



THE GRANITE NEWS

OCTOBER 20TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 31

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

The AUSTRALIAN GARDENS at the CRANBOURNE ANNEXE of the ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS.

After inadvertently cruising the back streets (and the Racecourse!) of Cranbourne, a bus load of Landcare members enjoyed an inspirational few hours at the newly developed Australian Gardens. The trip was funded by a grant from GBCMA to Highlands Landcare.

The gardens provide an amazing visual display of Australian landscapes and plants native to different areas and zones of Australia, from the red sands of the Centre to urban domestic backyards. The underlying theme is water- its presence or absence. The whole gardens, including remnant bush and heath lands and ancient wetlands, covers 363 hectares, 19 hectares of the new development is on an old sand quarry. As well as the huge variety of native trees and plants (100,000 specimens), there are displays of sculpture and art to help us explore ideas about connections between people, plants and landscapes.

The "Red Sand Garden" is a large expanse of red sand with crescent-shaped lunettes, grey-blue saltbush and a N-S swathe of pink and white everlastings was at its spectacular best.

The "Rockpool Waterway and Escarpment Wall" uses its own re-cycled underground water, and is enhanced by a 90m rusted steel sculpture wall, symbolizing the red sandstone cliffs of the Centre, and the movement of tectonic continental plates, as the ancient Gondwana landmass moved to form our present continent.

The "Arid Garden and Dry Riverbed" contains trees and varieties of saltbush not found in the preceding landscapes.

The "Exhibition Gardens" are a group of 5 gardens that highlight how people can use native plants in their own gardens. Water conservation and children's home gardens are included.

The "Eucalypt Walk" includes Eucalypts, Corymbas, Angophoras, Banksias, red-flowered Acacias, Boronias, Grass Trees etc.

We had an hour's guided tour, which was invaluable to our understanding. The second stage of development (9 hectares) will open in 2011. Many thanks to Miranda for organizing such a wonderful day

WELCOME TO ISSUE 31

Please send all articles to miranda@activ8.net.au

There was an incident on Highlands Road last week where a man was seen trying to steal a ute in the middle of the night, fortunately the owners' dog woke them up and the man ran off. Be alert but not alarmed and lock up your vehicles, a sad note in our normally very safe and honest community.

Good news, someone found and returned Joe's camera which we advertised as lost last week.

The fire restrictions now in force are those of the Murrindindi Shire.

Annual CFA Reconnaissance trip around Highlands

Sunday 30th November, meeting at 9.00 am at Highlands CFA shed. An afternoon in the gardens at Habbes Howe, for a picnic, wine and music. 1.00pm onwards Music from the very talented Gus Brooks BYO or Lunch and local wine available to buy. Raffle run by Junior CFA members Everyone very welcome.

Below is one of the many beautifully designed and constructed areas in the Eucalyptus walk.



Below the group listening to the guide explain the purpose of a particular area. The tour was invaluable for a greater understanding of the garden.



RUFFY STORE NEWS

The Season turns Late Spring 2008

Warmer days and milder nights herald the approaching summer and while Ruffy remains still green and crops not yet cut, we give a small thanks for every remaining cool night and minor passing shower. The cockies are nesting on County Creek, outdoor umbrellas and picnic tables are dusted off and set out again.

News

More spectacularly, minor works are underway with the mild days. Maclean Constructions Inc., has laid out local crushed granite paths and a magnificent seven league pink granite stairway descending to the Petanque / helipad / fall over drunk on the grass area. We will endeavour (at our leisure of course) to fit out this area for outdoor imbibing and enjoyment of the splendid blurry view.

The Ruffy Store is not subject to margin calls and we adamantly refuse to be sold short.

Harvest

Adrian's cherries are blossoming and should be available before Christmas, meanwhile we have fresh eggs, Warby Ranges non-irrigated, non-waxed and non sprayed oranges plus select small fancies. Jams, pickles and preserves can be sampled and, not only but also fine Strathbogie ranges wines by the glass or bottle from the bar or at the table.

A new supply of excellent organic veg is coming and you will be able to order a box of fresh veg for the weekend..

Backslap

And a big congrats to a friend of Ruffy . Tracy Lister on her new cookbook, the very beautiful KOTO (Hardie Grant \$45) Gravel Books.

Saddle up

For the Melbourne cup 'weekend' the Store will be open from Friday to Tuesday inclusive. Friday 31 October - lunch from 11.30 am Monday 3 November - breakfast and lunch Tuesday 4 November Melbourne Cup Day brunch

It's the big horsey cup day holiday betting silly hat and frock champagne thingy.

Petanque every 4th Sunday starts 1.30pm. Need to book if lunching first. Xmas cancelled but please book asap for Christmas to ameliorate any yuletide stress.

