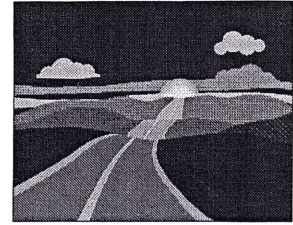


# Around the ridges and a bit beyond



Issue 51 February, 2008.

A community and school newsletter.

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Please Note: Cut off date for contributions 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

## THE LONG ROAD HOME

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of August, 2007 my grandson, Nathan Kime, was badly injured in a motor vehicle accident. In the blink of an eye my entire family was thrown into total shock and disbelief and Nathan was facing the biggest battle of his life just to survive. There are a number of people I would like to thank for the fact that Nathan is still with us today.

First of all thanks to the brave motorists for assisting at the scene of the accident and removing the four occupants from the crashed vehicle just before it was totally incinerated.

Then the Ambulance paramedic and his assistant who both worked tirelessly on the injured until back up help arrived.

The mighty Capricorn Rescue Helicopter was the next vital link in Nathan's survival. This wonderful service, with its excellent paramedics gave Nathan a far greater chance of making the journey to Rockhampton.

A very big thank-you goes to the staff at the Rockhampton Hospital, especially the surgical team for successfully stabilising Nathan so he could be transferred to Brisbane.

For that we are extremely grateful to the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The Pilot, Doctor and Paramedic on the plane did a magnificent job in getting Nathan safely to the Royal Brisbane Hospital. From then on he was in the care of the surgical team under the leadership of Dr Michael Rudd. This magnificent specialist set about repairing the extensive abdominal injuries Nathan sustained from the seat belt. Nathan visited the operating theatre over twenty-five times in the seventeen weeks he spent in the R.B.H.

I would like to mention the care and attention he received from the nurses in the Intensive Care Unit. Nathan spent forty-five days with the dedicated staff of the I.C.U. They were always quite obliging in explaining to any of us what they were doing and why. Those nurses are indeed a very special breed. Dr Rudd praised highly the life-saving surgery performed by the surgical staff at the Rockhampton Hospital. To all the medical personnel we thank you from the bottom of our hearts, we will be forever grateful.

Next I would like to thank Ben Dawson. Ben was a school friend of Nathan's, first at Ridgeland and then at the Rocky High. He now lives in Brisbane and turned up the R.B.H. the night Nathan was flown down. He was there to comfort Nathan's mother and offered her a place to stay. Connie certainly appreciated this kind gesture.

On behalf of my family I would like to extend to everyone our sincere thanks for all the inquiries as to Nathan's condition. The knowledge of your positive thoughts gave us comfort and the strength to never give up hope and our positivism flowed through to Nathan. Thank you also for supporting Nathan's father, Lloyd, and his sister, Kellie. This was very much appreciated.

Early in October Nathan's grandfather (Ken) and I visited Nathan in hospital in Brisbane. Ken had recovered sufficiently from his stay in the Wesley Hospital to make the trip back down. While it was music to our ears to hear Nathan speak as we walked into the room, nothing prepared us for the gaunt figure lying in the bed. We were aware of his huge weight loss but we hadn't visualised the difference it would make.

The month of November rolled in accompanied by the **November challenge**. Nathan started to grow a moustache to raise money for the prostate cancer and beyond blue charities. The generosity of donations enabled him to raise \$300-00. Thanks to everyone for supporting this great cause.

This newsletter is kindly sponsored by Mrs Margaret Stewart.

Nathan had many ups and downs but finally on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November he arrived back in Rocky. A party of nine waited patiently for the plane to land all very excited, but as Connie pushed the wheelchair through the door, emotions took over and it was tears all around. Nathan had lost 25 kilograms but that didn't matter. It was just marvellous to have him home. However the road took another twist, Nathan wasn't doing so well and after only eight days he was back in Brisbane. More surgery was required and after a stay of four weeks he was well enough to come home. This time he managed the steps on the plane just with the aid of one crutch.

There are two people very close to my heart, who played a major part in Nathan's recovery, his mother Connie and his girlfriend Kim. As soon as Kim had recovered sufficiently from her injuries sustained in the accident, she was on the plane to be by Nathan's side. When she was well enough to return to work she flew to Brisbane every week-end. Connie spent days and nights at the hospital when Nathan was critical. She had to dig deep to find the courage to console him, talk to him and urge him to keep on fighting. I suppose any mother would do the same, given the situation, but when that mum is your daughter it makes her a very special mum. Nathan said to me one day, "*Mum has spent nearly as much time at the hospital as I have*", maybe he was close, considering he has no recollection of the first five weeks.

Nathan will have to adjust to a slightly lesser quality of life but with the courage and fighting spirit he has shown so far, that is not going to be a problem. He probably won't be playing softball, but he is confident he will be able to resume his coaching duties, he just won't be able to test the boys to see how fast they can run.

Nathan and Kim will be moving into their own home in the near future. This was their dream before the accident so it is absolutely wonderful it has come to fruition at last. May they enjoy the pleasure of this dream.

