

Around the Ridges

and a bit beyond

Issue118 / March 2014

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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 12th 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.

A recent heartfelt plea in the *Around the Ridges* newsletter for more community support saw a group of local people gather together in the Alton Downs Hall in early February to talk about different story ideas and offer help and support in other ways.

The newsletter is a much valued part of community life with comments from the group reflecting the connection readers feel with the content.

'You get to know about people in the district and what they're up to. It has a strong sense of community.'

'I enjoy reading about people's adventures. I even did some investigation and research into places mentioned in a recent article.'

'As I don't have kids I don't know what's happening – but the newsletter keeps me up to date.'

'I look for all the gossip (sometimes it's hard to find!).'

'When the newsletter doesn't come I want to know why as I love reading it.'

This is where you, the dear reader can help. We have some fascinating stories about history, places, individuals and community groups living or operating in the area. We have third and fourth generation family members living in the region with a deep understanding of the community – as well as 'newbies' who have discovered how wonderful it is to live in this area. We want to know about what makes this community tick, meet the locals and promote upcoming community events.

We want your story! A range of articles are invited from community members of all ages - from poetry, recipes, jokes, news, cartoons, reports from local meetings, history, photographs and interviews from residents. Please send an email to the editors at aroundtheridges@hotmail.com or phone Dianne on 49341192 after hours to discuss your story idea.

Congratulations to our Rockhampton Region Citizen of the Year

Robert (Rob) Chippendale has had a lifelong involvement in the community of Ridgeland's volunteering, supporting and assisting. Rob volunteers his time across many different organisations and associations such as the Ridgeland's & District Sporting & Agricultural Asscn Inc, Faraday Rural Fire Brigade, Alton Downs Cemetery Trust, Ridgeland's Hall Committee and the Ridgeland's Tennis Club.

Whenever a function needs an extra pair of hands, Rob is always there to help out and cooks a mean BBQ. Congratulations Rob on receiving your award it could not have been given to a more deserving person.





ANDREW CLARKE -----update

I am taking this opportunity to let the wonderful people of this district and beyond, the next move towards Andrew's rehabilitation. So many have come together in support of Andrew and Kellie's wellbeing, I want to inform everyone they are going to the Gold Coast shortly where Andrew will receive further treatment. Lack of finance has prevented them returning to the United States, but this is a new clinic just setting up at the Gold Coast.

One of the trainers from "Project Walk" U.S.A." has been involved in its inception and has contacted Andrew about furthering his rehab. This was very pleasing news as the Gold Coast is much more accessible than the U.S.A. The dollars will go further so it might be possible for him to attend more often.

Thanks once again to everyone for your support. Good Luck Andrew.

CHRISTMAS KARAOKE

The President and members of the Ridglands Hall Committee would like to thank the non-committee members for their help at our Annual Christmas Karaoke.

Thanks also to the people for braving such a stormy night to support our function. Thanks to Santa for dropping in to distribute the presents to the very eager children.

Our thanks go to Denis Lindley for organising the auction, also the donation of goods, the buyers and the Auctioneer for a job well done.

Many thanks to the Karaoke participants for providing the entertainment for the night.

Australia Day 2014 at Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club

2013 Australia Day was washed out and the Club was damaged by about 30cm of water as was the bridge and the road. However this year the weather was kind and not too hot. Thank you to the Club for again putting on a fun Australia Day with something for everyone. About 150 people attended and many children (and adults too) joined in the sack race, 3 legged race and water carrying race. There was excellent sideline supporters and the occasional skulduggery. The competitors in the egg throwing challenge are getting better each year throwing and catching raw eggs. Later after burgers were cooked by volunteers in the kitchen Maurie brought out his cockroaches frogs etc and the fun races began. (Glad you caught the critters Maurie). The afternoon and evening was a success due to the support and participation of this community. J Fry

If a road is named after your family does that mean it is OK to get bogged in the middle of it after recent heavy rain? Alex R told us he had got bogged in that spot 58 years ago, just as the tyres sank into the black dirt! Thanks to the 2 young men who towed Alex and truck out!

Regarding No Free Mulch from the Dump from Cherie Rutherford

I emailed Cherie Rutherford to ask when we could again get free mulch as we had not been able to since early December. Thank you to Cherie for her prompt reply which I have copied here:-

There was a small amount of asbestos identified in the wood mulch piles (8 out of 200 samples) and the Division of Workplace Health and Safety have issued Council with a notice prohibiting it from providing both timber and green waste mulch to the public while this issue is sorted out. We are currently developing a strategy for consideration by the Division as to how we may be able to practically treat or dispose of this so that we can get back to normal operations. At this stage, it will be another couple of weeks until we can get this matter finalised. I will let you know when the situation is rectified and the mulch is available to the public once again.

