

Around the ridges and a bit beyond



Issue 44 June, 2007

A community and school newsletter.

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

Gallipoli Pilgrimage 2007

We'd been told that it would be freezing while waiting during the night for the Anzac Day Dawn service – they were right! It was very cold! If you plan on going some time then wear enough clothes to keep the wind and cold out because it is a long night's wait. We left our hotel at 9 pm to arrive at Anzac Cove by midnight to try to claim seats. However many thousands of others had arrived well before us (young backpackers must have arrived the day before and staked out their ground positions) and we had to climb way up the back section exposed to the elements.

Our tour group had been to the Gallipoli battlefields the day before the ceremony and walked the battle fields accompanied by a War Historian from the Australian Govt War Memorial who gave us an insight into the battles and the hardship the soldiers faced on the fields. We were told that the average age of the Australians buried at Gallipoli was 28 years, and included a wide cross-section of Australians. Most of us had thought of these soldiers as being young men in the prime of their lives – and so they were but obviously many were older men who gave their lives for their country. The youngest to die was 14 years 9 months old. Seeing first hand the areas of the battles, one can start to imagine the hardships that these men suffered daily, with regard to the terrain, weather, deprivation, disease and battle injuries. The Allied casualties totalled almost 34,000 (8,000 Australians), whereas the Turkish forces lost over 80,000 men in equally horrific circumstances.

The cemeteries at Gallipoli are not massive areas of rows and rows of headstones like we've seen in other War Cemeteries, but are quite beautiful (or at least what I thought of them). The scattered small cemeteries are where the battles actually took place so by following the memorials one can retrace the battles of the Gallipoli campaign. The Australian Govt provides funding to maintain them and, being spring, the plants and flowers are very beautiful and colourful.

Any Anzac service, to Australians (& New Zealanders), is emotive, but actually being present at the site of the 1915 campaign provides a heightened emotional bond to the ANZAC soldiers.

On our tour there was a family group comprising 3 generations – Grandad (87yrs old), daughter and grandson. The Grandad told me he thought he would never see the places where his father had fought at Gallipoli, but he finally made it and was walking the dusty roads with the rest of us. He seemed to be so proud to do so!

The visit to Gallipoli on Anzac Day is becoming a pilgrimage for many Australians – our tour group was what we'd call middle-aged, but more and more young Aussies and Kiwis working or holidaying in Europe or the UK make the journey. This year over 8,000 Australians & New Zealanders attended both the dawn service near Anzac Cove, and the morning service at Lone Pine which, this year, were hosted by Australia, with the official representative being Dr Brendan Nelson, Minister for Defence. Following the Lone Pine ceremony, the Kiwi's have a service at Chanuk Bair to commemorate their fallen men.

We'd had text messages from Australia that there was a terrorism alert for the Anzac Day Service, but none of us felt threatened at any time during our time in Turkey. Turkey is a fascinating country, with much history (Persian, Greek, Roman, Crusader, and Ottoman), and a population of approximately 73 million. Turkey's economy centres on manufacturing and tourism, and is relatively self-sufficient in agriculture and oil. The Turkish people are very friendly, have a very good sense of humour (some say very much like the Aussies) and seem to be able to pick out the Aussies easily (or was it just because we had on our Anzac tour caps?).

We would recommend a visit to Turkey, and if doing the Anzac pilgrimage, wear plenty of warm clothing or take a good sleeping bag to keep the chill out!

John & Sandra Guthrie (Frenchville, Rockhampton)

Ridgелands Show News.

Saturday 2nd June 2007.

Starts 8 a.m.

Grand Parade & Opening 2 p.m.

Friday night nominations for Pavilion Section greatly appreciated.

\$25 Prize Draw for Pavilion entries nominated and paid for on Friday 1st June.

Nominations and entry fees for Stud Beef Cattle, Fat Cattle, Dairy Goats, Caged Birds and Poultry close Monday 28th May.

COUNCIL COMMENT

With the scrapping of the Size, Shape and Sustainability Review, amalgamation is now a 'hot topic'. We have been fairly quiet until now as we were prepared to let the process follow due course. However, it is now a race against time due to Beattie's unreasonable time lines. Believe me, you will hear a lot more from us in the media during the next few months, as we will be throwing everything at it and fighting to stand alone.

We recently attended a Local Government update, and the LGAQ gave us valuable information about the composition of our submission due on the 25th of this month, as we need to make sure it puts forward the best possible argument why Fitzroy Shire will be a viable council into the foreseeable future.