From one very proud, very thankful and very relieved grandmother.

*Margaret Stewart*

*"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."*

Piranha Insurance  
Brokers  
Peter & Heather  
Peirano  
Ph: 4927 8400

All Out Landscapes &  
Irrigation  
Office: 4934 1513  
Mob: 0410 019 267

Will Do Landscaping  
240 Lion Creek Road  
Ph: 4922 1151  
Mob: 0438 563 594

Livestock Carrier  
D & J Lindley  
Ph: 4934 5519  
Mob: 0417 730 604

Tractor Central  
New & Used, and Parts  
28 O'Shanesy Street  
Ph: 4933 4500

### Ridgeland Hall News.

The Ridgeland Hall successfully held their Christmas Karaoke on the 1st December, 2007.

Patrons enjoyed a meal of roast pork and beef with roast vegetables followed by a choice of sweets.

A basket of goodies was won by Dorothy Thompson with a lucky meal ticket. Lollies were handed out to all the children. Entertainment was provided by the many participants in the Karaoke.

Thank you to the non committee members who helped out on the night and thanks to everyone for their attendance.

### School's Back!

On the first day of school, a first grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"

The Earth is ours...but only in trust  
let us tread lightly as we enjoy it's beauty and  
keep it safe for those who follow in our footsteps.

## Welcome to newcomers to our district.

Engine Centre \*  
Danny McNamara  
22 Sheehan Road  
Ph: 4934 1473

Cliff Munro  
Mechanical Repairs  
Ph: 4922 4882

MotorWorks  
Mechanical Repairs  
Ph: 4921 0200

A1 Exhausts &  
Mechanical  
Tony Hodgson  
Ph: 4922 1799

Fitzroy Nurseries  
Pty. Ltd.  
Open 7 Days  
8am-5pm  
Ph: 4927 2388

Painting Contactor  
R J Mylrea  
Mob: 0439 690 354  
Ph: 4934 1138

MS & SM  
McQuillan  
Mob: 0407 272 224  
Ph: 4934 5560

Amalgamated Pest  
Control  
2b Arthur Street  
Ph: 4921 4255

PJ's Pet Barn  
Open 7 Days  
399 Yaamba Road  
Ph: 4928 0299

Wandal Post Office  
Gifts, Office  
Supplies etc.  
10 Wandal Road

Our community newsletter is published once a month and is delivered to over 600 households in the area.

The cut off date for contributions is *15<sup>th</sup> of each month*. Items can be phoned through, emailed, faxed or delivered to Ridgeland State School mailbox and marked Around the Ridges.

Contact details: Phone: 49341132 Fax: 49341076  
Email: [aroundtheridges@eq.edu.au](mailto:aroundtheridges@eq.edu.au)

### General information about the newsletter:

- Free - school and community notices, birthdays, anniversaries, lost and found.
- Classifieds - \$5
- Business card size ads - \$7
- A4 Flyers - \$60
- Newsletter sponsorship, which helps pay for the postage each month - \$50
- We would like to stress that payment must accompany advertisement.
- Please make cheques payable to Ridgeland State School P&C Newsletter A/c

## Amalgamation

March 15<sup>th</sup> sees the beginning of the new Rockhampton Regional Council, with Fitzroy, Livingstone, Mount Morgan and Rockhampton City Councils ceasing to exist as separate councils.

The population of the new Rockhampton Regional Council will be 103,297.

This will be the largest in terms of budget and population in Central Queensland.

Our new Council will have 10 elected councillors and one Mayor.

A Local Transition Committee has been formed to facilitate the transition to the new Council. Meetings of this Transition Committee are held at the Walter Reid Cultural Centre at 12.30pm fortnightly and are open to the public.

A thief in Paris planned to steal some paintings from the Louvre. After careful planning, he got past security, stole the paintings and made it safely to his van. However, he was captured only two blocks away when his van ran out of gas. When asked how he came to mastermind such a crime and then make such an obvious error, he replied, "Monsieur, that is the reason I stole the paintings. I had no Monet to buy Degas to make the Van Gogh."



## Our Sympathy

The District extends its sincere sympathy to Stan, Aaron and Rebekah Comollatti on the sad loss of their wife and mother. Wanda was a lady much loved by her family, community and church. She had a very generous and loving heart.

Ray White  
Suzy McNamara  
Mob: 0427 250 208  
Ph: 4934 7315

Ray White  
Vicki Deller  
Mob: 0408 074 874  
Ph: 4923 0000

Ray White Rural  
Geoff McNamara  
Mob: 0429 317 345  
Ph: 4931 7315

FISHCO  
Supplies All Fresh  
Seafood  
Ph: 4922 0072

Choice Petroleum  
Mon-Sat 6am-7pm  
Sun 7am-6pm  
18 Wandal Road

### Acknowledgement Statement

The Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund has provided \$25,456 to Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club for the purchase of a Kubota Tractor with fieldquip finishing mower. The local community thank the QGGCBF for their support.

