

Around the Ridges

and a bit beyond

Issue 107 March 2013

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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 YOUR STORIES!

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

Calling on the community...

With the recent flooding cutting access to Rockhampton via Ridgeland's Road at Pink Lily, there are concerns from community members regarding the lack of local information and knowledge regarding how river heights and rainfall levels affect Ridgeland's/Alton Downs/Dalma region residents.

It was brought to the Around the Ridges committee's attention that there is a lack of awareness in the community and we would like to take this opportunity to ask for feedback and information from residents.

We are calling on you or your family members to please provide the Committee with information on:

- *At what river height (recorded at either Laurel Bank and Rockhampton) does the water go over Ridgeland's Road and cut access?*
- *How much rainfall do we need to record before there is water over any roads?*
- *Any detours that new residents may not be aware of to get around during a flood?*

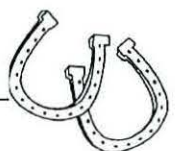
Please send information through to aroundtheridges@hotmail.com or fax to 4934 5565. We would like to put together some information to assist residents.

Children's picture books

Local author Lyn Lawrence has recently had her third children's picture book published.

Elena's Dance is about an elephant who believes she is the best dancer her jungle animal friends have ever seen. One night, her performance goes terribly wrong. She fears her dancing career is over! What can Elena Elephant do to reclaim her fame on the jungle stage and win back the applause of her audience?
Cost \$24.95

For more information about this book as well as Grandad's Gift (\$18.95) and Special (\$24.95), visit www.lynlawrence.com.au or email lyn.lawrence@lynlawrence.com.au to place an order.



RIDGELANDS STATE SCHOOL NEWS

It's a new year with new faces at the school. I offer a special welcome to the new families and new teaching staff who are joining our outstanding small school for the first time. I have received a large amount of positive feedback from our new members regarding how they love Ridgeland's School and the wonderful supportive community that surrounds the school!

It's been a challenging start for the school and families due to the recent unexpected floods. Nevertheless the school was open during the flood period. Our two new faces to the school teaching staff (Mrs Ho and Miss Hillard) were isolated from Ridgeland's School. They were very disappointed as they were unable to start the year with their new classes. Nevertheless, our school was fortunate to have five experienced teachers attend daily during this period, as they were unable to attend their schools in Rockhampton. As we had over and above our normal allocated teaching staff, we were able to achieve our extra workload in the library processing our new classroom reading scheme.

Although with the challenging start to the year, we were proud to announce that the school had grown in numbers with 59 students enrolled across P-7. This was excellent news as we have well and truly secured the positions for three permanent teachers.

I would like to congratulate our students for their start to the new school year. They have been organised, punctual and responding positively to teaching and learning practices. Thank you to parents for their support as the school routines and procedures have been established in these early weeks. We recognise the relationship between home and school is important in achieving the best outcomes for all children.

Congratulations to our 2013 Ridgeland's State School leadership team. Our School Captains Alisha Caletti and Keallan Thompson were announced last week. Jack Dennis and Vivian Malcolm were awarded the role as Vice School Captains. Student Council Representatives were also selected and the following students have proudly taken on the positions including Gracie Dolinski and Jesse Laver (Year 3), Maddison Rose and Nate Tomkins (Year 4), Demi Meehan and Connor Cronin (Year 5) as well as Caleb Cronin and Casey Laver (Year 6). Our school sporting House Captains are Peyton Bartlem (Dragons) and Brady Spencer (Unicorns).

The school community would also like to offer our congratulations to our past year '2008' students who were awarded leadership roles in the Rockhampton high schools. Sixty percent of this past Ridgeland's class were awarded prestigious school leader positions for their final year of schooling. Congratulations to Tayla Stanke and Curtis Duff (The Cathedral College School Captains), Hannah Foxwell (Rockhampton State High School Vice Captain), Melinda Lovell (Rockhampton Grammar School House Captain), Matthew Stanke (TCC House Captain) and Bradley Mestrez (Rockhampton State High School House Captain). I'm very proud to announce these outstanding results, as this is an example of how our school instils excellent values and develops leadership qualities in our students.

Another example of how our students and families uphold the Ridgeland's school motto 'We Care', was represented last week. Our P & C Association held a 'Free Dress Day' to raise money for Andrew Clarke who is Kellie Kime's fiancée who had previously attended Ridgeland's School. The event raised \$165.00 to contribute to Andrew's expenses when receiving treatment at a spinal injuries clinic located in the United States of America. We wish Andrew and Kellie all the best!

