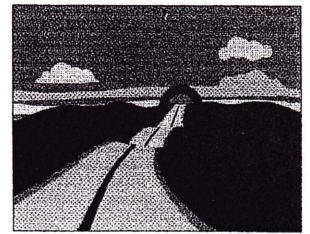


AROUND THE RIDGES

and a bit beyond

Issue 3 September 2003



“The Perils of the Bush”

Alec Balaha was a refugee who fled the Nazi invasion of his native Czechoslovakia. He had taken up a block at Faraday and worked very hard to establish pawpaws, pineapples and tomatoes, which were sold on Train days at Ridgeland. His brother Martin, a lecturer in modern languages, joined him from Prague in about 1939. One night Alec stepped on a death adder, which he duly dispatched and brought it into George Ware's store. He informed a group of locals that he suspected he had been bitten.

After laying out the victim on the counter and removing his sandshoes (joggers) the assembled locals contemplated a suitable treatment. It was agreed that to wait for the ambulance would be fatal. Most looked to George Ware, the butcher, because of his unquestionable skills with a sharp knife. George was reluctant. At this stage Bob Otto suggested that he had a solution. As a former competition axe man who still had his racing Kelly axes honed to razor sharpness, he could deliver one well-directed blow and remove the stricken foot. Now Alec had only a limited grasp of the English language, but he readily comprehended this dramatic turn in the discussion. He jumped up and declared that he would take his chances.

It transpired that the canvas of the shoe had absorbed the venom and a “bi-pedal” Alec lived to grow and sell his pawpaws, pineapples and tomatoes for a few more years until he obtained a job with the American forces during the war. My former teacher, the late Hagen Cumming, who had been present, assured me that this story is quite accurate. A jar containing a well-pickled death adder that was displayed in the store was further evidence of its authenticity.

John Fletcher.

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❖ Newsletter contributors please note: cut-off date for items is 15th of each month.
☎ 49341132 fax 49341076 Around the Ridges, RSS, Dalma Ridgeland Rd. 4702.
Email: aroundtheridges@bigpond.com

Dalma State School

We will be visiting the Westwood State School on 27 August for a Science day. Secondary School Science teachers will be in attendance to show the students some activities. Gogango and Stanwell schools will be joining us for this activity.

Ridgелands State School

Monday 4th August was a big day at school as Mr Ramm was "clipped for a cure" in support of the Queensland Cancer Fund, on parade. Mrs Hunt did the honours with the clippers while Mrs Barney and Mrs Stanke assisted with the razors and shaving cream to finish the job and give him the real "polished bowling ball" look. Thanks to all those who donated and made it worthwhile. Mr Ramm collected over \$350.

The Life Education Van arrived at school for classes from the 6th to the 8th of August.

Students in Grades 3, 5 and 7 will sit for the Queensland Literacy and Numeracy Tests to be conducted at school on the 19/20th August. I know they are all looking forward to them.

Students and staff are also busy preparing for our school "Spring Fair" on Sun 31 August. This is our major fundraising activity for the year and we are hoping for a big crowd. This year for the first time, we will have an army display of weapons, vehicles and other information.

The school "Fun Run" will be held on Friday 19 September. Our previous Principal, Mr John Mouritz will be on hand to present the Trophy to the winning house.

From September the school will be taking enrolments from pre-school to grade seven for the 2004 school year. Enrolments are critical for the retention of our current five teachers. This year we will lose twenty grade seven students so need at least that number in new enrolments. We currently have small class sizes in the lower part of the school and would like to keep it that way.

The school supplies all exercise books, pencils, ruler, etc to all students at the start of the year. The school also subsidises excursions, Life Education, and interschool sport trips. Ridgелands is known throughout the Rockhampton area as a good school. In fact "supply teachers" love coming out here because "Ridgелands has no behaviour problems". So if you know of anyone in the area (or moving into the area) with primary school children, please point them in our direction.

Congratulations Ben Buckley who celebrated his 21st birthday with Family and Friends, on the 17th August at Alton Downs.

Belinda O'Neil's 21st Birthday
Congratulations & Best Wishes on your 21st Birthday. Good Luck with your Teaching career.

