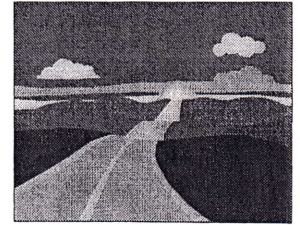


Around the ridges and a bit beyond



Issue 57 August, 2008.

A community and school newsletter.

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

Gordon and Judy Hanrahan's Trip to Gallipoli.

We went to this site this year and attended the Dawn Service. What an amazing experience. 10,000 people all squashed into about a two and a half acre area. It was freezing and we were wearing more clothes than we have ever worn at one time in our whole life. Every age was there and it was wonderful to see the young people and their display of respect for our fallen soldiers. Flags were everywhere and at times there was only an eerie silence.

Our trip began the afternoon of the 24th when we left Istanbul by coach on a tour with the company 'Hassle Free'. Their name is so appropriate as the hassle was definitely free and quite frequent. On arriving at our departure point there seemed to be a complete jumble of people and buses. We got the impression that not one guide seemed to know where their bus was and who was on their tour. Eventually we were given a bus and a tour guide. Ahmet was a lovely man whose English was hard to understand and was not really suited for this job. We later found out he was a new employee. He should have been a politician as he never answered one of our questions but gave us a big rambling that skirted all about the subject but never quite hit it. We got the impression he was frightened of his wife as he had been in many jobs. Poor Ahmet was to be given the sack this very night at Gallipoli. I was sorry for him as the company had not trained him for this and then shifted the blame on him. Julie was jokingly told by him that he was putting her off the bus as she asked too many questions. We arrived at Gallipoli at about 10.30 where we added on our extra layers of clothes which we were sure was totally unnecessary.

To move to the commemorative site you had to go through security where men and women were separated. As 280 buses were dropping people off it was a while before you reached the checkpoint. Men with big guns were on duty here and throughout the whole area as we were to later find out. Then you had the problem of finding your husband again as the women's line was much faster. Now the real problem began. There were people everywhere. Even though we were on a guided tour it was "so long, see you later". The stands seemed to be mainly specialised veteran groups and rightly so. Young people were asleep everywhere in their sleeping bags and there seemed nowhere to go. We all separated and went our own ways and Ahmet was looking decidedly stunned. He had no idea of the number of people he would encounter and did not even have warm clothing. We did not see him again and I am sure he froze to death.

We hobbled over sleeping bodies, standing on toes, heads, etc to a site we found. Knees were up under the nose and it was decidedly uncomfortable. I thought it was the least I could do when you considered the supreme sacrifice the Anzacs had paid.

All through the night on the two huge screens set up at either side of the seating area, interviews with veterans, news footage of the time and other related sorts of information were appearing on the screen. This was great as it set the scene for the service and the very slowly approaching dawn. There was no sleep on our part.

A very major disappointment was that as the dawn broke the last post was not played. They asked for silence and contemplation of what had occurred here and to have played that would have been so appropriate. I was very, very disappointed. The service went straight into the warblings of officials who had held everything up with their late arrival anyway. They should have been so much earlier. Politicians and Generals stuffed up the original and here they were doing it again. (*over*)

As the dawn broke it was now you realised the cliffs were at your back and the effect was stunning. They had lights on them and the effect was eerie. You also realised immediately that the Anzacs had not one chance of anything but disaster. The hierarchy who sent these beautiful young men into certain death should have been tried for war crimes as they had given them certain death just as if they had put a gun to their heads.

This newsletter is sponsored by: Pat and Kevin Watts

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Full advertising details available in Community Business Directory. 49341132

Continued.

The site is not on Anzac Cove but you were looking out to sea where they came from. The chill was the worst I had felt and you could not stop thinking about our poor young men who had mates dying all around them. They would have been full of fear preparing for their turn. I have always wanted to see Gallipoli and am so glad I finally have.

After this service we walked for about 30 minutes to make our way up to Lone Pine where there was an Australian service. We walked past Anzac Cove and then made our way up a mountainside where at places along the way there were men with guns. This was a little worrying. There was a lot of friendly banter as we walked. I have a photo from ¾ of the way up this hill and you can see people were coming along the shoreline, parts of them on the hill and you cannot see it but there were a lot of people still ahead of us. Quite a spine chilling spectacle- so many flags wrapped around people.

