



THE GRANITE NEWS

DECEMBER 8TH 2008

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 37

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

LESLIE DALZIEL is something of an icon of Whiteheads Creek, although she indignantly denies it. She spent some of her childhood in Mt Isa, where she had great freedom to roam the countryside. This, and the influence of her zoologist mother, possibly established a passionate interest in animals and the environment. She originally thought of Science as a career, but changed to Arts when she discovered she had to dissect a cockroach in Zoology! Leslie met her future husband, John, while at Queensland University where he was studying Vet Science. Leslie's active interest in the environment began in the early '80s, when the trees in Tallarook St were being cut down. The Seymour Environment group was formed, with Dr Colin Officer and Leslie being among the original group of about 35. As amateurs, they surveyed every roadside in the Seymour Shire, but their results were not accepted. They got a grant to pay a professional, David Lawrie, to redo the survey. The environmental values were then available as a resource for the engineering dept of the Shire. This Environment Group ran out of steam eventually, and BEAM (Broadford Environment Action Movement) is now going strong.

After the big floods in 1974, Jock Wallis started the Whiteheads creek Soil Conservation Group, with Bruce Radford, their focus being revegetation of hills and trying to solve salinity problems. This became the Whiteheads Creek Landcare, and Leslie has been involved for many years. Recently, a new executive was elected, with new energies and ideas.

The Seymour Bushland Park with Colin Officer as the instigator and Leslie as Secretary until recently, is now under a Trust for Nature covenant.

In 1996, a group of people including Colin Officer, Jock Wallis and Leslie, set about rescuing land on the edge of Seymour earmarked for development, and the Light Horse park is well established, again with Leslie as Secretary. She says it has consumed her life for the last 10 years.

. For 5 years, she was a librarian for ACF, and has received many awards and acknowledgements of her work, including the Hubert Miller trophy in 2005. She contributes to Birds Australia, VNPA, Wildlife Pres. Society, Greenpeace, Bush heritage etc. An inspiration to many!

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yea Show:

We had terrific success at the Yea Show. Congratulations to James MacDonald who came 1st in the prep section for his drawing of a farm animal and to Kaylam Kirkham who came 2nd. Michael Shaw received a Highly Commended for his essay "How the Drought Affected Me". Kendall Richards received the Most Successful Junior Exhibitor for her entries in the show.

Wanted:

Do you have any old or un-used Lego or Duplo blocks at home? We'd love to look after it at Highlands PS. Building is one of our favourite activities and we don't have many blocks to share amongst everyone!

Community Cricket Match:

It was terrific to see so many people at school for last Friday's cricket match. Scores were relatively even until the big hitters from Michael's team stepped up! A great afternoon was had by all. Thanks to everyone who came and participated and thanks to Scotty who continues to teach us the finer skills of cricket each week.

Ben Hardman:

Ben visited Highlands PS on Monday. Students introduced themselves, took Ben on a tour of the school, asked questions, showed him a PowerPoint with student profiles and presented him with a certificate. It was great for Ben to answer our questions to clarify some things we've thought about since our visit to Parliament House. Ben to talk about the changes he'd noticed at Highlands PS since he was the principal in 1994-95.

Congratulations:

Each year the Rotary Club of Yea provides a scholarship award to a Year 6 student from each local primary school. This year the recipient of the award was required to speak at a Rotary meeting. Congratulations to Kelly Petersen who won the award for HPS. Kelly is an excellent role model, school captain and has worked extremely hard in preparation for high school. I attended the Rotary meeting last night with Kelly and her parents. She spoke extremely well and was a credit to her family and school. Well done Kelly.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 37

Please send all articles to my new email address-
miranda@omnipotent.com.au

FIRE RESTRICTIONS ARE NOW IN FORCE

Thanks for this Leanne. "I thought these might be useful for you or your friends, work mates or networks in the frenzied, and often compulsive Christmas buying lead-up

<http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/files/giving/SustainableChristmas.pdf> <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/files/giving/goodgifts2008.pdf>

The Government may want to promote spending to kick-start the economy, however with a little thought this could be targeted to achieve multiple benefits without adding to waste or unduly depleting the world's resources

RUFFY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Saturday 13th December 2008
Ruffy Recreation Reserve, Noye Lane, off Buntings Hill Road, Ruffy
Following the traditional Ruffy vs Highlands Cricket Match which starts at 2.30pm

Community BBQ from 5.30pm
BBQ provided courtesy of Strathbogie Shire & Relationships Australia thru CFA Just bring your Salad to Share
Santa will be coming Family games and music, Hey Kids, bring your cricket gear and have a hit!

