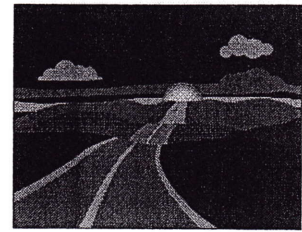


AROUND THE RIDGES

and a bit beyond



Issue 20 April, 2005.

A community and school newsletter.

Phone: 49341132

Fax: 49341076

Email: aroundtheridges@bigpond.com

Please Note: Cut off date for contributions 15th of every month.

100 Years of Celebration.

The Alton Downs Hall Committee held its first function on the 3rd April 1905 in their new hall, which was built by the then committee – The Alton Downs Farmers Association, on land that was generously donated by Sidney George Hoare, Senior. Mr Hoare went on to serve as president for many years.

In the earlier days, gaslights were the only means of lighting until a 32-volt lighting plant was installed. This was run by an old diesel motor, which proved to be quite stubborn to start at times. Outside the Hall there was a fireplace, where water was boiled in kero tins and then carried upstairs to make tea for supper.

The Alton Downs Hall became a communal meeting place for many functions and as they say “if walls could talk”, these walls would be able to tell of many happy and memorable times and many tales indeed. In the early forties and fifties the committee extended the hall to cater for the large crowds of people who attended the old time dances and cards. These were held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday nights of each month. In September 1970 a dance was held to commemorate the switching on of the 240-volt power. Mr V.E. Jones MLA performed the switching on ceremony.

In the early 1990's, major renovations were carried out with re-stumping and re-roofing of the hall. Our hall has been a meeting place for many life long friendships, marriages, church services, christenings, Lodge meetings, Girl Guides, dances, Judo, line dancing, Anzac Day dawn services and afternoon teas to name but a few. We are sure that everyone in the district would have a tale to tell, be it happy, funny or sad and we invite you all to share these memories on this our celebration of 100 years. For further details contact Joyce Chippendale on 4934 5120.

This newsletter sponsored by:

Alton Downs Rural Fire Brigade.

The Brigade was administrated many years ago with the late Sid Hoare Senior as the Warden and the late Mr Walter Hunt as Secretary. In the early days the District was mainly dairying and crops and beef cattle.

In the early eighties the District started to change to what we see as many hobby farms today (529 Rate Payers).

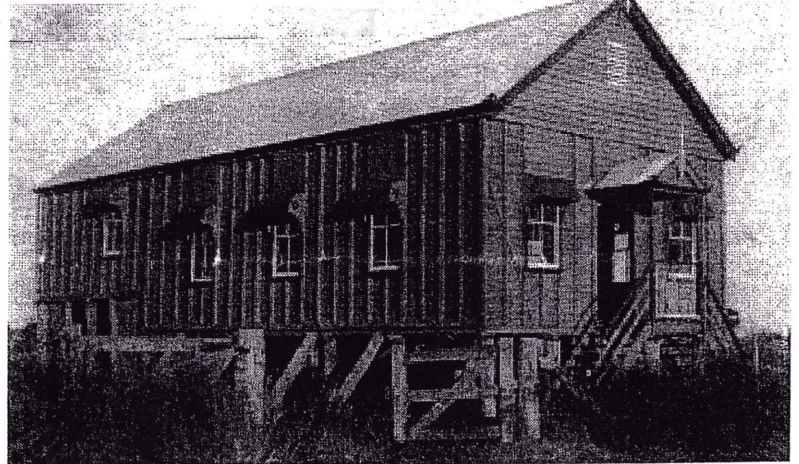
After the passing of the late Sid Hoare Senior, the Junior son, Sidney Hoare, was appointed Fire Warden by the State Fire Service of the times. They are also the governing body of Rural Brigades of today. The Members and the Volunteers have been very responsive in the time of need to attend fires in the District and adjoining Districts.

Because of many “big fires” in the South and some of the bigger ones in this area in the last few years all members have to do extensive training in the appliances and fire management. Along with this the Brigades receive a constant flow of correspondence.

The Alton Downs Brigade thanks you, the Rate Payers of the District, for your contribution for the Brigade to be able to purchase the four trailers and the CANTER Fire Truck. We also have built a shed to house the Canter and the trailers and also are able to service yearly the equipment. We have plans to have electricity to the shed for late returns from fires.

The first trailer which the Brigade acquired was built by the inmates of the Rockhampton Correctional Centre. It is used in emergency only today. We the committee members thank one and all for your support.

Taken from *Fitzroy Flashbacks*.



Alton Downs Hall before verandahs were added.
Photo taken by Mary Anne Goudie (Kahl) on Thursday 24/05/1917.
Photo courtesy of Marion Boles.

