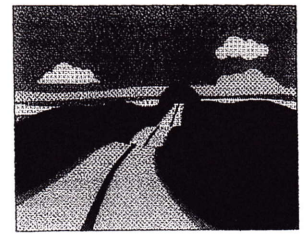


AROUND THE RIDGES

and a bit beyond



Issue 4 October 2003

A community and school newsletter.

“From Alton Downs to the Kimberleys.”

A leisurely ride round the block in a horse-drawn wagon may seem like a relaxing way to fill in an hour or two – an intriguing glimpse into the past for the youngsters, and a legitimate opportunity to reminisce about the ‘good old days’ for those a little older.

But if you think that nobody in the twenty-first century would seriously contemplate spending eighteen months of their life in such a conveyance, then you obviously don’t know Kelly Bush.

Kelly and his partner Sue have just left their home in Alton Downs on an adventure of a lifetime. And they both admit they don’t know where it will end.

“I have come to a time in my life where I knew I had to do something different,” Kelly said. “Call it a mid-life crisis if you like, but I believed the time was right. The horses were ready, the seasons would never be better and there was nothing to hold us back.”

Although their ultimate destination is the Kimberleys, Kelly and Sue won’t stress too much if they don’t make it. “If we find a nice place, or if the horses get tired or sore, we’ll pull up and camp till we’re ready to go on again. We have no time frame and no-one to answer to.”

Kelly admits that such grand plans had not entered his head when he was constructing the wagon, known affectionately as ‘the chuckie’.

“I thought I’d use it for a weekend camping trip up the river every now and then,” he said.

“But it looks pretty different now. I’ve strengthened a lot of the structural components, and we’ve got a solar panel that runs a fridge/freezer, strobe light, battery chargers for the video camera and satellite phone, compressor and a great little pump that will probably save us or the horses from getting eaten by crocodiles.”

Other ‘luxuries’ include a comfortable bed and a good sandfly net, while the ‘kitchen’ consists of a camp oven and a couple of billies.

The wagon is pulled by three horses with two spares. Two of the horses undertaking the journey, Chester and Tails, are experienced harness horses that Kelly has used for years in his wedding carriages. Another two were running wild in a paddock less than a year ago. Kelly has just broken them in to the saddle and to harness.

“And we couldn’t leave our three dogs behind,” Kelly said.

Then he added wryly, “I really would have liked to bring the chooks too. They’re such good layers. But you have to draw the line somewhere...”

This newsletter is sponsored by:



KELEHER ENGINEERING

A DIVISION OF MICROBOURNE P/L A.C.N. 010 924 231
A.B.N. 20 374 082 938

23 Park Street,
North Rockhampton 4701.
Phone/Fax (07) 4927 3160
Email kelehereng@cqnet.com.au

We specialize in Precision Machining, Specialized Welding, Metal Spraying and Design/Manufacture of unique machines/machinery. We perform precision machining operations both large and small for the repair and manufacture of components from a wide range of industries and services. We offer a variety of welding operations using state of the art equipment and technologies.

We are now pleased to offer the services of BRUSH VACUUM GRASS SEED HARVESTING. This is suitable for Rhodes grass and all types of Blue grass.

Keleher Engineering, 23 Park St., North Rockhampton, 4701
Phone 49273160

Farewell Alan Stewart

1915 – 2003

Sadly Alan Stewart passed away on Thursday 11th September, aged 88.

Alan migrated to Australia from Scotland at the age of 15.

He served in the Second World War with the Australian 2/9 Infantry Battalion and was critically wounded in Papua New Guinea.

After the war he settled in Ridglands, where he remained until his death.

Alan was secretary of the Ridglands Race Club for 42 years.

Alan was a much-loved member of the community and will be missed by the many friends who had the privilege to know him.

Ridglands Annual Campdraft. 2003.

This year's campdraft was held at the Ridglands Rodeo grounds on the 12th, 13th and 14th September.

Record nominations were received in all events with the top competitors in the country competing. The highlight of the weekend was Juvenile competitor Mitchell Stranks, winning both the Juvenile and Novice Campdraft. Mitchell Stranks has won the largest draft ever at Ridglands. I had held this crown since 1980.

Another highlight was Merv Scott, an old grandfather, winning the Restricted Campdraft.

Other winners were Open – Geoff McCartney, Maiden – Pete Comiskey Jnr, Ladies – Roxanne Olive, Junior – Aaron Stranks.

