

# Around the Ridges

and a bit beyond

Issue 96 / February 2012

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Around the Ridges and a bit beyond is a community and school newsletter.

The newsletter is produced monthly, and is funded through sponsorship and advertising.

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please send all material in by the 15th of every month.

Advertising for special events must be submitted two months in advance.

PLEASE TELL US  
OUR STORIES!

We want to hear from you!!!! Please send your story, as you are a valued part of our community and its newsletter.

## Community Flood Recovery Forum Alton Downs Hall 13 February 12

Brad Carter, Rose Swadling, Cherie Rutherford, Glenda Mather and council staff attended along with over 30 local people. The facilitator is **Mem Farahmand** Community development Officer ph 4936 8099. He is of Indian descent so please do not think that he is selling anything if he phones you! He needs to know more about our local geography so help him out!

There were some lingering issues from the last flood and while directly after the flood infrastructure was a priority, the Govt has funded social/community recovery meetings and the results of these many various meetings will be presented to council. At least our communities were proactive in helping ourselves and each other.

How can we manage our community better in times of disaster? They were told we need to have precise river heights especially for river dwellers 'moderate flooding just does not cut it'. We need detailed local information such as river heights at a set time of day on ABC radio especially for those using generators and for those without internet access. This would allow folks to know when to go to town to stock up e.g. before Ridglands Rd gets cut off. (a Flood of 9.2 metres I thought) Communications are an issue. Community needs up to date flood maps and better information to access Disaster co-ordination centre with well published phone numbers (Radio).

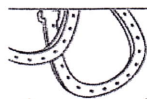
It was again mentioned we need a decent black board at Lion Creek on council land as a community notice board. (Yes they missed the cut off for Around the Ridges again)

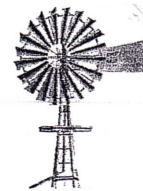
Special list of local experienced residents to assist Disaster management and to help coordinate relief drops which many thought did not occur in our area. Many young families moving to the area need to learn about these things. It was the community working together in our areas which made getting on with life so much easier.

Basically locals repeated matters which were raised 12 months ago. Mem advised he would phone a number of people to talk about issues raised at the meeting to get a better understanding of the social impact of the flood and flood recovery in the area.

Q: What is small, round and giggles a lot?  
A: A tickled onion

Q: What is science teachers favourite dog?  
A: A Lab





Thank you to Andy S for putting it on your website and to those, who were emailed and phoned, for turning up. Only 3 people showed in Gracemere with advertising but by word of mouth in our community the meeting was much more successful. Thank you to those of you who took the time to come and contribute to the meeting. Council knows they will get a vocal response here!

**Mechanical Repairs &**

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Orams Nursery  
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Mob 0418 982 288

**Butcher**

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Bobcat, 4t Excavator,  
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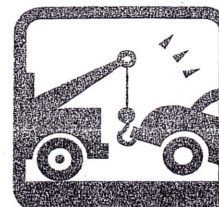
**The Engine Centre Rockhampton**

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Servicing all cars, 4WD, trucks and tractors



**Coronation Chicken & Apricot Salad**

2 chicken breasts, 3/4cup whole-egg mayonnaise, 3/4cup light sour cream, 2 tablespoons mango chutney, 1 tablespoon curry paste, 4 ripe apricots, sliced, 1/4cup slivered almonds, 1/4cup coriander, chopped, 2 tablespoons sultanas, 1/2iceberg lettuce.

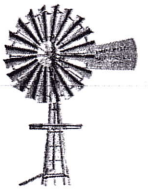
Bring a deep frying pan of water to the boil. Add chicken, reduce heat to low. Simmer gently for 10-12 minutes. Remove from pan when cooked and set aside to cool. In a large bowl, combine mayonnaise, sour cream, chutney and curry paste. Season to taste. Thinly slice chicken and add to mayonnaise mixture with apricots, almonds, coriander and sultanas. Toss gently to combine.

Cut lettuce into wedges. Arrange lettuce in a bowl. Spoon chicken mixture over lettuce.

**Neighbourhood Watch Report**

We had a quick report on Rural Watch by Sgt Jody and volunteer Darryl. Unfortunately there have been a number of thefts in this area which makes ones faith in fellow man questionable. Darryl and Jody suggested: Get a dog, Know your neighbours phone numbers, Report any suspicious vehicles appearing to be just cruising around and if Possible get the rego, make and car colour. If you are unfortunate enough to arrive home and confront the intruders, angry though you may be, try not to be a hero as you could be seriously injured. Drug affected person can be irrational. Try to get a good description of the person/s, Keep cool and phone the police 000 and neighbours and write down the description e.g. height, sex, clothing, age, tattoos etc. The grey area is how much injury you can inflict on a thief your safety and that of your family is paramount. Identify your possessions e.g. take photos, do engraving and keep receipts. The meeting was well attended and thankyou to all for coming. The Ratepayers meetings are quarterly and the next is 30/4/12 at Ridgeland. *Peter Lawton*

**Myrtle Rust** is a serious fungal disease affecting native plants. For more information please use the internet to see pictures and symptoms. Call **13 25 23** if you think you have. We need to know how far it has spread and what plants are affected



VALE ALISA OLIVE DUFF 11/12/1937 – 31/12/2011

Ailsa, 'Mama', was born Ailsa Olive Smith on the 11/12/1937... 3<sup>rd</sup> child, 1<sup>st</sup> daughter to Thomas and Olive Smith of Rosedale Station, St Lawrence. Upon moving to "Derry Vale", South Yaamba, Ailsa attended the Calmorin school and resisted being led astray by her more adventurous older brother into playing "hookie".... During her final year at primary school Ailsa travelled by railmotor from Ridgeland into Rockhampton each Friday to learn "Domestic Science" - cooking and sewing, these were to become common threads throughout Ailsa's life.