After the service was completed we were getting a bit weary and although we had every intention of doing the New Zealand and the Turkish services, we gave in and headed back down the hill to the waiting comfort of our bus.

Now this is where the hassle commenced again. Earlier on we had been given an armband that had our bus number on. We found our bus which had luggage of ours in their luggage compartments. In we hopped and settled down. No Ahmet in sight but we thought he would be somewhere. Subsequently we were moved to and then removed from another bus and finally allowed to stay on a third bus. All the time we were being assured that our belongings in bus 119 would be returned to us, no problem! Also now we found out that Ahmet had been fired overnight, so who was directing us? Gordon was mainly worried about a bottle of Whiskey in our missing luggage that we had brought to keep us warm during the night but we then found out there was an alcohol ban in the commemorative site, so couldn't take it.

Finally we got back to Cannakale where we were to spend the night. Hassle Free to the front again! We were informed, "You are not here, but in another hotel further on and around the corner." We had to go off on our own and find this next hotel. They had no bookings for us. Well, it all hit the fan then. Finally we were put into another hotel which was evidently an upgrade in standard. Having only arrived in Istanbul on 22nd and been confronted with the whole of its 20 million residents straight away, the whole episode was totally confronting. We can laugh about it now but I was ready to come home then.

Our hotel was great and we had a lovely meal. We even saw the barges arriving back with trucks full of portaloos from Gallipoli as we sat on our balcony. There were several trucks full of them.

Next day we were taken on a guided tour of the Anzac site and related battle fields. Poor Ahmet was no more and had been replaced by Osman who was very informative. The terrain at Gallipoli is very hilly and there are commemorative memorials at many battle sites. The whole area would have been a nightmare to fight on. The trenches are so very close in places (8 metres apart in some areas) that you wonder how anyone survived these conditions. The whole area is now a Peace Park.

I left Anzac Cove with a very intense feeling of the absurd waste of young lives and a total rejection of the whole campaign. What brave young men they were. How the military commanders wasted their lives and destroyed the great potential these men could have carried into helping develop the new nation of Australia. This is a loss that can never be righted. The ages on the tombstones broke my heart.

**The Anzac Commemorative Site at North beach was developed in 2000 to cater for the increasing numbers of people attending the Anzac Day Services. The site was constructed by the Australian and New Zealand Governments with the co-operation of the Turkish Government. It is part of the Gallipoli Peninsula Peace Park. It is not at Anzac Cove. During the campaign it became a major landing, supply and hospital site as the battle continued. Most men left from this beach when it came time for evacuation.*

QCWA NEWS: NEW OFFICER BEARERS SELECTED

New President: Margaret Williamson **Secretary:** Leanne Chippendale
Vice President: Pat Watts **Treasurer:** Margaret Fletcher
International Officer: Ann Jepson

Ridglands School News

Possum Power
Ian Nicholas
Electrical Contractor
Ph: 49345116
Mob: 0408 345 118

Showdown Rugs
Sheree Abotomey
32 Rayner Rd
Ph: 49341361
Mob: 0427 874 104

GoFarm – 49221088
Robert Murray
Mob: 0427 52 1080
254 Denison St

**Rocky Feed and
Seed** Shop 2
111 Gladstone Rd
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Gloria Bills 49341125
0438 341 125

**Australian Country
Living** - Gifts for all
occasions. Shopping
Fair 49280088

Amalgamated Pest
Control – 49214255
Jerome Jackson
2b Arthur Street

PJ's Pet Barn
49280299
399 Yaamba Rd
Open 7 days.

Welcome back for term 3. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday. It looks to be another busy Term. Our annual Country Fair will be held at the school on the 23rd August. We will also be holding our annual School Concert in the last week of this term.

Mr Byrne has accepted a permanent position as Principal at Woorabinda State School. We would like to wish him all the best for the future. I will be staying on as Acting Principal until the end of the school year.

Congratulations to our Term Two Redback Award winners: Chonlae Rose, Casey Laver, Keallan Thompson, Jayden Bean, Katie Cooper, Mackenzie Weier, Ryan Forrest and Curtis Duff.

Mrs Foxwell will be taking long service leave from week three until the end of term. We wish her a happy and safe holiday. Mrs Pearce will be taking on extra hours and Mrs Hunt will join us for a couple of days a week.