Yours in education

Julie Paddison
Acting Principal
Ridgeland's State School



Date Claimer - May 2013 - NTS Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture at Emu Park, Cap Coast.

The Healthy Soils Inc group based in Central Queensland is hosting the NTS Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture being held at Emu Park on the 13th - 16th May. If you want to attend one absolutely essential course for 2013, make it this one.

The course will cover 5 key areas of Minerals, Chemistry, soils, plants, animals and a big section throughout the course on human health.

On Friday 17th we will be holding a Field Day so please let us know if you can stay on for the trip.

Yes, we have been very lucky to get Graeme and Julie Sutherland to come to the Capricorn Coast to present the four day course this year. The program will be run at the Seaspray Resort, Zilzie.

Cost of the program is \$699 per person (incl gst). Bookings essential. Phone Cathe on 07 4938 3919
The program is being supported by the Healthy Soils Inc group at Rockhampton.

JOKING CORNER

POTATO PANCAKES

2 potatoes, peeled and diced
¼ cup light cream
¼ cup plain flour
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 egg-whites

- 1) Place potato in a saucepan of salted water. Bring to boil. Reduce heat. Simmer until tender. Drain well. Mash with 1 tablespoon light cream.
- 2) Transfer potato to a large bowl. Whisk in flour, eggs and remaining cream. Season to taste.
- 3) In a small bowl, beat egg-whites until soft peaks form. Fold into potato mixture.
- 4) Heat a non-stick frying pan on medium. Spray with oil.
- 5) Add batter to pan in ¼ cup measures. Cook 3-4 minutes. Flip and cook other side 2-3 minutes.

Handy Hints - Removing Common Stains

Perspiration Stain Remove

1 cup (250 ml) white vinegar
A quarter cup (55 gr salt)
8 cups (2litres) water
Mix the ingredients in a bucket and soak the garment for 1 hour before washing.

Grass and bloodstain remover

1 teaspoon 3 % hydrogen peroxide
A quarter teaspoon clear household ammonia
Mix the ingredients in a small bowl. Rub the mixture on the stain. As soon as the stain fades, rinse and wash.



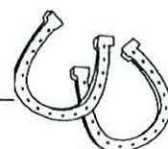
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All Engine Reconditioning,
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0438 341 473
22 Sheehan Rd Alton Dowses
QLD 4702

Why is "abbreviation" such a long word?

Laugh alone and the world thinks you're an idiot.
I started out with nothing and I still have most of
it.

How do you make a sweet little 80-year old lady
say the F word?

Have another sweet little 80-year old lady say
BINGOI





Rockhampton Regional Council news

Australia Day Award recipients announced

Rockhampton Region's outstanding achievers, volunteers and sportspeople are being recognised for their professionalism, dedication and community contributions in the 2013 Australia Day Awards.

Due to the recent flooding and weather events, the original Australia Day Award ceremony was cancelled. However these awards will be presented to recipients in the near future.

Rockhampton Region Mayor, Councillor Margaret Strelow, said she was proud to announce the 2013 Award recipients which range from long-serving business people to community volunteers.

"Our Citizen of the Year, Geoff Murphy, has dedicated more than 30 years helping build local businesses and organisations through his invaluable work on many local and community boards.

"Our Young Citizen of the Year, Clarence Mitchell, at just 16 years of age displays humility, respect and fairness beyond his years in his chosen sport of boxing - he is truly an inspiring role model.

"I congratulate all our wonderful recipients for their tireless efforts and dedication. Your Australian qualities of community spirit, helping those in need or simply being the best you can is extraordinary."

2013 Australia Day Award recipients:

Citizen of the Year - Geoff Murphy **Young Citizen of the Year** - Clarence Mitchell

Community Service Award - John Millroy **Community Service Award** - Diana and Clyde Wode

Cultural Award - Annie and Keith Hare **Sportsperson of the Year** - Joseph Rudolph

Young Sportsperson of the Year - Blake Rutherford

Young Sportsperson of the Year - Douglas Buckley

RockFest calls for charities - Expression of Interest

Are you a youth-based charity? Does your organisation provide services for young people to get back on their feet? RockFest, one of our Region's most popular Youth Week events, is back for 2013 and Rockhampton Regional Council is on the lookout for your organisation.