1100 head of cattle were used on the weekend. The downside of the weekend was having to wait for the ambulance to arrive before we could start. Committee members were up and about since 4a.m. and the frustrated ambulance bearers were three quarters of an hour late on Saturday and one hour on Sunday.

Kevin Watts. President.

Ridglands Show News.

The new committee was elected at the AGM last month and are as follows:

Chairman: Rob Bishop

Deputy Chairman: Ken Stewart

John Salmon

Secretary: Lisa Lawrence

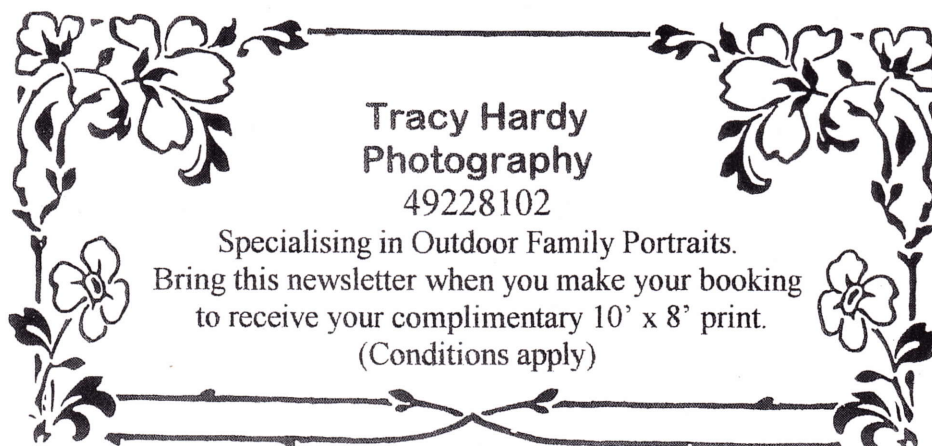
Assistant Secretary: Ian Nicholas

Treasurer: Angela Nicholas

Patroness: Margaret Stewart

The show kitchen has been upgraded to Fitzroy Shire regulations. A seamless, non-slip floor has been laid, thanks to funding from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.

Rob Bishop.



Tracy Hardy
Photography
49228102

Specialising in Outdoor Family Portraits.
Bring this newsletter when you make your booking
to receive your complimentary 10' x 8' print.
(Conditions apply)



43 DALMA / RIDGELANDS ROAD
RIDGELANDS QLD 4702

Telephone: (07) 49345518

Fax: (07) 49345565

Email:

The.Principal@ridgelanss.qld.edu.au

The end of term is finally upon us. School concludes for Term 3 this Friday 19th September. School resumes for Term 4 on Monday 6th October. There is **NO** pupil free day on the first day back. The pupil free day in Term 4 will be held on Monday 20th October.

When we return to school after the holidays we will know whether the school's principal for 2004 will be selected on merit or relocated from a similar sized school somewhere else.

The Inter-school gymkhana is now being held on Sunday 12th October. Mrs. Paddison has volunteered to manage our school team again this year and will be sending out nomination forms and programs to all interested riders. It looks like we will enter a large team this year.

Congratulations to Ridgeland's Red for winning the Alton Downs District Senior Soccer grand final last Friday. Congratulations also to our Junior Soccer team who defeated Bouldercombe Gold to win the A.D.D. Junior Soccer Grand Final.

Congratulations to Ridgeland's Red netball team which defeated Ridgeland's Black to win the ADD Netball grand final.

The Fun Run commences at approximately 9.15 a.m. Friday September 19th. It should finish at approximately 10.30 a.m. We will then present the Fun Run Trophy, Ridgeland's Redback awards for Term 3, Sports Trophies and any other presentations that are required.

Congratulations to Olivia Hopkins for gaining selection in the Capricornia Primary Schools' Softball Team. Olivia will travel to Mt Isa in October to compete in the State Trials.

Next year Ridgeland's students will have the opportunity to gain selection in Alton Downs District teams which will compete in the Rockhampton District Inter-school sports competition. ADD already enters a team in the inter-school athletics carnival each year. From next year teams will compete in cricket, softball, T-ball, rugby league, soccer, netball and tennis. Students who don't gain selection will receive coaching and participate in skills development activities on Friday afternoons.

We are still keen to take enrolments from Pre-school to grade seven, so please ring the school on 49345518 or drop in to the office between 8:30am and 3:30pm any day.

