



THE GRANITE NEWS

JUNE 2 ND 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 16

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

How many of us who grow up in the country make sure that if we leave, one way or another, we return?

Gerry Ginnivang grew up on a farm at Benalla on the Broken River, and in spite of a demanding city-based career as a IT/Management consultant, he and his wife Lou, a diabetes educator, are also pursuing a country life. Lou (Ryan) was born in Birchip and lived there for 8 years before the family moved to Melbourne. Time is split between Ruffy & Melbourne throughout the week.

Twelve years ago, in partnership with another family (Peter Hanrahan & Jo Love), Lou and Gerry bought a property in Red Gate Lane, on which they run sheep.

Recently they have built a house Tiltilli (meaning magpie) and bought some adjoining land with a very small vineyard and orchard. With the house completed, Lou is now turning her attention to setting up a garden: she has yet to decide what to do with the plaster tiger (about to become a Strathbogie panther) that has taken up residence amongst the rocks just where she has plans to begin planting.

None of the demands of his busy life get in the way of Gerry's interest in sport. Playing cricket for the Ruffy farming team against the opposite clan from Highlands. He is a multiple winner of the Terip tennis Championship (mainly motivated by the requirement to beat Bernie McMahon), and on occasions has played for the team in the summer competition.

As a previous winner of the footy tipping competition at Ruffy, Gerry keeps an eagle, no magpie's eye on the progress of the other tipsters seeking to match his record (especially Rob Gardner who waits until Gerry has put in his tips). He has also suggested that a special table be set aside at the Store for himself and the other elite tipsters, but it would appear that this campaign is progressing slowly (commercial floor interests seem to be the problem).

The young Ginnivans - Karen, Liam and Ellen are all tied up with city commitments of work, sport and social life so at this stage they can only make occasional visits to the property. Ned, their black & white border collie dog (who pretends badly to be a sheep dog), always travels with them. By Sari

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week

This week's student of the week is Jarrad Gilbert for his terrific work in Geography, helping others and playing well in the yard. Great effort!



Zone Cross Country

Congratulations to Michael Shaw who represented Highlands PS at Zone Cross Country on Tuesday. Michael ran 23rd out of 72 competitors. Fantastic effort! Thank you to Andrew for transporting Michael to Yeaf for the Cross Country.

Reading Awards: Congratulations to James who has read 100 nights already this year. Fantastic effort!

Website: This is a terrific website you might like to investigate at home - www.rainforestmaths.com

Fundraising: School Council have been discussing the possibility of having a fundraising event. Some suggestions have a movie and casserole evening, trivia night; perhaps linking in with the school production. Please contact the school with any ideas.

"Teachers open the door, but you must enter by yourself."
Chinese Proverb

Student Awards

Senior Room
Spelling: Jarrad, Cuchulainn, Jack, Kelly, Michael
Tables: Jarrad, Cuchulainn, Jack, Kelly, Michael
Home Learning: Jarrad, Imogen, Michael, Kelly

Junior Room
Reading spelling words: James, Lachie, Kendall, Emillie
Spelling: Walter
Tables: Kendall, Emillie
Counting: Rick

WELCOME TO ISSUE 02:16

A special thank you to Mavis Cook who collects The Granite News each week from Highlands Primary School, listens to the children read and then helps with the folding for Ruffy. Mavis says "I just want to say that I enjoy my Wednesdays with the children, they are a great delight and I think I get more from being with them, than they get from me, but I will be hanging in there!!"

Thank you also to Jan Gardner, Jan Hayes and Jacki Bottcher who each fold once a month for Ruffy. What a well organized team. I still can't work out why Highlands can't do that too. Jo Trantor does it once a month but no-one else has offered yet..... Just a reminder about sending any sightings of wedgetailed eagles or the location of their nest to me at miranda@activ8.net.au, thanks.

Paterson's Curse Rosettes

The problem: This is a highly competitive weed with a large, aggressive rosette that competes strongly with crops and pastures. Paterson's curse is toxic to all livestock if eaten in sufficient quantities. Rosettes are out now - seek and destroy!



RABBITS AND CHEMICALS

Organize your ripping hours and chemical orders now. There is a maximum of 80 ripping hours per landowner for which Landcare provides a 50% subsidy. Chemicals include Brush Off, Wetter and Round Up. Ring Miranda asap

Future Farm Industries CRC case studies webpage

A range of projects for sustainable production are listed on the Future Farm Industries CRC website. Visit www.futurefarmcrc.com.au/case_studies.html

