



THE GRANITE NEWS

JUNE 9TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 17

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Kendall Richards and her family walk to "Lake Tarli Karng"

A few weeks ago, Kendall and her mum and dad, with a love for the High Country, spent the weekend walking into Lake Tarli Karng to see the environmental wonder.

Approx 1500 years ago a massive landslide in the mountains above Licola slid down the mountain coming to rest at the mouth of the gully and acting like a giant plug forming a lake.

Day 1: Drive across Mt Skeneto Licola, from Licola to McFarlane's Saddle. McFarlane's saddle is a fantastic spot, perched on top of what feels like the world, amongst the snow gums is a relative protected camping site. Quickly a roaring fire provides warmth and a cooking facility with the pork roast on and sizzling. It's a quiet spot and we have it to ourselves, making us feel we are the luckiest people alive to be able to experience such freedom and beauty.

Day 2: 12 km walk carrying everything for the next 24 hours. Sleeping bags, tent, food, water, clothes etc. Although only 12 km it's a tough enough walk that going in & out in one day is not an option, especially if you are only 6 years old!!

The fire of Jan 2006 has destroyed sections of forest and there are many dead snow gums, however much was untouched and there is a lot to see, wildflowers, animals and birds. The first 8 km is not too bad and we scamper through quite cheerfully, then come the steep climb down to the lake.

Six hours after leaving McFarlane's saddle we get the first glimpse of what we have come to see. We are taken aback by the beauty of the Lake, which is just as well as now 10 km from our car and 2 km down the steep mountain side we are getting tired.

Camping at the lake has a kind of eerie feeling and as we set up our tent on the foreshore we get the full understanding of why the indigenous people looked at this spot with caution and respect. The moon comes up and has a brilliant shine on the water that lights up the whole valley.

It's a cold night but we are wrapped up in our sleeping bags in our tiny tent and sleep well.

Day 3: With mixed emotions we head out the next day for the long haul up the mountain. But before leaving Kendall hides a few treasures that she has found and mum and dad will not let her carry out. "I will be back some day for these", she said.

7 hours later and suitably tired to match we make it back to McFarlane's Saddle, set up camp and settled down for a rest and time to reflect on a great adventure. Kendall draws her experiences in her scrapbook and we all laugh and talk about what we have seen.

Day 4: Everything must come to an end and it's the drive home to Terip that finalises our weekend, but nothing can be surer, once we are home, it will be back to the map to start planning the next Richard's adventure.

By Robyn Richards

WELCOME TO ISSUE 17

The following are suggestions I have received for plants in the Hughes Creek Catchment that warrant a road-side sign stating their common name, botanical name and the family they belong to.

No 1 Banksia marginata - LHS of road going from Ruffy to Ruffy Rec Reserve - a HUGE old tree which still produces flowers and seeds.

No 2 Messmates - E. obliqua - the best group I know of in Warren's Road at Terip, but probably it is better to put the signs on main roads. There is a very good tree on LHS just past the Wattle Hill front drive.

No 3 Black Sheoak - Allocasuarina littoralis - LHS going towards Seymour from Kobyboyn Teleexchange, near top of hill. Also a few near top of Gobur Flora Reserve. These are interesting because I think they are there are not many in the district.

No 4 I believe there are Snow Gums - E. pauciflora - this side of the Terip tennis courts, again, probably the only occurrence in the district. I haven't actually identified them myself. (Peg Lade)

No 5 Yellow Box - E. melliodora - Any number on the road sides near Dropmore. Sam would pick the best.

No 6 The first kilometer, east end of Gum Rd, has a amazing "stand" of huge White Gums and some Blue gums, complete with koalas.

Please send in your suggestions so that we don't miss out on any magnificent specimen. Miranda 57969261 or miranda@activ8.net.au

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you: It is hard to believe my time at Highlands PS is over. Thank you to students, staff, parents and the wider community for making me feel so welcome and making my stay an enjoyable one. On Tuesday I return to my other job as a Literacy Specialist for the Hume Region Department of Education but I will always fondly remember my time at Highlands PS. From Meagan Callander

The pupil who is never required to do what he cannot do; never does what he can do. John Stuart Mill



