



## PEOPLE AND PLACES

### Councillor Comment, Cr Cris Ruhr, King Parrot Ward

#### The Shape of Our Future

As the third year anniversary commemorating the date of 7 February 2009 approached, there was a near tangible cautious tone in our household.

I discovered with little wonder, as I moved about the local community, that this impression was corresponding with the general and public mood at this time.

What did make me wonder however, was the fact that those living here and passing one another in the main street, or meeting in the local shops appeared to openly display kindness, a respectful acceptance and even what could be described as a 'comfortable easiness' with one another in regards to emotions; whether openly displayed or reservedly veiled.

Whether we like it or not, and whether we appear to have moved on or not, and whether we share a similar or a different approach to what befell us, my observations led me to also explore how the effects of disaster, whether the cause be natural, technological or criminal, exclusively leaves its mark.

Will we be comfortable to be ultimately defined by our disaster?

How do the people affected by the Chernobyl disaster feel nowadays by what must be an automatic or default reaction to their town's name?

New Orleans' residents must face (repetitive and challenging) questions about Hurricane Katrina.

The Balinese quickly understood their tourism-based livelihoods would be everlastingly tarred by the bombings.

The Japan experience has been constantly compared to Chernobyl; which sadly may reduce the importance of their disaster encounter and I suppose this could leave people feeling less acknowledged.

Nearer to our home turf, the devastating floods have had a great impact upon us all. Empathy seems to flow freely and without shame when our mates are affected so greatly. What I have also come to understand is that although we had no say in what occurred and really no choice in the matter which was way beyond our control, we now actually can have a say and can have a choice.

Do we allow our experience to define us and how we are perceived, and for generations to come? Or, do we stand together and work out ways to help drive and shape our future?

At a memorial service in Kinglake West, I was heartened to hear the words of our children, extolling the virtues of our community and the people who live here, clearly showing the love that they have for where they live and expressing a desire for a wonderful future.

Whilst we may have all celebrated the beginning of 2012 and the beginning of the Year of the Dragon, for many the New Year truly starts on 8 February of every year.

Thoughts can be unwelcome at this time after a disaster; yet the beginnings of any contemplation surrounding any sort of future may just mean there is something to hope for, which is a bit more than I felt capable of around our second anniversary.

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

### STUDENT OF THE WEEK



**Kaylam:** For a really positive start to the school year. Keep it up. Well done!

**Bush Dance:** A major fundraiser of a Bush Dance at Habbies Howe is planned for Saturday 17th March. Robyn Richards and Julia McKay are working on the finer details of the event. Please put the date in your diary, it promises to be lots of fun for the whole family!

**Hi Arts:** The Hi Arts festival is on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th of March. This is always a terrific event with lots to do and a lovely display of local artistic talent. This year we will have our pottery on display and students will also have the opportunity to take part in the photographic display. As with previous years, students are asked to take a photo of the magnificent Highlands environment and bring them to school for printing and laminating.

## WELCOME TO ISSUE 2

Please send any news to me at [mirandayorston@bigpond.com](mailto:mirandayorston@bigpond.com) or ring 57969261.

I strongly urge you to receive this newsletter by email if possible to ensure that you can read it early in the week. Just go to [www.highlands.org.au](http://www.highlands.org.au)

## Fire restrictions are NOW in force.

### CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Pete Roberts is organising a Clean Up Highlands Day on Monday 5th March. Highlands Primary School did this a few years ago and it was extremely successful. Students will walk along the Yea Ghin Ghin Road towards Granite Hills Road and collect rubbish as they go.

Pete would love to hear from any community members who could assist on the day with walking or driving cars as a road patrol to ensure everyone is safe. Please ring him at HPS on Wednesday or Thursday on 57969208

### VOLUNTEERING AT HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

We welcome Netta Lawson to HPS. Netta is working on a Tuesday morning with students from both classrooms to provide additional assistance. Maree Worthington has also offered to come back and volunteer and she'll work with Miranda on a Monday afternoon. We are very grateful for the support from families and friends at HPS. If you would like to listen to children reading or help in some other way, please contact Meagan on 57969208, we would love to hear from you.