Disclaimer: Around the Ridges and A Bit Beyond reserves the right to edit all articles as necessary. Submission does not always guarantee publication. The Committee does not accept responsibility for errors, omissions and inaccuracies. Opinions in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of this committee, school or community.





WORKSHOP 22nd MARCH
 AT 45 SPRAGG RD – ALTON DOWNS.
 STARTS 4.00 P.M.
 ANIMAL TOTEM SEEKERS WITH SUNDER DEVI.

This is a shamanic journey of learning where you can call upon the power of an animal Totem. You ask to be drawn into complete harmony with the strength of that animal's essence. Using this method you enter into a deeper state of consciousness and find guidance. Also includes Sacred Dance, Smoking Mirrors, Seeking our Totems, How to shape shift into your Medicine, Understanding how to use our Animal Totem. Healing and Reading at the end of the Journey.

COST \$40.00. Coffee and Tea is supplied. Please bring a plate to share, a cushion, blanket or chair.

TO BOOK PLEASE CALL JANEY MAREE
 49341412 or 0417 605 454

Everybody everywhere seeks happiness, it's true.
 But finding it and keeping it seem difficult to do -
 And yet it's very simple if we do our daily part
 In accepting everything life brings with an understanding
 heart -

And in making others happy, you will be happy too, for the
 happiness you give away returns to shine on you. Helen Steiner Rice

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| ✓ Turbos | ✓ Amsoil Racing Oil |
| ✓ Supercharges | ✓ MSD Ignitions |

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Mathematics of Life

life
 + laughter
 x love
 - hate

 = happiness



Holistic Healing

Reiki Master
 Psychic Clairvoyant
 Medium
 Meditation

Janey Maree
janyleeson56@gmail.com
 Mobile - 0417605454
 Office - 07 49341412

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Welcome back to the 2014 school year. It is great to see new faces in the school as well as familiar faces, returning eager for learning.

Thanks to all the parents, staff and students who have made me feel welcome upon my return to Ridgeland. It is obvious the passion and dedication that the school staff have contributed in my absence. A huge thank you to Mrs Paddison for her leadership of the school, as this has greatly assisted me in my return to the role as Principal.

Through 2013 I had the privileged job of supporting other small school principals in their leadership journey. This support role saw me travel over 40 000km, make 150+ school visits, link with 45 current and future educational leaders and develop my own leadership skills. This opportunity has allowed me to see what great things small schools do to support their students and I hope to be able to incorporate some of these here at Ridgeland.

Our student numbers for 2014 are stable, meaning that we will have the three current class groupings for the entire school year. However extra enrolments are always welcome and your assistance in promoting the school to new families is greatly appreciated.

Attendance is high priority for the school and this is a major contributor to student academic success. This year we are aiming for a whole school attendance percentage of 95% or better. This equates to each student attending 95 days per semester or missing no more than 10 days for the entire school year. Research has proven that students who miss more than 3 days per term are more likely to have poorer academic results than those who attend at a higher rate. Regular school attendance is vitally important and assists the school in getting the best education for your child. I am very impressed with the attendance so far as we are at 95.6% which includes several days of bad weather and minor flooding that has stopped students from getting to school. Thanks also to all the parents who are advising us of student absences in advance through the text message service or a phone call to the school.

The school has been advised that we will be having a behaviour audit later this term, to provide feedback to the school on our behaviour management practices and support of students learning environment. We have previously scored very well in similar areas for audits and we intend to maintain this high standard for each and every child. If you have any concerns regarding behaviour issues at the school, please talk to the class teacher or myself at the earliest possible convenience.

The Queensland Government announced recently the Great Results Guarantee, which will see Queensland schools receive an extra \$131 million dollars in funding this calendar year. Ridgeland's allocation of this funding totals to approximately \$10 000 in extra funding, aimed at improving literacy and numeracy standards in the early years of schooling. The guarantee is an agreement between the principal and the local community outlining the standards to be met by the school. A draft guarantee was tabled and discussed at the Parent/Teacher Open Forum on the 12th February. The finalised document will be submitted to the Regional Director by the 21st February; hence the short time frames for consultation. If you require any further information on the Great Results Guarantee, visit <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/grants/state/targeted/great-results.html>

I am looking forward to the year ahead and the successes it will bring.