We only have a few more weeks left for our School sport. Our Rugby League, Soccer and Netball teams are all in with a chance of making the finals. Good Luck to all players.

The Student Council will be organising a Pie Drive this term to help fundraise for the Year 6/7 School Camp, who are going to Brisbane in term four.

Yours in Education
Les Berryman
Acting Principal

Rockhampton Regional Library News.

Vehicles, motorbikes, tractors needing repair?

assist you in repairing
motorbike.

usal in the reference
vehicles can also be
nce material can be
opies costing 20c per

paddock?

re for residents and
ncil.



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*Yeppoon Library ph 49393433

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49317315
0427 250 208

Adnought - Sheet
Metal Fabrication
McLaughlin Street
49361688

Word of the Month.

Limerance: an attempt at scientific study into the nature of romantic love.

Alton Downs Pony Club News

Alton Downs Pony Club started the year with successes in Jumping Equitations, Show Jumping, Dressage, Eventing and Gymkhanas. We have had several riders attend two State events already and we have a small handful of riders training for the Sporting/Campdraft and Mounted Games State to be held at Winton in September.

The club has run One Day Events already this year and we are now preparing for our Annual Gymkhana and the Interschool Gymkhana. These events are being held on the week end of 16th and 17th August. Big nominations are expected as we are offering Rugs and Trophies. With the wonderful work of some of our members we have obtained some very generous sponsorship. The club would like to thank Trevor Simpson – GJ Gardiner Homes Yeppoon, Yeppoon Panel & Paint, Graeme Salmond – Saddle World Rockhampton, All Out Landscapes & Irrigations, Kerry & Natalie Tamblyn Equissage, Wanna Bobcat & Truck Hire.

Saturday the 16th we are holding a Spicks and Specs night and Karaoke. There will be a bar running and burgers. So if you think you know your music and movies, come along and have some fun. Alton Downs Pony Club would also like to congratulate Sharyn and Shane Bean on the arrival of Tameka Ella Bean.

We hold our rallies on the last Sunday of each month, weather permitting. For all enquiries please don't hesitate to contact Kerry Tamblyn on 4934 1149 or Sharyn Bean on 4934 5544.

Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club

On the weekend 12th 13th July the AD Polocrosse Carnival was held with a number of visitors camping at the grounds for the weekend and enjoying the music and dinner on Saturday night. The Capricorn Field Archers have their regular Sunday meet. This is a family sport with parents and kids all participating. Should you be interested in finding out more please phone Sharon and Mark McFadzen on 4936 2692. Plans are being made for a Rodeo to be held at the end of September on a Saturday night so I hope to give you more details next month to put on your calendar. The **JOKERS Wild** is around **\$610** so be there on Friday night for your chance to win.

Mark West
Gents Hairdresser
49227114
11 Wandal Road

Total Hair Obsession
49224225 Colours,
Foiling, Perms, Cuts.
38 William St.

Hay, Chaff, Bobcat
Hire, Water Cartage
Ph. **Ikers** 49341135
0418 155 819

Brian Dawson
Auctions – Livestock
& Property 49317318
0417 667 668

Livestock Carrier
D & J Lindley
49345519
0417 730 604

Tractor Central
Tractors & Parts
28 O'Shansey St.
Gracemere
49334500

Engine Centre - 22
Sheehan Rd. **Danny**
McNamara 49341473
0438 341 473

Cliff Munro
Mechanical
49 224 882
204-206 William St.

Robo's Motor Works
Peter Robinson
49210200
Cnr North & Campbell

A1 Exhausts and
Mechanical – **Tony**
Hodgon 49221799
Cnr Denison & William

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Six Mile Rd, Pink Lily
49272388
Open 7 days 8-5pm

Painting Contractor
RJ Mylrea
49341138
0439 690 354

MS & SM McQuillan
Painting Contractor
49345560
0407 272 224

The only time you realise you have a reputation is when you fail to live up to it.

THANK YOU to the person who picked up my *pitch fork* off the road and lent in against a tree. I am very grateful... from 'the mulch collector'.

WHAT' S ON

Alton Downs Hall Association Inc.

Dances will be held at the Alton Downs Hall on the following dates:

30th August, 2008

29th November, 2008.

Commencing at 7.30pm.

Man in Black will supply the music. There will be a raffle and novelty prizes. Supper will be served.

