



THE GRANITE NEWS

7TH SEPTEMBER
VOLUME 3
ISSUE 277

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

PEOPLE AND PLACES

EMAIL UPDATE FROM THE RICHARDS OF TERIP

From Cairns two weeks ago Kendall and family headed North with all of the expectations of a unforgettable trip. With the Hilux loaded, equipped with a roof top tent (to keep us all safe from the "crocks") bags of recovery gear, winch etc, cooper tyres, lifted springs etc, camper full of food and fridge equipped with a few drinks and essentials we were ready for an adventure of a life time.

Day one saw us heading North across the Daintree River on the ferry and into the Daintree National Park. (Sadly for Dad the Creb Track was closed and it was the main road I am afraid) The Daintree National Park is a rain forest with lots of wildlife, tall lush trees, great fishing and camping. A stop at the famous Lions Den Hotel for a drink and then on to Cooktown for the night.

From there we travelled into Lakefield National Park and spent the night camped on the Hann River banks. With a roast cooking on the open fire we did some crock spotting on the river (a sport that has now become a night time ritual!!) We were both delighted and slightly anxious with the spotting of two sets of red eyes that appeared to be hovering below us. They appeared to be quietly swimming below us with the patience far better than ours!! After an hour or so they grew tired of our torches and quietly swam off. The next day we travelled out of the National park and stayed at the Archer River Road house (caught up on washing and shower). It was the boys night to cook so naturally we ate at the Road House - Burgers were on special that night!!

Out to Chillie Beach the next day which is in the Iron Range. Although the access road to Chillie Beach is rough the camping is worth the effort. Right on the beach, sheltered by coco nut trees and the opportunity to have a long walk on the beach looking for shells and little sea animals. Dad and Kendall managed to find a "ready to eat" coconut and dad showed us how to husk it. We drank the muddy coloured milk and ate the fruit. The milk is urk but the fruit "Meat" is really nice. Mum cooked a chocolate cake on the open fire as it was "Miss Beanie's" first birthday and we had a birthday party for her. (Miss Beanie one

of Kendall's Beanie Kids that have come on the trip with us)

The next morning we looked at some of the WWII history at the Portlands air strip and then on to Bramwell Junction to fuel up, shower and get ready for the Old Telegraph track (OTL). The OTL follows the original Old Telegraph Track and is the traditional way to explore the Cape. For many years it was the only way north. The track was constructed as the telegraph line pushed north from Cooktown to the tip. The telegraph line was the only mode of communication from its completion in 1887 until it was dismantled in 1987. Today the line has been replaced by microwave links. The track was great 4W driving and I am sure this is what dad came for!! He loved the tracks, river crossing and camping.

We camped that night at a place called Elliot Falls. This is the greatest spot as there is plenty of swimming and cooling off. We also stopped and swam at Fruit Bat falls. Fruit Bat falls became Kendall's favourite place of the trip so far!!



From Elliot Falls we made it all the way across the Jardine River (have to purchase a ferry ticket costing \$88 return) and up to Loyalty Beach to camp in the caravan park.

From Loyalty beach the next day we explored the tip. It was a great thrill to stand at the tip for our photos to be taken. Without a doubt it is a special place. We also explored the Somerset point and found the graves of Frank and Sana Jardine. The Jardine family established the Somerset homestead in 1864 as a haven for shipwrecked sailors and the Capes first cattle property. The Somerset tip track follows the beach and in low tide you can drive the complete loop. So of course it was a must do for dad, with the tyres dropped to 18 psi we set off in the deep sand. It was a great trip but you do have this kind of urgency feeling about the drive as if the tide comes in

WELCOME TO ISSUE 28

Please send all articles and community and personal notices to miranda@omnipotent.com.au. Another long one for the front page but what a trip, lucky people! **LOST DOG, PATSY, FOUND.** A huge thank you from Doug Mclean to Jan Sporry and all the concerned phone callers.

you would be forced to camp on the windy headlands until it goes out again.

The next day we again hit the WWII history trek. The Cape became a major base for Australian and American troops in WWII. In this period many planes crashed and wrecks of a DC3, Beaufort Bombers and a Kitty hawk fighter lay in the bush land around the Jackey Jackey airfield. We found them and many other evidence of war history. It was an interesting day. Our last day at the tip and around the area saw us doing a bush walk through some rain forest looking for wildlife (found evidence of wild pigs and many many different kinds of ants!!) A swim before heading south back across the Jardine River and out to Vrilya Point. This became mum's favourite camping spot, right on the beach of a very clean bay, the night was breathless, the fish were jumping and the sun set was to die for!! She said she would have stayed for a week!!

