



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Lieutenant Leslie Cecil Maygar VC DSO VD

Edgar Leslie Cecil Willis Walker Maygar was born near Kilmore, Victoria in May 1868, the youngest in the family of seven children. In the late 1880's the family moved to Ruffy near Euroa and settled on a large property which is still known as Strathearn. On the outbreak of the Boer War, Maygar was amongst the first to volunteer however he was rejected due to dental problems. In February 1901 he successfully enlisted in the 5th Victorian Mounted Rifles and departed for South Africa later that month. On the night of the 22nd November 1901, the Right Wing of the V.M.R. were ordered out for night operations. On the morning of the 23rd inst., soon after daylight, after B,C and D Coys had captured a large herd of cattle from the enemy at GEELHOUTBOOM and were bringing it back to the Reserve. "D" Coy was being closely pressed by a large force of the enemy and a detached post, which had orders to destroy one of the enemy's wagons, was being out-flanked. The only means of saving these men, without great loss to the Company, was to communicate with them immediately. Lt. Maygar saw the position, and promptly volunteered to bring the men back. He galloped out under a very heavy fire but succeeded in reaching the men. He ordered them to retire, and as they were doing so, the horse of No. 740, Pte. A. J. Short, who was one of the detached post, was shot under him. Lt. Maygar called to Pte. Short to come to him and not to bother about his saddle, as the enemy were then within two hundred yards. He told him to jump up behind, but this he was unable to do, being so exhausted and shaken by the fall from his horse. Lt. Maygar then dismounted and lifted him on, getting up behind. Pte. Short was so completely exhausted that he was unable to guide the horse, which bolted into boggy ground, causing both riders to dismount. Lt. Maygar, finding on extricating the horse that it could not carry both, put Pte. Short on, and told him to gallop for cover at once, Lt. Maygar proceeding on foot to a ridge on my left, which we were holding. All this was done under a very heavy fire. This was not the first time that Lt. Maygar has proved himself a gallant officer under fire. (Report by Lt T.S.L. O'Reilly, Commanding "C" Company, (Right Wing). 5VMR). Lt Maygar was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery.



Following the war Maygar returned home to become a grazier at Euroa and continued to serve in the Victorian Mounted Rifles. In 1914, the then Captain Maygar had helped establish Broadmeadows as an Army Base to train soldiers for the First World War. The base is named Maygar Barracks in his honour. When the 1st World War broke out, Maygar lowered his age and enlisted in the 4th Light Horse Regiment. Promoted to Temporary Lt Colonel at Gallipoli, he was left in command of the last men to leave during the epic withdrawal. In June 1917 Lt-Col Maygar was made a Companion of the Distinguished Services Order in recognition of his services in the Field. He went on to lead the 8th Light Horse during the Sinai and Palestine campaigns. On the 31st October 1917, the day of the famous Light Horse charge at Beersheba, acting Brigadier- General Maygar, was bombed and machine-gunned by an enemy aircraft. Not found until after nightfall, he was weakened by loss of blood and died the next day. He is buried in the Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia. Maygar's name also appears on the Longwood Boer War Memorial and south bound traffic on the nearby Hume Freeway passes over Maygar's Hill.

The Community of Euroa is proud of the extraordinary contribution made by its military personnel in the service of our country and is the only district in the Commonwealth with three citizens being granted a Victoria Cross. • Lieutenant Leslie Cecil Maygar – 23 November 1901, Geelhoutboom, Natal - Boer War • Lieutenant (later Major) Frederick Harold Tubb – 9 August 1915, Lone Pine Trenches, Gallipoli • Corporal Alexander Stewart Burton – 9 August 1915, Lone Pine Trenches, Gallipoli The Victorian Contingent Vol. 1 Issue 3 September 2011 Thanks to Jeff Swain for sending this information.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 32

Please send any news to me at mirandayorston@bigpond.com

Highlands Mowing Roster

Volunteers are required for the Highlands mowing Roster. The grass is growing. If you can help please contact Scott McKay 0357969259 or scottmckay@activ8.net.au

Jam jars are needed for the Yea Hospital. Please leave them at HPS and Neil Nagle will collect them, thank you.

