

Around the Ridges

and a bit beyond

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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.

ROY JOHN SHANNEN

30TH SEPTEMBER 1929 - 15TH APRIL 2014

Roy John Shannen was born in Yeppoon Hospital to parents Johann Frederick and Dorothea Tschannen on the 30th of September 1929. His parents had immigrated to Australia from Switzerland in 1918 and already had two children Dora and Fred.

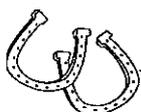
On a Marlborough farm, Roy helped his father milk 40 cows morning and night and had to ride five and a half miles to and from school each day on horseback (later on bicycles).

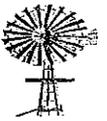
After his Primary School Education in Marlborough from 1935 to 1943, Roy attended the Rockhampton Grammar School for one year during World War 2, in 1944. This was one of the worst years of his life. Being a shy country boy he absolutely hated being away from home.

A romance with Jean Moore began when Roy was about 20 yrs of age and they married on the 7th of November 1953 in St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Bolsover Street, Rockhampton when he was 24 years old. This was the beginning of a 60 year marriage and loving partnership with Jean that produced 4 children, 14 Grandchildren and 13 Great Grandchildren and one on the way. In 1953 he built and opened the Marlborough Garage and combined with skills as a mechanic, and his energy and ambition the business became an immediate success and grew rapidly and progressed into a profitable business.

In 1963 the family moved to Dalma and Roy set about turning a rundown dairy farm into a grain and cattle operation. Again, Roy applied his skills and energy to revolutionize farming practices on the Dalma farm. Although he never feared hard work, he had a major dislike for heavy manual or repetitive work, so he constantly looked for innovative ways to improve the farming process. Roy slowly increased the horsepower of his tractors and increased the area under cultivation. He introduced bulk grain handling methods and sped up harvesting activities with self-propelled harvesters. He pioneered precision planting methods; he worked with the DPI to put in erosion control and replaced the traditional disc ploughing with tine implements. Roy also became the resident expert in all things mechanical and no matter how busy he was he would always go to the assistance of a neighbour to help them with their

machinery problems. His reputation as a mechanic was known far and wide and he would often be consulted by farmers from Wycarbah to South Yaamba.





Continued

For many years Roy did Contract Harvesting in the Dalma, Ridgeland, South Yaamba, Stanwell, Kalapa, and Wycarbah districts.

Roy never missed a P&C meeting or a working bee where he would usually supply all the tools and machinery necessary to get the job done. This commitment to the school even continued in later year's whilst his grandchildren attended the Dalma School.

He was a strong supporter of the Local Hall Committee and fostered a working together culture within the Dalma and Ridgeland communities. He often coordinated local Dalma dances and acted as MC. He was a member of the Rural Fire Brigade for over 30 years and held the position of Fire Warden for most of those years.

For many years also he was the President of the Alton Downs Grain Growers Association and encouraged growers to work together to obtain better outcomes for grain farmers.

Roy's greatest legacy however is his family. He had a deep and loving relationships with all 4 children, and then later in life all 14 of his grandchildren and he was only recently getting to develop relationships with his new born Great Grandchildren (13 at the latest count). It was not always work for Roy, his work eventually paid dividends and he was able to scale back his operations and sell some of his property to fund a comfortable retirement. He enjoyed playing a game of tennis and in later years meeting with friends and clay pigeon shooting. He also enjoyed fishing, but rarely was in the right place at the right time.

During these years he enjoyed travelling and visited most parts of Australia. Even though he travelled overseas several times he had difficulty assimilating with the local culture. If he could not order a Rump Steak and vegetables he was generally out of his depth with the menu.

He did however enjoy travelling Australia, especially travelling through the country and the remote western parts of Queensland where he had spent some of his earlier days. Roy and Jean loved their caravan which towed proudly behind his Toyota Prado.

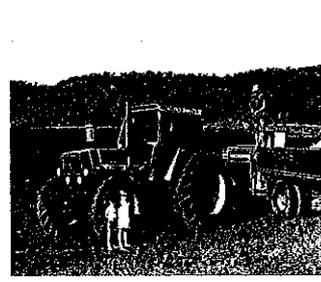
He will be remembered for many things but most importantly he will be remembered as being a trustworthy, honest, hard working and loving family man.

A man of great integrity!!

He will be remembered for his great mechanical skills – there were few machines that he could not fix when he was at his best.

