



THE GRANITE NEWS

NOVEMBER 10TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 34

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

The 2008 Ruffy Art Show & Sale at the Ruffy Hall last weekend was very well attended with record sales of artwork achieved. A number of prominent award-winning artists entered and everyone commented on the very high standard and wide range of artwork on display.

Marion Rennie, well-known local and international artist, who had kindly allowed the Ruffy Art Show Committee to use one of her amazing paintings titled 'Rocks at Sunrise' as the image for promotion for the Show had two large works on display. Another guest artist was Lynne Stone, a botanical embroiderer from Marysville who demonstrated over the weekend how she made her incredibly lifelike native blossoms. Paul Nicel from Strathbogie, the other guest artist, had four of his remarkable lead-light works on display.

Despite torrential rain on Friday (40mm+ in Ruffy) nearly 100 people attended the 'Meet the Artists' Preview including seventeen artists. Local identity, Neville Mawson, postmaster at Euroa Post Office and well known for his community work officially opened the Show.

Activities for the children over the weekend included painting 'masterpieces' as well as painting rocks to take home, finding treasure in the Treasure Island sandpit and a quiz about the art on display which was won by Jessica Fredrikson of Longwood.

The prize of a hamper of local goodies for the Pick your Favourite Painting Competition was won by Keith Robertson of Longwood. The artist gaining the most votes was Lynda Robinson of Seymour who was a clear winner with her pastel titled 'Regeneration'.

The Weekend Community Café again proved very popular and special thanks go to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly at the Café and also to those who provided all the home-made treats.

The Art Show & Sale which is presented by RuffArtZ received a generous Tourism Grant this year from the Strathbogie Shire Council. Proceeds will go to the Ruffy Community Hall Projects Fund.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 35

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

I am printing on a Sunday now so articles need to be in before then and remember it is 'first in goes in' and it is often full earlier in the week.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS ARE NOW IN FORCE



Thank you once again to the many helpers who make The Granite News possible and to the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative who provide the funding for this newsletter.

Locust Hotline

1300135559 Report any sightings immediately. Be vigilant, watch mid November to December for egg laying locusts to determine where any new infestation could occur.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wednesday afternoons are full of different activities. Michael and Walter are working in the garden with Maree Gilbert. This week all the students took home a bag of spinach they grew to cook with their family.



RABBITS AND CHEMICALS

Organize your ripping hours and chemical orders now. Maximum 30 ripping hours per landowner - Landcare provides a 50% subsidy up to \$65.00 per hour. Chemicals include Brush Off, Wetter and Round Up.

Ring Miranda PH 57969261 to arrange for an inspection prior to work commencing. No work is subsidized without an initial inspection and follow up visit.

TEENAGE HEALTH

Young people face many difficulties as they move from childhood to adulthood. Adolescence is typically a time for experimenting with risky behaviour, despite good parenting practices and role modelling. Some of this behaviour can lead to significant health issues.

Alcohol For teenagers, alcohol use is associated with a range of health risks, including: unsafe sex, drink driving and road accidents, fights, criminal activity, brain damage.

Body image and associated problems Crash diets and poor eating habits can lead to malnourishment, eating disorders and obesity, all of which pose health risks.

Bullying Estimates suggest that around one in six Australian children are bullied, which can significantly affect the young person's mental health.

Cigarette smoking Despite massive media campaigns, cigarette smoking is still popular amongst teenagers, particularly young women. The health affects of tobacco smoke are commonly known.

Illegal drug taking It is commonly believed that teenagers turn to drugs to alleviate depression or anxiety, but most try drugs simply for fun. Young men are more likely than young women to experiment with illegal drugs. Teenagers who smoke and drink are more inclined to try drugs than teenagers who abstain.

Media Television, movies etc has been implicated in socialising teenagers in harmful ways: offering up a diet of violence; emphasising the cultural ideal that only thin is beautiful; propagating the overriding importance of money, consumerism and status symbols.

Sexual relationships Teenagers need access to frank and honest information on sexual issues if they are to negotiate adult relationships safely and happily.

Suicide After car accidents, suicide is the most common cause of death among Australian teenagers. In the past 30 years, the suicide rate for males aged between 15 - 24 years has tripled. Young men living in country areas are twice as likely as their city counterparts to kill themselves. Teenagers can easily slip through the health network, and should be encouraged to visit their GP for any health issue. Keep an eye on your teenager's health. Community Health at Yea Hospital 5736 0400 and at Alexandra Hospital 5772 0800 www.humehealth.com.au/alexandra.

