

Around the Ridges

and a bit beyond

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Email aroundtheridges@hotmail.com

Fax 4934 5565

Phone 4934 1192

From the Principals Desk (May 2014)

Welcome to term 2. It is shaping as a busy term again with NAPLAN, Sports days, Friday sport, Eisteddfod, Ridgeland's Show and many other events filling the calendar quickly.

Students in years 3, 5 and 7 have been busy across the nation this week completing Literacy and Numeracy testing as part of NAPLAN, including students here at Ridgeland's. The skills that were tested included: reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. NAPLAN looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against National Standards and compared with student peers throughout Australia. The process of NAPLAN style testing is quite different to most classroom environments, however the students have handled the change well. I congratulate the students and staff on their preparation for NAPLAN and their positive attitude in undertaking these tests. Results for the testing will be available to schools and parents towards the end of term 3. The P&C volunteered their time and resources to provide a free breakfast for all students on these 3 days. Thank you for this generous offer, as it is another boost for students on these days.

Interschool sport started this term with students participating in Soccer and Rugby League teams on Friday afternoons in Rockhampton.

Students from year 3 to year 7 competed in the local Eisteddfod on Wednesday morning the 21st May and at the Ridgeland's Show on 31st May. Thank you to Mrs Jodie Hiron for her hard work and dedication in preparing our students for these events. Students were also very busy completing handwriting and artwork for the Ridgeland's Show and the CWA International day. P & C Day – which was celebrated on Friday 23 May. Ridgeland's' students, families and staff would like to acknowledge the important work that is being done by our Parents and Citizens Association. Over the years, our dedicated P & C volunteers have contributed funds to purchase school equipment and facilities. Thank you to all the volunteers who have shared their expertise and talents as well as offered their services, to help organise many successful fundraising ventures.

Brad Carlson

THANK YOU

DO YOUR CARPETS NEED CLEANING OR DO YOU HAVE PESTs YOU NEED TO EXTERMINATE?

The Ridgeland's & District Sporting & Agricultural Assn would like to thank Daniel from Dynamic Services for cleaning the office and pavilions at the showgrounds. If you are looking for a cleaner or need your carpet cleaned or general pest control the committee can strongly recommend Daniel.

His contact details are 4936 1593 or mobile 0406 303 425

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Congratulations to the Ridgeland's Show Committee on a very successful show this year. The Show seems to be getting bigger and better and also to have more variety!

Recipe: Pineapple Meringue Pie

Ingredients

440gm crushed pineapple, 1 cup desiccated coconut, 4 eggs lightly beaten plus 3 extra egg whites, ½ cup plain flour – sifted, ½ cup caster sugar plus ¾ cup extra, ½ cup chopped macadamia nuts, 125gm melted butter, 1/3 cup milk, 1 lime, grated zest and 2 tablespoons juice, 2 teaspoons vanilla essence

Method

1. Preheat oven to moderate 180 c. Lightly grease a 23 cm round pie plate.
2. In a large bowl, using a wooden spoon, mix all ingredients together except egg whites and extra sugar. Pour into pie plate.
3. Bake 25-30 minutes until just set. Rough up surface with a fork.
4. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Gradually add extra sugar beating the mixture until stiff and glossy.
5. Spread meringue over pie, swirling to form peaks. Return to oven and cook until meringue just begins to brown slightly

Sounds very YUMMY!

Gardening tips: Water wisely

- Water during the early morning especially in winter or in the evening especially in summer
- Avoiding wetting the foliage can reduce the risk of fungal diseases
- Avoid watering in the heat of the day as evaporation is high
- Soak the soil well rather than just sprinkling the surface

PLANT NOW:

Vegies: silverbeet, beetroot, lettuce, parsnip, radish, cabbage, rocket, carrots, peas and beans

Flowers: Australian Paper daisies, bird of paradise (*Strelitzia reginae*), *Grevillea 'Golden Lyre'*, calendula, cornflower, dianthus.

MULCH:

Finally, after 6 months, Rockhampton Regional Council will be again making mulch available. It will be available from Lakes Creek Landfill site from mid July 2014. As they are now allowing free dumping of green waste I hope the mulch will continue to be loaded Saturday mornings for free. Take your trailer or ute and ensure you have a cover for your load.

I always find beauty in things that are odd and imperfect - they are much more interesting.

Marc Jacobs

ALTON DOWNS POLOCROSSE CLUB are holding their **Annual Carnival on 16th and 17th AUGUST.**

Campsites will be available and anyone interested in horse sports is welcome to come and watch. Refreshments and meals will be available. Come along to support your community and the team.

Clans of long ago that wanted to get rid of their unwanted people, without killing them, used to burn their houses down - hence the expression "to get fired."



Bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers were all invented by women.