But most of all we will remember the love that he shared and the ways of gentle kindness.

We hope and pray that he rests in peace in a place where it rains every second day and where the machines he operates never breakdown.



Roy's gentle face and patient smile, with sadness we recall, he had a kindly word for each, and died beloved to all.

Roy's family would like to thank all for their love and support





RECIPE CORNER

BACON AND SPINACH FETTUCCINE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Tablespoon olive oil | 1 ½ cups chicken stock |
| 200g diced bacon | 300 ml light cooking cream |
| 1 small onion, finely chopped | 100g baby spinach leaves |
| 2 teaspoons minced garlic | Salt and pepper, to taste |
| 500g fettuccine | Shaved parmesan, to garnish |

1. Heat oil in a large, non-stick frying pan over a medium heat.

Add bacon, onion and garlic.

Cook, stirring occasionally, for about 5 minutes, or until

Bacon is crisp and onion is soft.

2. Par cook pasta in boiling water. Add pasta, stock and cream to bacon mixture.

Stir to combine. Bring to boil. Cover with lid. Simmer, stirring occasionally,

for about 5 minutes, or until pasta is tender. Add spinach, and cook

for 2 minutes, or until wilted. Season with salt and pepper.

Garnish with shaved parmesan.

Kitchen hint:

On your Glad wrap box you will find at either end a 'click here' icon which when pressed stops the roll from running on. This also applies to the Aluminum Foil box.

Give it a try! - Joan and Pat Pointing

ENGINE CENTRE ROCKHAMPTON

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- | | |
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A dinkum Aussie bushman

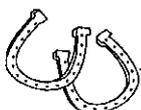
CD REVIEW

Third generation Morinish man Allan Thompson knew he was on to a good thing when he met Patricia Thompson at Cawarral way back in 1994. The softly spoken guitar player had found a partner with an uncanny ability to write songs of the bush, crafting melodies from words to tell of a lifetime spent in the outback. Pat's admission that Allan had 'no beer or smokes near him so I kept him' resulted in a very happy union and marriage for the songwriter and musician. Pat's passion for writing has seen her publish two books, *A Bush kid* and *Call of the Bush*, including poetry and semi-autobiographical stories in the years since.

Teaming up with well-known Bouldercombe musician Keith Jamieson, Pat has recently released a CD entitled *A dinkum Aussie bushman*. Choosing topics close to her heart, Pat has written songs about everyday country activities such as the little 'Cooper' book which every farmer owned; callouses on a bushies' hands; boots and spurs; country towns and places- and the iconic Australian people she has met. Keith Jamieson sings and plays rhythm guitar, Pixie Jenkins plays the fiddle, and other musicians help to set the scene for a lively country and western CD recalling many memories of yesteryear.

The CD was funded from the Rockhampton Regional Council Regional Arts and Development Fund in 2013. The CD costs \$25 and is available directly from Pat Thompson, 5 Boongarry Road, Gracemere or phone 49333293.

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.



17th AUGUST 2014 YOU ARE INVITED TO A GARDEN PARTY 1.30pm

FUNDRAISER FOR CANCER RESEARCH

At Hillary Chippendale's 119 Chippendale Rd, Garnant

Raffles and Multi Draws, Gold Coin Entry- all welcome Ph:4934 5125

Frankish Family Reunion by Melissa Frankish.

The **Frankish Family Reunion** was held at the Ridgелands Showgrounds on the 18th of May for the descendants of Charles William Frankish. He left North Dalton, Yorkshire, England in 1887 on board the 'Merkara' and settled in Morinish about the same year.

There was 88 people in attendance with some travelling from the Sydney and Brisbane area, Townsville and East Yorkshire, England. This was the first reunion for the family and was a terrific day. A big thank you to the Ridgелands Show Society for providing a BBQ lunch.

The eldest family member at the reunion was Peggy White of Townsville aged 88 years and the youngest was Axel Savage of Rockhampton aged 14 days with his mother Angela Frankish.

The name Alton Downs, originally known as Rockhampton Agricultural Reserve or the Agricultural Reserve, took its name from Alton, the place where the first teacher Miss M. Marsh lived while teaching at the provisional school which was opened in 1888. Being downs country the second half of the name followed naturally. The first half is most likely from Alton, in Hampshire, England.

In ancient Greece, tossing an **apple** to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted. ☺

Ever wonder where cashews come from?

