



THE GRANITE NEWS

17TH AUGUST
VOLUME 3
ISSUE 25

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

HIGHLANDS HISTORY NO 3 EARLY SCHOOLING

A school situated at Kobyboyn had catered for the educational needs of the children, though access was not always easy.

"Schooling was difficult. The Highlands children, Walkleys and Yorstons, had to walk about three miles over the creek and hills. Sometimes the Crows Nest creek would flood and make it difficult for the younger children to wade through... odd concerts were held in the Habbies Howe woolshed, the Stewart children attending the school." Mr T Lade

In 1902 a Hall-cum-school was built (Fassifern Hall) the name changed to Highlands about 5 years later. This building cost a total of 47 pounds. At the other end of the district, Dropmore South provided schooling for the children. In 1912 this was replaced by Molesworth Gap, built from local timber and re-named Caveat during World War 2. At various times it was run full time, not at all, half time with Highlands and briefly one third time with Highlands and Kobyboyn. Some children moved to Yea so they could have proper schooling.

Many of the teachers sent to this district had never been outside Melbourne. They had to cope with primitive living conditions and travelled to school by bicycle, horse or horse and jinker. The local school went to 8th grade and some children went on to Mansfield Agricultural High School or left school.

Mr Des Maher taught at Highlands and Caveat during the late 30s and early 40s. "In 1936 I purchased a bicycle for 6.14.6, then travelled to Seymour by train, found the mail coach - a 30cwt truck outside the PO. It was so loaded that there was no room for me or my bike, so I tied the bike on the back of a govt hire car, and headed for Highlands. First day I set off for Molesworth Gap, and caught up with a spring cart with about 6 kids on board, and pulled by a half draught horse. Wattle scrub grew right to the road edge, and I only saw the building when I was within a chain or so.

Teachers usually boarded with one of the families, so had to be pretty resilient and full of initiative to find their way around

LANDCARE WEEK

In celebration of its 20 year milestone, Landcare Australia is using "The Landcare Journey" as the theme for Landcare Week 2009 (Sep.7-13). The campaign celebrates the huge contribution Landcare volunteers have made to their local communities over the past 20 years, as well as encouraging others to put up their hands and get involved. What you can do:

Check out the online Landcare Week Events Calendar at Landcare-week.com. Starting from today, volunteer Landcare Coastcare and Bushcare groups will be adding their September events that you can get involved in. Landcareweek.com will go live on the 12th August.

RUFFARTZ DOES IT AGAIN

The little Ruffy Hall was alive last Saturday night when Valanga Khoza stepped in with less than 24 hours notice after Kavisha Mazzella was unable to perform due to illness. The charismatic Valanga from South Africa with his wife Andrea and talented trombonist Adrian presented irresistible rhythms and harmony singing along with story-telling and the playing of some unique instruments. Valanga also conducted the singing workshop in the afternoon with most of the participants joining the Trio to perform on stage later in the evening. For those people who were disappointed that Kavisha Mazzella had to cancel - the RuffArtz Committee is inviting her to present a Workshop and also an evening Concert in the near future.

Thanks to Kate Kennedy for the photo.



WELCOME TO ISSUE 25

Please send all articles and community and personal notices to miranda@omnipotent.com.au I print on Fridays whenever possible and articles etc need to be in by 9am Friday morning to catch the press.

A reminder from the Ruffy Store that Marian Rennie's 'Epicornia' exhibition continues until 31st August

WALES RURAL UPDATE

Now is the time to consider a Forage Brassica as a high quality summer feed for sheep and cattle. Brassica, such as Winfred, have proved themselves valuable in tough, dry seasons. The summer rainfall in the Highlands in the last couple of years has seen Brassica crops continuing through summer to fill the feed gap. Ready to graze in 10-12 weeks, Winfred should be sown now to give it maximum establishment opportunity. If you have not sown a Brassica before please come and see us to discuss the merits and grazing management issues. Phone Dayl or Peter on 57921088

RIPPING HOURS

The HCCC are expecting to receive more funding for subsidizing ripping hours. It is important to put in a request for the hours you will need for ripping in 2009-2010.

I am keeping a Wish List of people wanting the subsidy.

30 hours is the maximum that you can request.