P & C News

Sunday August 31st, saw the first Ridgeland's State School 'Spring Fair'. The day's entertainment began with 'Unlimited Rides' by Bill's Amusements and a wonderful fashion parade of children's clothing by Best & Less and Big W. The children modelling were absolutely fabulous with plenty of smiles and groovy moves. This was then followed by a lolly-drop by helicopter, kindly sponsored by Crow Air. We were then entertained by the Ridgeland's Signing Choir, the Gracemere Fire Brigade's Jaws of Life, Old Man Emu and displays by the Army and CQ Mud Sportz. To cap off the day nicely along came the 'Brides Through the Ages' Parade.

The variety of stalls and delicious food were also highlights of the day.

The event was a wonderful success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Thank you to all those who worked tirelessly leading up to and on the day, as well as those who generously donated goods and services for our raffles.

The Ridgeland's P & C looks forward to your generous support in the future.



School Sport



The past 4 weeks has seen the season for netball and soccer in the Alton Downs District competition come to a close with all Ridgeland's teams making a clean sweep in both sports. The results are as follows:

Round 5 Netball

Ridgeland's Red defeated Bouldercombe Green 19 – 3

Ridgeland's Black defeated Dalma 14 – 3

Soccer

Ridgeland's Black defeated PCR 5 – 2

Ridgeland's Red defeated PCR 3 - 0

Ridgeland's Juniors defeated Bouldercombe Green 8 – 0

Round 6 Netball

Ridgeland's Red defeated Bouldercombe Gold 24 - 0

Ridgeland's Black had a bye.

Soccer

Ridgeland's Red defeated Gogango/Westwood 4 – 0

Ridgeland's Black defeated Stanwell 3 – 0

Ridgeland's Juniors defeated Bouldercombe Green 5 – 0

Round 7 Netball

Bouldercombe Green defeated Ridgeland's Black 10 - 6

Ridgeland's Red defeated Dalma 21 – 6.

Soccer

Ridgeland's Red had a draw with Stanwell 2 all.

Ridgeland's Black defeated Gogango/Westwood 9 – 0

Ridgeland's Juniors defeated PCR 8 – 0

Round 8 Netball

Ridgeland's Red had a forfeit with Stanwell.

Season Semi-Finals

Ridgeland's Black defeated Bouldercombe Green 11–8

Season Grand Final

Ridgeland's Red defeated Ridgeland's Black 11 - 10 in wonderful team and school spirit. Congratulations!!

Soccer

Season Grand Final.

Ridgeland's Black defeated Ridgeland's Red 4 – 3

Ridgeland's Juniors defeated Bouldercombe Gold 1 – 0

Well done players!

Thank You to all the parents and friends who support the teams throughout the term.

Ridgeland's Redback Awards

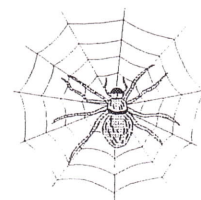
At the end of Term 3 the following students from Ridgeland's State School received certificates of recognition for achievement in their particular field of work.

Term 3 Award Presentations -

- Sarah Barlow for consistently high standard of work.
- Hannah Foxwell for achievement in reading and classroom participation.
- Zoe Spencer for keen participation in religious education and caring manner towards her peers.
- Shannyn Torrisi for being a co-operative student and always trying hard both in classroom and at sport.
- James Morrison for improved work effort especially with his web page.
- Stephanie Ruddick for leadership and sportsmanship in HPE.
- Luke Stanke for leadership and sportsmanship in HPE.
- Malcolm White for achievement in the 'Step Up' program.

Certificates of 'Thanks' were also presented to -

- Simon Ruddick for his generous sponsorship towards the water pipeline funding.
- Angelo's Fish & Chips, Harvey Norman, Haden Refrigeration, Peter Hunt and Judy Gimm for their generous support with regards to the Spring Fair.



Signing Choir



On Sunday September 7th, the Ridgeland's Signing Choir performed at the Queensland Polocrosse State Championships in Rockhampton. During the Opening Ceremony the choir signed 'Advance Australia Fair', accompanied by Ms. Tamara Bull, as well as 'We Are the Champions'. This was an inspiration to the players prior to the finals of the Junior, Mixed and Open competition.

The choir performed exceptionally well before a crowd of more than 1000 players and spectators. They looked outstanding in their 'new' shirts, doing themselves and the school proud.

Congratulations – Krystal, Luke, Jessie, Stephanie, Anna, Tanya, Kelly, Naomi, Megan, Andrew, Travis, Luke and Francis.

Thank you also to the Ridgeland's parents who attended the performance.