The Granite News is now being emailed from the Highlands website. This means that you can now go to the website <http://highlands.org.au> and subscribe or unsubscribe to TGN.

LEST WE FORGET

On Sunday 13th November at the former site of the Ruffy memorial trees (near Ruffy Hall) at 2pm will be the official unveiling of the Ruffy memorial cairn in memory of fallen soldiers. RSVP or inquiries to Mrs Pam Sprunt 57904240

POOL OPENING

The weather might still be playing tricks deciding if it is going to be hot, cold or in-between, but one thing is for certain, Murrindindi Shire Council's pool season will start on Saturday 19 November.

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Daniel: For outstanding results in his spelling tests each week. Well done!



Landcare
Victoria

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - NOVEMBER /DECEMBER 2011

Week beg 13th November	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK Tim Hayes Rob Hayes
Week beg 14th November	Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Peter Short & Betty Jenkins Max & Joan Eddy
5th - 27th November	Darren Gilbert's new solo exhibition @ Gallery 34 in Yea. It will have a wide selection of artwork (pen and ink), sculptures and new paintings on canvas. Opening Friday 4th November, 6.00 to 8.00pm. 34 High Street, Yea. Thursday to Saturday 9am-4pm. Sundays & public holidays 10am-4pm. 03 5797 3222
Friday 11th November	Seymour Women's Health is offering a PAP Clinic for PAP smears and registration with the PAP Test Registry for reminders. Bookings are essential. When: (all day) Where: Yea Women's Clinic, Grace Bennett Centre, Yea Hospital Cost: FREE Bookings: 03 5735 8050
Friday 11th November	'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. All welcome - especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power.
Friday 11th November	A Wildlife Fire-recovery Project Possums and Gliders 7.30pm at Flowerdale Hall Light refreshments Contact David Wakefield on 5780 1225 or email: focusonfauna@gmail.com This is the last Focus on Fauna information session for the year and not to be missed! Sally Bewsher, from the Fauna Survey Group of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, will talk about the possums and gliders that may be found in Flowerdale and surrounding areas.
Saturday 12th November	Three course Spanish lunch at Rocky Passes. \$70/head from 12:30pm. Fundraiser for Graceworks Myanmar. Call 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au for more information.
Saturday 12th November	Black Market 10am - 12pm: Swap & sell your home produce at this local food exchange and "open garden". This month it's being hosted by Freya and Ray Grant's, at 19 Nazek Court (off Telegraph Road, just outside Seymour on the road to Yea). Freya and Ray have 5 acres with vegetables, fruit, goats and bees and they make their own goat's milk fetta cheese and honey. Contact Paul Macgregor on 5797 0229, diversity@diversity.org.au .
November 12 and 13	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "Crazy Stupid Love" 117 mins (M) Comedy / Drama 4 stars Steve Carell plays Cal who has just found out that his wife of 25 years wants a divorce. When drowning his sorrows at a singles bar and boring everyone within listening distance, Jacob played by Ryan Gosling, takes pity on him and commences a make-over to reinvigorate Cals pitiful life! This is a bitter sweet comedy—lots of laughs and some painful discoveries.
Thursday 17th November	Ruffy Community Action Group – Meeting at Ruffy Hall, 8.00 pm. Apart from a general update on activities, the main topic for discussion will be the draft plan for Ruffy streetscape improvements. As this is the last meeting for the year, it will be followed by a light supper and a chance for a bit of social chat. Anybody interested in community planning for the Ruffy area is invited to the meeting!
Saturday 19th November	HCCC Landcare AGM 4.30pm meeting at Tablelands Community Centre (old Ruffy Hall) 6.00pm BBQ & pizza dinner at Ruffy Store Everyone interested welcome RSVP Simone 57 904146 or Janet 57 904268
Saturday 19th November	Wildflower Walk on bushfire affected property. At the property of: Lew & Cathy Soulsby 695 Spur Road Clonbinane 10am – 1pm followed by a free lunch & chat It's been two years since a walk was conducted on the property of Lew & Cathy Soulsby after the 2009 Bushfires. Want to see how it's recovering? Interested in what plants have bounced back? Would like to see what native plants are flowering? Then come along and spend time with well known native plant expert Peter Mitchell who will take us on a journey through the landscape for an informative morning of looking, seeking and finding indigenous species. Please wear appropriate gear for the weather and terrain. Limited places – please book for catering purposes & dietary requirements. Please contact: Sonia Sharkey 5734 6312 / 0409 515 630 swg_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
Sunday 20th November	White Hart Hotel 4.30pm - Real Gone Blues - Local favourites Alan & Ian bring us some fine Roots & Blues A: 63 Hill St, Longwood, VIC 3665 T: 03-5798-5203 E: info@whiteharthotel.com.au www.whiteharthotel.com.au
Friday 25th November	ROCKY PASSES Second Last Tapas Night for 2011 From 6pm Now the weather is improving, enjoy the view from our new paved outdoor area. To book, please call 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au
Sunday 4th December	Strathbogrie Ranges Conservation Management Network AGM 11.30am Euroa Arboretum 12.30pm BBQ and salads lunch supplied A relaxing Sunday afternoon beside the big dam at the beautiful Euroa Arboretum RSVP Janet Hagen jhagen@harboursat.com.au
Saturday 5th December	WHITE HART HOTEL White Goat, they'll be belting out all your favourite rock and pop classics, with a fair splash of their own material too. Join us on from 8.30pm. A: 63 Hill St, Longwood, VIC 3665 T: 03-5798-5203 E: info@whiteharthotel.com.au www.whiteharthotel.com.au
Friday 9th December	Highlands Community Christmas Gathering , Highlands Hall, 6pm onwards. BYO everything, BBQ provided. There will be no formal part to the evening, just come along, catch up with neighbours and enjoy yourself. Last year was a terrific evening with about 50 locals so let's see if we can encourage even more out of the woodwork this year. See you there.