After finishing school Ailsa's first job was selling cakes in George's Rocky store, later moving to Mount Isa where she joined the staff of the mine canteen. However home sickness brought Ailsa back home with attendance at the local dances soon bringing romance. Before long Ailsa was being courted by Thomas Duff. The romance became marriage in May 1958 in St Luke's Church, Wandal with the beautiful bride wearing the wedding dress she had created herself. Tom and Ailsa settled into life on the dairy farm at "Oakleigh" Ridgeland in the old Duff family home.

Marriage was soon followed by four loving children: Wayne, Robyn, Vivian and John. The arrival of John also coincided with the move to a new house, adjacent to the old. The house soon became a home with Ailsa's sewing and painting skills. The door was also open to the many orphaned wild-life which needed nurturing. Despite all these happenings Ailsa still made time to participate in the local community groups including the school P&C and CWA. Later in life Ailsa enjoyed stewarding for the annual Ridgeland Show and attending the CWA Stitch and Chat sessions.

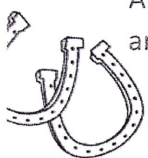
Ailsa liked a chat and this helped enormously in her working life after the dairy closed at the implementation of 'bulk milk', when she went off to work in town for Woolworths. First working over at Northside Plaza before moving to Allenstown Plaza. Her hard work and popularity earned her the respect of with fellow workers, customers and management with a promotion to 'Supervisor of Checkouts'. Craft was still a passion with ceramics, sewing and knitting vying for any spare time.

With retirement some 10 years later came the onset of grand-children: Alyssa, Tahnee, Brandon, Travis, Curtis, Eric, Luis and John-Connor. Ailsa received great pleasure and was very proud of all her grand-children enjoying her many interactions such as birthday celebrations, their schooling, sporting and dancing accomplishments. The two grandsons from 'across the road' have gained immeasurably from their Mama being so close to them, perhaps it was the scones.

Retirement also enabled Ailsa to discover 'Lawn Bowls' and this sporting pastime was to fulfil both her sporting and social calendar for many years. Alisa became a very successful bowler with many titles coming her way. Again her popularity and dependability saw her take on the leadership role of President for 4 years, and more recently as Patroness. Patty cake fundraising saw Ailsa back in the kitchen, and catering for many functions at Victoria Park Bowls.

Tom and family would like to express their sincere thanks for the Community's good thoughts and wishes during the four months Ailsa endeavoured to 'stay with us' after the unexpected complications of her surgery in Brisbane, and more recently, your many messages of condolence.

Ailsa's nature was to always look for the 'best' and 'bright' side of life, people and circumstances. We are very grateful for the many loving and enduring memories created with and by Mama.





# What's happening this month?

## Meetings

### QCWA

Ridgelands Branch meetings held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every month, starting at 9:30am.

### Northern Districts Rate Payers Asscn.

Held quarterly. Next meeting to be held 1<sup>st</sup> November, 7:30pm at Ridgelands State School. 30/4/12 and 5/11/12 and Alton Downs Hall 6/8/12

## Birthdays

Alex Reid 8<sup>th</sup>

Jenny Dendle 11<sup>th</sup>

Jenny Reeve 15<sup>th</sup>

Jill Fry 19<sup>th</sup>

Katie Bull 26<sup>th</sup>

## Events

### Alton Down Hall Association Dances

30 June, 1<sup>st</sup> September  
1<sup>st</sup> December . Please call Joyce Chippendale on 49 34 5120 or Tom Hoare on 49 341493.

### Indoor Bowls

Held 2nd Saturday of every month at Alton Downs Hall. All welcome.

DANCE At Alton Downs  
DATE HAS CHANGED  
(due to election) NOW on  
31<sup>st</sup> MARCH @ 7.30pm

**Alton Downs Hall is Annual Cent Sale at the Hall on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012 At 1.30pm to started at 2pm Good Prizes All Welcome**

**TKL Human & Equine Massage Therapy**  
**Helping you and your horse feel your best!**

**Great rates & flexible hours!**  
**Newly based Alton Downs area.**  
**Contact Tahnee**  
**0459 571 733**

## Community Notices

### Alton Downs Hall Committee

To book community hall please contact Booking Officer, Sid Hoare on 49 341147.

Alternatively call,  
T Hoare 49 34 1493  
Chippendale 49 345120

Chair Hire: Contact the Ridgelands State School P&C to hire chairs for functions.  
Ph 49 345518.

The Rockhampton Regional Council is having Art Anytime Workshop at the Ridgeland QCWA Room on the 13<sup>th</sup> March **Material Magic** with Fiona Dyer, 22<sup>nd</sup> May **Beading Blitz** with Joy Swindells 10<sup>th</sup> July **Clay Capers** With Fiona Dyer Phone 49274111 to book.

**QCWA Ridgeland Branch are hosting a MOTHERS' DAY AFTERNOON TEA** at the Ridgeland Community Hall Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2012 commenced at 1.30pm. Contract Hilary Chippendale 49345125 or Joyce Chippendale 49345120

## Jokes

Did you know that five out of three people have trouble with fractions?

When is a car not a car?  
*When it turns into a driveway.*

What do you call a parrot wearing a raincoat?

*A: Polly Unsaturated*

How do you fix a broken tomato?

*A: Tomato paste!*

No Melon is completely round; no person is completely perfect.  
Chinese proverb

