

# Around the Ridges and a bit beyond

Issue 161 January 2018 eMail: [aroundtheridges@hotmail.com](mailto:aroundtheridges@hotmail.com)  
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## Welcome to 2018 - the Chinese Year of the Dog



For those who received rain from the recent storms; hopefully, it helped fill your water tanks and dams. It appears that we are in for more high temperatures in the coming weeks so we suggest that you drink plenty of water (and maybe some of that liquid in gold cans) and look out for each other. As we start another year once again we are looking for contributions and helpers for our community newsletter. It could be a funny story about something that has happened to you, a story on your latest holiday/adventure, a gardening or handyman tip or maybe you would like to wish someone a Happy Birthday, Anniversary, etc.

Also we would be thankful for your feedback on what you would like to read in your community newsletter, any ideas or help would be appreciated. Email [aroundtheridges@hotmail.com](mailto:aroundtheridges@hotmail.com) or ring Diane after hours on 4934-1192.

## Christmas Thank You

A big **Thank You** goes out to Ann-Marie Dyer and her family for performing at the Alton Downs Hall Christmas Carols Sing-a-long on Thursday the 18th December.

The Dyer band consisted of Ann-Marie's daughter, Maddy on Violin, brother Andrew on Guitar, mother Margaret on key board and nephew Walter on boot box and spoons. If you weren't there you don't know what you missed.

There was plenty of laughter when some of the participants sang enthusiastically trying to stay in key.

The competition that Ann Marie had after each carol also caused laughter and a good time was had by all.

After all the singing was over a great supper was served. People



made new friends and caught up with neighbours. A very memorable night was had by all.

Also a big **Thank You** to the hall committee.

## Australia Day

by Diane Bull

Australia the lucky country. How often do we hear this and do we really appreciate what we have?

When I was a little girl all I knew was that we had a public holiday on the 26th January every year. Now I am glad to say that I am proud to be an Australian and would not like to live anywhere else in the world.

I know sometimes life can be tough, but we do not have a war raging in our country and we have food on our tables every night. Overall we are always there for each other. Australia is known to be a friendly country and we are very good at banter and playing tricks on each other.

This Australia Day I suggest that you do something special to acknowledge how proud you are to be Australian. Fly a flag on your letter box (\$2 at the Reject shop), have a picnic by the river or attend one of the many events that are on in our region. *Continued on Page 2*

I could have gone into the story of Captain Cook, but I figure we all know that by now.



Just be "Proud to be an Australian" and thank our fellow Australians; in particular, family, neighbours, friends and our local volunteers who dedicate a substantial portion of their lives to supporting our community. Also our Rural Fire Brigade for being there when we need them.

## Valentine's Day

*A Day of Romance*

There are a number of legends which are claimed to describe the origins of Valentine's Day.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome.

When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realising the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.



According to one legend, the imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl, possibly his gaoler's daughter, who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasise his appeal as a sympathetic,

heroic figure.

By the Middle Ages, Valentine had become one of the most popular saints in England and France.

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until after 1400.

The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt. (The greeting is now part of the manuscript collection of the British Library in London, England.) Several years later, it is believed that King Henry V hired a writer named John Lydgate to compose a valentine note to Catherine of Valois.

By the middle of the 18th century it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged.

Today Valentine's Day is celebrated in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia.

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending day of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas.) Women purchase approximately 85 percent of all valentines.

<http://history.com>

### **BIG COLOUR WORKS**

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every second month for free.  
THANK YOU!*

**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 the previous month — if you have a special event, allow two months lead time if possible.

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

# Valentine's Day Poems

## Another Valentine

© 2009 Wendy Cope

Today we are obliged to be romantic  
And think of yet another valentine.  
We know the rules and we are both pedantic:  
Today's the day we have to be romantic.

Our love is old and sure, not new and frantic.  
You know I'm yours and I know you are mine.  
And saying that has made me feel romantic,  
My dearest love, my darling valentine.

---

## Quote from Hamlet

© (1600-1601) William Shakespeare

Doubt thou the stars are fire,  
Doubt that the sun doth move.  
Doubt truth to be a liar,  
But never doubt I love.

---

Armistice that ended the First World War

2018 will celebrate the centenary of the end of fighting in the First World War.

