



NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Tobias: For a fantastic start to term 2, displaying a hard working and mature approach to all areas. Well done!

HIGHLANDS WOOLSHED DANCE

What a fantastic night! Over 200 people turned out to enjoy an evening at 'Habbies Howe' historical wool shed as a major fund raiser for Highlands Primary School. The wool shed was packed with keen dancers, locals who hadn't caught up with each other for ages and lots of new faces too. If all the children present attended Highlands Primary School we would be needing lots more buildings!

Julia and Scott McKay created a fabulous atmosphere in their wool shed and even carpeted the outer pens which were full of happy party goers. Robyn Richards and Julia, with the help of Meagan Callander and many other parents worked so hard to bring it all together and it definitely worked. A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support HPS and contributed to make the evening such a success.



PEOPLE AND PLACES

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

On the Highlands Ramblers' last walk, the Ramblers enjoyed a lovely walk under ideal conditions. We left the Highlands Hall and headed south through paddocks littered with mushrooms and shorn sheep until we reached the Stoney Creek Falls. This waterfall is very spectacular and was flowing extremely well for this time of the year. Amazing views across a huge canyon greeted us. Then on to Mount Broughton for more great views including almost eye to eye contact with wedge tailed eagles. This is one of the highest peaks in Highlands at 660 metres above sea level and boasts 360 degree views. We retraced our route and arrived back at the hall very refreshed and exhilarated after another terrific outing. A huge thanks to Andrew and Louise for organising the walk.



Rotary International Bike Ride

On Thursday we hosted a morning tea for approximately 35 people participating in a Rotary bike ride. Riders included exchange students from 9 different countries and HPS students had the opportunity to show them around our school and to ask them questions about their country. It was a hugely successful morning and all our visitors were impressed with our school and students.

WELCOME TO ISSUE 10

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

If you would like to receive The Granite News by email please go to www.highlands.org.au and just **subscribe, it is as easy as that!**

THANKS TO THE LOCAL ADVERTISERS, KIND DONATIONS, GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY AND HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE FOR HELPING TO FUND THIS NEWSLETTER

V/LINE TRACK WORKS MELBOURNE TO SEYMOUR

Due to vital track, bridge and platform works service alterations will take place. Monday 16 April – Sunday 29 April – Most peak services will run as trains with most off peak services replaced by buses.

THE GRANITE NEWS WILL BE EMAIL ONLY FOR THE HIGHLANDS AREA IN 2013

It was decided at the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative meeting on the 19th April that this would be the last year for printing The Granite News in hard copy for the Highlands area.

From 2013 it will still be sent out in hard copy to the Ruffy area (32 copies) and hard copies will still be available at the Ruffy Produce Store. It was also decided that copies would be made available in mailboxes at a number of community notice boards on a trial basis to see if this was an effective way of distributing it to people without computers.

If there is anyone who would still like to receive a hard copy in the Highlands area they can contact me and I am sure that we can work out a solution to meet everyone's needs.

SEYMOUR & DISTRICT U3A MELTING POT

Information about U3A can be found on the website:

www.vicnet.net.au~seymu3a email: seymu3a@vicnet.net.au or phone the Secretary: 0409 945 807.