The only people on the Wish List at the moment are:

Peter Graf	5 hours
Reo Crupi	10 hours
A Lade	20 hours
R Fenton	10 hours
J Penny	10 hours
S Mathews	30 hours
R Strong	30 hours

You also need to know that there is a DPI REP rabbit programme coming to Highlands shortly. This is the same as the blackberry programme that many of you were involved in. Landowners will be required to destroy warrens on their property. Ripping is often the most effective method to use. Contact me to be placed on the Wish List and for a list of approved excavator operators who the HCCC will fund. Miranda PH 57969261
Miranda@omnipotent.com.au

Community What's On Calendar—August/September 2009

Fortnight beg 17th August	Terip Terip mowing roster Merv Penny Max & Joan Eddy Car park and all 4 courts
Friday 21 August	Ruffy Happy Hour or 2 6.00 for 6.30 pm at the Ruffy Hall Bring a Casserole or a sweet to share BYO drinks Come and join our monthly social get-together. Friday Night at the Movies at 8.00 pm Brassed Off Ewan McGregor and Tara Fitzgerald The most enjoyable feel-good British movie since 'Four Wedding and a Fu- neral' Funny, Moving, Heart-warming' Enquiries Terry 57 90 4318 Verena 57 90 4309
23rd - 29th Aug	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER Chris Head Lindsay Heffer Tim Hayes Glenn Christensen
Friday 21st August	The Upper Murray Agribusiness Group and Towong Shire Council as part of the Grazing the Hills project invites you to Matching Livestock to Pasture Production Workshop Presented by Dr Rod Manning Rod is a highly regarded veterinarian and farmer based near Mansfield with a particular interest in livestock produc- tion, pasture budgeting and rotational grazing. The 2006 drought brought into focus the need to manage both farming and financial risks and Rod has since reviewed every part of his farming system to ensure its survival and growth. Time: 9.30am – 1.30pm Where: Towong Shire Office – Hanson St, Coryong. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. Cost : UMAG members free and \$20 non members More Information : Tim Paramore on 0428 686 370 Bookings : Brooke McKimmie 0411 415 671
Saturday 22nd August	White Hart Hotel Longwood [white.hart@bigpond.com] 7.45pm - Austin Floyd - fresh from Fitzroy - singing country and rock Don't forget, the taxi service to/from Longwood / Euroa / Nagambie / Avenel / Seymour / Violet Town, offering return journeys from just \$10.00 per person. Taxis will operate for all live music per- formances. Bookings via the White Hart are essential. T: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com
Sunday 23rd August	Fire Recovery Planting, Falls Road, Strath Creek. Meet at Kevin and Noreen Foster's property, 179 Falls Road at 10.30am for planting at Fosters and Griffins. Lunch will be provided. This is a contribution by our group towards rehabilitation of fire-damaged properties and a large turn-out is encouraged. Please advise Janet Hubbard if you are coming or not. A salad or cake would be appreciated.
Thursday 27th August	Secret Men's Business at the Caveat Church on the last Thursday of every month. Come along at 5.30pm and enjoy a snag and a chat by the fire. Everyone is welcome.
Thursday 27th August	Highlands-Caveat Brigade - extraordinary meeting to be held at the Highlands Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m. to discuss additional infrastructure for the brigade and to protect community assets.
Friday 28th August	Property Rehabilitation Workshop, Flowerdale Hall, 6 – 9pm. A DPI workshop to discuss weeds, water sup- ply and land management issues after fire, and opportunities for financial assistance. Aerial photos of your property will be provided. Light meal available. RSVP essential – contact Peter Mitchell on 57 840 622 or 0409 432 498, email peter.mitchell@dpi.vic.gov.au
Saturday 29th August	"Welcome Strangers" 8 pm BYO drinks and nibbles. "Four consummate musicians present a show featuring tenderly collected versions of all but lost authentic traditional rural Australian fiddle tunes. Also some pre- cious songs sung in sweet harmonies that permeated our culture via early immigration and some that were written right here on Aussie soil." Bookings with Glen 5790 4318.
Sunday 30th	Highlands Ramblers Highlands Hall 10.30 am Ring Peg 57969222 for more details
Sunday 6th September	White Hart Hotel Longwood [white.hart@bigpond.com] 2.00pm - Real Gone Blues - a relaxing blues session for Fathers Day T: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com
Tuesday 1st September	Ruffy Bookclub 7.30pm Discussing 'Enduring Love' by Ian McEwan Venue to be confirmed, start reading!
Thursday 10th	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative meeting 7.30pm Ruffy Hall
Friday 11th September	'Drinks on the Deck' at Highlands Community Hall from 6.30pm. Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. Gold coin donation to cover power.
Saturday 12th September	OLD TIME DANCE at the Ruffy Hall at 8 PM Music supplied by the popular CD Admittance \$7.50 Please bring a plate of goodies to share Enquiries: Ph. 57 90 4318
Sunday 20th September.	White Hart Hotel Longwood [white.hart@bigpond.com] In the Dining Room, we're looking forward to our second food & wine event of the year called Three . Each course of the three courses will feature three different foods on the plate, with each course matched to three outstanding matched to local wines from Antcliff's Chase, Delatite and Maygars Hill. Wine tasting and dis- cussions with the three winemakers will follow after the lunch. Price is \$55 per person including wines and bookings are essential so call early to avoid disappointment: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com

Classifieds & Community Notices

UPPER GOULBURN FOOD WINE AND CULTURE GROUP

Partnerships, raising the profile of cultural happenings and continuing to profile our regions' food and wine through events and cultural events were definitely on the menu at last week's AGM of the Upper Goulburn Food Wine and Culture group held at the Yarck General Store.

