



PEOPLE AND PLACES

The Tradition Continues at Connamara



Michael Hill's great grandfather took up a selection at Ruffy in the early 1890s. He was the policeman at Longwood and he'd been sent to Tarcombe to arrest three wrongdoers when he was impressed by the lay of the Ruffy Tableland.

With four lifetimes of local farming behind him, Michael (Mick) supported by his wife Olga and son Marcus, is still finding ways to improve the output and efficiency of their Connamara Angus Stud at Ruffy.

Mick's father JJ Hill purchased their first Angus bull in the 1930s but Mick was also brought up as a sheep farmer and in his earlier years he built himself a reputation for breeding and training first class sheep dogs.

But it's now top quality Angus cattle for which Mick is most well known.

Anyone who knows him will tell you that most conversations with Mick will include at least some reference to the features and benefits of the Angus breed.

And why wouldn't they? Under his stewardship the Connamara brand has become synonymous with exceptionally well bred, strong-framed cattle which exhibit outstanding growth and temperament.

A strategic part of maintaining and building the Connamara reputation has been participation in the annual "Beef Week" promotion.

This year was Mick, Olga and Marcus' 10th year in the programme which saw more than 25 interested buyers visiting the property last Thursday and a good number of bulls sold on the day.

Connamara has a very strong local clientele along with a portfolio of repeat clients in the Victorian high country, Gippsland and northern NSW.

Part of the Beef Week programme is the RASV 'Heifer Challenge'.



Marcus assists local client
Gordon Wheaton with his bull selection

A selection of 10 heifers are judged for Breed Characteristics—Maternal Potential—Feet and Legs—Uniformity—Temperament—Overall Presentation and Physical Correctness.

Over 100 Victorian beef breeders take up the Heifer Challenge and Connamara is a regular entrant.



An independent judge inspects
the Connamara heifers



Mick and Olga relax at home after
a busy Beef Week

The Hill family has been a linchpin in the Tablelands district for over 120 years with their significant contribution to farming, sport and community.

Mick and Olga are particularly pleased that Marcus has become an integral part of the Connamara enterprise and that he is committed to continuing the family tradition.

By Don Cook



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

**Subsidies are now available
through the
Hughes Creek Catchment
Collaborative Landcare group
combined pest plant & animal
funding for Weed Control and
Rabbit Ripping.**

**Please email Simone on
hughes.creek1@gmail.com or
call 57904146 for more info.**

To assist landholders bordering the burnt areas in Ruffy and Longwood East, the HCCC Landcare network is offering free rabbit warren ripping & harbour removal. This is because many of the rabbits will have moved from the bushfire affected areas into the adjoining farmland and bush to find food. Landholders within the burnt area are being offered free ripping via the Creightons Creek Landcare Group & Granite Creeks Project.

If you are interested in receiving one free day of excavator ripping in areas close to the fire edge

**Please contact Janet Hagen
57904268**

janethhagen@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 on Invoice from
HCCC Landcare**

Provincial Precipitation

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
January	48.8 mm	65 mm
Jan Rain Days	8	7

**FINDING FOXY
Issue 02 2015
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Dr Jacinta Kelly B.V.Sc.(Hons)
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Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

2015 EUROA ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR SERIES



2015 IS SEEN BY MANY AS THE WATERSHED YEAR FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

What does this mean for the strathbogie region? Come along to participate in the discussion at a series of seminars to be held throughout the year. Be part of the action. Bring your ideas.

Details in the "What's On" Calendar



ANYONE for TENNIS ?



Watch this Space.....the bounce is about to improve.



TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

For adverts in this column contact editor@tgn.org.au

FOR SALE

Kelpie x Border-Collie Pups



1 Kelpie type females

1 B/Collie type female

1 B/Collie type male

Born 1/12/14

Vaccinated

Ready to go—\$200 each

Microchip Numbers

956000004301590

956000004017406

956000004303639

Contact Alistair Lade

57969276 or 0429969276

al_lade@bigpond.com

FOR SALE

Kelpie Pup

Black & Tan — 10 weeks old

Dalwen Syd/Roustabout Rose

Vaccinated C3

Microchip No: 1698212

\$600

Ferrets

2 Pole Cat ferrets

1 x 1.5yr Buck—No Bite

1x3mth Buck—being handled

\$30 each

Contact-Brian Leahy

0409336654 or 57969336



Lions Club Christmas Cakes

100 cakes available due to over-order

1.5kg quality fruit cakes

Clearing at just \$16 each

Contact Phil 5790 4218



SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

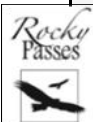
An ombrifuge is anything or anywhere that provides shelter from the rain

