, or buy someone else's treasure!! FOR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS CONTACT TRISH UDEN -57904377 LUCRAVEN -57904011	
Saturday 10th May	Ruff Art Z Season of Saturdays presents -Dev'lish Mary - oldtimey & western swing 8.00pm, Ruffy Hall. Contact Glenon 57904318 for tickets (\$26 ea.) or information.	
Thursday 22nd May	HCRFB General meeting 7.30pm at the hall preceded by the AGM and biennial election of office bearers, all welcome.	
Thursday 29th May	Last Thursday of the month BBQ at Caveat church. BYO drinks and enjoy a sausage for \$2 and catch up with friends and neighbours.	

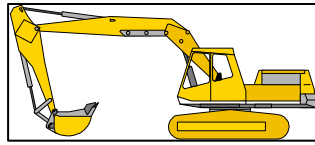


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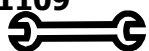


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