In his presidents report Mitch MacRae spoke about the devastating loss resulting from the February bushfires and how the group will continue to highlight the challenges our businesses face in the recovery mode to all levels of Government.

Mitch spoke about the four major areas of promotion that the group has worked on this past 12 months; the Travelling-foodies Blogspot, the popular quarterly e-newsletters, the Upper Goulburn Wine and Food trail and ensuring the Worlds Longest Lunch at Marysville is held in 2010.

The new committee as a result from the official part of the meeting for the 2009 2010 year are President Mitch MacRae, Vice President Rob Mitchell, Secretary Sam Hicks, Treasurer Wendy Oates, Susan Kinloch, Jackie Ashe, Helen MacDougal and Sasha Lord. Taste our passion, savour our true cool climate wines and trout - discover the magic!! www.uge.asn.au

La Trobe University (Wodonga) Bog Study

2nd year students from the La Trobe Uni Dept. of Environmental Management and Ecology will be visiting the Highlands area on 27th - 28th August. This is the 3rd year we have hosted the students, who are studying Ecological Genetics and Evolutionary Ecology. Each year, their work contributes to a more detailed understanding of our bogs. If you would like to meet with the students or participate in the study, ring Jenny Webb, 5796 9236 or jenny.lwebb@hotmail.com

FOR SALE

Aus Silky Maltese cross pups - two males Very cute, lovely and fluffy, great pets and family dogs. Can view both parents.

Fully vaccinated and wormed.
12 wks - \$250

Helen McKenzie 03 5790 4211 AH

HELPING DEPRESSED TEENAGERS

When teenagers are suffering with depression, they aren't always able to ask for help and may even refuse your help. It is important that you:

Take their depression seriously.

Offer unconditional love and concern. Take time to listen when they want to talk about their feelings.

Show them you are available without being 'pushy'.

Encourage them to do things you know they enjoy.

Notice the little things they are doing that you approve of.

Support and encourage them to get help without nagging.

If they won't go for help, get some advice on how to best handle the situation.

Take seriously any talk about suicide and actions such as giving away special things - do whatever is needed to ensure their safety, even if it is against their wishes.

Tips for parents

Parenting a teenager who is suffering depression can be very stressful.

When you find yourself getting angry or frustrated:

Take a step back and think about what is happening before reacting.

Remember that your relationship with your child is important and they need it to continue.

Think about your own views. Are you wondering why you should have to put up with the terrible behaviour (which will only make the situation worse) or are you thinking, 'Something must be wrong for my child to be behaving like this'?

Ask people close to you for support.

Look after yourself - you need to take care of your own needs if you are to help your child.

Get professional help if you need to. Contact Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636 or www.beyondblue.org.au for more information.

Phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 in a crisis. (Information from www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au) Community Health at Yea Hospital - phone 5736 0400 and at Alexandra Hospital - phone 5772 0800

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

PURPLE Coral Pea

Hardenbergia violaceae

This is a very tough native - now starting to flower in gardens and on roadsides as a climber or prostrate scrambler. In gardens it needs to be pruned severely to rejuvenate old plants. The stems can be up to 2ms long. If propagating from seed, pour boiling water over seeds and soak for several hours. There are numerous plants growing on the rocky sides of the Ghin Ghin Cutting and flowering now.



MOWER ROSTER FOR HIGHLANDS ARBORETUM

NOT ONE PERSON HAS OFFERED TO HELP WITH THE MOWING!

Come on Highlands community, could someone please put their hand up to help. Landcare, in conjunction with the Highlands Hall and Highlands Caveat CFA, has purchased a JD Ztrac Out-front mower. This should make it much easier to maintain the Highlands hall, arboretum, stone circle and the CFA precinct.

Volunteers are needed for the mowing roster. The more people who help, the less often we will all have to do it. If you would like to volunteer please contact Scott McKay on 57969259.

YOGA CLASSES

starting 24th August
Wednesday (or Monday) 6-7.30pm at
Highlands Hall
Tuesday 6-7.30pm at Abundance in
Yea
\$50 or \$20 casual
shakti.mudra@gmail.com or 04488 79642

Rocky
Passes



Cellar door open Sundays 11am-4pm
or by appointment - 57969366
1590 Highlands Rd

Ruffy Produce Store

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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Smith
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PLUMBING



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: 0408990487

: 57904328

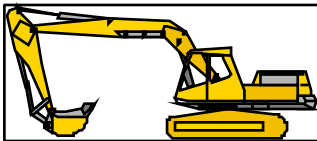
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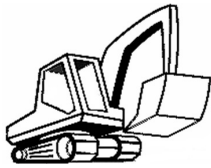
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