



## CONVERSATIONS

### HANNIE RAYSON REIGNS in HIGHLANDS' RAIN

'Writing is a passport to adventure,' Bruno Letteri says to Hannie Rayson, first lady of the Australian stage. It's meant to be a conversation about Hannie's venture into memoir, but the phrase could describe the crowd that brave the cold, mist, rain and mud to hear Hannie and Bruno speak. It could also describe Rotunda itself: born in Footscray and based in Melbourne, it has now made the journey out to Dennis Spiteri's Highlands Gallery, near Yea. This journey is, unquestionably, an adventure. Born of Rotunda supporters Joan Broughan and Marg McAlpin's suggestion that Rotunda venture beyond Melbourne.

As we trudge from the carpark to the gallery, we wonder if the weather will turn people away. Surely, despite a speaker of Hannie's renown, they'll prefer to stay home?

The Highlands Gallery is a large, modern building with a stunning view of cloud-covered hills, the walls covered with Dennis's oversized, colourful canvases, a welcome escape from the grey outside. They come with umbrellas, coats and hats, and they fill up all but a handful of the chairs.



Hannie & Bruno 'conversing' at Highlands

Bruno describes Rotunda as a 'rolling festival of intimate conversations', and the Highlands Rotunda is no exception. Hannie is real, honest, vulnerable, witty. She opens with 'The Dinner Party', a short piece from her forthcoming memoir venture, full of commentary on the dangers of modern entertaining. The audience laughs when she mentions the mouse in her kitchen, a burnt dumpling steamer and the injunction to 'never inflict your diet on your guests'—how can they not? Haven't we all survived similar disasters ourselves?

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Student of the Week

#### Rick

For initiating games, displaying great sportsmanship & encouraging the juniors. Well done!



#### Staffing/Fundraising:

With our confirmed budget just arriving and less students this year, we are currently overstaffed. In order to maintain 2 teachers we are focussing all our fundraising efforts on staffing. Our fundraising efforts to date are approximately \$7000 which is a fantastic effort for a small school. This total wouldn't be possible without the hard work, donations and contributions from our families and wider community. The next fundraising event will be catering for a Rotary dinner. Stay tuned for details.

#### Chook House:

Our chook house is starting to make progress. Thanks to Dave Clarke, Rick & Graham who have been spending some time on planning and constructing the foxy chook house.

By Meagan Callander—Principal, HPS

They talk performance anxiety, public intimacy, the spirituality inherent in the act of artistic creation, the subversiveness of writing, art as empathy.

This isn't a how-to-write conversation. It's not about technique or the best way to go about the writing life.

This is two people giving voice to something most writers—most artists—know in their heart, although we may not have fully realised it.

Do we travel to find new places, new experiences?

Or do we travel to find the brothers and sisters we have yet to meet?

By Kim Cook



Hughes Creek  
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME to ISSUE 18 2014  
Contact editor@tgn.org.au 5790 4007

## READERS' WRITES

"I wanted to place a small thank you note in TGN for the generous responses from readers offering me the opportunity to copy and return their precious copies of Helen McCall's 'Highlands 1882-1982'. One especially generous reader had a spare copy which I have now received. A big thank you to all." --Kind regards, Peter Chisholm



## STRAWBERRY FIELDS UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who turned up to the Strawberry Fields meeting on Sunday and listened to what the organisers envisage for the festival. The festival still has to be approved by the Murrindindi Shire Council.

There was some good discussion and ideas that came from the meeting and a lot of positive feedback.

A committee has been formed to co-ordinate and maximize the amount of money we, as a community, can raise from this event.

Jim McCooley has volunteered to be the Chairman.

Community Group Representatives are

Alistair Lade—CFA

Bridget Clarke— Highlands Primary School

Judy Cameron—Hall and Treasurer

If you are interested in joining the committee please contact  
**Julia McKay 5796 9259**  
[mckayj@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mckayj@bigpond.net.au)

There will be another information session for those interested and the committee formation on  
**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May at the Highlands Hall 10.00 am prior to CFA AGM.**



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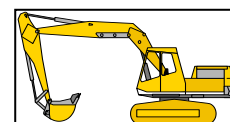
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Regular trips to the Tablelands on Friday  
afternoons with discounted travel

**A.J. & S.L. SHAW  
EXCAVATIONS**



GENERAL EARTHWORKS

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Sharyn 0437281072

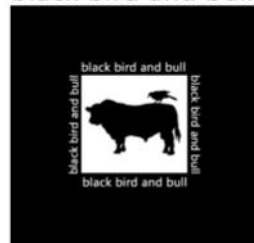


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## Classifieds & Community Notices

### LOCAL GOINGS ON



We're taking some R&R this weekend so we won't be open Sunday May 25th..... but will be having our usual last Friday night of the month on 30th May.....serving our yummy Cazuela de Mariscos (spicy, seafood stew in a tomato base) with crusty bread ... from 6:30pm.