### STRATHBOGIE SHIRE WEBSITE LINK

Below is the link to the new page on Councils website for the Draft Murray Darling Basin Plan, including a link to the plan itself, a community and business feedback form and a copy of our media release.  
Purdey Sanderson | Manager Communications Strathbogie Shire Council | <http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/Page/Id=725&p=1>

THANKS TO THE GOULBURN  
BROKEN CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY FOR  
HELPING TO FUND THIS  
NEWSLETTER

## COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - FEBRUARY/ MARCH 2012

Week beg 19th Feb	<b>WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOT RFB TRUCK</b> Russell Chapman Gary Richards
Week beg 19th Feb	<b>RUFFY FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER</b> Captain Travis Tilton (Ph) 57 904 335 (Mob) 0429886 380 (UHF Ch) 15
Week beg 19th Feb	<i>Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster Sue Martin Andrew Holloway &amp; Tim Andrews</i> <i>Both sides of Springs Rd and all four courts</i>
Thursday 16th February	<b>Ruffy Community Action Group</b> – Meeting at Ruffy Hall, 8.00 pm. The main topic for discussion at this meeting will be the Draft Streetscape Plan for Ruffy. Sam Strong will introduce the draft plan and explain the considerations that led to its recommendations. Please come to the meeting and take the opportunity to provide inputs for the finalisation of the plan.
Friday 17th February	<b>Alexandra library</b> an essential part of your community! PH:5772 0349 17 Storytime for 3 – 5's stories, fun, activities & songs 11am – 12noon
Saturday & Sunday 18th & 19th February	<b>Euroa Community Cinema.</b> : “Bill Cunningham – New York” – This is a movie that no one is talking about – but should be! A true story about Bill Cunningham, a wonderful 80 year old gentleman, famous in New York and Paris for his photography and loved and admired by the fashion industry.
Sunday 19th February	Euroa Arboretum and the Strathbogie Euroa Angling Club Proudly Presents: <b>Fishing clinic day for families</b> between 10am – 3pm. We aim to promote safe fish handling, catch and release and fish identification – particularly as the local Sevens and Hughes Creek have populations of the endangered Trout Cod and Macquarie Perch. <b>Bring the family and learn how to:</b>   Cast a line, tie fishing knots, what bait to use and when to use a lure.   Try your hand at fly fishing   Make some great fish art, try a fish origami, or help with our fish mosaic.   A simple BBQ lunch will be provided. Bring : Your own rod, hat and sunscreen. RSVP: Cathy Olive, 0429 127 399
Thursday 23rd February	<b>Alexandra library</b> an essential part of your community! PH:5772 0349 17 Murrindindi Writers – all aspiring writers welcome 10am
Friday 24th February	<b>Tapas night at Rocky Passes</b> from 6pm. Please call 57969366 or email <a href="mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au">contact@rockypasses.com.au</a> for bookings.
24, 25 and 26 February	<b>Euroa Community Cinema.</b> “The Muppets” – how can you go past a great family movie like this! 104 mins PG Family Fun It is hardly necessary to write anything about the Muppets. Doors open at 6pm
Saturday 25th February	<b>HIGHLANDS HALL</b> There will be a working bee at the hall between 9am & 12noon to spruce up the hall & grounds before the HiArts Exhibition the following weekend. Jobs include weeding, mowing, brushcutting, pruning & cleaning. Bring appropriate tools & lend a hand. A BBQ lunch of 'Habbies Howe' sausages etc. will follow. Come along & join in the fun.
Tuesday 28th February	<b>Alexandra library</b> an essential part of your community! PH:5772 0349 17 Blokes Night – laid back drinks and a yarn with mates 6.30 – 8pm
Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th March	<b>HiArts Art Exhibition &amp; Family Festival</b> Art for viewing and sale; meet our artists in residence; engage with our poets; children's activities; excellent food, wine, coffee and tea. Weekend pass \$10 per person, children under 16 free. Gala Opening Friday 2nd at 7.30pm, finger food, drinks and preview, \$15 per person (incl. weekend pass), registration by 27th Feb. essential.
3rd & 4th March	<b>Euroa Community Cinema</b> “Women on the 6th Floor” 106 mins PG Drama / Comedy 4 stars. It is Paris in 1960, where the existence of Jean-Louis, a man totally absorbed by his work but living comfortably with his neurotic socialite wife, is turned upside down.
March 6th - April 1st	All New Art Exhibition by Yea artist Meg Heres @ Mitchelton Winery Cellar Door Gallery Nagambie Open 7 Days 10am -5pm Free admittance 03 5736 2221 Artist 04 0034 0279
Friday 9th March	<b>'Drinks on the Deck'</b> 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.
Monday 12th March	<b>Labour Day Bush Market in Goulburn Park</b> , Seymour 9.00 am til 3.00 pm. Great Duck Race, Carnival activities, Musical and dance entertainment, Food and drink stalls, Books, clothes, plants, bric a brac, hardware and lots more. Gate entry \$2, Under 16 Free Site bookings: Betty: 5796-9295 Another community project of Seymour –Goulburn Lions Club and Seymour Apex Club
28th-30th March	<b>SEYMOUR WORKING SHEEP DOG TRIALS</b> - from 8am to 6pm Venue: King's Park, Tallarook Street, Seymour Test of man and dog working as one with skill and patience through a series of obstacles. Dogs drive a group of three sheep through the course. Trials cater for inexperienced to experienced dogs and workers. Further info: ph 5792 1089 Web: <a href="http://www.vwsda.org">www.vwsda.org</a>
Saturday 31st March	<b>Highlands/Caveat CFA</b> will be holding a level 2 First aid course in the new brigade training facility. Cost will be \$120 per person. Any interested community members should ring Pauline to register their interest 20th February, at the latest, on 57969301, brigade members will be subsidised by 50%.