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wind chimes,
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School Sport



During the past 4 weeks Ridgелands students have competed in netball, soccer and tennis against other schools in Alton Downs District. The results are as follows:

Round 1 Netball

Ridgелands Red defeated Bouldercombe Black 16 – 1

Ridgелands Black defeated Stanwell 20 – 0

Soccer

Ridgелands Black defeated Ridgелands Red 1 - 0

Ridgелands Juniors defeated Port Curtis Road 18 – 0

Round 2 Netball

Ridgелands Red defeated Ridgелands Black 7 – 4

Soccer

Ridgелands Red defeated Bouldercombe Gold 1 – 0

Ridgелands Black defeated Bouldercombe Green 2 – 0

Ridgелands Juniors defeated Bouldercombe Green 7 – 0

Round 3 Netball

Ridgелands Black defeated Bouldercombe Black 6 – 3

Ridgелands Red – bye

Soccer

Ridgелands Red defeated Bouldercombe Green 2 – 1

Ridgелands Black defeated Bouldercombe Gold 4 – 0

Ridgелands Juniors defeated Bouldercombe Gold 5 – 0

Round 4 Netball

Ridgелands Red defeated Stanwell 16 – 2

Ridgелands Black defeated Bouldercombe Gold 10 - 1

Soccer

Ridgелands Red defeated Port Curtis 3 - 1

Ridgелands Black defeated Port Curtis Road 6 - 0

Ridgелands Juniors defeated Port Curtis Road 14 - 0

Good Luck for the rest of the term!

Ridgелands Redback Awards

At the end of each term students from Ridgелands State School receive certificates of recognition for achievement in their particular field of work.

Term 2 Award Presentations were made to following students –

Kiah Barney for consistent high homework standard.

Melinda Lovell for consistent high standard of work.

Harry Lawton for trying his best at all times in all areas of school work.

Megan Humphrey for conscientiously applying herself to class work, assignments and homework tasks.

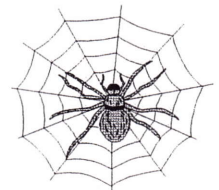
Kaycee Hodgson for her consistent, co-operative, positive and polite manner in all areas of school life.

Jack Ward for leadership, co-operation and attitude in school work and sport.

Nathanael Newman for displaying, good ideas and helpfulness during play reading.

Certificates of 'Thanks' were also presented to –

- **John Fletcher** for his contribution to the Ridgелands Show Judging.
- **Joyce Chippendale** for her volunteer work with craft in the Year 6/7 Classroom.
- **Bronwyn Hopkins** for her time and effort in the coaching of the Softball Team.
- **Tanya Flamank and Lisa Durkin** for their Judging of Ridgелands Show Handwriting.



Signing Choir



The Ridgeland State School Signing Choir has had a very eventful year to date. They have performed at various local events such as the Fitzroy Shire Centenary Celebrations, the Ridgeland Show, the Rockhampton Show and the Gracemere Gardens Annual Fete. They have learned to sign a range of popular and well-known songs such as Hey Baby, Can't Help Falling in Love with You, the National Anthem and Happy Birthday. At present they are learning 'We are the Champions' by Queen, which they will perform at the Ridgeland Spring Fair on Sunday August 31st as well as the Polocrosse State Titles in Rockhampton on Sunday September 7th.

The children and I have found the choir to be a very exciting and rewarding experience for ourselves and all our audiences.

We hope to see you at our future signing performances.

Mrs. Tricia Ruddick.

Classroom News

Year 2/3

Over the past two weeks the students have been working on their narratives about a previous travelling experience or holiday. To assist the students in developing their writing skills, they have planned their writing on a who, what, when, where, and why chart. Although this is a new concept for most children, all have grasped the idea and are beginning to develop exciting narratives.

The children have also been studying the history of transport in S.O.S.E. They have completed a mini-project (early, current and future transport), an interview about how transport has changed, studied the differences between current and early transport, explored how animals were utilized in transport and have investigated why a 'round' wheel was invented.

We would like to congratulate **Hannah Barlow, Matthew Whitehead, Tayla Stanke, Katrina Hall, Lachlan Hunt, Curtis Duff, Melinda Lovell, Raymond Shepherd** and **Jesse Witt** who have received recognition rewards in the last three weeks. We would also like to thank **Mrs. Judy Stanke** for her assistance in the classroom.

Year 5/6

This term, the students are spending one night each week on 'Creative Homework' which allows them to work on an activity of their own choice. Some students are utilising their time well. **Louise** chose to try a new recipe of 'Foundation Scones' which we sampled. They were delicious! **Lachlan** completed a report about Andrew Johns, and told us that he changed the way rugby league is played by introducing new aspects to the game and that he has played in 18 State of Origin games for New South Wales. **Casey** exercised her literary skills and wrote a poem about Rainbows.

In class, students have been researching inventors and over the next few weeks will use the information to write a biography. They have constructed a timeline of inventions in the classroom and continue to add to it as they discover more information.