Expressions of interest are being sought from local youth-oriented charities to be the sole recipient for the event. Over the past eight years, RockFest has cemented its position in the local calendar as one of the region's premier youth music events. The concert features a headline act supported by three local bands and last year's event raised more than \$500 for the Rockhampton PCYC.

Communities Chair Councillor Rose Swadling said RockFest was important to youth across our Region with the event bringing widespread benefits to the broader community.

"Not only does RockFest help develop our young bands and musicians, but the funds raised go back into our community, particularly to help our local youth," Cr Swadling said.

"There are so many youth organisation and charities out there and I want to encourage all of them to register their interest for this great opportunity.

"As in past years, the festival is free to everyone. However, donations are welcome and encouraged with our festival goers being most generous to date."

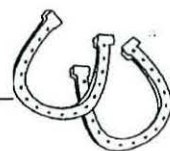
RockFest, to be staged on Saturday 13 April, is a Rockhampton Regional Council event in conjunction with the Queensland Government A-Venue Youth Music Initiative.

Any local charity interested in applying to become the RockFest 2013 charity recipient should contact Rockhampton Venues and Events on 4924 5600 before Friday 1 March.

Application forms are available from Rockhampton Venues and Events, and Rockhampton Regional Council Customer Service Centres or visit <http://www.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au> to download the application form.

Around the Ridges Newsletter has been made possible through funding provided to the Rockhampton Regional Council under the Community Development and Recovery Package, which is a joint initiative of the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

Although funding for it has been provided by both the Australian and Queensland Governments, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views or policies of either Government.



Are you bushfire prepared?

Are your family and home at risk?

- Do you live within a few kilometres of bushland?
- Do you have trees and shrubs within 20m of your house?
- Does your local area have a bushfire history?
- Is your 'Bushfire Survival Plan' more than one year old?
- Is your home built on a slope?

If you answered 'Yes' to one or more of these questions you may be at risk in the event of a bushfire.

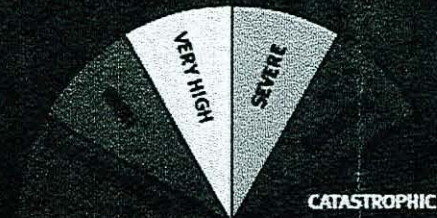
PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Tomorrow's Queensland: strong, green, smart, healthy and fair

You don't have to live in the bush to be threatened by bushfire, just close enough to be affected by burning material, embers and smoke. For Queensland residents, that can be just about anywhere.

Everyone has a part to play in bushfire mitigation, and it is vitally important that we all take steps to ensure we **PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.** this bushfire season.

FIRE DANGER RATING

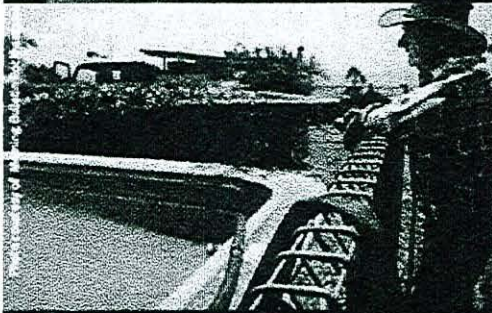


To find out more information visit www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au

Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSP)

An NSP is a local open space or building where people may gather in the event of a bushfire. These places may be used for sheltering your family.

- your Bushfire Survival Plan has failed
- the rating is the highest and you have planned to stay
- the fire is close and you cannot see the fire
- the fire is close and you cannot see the fire
- the fire is close and you cannot see the fire
- the fire is close and you cannot see the fire



There are different actions you need to undertake depending on the circumstances and your bushfire survival plan.

If you decide to stay

If you plan to stay you need at least the following firefighting equipment and protective clothing. Some of these include:

- Sufficient fuel for at least 100m of hose to reach all buildings that could be threatened
- Buckets and alternative water supplies
- Shovels, rakes and wet towels, jackets or other heavy material that can be used to put out spot fires
- Wetts
- Fire blankets
- Full length protective clothing
- Gloves
- Water bottles or containers to carry drinking water with you

High fire danger days

On hot dry days when bushfires are likely, listen to local radio stations for bushfire information, and plenty of water. If you live on a slope, you may have a fire escape plan. It is also a good idea to check water pumps and generators (if you have them) to make sure they are working, and prepare your protective clothing in case you need it (rubbish).

