



BOTANY, BIRDS & CREATURES

TREE FERNS

There are two common species of tree fern in Victoria, plus some rarer ones. The one everyone has in their gullies throughout our district is Soft tree fern, *Dicksonia antarctica*, while the taller and thinner Rough tree fern, *Cyathea australis*, is less often found.



While walking in Ruffy recently I saw both species growing together, the Rough looking superficially like a palm tree, and towering over the Soft, which sometimes retains its dead fronds hanging down and covering the trunk.

The Soft is a good host for small ferns and other little plants which grow from its trunk. It is the one seen for sale in nurseries because it can grow new roots if cut off, which the Rough cannot.

The common names refer to the base of the fronds, which in the Rough are covered with tiny rough spikes, while the smooth are covered with soft hairs. Both species live for several hundred years.

By Louise Currie



NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the Week



Bonnie For excellent behaviour on camp. Well done!

3/4 Camp: What a great camp!! We all enjoyed the experiences Sovereign Hill had to offer. Students enjoyed mixing with other students and making new friends. Thanks to Yea PS for inviting us on this camp.

Welcome: Next term we welcome Dylan to HPS. Dylan is in Grade 6 and is finishing his primary schooling at HPS. We are very excited about having Dylan join us and welcome his family to Highlands.

Gallery 34 Visit: We had a great day on Monday when we visited Gallery 34. We were lucky to have Jill and Darren speak to us about their art. It gave the students an opportunity to view art in a formal setting. Thank you to Ingrid and Barb for our delicious morning tea and to the parents who accompanied us and assisted with transport.

By Meagan Callander—Principal, HPS

HIGHLANDS & YEA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' "TERRIFIC TRIVIA NIGHT"
*Saturday 19th October-7.30pm
*At Yea Recreation Reserve
*Tables of 10 only \$12 per head
*Get a table together or just come on your own and we'll put together a table for you
AND We'd really appreciate your help with donations of Auction Items for the Schools' fundraiser on the night

For Bookings, Info or Auction Items please call Highlands PS 5796 9208



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME to ISSUE 34 2013
Contact editor@tgn.org.au 5790 4007

BAN the BLOWER

Opinion

Following the 2009 Victorian bushfires I worked for 3 years in Marysville. Over that time it was heartening to watch mother nature do her work revegetating the town and the denuded surrounding landscape.

The parched earth was crying out for nutrition but believe it or not, as soon as the autumn leaves of 2010 began to fall, the council workers moved in with their leaf-blowers to 'clean up'.

Now, to be fair, this may have been a well meaning council employment creation programme, but as someone with a deeply entrenched dislike of leaf-blowers, I found it difficult to reconcile.

We all know how shallow, fragile and desperately in need of mulch our Australian topsoils are, yet we seem to be hell-bent on denying them natural nutrition and the benefits of the micro environments that develop in leaf litter.

Rather, we appear to be in favour of further polluting our environment by burning more fossil fuels with machines made of high energy materials in the pursuit of a 'neater' domestic and public environment.

If, over the past couple of hundred years we'd just let the leaves lay where they'd fallen, rather than raking or blowing them into piles and burning them off, then we may now be reaping the benefits of slightly healthier soils..... and don't get me started on stick rakes.