Some of our councillors and our acting CEO also attended the CQ Local Govt conference at Blackwater where the Minister for Local Govt met with an understandably hostile reception. I believe there has been some 'back down' and he is now prepared to allow some public consultation which is great news. We will certainly keep you posted. Bye for now.
Cr. Ellen Smith (Deputy Mayor Fitzroy Shire)

ALTON DOWNS DAWN SERVICE 2007-04-25

Once again a large crowd assembled at the Alton Downs Cenotaph for the commencement of the 2007 ANZAC Day Dawn Service at 0427. The ceremony commenced by the Master of Ceremonies Mr John Reeve speaking the words I SEE THE LIGHT, I HEAR THEM CALLING which was the cue for the 227 squadron Australian Air Cadets to mount the Catafalque Guard.

The ceremony then continued with the singing of a well known hymn Rock of Ages. Mr John Reeve introduced this year's guest speaker Captain Lissetta Raiti, who presented a thoughtful view on the purpose of ANZAC Day services.

Firstly not to glorify conflict, but to honour the commitment of all who served our country. Most of all those who made the supreme sacrifice so that we may enjoy the peace and freedom we have today. While laying the wreaths at the Cenotaph piper Craig Thompson played The Lament, this was followed by the hymn The Lord is My Shepherd.

The Ode spoken by Mr John Reeve led to the playing of The Last Post by Mr Dennis Ilott, all observed a minute's silence this ended by the playing of The Reveille.

The MC then introduced Ms Jessica O'Neill who read The ANZAC Requiem.

After an introduction by Mr John Reeve, Father Barrie Harvey presented The Special Service of readings and prayers to all who served and to friends and family of those who did not return or have since passed on.

John Reeve invited the assembled crowd to pay tribute to the ANZACS by singing The National Anthem. The Catafalque Party then moved away from the Cenotaph. The MC announced the end of the Service and invited everyone to breakfast. Piper Craig Thompson led the attendees and special guests into the Hall whilst playing Amazing Grace.

During the breakfast the Remembrance Committee was presented with a Jack Tar Bear by Mr Ron King of the Capricorn Branch of the RSL. Before the presentation of the Bear, Ron told the assembled crowd the significance of the Bear. This fellow was one in a thousand which the Branch was presenting to groups as a fundraiser. The series was limited editions and were collectibles. Two years ago the first of the series Digger Bear was made, he was followed by Vietnam Bear, this year it's Jack Tar Bear, next year will be RAAF Bear.

H.D.Chippendale, President of the Alton Downs and Combined Districts Remembrance Committee.

QCWA NEWS

July 18 is International Day on Denmark, which will be held at The Ridgелands Hall.

September 1 is our 70th Birthday celebrations at the Ridgелands Hall 1.30pm. Admission is a Gold Coin.

The CWA has hung a lovely photo of Mrs Pat Robinson in the CWA Rooms in appreciation of her long and productive association with QCWA Ridgелands. Pat is still a member.

Rocky Feed & Seed Feed, Fertilizer and Supplements 111 Gladstone Road Ph: 4922 7307
GOFARM Agribusiness 138 George Street Ph: 4922 1088
M. Cann Contracting Fencing & Yard Building Ph: 4927 7717 Mob: 0423 767 333
Australian Country Living Gifts for Every Occasion Shopping Fair Ph: 4928 0088
Mark West Gents Hairdresser 11 Wandal Road Rockhampton Ph: 4922 7114
Total HAIR Obsession 38 William Street Rockhampton Ph: 4922 4255
Hay, Chaff, Domestic Water Cartage, Backhoe Hire, Granite C. Class. Bobcat & Trencher Hire IKERS Ph: 4934 1135
Top Quality Hay & Chaff "Riverside" – Stud Stallions 55 Stewart Park Road Ph: 4934 13021
Lionleigh Tavern 1 Wandal Road Rockhampton Ph: 4922 3429
www.hoghunter.com.au Chest Plates, Neck Collars Ph: 0407 111 324

AROUND THE RIDGES COMMITTEE NEWS

The *Around The Ridges* Newsletter has now been published for four years and has successfully supported our local community and the Ridgeland State School. The student numbers at the beginning of the school year were not great enough to hold our fourth teacher. Movement since has brought the numbers up and with greater movement in the sale of homes and properties in the northern part of the Fitzroy Shire in recent times, conceivably our School will continue to grow. It is important for us all to support the local school and the students in this healthy environment.

The committee has started organising the next Community Business Directory and the advertising costs for the 12 months will remain at \$70 for a business card size advertisement in the directory with block ads rotated in the newsletter each month. Also those advertisers can place any specials or sales in text form in the newsletter for no extra cost whenever they need. Advertisements can be forwarded to Mrs Rhondda Ward at 135 Black Gin Creek, Alton Downs 4702.