To find out more information visit www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au



Fire in the area

- Listen to local broadcasts or check websites for updates.
- Put on protective clothing.
- Drink lots of water.
- Move car/s to a safe location.
- Close windows and doors and shut blinds.
- Take down curtains and move furniture away from windows.
- Bring pets inside and restrain them (leash, cage, or secure room) and provide water.
- Block downpipes (at the top) and fill gutters with water if possible.
- Wet down the sides of buildings and close shrubbery in the likely path of the bushfire.
- Wet down fine fuels close to buildings.
- Turn on sprinklers in garden for 30 minutes before bushfire arrives.

When the fire front arrives

- Disconnect hose and fittings and bring inside.
- Go inside for shelter.
- Drink lots of water.
- Check and patrol for embers inside, particularly in the roof space.
- Check family and pets.

If you choose to stay:

- shelter in your house on the opposite side of approaching fire
- maintain a means of escape
- continually monitor conditions.

After the fire front has passed:

- wear protective equipment
- go outside once it is safe
- check for small spot fires and burning embers:
 - inside roof space
 - under floor boards
 - under house space
 - on veranda and decks
 - on window ledges and door sills
 - in roof lines and gutters
 - garden beds and mulch
 - woodheaps
 - outdoor furniture
- monitor media outlets – radio, TV and internet.

The safest place is to be away from the fire. Being involved in a fire maybe one of the most traumatic experiences in your life. Survival and safety depend on the decisions you make. Are you bushfire prepared?

On days where the Fire Danger Rating is predicted to be extreme or catastrophic for you and your family's survival, leaving is the best option. Thinking 'I will leave early' is not enough. You must **PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

It is important, no matter what your decision, that you are thoroughly prepared. To find out how visit www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au

PREPARE

To prepare your Bushfire Survival Plan visit www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au and follow the links.

Some of the issues you need to consider:

- Does everyone in your family understand the dangers of bushfire and how your plan will be put into action?
- Have you arranged appropriate car and household insurance?
- Do you know what you will take with you if you need to leave early?
- Have you considered how to deal with pets and livestock?

No matter what the details of your Bushfire Survival Plan are, there are other important preparations you need to make. These include preparing your property, preparing to leave and preparing yourself. These are essential steps and you can find out more about them at www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au



What's happening this month?

Meetings

QCWA

Ridglands Branch meetings held on the 1st Wednesday every month, starting at 9:30am.

Stitch and Chat Group

Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month starting at 9:30am. QWCA room, all welcome Ph 49 345145

Northern District Rate Payers

Asscn are held quarterly. Next meeting to be held will be 6th May 7.30 p.m. at Ridglands State School. Following meetings will be held 5th August at the Alton Downs Hall and 4th November at the Ridglands State School.

Events

Dance at the Alton Downs Hall Saturday 23rd March 2013 commences at 7.30pm Music by Two Can Raffles Novelty Prizes, Supper will be served Phone Joyce Chippendale 49345120 or Tom Hoare 49341493.

Annual Cent Sale at Alton Downs Hall Saturday 13th April 2013 Commencing 1.30pm to start cent sale at 2.00pm Good Prizes Afternoon Tea All Welcome

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 J Chippendale 49 345120

Chair Hire

Contact the Ridglands State School P&C to hire chairs for functions. Ph 49 345518

Celebrations

February Birthdays



Happy Birthday to everyone who is having a birthday in the community.

- Krystal Thompson
- Dorothy Thompson
- Anne Herring
- Hayden Thompson
- Charlie Frankish
- Jenny Prince
- Lyn Rosenberg
- Strop Rosenberg
- Jessica O'Neill
- Jesse Laver

New Arrivals



Congratulations to Kelly and Stuart Douglas on the safe arrivals of their son Alexander Fraser on the 25th December – 9lb 2 oz. Grandson for Eric and Kerry Adams.

Congratulations also go out to Elizabeth (nee Foxwell) and David Twine on the birth of their son Liam Jonathon on the 6th February. Grandson for Lynn and Margaret Foxwell.

Engagement Congratulations



Special wishes go to David Alick and Alison Jounquay on their engagement on the 21st December. Alison is part of the Around the Ridges Team and we wish them both a wonderful future together.

Condolences

We send our sincere sympathy to Frank Dawson and family in the recent loss of June on the 26th January 2013.

