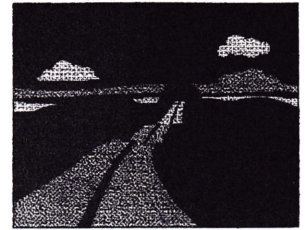


AROUND THE RIDGES

and a bit beyond



Issue 7 February, 2004.

A community and school newsletter.

Vietnam Experience.

When I left Ridgeland State School in 1989, I guess, like most others, I didn't really appreciate all the work and worry that Mr Mouritz and co. put into the running of the school... but now, after a year managing an English-speaking school in Vietnam, I have a bit more of an idea. My jobs ranged from finding good teachers and resources to newsletters, school lunches and dealing with head lice... and with families from about twenty different countries (including Australia). There were some pretty interesting, and sometimes frustrating, clashes of culture and language.

Education is very highly valued in Asia and many parents, like here, go to great lengths to make sure their children have the best opportunities. And these kids work pretty hard too... some of the ones I knew, who were just 7 or 8 years old, had lessons until 8 o'clock every night. I know I never studied that hard!

Life in Vietnam was certainly an eye-opener, especially for a girl from Ridgeland. I must say it was a great experience and it's made me realise more than ever just how lucky we are here.

Happy New Year! Chuc Mung Nam Moi!

Robyn Bishop.

This newsletter is sponsored by:



EAGLE

**Investigation and
Security Services**

Please allow me to introduce myself as Carol McLachlan. I have spent a lot of time in Rockhampton working in the security industry as well as across most of Queensland. I thought fourteen years ago, when I commenced employment in the Security industry, I'd have a look and see what the industry had to offer clients. After a couple of years, I decided to expand my expertise in security to other options such as Private Investigation, Commercial Agent, Traffic Control, along with patrols and alarm response.

Just a few years ago the introduction of Drug & Alcohol testing in the workplace has been introduced. I then decided as progress was going ahead, I also had to continue studying and qualify for new legislation in the security industry.

As I had taken a position in Security with a large company it meant I was positioned out at Blackwater. Here I met and married husband (Alton Downs man) Allen Pidgeon.

After two years of working for another company, not making the progress I had in mind, I then commenced my own business.

This has been a huge benefit to me although the plan was to open in Rockhampton.

This venture has now taken shape in Rockhampton with two offices, one at Alton Downs, the other and main office in Dean Street, Rockhampton. This is being managed by the Operations Manager, Mr Quentin Jones. A young enthusiastic man, married to Crystal, also very skilled in the security industry.

We have a lot to offer the public in Rockhampton, including Security, Alarm Responses, Monitoring, and change-over service of alarm systems. There's also Drug and Alcohol testing, Private Investigation, Commercial Agents to offer businesses.

For information you are welcome to contact Quentin on 49269131 or 040 661 509

I would like to wish all of you a Very Prosperous and Happy New Year.

Ridgelands and District Show News.
Show Society Meeting: 11.02.04. 7.30pm.

Ridgelands Show 2004 will feature classes for heavy horses (for the first time) both as led-in and driven.

The heavy horse or draught horse is definitely gaining in popularity. In our local district there are five enthusiasts who would now own about 18 heavy horses and they are gradually training them to pull carts, scuffle crops and pull logs, etc. just as they were used in bygone days. Other heavy horse competitors are expected from Biloela, Thangool and Mount Larcom areas.

Novelty classes will be included which should provide plenty of thrills.

There will also be a couple of classes for ponies with sulkies, which will present a great deal of interest.

• Joan Pointing.

Ridgelands Redback Awards.

On the final Thursday of the school year a special assembly was held to celebrate the achievements of Ridgelands students. Redback Awards were given to:

Luke Stanke for high achievement in his Science project,

Krystal Thompson for her consistent hard work and achievement in all areas,

Anna Reeve for always working to the best of her ability and consistently producing work of high quality,

Bridie Weier for consistently producing neat and tidy handwriting throughout the year,

Tayla Stanke for conscientious application to her schoolwork and

Connor Christensen for consistently high standard of work

Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club.
Christmas Tree.

Preparations commenced early for the Alton Downs Christmas Carols. Thanks go to those who prepared the grounds, organised the Christmas tree and carols and supervised the cooking of the meal in the outside 'oven'. Many people enjoyed Christmas Dinner before the festivities started.