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

Weekbeg9th	TeripTeripmowingroster Tim&CindyHayeslan&CynthiaCrawfordAroundClubhouseandall4courts
8 -14June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterMarkStokesVictorOles WesJeffery -RobWales
Wednesday June11	TheVictorianMinisterialAdvisoryCouncilforSeniorVictorianswillholdtheSeniorsSpeakUp!community forumfrom2.30pmto4pmattheMitchellShireofficesinHighSt.TheMinisterialAdvisoryCouncilisarep- resentativegroupofseniorsfromacrossVictoria,setup to provideregularadvice to theMinisteronissues affectingpeopleaged60yearsandover.WellknownSeymourresident,MargotGreenisamember.“We arelookingatissuesinvolvinghealthcareandhousing,publictransport,employmentopportunitiesandlife- longlearning;howseniorsprefertoreceiveinformationandanythingelsethatmatterstoolderpeopleinthis community.
Friday13th June	'DrinksontheDeck'dinnerat6pm. Comealong&seethechangestothehallforyourself. Bringsome food&drinkstoshare&meetyourneighboursfromnear&far!HighlandsHall
15-21June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterAshleyWaiteMickLeathamMichaelLakerGlenWatson
Monday16th	Scribblers7:30pmatCandi'splace57969366. Allwelcome.
Thursday 19thJune	SwanpoolLandcareGroup,7.30pmattheSwanpoolHall.DrRogerPaskin,aNamibian(SouthWestAfrica) veterinarianwhohasrecentlystartedworkinVictoriaasthestateepidemiologist.Thetitleofhistalkis"On Mosquitoes,PrionsandListeningtoGaia".DrPaskinworkedwithAllanSavory,onrangelandmanagement inAfrica.AllanSavoryfromZimbabwedevelopedtheconceptsofHolisticFarmManagementandcellgraz- ing.DrPaskinstartedoutasaprivateveterinarypractitionerinSouthAfrica,butmovedtoNamibiain1984 asaDistrictVeterinaryOfficerwiththeNamibianMinistryofAgriculturewherehisdutiesinvolvedwildlife captureandgameranchmanagement.HebecameDeputyCVOin1992. HethenjoinedFAOandmovedto Romefor4years;wherehespentthistimerunningdevelopmentprojectsandassistingwithbuildingsurveil- lancesystemsandemergencyresponsesinvariouscountriesinAfrica,AsiaandLatinAmerica.Hereturned toNamibiain2002andthenjoinedtheVictorianDPLinAugust2006asanepidemiologist.DrPaskin'sstalk willbewiderangingandheisanentertainingspeaker.Allwillbewelcome.
Sunday22nd June	HighlandsRamblers.Anhistoricalwalktakingineightabandonedhutsfrom'FortWilliam'atCaveatto 'Dropmore'andledbyAndrewShaw.PH57904297MeetattheHighlandshallat10.30am
Monday23rd June	YeaHighSchoolInformationEvening:YeaHighSchoolareholdinganinformationeveningfor2009Year 7sat7.30pmatYeaHighSchool.PleasecontactYear7co -ordinatorJarrodHealon57972207formore information.
ArborWeek 23-29June 2008	InresponsetothedroughtArborWeekhaschangedfromMaytoJune.InpreviousyearsArborWeekwas focusedmainlyontreeplanting.However,inordertoprotectstandsofremnantvegetation,re -establishde- gradedecosystemsandhabitatsandincreasebiodiversitythefocushaschangedtoincludeallnativevege- tation.WiththisinmindthethemeforArborWeekthisyearis“CreatingHabitatsforallLivingThings”.
Thur26thJune	CaveatChurchsausagesandchatAllwelcome.5.30pm
22 -28June	WhiteheadsCreek/TarcombeRFBTruckRosterJohnWoodJamesMattersRobHaynesDarrenBrock
30thJune, 2008	CanvasesfromHiArtsConversation,November2007tobereturned.PleasecontactMarciaon57969256or StuartandJudyon57969358.
5thJuly,2008	CommunityCanvasses.10.30am.MorningCoffeeontheDeck,HighlandsHall.Canvasseswillbeon displayandcontributionsoughtforthebestwaytodisplaythecommunitycanvasses.
SATURDAY 26THJULY, 2008	TERIPTERIPCOMMUNITYDINNERCHRISTMASINJULYTHERECRESERVE 6PMFORSHERRIESANDNIBBLES7PMDINNERBYODRINKS&GLASS\$15PERPERSON - \$5FORSCHOOLCHILDRENPLEASEBRINGCHRISTMASNIBBLESORDESSERTBESTCHRIST- MASPUDDINGCOMPETITIONRSVP,WEDNESDAY23RDJULY LUCRAVEN -57904011,FRANCESLAWRENCE -0432324929
Friday1Au- gust	RaimondGaitaProfessorofPhilosophy attheAustralianCatholicUniversityandProfessorofMoralPhiloso- phyatKing'sCollegeLondon,ShireHallAlexandra7.30 —9pmJoinusforaeveningofthoughtprovoking ideasonlove(truthandjustice(thechoiceswemakeandissues thatchallengeourworld)Auniqueopportu- nitytoparticipateinachallengingeveningoflivelyandinformeddiscussionwithaleadingphilosopherofour timeBookings57720349SponsoredbyFriendsoftheLibraryAlexandraRomulusMyfather(1998)ACom- monHumanity -ThinkingaboutLoveandTruthandJustice(1999)ThePhilosopher4sDog(2002)
2ndAugust, 2008	PreliminaryNotice:HiArtsConversation:“TheArtistandSocialResponsibility”.HighlandsHall,10 —3pm. \$10.00registration.Morningteaandlunchprovided.