At the AGM last month Jenny Reeve was elected Chairperson, Rhondda Ward was elected Secretary/Treasurer and Jill Fry was elected Assistant Treasurer. These people are supported by the committee of Jenny Prince, Margaret Stewart, Ena Sinclair and Kay Milner. Any one of these people can be contacted with any queries you may have regarding the newsletter. The committee agreed on the following costs for advertisements in the newsletter;

- FREE** – School and community notices, birthdays, anniversaries, lost and found.
- \$5** – classifieds
- \$7** – Business card size ads
- \$30** – Half page advertisement/flyer
- \$60** – Full page advertisement/flyer
- \$25** – extra for colour
- \$50** – monthly sponsorship

Sending invoices is an expense and we rely on people's honesty (and memories!) to forward payment with their ad or if phoned or emailed through to us, please post to Rhondda at 135 Black Gin Creek Road, Alton Downs or drop at the school with your name and address in an envelope marked *Around The Ridges* Newsletter. We will post a receipt to you.

We thank you for your support and hope to have continuing support in 2007/2008.

A sinful man tries to look as if he were bold.
But an honest person thinks about how he lives.
Proverbs 21:29

Change is the law of life. And those who look only at the past and present are certain to miss the future.
John F. Kennedy

WHAT'S ON

Rhee Tae Kwon Do

At Alton Downs
Polocrosse & Sports Club
Tuesday nights, 6.30pm
49 22 3737

Brothers Australian Football Club

Join your local Southside
AFL Team. Training nights are
Tuesday and Thursday 6.00pm.
For enquiries 49 333 017

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

For The Qld Cancer Fund
342 Nicholson Road Alton Downs
25th May
9am - 11am
Lots of fun and activities
All Welcome and please bring a friend.

Jokes

Which airline do fleas
fly on?

Why is the letter "T"
like an island?

Why did the nurse tip
toe to the cupboard?

1. British Hair Ways
2. Because it's in the middle of water.
3. So she did not wake the sleeping
pills.

MEETINGS

Ridglands Show Meeting

Wednesday 11th July
7.30 p.m.

QCWA

Ridglands Branch meets 9.30
am 1st Wednesday of month.

Stitch and Chat Group

Meets 9.30 am
2nd & 4th Tuesday of month.
QCWA room.
All welcome
Phone: 4934 5120

Ridglands School

P&C Meeting
Tuesday 5th June in the
staffroom. 7.30 pm.

NOTICES

Horse for Sale

Horse's Name: **My Old Consultant**
(Paddock/Stable name "Matey")
Thoroughbred Gelding
Bay, Black/Brown
9 years old
No problems with shoeing –
shod by local farrier.
He is presently being worked by
Kerrod Smyth at Alton Downs
three times a week.
I am preparing him for Dressage
and Jumping.
Have up to date DVD & photos
Contact Angela Miners
0417 190 127

Found Pony

Quiet Black Mare
12 Hands
Little white spot on her
forehead.
Very cheeky with other horses
and doesn't like dogs.
Please ring: Lee Hopper
4934 1078 ASAP



Enjoy the
State of Origin
on the
BIG SCREEN
at the
Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club
Auctioning of the
VIP CHAIR
May 23
June 13
July 4
Enquiries: Alex Reid 49341124

Grey hair is great.
Ask anyone who's bald.
Lee Trevino (American golfer)

COOKERY CORNER

Silver-beet Quiche

6 slices prosciutto(cured ham)
coarsely chopped
500g silver-beet, coarsely chopped,
or frozen spinach
1 garlic clove, crushed
5 eggs
¾ cup thickened cream
½ cup grated cheese
2 sheets frozen shortcrust pastry, thawed

Preheat oven to 200°C. Lightly grease a
23cm round quiche dish.
Heat a frying pan on medium. Spray with
oil. Cook prosciutto for 4-5 minutes, until
browned and crisp. Remove from pan.
Drain on paper towel.
Add silver-beet and garlic to same pan.
Cook, stirring, for 2-3 minutes until silver-
beet has wilted.
In a large jug whisk together eggs and cream.
Stir in cheese, season to taste.
Roll pastry together to make 1 large sheet. Line
dish with pastry, trim edge. Cover pastry with
baking paper and rice.
Blind bake for 10 minutes. Remove paper and
rice. Cook for a further 5 minutes.
Spread prosciutto and silver-beet over pastry
base. Pour egg mixture over.
Bake for 25-30 minutes until set.