

# Around the Ridges

And a bit beyond

Issue 150 December 2016 E: [aroundtheridges@hotmail.com](mailto:aroundtheridges@hotmail.com)

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## MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Isn't it great to receive something in the mailbox that's not a bill? The Around the Ridges Committee work hard throughout the year creating a monthly newsletter promoting different events and activities in our area. The Committee would like to wish everyone in the community a happy and safe Christmas and look forward to hearing about news and events for our first 2017 newsletter to be printed in mid February.*

## CHRISTMAS HINTS



Here are ten useful phrases for responding to Christmas presents you would rather **not** have received:

Thanks a lot!

Gosh, I hope I never lose this. We're always losing things around here.

If I hadn't put on so much weight recently it would have fitted me perfectly.

It's great; but I'm worried about the envy it may create.

Just my luck to get this on the very Christmas I promised to give all my gifts to charity.

Really, you shouldn't have.



Well, well, well ...

My word! What a gift.

Frankly, I don't deserve this.

Unfortunately, I am about to enter the ASIO's Witness Protection programme.

One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day.

- Andy Rooney

The ladies from Alton Downs and Dalma QCWA branches worked tirelessly to pull off a pretty amazing Christmas Tree and dance party at the Alton Downs Hall in December 1949. Jim Ashby played the part of Santa Claus giving gifts to each child, with partygoers enjoying fruits, sweets and soft drinks.

From *The CQ Herald*  
5 January 1950

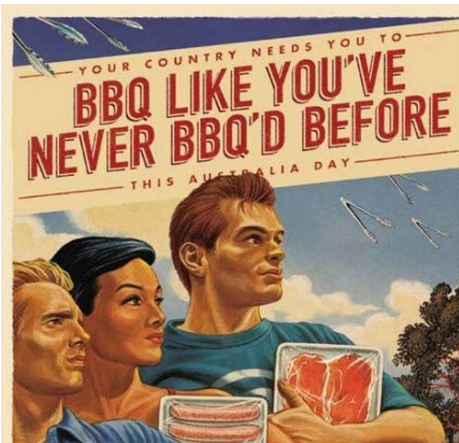


## WHATS ON??

26th January 2017  
From 3pm

Lots of Family Fun

@ The Alton Downs Polocrosse and Sports Club



The Ridgeland and District Sporting and Agricultural Asscn Inc will be holding a **BBQ Fundraiser** on behalf of the Alton Downs & Combined

District Anzac Committee on  
**Saturday 21 January at 6.30 p.m.**

The theme will be **Australia Day** activities with lots of fun things to do, including a multi draw raffle. Come along and help raise money for **improvements to the Alton Downs Cenotaph.**

# Around the Ridges---Past and Present

Editorial by Margaret Stewart

The following is a brief account of the origin of the "Around the Ridges and a Bit Beyond" newsletter.

Notice had been given that the school was scaling back the production of the Tuesday's News owing to the cost and time involved. In future it would be printed for students only.

A public meeting was held in March 2003 where sufficient interest was expressed for the possibility of a community newsletter to be distributed throughout the district.

A committee was formed to investigate the cost of producing a newsletter. A sub-committee was also formed to report to the Ridgeland School P&C Association.

It was decided the "Around the Ridges and a Bit Beyond" be trialled until the end of 2003. In June 500 copies were printed and stapled at the school and generously delivered by the mailmen.

The driving force behind this venture was Jenny Reeve (the first chairperson) and Rhondda Ward. The 'regular' committee was Pat Watts (treasurer), Jenny Prince, Margaret Stewart, Kay Milner, Linda Edgar (secretary), Ena Sinclair, Rhondda Ward and Julie Schulz. Kay and Margaret have continued their support throughout and are the current folders of the newsletter.

Many other people have shown their support in different ways, with typing, sponsorship, stories, proof reading or folding the newsletter etc.

Our thanks go out to these people for their help over the thirteen and a half years the newsletter has been in production.

Of course to get started we needed finance. Through canvassing the district and surrounds we collected enough businesses interested in advertising for a fee. Hence the introduction of the Business Directory. This was printed and stapled at the school. Our thanks go to all the sponsors and businesses for the support they have given to the newsletter. The ads now appear on the back page every month and some of our very first supporters are still using the newsletter today for advertisement purposes.

The need for a computer soon became evident. With the help of firstly John Mouritz and then Mick Byrne (both former Principals) we applied to the Volunteer Small Equipment for funding and were successful. A computer, programs and a printer were installed at the school for use by the newsletter typist. The newsletter contributed towards the installation of the internet cable.

We continued to print, staple and fold the newsletters in Jenny Prince's classroom at the school. Some committee meetings were also held in Jenny's classroom.

The newsletter committee made several donations to the school, some examples were \$500 for educational books for the classroom, \$200 towards the cost of football

jerseys and \$2000 towards a new reading scheme.

All this was made possible by the generosity of the advertisers in the business directory and sponsors of the newsletter.

At our August meeting, 2004 we said good-bye to our Treasurer, Pat Watts as she and her husband, Kevin had moved to Gracemere. Rhondda Ward agreed to on the role as secretary/treasurer having been acting secretary since the resignation of Linda Edgar. Jenny Reeve remained as chairperson. In 2007 Jill Fry joined the executive as assistant Treasurer. The support committee was Jenny Prince, Ena Sinclair, Kay Milner and Margaret Stewart. At this stage the number of newsletters had increased to 600.

