

Around the Ridges

And a bit beyond

Issue 145 July 2016 E: aroundtheridges@hotmail.com

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS

We are so lucky to live just a hop, step and jump away from the big smoke, with access to services at our fingertips—yet remote enough to enjoy the luxury of living in the bush. In this month's edition of your newsletter and in coming months, we will introduce you to some of our local residents, who were kind enough to share their stories at the Alton Downs Hall on voting day. It's great to hear tales from long-standing residents of the area, as well as 'new kids' on the block, so we invite you to drop us a line and tell us a bit about yourself.

Name: *Peter Craig*

Address: *Alton Downs*

How long have you lived in the area?

Since 1977

What are two great things about where you live?

(a) *The area is great!*

(b) *The number of friends I have*

What do you do for a living? *Retired grazier / machinery salesman*

Your greatest passion in life? *Community working bees*

What is your favourite music? *Country and western*

What does a perfect day look like for you?

It will be a nice clear day and I will have the afternoon off to play a game of bowls!

BRR! A COLD DAY IN CQ

Cast your memory back to 18 July 1963 when the coldest ever temperature was recorded at minus 0.9C, or 30.4°F in the old scale. *The Morning Bulletin* reported that numerous cars left standing overnight in the street had frozen water in their radiators—surely the boss let people off for that one! A thick layer of frost covered the region and in one unfortunate household the thick frost killed all the pot plants sitting on the veranda. Many people in town and around the ridges would have stoked up the fireplace and gathered around the hearth for a hot cup of tea. What is your favourite winter ritual? Whether it be rugging up in ugg boots and a beanie, or unleashing your inner Masterchef over the next few weeks, make sure you enjoy this brief reprieve from the humid summer months.

Community is gathering around a fire and listening to someone tell a story. Bill Maher

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

There are lots of community groups offering a range of different activities to enjoy in the local area. From the weekly tennis games at Ridgeland, or indoor bowls at the Alton Downs Hall—to having your voice heard at the Fitzroy Northern Area Ratepayers Association meetings—there are tons of opportunities to meet new people and learn interesting, new things. To find out more and get involved visit the Fitzroy Ridges website. Contact information for various groups is included on the site www.fitzroyridges.com.au

Adventures of a 'Bearded Dragon'

Last year when most lawns were regularly mowed, ours was no exception. However, the 'ride-on' mower took most of the hard work out of this chore. Now the ride-on is somewhat noisy, and at our place seemed to suggest to a friendly bearded dragon (large lizard), that it produced a much increased source of food. The lizard would run in very close and pick up a beetle or other insect disturbed, or sometimes stunned, by the mower. I assumed this to be coincidental, however at each subsequent mowing the reptile would appear again, perhaps attracted by the noise, and associate it with a feast. We await the advent of warmer days—longer grass when mowing becomes a necessity—and hope once again to welcome the activity with the lizard.

Perhaps readers could help out with a name for the friendly environmentalist.

The author of this short story, Pat Pointing, was disappointed that a photo was not captured for this lovely moment.

You can never tell with bees.

A.A. Milne's Winnie the Pooh



YUM! Inspire your children or grandchildren by whipping up a batch of **Edible Slime** in the kitchen! All you need is a can of condensed milk, one tablespoon of cornstarch and 10 drops of food colouring. Pop the condensed milk and cornstarch into a saucepan and combine slowly over a low heat. Keep on stirring until the mixture starts to harden and remove from heat. Add your food colouring and mix well. Allow to cool ... and then play!

Around the Ridges and a bit beyond is a community and school newsletter. A very big thank you must go to Jill Fry for all the work that she has done over the last decade for the newsletter.

Remember that this newsletter reflects the heart of the community so please send in your stories.

Stories need to be submitted by the 11th of every month — if you have a special event, allow a two month lead in time.

Please keep your newsletter close at hand and support our fabulous sponsors.

The newsletter is a proud local production issued monthly.

Seniors Week from 13—21 August will feature lots of free events!

Ridgeland State School Community Fair

Saturday

20 August

Starting at 10am

Come and support your local school!



Kick up your heels and come to an old-fashioned
Dance @ the Alton Downs Hall
on Friday 29 July.

It's hip—it's fun, and the whole family can join in!

