



PEOPLE AND PLACES

A VERY STRONG THANK YOU

Dear CFA and community members,
The Strong Family would like to extend our deepest thanks to everyone who assisted in controlling the fire at "Dropmore" on 10th January.

We are extremely grateful for all your individual and group efforts and the support provided during this time. Fortunately, due to the endeavours of Michael and Bernie, no stock was lost and only fencing and some trees were damaged.

This experience has again brought together the really positive, generous volunteer community efforts that help make this a special place in which to live—THANK YOU.

We are very appreciative of the time you have all provided in helping us and hope that this message of thanks is passed on to all who were involved.

We also thank the Department of Sustainability and Environment Aerial Fire Management Crew for their terrific aerial fire control work. Their quick response made it a much safer fire to work on.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your help and support.

Kind regards,

Roger, Jenny and Sam Strong

OUR OLDEST RESIDENT VISITS OUR OLDEST STRUCTURE

This headline may not be exactly true but it must be fairly close!

Mrs Pat Hayes from Tarcombe is ninety years old and the cairn on top of Mount Good Morning Bill was erected in the 1860's by the surveyor Thomas W. Pinniger.

Mrs Hayes hiked to the summit while on a Landcare wildflower walk this past spring, pausing only occasionally to explore the vegetation among the rocky granitic outcrops.

She was accompanied by her daughter Helen, son in law Adrian and a small group of Landcare members who share Helen & Adrian's interest in botany.

Mrs Hayes said she had lived in the district for nearly 60 years but had never visited this flora reserve and she did not know of the cairn. We also discovered some ancient black sheoak trees that she was not aware

BOOK REVIEW

Confronting Mephistopheles by Dennis Spiteri

Confronting Mephistopheles is chiefly about the painful interior journey of Tony, emotionally solitary until his first relationship which ends with the sudden death of his beloved in an accident.

Tony struggles to rediscover a reason to live, eventually finding a measure of solace in painting, music and a new relationship.

Writing from his heart, Spiteri involved me in his struggle to come to terms with loss and grief.

The intensity of his love had left him dangerously bereft: as the title suggests he felt his bargain with the devil had been called to account, too soon. But should he have felt his love was so wonderful it could not also be 'ordinary'?

I could not help but think that his extraordinary passion in life had left him extraordinarily vulnerable to grief. Living with his vivid and consuming memories Tony manages to incorporate his grief into his work and eventually finds the resilience to establish a new and happy relationship.

In addition to the main theme, interesting side stories are Tony's immigrant family and education, his politics, Melbourne and Australia of the time, and also Germany where he spent some years.

His paintings today reflect the scale of his struggles and the grandeur of the universe.

Review By Annie Treasure

Confronting Mephistopheles
Self published 2009
Book Price \$25:00

Available from the Author
Ph: 5769 9373

grew locally.

Thanks to Margie Leigh for allowing the group to have access to Mount Good Morning Bill through her property.

By Janet Hagen



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME TO ISSUE 3 2013

Now that Whiteheads Creek, Highlands, Caveat, Terip & Ruffly have TGN Drop-Boxes we need **you** to let your neighbours (who don't have email) know that they can collect their copy of TGN from Tuesdays each week. Thanks for your help e-mailers!

A CALL FOR HELP

We'd like a volunteer to help with the delivery of The Granite News to the Whiteheads Creek drop box.

If you're travelling to Seymour from Terip, Caveat or Highlands on Mondays or Tuesdays each week, maybe you can help

Please call Don 5790 4007 or email editor@tgn.org.au

'ROCKY PASSES' GOES CARBON NEUTRAL



Three months after Neale Halsall installed our 4.6 kw system, Rocky Passes Winery is 400 kwh in the black. We are officially carbon neutral. That feels great!

By Candi Westney

RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES

With the introduction of the pager system the CFA became one of the largest users of AAA batteries in the world!

It would be fair to say that many of our pager batteries are discarded with the normal rubbish.

You can do something about this by separating your pager batteries, (and torch, radio toy and other batteries) and sending them to be recycled.

At present you can leave your batteries at the Euroa Library, but there will also be a container at the Ruffly Fire Station and the Tablelands Community Centre (Old Ruffly School) shortly.