Classifieds & Community Notices

Conservation Volunteers Australia work on Hughes Creek.

Last week a small group of international students visited Ruffy to assist with a landcare fencing project. A fence line along the Hughes Creek at Brian Leahy's was being replaced to protect the Glen Lyon Gorge Flora Reserve.

This is a difficult site for fencing with steep slopes and large sheets of exposed granite. Many postholes needed to be dug by hand and fencing materials carried into position.

Travis Tilton was the expert fencing contractor on hand to guide the workers.

Michael Kopancius used his excavator to remove the bits of old fence, a tricky job that saved weeks of manual labour. Naomi McLennan organised the fencing materials from Elders and Bruce loaded them in the trailer. The volunteers enjoyed their cosy accommodation at Marj Leigh's Holiday Cottages.

The volunteers came from London and Korea, they really enjoyed their stay in Ruffy and really enjoyed hosting them. We had a beautiful week of weather and spent some great smokes and lunch breaks chatting with Travis, Bonney the Dog and Brian, in the sun along this very special part of the creek. The fence is already now for Travis to strain up the wires and try on the ring lock. (I bet he wishes he had more volunteersto work with him this week!)



Neha Shan, Luke Rennie, Kim Sang Lim (Davey) and Kang Yoo Jin

Orphans Service

Any farmersthathave orphaned livestock that need to be hand reared please call Michael Shaw 57904297, we will collect them and give them the TLC they need.

FUNDING TO BOOST PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS IN OUR AREA

Victorian Government funding is now available to boost free or affordable public internet access.

"The Public Internet Access Program is designed to bring all the benefits of the Internet to people who currently have difficulty accessing it, particularly senior Victorians, recent migrants, those outside the education system, the unemployed and people with a disability," Mr Hardman said.

Grants of up to \$7500 are available to community organisations to purchase or upgrade computers and software, pay for Internet connections and cover costs associated with other relevant equipment.

Applications close Friday, 27 June 2008.

For more details visit www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au or phone the Grants Information line on 1300366358.

HIGHLANDS CAVEAT JUNIOR FIRE BRIGADE

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE
PRIZE: WILD COUNTRY SINGLE
TREKKER DOMESWAG (VALUED
AROUND \$200)

Proudly donated by Suthofarm Contracting (Farm work and maintenance. Ring Dale for a quote 0400164325) Drawn Friday 13th June. Proceeds to Junior Fire Brigade Enrichment camp October 2008

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

Harvest Home Hotel

Great news the Harvest Home Hotel at Avenel is up and running again 7 days a week. Well pub and accommodation is 7 days. food - and fantastic food from chef Peter McCloud who has had that everywhere he has worked will be available Thursday night, Friday lunch, Friday dinner, ditto Saturday and Sunday lunch. Last weekend was his first weekend and the dining room was full. Good news travels fast.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

YELLOW-RUMPED THORN BILLS are very common small birds, easily identified by a bright yellow rump and small white spots on the black head. They build an untidy domed nest with a hidden side entrance, and a false cup nest on top. May be this is to trick predators, or to suggest to cuckoos that they lay their eggs there!



Student of the Week

This week's student of the week is Imogen Geffert for always contributing 100% to all tasks and responsibilities.



INVITATION HiArts Community Canvasses

In November last year a Conversation was held at the Highlands Hall discussing aspects of the environment that influence their artwork.

Participants were given canvases to take home and use to express their interpretation of their environment "The view from their window".

HiArts is asking for participants to try and get their canvases completed by 30th June. We plan to have a sharing of the canvases on Saturday the 5th July with coffee on the deck at the Highlands Hall at 10.30am.

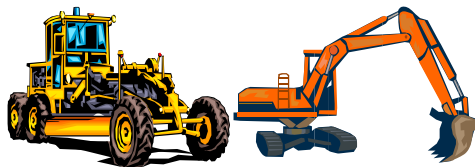
Everyone in the community is welcome to attend and contribute to the best way to display the completed canvases.

Any queries please contact Marcia on 57969256 or Stuart 57969358.

*Rocky
Passes*



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