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR JAN/FEB 2015



**CFA ROSTERS
W/C
February 1st**

- Whiteheads Creek/Tarcombe..... Driver: Alan Coulson Assistant: Philip Smith
- Ruffy 3rd Lieutenant Ryan Furlanetto's Team
- Highlands/Caveat Driver: Richard Wallis Radio: Jeff Swain
- Terip Terip.....Captain Geoff Penny's Team



**CLOSED
TODAY**

ROCKY PASSES ESTATE

1590 Highlands Rd. Whiteheads Creek

Vitto & Candi are taking a short break so Rocky Passes will be closed this weekend but back to normal in February. We'll be open Sundays 11-5 and the last Friday night of the month from 6:30pm

**Sunday 1st
February
9:00am**

RUFFY ADULT RIDERS CLUB 37th Ruffy (Royal) Gymkhana

at Ruffy Recreation Reserve

Official HRCav Ring - Hack/Pony Rings - Topsy Ring & Show Jumping - Fun Ring & Freshman Jumping
\$5 Entry for HRCav Members \$30 Non Members Breakfast & BBQ Lunch Available

For Enquiries Contact Kerry Hewlett **57904392 or 0409438678**

**Monday 2nd
February
7:30am-9am
4:30pm-6pm**

WORLD WETLANDS DAY 'Y' Water Discovery Centre

2 Hood Street Yea

Guided walk with the birds from 7am including coffee & light breakfast
From 4:30pm refreshments and announcement of winners of the UGLN Photography competition
Events are free but bookings essential **Contact 0438 338050 or wetlands.yea@gmail.com**



THE RUFFY PRODUCE STORE

Nolans Road Ruffy

An exhibition of linocut and pastel artworks in support of the Yea Arts Carnivale
Maria Barbaro — Kylie Sirett — Libby Shreiber

Contact Helen 5790 4387

ON NOW !

Until March 9th

Note: The Ruffy Store will be taking a short break and we will be closed from Fri 6th Feb until Fri 20th Feb

**Saturday 7th
February
9am-2pm**

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

**Saturday 7th
February
11am-3pm**

2015 EUROA ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR SERIES

The Euroa Flour Mill, Kirkland Ave, Euroa

Conversations—Climate Change and The Strathbogie Region - Prof. David Karoly—University of Melbourne
Presented by Euroa Environment Group — Euroa Arboretum — Strathbogie Voices
Spaces are limited so please book early at www.strathbogievoices.com.au or **The Euroa Library**

**Saturday 7th
February
8:00pm**

THE EUROA CINEMA "Nightcrawler" 117 mins (MA) 3.5 stars an Action / Thriller - just for a change!

Jake Gyllenhaal stars as a driven young man desperate for work who discovers the fast paced world of crime journalism. He finds, and eventually muscles into, a group of freelance camera crews who follow fires, murder and anything that makes news – and big news!

**Sunday 8th
February
4:00pm**

This shows another side to tabloid journalism and highlights the behaviour of some people who just need to get the story at all costs. He thrives in the environment where a police siren equals a windfall and the victims bring in the dollars and cents..... this is not your kind, cuddly movie, but one filled with action and no doubt will generate much discussion

**Friday 13th
February
6:30pm**

'DRINKS ON THE DECK'

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.

Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247

**Saturday 21st
February
9am-1pm**

EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET

Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa

"Meet, Greet, Eat & Shop" A wonderful range of farm fresh produce from "local" producers.

Contact Helen Brook 0456 723331 www.euroavillagefarmersmarket.org

**Saturday 21st
February
10:30am - 5pm**

RUFFY vs HIGHLANDS ANNUAL CRICKET CHALLENGE

at The Molesworth Reserve

The much anticipated annual challenge match is on again, this year for the first time at the Molesworth Reserve with Lunch and after match celebrations at the Molesworth Pub.

Can the Highlanders reclaim the trophy from the Ruffians?

Can the unbridled enthusiasm of the flannelled fools compensate for the ravages of old father time?

Teams are being assembled

Contact Scott McKay 5796 9259 or Doug Maclean 5790 4387



**VENUE
CHANGE**