Reef Guardian Farmers and Graziers <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-partners/reef-guardians/reef-guardian-farmers-and-graziers>

Reef Guardian Farmers and Graziers are forward-thinking landholders who want to show how they are doing their bit to care for the Great Barrier Reef as responsible land managers. These farmers and graziers are promoting sustainable farming practices that make economic sense and are also good for the environment. The program is building a way to recognise and support the efforts of participants who are doing great work to manage natural resources through effective land management. Many farmers and graziers are doing good environmental work in the areas of:

- Soil and erosion management
- Water management to ensure clean and healthy catchments
- Waste reduction
- Efficient energy use to minimise greenhouse gas emissions
- Protecting natural areas, wetlands and forests on their properties
- Sustainable land management practices such as installing global positioning systems in tractors to streamline planting.

By being in the program, participants can network with producers across the Great Barrier Reef catchment and share information and ideas.

You may have noticed the sign on Ridgeland Rd as you have driven to town near Alton Downs Hall. I asked our local 'Reef Guardian Farmer' **Peter Foxwell** about it. He advised that he was nominated by Fitzroy River Coastal Catchment (FRCC). He felt that the accreditation recognised the way he managed the farm with concern for the environment. He had an interview to determine his eligibility as a Reef Guardian Farmer and he was the first Cotton grower to be recognised. He said on the farm they were working to improve drainage, reduce chemical usage and to better manage crop residue. He is currently working on Best Management Practices (BMP) for grain farming. He also interacts with the community to give a positive message about agriculture especially in talks to students and has recently given talks and answered Rockhampton school students' questions. UCQ is currently running a rice trials on their land and this has generated a great deal of interest including a recent visit by Senator Barnaby Joyce. He advised that Fitzroy River graziers **Jeff and Karen Mills** are keenly involved in Reef Guardians. [An interview with them can be seen on the website] To find out more about how to join the program please contact the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Australia Post introduces "mypost"

Do you have a Pension Card, Health Care Card, DVA Card or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card? You may be eligible for up to **50 cheap stamps** per year (60c postage not the current 70c) (and possibly 5 FREE stamps). To find out if you may be eligible **see Ross at Wandal Post Office** and he will check and help you to complete the short application form.

What *will* the government do next?!?

Try to fit this into your conversation:-

Batrachophobia-fear of frogs or the fear of Injections Trypanophobia.

Thank you to Diane Bull for preparing the newsletters.

This one has been prepared by Jill Fry as Diane is on holiday.



What's happening this month?

Meetings

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

Stitch and Chat Group

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

Ridgелands & District Sporting & Agricultural Asscn Inc.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting **9 July** at 7.30 p.m. at the Ridgелands Show grounds.

*Your **tongue** is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.*

Events

Alton Downs Hall Committee

Dances are on Friday **29th August** and **31st October** at 7.30 p.m. Supper, Raffles and Novelties. Everyone welcome.

The Fitzroy Northern Area Rate Payers Association

meeting dates **August 4** - Ridgелands Hall **November 3** - Alton Downs Hall. They welcome all residents in the area to meetings, especially the AGM in February 2015.

Alton Downs PX & Sports Club.

If you do not feel like cooking on **Friday nights** why not go down to the Clubhouse from **6.00 p.m. – 8.00p.m.** Burgers, Fish & Chips and homemade chicken bites are served. Bar will be open.

Community Notices

Alton Downs Hall Committee

To book community hall please contact Booking Officer, Sid Hoare on 49 341147 or T Hoare 49 34 1493 J Chippendale 49 345120.

QCWA Ridgелands Branch

International day **morning tea** at the Ridgелands Community Hall, Tuesday **24th June** at 9.30 a.m. For further details, please contact Joyce Chippendale on 4934 5120.

***Glass** takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times!*

Butterflies taste with their feet!

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to everyone who is having a birthday in **July**.

Bobbi Ibbotson (1st birthday)
Jorja Iker
George Tyrell
Edgar Frankish
Glenda Jones
Nev Milner
Georgia Bull
Noah Bull

Belated 21st Birthday
Congratulations for Cameron Milner and Jamie-Lee Williams for May.

Congratulations

Eric and Kerry Adams are pleased to announce the **engagement** of their son Glenn to Rachael daughter of Bruce and Jennifer Millet of Toowoomba.

***Zero** is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals.*

English Language.....

Q. How many letters are there in the English alphabet?

A. There are 18. Three in 'the', seven in 'English' and eight in 'alphabet'.

Q. Which word is the odd one out - Stun, Ton, Evil, Letter, Mood, Bad, Snap, Straw?

A. Letter. If you read them all backwards, letter is the only one that does not make another word!

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22 Sheenan Road Alton Downs QLD 4702

Telephone: 0749 341473 Mobile: 0438 341473

Email: enginecentre@dodo.com.au