COMMUNITY WHAT'S ON CALENDAR - APRIL /MAY 2012

Week beg 29th April	<i>Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Mowing Roster</i> <i>Neville & Sue Debney</i> <i>George & Trish Uden</i>
Monday 23rd April	Relax and Sleep Tight All Night Join Dr Eileen Slack to help change anti-sleep habits and learn how to practice techniques to help you get a good nights sleep. \$10 per person. Bring a pillow and blanket. 12.30—2.30pm, Yea and District Community House
Tuesday 24th April	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 Blokes Café – laid back drinks and a yarn with mates 6.30 – 8
Wednesday 25th April	TERIP TERIP ANZAC DAY SERVICE at 9am at the Recreation Reserve. All are welcome to join the Terip Terip Community as we commemorate ANZAC day. Morning tea will follow a brief commemorative service. For further information, call Andrew Holloway on 57904080.
Thursday 26th April	“Profitable sheep systems for now & the future” Gary McLarty’s property “Woodsomlea”, 1690 Northwood Road, Seymour, Then onto Ken Hall Room Seymour Showgrounds Time 2.00pm to 6.00 pm • EverGraze site – Gary McLarty, producer & Lisa Warn, Mackinnon - pasture species & variety selection, - pasture establishment, time of sowing & management, economics of sowing phalaris vs annual ryegrass, • Profitable sheep production systems – Jane Court, DPI Vic, - impact of climate variability, - ‘tweaking’ the sheep system, • Profitable Ewe Systems – Kieran Ransom, – Elmore trial site results (comparison of 5 ewes breeds for meat and wool production) Please RSVP by 23rd April Jane Court, DPI Seymour Phone: 5735 4351 Mobile: 0427 200 451
Thursday 26th April	MEET THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT OMBUDSMAN , JANINE YOUNG 9.30 – 11.30 am. Seymour Senior Citizens, Anzac Ave, Seymour. The Public Transport Ombudsman’s role is to receive, investigate and resolve complaints from consumers who use Victorian public transport. This is an opportunity to find out more about the role of the Ombudsman and the services provided by their office.
Thursday 26th April	Secret Men’s Business will be held again at the Caveat Church. Everyone in the district is welcome to attend an informal gathering at the church for a BBQ and chat. BBQ will be supplied, BYO drinks and enjoy.
Friday April 27th	Beekeeping —Beekeepers Club Gathering on from 7.30pm. Focus is on aspects of shutting down the hive for winter. There will be a get together every 2 months to discuss seasonal tasks. \$2 entry. Please bring something to share for a light supper. Yea and District Community House
Friday 27th April	ACOUSTICA Performance Featuring Well Known Local Dave Silverman 12.30 Join us for a one hour lunch time mini concert in the Alexandra Library, Bring your lunch and enjoy a musical lunchtime.
Friday 27th April	Next tapas night at Rocky Passes Estate 1590 Highlands Rd. Book early for an inside spot: 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au
Sunday 29th April	Highlands Ramblers are off again. Meet at the Highlands hall at the usual time.
April 28 and 29	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA “Hugo” 96 min Adventure/Fantasy/Drama (PG) 4.5 stars A thrilling journey to a magical world in this movie based on Brian Selznick’s award-winning, and imaginative New York Times best-seller, "The Invention of Hugo Cabret." Hugo is the astonishing adventure of a wily and resourceful boy whose quest to unlock a secret left to him by his father will transform Hugo and all those around him.2D
Tuesday 1st May	Alexandra library an essential part of your community! 5772 0349 On the Couch expand your reading with the latest books, wine & laughter 6.30 – 8 pm
May 5 and 6	EUROA COMMUNITY CINEMA “My Weekend with Marilyn” 99 mins Drama (M) 4 stars The movie captures a week with Marilyn Munroe in 1956 when she went to England to star in “The Prince and the Show-girl”. It has all the elements you would expect from a movie about Marilyn – delightful, funny, poignant, also showing her sensuality and insecurities. Michelle Williams plays Marilyn along with a solid cast of Zoe Wanamaker, Kenneth Branagh, Judi Dench and Dougray Scott. Based on two books by Colin Clark and diaries kept around this time it is a step back in time to a different world and one which has a fascination for us all.
Saturday 5th May	JOSH EARL vs CHILDREN’S BIRTHDAY CAKE BOOK sees Josh Earl perform his comedy show based around the Australian Women’s Weekly Children’s Birthday Cake Book that everyone loved growing up. Join in the fun at the Tallarook Mechanics Institute hear Josh’s take on the book and the cakes and share your stories of how it changed your family’s life. Bring your stories of the cakes which you loved and loathed. Bake and decorate your favourite cake and bring it along to win great prizes. This is a show the whole family can enjoy. Tickets \$30 pp or \$27 concession. 2 course dinner available from 6pm for \$25 pp. Ticket available online at trybooking.com/BFEH or from Louise Morris 0413 050 761
Sunday 12th May	Highlands Caveat CFA May Day, May Day, May Day Clearance Sale Community members are invited to submit items for sale. Commission will be going to Highlands/Caveat Rural Fire Brigade. Although final costs to the vendors are not finalized (eg commission, advertising etc) the more items that are for sale the less cost to each vendor. Contact John McMaster 0429861817 or Les lawson 57969265.
Sunday 13th May	Treat your mum to Mother’s Day lunch at Rocky Passes Estate 1590 Highlands Rd. Book early for an inside spot 57969366 or email contact@rockypasses.com.au

Classifieds & Community Notices

THE BENEFITS OF MAINTAINING NATIVE GRASSES IN THE PADDOCK

Native grasses are an important part of our natural landscape, being not only drought tolerant but providing cover for our ground dwelling wildlife. Native grasses are perennial and can be long lived, providing fodder for stock when other grasses fail, and improves our soil health by maintaining deep rooted ground cover over dry periods.

Re establishment and correct management of native grasses can be of benefit in our paddocks as they are:
Perennial- may live for many years, out competing weedy annuals.

Drought tolerant- require less water over dry periods to maintain growth. Moderate to high forage value- When grazed and managed correctly.

Low maintenance- less water and fertiliser required

Increased biodiversity- provides habitat for native ground dwelling wildlife.

