

# Around the Ridges

And a bit beyond

Issue 136

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## Alton Downs Rural Fire Brigade (contacts at the bottom of page)

Our Brigade has around 40 members and most of them are working and are not always available to assist in case of a local fire, but assist where they can. Our Fire Warden is Sid Hoare and he should be contacted for a permit *before* you burn. Peter Hunt is our Chairman and May Frenken is the Secretary/Treasurer and between them they do all the admin. The First Officer is Owen Buckle and he is in charge of all the Brigade operations. Our Shed is currently located close to the Alton Downs Hall on Nicholson Rd Alton Downs, but we hope to move right next to the Hall when the new shed is completed. We are still fundraising for this shed. We meet bi - monthly and the next meeting is at 7.30pm **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September** with a cuppa after. All interested persons are welcome. The team regularly have training sessions on the radios and equipment as well as doing controlled burns. Our main equipment is a fire truck and at the moment we still have a water tanker which will be replaced eventually.

Some of our recent activities include the grass fire in Hardings Road which had the potential to burn the house as the flames by the house were literally stamped out as the house hose had already burnt. The horses were saved after they went to the corner of the paddock. The fire burnt through the dry paddock but was brought under control before it crossed the road. This was lucky as the wind had the ability to spread the flames quickly. This was the same day when the controlled burn was done on Long Island Reserve and some of our people were there helping out. We'd like to thank the young man that, during the O'Brien's Road/Mackenzie Road fire, assisted the RFB by using a bobcat to create a fire break and so saved us a great of work and water, enabling us to get the fire out quickly.

Because of the debris from the Cyclone and lack of rain since then, we have a huge fuel load in our district. To help yourselves, and us, it would be great if everyone cleaned around their house and where possible slashed a fire break and prepared a Fire Safety Plan. Make your family aware of the plan and ensure they know where the closest water access is. If you have pumps on hand and know how to work them that would be a help when the RFB arrive.

We are in the process of compiling a **Register of Equipment** in our area and ask if anyone who has heavy machinery like water trucks, bob cats, graders, low loaders, dozers etc. to tell Owen Buckle. We have people who could move these and save them in the event of a fire and we could possibly call on them to assist us to make fire breaks etc. in the event of an emergency. A copy of this list will eventually be held in the Rockhampton Area Office of Qld Fire and Rescue. We would also like to know where *your* dams are and if there is easy access to water as this may help us some day.

Remember if you see smoke call **000** rather than the Fire Warden, seconds saved may save a big problem for everyone. Around the Ridges would like to hear from the other Rural Fire Brigades and we will include their information in another edition

**See Smoke? then Call 000** Alton Downs Rural Fire Brigade Phone numbers:

**Fire Warden Sid Hoare** 4934 1147

**First Officer Owen Buckle** 0408 196 556

Peter Hunt 0419 775 617

May Frenken 4934 1083

# What's Happening this Month?

## Notices

Alton Downs Rural  
Fire Brigade AGM  
and Fire Levy Meeting  
@ Alton Downs Hall on  
**16<sup>th</sup> September**  
Public Meeting re Fire Levy  
7pm followed by AGM at  
7.30pm all welcome

## Stitch and Chat Group

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday  
of every month starting at 9.30  
a.m. Ridgeland's QCWA room.  
All welcome Phone 4934 5145.

## Meetings

### Ridgeland's & District Sporting & Agricultural Assen Inc.

Monthly meetings are held on  
the second Wednesday of each  
month, commencing at 7.30  
p.m. at the Ridgeland's Show  
grounds. Next meeting will be  
AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

### QCWA Ridgeland's Branch

Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday every month,  
commencing at 9.30 a.m.  
Contact Joyce 4934 5120.  
for further information.

### Alton Downs Cemetery Management Incorp.

are holding their annual meeting on  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00  
a.m. at the Alton Downs Hall.  
Everyone welcome.

### Alton Downs Dump Hours *September to April*

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and  
Sunday, 3pm - 6pm.

Free disposal of Green Waste at  
Alton Downs.

### CHURCH BULLETINS:

The Fasting & Prayer  
Conference includes meals.

## Community Notices

QCWA Ridgeland branch ladies will  
be holding an afternoon tea in aid of  
the Capricorn helicopter rescue at the  
Ridgeland's Hall on the 13<sup>th</sup>  
September. There will be a lucky  
door prize and multi draw raffle.  
Look forward to seeing everyone  
there.

### Date Claimers

**Christmas Karaoke**  
Christmas Karaoke in aid of  
Ridgeland's Hall Funds.  
**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.**  
6.30 pm. At the Ridgeland's Hall.  
All Welcome.

### **Tart & Trivia Afternoon**

**Saturday 19th September 2015**  
1.30pm All welcome.  
Alton Downs Hall  
Bookings: call JOYCE 4934 5120

### **BOONY'S SCREENS & AWNINGS**

Fly & Security Screens for windows &  
doors, window replacements,  
aluminium awnings & lattice. Quality  
Work Guaranteed Free Quote ABN  
Up to 20% Cheaper  
Call Wayne 0421273391

### **Gardening:**

Rockhampton Regional Council  
**Spring Garden Competition** is now  
open. Entries close on 30<sup>th</sup>  
September with Judging Monday 5  
October and Wednesday 7 October  
2015. Entry forms from Council  
website or Council offices. First prize  
\$2500 from Betascapes + many  
more. Let's hope we get rain by then!  
There is a 'Best Home Garden **not**  
**on Town Water**' - \$250 voucher

Alton Downs Hall committee will be  
holding a dance.  
30<sup>th</sup> October  
Music by Two Can.  
For further information contact Joyce  
on 49344 120.