DALMA STATE SCHOOL

Last Tuesday our students combined with Stanwell, Westwood and Gogango on a historical journey back in time to the homestead at Gracemere. Here the children were privileged to have a guided tour of the property by its current owner and hear of the events that have beset the Archer family since the house was first established.

This was a culminating activity for our unit based on "Snapshots in Time" where children discovered the hardships and joys faced by early settlers in Australia and looked at artefacts from the past and changes have been made to household items over the past two centuries.

Children played some of the games enjoyed by children throughout the history of Australia, and by popular vote elastics was declared a favourite.

From Gracemere we then travelled the Razorback Road to Mt Morgan for a look in the museum and to see evidence of change in the buildings and natural environment. Lunch at the Dam showed a vast contrast to the lower stages of the river and the swinging bridge was a hit.

What items from the past might you have stored at home? — an old copper, a coarse scrubbing brush or maybe a pan for finding gold. Having tried our luck at gem seeking we all know what gold fever must have felt like.



Elastics was the most popular sport from the past at Gracemere Homestead.



Brodie and Adam do the washing in an early machine

SCHOOL LEADERS' CAMP

Brodie joined students from the Keppel Cluster last Thursday on a flight bound for Brisbane, Parliament House and a special Leadership forum.



Apart from being treated to morning tea at Parliament House, the students enjoyed a series of motivational and inspiring talks about how they can show leadership within their own lives.

Best of all was a speech by Michael Lee who used a yoyo to prove his points in "The NED Show."

What's Ned?

Never give up. Encourage others. Do your best.

Soon we will organise an official presentation of badges to formalise Brodie's position as school leader.

NEWSPAPERS

SPONSORS and COUPONS

We thank Wayne and Lisa Cunningham and their business Keppel Outdoor Products for sponsoring our school for copies of the Tuesday Morning Bulletin, which includes a special education supplement.

With St Patrick's Day falling this Thursday, it was very informative to read last week's article on the history and traditions of Ireland.

We will include newspapers in many aspects of our learning and through this generous sponsorship; everyone will have access to the local news and events.

Have you noticed the little coupons in the Bulletin for schools to collect to win a great package for their tuckshop?

We have registered to collect and need all donations. The number of coupons is averaged out against the number of students. We have a fair chance of scoring a prize if everyone gets behind us.

MILK CAPS

Collect-a-caps from Paul's Milk bottles are still being collected.

Money raised from this activity is being used to convert the Library into a kids and community lounge with computer access, video player and games, which we hope, will be used by parents and preschoolers.

10 cents a lid soon adds up to \$1's.

W.R Jones D6D Dozer Hire Ph. 49345596 Mob. 0407 231 427	Advanced Excavations 3.5t Excavator & Tipper Hire Bruce Smith Ph: 49341811	Greg Thompson Excavator hire with Bobcat & truck Ph. 49345587 Mob. 0407 156 662	O.H. Corral Ent. Lessons for Riding/ Roping/ Horsemanship/ Barrel Racing Ph/Fax 49341361
--	--	---	--

Ridglands State School News from Mick Byrne, Principal

Recently, grades 3 to 7 listened to some great speeches from our nominees for school captain. After the speeches grades 5 to 7 voted using the preferential voting system. Congratulations go to Casey Hopkins and Andrew Hunt, our 2005 school Captains and Kayla Whitehead and Travis Duff, our 2005 school Vice-captains. I'm sure they'll all do an excellent job. House Captains have also been selected. Congratulations to Rebecca Barlow and Coen Austin-White, Captains, and Kelly Shepherd and Andrew Hunt, Vice-Captains of Unicorns; and Casey Hopkins and Nathan Thompson, Captains, and Holly-Jo Pye and Travis Duff, Vice-Captains, of Dragons.

Q Build have commenced work building a cover for the walkway between the pre-school/1/2 building and the library building. When finished, all students will have all weather access to all buildings and the toilets. I have also been informed that the shade sails to replace those torn down in the storm last year will be installed over the Easter Holidays.

The Executive Director, Schools, Rockhampton district visited the school last week to discuss the school's Annual Operation Plan and other curriculum issues. She was once again very impressed with what the students are doing and asked me to pass on her congratulations to the teachers and staff on their efforts.

I would like to give a big "thank you" from the Equestrian team and the school to Trevor and Paige Barney for their huge \$400 donation to the team. It will go a long way towards subsidising many of the costs for the team members.

Summer sport concluded on Friday 18th March for this term. Winter sport trials will be held on Wednesday 23rd March from 12:30 to 2:30pm at Bouldercombe State School. Our teams have been performing very well so far.