Brad Carlson





Pink Lily Community Notice Board

The sign at Pink Lily has been installed to inform residents of our local community from Pink Lily to Glenroy. The sign will be used for non-commercial notices. Not-for-profit organisations, charity organisations, sports clubs, community groups and the school can promote their meetings and other events. While the notices on the sign will be brief, more information (contact details, etc.) can be found on fitzroyridges.com.au our local community website.



Australian Government



This project has been made possible through funding provided 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.

Furthermore, assistance and co-operation was provided by the Rockhampton Regional Council, the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Ergon Energy and the local community; working together to make this long awaited project a reality.

To include your local community event on the Pink Lily notice board email admin@fitzroyridges.com.au or phone Andy on 0418 458 321.

Rate Payers & Residents Report from meeting held 3 February.

Just a few words on what was discussed at the above meeting. Our Rockhampton Region Council representative Cherrie Rutherford was present to answer some questions and discussions ranged from:-

- The soon to be active information sign on Ridgeland Road coming out of town, on your left, just after the Lion Creek bridge.
- Information on the treatment of mimosa – prickly acacia near the nine mile turn off.
- Council staff taking over the top floor of the Walter Reid Cultural Centre
- State of numerous roads e.g. Hunts Lane, South Yaamba Road, Glenroy Road
- Rate of Road repair
- Airport parking time and cost.

Importantly the next rate payers meeting is at Alton Downs Hall on the 3 May. Everyone Welcome: Bring your gripes along!

Films with a Difference

Rocky Flix are held once a month at the Walter Reid Centre. Fee is \$10.00 for concession card holds e.g. students, pensions and members, all others \$15.00. Free Wine and nibbles after the film.

Next film is on the 13 March at 6.30 p.m. – The Gilded Cage – 2013 – France/Portugal –Rated M – Run 91 mins. This enormously charming, semi-autobiographical comedy is the story of a loving, hardworking married couple whose long held dream of returning to their homeland finally comes true – only to be undermined by their overly dependent friends and neighbours.

Thought of the Day:

The word listen contains the same letters as the word silent.





What's happening this month?

Meetings

QCWA Ridgelands Branch meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday every month, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

Stitch and Chat Group

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

Ridgelands & District Sporting & Agricultural Asscn Inc.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting 12th March commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Ridgelands Show grounds.

Events

Alton Downs Hall Committee

will be holding dances on Friday 28th March, 30th May, 29th August and 31st October at 7.30 p.m. Super, Raffles and Novelties. Everyone welcome.

Cent Sale - The Alton Downs Hall Committee will be holding a cent sale on the Saturday, 12th April.

The Fitzroy Northern area rate payers association would like to advise their meeting dates for 2014.

May 5 - Alton Downs Hall
August 4 - Ridgelands Hall
November 3 - Alton Downs Hall
They welcome all residence in the area to meetings, especially the AGM in February.

Riddle: Why do service stations lock their toilet doors. Because someone might clean them.

Events

Alton Downs Sports & Recreation grounds. If you do not feel like cooking on Friday nights why not go down to the Alton Downs Sports & recreation grounds from 6.00 p.m. – 8.00p.m. Burgers, Fish & Chips and homemade chicken bites are served

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.

RIDGELANDS HALL NEWS

Office bearers for 2013/2014
President: Rob Chippendale
Vice president: Ken Stewart
Secretary: Dave Macaulay
Treasurer: Kay Milner
Publicity officer: Margaret Stewart
Booking officer: Kay Milner - 49345137

On behalf of the members of the Ridgelands Hall Committee, I would like to congratulate our President Robert Chippendale on receiving the Citizen of the Year Award on Australia Day 2014. Well done Rob

FOR SALE –

Massey Ferguson 65 Tractor with Rops & Bare Co Roof. Two pack paint. Good Condition. \$7,500.00 negotiable. Phone Paul on 0419 726 173

Community Notices

FOR HIRE - 21t Excavator for Hire. Owner Operator. Phone Paul on 0419 726 173

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to everyone who is having a birthday in March

Jenny Reeve
Jill Fry
Katie Bull
Jenny Dendle
Alex Reid
Perter Hunt
Casey Laver
Alison Alick
Keallan Thompson

Congratulations



To Greg & Tamara Petersen (nee Bull) on the birth of their daughter Ruby Pearl – 8 lb, sister for Molly

Condolences

We wish to offer our sincere sympathy to Lorraine, Kate and Liz Ryan in the recent loss of their husband and father John. Our thoughts are with you.

Date Claimers

CWA will be holding a Mothers Day afternoon tea at the Ridgelands Hall on 4 May.

A cancer afternoon tea will be held on the 17 August at Hilary Chippendale home.