Tricia Ruddick

Classroom News

Year 1 / Pre-school



Year 2/3

Throughout the term the students have become real-life chefs in the kitchen where they have made Tomato & Cheese Pinwheels. They were delicious! They have also in the past two weeks been making transportation board games. Congratulations to the following students who have received recognition awards recently – Hannah, F, Stephen, Malcolm, Tiarna, Emma, Nathan, Steele, Emma, Savanna and Daniel.

This week is the final week of Ms. Sally May's internship. She has spent 10 weeks in our class as a 'beginning teacher' in preparation for her teaching career. We have thoroughly enjoyed the time she has spent in our classroom and will miss her greatly.

Year 3/4

The class enjoyed their recent excursion to Rockhampton. One of the main highlights of the day was when the students were aired live on Hot FM Radio. The Morning Bulletin showed us through all the stages of producing a community newspaper. The students also learnt a lot about how to set up a bargain store from their visit to St. Vincent de Paul Centre.

Year 5/6

Students have worked hard this term to research and complete their biographies of inventors by the due date in week nine. Students have improved their skills at researching, writing and referencing this year. During the term, students also studied famous Australians including Henry Lawson, May Gibbs, Fred Hollows and David Unaipon. Students enjoyed learning about the contributions of these Australians as well as learning about various inventors and the changes they have made to our lives.

Students have continued to enjoy creative homework and have choreographed dance routines, written poetry, completed collages, made catapults and tried new recipes.

Year 6/7

This term Year 6/7 have been investigating the components of visual literacy. These have included analyzing written advertisements in newspapers, television programmes for general audiences, television advertisements, the viewing and studying of business, school and children's websites.

Year 6/7 have also been participating in the CSIRO's Science Challenge which engages students in a series of hands-on experiments covering such topics as viscosity, atmospheric pressure, crystal structure, geology, plants and salinity. This has been a fun and innovative way to discover science this term.

Dalma State School News

Throughout this term Students have been discovering Our Solar System. In Science, students have completed experiments investigating Solar Ovens, Phases of the Moon and Thermometers. They have produced Power Point Presentations and Newspaper Reports as culminating activities. These will be presented to the parents at the end of term BBQ.

Students have really enjoyed and improved their netball and tennis skills throughout the term. Well Done!

Following are students' personal recounts covering events that they have been involved in recently.

The Solar Oven

By Adam

Mrs Cash came on Monday and we made a Solar Oven. We used a cardboard box and wrapped it with foil. Then we put it out in the sun all day. We cooked an egg on toast and ate it all up. It was time to go home. It was a good day.

Netball On Friday

Brittany

On Fridays we go to sport. Brett and Adam go to tennis. The rest of us go to netball. I play goal defence. My sister plays wing attack. Emma plays centre. Hayley plays goal attack. Brodie plays goal shooter. We have four 12 minute quarters. Last Friday we played Bouldy Gold. I played GS and GD. I always play GD. It is fun playing netball. I want to play netball next year.

Kalapa Horse Sports

By Emma

On Sunday we went to Kalapa for the horse sports. I went in the Flag race, Bending race, Bonfield Bounce, Barrel race, Diamond flag, Figure of 8, Keyhole and the Straight Barrel. Just after Mr Lindley left I rode around with Peter on Candy, double banking. It was fun and before we left we got 5 ice-creams and 2 softdrinks for all the children in the family. I hope we go to the Kalapa Horse Sports next year.

The Kalapa Horse Sports

By Matthew

On Saturday there was the Kalapa Horse Sports. I came 1st in the Flag race and I was 3rd in the Keyhole. I was 3rd in the Bonfield Bounce. I received \$5 .00. My age group was 8 and Under. It was fun day. I would like to go again.

Gymnastics Competition

By Tiana

On Sunday Brittany and I went to PCYC to do gymnastics. We went to beam, bars, floor and vault. On beam I got 8.10 points, bars 8.8, floor 8.4 and vault 8.8 again. Brittany got 9.25 on vault. It was great fun. The best one was bars.

The Ridgelands Campdraft

By Hayley

On the 13th and 14th of September, the Ridgelands Campdraft was on. Every year Dad works in the yards working the cattle. But this year he had to do the timing. I like going every year and watching all my relations compete in it. One year I hope I will be able to ride in the Campdraft and ride as well as they do. I hope to go the next couple of Campdrafts.

WHAT'S ON

3-D Barrel Racing

Sunday 12.10.03

10.00am start

Phone Liz O'Halloran 49341361

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.