The P & C have decided to hold a "Working Bee" to tidy up the school grounds on Saturday 9th April from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. We will be mowing, whipper snipping and gardening.

I am pleased to report that the police have caught the person who broke into the school in February and recovered some of the stolen items. A great effort.

We wish everyone in the district a happy and safe Easter holiday.

SADDLE & RUG REPAIRS

Phil & Jayne Owen
has moved to
43 Bridge Street (Lakes Creek Road)
Just before All Hours Glass and Woods Feed.
Ph: 4921 2225



*All Types of Repairs
New Gear Made to Order*

*Manufacturer of Exercise
Saddles & Horse Rugs*

vicki deller
sales representative

real estate agents
and auctioneers

qtv house, aquatic place
north rockhampton, qld 4701
rockhampton.qld@raywhite.com

tel (07) 4923 0000
fax (07) 4926 1538
mob 0408 074 874



Ray White
ROCKHAMPTON

www.raywhite.com

COUNCIL COMMENT

Hello Everyone. There are a couple of issues I'd like to discuss this month. I've heard that there has been a concern by some members in community in regards to the money donated to the Tsunami Appeal by Council on Fitzroy Shire's behalf. The amount donated wasn't sent to a charity but went directly to buy medical supplies to go over with our volunteers so every cent, I believe, was utilized in the best way possible. The other issue I'd like to address is wandering and nuisance animals (dogs primarily). If you live in Alton Downs or other rural areas and have had an experience in recent times, please feel free to ring myself or Cheryl at the Council Office as we need to find out at what level the problem is. We (Council) need feedback so we can make an informed decision and not waste time and energy on something that's not required or wanted. As we have no Ratepayer Group currently representing Alton Downs, the best way you can have your say on different issues is to ring your Councillors. If you don't tell us, we don't know. Until next time, take care and bye for now.

Cr Christine Ward

Showdown Rugs Ph. 49341361 Fax. 49341012 Mob. 0438 341 361	Horse Riding School GRANLEA Alton Downs Ph: 49341056	8KD Equestrian Services Ph. 49341430 Mob. 0419 711 162	B. Jackson Farrier Hot/Cold Shoeing Ph: 49341231 Mob: 0407 170 652
---	---	---	---



The Ridgelsands and District Sporting and Agricultural Association Inc.

Ridgelsands Show News.

As show time is nearing preparations for the 24th Annual Ridgelsands Show on the 4th June are well under way. Some new classes in the programme include a Brute Ute Competition, an Equestrian programme and a Show Casing of school work, incorporating all schools in the Fitzroy Shire.

Ridgelsands Show Jumping – A New Feature.

The Waroula Equestrian Group was formed in January, 1996. The aim of the club is to foster and promote equestrian sports within the Rockhampton region. The Waroula Equestrian Group is assisting the Ridgelsands Show Society in organising the incorporation of show jumping into the programme. After a long absence of show jumping at the Ridgelsands Show, Waroula looks forward to ensuring a successful return.

Queensland Inter –School Equestrian Show Horse and Show Jumping Events.

These new events help to incorporate schools in other facets within the Show, not only through riding skills. Students will compete in either hacking or show jumping events while representing their school. Please refer to the show programme for more information. For any further information on these two events please contact Grant Paddison on 49341 056.

Brute Ute Competition.

The Brute Ute Competition follows the State 'Ute Muster' Series and consists of five classes: Best Street Ute, Best 4x4 Ute, Best Chicks Ute, Best Feral Ute and Best Work Ute. For more information on the Brute Ute Competition please refer to the show programme or contact John Salmon on 0429 345 163.

School Work.

The school work section at the 2005 Ridgelsands Show takes on a new look called 'showcasing'. This involves static displays by play groups, schools and home schools in the Fitzroy Shire. This showcasing gives the schools and their students the opportunity to exhibit their work in a non – competitive environment. For more information on this section please call Trish Ruddick on 49345 518.

Programmes for the 2005 Ridgelsands Show are available at Ridgelsands State School and 'Woody's at Wandal' Supermarket.

ANZAC DAY NEWS

In recent years there has been a move on ANZAC Day, towards laying books at the Cenotaph as well as, or instead of, wreaths. This move was to give people the opportunity to give a book to a School, children's or youth organisation in the hope of encouraging our young people in their interest and concern for the meaning, purpose and message of ANZAC Day. This move provides a year round reminder of ANZAC Day and its significance in our life.

The Alton Downs and Combined District Remembrance Committee would like to invite members of our community to be involved in this new approach. If you chose to lay a book, could you please inscribe the front cover or leave a card in the book saying to which school/organisation you would like the book presented.