On the 11th November 2018, we commemorate the centenary of the Armistice that ended the First World War (1914-18)

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## Vale ~ Sandra Joan "Sandy" DALY

We like to extend our sympathy to Ray, Stephen, Bronwyn and families in your recent loss of Sandra - wife, mother, mother in-law and grandmother. Sandra will remain forever in your hearts.

Sandra passed away peacefully on the 22nd of December 2017

## Corned Meat Fritters

### Ingredients:

½ cup plain flour  
½ cup self-raising flour  
1x1.25ml spoon salt  
1 small egg  
250mls milk  
1-2 cups cold corned meat, cut to small cubes  
2 shallots, finely sliced



### Instructions:

Sift flour and salt into a bowl.  
Add the well beaten egg and then the milk.  
Add the diced meat and shallots.  
Mix until smooth.  
Stand for an hour if possible.  
Spoon into hot, shallow oil and fry until a rich brown on both sides.  
Drain on paper towel, serve at once with tomato sauce.

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## Vale ~ Cornelius "Stretch" Van EGMOND

We like to extend our sympathy to Terri Donnelly and to Rachel, Michael and Tobias in your recent loss of Stretch who passed away unexpectedly on the 27th of December 2017.

Aged 64 years.

---

## Vale ~ Iris Isabel CRANSTON

We like to extend our sympathy to Rodney, Neil, Donna and Ian Kayes, Michelle Hull and their respective families.

Iris of Benevolent Aged Care, Rockhampton, passed away peacefully with family at the Hillcrest Private Hospital on Sunday the 31st of December 2017.

Aged 95 Years.

Thanks for being awesome customers!

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Closed Christmas Day

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Minimum charge	\$8
Car Boot or wheelie bin	\$10
Trailer 6x4/ute/tray/van	\$19
Larger trailer or with hungry boards	\$22
Volume fee per m <sup>3</sup>	\$49

## ALTON DOWNS HALL

Indoor Bowls	10 Feb 7:30pm
Hall Meeting	28 Feb 7:30pm

## Alton Downs Pony Club

Meeting 1st Tuesday  
of the month 7.30pm  
Alton Downs Hall

## Indoor Bowls

2nd Saturday of every month  
Alton Downs Hall  
7:30pm  
Sid Hoare 4934 1147

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## QCWA Ridgелands Branch

Meeting 1st Wednesday every  
month commencing at 9.30am  
QCWA Ridgелands Hall  
Contact Joyce 4934 5120

## Ridgелands & District Sporting & Agricultural Association Inc

Meetings are held on the 2nd  
Wednesday of the month,  
commencing at 7.30 p.m.  
at the Ridgелands Show grounds.

## Ridgелands Play Group

Wednesday fortnightly  
during school terms.

All parents & children welcome.  
Please bring along a plate of food to share.

Krissy Wilkings 0407 743 141

## Saint Lukes Anglican Church

Service 11am fourth Sunday of each  
month at the QCWA Hall Ridgелands

## Stitch and Chat Group

Meet on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday  
of every month at 9:30am

QCWA Hall Ridgелands  
4934 5125

## Fitzroy Northern Area Ratepayers Association

Alton Downs Hall  
5th February 2018  
7:30pm



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# NOTICEBOARD

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all our local residents  
celebrating their special  
day in January:

Andrew Hunt  
Jacqueline Fossett  
Robyn Edmestone  
Stephaine Ruddick



### and February:

Anne Herring  
Charlie Frankish

Dorothy Thompson  
Hayden Thompson  
Jenny Prince  
Jesse Laver  
Jessica O'Neill  
Krystal Thompson  
Lorraine Ryan  
Lyn Rosenberg  
Maddy Dyer  
Mark Warnock  
Strop Rosenberg

## Ridgелands Hall

### Christmas Karaoke

The President and Members of  
the Ridgелands Hall Committee  
would like to thank the volun-  
teers for their assistance at our  
Annual Christmas Karaoke.

This gesture is greatly appreciated  
by all members.

Thanks to the patrons for their  
support on the night and thanks  
to Santa for dropping in to dis-  
tribute the presents to the very  
eager children.

Our thanks to Denis Lindley for  
organising the auction, the gener-  
ous donors for the auction items,  
the buyers and the auctioneer,  
Richard Thomsen for a job well  
done.

Many thanks to the Karaoke par-  
ticipants for providing the enter-  
tainment for the night.

Brendan Loutit TAs



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