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

| | |
|---|--|
| Week beg 17th November | Terip Terip mowing roster Jim and Jill Davidson John and Lu Craven Car park and all 4 courts |
| 16th November– 23rd Nov | Whiteheads Creek/ Tarcombe RFB Allan Coulson James Matters Brian Tolley Rob Wales |
| Friday 21st November | Goulburn Broken Indigenous Seedbank Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed Collection • Seed Cleaning • Seed Treating • Plant & Seed Identification • Guidelines & Permits • Propagation Course Cost: \$55 inc GST 9.30am start at the Seedbank shed Lunch and all course materials will be provided . Please dress appropriately for field activities RSVP by Monday 17th November 2008 to: Liz Evans Ph: 03 5833 9279 M: 0428 770 030 The university of Melbourne, Dookie Campus, Dookie Nallinga Rd. |
| 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. |
| Saturday 23rd November | Finn, a NSW band travelling down especially for this weekend to play some funk, rhythm and blues. Entry is \$10 and special price taxis available Bookings via the White Hart are essential. |
| Thursday November 27th | Thanks to all those people from Highlands and Caveat, who helped with the work the Caveat Church. A reminder that the Christmas Gathering of Secret Men's Business at The Grotto will be held @ The Grotto Caveat 5.30 pm. All welcome especially the casual attendees, be there for the end of 2008. |
| 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 | Annual CFA Recognisant trip around Highlands meeting at 9.00 am at Highlands CFA shed. An afternoon in the gardens at Habbies 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. |
| Sunday 30th November | The White hart Hotel is hosting a special Charity BBQ in aid of the Longwood CFA. There'll be bbq lamb chops and spit-roast legs (kindly donated by our local farmers), accompanied by salads and sweets. With a glass of wine from Maygars Hill or Longwood Wines included it's sure to be a fantastic afternoon. Tickets are \$15 with all proceeds going to Longwood CFA. |
| Monday December 1st | EverGraze Field Day - Creightons Creek Supporting Site Creightons Creek 9am-2:30 pm Barrie Noye's paddock, Creightons Creek Rd, Creightons Creek (just south of the Longwood-Mansfield Rd on the East side of the road). Introduction to EverGraze and your opportunity to get involved in this local supporting site. Tools for implementing a rotational grazing system, summer management of native pastures. Please RSVP to Rhiannon Apted RhiannonA@iinet.net.au P: |
| Friday December 5th | EverGraze Field Day - Strath Creek Supporting Site Strath Creek 9am-2.30 pm "Three Sisters" (Terry Hubbard), 2724 King Parrot Creek Road, Strath Creek (followed by Strath Creek Hall). Introduction to EverGraze and your opportunity to get involved in this local supporting site. Tools for implementing a rotational grazing system, summer management of native pastures. Please RSVP to Rhiannon Apted RhiannonA@iinet.net.au P: 03 57 354 351 Mob: 0418 140 710 Lunch Provided |
| Friday 12th December | Highlands Community Christmas Breakup, Highlands Hall 6pm Drop in presents at Highlands Primary School , nothing above \$5.00, for your children for Santa to hand out at the end of the night. We are hoping for performances by all the community groups so start planning and practising soon!. |
| Saturday January 3 2009 | Terip Terip Annual Social Tennis Tournament - more details soon. |
| weekend of 28th February and 1st March 2009 | HiArts Art Exhibition and Family Festival Artists interested in exhibiting should check the website www.hiarts.org for details. This year entries can be fully processed on line. |

FOR SALE

Fridge with freezer above. Westinghouse Aurora 390 litres capacity, excellent condition 1490 H 690 W

FOR SALE

Jack Russell Puppies
 Tan & White, some with a trace of black. Both parents good natured with children. 8 weeks old, 4 females & 2 males. PH 5790 4298

FOR SALE

Small drinks fridge Westinghouse 250 litres capacity 1380 H, 500 W,600 D
 Ring Jono 57969344

Classifieds & Community Notices

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS



FAIRIES APRONS (or its less attractive name of "Bladderwort" - *Utricularia dichotoma*, is a small carnivorous herb of wet places. It has purple flowers with a broad lower lip, and is flowering now. Bladderworts have suction traps that are capable of catching mosquito larvae, water fleas and even tadpoles. Another species is the Yellow Bladderwort, which is found in the lowland parts of the Goulburn Broken catchment, and grows in still or flowing water.