Do your bit for the environment and don't throw your batteries in the bin!

By Justus Hagen

COMMUNITY IMMINENT EVENTS CALENDAR - JAN/FEB 2013



CFA ROSTERS
W/C Jan 27th

- Whiteheads Creek/Tarcombe..... Driver: Geoff Halpin Assistant: Cindy Duffy
- Ruffy 2nd Lieutenant George Noye's Team
- Terip Terip..... 3rd Lieutenant Tim Lawrence's Team

Wednesday 30th January 9:00am	HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL Term One Commences for 2013
Wednesday 30th Jan to Monday 25th February	GALLERY 34 34 High Street Yea A Group Exhibition Titled 'On Home Ground' by Marion Bruere, Mary Hyde and Julian Bruere Gallery Times: Thursday to Sunday 9am-4pm Mondays 10am-4pm & Public Holidays 9am-4pm Contact Grace Leslie 57973222 info@gallery34.com.au
Thursday 31st January 5:30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks
Friday 1st February	RUFFY PRODUCE STORE-Closed Helen and Doug are taking a break . The Store will be closed from Friday Feb 1st and will re-open for Lunch & Dinner on Friday Feb 15th
Friday 1st & Saturday 2nd February	YEA FOLK GATHERING Yea Community House, 15 The Semi Circle, Yea An informal weekend of music making and singing. Doors Open 7:30pm Friday, 4pm Saturday. \$10 Entry for all weekend. Contact Lee Vengeance info@yeahouse.org.au
Saturday 2nd 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 2nd 8:00pm & Sunday 3rd February 4:00pm	EUROA CINEMA "Arbitrage" 107 mins (M) Drama/Thriller **** 4 stars Richard Gere stars in this powerful movie about a hedge fund magnate who on one hand expounds the value of family and business success and yet is hiding major imperfections on several fronts from everyone. A tense contemporary drama where morals are under the microscope. Also starring Susan Sarandon, Brit Marling and Laetitia Casta
Sunday 3rd February 5pm-7pm	RUFFY WEEKEND WALKERS Monthly ramble to Points of Interest around the district Meet at Tablelands Community Centre (Old Ruffy School) Contact Neil Doran 0457 253875
Friday 8th February 6:30pm	"DRINKS ON THE DECK" Highlands Community Hall All Welcome, especially new faces Bring food to share. Catch up with Friends old & new Gold coin donation to cover power
Monday 11th February 8:00pm	TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE @ RUFFY Old Ruffy School, Nolans Road Ruffy Monthly Committee Meeting Everyone Welcome
Saturday 16th February 2pm—5pm	HILLCREST GALLERY 33 Old Highlands Rd, Highlands A special preview of ' Angels ' an exhibition of paintings by Dennis Spiteri. RSVP by 11th February. Phone 5796 9373 or Email dennisppiteri@activ8.net.au The exhibition will continue until 31st March. Gallery Hours 10am—5pm
Saturday 16th February 9am-1pm	EUROA FARMERS MARKET Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa <i>"Meet, Greet, Eat & Shop"</i> Contact Meggs Hannes 0407 860 320 meggshp@gmail.com
Saturday 16th February 6:30pm BBQ 8:00pm Show	LIVE IRISH MUSIC & DANCE plus FREE FAMILY BARBEQUE Ruffy Hall, Nolans Rd., Ruffy A fun family night of Irish Revelry with a live Irish Band, dancing and supper to follow. Everybody Welcome. No Entry Fee. Sponsored by the Ruffy Community Action Group. Contact Sharron Batt 5790 4329
Wednesday 20th February 10:30am-2pm	POSITIVE AGEING Yea Chambers, Yea Shire Office. Community Forum and Consultation Come along, get involved and enjoy the day Presentations from Local Organisations - Lunch - Entertainment - Community Consultation

Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON



Gallery
34

Invites you to a
group exhibition with

**Marion Bruere, Mary Hyde &
Julian Bruere**
'On Home Ground'

30 Jan 2013 - 25 Feb 2013
Opening
Friday 1 Feb 2013
6pm-8pm

34 High Street, Yea
Thursday to Sunday 9-4
Monday 10-4 & Public Holidays 9-4
Grace Leslie
Ph 03 5797 3222
info@gallery34.com.au
www.gallery34.com.au

IRISH JIGGERY @ RUFFY

The Ruffy Community Action Group (RCAG) is staging a Free Family Fun Night with a distinct Irish flavour.

