



PEOPLE AND PLACES

Preparation of a Streetscape Plan for the Ruffy Township

When the Ruffy community developed its Community Action Plan in 2009, it identified 'improvements to the Ruffy streetscape' as a relatively high priority initiative.

At one of its recent meetings, the Ruffy Community Action Group (RCAG) resolved that the necessary first step towards this would be the development of an overall Streetscape Plan for Ruffy, and subsequently it engaged Sam Strong, who has a background in landscape architecture and environmental management, to provide professional inputs to the development of the Plan. Sam has produced a draft of the Ruffy Streetscape Plan and this was presented for initial discussion at the last RCAG meeting.

The main objective of the Streetscape Plan is "to provide enduring guidelines for enhancing and conserving the existing character and associated elements of the Ruffy streetscape". It is proposed that any works and developments should be in tune with the vision statement in the draft plan: "To maintain a sympathetic balance of the existing township streetscape character with long-term local economic, tourism and social development, whilst considering community and environmental values."

The report that accompanies the draft plan describes the existing streetscape conditions, identifies a range of issues and, based on the analysis of the various factors, comes up with a set of recommendations relating to aspects such as views, street trees, streetscape materials, car parking and road treatment.

Community members are now encouraged to study the draft plan and provide feedback so that all community inputs can be considered in finalising the plan. Discussions with Shire officers are also planned to ensure that any constraints are properly considered. The draft plan will be discussed at the next RCAG meeting on 16 February 2012, which will be well advertised to ensure broad community participation.

Please contact RCAG President Erwin Weinmann (Tel 5790 4309, email alpli@activ8.net.au) if you would like a copy of the draft plan or have any comments in relation to it.

By Erwin Weinmann

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Lachie ; For great academic progress and being a positive role model.

Graduation: Congratulations to our Year 6 Graduates this year, Jarrad and Brooke, who celebrated the end of their primary schooling on Wednesday with a formal lunch at school. Special thanks to Peg Lade who was the guest speaker.



Year 6 Bursaries: This year HPS has been lucky enough to offer two bursary awards. Yea Rotary and Yea Neighbourhood Watch have donated the bursaries to financially assist students with their education. Congratulations to Brooke Martin who was awarded the Rotary award and to Jarrad Gilbert who will receive the Neighbourhood Watch award.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 37

Please send any news to me at mirandayorston@bigpond.com or ring 57969261.

ADVERTISING IN TGN IN 2012 ONLY 11 SPOTS LEFT

HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The Fire Danger period for District 12 (shires of Mitchell & Murrindindi) commences Monday 5th December

FENCE PALINGS PROBLEM

Does anyone remember who put an ad in TGN a few months ago wanting fence palings? Stuart and Helen rang this person to say they had some and would let him know when they were pulling down the fence. The fence is now down but they have lost his name and number! Please ring Helen and Stuart on 57972875 if you are this person!!!

Next week will be the last edition of The Granite News for 2011.

I would like to thank everyone who has sent in articles and information during the year. A very special thank you to Louise Currie for her informative bits of botany and birds, to Pauline Roberts for her terrific book reviews and to Meagan Hollick for her interesting information of herbs and oils.

The Granite News can't exist without all of your help so thank you very much from all our readers.

End of Year Breakfast::

The annual EOY Breakfast will be held at school on Wednesday 21st December from 9am. All families, friends and community members are invited to attend. We provide a feast of toast, bacon, eggs and juice. This is a great celebration of the school year and individual student achievements. Awards are presented, presents swapped during KK and Year Books distributed. Reports will also be handed out on this day. Mark this event in your diary.

Date to remember:

We are hoping to plan and run a family Bush Dance in 2012. Julia and Scott McKay have offered their property for the event and we are hoping to hold it on Saturday 17th March 2012. This will be a major fundraiser and promises to be a lot of fun, so mark it in your diary!