MEETINGS

Ridgelands Show

Wednesday 08.10.03

7.30pm

Ridgelands Show Grounds

Phone: 49345135

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

Phone: 49345518

Landcare Meeting

8th October,

At Greenhills

(Norm & Estelle Richards)

Phone: 49345163

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

For Sale

International BTD 6 Dozer

And two yard scoops

Phone: 49345135

Wanted

Loving home out of town for

Boxer X red heeler Male 2yrs

Labrador X blue heeler Male

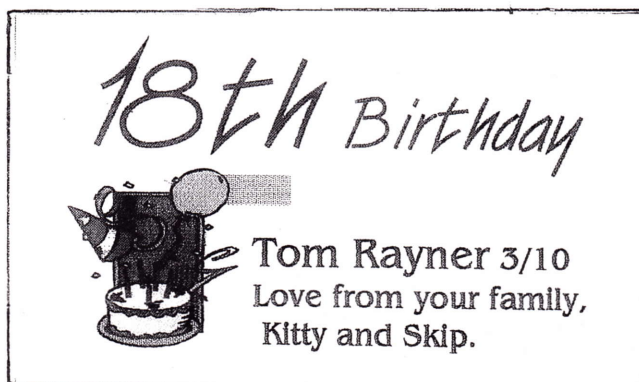
1yr 6mths

Phone 0407587495

Wanted.

House to rent with acreage.

Phone Anna on 49341114



Rockhampton Veterinary Clinic

Alister Rodgers B.V.Sc., M.V.St and Associates.

www.rockyvet.com.au

Cnr Dean & Gair Streets, North Rockhampton

Ph: 4928 4266 (all hours) Fax: 4926 2446

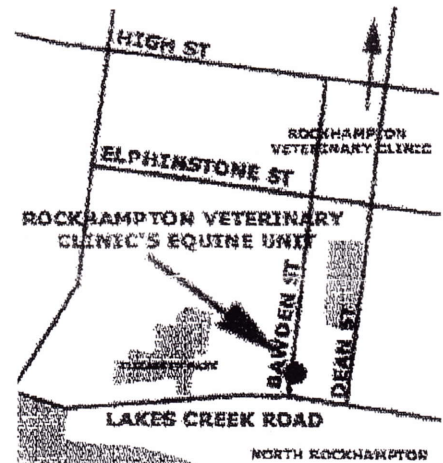
Horse & Cattle Services

Our Equine Unit, located in Bawden Street, just up from Lakes Creek Road, provides an excellent Surgical Facility and Hospital Stalls. (please see map below) This purpose built facility has an operation theatre, fully padded recovery stall, hospital stalls, vet crush and loading ramp all for the benefit of you and your horses. Our veterinarians have been in horse and cattle practice for many years enabling them to assure you of a high standard of treatment. We are supported by regular visits by specialist equine surgeon Dr. Philip Burguez B.V.Sc from Brisbane. Please ring the main clinic before visiting the Equine Unit.

Alister Rodgers is the holder of a Masters degree in beef cattle production and management in addition to having extensive cattle experience. He is a certified pregnancy test examiner and approved in bull breeding soundness evaluation, in addition to being trained in bovine embryo transfer and herd management. We also have facilities for cattle and horse reproductive work at Gracemere.

As a large or small animal client, we strive to provide you with excellence in our:

- Artificial Insemination and Reproduction Service
- Skilled diagnostic and general surgical services
- Endoscopy
- Electrocardiology (E.C.G)
- Full in house clinical pathology laboratory
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Visiting Equine Surgical Specialists
- Diagnostic Radiography and Ultrasound
- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Farm Visits and Property Management
- Excellent Hospital Facilities
- Equine Dental Service



Visit our web site to find out more about our practice

W www.rockyvet.com.au

E rockyvet@wodda.com

Do you read every word in this newsletter, finding typing mistakes and checking grammar? If so "Round the Ridges" needs you! Please get in touch if you would like to help with the publication of our community newsletter.

Phone 49341132.

- ❖ Newsletter contributors please note, cut-off date for items is 15th of each month.
 - ❖ For sponsorship of newsletter and enquiries, phone 49341132 or fax 49341076.
 - ❖ This newsletter needs the support of the community to succeed.
- Contributions and ideas are welcome.

Oops!

We apologise for any errors in this publication. They are unintentional and we hope there are not too many. Please keep in mind that this newsletter is produced by volunteers.