By Don Cook



FINDING 'FOXY'
Issue 33, Bottom Left of Page 3

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR SEPTEMBER/OCT 2013

<p>Now Until 30th September 10am-4pm</p>	<p>GALLERY 34 "FERTILE GROUND" EXHIBITION At Gallery 34, High St., Yea Ceramics by Margaret Anne Milburn & Digital Photography & Mixed media by Jill Maclean Contact Jo Miller 5797 3222</p>
<p>Sunday 22nd September 9:30am</p>	<p>St. DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY Join the "SPRING-FLING", which has been organised by the Euroa Uniting Church for this day. This exciting event will start with a church service in Euroa and will be followed by morning tea. It will then take you on a drive through the countryside and lunch at a mystery destination. You are invited to attend this special event instead of a service at our Terip-Ruffly Church, which has been cancelled. For further information ring Stella Stillman 5790 4276</p>
<p>Thursday 26th September 5:30pm</p>	<p>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS (The word is out!) Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks</p>
<p>Friday 27th September From 6:00pm</p>	<p>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT Rocky Passes Winery 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek The popular Tapas Nights provide a relaxing way to end the week by enjoying great food & wine with friends. Contact 5796 9366 or contact@rockypasses.com.au</p>
<p>Saturday 28th September 6:00pm</p>	<p>RUFFY PROGRESSIVE DINNER Tablelands Community Centre (Old School)/Rec Reserve/Ruffly Hall This will be a Good Old-Fashioned Community progressive Dinner. Everybody is invited to come along in your Footy Colours and to be entertained by local artist Jim Davidson Tickets are \$25 per head Proceeds to Ruffly Rec/Ruffly Hall/TCC Contact Pam Sprunt 5790 4240</p>
<p>Sunday 29th September 10:30am</p>	<p>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS Meet at Highlands Hall The walk will be along Old Coach Road and back, so come on all you people in and around Old Highlands Road – you've just got to step out of your front doors to join in. The walk is a bit over 5km return, unfortunately I can't completely avoid the hills but there's only a couple and they're not too bad. Bring your lunch, and we're invited to Bruce and Helen's for afternoon tea. And "Marc's taxi service" has offered to shuttle people part of the way if it's all too much. And if you don't have a backpack I have several I can loan. It's spring and the weather should be lovely. So do join us! Contact Louise Currie 9437 1504 or mlcurrie@bigpond.com</p>
<p>Saturday 28th 8:00 pm & Sunday 29th Sept 4:00pm</p>	<p>EUROA CINEMA "The Conjuring" 112 mins (M) Mystery/Suspense (and a bit of horror thrown in!) 3 stars Well-crafted and gleefully creepy, this movie ratchets up the dread aspect through a series of effective old-school scares. "The Conjuring" is based on the true story of Ed and Lorraine Warren, world renowned paranormal investigators. They are called to help a family living in a secluded farmhouse who are being terrorized by a dark presence. The Warrens find themselves confronting a demonic entity, caught in the most horrifying case of their lives. No use hiding under the doona – come along for a really good horror session – and there are many out there who do enjoy this kind of cinematic journey! (Yeah, but I'm not one of 'em. Ed)</p>
<p>Saturday 5th October 9:00am-2pm</p>	<p>YEA COUNTRY MARKET Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea Showcasing local producers, growers and makers offering an array of stalls, the best in fresh local produce, arts and crafts, children's activities, play ground and skate park. Gold coin donation entry</p>
<p>Sunday 6th October 11:15am</p>	<p>St. DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY Ruffly Road, Terip Terip This service with Holy Communion will be conducted by our minister, Reverend Glenys Gill. . For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</p>
<p>Sunday 6th October 10:30am</p>	<p>RUFFY WEEKEND WALKERS Monthly ramble to High Points of Interest around the district We're on a Mission to walk to all of the district's Piniger cairns. Meet at Ruffly Community Hall at 9:45am Contact Neil Doran 0457 253875</p>
<p>Thursday 10th October 10:30-12:30pm</p>	<p>RUFFY PLAYGROUP Tablelands Community Centre (Old Ruffly School) Nolans Rd., Ruffly This month it's the School Holidays and we'll be doing some Pot Plantings Cost: \$3:00 per Family. Bring a small plate of food to share. Contact Sally Kubeil 5790 4335</p>

Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

MOVING FEAST AT THE RUFFY REC RESERVE !!

A good Old Fashioned community
PROGRESSIVE DINNER is
happening and YOU are invited !

* Pre-Dinner Drinks & Nibbles at the
Old Ruffy School

* A Hearty Main
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* Desserts &
Coffee PLUS

Entertainment follows at the Ruffy Hall

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will have you rocking the night away.

Saturday September 28th 6:00pm



Only \$25 per
person

So put on your
dancing shoes
and book early.

Proceeds to the Ruffy Rec Reserve,
Ruffy Hall & TCC
Contact Pam
5790 4240

Gallery
34
Invites you to

'Fertile Ground'



Ceramics by **Margaret Anne Milburn**,
Digital Photography
and Mixed Media by **Jill Maclean**

4 th September to 30 th September 2013
Opening: Friday 6 th September 2013 6pm - 8pm
34 High Street, Yea
Wednesday - Sunday & Public Holidays 9-4
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Jo Miller - Ph 03 5797 3222 -
info@gallery34.com.au - www.gallery34.com.au

TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

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Once again the time has come to think
about looking for and spraying
infestations of Pattersons curse.

Paton Air will be in our area over the
next few months for helicopter
spraying, so it's a good idea to contact
them early if you are interested.

The HCCC is once again offering a sub-
sidy on chemical and helicopter fees,
limits apply.

Please contact Simone as soon as
possible to get on the list 5790 4146
hughes.creek1@gmail.com.

HCCC SPRAY UNITS

Tarcombe— Rob Hayes **5790 4319**
Caveat—Michael Kopanica **5790 4235**
Highlands— Scott McKay **5796 9259**
Ruffy— Don Cook **5790 4007**

\$33 per Spray Day/\$100 per Season

Payment to Janet Hagen
Coordinator—HCCC Landcare
5790 4268
jhagen@harboursat.com.au

DEBATABLE POINT ?

AUSTRALIA'S AVERAGE
TEMPERATURE has risen by 0.9C
since 1910. According to the Climate
Commission this is part of the doubling
of the number of record hot days
across Australia since 1960
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(As one of its first acts, the Abbott government
abolished The Climate Commission)

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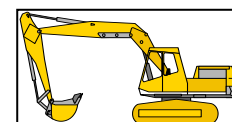
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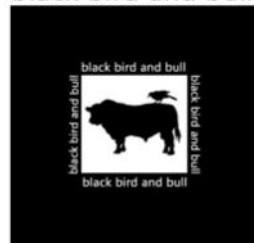
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