March 2009 saw a change in the executive with Diane Bull as chairperson and secretary and Robyn O'Neill as treasurer. The committee suffered two resignations in early 2016, Jill Fry to other commitments and Ena Sinclair moved to town. Ena and her granddaughter had been folding the newsletters.

At this stage we would like to thank other donors for their financial support. The Rockhampton Regional Council by way of the Community Development and Recovery Package, an Australian and Queensland Government initiative. The Ridgeland Show Committee for passing on their bonus money from the Central Queensland Carcass Competition. A special thanks goes to Big Colour Works for printing the newsletter every second month at no cost to the committee, saving in excess of \$200 for each of those months.

We are currently printing 800 copies and with the extra cost of printing and posting this number and the decline in sponsorship and advertisement we have been unable to donate any money to the school.

A special thankyou goes to Maddy Dyer for doing the last six newsletters. Great job Maddy. Best of luck with your studies in Melbourne.

The newsletter was at a great risk of closing until Tracey Boon came forward with an offer to have a go at compiling the newsletter. Three cheers for Tracey. Please forward any news items or stories they would like printed. Tracey can't compile a newsletter without information. In closing the committee thanks again anyone who has contributed in any way.

***Let's get behind Tracey and keep this newsletter rolling.***

***Around the Ridges and a bit beyond*** is a community and school newsletter. Stories, notices, poems, anecdotes and historical memoirs need to be submitted by the 11th of every month — if you have a special event, allow a two month lead in time.

We love our sponsors - and hope that you do too. Please support them and buy locally!

What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas? *Thanks, I'll never part with it!*

# ROCKY ROAD SLICE

## Base:

250 chocolate biscuits  
90g butter, melted

## Filling:

250g packet marshmallows  
1 tablespoon milk  
2 tablespoons boiling water  
1 teaspoon gelatine

## Topping:

400g milk choc melts  
200g nuts (peanuts, almonds, macadamias or cashews)  
½ cup shredded or desiccated coconut  
100g red glaze cherries, halved

**Method:** Line a 28x18 tin with baking paper.

In a small bowl, combine crushed biscuits and melted butter. Mix well, press into prepared tin. Refrigerate while preparing filling.

**To make filling:** Sprinkle gelatine over boiling water. Using a fork, stir until dissolved. Set aside. In a medium saucepan combine marshmallows and milk. Stir over medium heat until marshmallows have melted. Transfer to a large bowl. Beat marshmallow mixture at medium speed, gradually adding gelatine. Spread marshmallow mixture over prepared base. Refrigerate until marshmallow has set.



(Rocky Road Slice recipe continued)

**To make topping:** Melt chocolate on stove or in microwave stirring frequently. Add nuts, coconut and cherries. Spread over marshmallow. Refrigerate until set. Using a heated knife, cut into squares to serve.

**Comment:** I feel it is not necessary to use quite as much topping especially chocolate.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL from the COOK'S CORNER

## SAY HELLO TO A NEIGHBOUR .....

### NEVE TOMKINS

has been born and bred in the area, living in Ridglands for the past 17 years. She loves horses (and also her Mum's yummy lasagne!)

### CHRIS NOBBS

has lived in Alton Downs for the past 8 years and would love to have dinner with Shania Twain. Chris hopes to eat Pauline's Rum Balls at Christmas time

**MICK OGDEN** has lived in Alton Downs for 16 years and loves it - it's nice and quiet and independent of Rocky. How does he like Christmas? 'When it's over!'

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# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## WANTED ... YOUR SKILLS

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**Storytellers** - happy to yarn  
**Editor** - an eye for detail  
**Computer skills** - a whiz with formats  
**Designer** - a flair for artistic layout  
**Social media** - savvy with technology  
**Origamist** - enjoy folding papers  
 Think you have what it takes to help with our newsletter? We are keen to welcome anyone with skills and a little time on their hands - drop us an email or call 4934 5565.



## WILD DOG CONTROL WORKSHOP

Presented by Tony Townsend and sponsored by Rockhampton Regional Council and CPMG  
 12 January 2017 starting at 8am.  
 \*FREE\*  
 Alton Downs Sports and Recreation Grounds  
 RSVP on phone 4931 5421

## ALTON DOWNS RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Meeting @ Alton Downs Hall  
 18 January 2017  
 All welcome



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## CHRISTMAS KARAOKE



The President and members of the Ridgeland Hall Committee would like to thank the volunteers for their help at our **Annual Christmas Karaoke**. Thanks also to the patrons for their support and thanks to Santa for dropping in to distribute the presents to the very eager children.

Our thanks to Denis Lindley for organising the auction, the donors for the items for the auction, the buyers and the auctioneer for a job well done. Many thanks to the Karaoke participants for providing the entertainment for the night.

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## QCWA Ridgeland

Meeting | 4 Jan | 9.30am  
 QCWA Ridgeland Hall

## Alton Downs Pony Club

Meeting | 3 Jan | 7.30pm



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to all our local residents celebrating their special day in **December/January**

Dawn Gorle  
 Shardaii Thompson  
 Andrew Clarke  
 Andrew Hunt  
 Stephanie Ruddick  
 Jacqueline Fossett  
 Robyn Edmistone



"Penblwydd hapus" - Welsh language for 'Happy Birthday'

## FARMBUTCHER

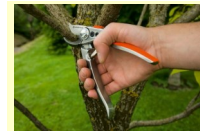
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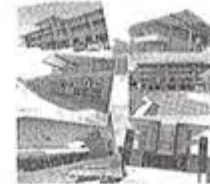
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