## Celebrations

**Happy Birthday** to all the residents  
in our community who are having a  
birthday in September:

Jack Sleaford  
Connor Hunt  
Blue Shepherd  
Joel Estreich  
Maurice McQuillan  
Jack Bush

### **Sympathy Notices**

Our sincere sympathy is sent to Robert  
Smith and family in the recent loss of  
their wife, mother and grandmother -  
Dell. Our thoughts are with you.

.....  
We would like to express our  
condolences to Peter and Laraine  
Lawton for the loss of Peter's mother.  
Memories live on forever.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We send our thoughts to Hugh and  
Joyce Chippendale and family for the  
loss of their son Steven. He will always  
be forever in your hearts.

### **Congratulations**

On the birth of your son. Joel and  
Krissy Rayner announce the arrival of  
Harrison Jeffrey Rayner on the 31<sup>st</sup>  
July. Grandson for Jeff and Linda  
Edgar.

Crescent Lagoon Swim Club will be  
holding their club sign up on 22 August  
at the Crescent Lagoon School Pool  
from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. For  
further information contact coach Sonn  
on 0418 708 426.

### **WANDAL ROAD CONVENIENCE STORE**

Fish & Chips, Burgers Cold Drinks  
133 Wandal Rd Rockhampton  
Phone 49225494  
Tracey and Ken Milner

### **FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR TRAINER AND ASSESSOR**

Category A,B,C,D & H  
Ph Ben Abotomey 0429 341 550  
[Nyssaph2@bigpond.com](mailto:Nyssaph2@bigpond.com)  
Licence No 74001612-00

There is some copy on the 'Alton Downs/Ridgelands and Surrounding Area' facebook page that has resonated with the community - here it is: I've been reading through the posts on this page – well done to the administrators – and I realise how incredibly lucky we are to live in this wonderful community just outside the 'big smoke' of Rocky. Our community cares for each other which is really evident in the concern for finding Boof the maremma puppy, or making sure stray horses are safely in a paddock, L drivers are treated with respect on the road, dodgy dealers are highlighted, people stop for someone who is broken down or hundreds of small things that make up a really fantastic community. I honestly don't know how people live in town when we have our own little bit of paradise right here. Bought to our attention by By Ann-Maree Dyer. I whole heartily agree. Somedays I cannot wait to get home to my own little bit of paradise. Diane.

An Obituary printed in the London Times – An old one but well worth reading again.

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

Knowing when to come in out of the rain;  
Why the early bird gets the worm;  
Life isn't always fair;  
And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,  
by his parents, Truth and Trust,  
by his wife, Discretion,  
by his daughter, Responsibility,  
and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepbrothers;

I Know My Rights

I Want It Now

Someone Else Is To Blame

I'm A Victim

Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

# TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY



- **Tables of 8-10**
- **Prize for Best Dressed Pirate**
- **Lucky Door**
- **Money Boards**
- **Raffles**
- **Bring the family**
- **Lots of great prizes!**

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON  
WALKING BUS/STUDENT  
COUNCIL - 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
WILL ENJOY YOURS TOO!

INGS 49345120

**\*Bring a pie or tart to share**

for afternoon tea

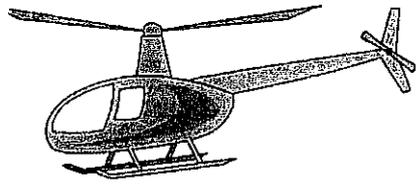


# **RIDGELANDS STATE SCHOOL**



## **Spring/Country Fair**

**11am Saturday Sep 5th 2015**



**Helicopter Lolly Drop (1pm)  
Drones Working Livestock Demo**

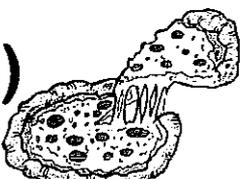
**Kids jumping castle, Inflatable Basketball Hoop, Horizontal bungee, Pirates Treasure Dig, Mechanical surf board & Face Painting (11am - 4.30pm)**

**Market Stalls: Craft, Wooden Toys, Jewellery, Linen, Cakes/Confectionery, LED products & more.**

**P&C Catering Food & Drinks, Tea & Coffee(11am - 4pm)**



**“Wood Fired Pizza” (5pm)**



**(1pm) Multi Draw Raffle, Fathers Day Raffle,**

**Wild Card Raffle & ( Special Auction 8:30pm )**

### **Mechanical Bull Ride Comp (6pm)**



**Juniors 11yrs under**

**Novice 12yrs - 16yrs**

**Seniors 17yrs - Open**

**“Okie Dokie Karaoke”**



**BAR OPEN 4pm - 12am**