Contact 5796 9366



### LOCAL GARDENING WORKSHOPS

We still have two more workshops to go in the series .

On 27<sup>th</sup> May at the Tablelands Community Centre award winning landscape designer Brian Rankin will return to finalise our plans.

On 19th June the last workshop will be held at the Euroa Arboretum, learning how and when to take cuttings from native plants.

If you would like to try your hand with cuttings, its best to get some good tips of plants – around 20cm length. Pop them straight into a plastic bag with some moisture and keep them cool – refrigerate if collecting the night before.

But fresh is best. Very new, soft growth will wilt like crazy and not work – best to use quite robust stems. Or plant material will be available at the Arboretum on the day, cost for this workshop is \$5 per person to cover materials.

Bookings contact Fiona 5790 4369 or Helen 5790 4387

### 'FAMILIAR GROUND'

An Exhibition of Pastel works

by Hurstbridge artist, Kylie Sirett.

Kylie began using pastel as a medium because of its ability to accommodate life's little interruptions, and over the past few years has developed her own unique style.

Kylie's recent work focuses on the strong shadows that objects create and she draws inspiration for her intimate still life works from her immediate surroundings; seeing strength in the objects' original design. She boldly re-creates objects through her complex layers of colour built up from short strokes of pastel, enriching each item with texture and character.

You can join Kylie Sirett (whose current exhibition 'Familiar Ground' is showing at the Ruffy Store) as she demonstrates her particular style of pastel work. Kylie will take participants on a hands-on journey through the method she uses to create her pastel images, sharing personal insights into her own specific style.



The workshop on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> of June is suited to both beginners and the more experienced.

The cost is \$79 including all materials required for the day and morning tea on arrival. Lunch available at the Ruffy Store or BYO

Places are limited, bookings essential by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June  
Contact Helen on 5790 4387 or [store@ruffy.com.au](mailto:store@ruffy.com.au)

### TRADING PLACES

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TABLELANDS  
"WINTER BINGO" is  
BACK....YAY !!



Come along and bring family & friends for a Fun Night with other local folks.

Quirky prizes and Free Supper

Friday May 30th at Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy

7:30pm 'Eyes Down' at 8pm Sharp

For further information

Contact Sally 5790 4335

RUFFY RURAL  
FIRE BRIGADE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Monday 26th May 7:30pm

At the RUFFY COMMUNITY HALL

Members and Guests are Welcome and Encouraged

Contact Justus Hagen 5790 4268

### LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

FOX ON THE RUN 2014

TEAM WITH THE MOST FOX  
TAILS WINS !



HCCC Landcare is once again running the "Fox on the Run" competition which commences on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

To register your team please email Simone [hughes.creek1@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek1@gmail.com) prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>

