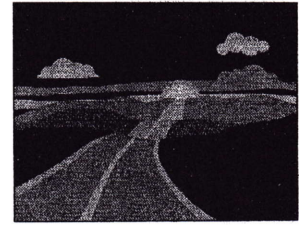


# AROUND THE RIDGES

## and a bit beyond



Issue 14 September, 2004.

A community and school newsletter.

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## JOHN'S AFRICAN IMMERSION

My trip to Africa has been one of the single most profitable experiences I have ever had. Being in a place with such a diversity of beauty, danger and cultural range can and has, led to opportunities to learn and grow. The way of life in rural areas is not seen for how hard life is but, for the way in which life is sustained, as people only grow what is needed to live. Seeing these areas for oneself shows how ungreedy and unselfish the locals are and how greedy, egotistical and manipulative our society tends to be.

The Nelson Mandela primary school was truly a spectacular yet sobering sight to see, one that had indented me forever. One of the most worthwhile moments of the trip was to be so closely entangled with the students and their education. To be working in Nelson Mandela's school and be actually contributing to Nelson's life time cause was a truly humbling yet invigorating experience, one I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Climbing Mt Kilimanjaro has been one of the hardest and most emotional experiences of my time. Only after climbing constantly for three days did I reach 15,500 feet and to get there was so much of a physical, mental and emotional journey and struggle that I couldn't even make it out of bed to see my fellow companions continue to the peak. This is due partly to my lack of food on the ascent and my sickness I only reached Kibo Hut at 15,500, which at 16 years of age I will always regard as a tremendous achievement.

The safari was simply surreal. The wildlife, vegetation and vast openness were so breathtaking that they are indescribable. One animal that really hit home for me was the Rhinoceros, as between the Serengeti of 24,000 kilometers and the Ngoragora Crater there where only 35 Rhinoceros' left and 10 of these live in the Serengeti. 10 in 24,000 kilometers! It is a figure that I have never heard before, something so close to extinction caused by our own races hand. All the animals seen by me, too numerous to name, left me feeling void of any feeling but freedom, peace and pleasure and a want for action to stop the extinction of more animals.

All in all, my immersion to Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa really taught me how truly lucky we are to live in a country that has so many opportunities to learn and grow and yet how we still abuse these privileges. We aren't out at the age of 9 working to survive, instead we are dreaming of what life must be like in an exotic and rugged destination like Africa. I was lucky enough to live that dream and experience firsthand the disadvantages of a privileged life.

John Syme

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Mrs Fay Ogden.

Fay's Thought For the Month -

God forbid that I should go to any Heaven in which there are no horses.

## **RIDGELANDS SCHOOL NEWS**

Congratulations to all our Alton Downs grand final teams on their great wins last week. Our ten-year rugby league team started the ball rolling with a very exciting win over Rockhampton Grammar School 22 to 18. Our wins continued with the Senior D netball team defeating The Caves and our Senior B netball team crushing Rocky Grammar. Not to be outdone, our Senior A boys' tennis team defeated St Paul's Gracemere and our Senior B and Junior C girls' tennis teams defeated St Paul's and Mt Archer respectively to give us a clean sweep for the day. Congratulations to Mr Dale Thompson, Mrs Trish Ruddick, Mrs Helen Dundas-Taylor and Ms Anna Condon, for their excellent work in coaching our winning rugby league, netball and tennis teams this season.

I would like to sincerely thank all our parents and supporters who provided transport for, and enthusiastically supported all our teams this season, and especially on Grand Final day.

Six premierships would be an amazing effort in any large school where the students are available for training on a daily basis. For a group of widely scattered, small schools to combine and get those results in their first season, is nothing short of outstanding, and I congratulate again all our teams and coaches on their dedication and efforts.

. A huge "Well Done!" and congratulations goes to our Ridgeland students from grades one to seven who recently competed at the Alton Downs Sports carnival. (Because WE WON.) They were very, very successful, winning the following:

The FITZROY TROPHY for highest aggregate points for athletics;

The HARTWIG TROPHY for the highest average points for athletics;

The CHEETHAMSALTS TROPHY for highest aggregate points for the overall sports; and

The MEMBER FOR CAPRICORNIA SHIELD for the highest average points for the overall sports.