RUFFY STORE 26 NOLANS RD
RUFFY VIC 3666 PH :03 57904387
FX: 03 57904209 E:
STORE@RUFFY.COM.AU

Community What's On Calendar—October/November/December

Week beg 20th October	Terip Terip mowing roster 20th October Tim and Frances Lawrence Brian and Gail Van Rooyen Both sides of Springs Road and all 4 courts
19 Oct - 25 Oct 2008	Whiteheads Creek/ Tarcombe RFB Truck Roster Richard Waugh Rob Wales Wes Jeffery Richard Robinson
Friday 24th October	HIGHLANDS LANDCARE GROUP at Highlands Hall Guest Speakers: La Trobe students will present the results from their most recent studies of the Highlands and bogs. Simon Casanelia will speak on the subject "Peatlands and Spring Soaks". BBQ 'sausage sizzle' (BYO) at 6:00 PM, Speakers commence at 7:00 PM, Tea and Coffee at 9:00 PM All welcome - bring your friends. Contact Jeff Swain (03.5796.9353) or Jenny Webb (03.5796.9236) for details.
Saturday 25th October	Yea Community Health is supporting the open day at Yea Tennis Club as part of the Go For Your Life program. We wish to encourage as many adults & children in Yea and surrounding districts to come and have a hit of tennis and perhaps get involved in what the club has to offer. 1pm YEA TENNIS CLUB We would love to see anyone who has ever thought about playing tennis! Special events will include: Radar Gun (how fast is your serve?) Plenty of giveaways Free sausages and bread provided, BYO DRINKS
Sunday 26th October	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS next walk will be to a beautiful small waterfall west of the Mt Concord ridge. Meet at the Highlands Hall 10.30 am, or Caveat Church 10.45, or Hewlett's junction at 11am. Enquiries to Peg Lade 57 969222.
Thursday 30th October	Secret Men's Business BBQ at The Grotto, Caveat Church from 5.30pm, held every last Thursday of the month. All welcome. Working bee at Church 2pm fencing, painting, picture framing, a job for everyone
Saturday November 1st	10 am-12 pm at Rocky Passes [1590 Highlands Rd]. The Black Market is resuming with the low kilometre food exchange. Come to buy, share, swap or sell home produce ... or just come for a chat. This month, at 11 am, Leone Gabrielle will be running a voice workshop for those who would like to experiment with sound ... and we might also have a guest cook. Watch this space. Any enquiries, please call 57969366.
Saturday 1st November	7.30pm - Salty Dog (back by popular demand, 2002 Aussie Blues Band of the Year) Don't forget, the taxi service from Euroa / Nagambie / Avenel / Seymour, offering return journeys from just \$7.50 per person Taxis will operate for all live music performances. Bookings via the White Hart are essential.
Tuesday 4th November	Cup Day Chicken and Champagne Lunch at Terip Terip Recreation Reserve at 12.30pm \$15 a head Please bring salad or dessert (and own glass and drinks) Prizes for best hat Raffles, cup sweep And the "Inaugural Terip Cup"!! RSVP Tuesday 28th October Frances Lawrence - 0432 32 4929 Lu Craven - 57 904 011. lu@terip.com
Thursday 6th November 2008	The Lions Club Seymour Goulburn Inc and Cancer Council Victoria - Seymour Unit invites you to our ANNUAL OAKS DAY LUNCHEON at Seymour Race Club on commencing at 11 a.m. Admission \$22 per person, Drinks available at the Bar NO B.Y.O. Door prizes, raffles, mystery prizes, prizes for Best Dressed, Best Hat Best Shoes. Tickets available from Leading Edge Jewellery, Shop 1, The Mall, Seymour.
Friday November 7	Ruffy Store's regular First Friday dinner - a Summer BBQ/Buffer. Please call or email to book for dinner. And the bar open as usual so come as you are.
7, 8, & 9 November 2008	RUFFY ART SHOW AND SALE Ruffy Hall, 'meet the artists' preview & fundraiser 7 pm Friday tickets: \$12 bookings: 5790 4318 Open 10 – 5 Saturday 10 – 5 Sunday .Proceeds to the Ruffy community hall project, presented by Ruffartz, sponsored by Strathbogie Shire. ENTRIES INVITED NOW For entry forms or info: ph: Glen: 5790 4318 Sharron: 5790 4329 or email: parrindi@mcmmedia.com.au Entries close: Friday, 24 October 2008
Saturday 15 November	Mitchell at the Crossroads, A forum on re-building nature for our farms, our district and our future Guest speaker: Dr Andrew Bennett, Deakin University Tallarook Hall 9:30 for 10:00am start Contact DPI Broadford, 5784 0600 or broadford.fielddays@dpi.vic.gov.au
Saturday 15th November	Trust for Nature and the Mount Pleasant Reserve Committee of Management invite you to the opening of the Mount Pleasant reserve. Come along and enjoy guided walks with Joan Semmens, Trust for Nature and the Field Naturalist Club, a Free lunch and magnificent views! 11:00am Please RSVP 13th November for catering purposes Joan Semmens 57721542,
Saturday 22nd November	RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays presents - Bric a Brac - dance, nostalgia & romance 8.00 pm, Ruffy Hall. Contact Glen on 5790 4318 for tickets (\$26 ea.) or information.
Friday 28th November	HPS invites the community and especially Scotty to join in a cricket match at school starting at 2pm. Please let Meagan know if you can come so we can draw up teams beforehand PH 57969208
Sunday 30th November	Highlands Caveat Fire Reconnaissance Day with BBQ and music to follow at Habbies Howe.