From there it was back on the OTL, (dad was smiling again when he had to be winched out of Gun shot!!) and with a night at Elliot falls (for Kendall to swim) it was out to Captain Billy Landing which was also a very interesting place with lots of history.

In 1880 Government geologist and explorer Robert Logan Jack was led to Captain Billy Landing by an aborigine who called himself Captain Billy. From 1879 to 1881 Jack led two expeditions to map and explore the Cape. We camped on the edge of the beach that has a huge flat spot where cattleyards once were. They lead to a ramp out to sea and was used to transport cattle from the area many years ago. Back the the Delhunty River for a night of more crock spotting, and now we have made it to Weipa. We are here for a few days resting, washing, cleaning, stocking up before heading further south. We have now travelled almost 6,000 kms and I can tell you (for anyone who is interested) it is approx 5,000 from Terip to the Tip!! Hope everyone is well at Highlands Love Kendall, Robyn & Ken.

Community What's On Calendar—September/October 2009

Week beg 7th September	Terip Terip mowing roster Neville & Sue Debney Peter Short and Betty Jenkins Both sides of Springs Road and all 4 courts
Wednesday 9th September	Highlands playgroup. All welcome. BYO kids snack and drink Morning tea for the adults supplied. Hope to see you there. Ph Marisa on: 5796 9360
Wed. 9th September	Farmers in the Hughes' Creek Catchment Collaborative are encouraged to come and hear about some of the most important issues facing Victorian farmers and what the VFF is doing to continue the fight for rural Victoria. Andrew Broad, the newly elected President, will provide an overview of the key issues the VFF is working on including farm rates, the Fire Service Levy, water security, the future of the VFF and the Federal Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. All VFF Members and Farmers are welcome to attend and are encouraged to bring neighbours or friends who may not yet be members. Members of the media are also welcome to attend 12.30 PM KingsPark , Seymour
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, 13th September	Ramble around Ruffy at 10am Join Sam Strong and the Ruffy Sunday Walk Group up to Wallaby Gully to look at the amazing array of wildflowers, including orchids. Meet at 10am at the Ruffy Hall for a carpool trip to the Reserve on Upton Road where we do a short few hours wander/wonder in time for a warming coffee or other beverage at the Ruffy Store. For more information, please contact Neil Doran on digit-downs@westnet.com.au, or Sam on 0429 127
MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2009	TERIP TERIP RECREATION RESERVE NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 8pm at the Terip Terip Recreation Hall Please make an effort to attend and support the Committee. We are working hard to fund raise to update the facilities at the Recreation Reserve, but we need local support! We have been fortunate to receive Federal funding to improve the outside area, so you may notice activity at the Reserve in the next week or two. We are concreting the pathways, and extending the verandah area to provide more undercover outdoor space, which should make a difference when we have large numbers attending functions in inclement weather.
SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER	GOULBURN OPTIONS DISABILITY SERVICES are having an OPEN DAY on AT 260 DELATITE ROAD SEYMOUR from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. with CAR BOOT SALES AT \$10 PER SITE, B.B.Q. & DEVONSHIRE TEA, BOOMERANG THROWING & SALES. FOR ENQUIRIES RING DEBBIE ON 57923192 . COME ALONG AND FIND OUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO.
Saturday , 19th September	Seymour Bushland Park in Bloom at 2pm In early August, the Seymour Bushland Park put on its best ever display of Nodding Greenhood Orchids, and from now on we can expect Sun Orchids, (Blue or salmon in colour) Golden Moth The park will host a Guided Nature Walk and picnic with respected field naturalists Dr Peter Mitchell and Barbara Moss, who will be on hand to answer all our questions. Please come along and learn more about your park, no experience necessary! PH 57990693 or email Seymour Bushland Park at seymourbushlandpark@gmail.com for more
13th-19th Sep	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER Richard Waugh Gary Richards Wes Jeffery Ned Jeffery
Sunday 20th September.	White Hart Hotel Longwood [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 discussions 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
Tuesday 22nd Sept	Highlands playgroup. All welcome. BYO kids snack and drink Morning tea for the adults supplied. Hope to see you there. Ph Marisa on: 5796 9360 (school holidays all ages welcome.) please check for venue - maybe at school grounds/park (weather permitting.)
Thursday 24th September	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.
Saturday 26th September	AFL Grand Final and the Ruffy Store's 7th Birthday. Celebrate with the Grand Final on the bigish screen and be our guest for a birthday BBQ after the footy.