They also came second in both categories for the ballgames.

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded "Age Champion":

10 yr Boys – Jordan Thompson;

11 yr girls – Casey Hopkins;

11 yr boys – Ashlee Boon; and

12 yr boys – Daniel Pye.

Congratulations also to Rachel Sewell and Louise Titmarsh who each received an "Encouragement Award".

We wish "good luck" to Kym Barney who has been selected in the Capricornia Boys Softball team to play in the State Trials in Toowoomba in September and also to Tanya and Terralee Hopkins who have both been selected in the Rockhampton District Girls softball team.

Despite the competition in town our "Country Fair" at the Alton Downs polo-cross grounds was a great success. Thanks to all those who worked so hard and those who supported it so well. A big thanks to the Alton Downs Polo-cross and Sports Association for the use of their facilities for the Day.

Regards, Mick Byrne.

## **DALMA SCHOOL NEWS**

Following the Alton Downs District Athletics Carnival held recently at Bouldercombe State School, three of our students were chosen to represent Alton Downs District at the Rockhampton District Athletics Carnival in Rocky later this month. They are Brodie, Brittany and Tiana Cunningham. Congratulations to those people.

In the Finals of the Rockhampton District Sports Competition this Friday, Dalma students will be represented in 3 tennis teams and one netball team. Good Luck to all of these players.

The following past students of Dalma, have been congratulated on their Academic Achievements for Semester 1 at The Cathedral College, Yr 8 Hayley Connor and Year 9 Kyle Stanke.

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## Pre/One/Two Classroom News.

This week we have moved on from our Farm theme and started looking at Pets. This is proving to be a very popular theme as all the children have stories to tell about their pets. As the weeks go by we will look at the requirements for keeping a pet happy and healthy and we will also look at some more unusual pets like hermit crabs.

Early in September we are expecting a visit from a post office representative who is going to talk to us about stamp collecting. A series of stamps depicting pets will be introduced by Australia Post around this time.

### Year 3/4 Classroom News



Last Tuesday we went to the Pilbeam Theatre to see the production 'Hare Brain'. Hare Brain is based on the traditional Greek folktale 'The Hare and the Tortoise' with funny characters and lots of new adventures. The funniest parts were when the tortoise used his long neck to win the race, when Toulouse flushed Harry's phone down the toilet, and when Toulouse laid an egg in the think tank.

We would like to thank Mrs. Foxwell, Mrs. Lovell, Mrs. Whitehead and Mrs. Cooper for taking us to the theatre. We all had a great time.

By Year 4

Last week saw the end of the oral presentations from our chosen countries. I would like to congratulate all the students for their hard work. There were many great presentations and it was good to hear how much everybody learned. In the coming weeks we will be using the information to create a mini world expo with displays and activities from each country. At the moment we are also working on our own folktales. These tales tell us a story of creation or a moral to be learned.

Steven Hull (CQU Intern)

### **Year 5/ 6 Capers**

The class participated in several classroom "Olympic-type" events where they applied measurement skills. The students used different measuring tools at each station including rulers, measuring tapes, trundle wheels, counters and weights.

The students competed in their year level teams (Year 5 versed Year 6). All students participated in the following events including cotton ball shot put, giant step, paper plate discus throw, high jump, side step, straw javelin, teddy bear handfults, sponge squeeze and find the mass race.

Students were awarded gold, silver and bronze medallions to award the first, second, and third place winners in each event. Overall the Year 6's (score: 126) only just defeating the Year 5's (score: 124). Congratulations to all students who worked together as a team and showed great sportsmanship.

## **YEAR 6/7 NEWS**

What a wonderful time at the Country Fair and hopefully some valuable funds raised for resources for our school. A huge thank-you for all the bottles donated by all classes for the bottle stall. The largest amount ever donated "433" raising \$301.35. The pizza party was won by year 6/7 at 131 bottles, year 3/4 at 127, year 5/6 at 126 and Pre/1/2 at 49 bottles. However, because all classes made such a major effort we are also looking at something for each class. A big thank-you must also go to students who assisted all day on the Face Painting, Hair Spraying and Bottle Stall, too numerous to name individually.