The Ruffy Community Hall will be the venue for the night that will start with a Family BBQ sponsored by RCAG and will be followed by an evening of music and dancing to the accompaniment of the well known Paddy Fitzgerald & his Irish Band from Melbourne.

So, bring your family and your guests along for what promises to be a pretty darn good night out.



Begorrah, Oi did not tell ye the date.

'Tis Saturday February 16th from six turty in de evenin'.

Contact Sharron 5790 4329

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you have Scrapbooking Skills and a couple of spare hours each week?

Highlands Primary School is seeking someone who has good scrapbooking skills to teach a group of enthusiastic students the art of scrapbooking.

If you live locally and you'd like to get involved then please call

Meagan Callander, Principal HPS
5796 9208

YEA FOLK GATHERING

The Yea Folk Gathering will be held on the 1st-3rd February. This is an extended weekend of acoustic jam sessions at the Yea Community House and all levels of acoustic musicians and singers are invited. It will be an informal weekend of music making and singing. Come and enjoy yourselves and help our fund raising efforts at the same time. Listeners to the live acoustic music are most welcome to grab a cuppa and relax in one of the sofas. Bring partners & friends and make it a night.

Entry is \$10.00 for the weekend.
From 7.30pm Friday & 4pm Saturday.
For details www.yeahouse.org.au

RUFFY WEEKEND WALKERS

The Ruffy Weekend Walkers held their AGM at the end of 2012.

Neil Doran was elected President. (Actually, it was a good excuse to have a gentle walk to a favourite spot.....the headwaters of the County Creek).

After missing a few months we have decided to hold the walks on the first Sunday of the month....twilight walks during Daylight Saving Time 5pm-7pm and 10am to noon after that.

One of the aims of the Walkers this year is to find and walk to as many of the Pinniger Cairns as possible, combining this with a tour of the district's Trig points.

As well as that, we aim to take in some of our beautiful fern gullies, ridge-tops and rugged granite boulders.

We hope to also walk to some of the Koori Heritage Sites....yes there are a few in the area that are quiet secrets.

Contact Neil 0457 253 875 or
www.ruffycommunity.com.au

TRADING PLACES

**Good stuff for private sale or
wanted by friendly locals**

For adverts in this column contact Don
editor@tgn.org.au or 5790 4007

COMMUNITY CLEARING SALE

Do you have things that you don't use anymore, or maybe just need to clear some space?

Then why not take a stall at the

Highlands Community Clearing Sale
at Highlands Primary School over the
Hi Arts weekend 2013.

Stall fees are \$10 per 3 sq m site,
which goes back to HPS as a fund-
raiser. Stalls of new items also
welcome.

For more details or to register interest,
call **Leanne Pleash 5796 9200**

ALPACA SHEARER WANTED

I need an experienced Alpaca shearer to shear 3 Alpacas at Highlands. If you can do the job or refer me to the right person I'd really appreciate it.
Please call Cameron 0408 130192



FOR SALE

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Contact Sophie 5796 9219



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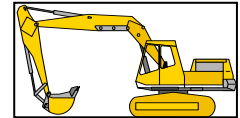
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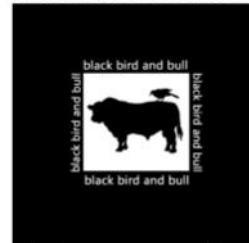


Tastings &
"blackboard
menu" lunch
Sundays
11am - 5pm

Tapas bar
last Friday of
the month
from 6pm

Bookings 57969366
1590 Highlands Rd
www.rockypasses.com.au

black bird and bull



picture framing
and studio gallery in Terip Terip
57904167 or 0419131650

**ALEXANDRA VETERINARY
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Dr Doug Norman B.V.Sc.(Hons)
Dr Denia Ford B.V.Sc.(Hons)
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