# Classifieds & Community Notices

## DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR DOG GOES?

A friendly reminder to all those with dogs, (working and lap dogs included)! Please be sure to tie or lock all dogs up at nights or when away for a period of time as even the most loyal of dogs can be a menace around stock. Recently we have had 5 ewes in lamb killed by a dog attack and I am still nursing three which may die of their injuries. Not only are stock very valuable but being mauled by dogs is an extremely cruel way for an animal to die.

This attack happen approximately two weeks ago in our section of land in between Springs Rd and Top Rd Terip Terip so if this rings any bells with people in this area could they please let me know. Thank you, Naomi 0404 801 775

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Penalty – Mal Peet

An interesting book this, set in 21st century soccer mad Brazil in the slums of San Juan it manages to combine the mystery of an abducted soccer player, a brief look at the African slave trade to South America and the rituals of the occult –voodoo. So many different elements and yet Peet ties them together brilliantly with his short, sharp sentences and effortless transition from one time and place to another. The second in a series, one hopes there will be more titles to come, featuring sports journalist Paul Faustino.

By Pauline Roberts

## EU ACCREDITATION ASSISTANCE

The Department of Primary industries Victoria are offering training to assist producers with the traceability requirements of Becoming EU (European Union) accredited.

Free half day workshops are being offered across the state.

Yea workshop: Wed February 22  
Benalla workshop : Thurs February 23

Registration prior to the event allows people to receive additional information to maximise the benefit of the training opportunity Contact Sam Ellis  
Livestock Industry Development Officer  
Mobile: 0408922712

## Updated list of contractors for fencing, heavy machinery spraying & tree planting

If anyone would like a copy please contact: Cathy Oliver:

[uglandcare@gbcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:uglandcare@gbcma.vic.gov.au)

## BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

### Grey shrike thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

This bird is common around the district and is known for its beautiful song. You may not have seen them but you've almost certainly heard and enjoyed them. It's not uncommon for them to build their round nests of bark and twigs in buildings or under verandahs. This spring we had a pair build a nest in a toolbox on a shelf just inside our tool shed door. They successfully raised two broods.