Temporary Part-Time Vacancy Environment Project Officer – Strategy

The Murrindindi Shire Council recently received funding under the Victorian Local Sustainability Accord to develop an environment strategy to give effect to Council's recently adopted environment policy.

An exciting opportunity now exists for an Environment Project Officer – to work with council and community stakeholders to develop the environment strategy. The position also involves the development of an action plan to reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions, in accordance with milestone three of the Cities for Climate Protection Program.
www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au or by contacting Tammi Ward on 5772 0333. Applications close 5pm on Thursday 11 December 2008.

Community What's On Calendar—December/January

Week beg 8th December	Terip Terip mowing roster Geoff & Jan Penny Mark Ireland Car park and all 4 courts
Thur 11th Dec	HCCC meeting 8pm Whiteheads Creek Hall, all welcome
Friday 12th December	Highlands Community Christmas Breakup, Highlands Hall 6pm BYO BBQ and a salad to share. 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! Dennis is presenting a slide show of photos taken on Ramblers walks, Jenny Webb is showing us her discoveries about bandicoots, Scotty and the Hall Committee are presenting their version of "Grand Designs" and much more.
Friday 12 December	WALES RURAL in conjunction with Stephens Pasture Seeds, invite you to further your understanding of Brassicas as a summer feed option. Join us at 10am on at the Shearing Shed at Tarcombe Herefords Tarcombe Ruffy Road, Tarcombe Karl Drever (SPS) will outline the pros and cons and the how-to of a successful brassica crop in this region. BONUS – Afterwards, Karl will also review a recently planted Lucerne crop in a nearby paddock. Please RSVP to the store by Wednesday 10 December for catering. (Wales Rural gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the Hayes family for making this day possible.) Wales Rural Traders ABN 25 118 066 860 ph. 03 5792 1088 fax: 03 5792 1048 Address: 17 Emily Street Seymour Postal Address: PO Box 972 Seymour 3661
Friday 12th Decem-	'Drinks on the Deck' coincides with the Highlands Community Christmas break-up so come along and have a 'drink on the deck'.
Saturday 13 December	Families from the farming and rural industries are invited to the Farmer's Harvest Dance Live music by 33 1/3 Children's entertainment Finger food provided BYO Drinks 8pm-12am Mercy Centre, Anderson St, Euroa Bookings Essential Hume Corridor Community Health Service 5736 6366 Sponsored by: Ken Muston Motors Shepparton Strathbogie Shire – Drought Support CWA No entry charge
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Wednesday 24th December	Christmas Eve Service There will be a Christmas Eve Service on at 5pm in The Caveat Church. Come along and hear the Christmas Story and sing some carols. We are fortunate that Neil Lemmon will be the to supply the music.
Saturday January 3 2009	Terip Terip Annual Social Tennis Tournament 10.00am Sections 1 & 2 and Juniors (approx 4 sets - alternating partners) \$10.00 entry includes morning and afternoon tea (family concession) Light lunch and BBQ tea available Come along and enjoy a great family day. Enquiries - Helen 57904211 Cindy 57904226 or Frances 0432 324 929
Australia Day weekend 23-26th January	Many talented local and regional Artists who have been preparing to complete in the Rotary Club of Yea's 23rd Annual Art Show need wait no longer. While some 250 invitations were recently sent to artists who had previously registered, the Club is keen to receive entries from other established and emerging artists. The Art Show will be held over the at the Yea Shire Hall. Entry Forms can be obtained by calling Peter Tull on 5797 3145 or downloaded off the internet at www.rotary9790.org.au/artshow . Entries close 6pm on 5th January 2009.
28th Feb -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.

THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE MORE THE GRANITE NEWS THIS YEAR. IF YOU WISH TO ADVERTISE ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE GRANITE NEWS NEXT YEAR 2009 YOU NEED TO EMAIL MIRANDA ON MIRANDA@OMNIPOTENT.COM.AU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE ON THIS YEAR DOES NOT GUARANTEE A SPOT NEXT YEAR, IT WORKS ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. THE COST WILL BE \$250 FOR THE YEAR. THIS NEEDS TO BE PAID AS SOON AS YOU RECEIVE NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR POSITION IS CONFIRMED.

Classifieds & Community Notices

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

MILKMAIDS - (*Burchardia umbellata*) This is a common native lily, flowering now. It has conspicuous white star-like flowers with red centres, borne at the end of long slender stalks. There are 2 grass like leaves. It can be grown from seed, and the flowers can be eaten. It looks rather like a large Early Nancy flower.



CHOOSING AN ENERGY DEAL NOW EVEN EASIER

The State Government has launched an information campaign aimed at helping Victorians choose the best deal on their electricity and gas bills.