7.30pm start (and a yummy supper is provided)

More info: J Chippendale 4934 5120

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Weed Control, Chemicals and Agricultural Systems

Healthy Soils Incorporated Presents

Toowoomba 26th July
Rockhampton 28th July



Three key presenters:

Emeritus Professor Don Huber is one of the worlds top plant pathologists with nearly 50 years experience researching cereal crop diseases and biological impacts. Dr Huber will present the latest information on glyphosate and other chemical impacts as well as genetically modified crops.

Dr Lukas Van Zwieten is a Principal Research Scientist for the NSW DPI, investigating the impact farm chemicals are having on farming soils in Australia. Lukas will discuss results of a GRDC research project presenting at Toowoomba only.

Dr Michael Rose is a Senior Soils Researcher with NSW DPI and will present the results of the GRDC research project showing the impact of chemicals on farm soils. (Presenting at Rockhampton only)

Who should attend

Farmers, gardeners, agronomists, families.

Key Topics

- ✓ Glyphosate and its impact on soil, microbes and plants?
- ✓ Other farm chemicals and their impact?
- ✓ Chemical resistance
- ✓ Soil biological impact from chemicals?
- ✓ What chemicals are building up in our soils (Aust data)?
- ✓ How do we minimise the chemical buildup?
- ✓ What options do we have for future weed control?
- ✓ How do we build healthy soils and healthy crops?

Presenters

Professor Don Huber
Dr Lukas van Zwieten
Dr Mike Rose



For more information about venue, times and to book contact -
Toowoomba - Sarah 0439 827 927 | David 0428987117
Rockhampton - Mick 0438395255 | Andy 0418458321 |



ON THIS DAY..

20 July (1969)

Neil Armstrong walked on the moon

26 July (1858)

Sydney and Melbourne are linked by telegraph

29 July (1981)

Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer marry

31 July (1917)

WWI Battle of Passchendaele begins

6 August (1945)

Atomic bomb dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima

8 August (1802)

Matthew Flinders discovers Port Curtis in Queensland (now the site of Gladstone)

9 August (1851)

Gold is discovered at Sovereign Hill, near Ballarat, in Victoria

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What's Happening this Month?

NOTICES

Stitch and Chat Group at CWA room Ridgelsands

All welcome Phone 4934 5145

QCWA Ridgelsands Branch

Contact Joyce 4934 5120.

For further information.

Around the Ridges Newsletter Committee would like to thank Big Colour Works for printing our newsletter every second month for free. If you need something printed, please support Big Colour Works.

Fitzroy Northern Area Ratepayers Association

Everyone is welcome to come to the meetings which will be held on 1 August and 7 November at the Alton Downs Hall.

AGM followed by General Meeting to discuss Levy

A Working Bee will be held at 9:00am on the morning of 18 September to clean and prepare the **Dalma Soldiers Memorial Hall**. Any help will be appreciated.

The meeting will begin at 5pm and a Hot Dish Dinner will follow, so bring along your Casserole and Sweets to share.

Contact: 49 345 931 (Narelle)

DID YOU KNOW...

That library membership is **free**? Drop into your local library and access great resources today!

OOPS!

The **Capricorn Christmas Trail** featuring a tour of various properties on 22-23 October is being organised by the Inner Wheel of Rockhampton, not the Probus Club as indicated in last month's newsletter.

This event promises to be a fantastic opportunity to view ten properties including two Alton Downs properties—and supports the work of Carinity Communities Wahroonga Counselling Centre in Rockhampton.

KISS GROUP FITNESS & PERSONAL TRAINING

Get into shape this winter from just \$10 per session at the Alton Downs Sporting and Recreation Grounds, Waroula Road. All levels of fitness are catered for in a child-friendly location. Every second Saturday depending on demand.

Times:

Monday

5:45am-6:30am | 6:15pm-7.00pm.

Tuesday

5:45am-6:30am | 9.15am-10.00am

Wednesday

9.15am-10.00am

Thursday

5:45am-6:30am 9.15am-10.00am

Friday

5:45am-6:30am

Contact: 0408 761 770 (Kelli)

Like us on Facebook

'KISS GROUP FITNESS & PERSONAL TRAINING'



Ridgelsands & District Sporting and Agricultural Association Inc.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Ridgelsands Show grounds.

Next meeting **10th August 2016**

Contact 49 341 192 (Dianne)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all the residents in our community who are having a birthday in July:

George Tyrell

Glenda Jones

Nev Milner

Georgia Bull

Noah Bull



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DATECLAIMER— Christmas Karaoke in aid of Ridgelsands Hall Funds. 3 December, 6.30pm at the Ridgelsands Hall. All welcome

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