Classifieds & Community Notices

Dear All,

I went on a little holiday last night between 6.00pm and 7.30pm at Abundance. The storm raged outside and I was in a warm, comfortable, tranquil place. Next Tuesday nite, 6.00pm at that little renovated house/shop on the corner opposite Elders – be there with your socks, blanket, yoga mat (if you have one – otherwise Shakti has them) and your misaligned chakra and we can float around together. Love (and peace and a great night's sleep) Bridget xx

YOGA CLASSES

Wednesdays (or Mondays) 6-7.30pm at Highlands Hall

Tuesdays 6-7.30pm at Abundance Wellbeing & Beauty in Yea

\$50 for 3 classes or \$20 casual

Yea classes please book with Carolyn 5797 3377

ALEXANDRA LIBRARY PRESENTS STAND UP COMEDY

The final event of the Friends of the Library Alexandra Away with Words Festival will be a hilarious evening of stand up comedy with Damian Callinan on Tuesday 15th of September in the Alexandra Shire Hall at 7pm

Damian will be in Alexandra for a one night only performance of warm and wickedly funny stand-up comedy with heaps of local content. Damian is one of Australia's most prolific performers; he has performed at the Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Comedy Festival, on the Footy Show, radio and countless live gigs. He is one of Australia's most versatile and popular comedians.

Enjoy a great night out and a good laugh followed by some passionfruit sponge and chat with Damian afterwards at the Alexandra Library.

This is a free event sponsored by Friends of the Alexandra Library.

Bookings are essential telephone 5772 0349



JUNIOR LANDCARE PUMPKIN CHALLENGE

Did you know that the average Australian basket of groceries has travelled over 70,000km in 'food miles' from the paddock to your plate?

Junior Landcare and Yates are challenging Aussie kids to get growing over summer and see who can grow the biggest pumpkin. Yates will be sending free pumpkin seeds to people who register for the challenge. Not only is this a fun outdoors activity for kids, families, schools and groups, but it is a great way to learn about sustainability, the environment and "food miles". Go to www.juniorlandcarechallenge.com

HIGHLANDS CFA NOTICE

At the last CFA meeting we talked about the loss of power and no use of the UHF system, we now have a little diagram of what we can do at home to keep a auxiliary power source to the UHF system. If any person requires batteries for the UHF, ring us. We need to make sure people know that with no power we have no access to the UHF. Cheers

Sharyn Shaw 57904297

TROUT SEASON

Anglers will be able to fish for trout in rivers and streams from Saturday, September 5.

"To further improve trout fishing opportunities tens of thousands of brown trout and rainbow trout have been stocked by Fisheries Victoria during the winter months mostly into lakes and impoundments, like Eildon."

"Despite ongoing drought and low water levels, Fisheries Victoria expects to stock 1.5 million fish this year, consisting of trout and native fish, to improve fishing opportunities for freshwater anglers.

Trout anglers returning to rivers and streams are reminded to look at catch limits for trout.

These limits are outlined in the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide, available free at all good tackle shops or by contacting the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186. It can also be viewed online at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing Anglers are also reminded that the three month closed season for Murray Cod commences on Tuesday September 1, to protect the species while spawning. This closed season applies to both rivers and lakes.

HIGH LIVING in HIGHLANDS

was the theme for the walk on 30th August, which connected some of the highest hills in the district. We started at Wattle Hill (680 m) on a very cold morning and walked through cleared paddocks to Darren Metcalfe's newish house, with wonderful views to the N and E. Lunch stop sheltered by a rock overhang. Then on to the site of the Fassfern (later Highlands) school - built in 1902 with a few large exotic trees and rock garden edging remaining. The walk finished among huge granite boulders and views to die for, on Miranda and Jono's property.

Once again, thanks to Andrew for his intimate knowledge of the district and for knowing where the gates were.



RAINFALL

Rainfall at Glentannar, Highland was 82.4 for August, making 426.7 mms for the year so far. At Terip Terip they recorded 83.8 mms for August which was 376.5 for the year.

HAVE A SAY ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Residents can help shape the Brumby Government's policy on climate change through a series of online forums launched on the Premier's website, the Member for Seymour Ben Hardman said.

The 6 week public discussion process will highlight key climate change themes with topics including Transforming in the Energy Sector, Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change, Transforming our Cities and Towns and Transforming our Economy.

Mr Hardman said the website would feature a variety of professionals who would provide observations, ideas and challenges and issues around climate change for the State Government in developing the Climate Change White Paper. To join the discussion on Climate Change in Victoria visit www.premier.vic.gov.au/pages/climate-change-green-paper or phone 9651 5000

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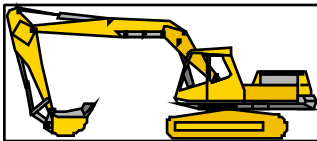
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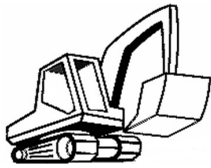
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