You might think they grow inside a shell like any other nut, but their true origins are far more bizarre. First of all, cashews are not actually nuts, but rather fruits from the cashew tree, a large evergreen tree that thrives in tropical climates. The tree produces red flowers, which in turn produce yellow and red oval structures resembling apples. These so-called cashew apples are very juicy and pulpy, and their juice is often added to tropical fruit drinks. However, cashew apples are not actually fruits in a scientific sense; the real fruit of the cashew tree is the kidney-shaped formation growing at the end. These fruits, also called 'drupes', are harvested and become what we know as a cashew nut.

In their raw form the outer layer of the fruit contains multiple toxins, including anacardic acid, a powerful skin irritant similar to the toxin found in poison ivy, which must be removed prior to eating. Roasting the cashews destroys the toxins, but roasting must be performed carefully outdoors because the smoke can irritate the lungs, sometimes to a life-threatening degree.

When they are roasted cashews change from their natural greenish-gray colour to the light brown nut sold in stores. Next time you eat a cashew, take a moment to appreciate the long journey those little c-shaped nuts took from the tree to your table! It also explains why they are so expensive!

TRIVIA: 23 July 1903 the Ford Motor Company sold its first car!



What's happening this month?

Events

QCWA Ridgелands 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

Ridgелands & District Sporting & Agricultural Asscn Inc.

AGM & Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting 10th September commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Ridgелands Show grounds.

Alton Downs Dance

- Looking back..

A glimpse through the pages of *The Morning Bulletin* of 3 March 1942 reveals a small advertisement calling for '100 couples to attend a dance at the Ridgелands Hall' in aid of an Ambulance Benefit. On offer was the guarantee of a 'good orchestra, novelties and supper' for attendees.

Looking forward to 2014 it's great to see that that same old fashioned country hospitality can be found at the old time dances held every few months at the Alton Downs Hall. The next dance will be held on 29 August starting at 7.30pm so why not grab a bunch of friends and head off to an evening of music, dance and great entertainment for the young, and young at heart. Enquiries 4934 5120.

Meetings

The Fitzroy Northern area rate payers association would like to advise their meeting dates for 2014.
August 4 - Ridgелands Hall
November 3 - Alton Downs Hall
They welcome all residence in the area to meetings, especially the AGM in February.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by a General Meeting to

discuss the Fire Levy

Date: Sunday 14th September, 2014

Time: 5pm



The meetings will be followed by a BBQ. Please bring along your Meat, Salad and a

Sweet to share. (Remember we have cutlery, plates and refrigerator.) BYO Drinks.

A Working Bee will be held at 9am on that morning, all help greatly appreciated.

Regards Narelle Hinz (Secretary)

Community Notices

RIDGELANDS HALL NEWS

The President and members of the Ridgелands Hall Committee would like to thank the Ridgелands Rodeo Committee for the opportunity to cater at their Annual camp-draft held in June.

Due to the rain at Easter time the camp-draft was postponed to this later date.

This is a major boost to the financial viability of the Hall.

Thanks to the volunteers for their help. This is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the public for their patronage.

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.

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to everyone who is having a birthday

in August

Jack Sleaford

Connor Hunt

Blue Shepherd

Joel Estreich

Maurice McQuillan

Congratulations



Alex and Chantelle (nee Rossenberg) welcome the arrival of their son Nat Jamie on the 12th June. Brother for Jake, second grandson for Strop & Lyn Rossenberg.

Wedding Congratulations go to Mr & Mrs Lavender

Mark Lavender and Bridie Weier who married at the Heritage Village in July. The Bridal party arrived in Cobb and Co Coach to 'Tie the Reins' with purple ribbon at Rosewood Cottage.

The ladies were beautiful in their elegant dresses with riding boots underneath. The reception was held in the Shearing Shed. Best wishes to you both for your future together.



THE NEXT STEP



PREVENTION OF YOUTH SUICIDE

CHARITY CONCERT @ PARADISE LAGOONS

SHAKEN KNOT STIRRED

VELOCITY

RGGS BACK -UP SINGERS

HOLLIE DUNN

Saturday 2nd August 2014

6:00pm - 12:00am

Finger food & burgers available
& licenced bar

An initiative by a group of concerned families in CQ. 100% of the nights profits
will go towards education and awareness in CQ School & Rural areas.
We are determined to stop putting families at risk.

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