Community What's On Calendar—June/July/August

Weekbeg2nd	TeripTeripmowingroster JanandGeoffPennyNeville&SueDebneyCarparkandall4courts
1st –7thJune	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRoster BarryRowarth -MauroDelFrateGeoffHalpin -RalphProvan
Frid6thJune	FirstFridayofthemothdinneratTheRuffyProduceStore.Don'tforgettobookPH57904387
Friday6th June	SeedProductionArea&ScienceForumWhoisinvolved?DrLindaBroadhurst,CSIRO,Canberra DrPaulGibson -Roy,GreeningAustralia,MelbourneJimBegley,DepartmentofPrimaryIndustries,Benalla AnneOvington,BallaratRegionSeedBank,CreswickWhatisitalabout?THEAIMOFTHEDAYThisexcitingcommunityforumwillpresentaseriestalksonSeedProductionAreas,includingthegeneticconsiderations, andtwocasesstudiesthatincludetheGrassyGroundcoverResearchProjectandtheEuroaSeed ProductionArea.TheforumwillalsobeanopportunitytoexaminerecentCSIROresearchandrecommendationsimpactingnativevegetationmanagementandseedproduction.WHOSHOULDATTEND?Allare welcome,includinganyoneinterestedindevelopingorextendingtheirrevegetationandconservationskills orlookingtoestablishaseedproductionareainthefuture.Sendregistrations toSimonHeyes,POBox435, Creswick, Vic3363Phone:(03)53214154Email:SHeyes@gavic.org.au
8 -14June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterMarkStokesVictorOles WesJeffery -RobWales
Wednesday June11	TheVictorianMinisterialAdvisoryCouncilforSeniorVictorianswillholdtheSeniorsSpeakUp!community forumfrom2.30pmtto4pmattheMitchellShireofficesinHighSt.TheMinisterialAdvisoryCouncilisarepresentativegroupofseniorsfromacrossVictoria,setup toprovide regularadvice totheMinisteronissues affectingpeopleaged60yearsandover.WellknownSeymourresident,MargotGreenisamember.“We arelookingatissuesinvolvinghealthcareandhousing,publictransport,employmentopportunitiesandlifelonglearning;howseniorsprefertoreceiveinformationandanythingelsethatmatterstoolderpeopleinthis community.
Friday13th June	'DrinksontheDeck'dinnerat6pm. Comealong&seethechangestothehallforyourself. Bringsome food&drinkstoshare&meetyourneighboursfromnear&far!HighlandsHall
15-21June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterAshleyWaiteMickLeathamMichaelLakerGlenWatson
Thursday 19thJune	SwanpoolLandcareGroup,7.30pmattheSwanpoolHall.DrRogerPaskin,aNamibian(SouthWestAfrica) veterinarianwhohasrecentlystartedworkinVictoriasthestateepidemiologist.The titleofhistalkis"On Mosquitoes,PrionsandListeningtoGaia".DrPaskinworkedwithAllanSavory,onrangelandmanagement inAfrica.AllanSavoryfromZimbabwedevopedtheconceptofHolisticFarmManagementandcellgrazing. DrPaskinstartedoutasaprivateveterinarypractitionerinSouthAfrica,butmovedtoNamibiain1984 asaDistrictVeterinaryOfficerwiththeNamibianMinistryofAgriculturewherehisdutiesinvolvedwildlife captureandgameranchmanagement.HebecameDeputyCVOin1992. HethenjoinedFAOandmovedto Romefor4years;wherehespentthistimerunningdevelopmentprojectsandassistingwithbuildingsurveillance systemsandemergencyresponsesinvariouscountriesinAfrica,AsiaandLatinAmerica.Hereturned toNamibiain2002andthenjoinedtheVictorianDPIinAugust2006asanepidemiologist.DrPaskin'stalk willbewiderangingandheisanentertainingsspeaker.Allwillbewelcome.
Sunday22nd June	HighlandsRamblers.Anhistoricalwalktakingineightabandonedhutsfrom'FortWilliam'atCaveatto 'Dropmore'andledbyAndrewShaw.PH57904297MeetattheHighlandshallat10.30am
Thur26thJune	CaveatChurchsausagesandchatAllwelcome.5.30pm
22 -28June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterJohnWoodJamesMattersRobHaynesDarrenBrock
30thJune, 2008	CanvasesfromHiArtsConversation,November2007tobereturned.PleasecontactMarciaon57969256or StuartandJudyon57969358.
SATURDAY 26THJULY, 2008	TERIPTERIPCOMMUNITYDINNERCHRISTMASINJULYHERECRESERVE 6PMFORSHERRIESANDNIBBLES7PMDINNERBYODRINKS&GLASS\$15PERPERSON \$5FORSCHOOLCHILDRENPLEASEBRINGCHRISTMASNIBBLESORDESSERTBESTCHRIST- MASPUDDINGCOMPETITIONRSVP,WEDNESDAY23RDJULY LUCRAVEN -57904011,FRANCESLAWRENCE -0432324929
Friday1August	RaimondGaitaProfessorofPhilosophyattheAustralianCatholicUniversityandProfessorofMoralPhilosophyatKing'sCollegeLondon,ShireHallAlexandra7.30 —9pmJoinusforaeveningofthoughtprovoking ideasonlove(truthandjustice(thechoiceswemakeandissueshatchallengeourworld)Auniqueopportunitytoparticipateinachallengingeveningoflivelyandinformeddiscussionwithaleadingphilosopherofour timeBookings57720349SponsoredbyFriendsoftheLibraryAlexandraRomulus(Myfather1998)ACommonHumanity -ThinkingaboutLoveandTruthandJustice(1999)ThePhilosopher4sDog(2002)