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012

Week beg 18th Dec	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK Ashley Waite Rob Wales
Week beg 18th Dec	RUFFY FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER George Noye 3rd Lieutenant PH 57904246 0432928301 UHF Ch 15 G Hill, J Hagen, Jono Hagen, M Hill, D Austin, G Johnston, S Sleigh, A Williams, F Haig, D Williams, D Goodwin, M Noye, J Tobias, T Simmons
Week beg 19th Dec	Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Jim & Jill Davidson
Dec 3 to Jan 29	GALLERY 34 invites you to a solo exhibition by ANTON COSTANTINO Silhouettes of the High Country 34 High Street, Yea Thursday to Saturday 9-4 Sundays & Public Holidays 10-4 Olivia Lawson Ph 03 5797 3222 info@gallery34.com.au www.gallery34.com.au Closed Dec 20 to 30
Tuesday, De- cember 13, 2011	PESTIVIRUS AND INFERTILITY Q & A Session Beef cattle fertility overview: Causes of infertility in cattle including Pestivirus - Vibriosis- plus practical on-farm biosecurity and disease prevention Time: 8.30 am - 10.30 am Venue: Tablelands Community Centre, old Ruffy School, Ruffy Cost: Free, morning tea provided RSVP: Thursday, December 8, 2011 to DPI District Veterinary Officer Lee Manning on (03) 5761 1507 or lee.manning@dpi.vic.gov.au
Tue 13th Dec	Highlands Caveat CFA Pre-Season Meeting at 7:30pm Please note a free sausage sizzle will be held at 7:00pm just prior to the meeting which starts at 7:30pm at the Highlands Fire Station All welcome We need as many people to come as possible to make up a quorum
Friday 16th December	Rocky Passes would like to introduce Birdie Aiken ... a talented local singer, song-writer who will be performing to celebrate the last tapas night for the year. From 6pm \$10 cover charge (half to Birdie, half to Graceworks Myanmar) Tapas and wine as usual. To book, please call 57969366 or contact@rockypasses.com.au
December 17 and 18	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA "The Hunter" (4 stars) Martin David (Willem Dafoe), a modern day soldier of fortune, is hired by a mysterious man in Paris to find a Tasmanian Tiger. Set in a remote part of Tasmania, Martin moves into a room in the home of Lucy (Frances O'Connor) who, along with her two small children, is grieving over her husband who went missing some time ago. A compelling storyline which could almost be classed as a thriller, features cinematography showing some of the most beautiful parts of Tasmania you are ever likely to see.
Sunday 18th December	White Hart Hotel 4.30pm -Hairy Lassoo's - Look out Nick Barker, Longwood's got talent too !!!! Last shin-dig for 2011. A: 63 Hill St, Longwood, VIC 3665 T: 03-5798-5203 E: info@whiteharthotel.com.au
Tuesday 20th Dec ember	HIGHLANDS CAVEAT FIRE BRIGADE NOTICE Training: at the Highlands Fire Shed 7pm, queries Les Lawson 57 969 265 Peter Roberts 57 969 301
Saturday night 24th December	Christmas Eve Service At Christmas eve service will be held in the Caveat Church at 5pm. All welcome. It will include the Christmas story and carols. I would welcome a musician who could accompany the carol singing. Contact Stuart 5796 9358
Sunday 8th January	Terip Terip Annual Tennis Tournament starting at 10.00am. Section 1 and 2 and juniors. - Approx 4 sets alternating partners. For further details contact Cindy Hayes 5790 4226 or Frances Lawrence 0427 904 262 ALL WELCOME
Friday 13th January 2012	'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.
Thursday 27th January	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative meeting 7.30pm Terip Terip tennis Courts, all welcome
27, 28 and 29 January	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA Due to huge number of requests we have decided to bring "RED DOG" back for the weekend following Australia Day - It has been some time since a movie has captured the hearts and minds of so many people. There will be a Friday matinee at 2pm and the usual Saturday and Sunday screenings. Pass this on to those who don't have email as so many people missed seeing it, or want to see it again...
13 February, 20 February, 27 February, 5 March 2012 (Mondays)	INTEGRATED BEEF HEALTH MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP TIME: 9.00 am – 3.30 pm (each day) WHERE: Yea Council Chambers, the Semi-circle, Yea (near Yea Library) During the workshop participants develop skills to enable them to understand and overcome threats associated with poor disease management issues. They also learn how to address issues associated with poor nutrition, as well as develop and apply risk management strategies to offset these animal health issues. The four-day program offered by Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE (GOTAFE) will be run by Dr Rod Manning from Mike Stevens & Associates (and facilitated by DPI Beef Extension Officer, Alison Desmond). email (juncball@bigpond.com) or ring on 57 972 563.
Early 2012	RUFFY GRAZING GROUP The next EverGraze session will be run early in 2012 on Feed Budgeting. Anyone who did not attend the first session and is interested in participating should contact Susan Sleigh on 57904301 or email susan.sleigh@dpi.vic.gov .