They mainly eat insects and grubs.



## PHOTOCOPIER PRINTER AVAILABLE FOR USE AT THE TCC!!

The HCCC Landcare group has recently received a grant from the "25th anniversary of Landcare" courtesy of the GBCMA, for a photocopier/printer to be kept at the TCC (old Ruffy school). For every 100 copies made Landcare has pledged that 1 tree will be planted to offset the paper used in printing. Black and white copies are 20 cents each and colour copies are 50 cents each. If you would like to arrange to use the copier please contact Janet on 5790 4268 or Simone Ulstrup on 5790 4146 or you can call in to the Landcare office at the TCC on Friday afternoons.

## 1080 ENDORSEMENT COURSE

The UGLN is running a free 4 hour course which will qualify attendees for the use of 1080 pest animal baits. Participants must have completed a Farm Chemical Users Course. Saturday 31st March 12.00 – 4.00 Yea Shire Office The Semi Circle Yea Afternoon tea will be provided. To register your interest contact: Chris Cobern, Fire Recovery Landcare Coordinator, Ph: 5736 0104  
[ugrecovery@gbcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:ugrecovery@gbcma.vic.gov.au)

## TEACHER AIDE POSITION AT HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Contract- 5th March – 21st December 2012 15.2 hours per week

Applications via <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/careers/vacs/advacssch.htm>

Search for Job Vacancy number: 787275 Contact Meagan Callander for more information On 57969208

## THE SHED CAFÉ AND COTTAGES

Phone 5799.1595 or Lindy – 0402001522 Email – [lindy@trawoolshed.com.au](mailto:lindy@trawoolshed.com.au)

Mediterranean Banquet Friday 30th March Arrival 6.30 for a 7.00 pm start , 3 courses and here's a little to tempt you.

**1st Course:** Flat bread with 3 dips - tzatziki ( yoghurt and cucumber), hummus ( chick pea) and baba ganoush ( eggplant). Lemon anchovies. Falafel Lamb and pine nuts in filo Vine leaves rolled around a rice filling. Tabbouli – parsley, tomato and cracked wheat salad. \$42.00 per head – taking bookings now. Drinks are additional. We are fully licensed and stock a good range of beer and spirits and are proud to sell local wines.

## CRICKET

### Highlands v Ruffy

At Hume and Hovel, Strath Creek, 18th February at 11.00. The selectors have been working feverishly, honing the sides that will take the respective metropolises' to victory next Saturday

Ruffy has an abundance of riches with a couple of obligatory Hills (ones gone missing), a Paddy, a Scott (good name that), A Possum, A Slug, Fred, Doug (adding experience), A Cook, A Gerry, A Rob, "L", Cam Hammond, Craig "Packer Wacker" Murphy and George Noye.

Highlands would have liked to have picked the best available, However they had to pick the only available.

1. James Holyman 2. Fraser Welch  
3. A secret dead set ringer from English county cricket! 4. Jono Rumbold  
5. Scott McKay 6. Jim McCooley  
7. Alan Jarrott 8. Brent Kelly  
9. Hamish McAlpin 10. Michael Shaw  
11. Grunta (I hope Craig Murphy comes) Hodgetts. If anyone else is interested please call Scott McKay 57969259. Bus leaves Ruffy at 9.00 am Highlands at 9.30 am To book bus ring Doug 57904387, Thanks Scotty

**Rocky Passes**

Tastings & "blackboard menu" lunch  
Sundays 11am - 5pm

Tapas bar  
last Friday of the month  
from 6pm



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