

# Around the Ridges

And a bit beyond

Issue 139

DECEMBER 2015 E: [aroundtheridges@hotmail.com](mailto:aroundtheridges@hotmail.com)

Fax 4934 5565 Phone 4934 1199

Another year has passed and we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Happy Holidays and a safe feastive season from all of us who put this newsletter together.  
A special Thank You to our regular sponsors - please support them as they support the community.

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## Christmas Party at Laurel Banks

Capricorn Wanderers held their Christmas Party weekend over 4 days at Laurel Banks Ski Gardens in late November. 46 people and 26 caravans or motor homes attended. They dressed up for the occasion (with much laughter) and had disc bowls and a sequence of games and quizzes to entertain themselves. Of course there was a lot of talking and socializing taking place. *(picture below supplied by Club)*



They would like to thank the wonderful people at the Ski Gardens for the lovely meal and helpful assistance they extended to the members. Should you like to know more about the Capricorn Wanderers phone the President Brian Keogh on 49281286

## The Ridglands Hall Committee held their Christmas Karaoke on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

### Thank you

Thanks to everyone for their attendance on the night and a special thanks to the volunteers for helping our committee members serve the meal and sell the tickets at the door.

Thanks to Denis Lindley for organising the auction and the donors for the items and the buyers for their participation. Thanks to the auctioneer for a job well done.

Thank you to Santa who just happened to drop in at the right time to give the presents to the children and a big thank you to the Karaoke participants for the entertainment they gave us all!

☺ I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

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## DRIVE CAREFULLY... IT'S NOT ONLY CARS THAT CAN BE RECALLED BY THEIR MAKER.

### **4 step Microwave Christmas Pudding Recipe** <http://www.taste.com.au/recipes/9870/christmas+pudding>

**Ingredients:** Melted butter, to grease ▮ 100g sultanas ▮ 100g raisins ▮ 100g dried pitted dates, chopped ▮ 100g dried whole dessert figs, chopped ▮ 50g dried apricots, chopped ▮ 50g glace cherries, chopped ▮ 50g mixed glace fruits (such as pineapple), chopped ▮ 125ml (1/2 cup) brandy ▮ 125g butter, softened ▮ 155g (3/4 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar ▮ 60ml (1/4 cup) golden syrup ▮ 2 eggs ▮ 125g good quality dark cooking chocolate, melted ▮ 160g (1/2 cup) canned pie apple ▮ 75g (1/2 cup) plain flour, sifted ▮ 55g (3/4 cup) fresh breadcrumbs (made from day-old bread) ▮ 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon ▮ 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg ▮ 1/2 teaspoon allspice ▮ 2 tablespoons brandy, extra, to serve

**Method:** **Step 1:** Brush a 1L (4-cup) capacity heatproof, microwave-safe pudding basin with melted butter to lightly grease.

**Step 2** Combine the sultanas, raisins, dates, figs, apricots, cherries and glace fruit in a glass or ceramic bowl. Place brandy in a heatproof, microwave-safe jug. Cover with plastic wrap and heat on High/800watts/100% for 1-2 minutes or until hot. Pour brandy over fruit mixture and stir to combine. Cover with plastic wrap and set aside, stirring occasionally, for 30 minutes to macerate.

**Step 3:** Use an electric beater to beat the butter, sugar and golden syrup in a large bowl until thick and pale. Add the eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the melted chocolate and fruit mixture, and stir until well combined. Add the apple, flour, breadcrumbs, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice, and stir until well combined.

**Step 4:** Spoon the mixture into the prepared basin. Cover with 2 layers of baking paper. Tie unwaxed white kitchen string under the rim of the basin to secure. Cook on Defrost/350watts/30% for 20-30 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre of the pudding comes out clean. Drizzle with extra brandy and set aside for 15 minutes. Turn pudding onto a plate and cut into slices to serve.

### **White Chocolate Crackle Trees.** (Makes 8 Prep 45 mins + 1 hour chilling time) Cooking 5 mins

**Ingredients** – 3 cups (105g) Rice bubbles, 1 cup (80g) desiccated coconut, ¼ cup (40g) gluten free icing sugar, 150g white chocolate, melted, extra 100's & 1000's to decorate, red and green mini M & M's to decorate.

**Method:** **Step 1** Cut 4 x 30cmsquares of baking paper. Halve diagonally to make 8 triangles. Shape into cones, staple to secure.

**Step 2** Combine rice bubbles, coconut and icing sugar in a large bowl. Place the chocolate and cophia in a heatproof bowl over a saucepan of simmering water. Stir with a metal spoon for 3 mins or until chocolate melts and mixture is smooth. Add to rice bubble mixture and stir to combine. Spoon evenly among prepared cones and use the back of a spoon to press lightly. Place on a baking tray in the fridge for 1 hour or until firm.

**Step 3** Remove paper cones from chocolate crackles. Stand on a baking tray. Drizzle cones with extra melted chocolate. Sprinkle with 100's and 1000's. Dip mini M&M's in extra chocolate and arrange on cone. Set aside to set.