The Member for Seymour, Ben Hardman, said local residents would be sent information and a fridge magnet that advises them to "Make your electricity and gas choice, the best choice" and outlines 10 simple steps for consumers to undertake before choosing an energy retailer.

For more detailed information or practical tips, householders can also contact their energy retailer; visit the ESC website at www.esc.vic.gov.au/yourchoice; or phone the ESC on 1300 134 575.

Victorian Government energy grants for regional businesses and farms

The Victorian Government, through Regional Development Victoria and in partnership with electricity distributors Powercor and SP AusNet, is supporting regional businesses and farms through two new energy grants programs. 1. Regional Electrical Access Program (REAP) 2. On Farm Energy Grants. For more information about either program contact: Craig Eyes at Regional Development Victoria (03) 9651 8121 or powerupgrade@rdv.vic.gov.au

FOOD SAFETY OUTDOORS

The warm weather is here and so is the time for barbecues, picnics, and partying outdoors.

Food poisoning is a real risk when taking food outside the home. Taking food out of the fridge, freezer, pantry or clean kitchen for long periods of time can mean a greater risk of contamination.

Eating outdoors can increase the risks of food poisoning because:- bacteria grow more easily between 5°C and 60°C; facilities for cleaning and hand washing may be inadequate; clean water is not always available; and food can be exposed to contamination from insects, pests and animals.

High risk foods include meat, poultry, dairy products, eggs, smallgoods such as hams and salamis, seafood, cooked rice, cooked pasta, prepared salads (coleslaws, pasta salads, rice salads) and prepared fruit salads.

Place containers with raw meat or other high risk foods into separate leak-proof containers and then into a cooler. Use plenty of ice or cold packs around the food. Frozen drinks can serve as icepacks, especially in packed school lunches. Travel with the cooler on the floor of the car, out of sunlight. Cover cooler with a blanket for extra insulation. Information from www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au.

TO HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS NEAR AND FAR!

At the Highlands Community End of year Function on Dec 12th (see GN Calendar), Dennis Spiteri will be showing a DVD made from many of the wonderful photographs he has taken on our walks. So come and enjoy!

Ordering Local Native Tube stock

Anyone wanting to order local native tubestock for 2009 from the Euroa Arboretum needs to order ASAP- we are propagating now. Please call Sam on 0429 127 399, or email: strong_sam@activ8.net.au.

In addition to farm trees and shrubs, there are also have plants suitable for gardens, so come and visit Thursdays and Fridays 9-4pm or the first Saturday each month 9-12pm. The parkland features lots of interesting plants that may inspire you!

A MESSAGE FROM WALES RURAL TRADERS

Cattle – Pink Eye

We have a number of cattle producers successfully using the Piliguard (Pink Eye) vaccine. There is some planning involved to get the best results out of this 1 shot preventative injection, however the users have been very happy with the reduction/prevention of pink eye.

Cattle – Summer Drench

A quick reminder that a Summer Drench for cattle will be your most important and strategic treatment for worms & lice in cattle.

Should I treat my adult Cows? This would be the most frequently asked question that I get asked. While your adult cows will usually handle these burdens OK, assuming that they are in good condition (condition score 2.5 or more), and are not short of feed, it will come at some cost eg. reduced milk production. These cows will also contribute to the worm contamination on pastures, having a greater impact on the calves (which have little immunity to worms), hence the calves will have reduced growth rates and weaning weights. Regards, Glenn Barry

For further information call or email us at the store Store (BH) 5792 1088 Email: walesrur@ruralco.com.au Glenn Mobile: 0427 313 776

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Artists wanting to exhibit items in the next HiArts Exhibition (28th Feb. 1st March 2009) can apply on line (www.hiarts.org). If that is not possible you can get forms from Stuart Reid 5796 9358.

DISTRICT RAINFALL

for November was above average, with Highlands getting 113.6 mms (650.4 for the year so far) and Terip had 100mms. A severe thunderstorm on 27th, with very large hail, yielded 17.6 mms in 10minutes at the official Highlands rain gauge, 56 mms in 1/2 hour was recorded at another gauge, with serious damage to gardens and local flooding.

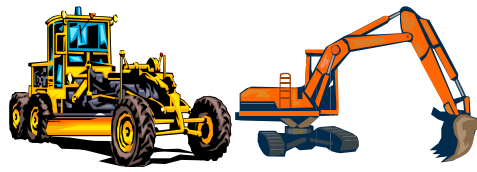
HiArts Dressups

HiArts is still looking for material suitable for children's dressups at the Exhibition. Clothes, wigs, material, hats etc would all be useful. Contact Judy 5796 9358

Rocky
Passes



Cellar door open Sundays 11am-4pm
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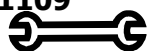
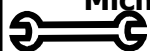


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