Classifieds & Community Notices

ALEXANDRA LIBRARY

November events

- 5TH** History Café – share local history over a cuppa- everyone welcome 9.30 - 12 NOON
- 8TH** JFOL & 4F Dragonquest finale & break up party 5.30 – 7 PM
- 10TH** Murrindindi Writers – all aspiring writers welcome 10 AM
- 15 TH** Tuesday Show 1-2 PM
- 17 TH** Story time for under 3's, rhymes, stories, activities & songs 11 – 12 NOON
- 18TH** Story time for 3 – 5's stories, fun, activities & songs 11 – 12 NOON
- 21ST** Vintage Readers grey power book discussion group 2 4PM
- 22ND** NEW- French Conversation ONLY French will be spoken 6.30 - 8
- 22ND** Blokes Night – drinks and a yarn with mates 6.30 – 8PM
- 24TH** Murrindindi Writers – all aspiring writers welcome 10
- 28TH** Acoustica – lunchtime concert with Ukulele Heaven 12.30 – 1.30
- 25TH** NEW- Ukulele Heaven BYO ukulele everyone welcome FUN, FUN, FUN 6 – 8PM

UPTON FIRE STATION OPENING

The Captain, John McGregor, and Members of the UPTON HILL FIRE BRIGADE invite you to the official opening of the Upton Hill Fire Brigade's new station by Dr Bill Sykes MP Parliamentary Secretary for Primary Industries on behalf of the Deputy Premier of Victoria from 11.00am Saturday 3rd December 2011 Upton Road (1km north east of Tarcombe Rd junction) BBQ Lunch & Refreshments from 12.00 noon The opening will be followed by the end-of-year celebrations for both the Upton Hill Fire Brigade and the Burnt Creek Landcare Group. Please advise of your attendance for catering purposes by Monday 28th November as follows
John McGregor 5796 2533
Sandy MacKenzie 5796 2088

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS

We need you to help make 20cm squares to make up blankets to send to Third World countries. Wool is available at HPS and finished squares can be returned to school. I will be collecting them at the end of November and arranging for them to be packed up and sent off. From Trish Uden

NATIVE FISH AWARENESS WEEK

Habitat makes fish happen! is the theme for this year's Native Fish week running from the 5-12 of November 2011 across the Murray- Darling Basin.