Classifieds & Community Notices

TIPS FOR GREEN CLEANERS

Carb soda is good for cleaning bathroom and kitchen surfaces – make a paste by mixing the carb soda with a bit of water. Use it to clean the bath- comes up very sparkling.

Vinegar is good to clean a septic toilet, kitchen benches and tiles behind the stove.

By Annette Radford

FOR SALE

Guinea fowl \$15 each
PH 57904346

HOSPITAL ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

Yea and District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) Board of Management are proud to announce a new Scholarship Program for local residents wishing to pursue a career in health and wellbeing.

YDMH Board of Management Chair, Ms Jane Finlay said "The Scholarship Program has been established to support students that require financial assistance for expenses incurred in relation to completing tertiary studies in an accredited medical, nursing or health science discipline. Students usually have to relocate to a new town or city to undertake their studies and the combination of course and living costs can sometimes deter people from completing their studies. It is hoped that this scholarship can encourage and support locals who wish to pursue a career in the health field with the possibility of bringing their new skills back to the area in the future."

The scholarship will be available to local residents living in Yea or the Murrindindi Shire who will be enrolled in an accredited tertiary medical, nursing or health science course in 2012. The scholarship will provide financial assistance up to the value of \$5,000.

A Scholarship information package and application forms are available from the hospital's website:

www.yeahospital.org.au/scholarship or via email:
scholarship@humehealth.org.au

Completed scholarship applications addressing the key selection criteria must be received by 5pm Monday 6th February 2012. Shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview with the inaugural scholarship winner announced at a ceremony at the start of March 2012.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

Potato orchid
Gastrodia sesamoides

The other name for this flower is Cinnamon bells, which is prettier but obscures the fact that it is an orchid, something you can hardly tell from the look of it. I don't think they're very common in the district but I found some nearly dead ones last December and so this year I have been watching the spot to see if they came up again. In October a dozen stalks appeared, they flowered mid-November and the flowers were just about over a week later. The plants, which are leafless, need certain fungi and bacteria from rotting wood to grow, and are pretty well impossible to cultivate. The tube roots were eaten by aboriginals.

By Louise Currie



BOOK REVIEW

Warriors of Alavna & Warriors of Camlann – N.M. Browne

Time shift books are definitely in vogue at the moment, but some authors write this genre better than others. N.M. Browne is one of these. Both of these titles deal with the same main characters – Ursula and Dan - who find themselves transported from the present day back to Roman Britain and King Arthur's Britain respectively. The narrative is lively and believable and the strength of the characters is the highlight of the books. No doubt there will be a third title soon.

By Pauline Roberts

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS REPORT

The last walk of the year started with the weather looking threatening, but it stayed dry and cleared into a warm sunny afternoon. We started at Caveat, crossed Woolshed creek and rambled through some attractive bush with lots of dogwood in flower. Lunch was at the ruins of Moore's hut, beside which was one very tall and one very short cactus, both looking unhealthy after being damaged by deer. Exploring in a gully, Izzy and Michael found what must be the World's Largest Wombat hole. The afternoon was through a mixture of pleasant shady bush and open fields, ending up at the Lades in time for afternoon tea. It was good to be led once again by someone who knew the district and the history – thanks Andrew. We look forward to more next year.

By Louise Currie

HiARTS EXHIBITION 2012

A reminder that the next HiArts Exhibition will be on the weekend of 2nd to 4th March.

Artists intending to exhibit are reminded that application forms are now available.

Applications need to be in to the Registrar by 6th February. 5796 9358.

HELP WANTED

Someone with a ride on mower to occasionally mow around a house on Gum Road for approximately 2 hours. Ring Helen 0429855101

FOR SALE

"Eggs - free range - Helen Mckenzie - my chocks are laying really well - \$2 per dozen - please keep/supply your egg cartons. 03 57904211"

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18 years of age
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Available over Christmas and summer period, available to travel.
Contact Libby Head on 0458377407 or 03 57922120

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Trampoline - large netted family size, hardly used \$300
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Portable DVD player for the computer (Buffalo) \$40
Leone's D-cluttering my home sale 5796 9290

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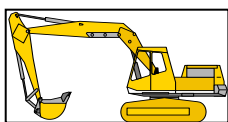
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