For the Ridgeland Spring Fair, the class is holding a 'Bottle Stall' and a 'Cakes and Sweets' stall. Donations for both will be very much appreciated. We hope to see you at the Fair!

Year 3/4

As we are currently studying 'communication', the students are looking forward to an excursion to Hot FM radio, The Morning Bulletin and St Vincent De Paul's Bargain Store. This experience will give the students an opportunity to view what happens in the real world and why it is important to develop good communication skills.

Our class would also like to thank all the community members who made donations to our Spring Fair 'Bargain Blitz' store. The students have really enjoyed setting up and learning about retail advertising techniques. The class would also like to thank all the volunteers who have helped set up the store.

WHAT'S ON

Ridgelands Annual Campdraft

13th/14th September

Ph: 49345543 or 49345110

3-D Barrel Racing

Sunday 07.09.03

Sunday 21.09.03

Sunday 12.10.03

10.00am start

Phone Liz O'Halloran 49341361

Ridgelands State School

Spring Fair

Sunday 31st August 10.00am

Dalma Recreation Club

Annual Old Time Dance

Dalma Hall 7.30pm

13th September

Enquiries D. Cook

49345920

Bowling

Alton Downs Hall

6th September 7.00pm

Alton Downs Polocrosse & Sports Club

Rhee-Tae-Kwan-Do nights

6.30pm

Contact Raelee 49223737

Learn to Dance Classes

With Janet

are on again

Thursday Nights

Stanwell Hall

7.30pm to 9.00pm

Small charge to cover

cost of hall.

Rockhampton Polocrosse Club

Hosting Polocrosse State Titles

On September 5,6,7th

Hunter Street, Rockhampton.

Enquiries: 0419173625

MEETINGS

Ridgelands Show AGM

Wednesday 10th September

7.30pm

Ridgelands Show Grounds

Bring a plate.

Alton Downs Polocrosse & Sports Club

Special General Meeting

Saturday 30th August

To discuss amendments to

Club rules

QCWA

Ridgelands Branch meets

9.30am, 1st Wednesday of

month

Stitch and Chat Group

Meets 9.30am

2nd & 4th Tuesday of month

QCWA room.

All welcome.

Ph: 49345120

Ridgelands P&C Meeting

2nd Wednesday

every month

Morinish Landcare Group

Sept 27th at Peter Emery's

This will be in conjunction with a DPI field day.

Time: 9.30 a.m.

Bring a chair

Ph: 49345163

Landcare Meeting

8th October,

At Greenhills

(Norm & Estelle Richards)

NOTICES

For Sale

2 male Jack Russell pups

Purebreds \$100 each

Ph: 49341361

For Sale

ISEKI 6000 4WD

Tractor with 6ft Howard slasher

Both in good condition.

Phone: 49286761

Give Away

Border Collie

Female, approx 5yrs old

Gentle nature, great

with kids.

Ph: 49347621

Wanted.

& clean 44gal drums for storing feed.

Phone: 49345605

Wanted.

House to rent with acreage.

Phone Anna on 49341114

Wanted.

Typist for Show Society

Wanted for Spring Fair.

Plants for PreSchool plant stall.

Pre-loved clothing, furniture,

Books & nick-nacks for

Year ¾ bargain stall.

Donations for craft stall.

Wanted: Models for Bridal

Parade. Sizes 8,10,12.

Ph: Louella Hall

49361398.

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TOUR

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St Paul's Anglican Cathedral
William Street
Enquiries 4933 4011

Designed by
Karen Wade, Breanna Comerford
and Sandra Morrison

RIDGELANDS SPRING FAIR

SUNDAY
AUGUST 31

10am

- Devonshire Tea
- Multi-draw Raffle
- Brides through the ages
- Fashion Parade
- Plants
- Craft

- Hot Lunch
- Bar
- Raffles
- Cakes
- Trash & Treasure
- Children's Rides



RIDGELANDS STATE SCHOOL

Spring Fair Program

10am	Fete Stalls & Rides open Devonshire Teas Licenced Bar opens	11am	Official Opening (Principal Mick Byrne) Multi-Prize Draw 1
11:30am	'Best and Less' Fashion Parade	12pm	Lolly Drop Multi-Prize Draw 2
12:30pm	Lunch available Army display	1pm	Signing Choir Multi-Prize Draw 3 Spaghetti Eating Comp.
1:30pm	SES display	2pm	Brides Through the Ages (Wedding Breakfast- Champagne & Wedding Cake)
3pm	Final Multi-Prize Draw Frog Hop		