WALLABY GRASS
(austrodanthonia)

A cool season perennial grass with a very high drought tolerance, given enough rainfall can remain green year round. Wallaby grass can withstand high grazing pressure, responds to low amounts of fertiliser and has a high nutritional value.

WEEPING GRASS
(microlaena stipoides)

A cool season perennial that can remain green all year round. A very hardy grass that can tolerate acidic soils and extreme weather conditions. Weeping grass can withstand moderate to heavy grazing when actively growing and responds well to low amounts of fertiliser.

KANGAROO GRASS
(themedia triandra)

Kangaroo grass is a warm season perennial that is drought resistant and can tuft up to 90cm tall. This grass does not withstand heavy grazing or fertiliser, so careful grazing management is required to maintain growth and spread.

For further information on re-establishing or purchasing native pasture seeds please contact:

Ko-Warra native grasses- 03) 5480 9788 or www.nativegrasses.com.au

Nativesseeds- 1300 4 SEEDS or www.nativesseeds.com.au

Seed World Australia- 02) 4423 0894 or www.seedworldaustralia.com.au

By Simone Ulstrup
Landcare facilitator, HCCC

POSITION VACANT GARDENER/HANDYMAN

Position available in the Seymour district. Excellent 3BR house. Large garden to maintain. Successful applicant will be keen, reliable self starter. Gardening and maintenance skills necessary. Possibility of part-time house-keeping position for partner. Please forward copy of references with application to:

Gardener/Handyman position
C/- Armadale P.O.
15 Beatty Avenue
Armadale Vic 3143.

LIBRARY USE EXAMINED

The Victorian Government has established the Ministerial Advisory Council on Public Libraries to investigate the future role and functions of public libraries in Victoria. The review, Tomorrow's Libraries, will be conducted in two stages from 2012 to 2014.

Regional libraries face many challenges including travelling great distances between branches, aging infrastructure and the challenge to attract and retain qualified staff. Other recent challenges regional libraries have faced include natural disasters and a post GFC rural economic environment.

GVRLC welcomes the public to contribute to the review. There is an online survey which can be accessed at www.tomorrowlibrary.com. For a brochure or more information drop into your local library or call 1300 374 765.

From Anne Tomietto

FOX AND WILD DOG COLLECTION

SCHEDULE APRIL 2012

Next round of collection points will be open as follows:

Benalla: Thursday 26th April 10:30-12:30 FOX ONLY

Broadford: Friday 27th April 10:30-12:30 FOX ONLY

Mansfield: Thursday 26th April 2:30-4:30 FOX AND WILD DOG

For terms and conditions please visit www.dpi.vic.gov.au

OLD BATTERY COLLECTION

Rotary Club of Seymour collects old batteries and ensures their safe and appropriate disposal. Contact Alan Walton on 5792-2338 to arrange collection.

TENNIS ANYONE?

Just letting you know that we have a fantastic new coach, Rachel Joyce and she is starting tennis lessons in Yea on Mondays. She runs the Tennis Australia programme called HotShots and this is designed to build kids confidence in tennis and make it lots of fun.

The programme will start the second Monday of term 2 and places are limited. The cost of the lessons is only \$8 (TBC) for a 45 minute lesson. She is also offering adult lessons on Mondays evenings too. Cardio tennis is the new "IN" thing in Melbourne and is about having fun while getting fit. NO TENNIS SKILL required, simply a desire to get moving. Rachel will be running these sessions also on a Monday and possibly Wednesday. If you would like more information, please email yeatennisclub@hotmail.com or call Rachel on 0405 591 362.

From Natalie Wischer

NEW WEBPAGE FOR GB CMA

We have a new webpage at the GB CMA sharing info on land and soil health. It can be found at http://www.gbcmavic.gov.au/default.asp?ID=land_health. It contains links to current projects and their contacts, project updates and reports produced as part of the program. It also contains a page under Land Health Investment where you can have your say to help shape future investment bids.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Piano – in good order but needs a tune PH: 03 57904303

BOOK REVIEW

Starfish sisters – J.C.Burke

Burke is one of the recent crop of "new kids on the block" authors writing for teenage readers and she does so exceedingly well. Knowing absolutely nothing about surfing will not stop you from enjoying her most recent publication, 'Starfish Sisters'. Four talented teenage surfers, Georgie, Ace, Micki and Kia and thrown together in the same bungalow for a 3 week training camp for elite surfers. Needless to say there are fights, jealousies and secrets amongst them and all is not plain sailing, err surfing. How they resolve these issues makes compulsive reading as Burke tells the same story from four different viewpoints. A great read and there is a sequel in the pipeline.

By Pauline Roberts

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