Classifieds & Community Notices

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

PULTENAEA DAPHNOIDES (Large leaf Bush Pea or Native Daphne) is an erect shrub 1-3 metres high with yellow and brown pea flowers in a terminal inflorescence. The leaves are wedge-shaped, and broader at the apex. There are several large patches flowering now in the Rocky Passes roadsides, between Highlands and Seymour, and on many of the undisturbed hills and bush. It grows well in gardens and once established, it tolerates dryness.



Progress report for the Highlands Blackberry Project:

78 properties of the 111 total have been inspected to date, and I am hoping to catch up with the last few landholders over the next few weeks. DPI compliance officers will be in touch with those people we can't contact to ensure all properties are inspected.

DPI officers have observed very little blackberry across the Highlands region, which is pleasing and a credit to all landholders.

The time for blackberry control is fast approaching and landholders should be planning to undertake their control, which may involve a range of methods including chemical control or manual removal.

Landholders are reminded that re-inspections for the Blackberry Project will be conducted in January 2009.

Tree Planting Emergency!!

The weather is great... but the ground is drying fast, and we still have a few small sites to plant. 26 October to 31 October.....or early Nov if it suits better Lurg Hills near Benalla Ray Thomas Regent Honeyeater Project (03) 57 611 515

CHANGES TO RIPPING SUBSIDIES FROM THE HCCC

If you have already had work done that was approved you need to send you claim to :

HCCC

2848 Highlands Road

Highlands 3660

by the 1st December. **No payments will be made for past work after this date.**

If you have ripping work to be done contact Miranda Yorston and she will arrange a time to visit you to inspect the property and work out the hours required. Your request will be put on a list, in order of the time of the request and you will be contacted when more funding is available.

FOR SALE

Pine single bed with drawers and mattress, Pine single bunk beds with assorted mattresses, Pine writing desk with drawers, Double bed with wooden ends and tulip design and mattress, Assorted electrical items, Small antique table, 2 bridge chairs which need recovering, Assorted kitchen items per box and some toys To give away a quantity of 1" seedling tubes and 2" pots Phone AH 57904211

Background Briefing

This week on Background Briefing,

how to put a price on a poteroo...NATURE'S NUMBERS

Our economy may fall over, but it's not just about the financial meltdown. Nature is seizing up, and it's costing big bucks. Putting a dollar value on nature might help, but how much is a bacteria in a lake really worth?

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/backgroundbriefing/stories/2008/2392756.htm>

Tuesday 21st October 7.05pm
Wednesday 22nd October 4.05am

The audio of each Background Briefing is available on-line for four weeks after the program goes to air.

Previously on Background Briefing: MYANMAR NOW and WATER POLITICS Producer: Kirsten Garrett After the terrible storms and floods, the tragedy of Myanmar unfolded before the world. The situation now is still grim. New Zealand journalist Joy Reid reports. <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/backgroundbriefing/stories/2008/2383887.htm> Also, the politics of water, with Maude Barlow. <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/backgroundbriefing/stories/2008/2391427.htm>

Teenagers! We Want Your Ideas.

Mitchell Community Health Services are putting together a Local Action Plan to address alcohol and other drug issues with youth in Mitchell and Murrindindi Shires. It will have a focus of education and prevention, as well as services and service gaps.

Since this Plan will be all about young people, they would really like to hear what you have to say. Young people and parents are encouraged to fill out the survey. It should only take 15-20 minutes, and there is a chance to win a \$50 gift voucher from a shop of your choice. The survey can be found, and completed, on-line at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YfSbm_2fzngv2r1MGvs2geQ_3d_3d, or you can collect a hard copy at your local post office or by phoning 5784 5555.

Highlands Caveat RFB Pre Season Training Dates

It is a long time between fire seasons. For your welfare and that of your fellow firefighters, it is essential that we all maintain our skills. It is very important that you attend one of the following training sessions:

25 October 2008 – 1300 to 1600 hours

9 November 2008 – 0900 to 1200 hours

6 December 2008 – 0900 to 1200 hours

Other Important Dates

8 November 2008 – Volunteer Health Testing and Advice Focus on cardiovascular risk assessment Will include cholesterol testing, blood pressure, etc

30 November 2008 - Annual reconnaissance

Under Shearing Sheds Clean Outs

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Contact Robin

0427861267/53861267. Visit his web site at www.shearingshedcleanouts.com or email rob@shearingshedcleanouts.com



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Saturday 8am to 4pm

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ANTCLIFF'S CHASE



- WINE SALES
 - 10am - 5pm Weekends
 - Weekdays by Appointment
- Ph: 57 904 333

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Breakfast & Lunch
Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays from
8am

Lunch Fridays from 11.30am

Need to book, call Helen or Doug

T: 5790 4387

E: info@ruffystore.com

F: 5790 4209

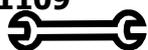


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