**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.

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22 Sheehan Road Alton Downs QLD

Email: [enginecentre@dodo.com.au](mailto:enginecentre@dodo.com.au)

Telephone: 0749 341473

Mobile: 0438 341473

## A STRESS Reminder

A young lady confidently walked around the room while leading and explaining stress management to an audience with a raised glass of water. Everyone knew she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?'... She fooled them all .... "How heavy is this glass of water?" she inquired with a smile. Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. To 20 oz.

She replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm.

If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an Ambulance.

In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

She continued, "and that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on."

"As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again.

When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced. So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down.

*Don't carry them through the evening and into the night... Pick them up tomorrow."*

Many people in our community do their best to help others here are 2 we would like to say good job!

**Thank you Andy** for maintaining the Electronic sign on Ridglands Rd and for maintaining the Fitzroy Ridges webpage: <http://fitzroyridges.com.au/community.php>

**Thank you also to the conveners** of the Facebook pages Alton Downs/Ridglands and Surrounding Areas Noticeboard which has located lost animals and informed us fires etc

**What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?**

A Holly Davidson!

**What is the best Christmas present in the world?**

A broken drum, you just can't beat it!

**Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas?**

Santa Jaws

**What's the most popular Christmas wine?**

'I don't like Brussels sprouts!'

**What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?**

Stick with me and we'll go places!

**How did Mary n Joseph know that Jesus was 7lb 6oz when he was born?** They had a weigh in a manger!

# What's Happening this Month?

## Notices

On the main road to Mombasa,  
leaving Nairobi:

TAKE NOTICE: WHEN THIS SIGN IS  
UNDER WATER, THIS ROAD IS  
IMPASSABLE. ☺

### 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.

### Ridgeland's & District Sporting & Agricultural Assn 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** 10<sup>th</sup>  
February 2016.

Australia Day Celebrations  
will be at Alton Downs  
Polocrosse and Sports club  
from 3pm 26 January 2016

### 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.

***Around the Ridgeland's  
newsletter committee would  
like to thank Big Colour Works  
for printing our newsletter  
every second month for free. If  
you need something printed,  
please support Big Colour  
Works.***

☺ All the toilets  
in Rockhampton's police  
stations have been stolen. The  
police have nothing to go on.

## Community Notices

AVON Melissa Frankish  
49345984/ 0429789008



shop.avon.com.au/store/altondowns  
district.

## 2016 Date Claimers

The Ridgeland's Branch of CWA would  
like to let everyone know that a  
representative from the Parkinson's  
disease group will give a talk at their  
meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. All are  
welcome to come along. The  
meeting will start at 9.30 a.m.

**2016 DANCES** at the Alton Downs  
Hall on the Friday the **29th January**  
**2016, 29th April, 29th July** and **30**  
**September** Music by Gary Stickley  
Raffles. Novelty Prizes and Supper.

**Cent Sale** at the Alton Downs Hall on  
Saturday 16th April at 2pm Good  
Prizes and Afternoon Tea.

**Cancer Afternoon Tea** and raffles on  
the 21st August at Hilary  
Chippendale's home.

1<sup>st</sup> May QCWA Ridgeland's Branch  
**Mother's Day Afternoon Tea**

.....  
*Welcome to all our new residents.  
Come to Australia Day*

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

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

**Free disposal of Green Waste at  
Alton Downs.**

*Broken pencils are pointless ☺*

## Celebrations

**Happy Birthday** to all the residents  
in our community who are having a  
birthday in December and January:-



Dawn Gorle  
Shardaii Thompson  
Andrew Clarke  
Andrew Hunt  
Stephaine Ruddick  
Jacqueline Fossett  
Robyn Edmestone.

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☺ How does Moses make  
tea? Hebrews it

Sign in a **Cocktail lounge, Norway:**  
**LADIES ARE REQUESTED NOT TO HAVE  
CHILDREN IN THE BAR.**

**Sign in the lobby of a Moscow Hotel,  
across from a Russian Orthodox  
Monastery:**

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE  
CEMETERY, WHERE FAMOUS RUSSIAN  
AND SOVIET COMPOSERS, ARTISTS AND  
WRITERS ARE BURIED DAILY, EXCEPT  
THURSDAY.**

# **Our Garden Shed**

## **Small Motor Repairs**

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TIME TO  
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# shave to save



## a farmer

Our local lads have been growing their hair and are now looking for your support to help raise funds for our rural farmers. Please come along and assist in raising as much money as possible for our farmers.

**SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**RIDGELANDS SHOW GROUNDS**

**4.30pm till late**

Fun activities   Multi-draw raffle   BBQ & Bar   Head Shaving   Music

If you would like to join in and shave your head, sponsor one of the boys or just make a kind donation please call

Stewart: 0749 356616

Diane: 0749 341192

Leonie: 0749 345587