FINDING FOXY Issue 17

Top right Page 1 & Top Left of Page 3

# COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR MAY/JUNE 2014

<b>CFA ROSTERS W/C May 25th</b>	• Terip Terip..... <b>Captain Geoff Penny's Team</b>
<b>TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER</b>	<b>W/C 2nd Jun</b> Peter Short & Betty Jenkins—Brad Kellett & Kate Wright Both sides of Springs Rd & All Four Courts <hr/> <b>W/C 23rd Jun</b> Ken & Robyn Richards—Helen McKenzie Around Clubhouse & All Four Courts
<b>NOW until Sunday 22nd June</b>	<b>'FAMILIAR GROUND' ART EXHIBITION</b> at the Ruffy Produce Store Nolans Rd., Ruffy <span style="float: right; border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; color: white;"><b>ON NOW!</b></span> An exhibition of pastel works by Hurstbridge artist, Kylie Sirett. Free Viewing—Yummy Cake & Coffee are extra !
<b>Sunday 25th May 11:15am</b>	<b>ST.DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY</b> Ruffy Road, Terip Terip This service will be conducted by our minister, Reverend Glenys Gill. All welcome. <div style="text-align: right;"><b>For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</b></div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"><b>TODAY!</b></div>
<b>Sunday 25th May 4:00pm</b>	<b>PIPED MUSIC in THE BUSH—A FANTASY of CLASSICAL PIPES</b> at Peter Hagen's Broadford Studio The third concert in Peter Hagen's series just out of Broadford will feature a real pipe organ on loan from the Melbourne University Early Music Studio. Tickets \$38 each. Book at <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/71878">http://www.trybooking.com/71878</a> <span style="float: right; border: 2px solid red; padding: 2px; color: white;"><b>TODAY!</b></span>
<b>Monday 26th May 7:30pm</b>	<b>RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE</b> Annual General Meeting Ruffy Community Hall All members & guests encouraged and Welcome to attend <b>Contact Justus Hagen 5790 4268</b>
<b>Tuesday 27th May 3pm-5pm</b>	<b>LANDSCAPING &amp; GARDENING WORKSHOP No. 3</b> Tablelands Community Centre Nolans Rd., Ruffy Brian Rankin will return to finalise our plans for the design of the new garden at the Tablelands Community Centre All welcome entry by gold coin donation. For further information <b>Contact Fiona 5790 4369 or Helen 5790 4387</b>
<b>Thursday 29th May 5:30pm</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> 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
 <b>Friday 30th May 6:30pm</b>	<b>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT</b> 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. We'll be offering the yummy Cazuela de Mariscos <b>Contact 5796 9366 or <a href="mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au">contact@rockypasses.com.au</a></b>
 <b>Friday 30th May 7:30pm</b>	<b>TABLELANDS FAMILY BINGO NIGHT</b> Tablelands Community Centre @ Ruffy Nolans Road Family Fun & Prizes—20 Rounds—\$1 per Playing Card Every Round Wins a Prize—Final Round Prize \$50 Everyone is Welcome Free Supper Provided <b>Contact Sally 5790 4335 or 0407 904335</b>
 <b>Saturday 31st May 10:00am</b>	<b>STRAWBERRY FIELDS FESTIVAL MEETING</b> at the Highlands Hall This will be another information session and ratification of the local steering committee All Welcome <b>Contact Julia McKay 5796 9259</b>
<b>Saturday 31st May 11:00am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT RURAL FIRE BRIGADE</b> at the Highlands Fire Shed End of Season Meeting & AGM (Election of Office Bearers) Followed by a BBQ--BYO Drinks Everyone welcome (new residents encouraged) <b>Contact Les Lawson 5796 9265 or Alistair Lade 5796 9276</b>
<b>Saturday 31st May 8:00pm Sunday 1st June 4:00pm</b>	<b>EUROA CINEMA</b> "Le Week-End" 93 mins (M) **** 4 stars An American couple decide to celebrate their 30 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in Paris. There are undertones – well more than undertones at times – of irritation within the partnership about all sort of things. This has many light hearted moments and some great scenery around Paris, which is always easy to take. A slightly lighter story than you would expect with intelligent, touching moments where two people, who are very real, find out much more about each other than they had anticipated Great acting from Jeff Goldblum and as well as Jim Broadbent and Lindsay Duncan. <i>Don't be put off by the title – this is not a French language movie – but it is based in France.</i>
 <b>Sunday 1st June 9:00am</b>	<b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING BEE</b> at the Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy We need to have a good old clean up before Winter. Bring your own tools & implements and we'll provide a BBQ Lunch <b>Contact Phil Brown 5790 4218</b>
<b>Sunday 8th June 11:15am</b>	<b>ST.DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY</b> Ruffy Road, Terip Terip This service will be conducted with Holy Communion by our minister, Reverend Glenys Gill. <b>For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</b>
<b>Monday 9th June 7:30pm</b>	<b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE@RUFFY</b> Nolans Road, Ruffy (Old Ruffy School) Monthly Committee Meeting, but everyone is always welcome. <b>Contact Ros 5790 4161</b>
<b>Friday 13th June 6:30pm</b>	<b>'DRINKS ON THE DECK'</b> at Highlands Community Hall Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome - especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. <b>Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247</b>
<b>Saturday 14th June 10am-4:30pm</b>	<b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE AUTUMN WORKSHOP</b> Tablelands Community Centre– Nolans Rd Ruffy The Art of Pastels with exhibiting artist Kylie Sirett Suitable for all skill levels The cost is \$79 including all materials required for the day and morning tea on arrival. Lunch available at the Ruffy Store or BYO. Bookings essential by Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June <b>Contact Helen 5790 4387 <a href="mailto:store@ruffy.com.au">store@ruffy.com.au</a></b>
<b>Saturday 14th June 8:30am</b>	<b>VICTORIAN UTILITY FARM DOG ASSOCIATION</b> Ian Bates' Property, Alexandra Basic working dog training and introduction to yard dog trialling training day \$10 members \$50 Non Members BBQ Lunch provided <b>For Directions &amp; Further Info Contact Brian Leahy 0409 336654 Ian Bates 0418 367209</b>