Insect illustration, symmetrical face and writing task/Gary Crew or Steven Woolman will be marked this week.

Regards Sue Ford

GRAPHICS AUST. Designer art and photography. Photo Restoration. Ph:49225294	Top Quality Hay & Chaff for sale. "Riverside" "Forgotten Hero" & "Bagger Vance" at Stud Ph. 49341302	Saleyard Stockfeed Jim Atkinson Mob: 0427 223 474 Fax: 49341503	Hay, Chaff, Domestic Water Cartage, Backhoe Hire, Granite C. Class & Round/Square Bales IKERS Ph: 49341135
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## SPORT NEWS

### NETBALL

On Black Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, Alton Downs' Senior B Netball team competed in the finals, going on to beat Rockhampton Grammar, 14-5. This game is the last time our team will play together. The players of the match are Jacqueline Mills, Sarah Marsden, Rebecca Deller, Rachel Sewell, Kimberley Frankish, Anna Reeve, Stephanie Ruddick, and myself!! I would like everybody to congratulate these girls and thank Mrs Ruddick for being such a wonderful coach throughout the season!!

By Jacquie Fossett

Last Friday Alton Downs Senior D netball team defeated The Caves 9-7 in our grand-final.

The whole team put a lot of effort in and the star players were Justine Profke (PCRSS) and myself for our great defending and intercepts.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank helpers, teachers, supporters, parents, coaches and umpires for all their support and confidence in us.

By Louise Titmarsh

### RUGBY

Last Friday Alton Downs defeated Rockhampton Grammar 22-18. We all played well. Tries were scored by Maitland House (The Caves), Jordan Thompson, Lindsay Adams(The Caves) and Mitchell Wenck (PCR). Conversions were kicked by Lindsay Adams, Jordan Thompson and Jay Pokarier (Westwood). The Man of the Match was awarded to Jordan Thompson.

### TENNIS

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August, Alton Downs's 1 tennis team defeated St Paul's 1 25-9. The star players were Travis Duff for his strong forehands and Francis Witt for his great backhands. We all played well.

By Francis Witt

### DALMA P & C NEWS

The Dalma P & C currently have a Raffle,( the prize being a 3 night stay for 2 Adults and 2 Children on Great Keppel Island including transfers), going around to raise funds to send the children on a camp to North Keppel Island. Please support this fundraising activity.

Cheers Kerod Lindley, Acting Principal, Dalma State School.

### Council Comment

Message from Cr Salmon


I wish to say thankyou to all the supporters of the Home Show 2004 from the Promotion Committee of the Fitzroy Shire Council, in our quest to promote Fitzroy Shire Council. The Home Show visitors had a great response to our stand. People commented that it was great to see, and that it was about time Council was doing something to show off the great area where we live. We hope next year to be bigger and better. Thankyous go to the helpers over the three days – Cr Gary Lynch and his wife Katrina. Cr Sandra O'Brien, Cr Ellen Smith, Ms Pamela Adams and Mr Lyle Harman.

Also a BIG thankyou to the sponsors of the Home Show – Unimin, Affordable Quality Homes, Rod North and Sons, Dick Sullivan, Sun Brix, Richard Thomson, Fitzroy Screen, Lallay, Macbuilt Steel Homes, Dingo Man, Dot Fechner-First National and Welsh and Large Builders.

John Salmon

Feel Great with elucidate Phone Brook or Chris Ph: 49278388 Mob:0427 211 789	Tractor Central 28 O'Shanesy St. Gracemere Ph.4933 4500 <a href="http://www.tractorcentral.com.au">www.tractorcentral.com.au</a>	Cliff Munro 204-206 William St Mechanical Repairs Ph. 49224882	Wandal Service & Suspension Centre Ph. 49224881 Quick Fit Tyre Ph. 49273360
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## Faraday Rural Fire Service News



Faraday Rural Fire Service has unfortunately lost three key members of their Committee who have moved away from the area. We are desperately seeking people who are willing to replace them. Being a member of the Faraday Rural Fire Service does not take up much time, but can help save property and livestock if a bush fire occurs. We are all volunteers and are usually the first port of call for a fire in our Ridgeland community. If you wish to find out more about what membership entails please come to Ridgeland Community Hall on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at 7.30pm or contact Rob Chippendale on 49345564.

### FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Earlier in the year John Mouritz drew our attention to the Volunteer Small Equipment Grant funding that was available. We needed a sponsoring organisation and Mick Byrne agreed the school could fill that position.

We were successful in our application for a computer, programs and a printer which have now been installed at the school for use by the newsletter typist and community organisations by appointment.

Thankyou to those who so kindly provided us with a letter of support at such short notice. May we all benefit from this technology.

At our General Meeting in early August we said good-bye to our Treasurer, Mrs Pat Watts who has now moved to Gracemere with husband Kev, after the sale of their property. After a vote of thanks for her patience and efficient work as our first treasurer, Pat commented that she had enjoyed the challenge.

Jenny Reeve was returned as chairperson and Rhondda Ward agreed to take on the dual role of secretary/treasurer. Rhondda has been acting in the position since Linda Edgar's resignation in November last year. Our thanks go to Linda for her work as secretary for our first eight months.

The Newsletter Committee has donated \$200 to the school for football jerseys to help cover costs. Great to see the footy team and all the individuals and teams have such a successful competition against the Rockhampton schools.

This month we have introduced a joke section and we look forward to some great jokes being sent in for us to print. Don't forget those recipes either! Please post to Jenny Reeve, 42 Boys Rd, Alton Downs 4702 or drop into school clearly marked for "Around the Ridges".

In the November and December issues of the newsletter we would like people to tell us some of their more humorous memories from 2004. Let's make the end of year "Around The Ridges" a good laugh.

### *Choice Petroleum*

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**THURS - 6AM - 9PM.**

**FRIDAY - 6AM - 10PM.**

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**LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.**

**APOLOGIES TO DIRECT PEST CONTROL as we omitted to include this ad in the last issue. We thank them for their sponsorship.**

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**Neil Rumpf**

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Fitzroy Nurseries  
Open 7 days 8am-5pm  
Fruit trees/ Ornamentals  
Ph. 49272388  
Fax. 49223203

## WHAT'S ON

### 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.

### Alton Downs Hall Committee

Dance on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2004  
Dance on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2004  
and

**Bowls** second Saturday night  
of each month.

### Play Group

First Meeting of Play Group  
Ridgeland State School  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March  
9.30 am  
and fortnightly thereafter  
Contact Michelle Rose  
Phone: 49345635

### Rhee-Tae-Kwan-Do

At Alton Downs Polocrosse  
and Sports Club  
Tuesday nights, 6.30pm  
49223737

## NOTICES

### Wanted to Buy

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

### Ironing

Done at my home. \$12/hr  
Sharee Weier Phone: 49341320

### Needed By Ridgeland's

#### Equestrian Team

Donations of black Jodphurs.  
All sizes Phone Julie Paddison  
49345518

### For Sale.

Ladies rodeo jeans Green  
Lawman size 9, Cream  
Roughrider 7/8,  
Denim roughrider 7/8, Denim  
roughrider with conchos 9/10 all  
\$40 each.  
4 pairs of ladies cream jodphurs  
size 10 \$40 each ono.  
Cream sheepskin show numnah.  
Suit child's saddle \$60.  
Ladies size 10 grey with red  
pinstripe show coat would suit  
child. \$80.  
Ph. 49341430 or 0409511162

### For Sale

Early 1980s Toyota utility.  
RWC. Best Offer.  
Ph. 49274143

### For Sale

2 bedroom on road  
Camper Trailer with  
Front annex and wall.  
\$8000.  
1974 Toyota Landcruiser  
Ute – Petrol, unregistered,  
Mechanically sound \$1000.  
Ph. Diane on 49341192 A/H  
or 49278400 business hr