Classifieds & Community Notices

Shire Recycling Program

Under the title "Shake, Roll and Rattle", Murrumbidgee Shire Council is promoting a campaign for farmer store recycle plastics silage wraps, baling twine and net wrap which contribute over 1500 tonnes a year to Victoria's waste problem. Present disposal by burning, burying or dumping this waste is totally unsatisfactory. Wrap etc. cannot be recycled into such items as anti-slip matting and porous garden hose. All local farmers are encouraged to participate in this program. Farmers are required to:

Shake used wraps, twine or net to remove grass, water and mud

Roll wraps into a tight ball, place in a wool pack and press where possible

Rattle into your nearest transfer station, drop off the bale(s) and receive replacement wool packs.

The Council also participates in the Drum Muster campaign where by clean farm chemical containers can be deposited for recycling at the Alexandra transfer station. Shire residents can now also recycle mobile phones at the Yea Shire Office. For more information on any of the Shire recycling provisions, contact Darren Ritchie (57720 333) or visit www.murrumbidgee.vic.gov.au under

Council/Garbage & Recycling/Other Collections

FOR SALE

Silky Terrier cross pups for sale, 2x female, 8 weeks, great family dogs, very cute. \$220.00

Also 12 months old, Vaccinated blond male, Silky cross, house trained, lovely dog. \$100
Helen McKenzie (03) 57904211

Orphans Service

Any farmer that have orphaned livestock that need to be hand reared please call Michael Shaw

57904297, we will collect them and give them the TLC they need.

Recycling toilet rolls

Thank you to all those people who are saving their empty toilet rolls and dropping them into HPS for planting grasses in the new arboretum. You could do the same thing in your own garden if you want to establish native grasses. Just fill up the roll with soil, pop in the seeds and when they are ready, dig a hole and plant the roll.

Having your cake and eating it too.

I wrote an email to Ray Thomas asking for his suggestions regarding the provision of an alternate habitat for our small birds and bandicoots, when eradicating blackberries. He replied, "I appreciate your concern, because Bandicoots aren't so easily restored after they are gone. A staggered approach is obviously the best way to go, but planting around a blackberry patch would probably put the weed control in the too-hard basket. How do you spray one plant without damaging the other!"

While we do not want a landscape smothered in blackberries, we do not want a landscape devoid of native animals and birds, either. Tim Low in his book "The New Nature" gives an interesting perspective on the decline of the Eastern barred bandicoot in Hamilton. Most people probably know that the last few individuals were finding protection in old carbon dioxide and junk at the tip. Tim says, "At Hamilton they are very much into tidy towns-ness. So there is not the ready availability of easy cover there once was.

The thing is we have to provide habitat for our wildlife, as well as control the weeds. The bandicoots frequent thickets of prickly tea tree and mountain baeckea. They like to tunnel and nest amongst the drooping grasses. Plenty of fallentimbertop provide holes for protection is good.

At the same time a fox eradication program is probably a very important part of the equation. Hopethis is of some help, Lesley D'Alziel

RAINFALL

Highlands and Teriparerun running neck and neck with May rainfall - Highlands had 52.8mms, making 242.8 for the year, and Teriphad 52.6, making 235 for the year so far.

Highlands Caveat Junior Fire Brigade

is running a raffle, we are raising money for our camp to be held in the school holidays in Sept/Oct. We are raffling off a SWAG that has been donated by SUTHOFARM CONTRACTING. This swag has a great steel frame that also converts to a tent over the swag. (Valued at \$200). Sharyn 57904297 or Alistair 57969276.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

LOMANDRAS belong to the same Botanical family as Grass Trees. LOMANDRA longifolia (SPINY HEADED MATRUSH) forms dense tussocks and is very common in SandE Victoria. The long tough pliable leaves were used for making baskets and mats, and the fibre for string bags. An edible creamy-white core at the base of the leaves has a nutty taste. L. longifolia is very easily grown in the home garden and is propagated by seed or clump division. It tolerates dryness, low temps and even flooding, and is an important stabilizing plant for river banks.



Notes from Wales Rural Traders

Agtryne MA is now in stock. Agtryne MA is registered for Capeweed, Paterson's Curse, Crassula, Storksbill and Toad Rush in pastures.

Our local experience is confirmed by the trial results which show that the best weed control is achieved by spraying young plants that are easier to kill and are less competitive with the pasture. Now is the time to act.

There is still time to get a pasture sown down and get some good winter feed production. Crackerjack is a high yielding triticale. Dictator Barley has the fastest winter growth of fall forage cereals. There are still limited supplies of Wintaroo Oats and good supplies of Saia. We have a couple of Italian Ryegrass mixes in stock that will get away quickly.

If you have not placed your seed order yet, please come and see us.

Rocky
Passes



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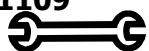
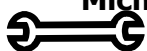


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