For further enquires please phone Hugh Chippendale – 49345120.

Rocky Feed & Seed John and Todd Lynch Phone 49227307 Fax. 49227095	GOFARM Agribusiness Ph. 49221088 Fax. 49226930 Mob. 0427 521 080	Jenkinson Contractors Fencing, Tordoning, Mustering, Yard Building Mob. 0429 66 22 89	FISHCO Supplies all fresh seafood George Street, Rocky Ph. 49220072
---	---	--	---

Alton Downs Hall Centenary.

The Alton Downs Hall Committee Inc wish to invite past and present members and their families to the Alton Downs Community Hall Centenary to be held on 23rd April, 2005 at the Hall at 3.00pm for afternoon tea.

A licensed bar will be operating.

There will be a barbecue and dance. If you have any memorabilia of the Hall to display, please contact Tom Hoare on 49341493 or Joyce Chippendale on 49345120

All welcome.

Morinish Landcare Group.

We are all aware new weeds have been introduced into Australia in previous years and at some stage in the future more will enter Australia. We have seen how Rubbervine, Mother of Millions, Parthenium, Parkinsonia and other weeds have spread in plague proportions, ruining valuable grazing lands and river systems. Knowing what can happen will not prevent new weed outbreaks spreading in the same way.

Pilot programmes to prevent outbreaks of new weeds ruining our environment are being set up in the Central Queensland and Townsville areas. If successful, the programme will be extended across Australia. The aim is to catch new weeds before they reach plague proportions and are easier and cheaper to eradicate. To achieve this, we need the community to become more aware and to report any weeds that are unknown to them. The Queensland Herbarium will be involved in the pilot programme to be run in the two regions. We need people who are interested in becoming SPOTTERS. Workshops will be held by Morinish Landcare in conjunction with Queensland Herbarium to train spotters to become more effective in spotting weeds and preparing them for identification. Morinish Landcare Group invite you to our next meeting to be held at Marble Ridges, Glenroy Road, 13th April at 9.30 am. We urge members and visitors to attend to find out what Morinish Landcare Group is achieving and how the group can help you. Peter Watts, Capricorn Training Company and a representative of Greening Australia will be guest speakers on the day.

REMEMBER: WEEDS ARE LIKE CRIMINALS, WITHOUT THEM AUSTRALIA WILL BE A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE.

For more information contact:

John Salmon 49345163

Kay Morris 49373584

I've learned...

That wherever I go, the world's worst drivers have followed me there.

WIN A \$2000 BREVILLE APPLIANCE PACKAGE FOR OUR SCHOOL TUCKSHOP.

Its easy to win. From 14th of March to 27th August, tokens will appear every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in **The Morning Bulletin** newspaper. Bonus tokens will be run during school breaks. Cut out the tokens and bring them to school. Every 100 tokens collected will be sent to the Bulletin. We can enter as many bundles of 100 tokens as we like. As not all schools are the same size, judging will be based on a system that considers the number of students and the number of tokens entered.

First prize is a \$2000 Breville appliance package from Paul Archer and the Good Guys. There will be four runner-up prizes of \$1000 Breville appliance packages

Curly Top Soft Serve Ice-Cream -Gloria Bills- Phone: 49341125 Mobile: 0438341125	WOODY'S at WANDAL SUPERMARKET Open 6am-9pm - 7 days a week. Phone: 49223014	C.Q. Fresh Pac Veges Vegetables for Bar-B-Q's and Parties Phone: 49278122 Fax: 49213670	Australian Country Living Unique gifts for all year round! Phone: 49280088
--	---	---	--

WHAT'S ON

Rhee-Tae-Kwan-Do

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

Ridgelands QCWA

Mothers Day Afternoon
7th May 2005
at Ridgelands Hall
1.30 pm

International Day Luncheon

Knitting and Crochet
Floral Art Competition
at Ridgelands Hall
6th June, 10.00am

ANZAC Day Service

25th April, 4.28am
Alton Downs Hall
All welcome

Alton Downs Committee Centenary

23rd April, 2005
at 3.00pm
at the Alton Downs Hall.
Licenced bar.

Creative Memories Workshop

Scrapbooking Workshops to be
held at the North Rocky Bowls
Club 1st Tuesday and 3rd Sunday
of every month. Dates for local
workshops held at the Dalma
School to be advised.
Please contact Margo Eistreich
Ph 49345958

National Party – Ridgelands Branch
BBQ and Auction. 12 noon, July 17
At The Alton Downs Hall.