## MEETINGS

### QCWA

Ridgeland's Branch meets  
9.30am, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of  
month

### Stitch and Chat Group

Meets 9.30am  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month  
QCWA room.  
All welcome.  
Phone: 49345120

### Ridgeland's P&C Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
every month  
Phone: 49345518

### Ridgeland's Show Meeting

AGM  
Wednesday, 8.09.04  
7.30 pm.  
Bring a plate  
Visitors welcome

**If you lose your temper...  
don't look for it.**

**If you take too long in  
deciding what to do with  
your life – you will find  
that you have done it.**



### To Give Away

2 stainless steel kitchen sinks  
1 benchtop electric stove  
1 wall oven, assorted furniture,  
bits and pieces, as is where is.  
Phone Linda 49347621

### Wanted to buy

Small quantity, 4-5 megalitres,  
Barrage Water Allocation.  
Phone: 49341413

MS & SM McQuillan  
Painting Contractor  
Ph. 49345560  
Mob. 0407 272 224

Tracy Hardy  
Photography  
"Diggora Terrace"  
Ph: 49228102

Wandal Post Office  
10 Wandal Road  
Gifts, Office supplies.  
Ph: 49272101

Warrick Hale Saddlery  
"Caring for you and your  
horse"  
Ph: 49341516

## COOKERY SECTION



### CARAMEL DUMPLINGS

1 1/4 cups of S.R flour  
 30g. butter  
 teaspoon vanilla essence  
 pinch salt  
 1/3 cup sugar  
 1/3 cup milk

Method: To make dumplings, sift flour and salt. Rub in butter.  
 Add combined milk and vanilla. Mix well.

To make sauce, add all ingredients to saucepan, stir constantly until boiling then reduce.

Drop tablespoon of dumpling dough into simmering sauce, cover and simmer for 20 minutes.

Sauce  
 30g. butter  
 1 1/2 cups brown sugar  
 1 1/2 cups water

Sherrie Sutcliffe

### jokes

We invite the children, and any who can't resist a good joke, to please send in your favourites.

What do you call a bull that sleeps?

A Bulldozer




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**Ridgelands Show News.**  
**AGM**  
 Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2004.  
 Bring a plate.  
 All welcome



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## POLOCROSSE NEWS

On 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July, we had our home carnival, despite the small number of competing teams we had a great time.

Winners of the A-Grade were Alton Downs. The team was Matt Reid, Craig Reid, Craig Roberts, Bryce Jackson and Ian Stewart.

Matt Reid was Best & Fairest player for the A-grade. Winners of the C-Grade were Alton Downs. The team was Casey O'Sullivan, Danica O'Sullivan, Chloe House, Carolyn Dodds, Katie Reeve and Abigail Vaughan.

Katie Reeve received the most improved player award.

Runners up in the junior section were Zara O'Sullivan, Lachlan Dodds and Stewart Bentley.

Capricornia Zone Championship was held in Monto on the 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Alton Downs fielded our juniors' team of Danica O'Sullivan, Zara O'Sullivan, Chloe House, Lachlan Dodds, Katie Reeve and Stewart Bentley.

They were runners up in the A-Grade juniors.

Stewart Bentley was Best and Fairest player in the junior A's.

Carolyn Dodds was a member of the composite Emerald/Wandoan team, who were runners up in the D-Grade.

A special thanks you to all our supporters and to Cynthia O'Sullivan for her enduring support of the junior competition.

Our next carnival will be the State Championship Carnival to be held at Chinchilla on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> September. Good luck to all the Alton Downs players attending the competition.

### 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.

Strops Upholstery Horse rugs, Furniture Canvas, Motor, Marine Ph. 49272137 Mob. 0419 024 897	Alma Street Rockhampton Veterinary Surgery Dr. Greg Muir Ph: 49228138 all hours	Peter Lawton Veterinary Service 23 Gladstone Rd Rockhampton Ph.49273688	Gracemere Water Shed 28 O'Shanesy Street Gracemere Glen Ryan Ph. 49331555
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