Have you seen the lone cyclist travelling around Alton Downs? We spoke to him. He is Jim Ryan of Pandora Rd. In 1998 he was diagnosed with Diabetes. This meant he was on 4 injections of insulin per day. To keep his diabetes in check his Doctor said regular exercise was the key. That is why he can be seen most days riding to Gracemere, which is about 25 kms. The ride usually takes him 2 hours for the return journey. This helps him keep his diabetes in check and gives him a leisurely look at what is happening in the neighbourhood. Please wave and say 'Hi' to him when you pass him on the road.

### Words of the Month

Pluviophobia- Fear of rain or of being rained on.

Antlophobia phobia related to the extreme fear of floods

### C & K CUSTOM SADDLES

Craig Thome & Kym Madigan  
133 Bond Road  
Alton Downs  
QLD 4752

Ph : 07 4934 1615  
Mobile : 0428 396 284  
Email : [craigkym@activ8.net.au](mailto:craigkym@activ8.net.au)



- Custom made fender saddles
- Repairs for all saddles
- All saddlery made to order
- Rug repairs

### Cookery Corner

#### FLOURLESS CHOCOLATE CAKE

200g dark cooking chocolate, roughly chopped  
150g soft butter  
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup lightly packed brown sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup cocoa  
4 eggs, separated  
100g almond meal  
extra cocoa, for dusting  
Cream and berries, for serving  
Place chocolate and butter in a large saucepan over a low heat. Stir until melted and smooth. Remove from heat and stir in sugar and cocoa. Allow to cool slightly, then mix in lightly beaten egg yolks and almond meal. Beat egg whites in a large bowl until stiff peaks form. Fold through chocolate mixture with a large spoon until just combined. Pour mixture into a 22cm lightly greased and lined cake pan. Bake at 180°C for 1 hour. Allow to cool slightly before removing from the pan. Serve dusted with cocoa, a dollop of cream and berries.

*This recipe is dedicated to my Grandson and all coeliac sufferers.*

### WEIGHT LOSS SAMPLE PACK

Here is something new - Herbalife has put together an incredible sample pack which you can use to find out how great you feel ... all for the low price of \$12.95.

I'd love to be able to help you, so please give me a call soon to find out more on 0418 883 027, email [craigkym@activ8.net.au](mailto:craigkym@activ8.net.au) or visit my web site <http://centralqueensland.waistcontrol.com>



**HERBALIFE.**

## WHAT'S ON

### Australia Day

Alton Downs Polocrosse & Sports Club.

Australia Day Celebrations & Fun Day.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

3.00pm till late

BBQ & Licensed Bar operating

Bring the family for a great day!

### Date Claimer

Ridgeland's Annual Show  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2008.

CONGRATULATIONS  
AND  
BEST WISHES  
TO  
ANNETTE MILNER  
AND  
DOUG CULLEY  
ON THEIR  
ENGAGEMENT.

## NOTICES

### Ridgeland's Tennis Club Inc.

Invites team or player nominations for night fixtures commencing mid February.

Contact Rob 49345564  
or Vivian 49345144

### January Birthdays

Happy Birthday  
to

Stephanie Ruddick  
17.01.2008.

Jacqueline Fossett.  
22.01.2008

Brock Weier  
16.01.2008.

## MEETINGS

### Ridgeland's Show Meeting

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 08.  
7.30pm.

### Council Amalgamation The Why, How and When

Date to be advised  
An information meeting on the amalgamation will be held in about 2-3 weeks time.

Enquiries: 4936 8555

### Engine Centre Rockhampton

Ph Danny Mc Namara  
07 4934 1473 or  
0438 341 473

22 Sheehan Road, Alton Downs  
SERVICING ALL CARS, 4WD,  
TRUCKS AND TRACTORS

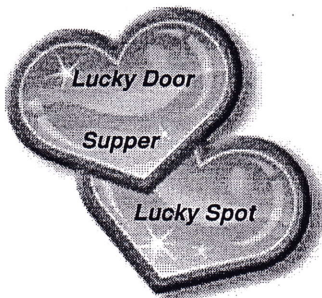
# Valentine Dance

Saturday 9th February 2008

7:30pm

*All proceeds to Capricorn Helicopter Rescue  
Service*

Bauhinia House, Corner of Berserker & High Street,  
Rockhampton



*Come along and dance to the  
"Man in Black"*



*Capricorn Helicopter  
Rescue Service Ltd*



Enquiries Phone  
Jan 4934 0333

Admission: \$8

# Alton Downs Polocrosse & Sports Club

## Australia Day Celebrations & Fun Day

Three-Legged  
Races

Water  
Relay Races

Saturday 26 January 2008

Egg  
Throwing

Egg Races

3.00 pm till late

BBQ & Licensed Bar Operating

Broom  
Throwing

Tug of War

Bring the family for a great day!

### *Boat Races*

Kids - Decorate your own 'boat'

### *Lawnmower Races*

Dad - Bring your mower down