Wanted: Dress ups!

As part of the HiArts Art Exhibition there will be many other activities, including face painting and dress ups for children.

We are putting together a box of dress ups for the occasion. Do you have any dress ups that you could donate or loan to HiArts for the weekend. Contact Judy 5796 9358

A National Climate Change Research Strategy for Primary Industries

Australia's primary industries have developed a national research strategy to address climate change and emissions management.

The strategy outlines six research priorities:

Understanding future climates,

Managing emissions,

Preparing industries

Accessing information,

Facilitating change,

Linking decision makers

To download or order the report or summary fact sheet visit:
www.lwa.gov.au

ON-FARM PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Farmers will now be able to apply for On-Farm Productivity Improvement Grants.

Grants of up to \$3000 are available to assist in implementing on-farm infrastructure improvements designed to increase future productivity gains and drought-proofing measures.

"The grants were initially offered as part of the 2007-08 drought package to areas in Northern Victoria identified as most affected by the drought," Mr Hardman said.

"The program was expected to end on September 30 this year, however as a result of its success and continued drought, our Government decided that funding would continue and also be delivered to farmers in Wodonga, Wangaratta, Indigo, Mansfield and Murrindindi shires in addition to the original list of municipalities. As part of the Brumby Government's \$115 million drought relief package announced recently, funding would be provided to undertake infrastructure improvements such as:

Fodder storages and systems, eg. silos, silage bunkers, hay sheds; Reticulated water systems using water troughs for stock;

Feedpads or feed troughs to minimise feed losses; and Improvements in packing sheds or on-farm nurseries for seedlings.

Since the program was first announced in 2007, there have been 3500 successful applications, funding projects to the total value of \$9.8 million.

Information about the Victorian Government Drought Initiatives is available from the Drought Information Line on 136 186 or visit the website www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought On-Farm Productivity Improvement Grants are administered by Rural Finance. Fact sheets and application forms can be found on the website www.ruralfinance.com.au

Wetland Care National Art Competition 2009

To celebrate World Wetlands Day 2009 - an Australia-wide art and photography competition, offering categories for both children and adults and also a Primary School Prize. Wetland-Care Australia is seeking artworks exploring the theme Upstream-Downstream: wetlands connect us all.

For further information and for entry forms visit: www.wetlandcare.com.au

WEDGE TAILED EAGLE GRANT

The Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative have been very fortunate to receive \$4,000 for research into the habits of our eagles from the GBCMA. Thankyou Tony Kubeil.

David Middleton is mentoring this project. We are forming a small working group to plan and implement our project. If you would like to be involved in this project please ring Miranda asap as we plan to meet in the next 2 weeks. I haven't had any calls to date.

A MESSAGE FROM WALES RURAL TRADERS

There has been a worldwide slow-down in fertilizer trade. Demand is very weak and prices are falling. However, manufacturers have high stock piles and they are trying to hold their prices up and have shut down plants thus reducing supply. It has been estimated that as much as 45% of the world's DAP/MAP export capability has been shut down in the past month

If you are trying to predict a future price you need to take into account the fall in the Australian Dollar; a dramatic reduction in shipping costs; slightly lower demand from reduced ethanol based plantings; and, lower demand due to the financial crisis. The current prices are on soft trade, a sudden shift in demand could send them higher again however, with sulphur having crashed in price and ammonia now in the process of doing the same, it seems inevitable that DAP/MAP prices must have further to fall.

Soon you will want to be planning for Autumn and to make sure you get full value from your program you should know what is in your soil. Arrange a soil test with Wales Rural now so that you have the results and recommendations in time for proper planning. Ring Daryl on PH 57921088

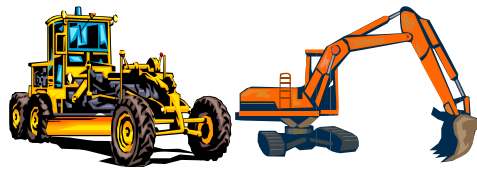
'A Step Ahead - Guiding farmers through change'

Free DVD - This new DVD from the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) aims to help farm businesses plan for and cope with change. The DVD covers a range of topics including adopting technology, working off-farm, succession planning and making changes, and also includes contact details for a range of organisations which offer support and independent advice. For your free copy of the DVD call the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Rocky
Passes



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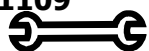
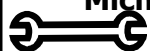


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