Give-away

2 year old Rottweiler X Ridgeback
bitch. Owners moving to town.
Ph.49341656, 0439039027.

A sense of curiosity is nature's original
school of education.
Smiley Blanton (1882 – 1966)
American musician

NOTICES

For Sale

2 glass door drink fridge.
Phone Gavin 49345919

For Sale

CD+G Tower Karaoke Machine
With monitor and cassette player
2 mics +VG CDs. Good condition
\$150 ono
Phone : 49341201

Wanted Urgently

House with small acreage
close to town.
Phone: M&B Perry
0439 729 026
49271865

For Sale

One Appaloosa 1st cross Quarter Horse
gelding. Unregistered with papers.
Chestnut with white blanket.
Rising three, unbroken.
One Bay gelding, 14.3 hands. White
blaze on head. Broken but needs work.
Ph 49341656, 0439039027

MEETINGS

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.
Phone: 49345120

Ridgelands P&C Meeting

2nd Wednesday
every month
Phone: 49345518

Ridgelands Show Meeting

Wednesday 13.04.2005
7.30pm
Visitors welcome

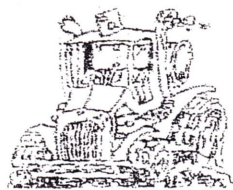
Alton Downs Fire Brigade

Wednesday, 18th May.
At the Alton Downs Hall.

The Automatic Shop and CQ Mudspartz Inc

Present

TWIN TRACK MUDRACING AT KABRA RACE TRACK (BEHIND KABRA PUB)



Saturday 16th April, 2005
RACING STARTS AT 3PM

*FREE CAMPING

* BAR

*FOOD VAN

* NO ESKYS PLEASE

*BYO CHAIR

ADULT TICKET -\$14

FAMILY TICKET (up to 4 kids) -\$28

CHILDREN (15 years or under) - \$3

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

COOKING SECTION

The Rules of Chocolate.

- If you've got melted chocolate all over your hands, you're eating it too slowly.
- Chocolate covered raisins, cherries, orange slices and strawberries all count as fruit, so eat as many as you like.
- The problem: How to get a kilo of chocolate home from the shop in a hot car. The solution: Eat it in the car park.
- Diet Tip: Eat a chocolate bar before each meal. It'll take the edge off your appetite, and you'll eat less.
- Chocolate has many preservatives. Preservatives make you look younger. Therefore you need to eat more chocolate.
- Put 'eat chocolate' at the top of your list of things to do today. That way, at least you'll get one thing done.
- A nice box of chocolate can provide your total daily intake of calories in one place. Now, isn't that nice?
- If you can't eat all your chocolate, it will keep in the freezer. But if you can't eat all your chocolate, what's wrong with you?

Alton Downs Rural Fire Brigade

Invite

**The Rate Payers and Families
of our district**

to get to know the

**Operation of Fire Appliances
and Barbecue**

Saturday afternoon

April 2

At 2.00pm.

At

The Alton Downs Hall Inc

Chairman
David Osborne
49341144

R.S.V.P.
by
29 March 2005

Secretary
Peter Craig
49341166

Feel Great with
elucidate
Phone Brook or Chris
Ph: 49278388
Mob:0427 211 789

Tractor Central
28 O'Shanesy St.
Gracemere
Ph.4933 4500
www.tractorcentral.com.au

Cliff Munro
204-206 William St
Mechanical Repairs
Ph. 49224882

Wandal Service &
Suspension Centre
Ph. 49224881
Quick Fit Tyre
Ph. 49273360

Jokes

**Doctor, doctor, my hands
won't stop shaking.**

Tell me, do you drink a lot?

No, I spill most of it.

**Doctor, doctor, I keep getting
this stabbing pain in my eye
when I drink a cup of tea.**

Try taking the spoon out of it.

**Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a
frog.**

Well in the case I suggest you go
to croakroom.

This week's Proverb

God grants a treasure of good sense to
the godly. He is their shield, protecting
those who walk with integrity.

(Proverbs 2:7)

We are nearing the end of the
financial year and the end of the
*Around The Ridges Community
Business Directory*. In the next
two months we will be seeking
advertisers for 2005/2006.

This advertising money pays for
publishing of the newsletter and
goes towards putting much
needed resources into our
School. We remain ever grateful
for the interest and support of our
advertisers.

- ❖ 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/Secretary), Mrs Rhondda Ward,
135 Black Gin Creek Road, Alton Downs 4702.
- ❖ Email: aroundtheridges@bigpond.com
- ❖ This newsletter needs the support of the community to succeed.
Contributions and ideas are welcome.

The Ridgeland Post Office 1948