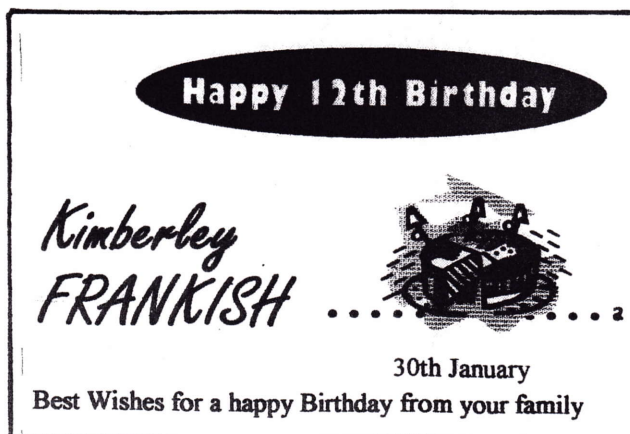
Santa, assisted by his lovely 'reindeer' attendants, arrived in a pony cart. The young ones eagerly awaited their turn to talk to Santa.

After Santa left we enjoyed presents and 'swappies' as we waited for carols. David Fry, on his guitar, led us all in singing the Christmas Carols.

Despite the threatening weather families turned out for a good night's entertainment. The evening was enjoyed by about 80 people.

New Years Eve, 2003.

This was enjoyed by about 60 people. Carol Reid organised poppers and whistles for midnight. At midnight we all had a piece of haggis to celebrate. Thanks to the volunteers on the night.



WHAT'S ON

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.

Keep this date free!
Ridgelands Show
5th June 2004

NOTICES

For Sale

One tonne endless chain \$100
Honda Finsbury pump, 5hp \$200
50mts layflat hose & couplings \$150
92 electric fence pickets (white) \$180
lifter \$40
bundles fence droppers \$15
Phone: 49361170

For Sale

Muscovy Ducks
Phone: 49341404

Wanted to Buy

Second hand smooth-soled
Riding boots in
good condition.
All sizes
Phone 49341056
Julie Paddison

For Sale

S.W.Kele
Precast Concrete Product
Manufacturers
SPECIAL
5000gal Concrete Tank
Delivered to these areas
Only \$2300.00

MEETINGS

Ridgelands Show
Wednesday
7.30pm 11.02.2004
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



EAGLE

Investigation and Security Services

Email: eagleinvestigations@bigpond.com

Carol McLachlan (Prop) J.P. Qualified

- ❖ Mobile Patrols Alarm Response
- ❖ Drug & Alcohol Testing
- ❖ Traffic Controllers
- ❖ Security & Investigation
- ❖ Commercial Agent

Phone/Fax: 49269131 Mobile: 0407 155 031

Birthday Wishes

to
Shardaii Thompson
5 years old on
30.12.03.

Happy Birthday

Krystal Thompson
13 years old
on
14.01.04.

Happy Birthday

Stephanie Ruddick
12 years old
on
17.01.04

Livestock Carrier

D&J Lindley
Small load specialists
Cattle Buyer
15'x8' tray

"Juden" 175 Hansen Road
Ridgelands 4702
Phone: 07 4934 5519
Mobile: 0417 730 604

Home Catering

All forms of Catering
and
Dietary Requirements
Phone: Lorelle
49331338

- ❖ 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
- ❖ Postal Address: (Treasurer), Mrs Pat Watts, 459 Dalma Road, Ridgelands 4702.
- ❖ Email: aroundtheridges@bigpond.com
- ❖ This newsletter needs the support of the community to succeed.
Contributions and ideas are welcome.

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

Cattle Production Services

INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE RETURN FROM YOUR COW HERD?

Alister Rodgers has extensive experience in beef cattle production in addition to holding a Masters Degree in Beef Cattle Production and can show you how to get the highest return per acre from your herd.


We would like to introduce Dr. Andrew Morris B.V.Sc, who has spent the last five years in the intensive cattle herds of Tasmania. He will surprise you with an array of ways to increase your return from either your beef or dairy herd.

Between us, you can count on getting the very best pregnancy testing and herd production service possible. We look forward to talking to you about your cattle production programs.

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 Cattle Production Service
- Excellent Hospital Facilities

P.S. If you need good horse wormer paste, we have a bulk buy of Promectin Plus paste at \$11.00 per tube.



Rockhampton Veterinary Clinic
Quality Care for Large & Small Animals

Dr. Alister Rodgers
B.V.Sc., M.V.St.

49284266
All Hours

Cnr. Dean & Gair Streets
NORTH ROCKHAMPTON

www.rockyvet.com.au

W www.rockyvet.com.au
E rockyvet@wodda.com

ALTON DOWNS POLOCROSSE & SPORTS CLUB

Australia Day Celebrations & Fun Day

Three-Legged
Races

Water Relay
Races

Egg
Throwing

Sunday 25th January 2004

Charlot
Races

3.00 pm till late

Broom
Throwing

BBQ & Licenced Bar Operating

Frog
Races

Tug-O-War

☺ Bring the family for a great day ☺

Sack
Races

BOAT RACES

Kids – Decorate your own boat!
(Minimum of 2 children per boat.)