For more information please phone 49345120.

Dance will also be held on: 20th September, 2008, Commencing at 7.30pm

Music by **Two Can.**

Raffles, novelty prizes

and supper.

**Indoor Bowls at
Alton Downs Hall**
Saturday once a month
Phone Ena on 4934 1416
for exact dates.

NOTICES

For Hire.

Chairs for hire for functions. Contact the Ridgelands State School P&C.

Phone: 49345518.

Basic House Cleaning service available

Experienced in both commercial and domestic cleaning

Please phone: 4934 1484

For Sale
Slow Combustion stove.
Stanley Deluxe
Black in colour
Good condition
Phone: 4934 7621

MEETINGS

Morinish Rural Fire Brigade

Wish to advise that a combined AGM and public meeting to discuss the Rural Fire Levy is to be held at

151 Hunter Gully Road,

Morinish at 9.00am

Saturday 9th August.

Bring your own chair. For further enquiries phone

Fran Frankish

on 4934 5545 or

mobile 0409 872 294.

**Date Claimer.
Ridgelands Hall Assoc.
Inc.**

**Licensed Christmas
Karaoke**

In aid of Ridgelands Hall Funds.

Saturday 6th December commencing 6.30pm at

the Ridgelands Hall.

Spit pig, roast beef and vegetables.

All Welcome

Ridgelands State
School Country Fair
23rd August, 2008.
1.00pm till late
Karaoke
Venue: school grounds.

Lost

Blue cattle dog

On Moses Road

2 years old

Phone: 0407 152 729

Fitzroy Northern Area Ratepayers Meeting

4th August, 2008

7.30pm

All welcome

Phone: 4934 5115

QCWA

Ridgelands Branch meets 9.30 am 1st Wednesday of month.

Stitch and Chat Group

Meets 9.30am

2nd & 4th Tuesday of

month. QCWA room

All welcome

Phone: 49345120

Show Meeting

13th August, 2008

7.30pm

Alton Downs Hall Committee

Sid Hoare is the booking officer for Community Hall. Ph 4934 1147

If Sid is not available, phone Tom Hoare 4934 1493 or

Joyce Chippendale on 4934 5120 to open the Hall.

**Alton Downs Fire
Brigade.
Emergency Number is
000.**

Fire permits must be applied for **48 hours** prior to burning off.

For permit contact your fire warden.

**Please note correction:
48 hours**

Where did that come from?

Break a leg!

Good luck wish among superstitious actors came from Yiddish "hatzlacha ubrakha" (Success and blessing) which became corrupted in German to "Hals und Beinbruch" (break your neck and legs) and then into English as "break your leg". Just what you need on a first night!

RIDGELANDS STATE SCHOOL

COUNTRY FAIR

AT THE SCHOOL

23RD AUGUST 2008

– starting 1:00pm

CAKE STALL	PLANT STALL
FOOTBALL THROW	TENNIS SERVE
WHACK-A-RAT	HOLE IN ONE
PICK A PLOT	KARAOKE 'TIL LATE
FROG HOP	MULTI - DRAW
FACE PAINTING	CRAFT STALL

Don't Forget To Get You're Pre-Paid Wristbands For The Rides

From The School Office

And Much More

ENGINE CENTRE
ROCKHAMPTON

Danny McNamara

Ph: 07 4954 1473 or

Mob: 0438 341 473

22 Sheehan Rd, Alton
Downs

Servicing All Cars, 4WD,
Trucks and Tractors

Proverb.

When pride comes, then comes disgrace,
but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 11:2

THE VALUER
Michael Murphy

Mob: 0438 341 473

Ph: 1300 TO VAL U

Fax: 4927 15223

**110Alma St
Rockhampton**

**Residential Rural!
Commercial Industrial**

Q: Why did the spider go on the internet?

A: To make a Webpage.

J
O
K
E
S

Q: Why didn't the teacher believe the ghost?

A: Because she could see right through him

Q: Why do witches ride a broomstick?

A: Because vacuum cleaners are too heavy



Spicks & Specks
Night Prizes
Bar Open til Late

\$100 Board

When: Saturday 16th August – 6.00pm
Where: Alton Downs Sports Club
Cost: \$10 per team - Teams of 5 people

Family Entertainment
Dancing
Karaoke
Food - Burgers ect