Focusing on recreational fishing; the week aims to raise awareness of the importance of habitat in rehabilitating the Murray-Darling basin's rivers and native fish. Recreational fishers are invited to get involved in a series of events including fish research forums, fishing competitions and community activities.

There is a growing recognition that the health of rivers and waterways of the Murray-Darling Basin are at risk and native fish have declined.

Restoring fish populations can be complex and the best results come from an integrated approach. Actions such as, improving habitat, managing pest fish, and restoring native vegetation can all be achieved by recreational fishers.

To find out more about Native Fish Awareness Week and how to take part visit www.nativefishweek.com.au

NEWS FROM ROCKY PASSES

**Album Launch: Adam Dennis
"F-35" Sunday, November 27, 2011
12:30 PM to 2:30 PM**

In 1976 a man bought his son an acoustic guitar. At \$95 it was more than he could really afford. In the ensuing 35 years, the boy would grow up writing songs on that guitar. Performing with it, seeking solace in it, laughing at parties as he strummed. To him, the Fender F-35 Dreadnought acoustic guitar came to be worth so much more than its original price.

Join Adam Dennis as he celebrates the launch of his first solo album, dedicated to his lifelong relationship with one particular construction of timber and steel. Adam will play songs from his back catalogue, relate some anecdotes, and possibly introduce a couple of characters who feature in his musical story.

Aside from the free entertainment, you can order tapas from the menu (Adam highly recommends this!) and enjoy refreshments including Rocky Passes' own celebrated Syrah. We would love to see you there.

Although the concert is free, we ask that you help us plan our seating and food ... please RSVP by Saturday 19th November. Call 57969366 or contact@rockypasses.com.au

ERADICATE THIS WEED

Landowners and residents across Murrindindi Shire are being asked to do their part in trying to eradicate Chilean Needle Grass - a perennial tussock-forming grass and one of the 20 Weeds of National Significance.

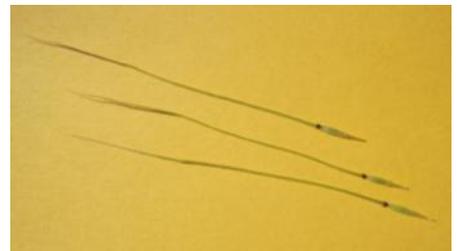
From South America, Chilean Needle Grass is most recognisable at this time of the year when it has a distinctive drooping purple flowering head. Chilean Needle Grass has evolved with a remarkable reproduction method. Unlike many weeds that spread by seeds from a flower head, Chilean Needle Grass not only has seeds in a flower head, but also has seeds along its stem and a basal seed. This means that if the grass is slashed or on the occasion that stock may graze on its flowering heads (can lacerate the mouth and infect eyes) there is still seed present in the base of the plant.

One of the most distinctive ways of identifying this grass (which is often mistaken for native spear grasses) is the distinctive seed awn. The seed which is a beige colour has a raised red/purple collar around the base of the seed and above the awn.

The seed is reasonably heavy and is not often moved by wind but is more likely spread through machinery, stock and fodder. It is important to try to reduce weed spread by cleaning down machinery, restricting fodder feed sites and remaining vigilant.

Council is also asking landholders and residents to report outbreaks of the weed. If you believe you have seen it elsewhere in the shire call the Shire's Environment Project Officer Sue McNair on 5772 0333.

Photo 1: The distinctive red collar around the base of the seed head.
Photo 2: Chilean Needle Grass in flower. Note the drooping seedhead.



Rocky Passes



Tastings & "blackboard menu" lunch
Sundays 11am - 5pm
Tapas bar last Friday of the month from 6pm

Bookings 57969366
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