

Around the Ridges

And a bit beyond

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Around the Ridges and a Bit Beyond is a community and school newsletter.

It is produced monthly, and is funded through sponsorship and advertising. Advertising for special events must be submitted two months in advance. PLEASE TELL US YOUR STORIES! We want to hear them!!!!

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, please send all material in by the 11th of every month

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE



**APRIL 25TH AT 4.28 A.M.
ALTON DOWNS HALL
FOLLOWED BY GUN FIRE BREAKFAST.**

Anzac Day goes beyond the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915. It is the day on which we remember all Australians who served and died in war and on operational service. The spirit of Anzac, with its qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity.

The Crosses by Bill Mitton

I stood there before the crosses
glowing white in row on row
Everyone a young life cut short
as the names upon them show.

The dates they died below the names
tell of wars now past and gone
Passchendaele, the Somme, and Mons
of battles fought, and lost or won.

History remembers, as it should
these men who fought and died
Whilst for their families left behind
a dull sorrow tinged with pride.

The faces of boys held now in Sepia
who died in days long gone
yet living on in memories
and hearts, still holding on.

Yet despite the hurt and grief here
what with horror makes me fill
Is that when I look behind me
there are more new crosses growing still.

For the Gardener – Seven Autumn gardening tips:-

- Mulch For Your Garden. Mulch is your garden's best friend. ...
- Fertilise Your Lawn. Fertilising your lawn will ensure that it stays green and healthy throughout the year. ...
- Prune Trees. ...
- Plant Bulbs. ...
- Build a Garden Bed. ...
- Plant Fruit Trees. ...
- Make Your Own Compost.

RECIPE CORNER

EASTER ICE CREAM

600mls cream
1x395gms can condensed milk
Vanilla essence
Quantity of smashed Easter eggs
(Chocolate or Sugar)



Method:

Prepare a loaf pan or a bowl that is easy to Scoop out of.
Place in freezer until you need it
In a bowl add cream, condensed milk and vanilla.
Using an electric beater, whisk together until soft peaks form.
The mixture should be slightly thickened.
Next add the Easter egg chips to the mixture.
Spoon into pan or bowl, cover with lid or alfoil.
Place into freezer for 3-5 hours.

The Real Reasons We Use Bunnies & Eggs To Celebrate Easter

Many of us will be tucking into chocolate eggs this Easter long weekend, completely unaware of the relevance of the bunny, the chocolate and painted eggs.

We all know that eggs are a symbol of new life -- meaningful in the Christian celebration of Christ's resurrection -- but when it comes to chocolate, rabbits and the actual date of Easter, the real reasons behind the tradition are not facts carried over from childhood to adulthood. So when you're licking your chocolate coated fingers this Easter, spare a thought for the real reasons behind the age-old tradition. Hint: there is no such thing as the Easter Bunny. (It was originally a Hare!)

Professor Carole Cusak from University of Sydney Department of Studies in Religion told The Huffington Post Australia eggs became associated with the Paschal feast in the early Christian era.

"In spring, eggs were an eloquent explanation of the Resurrection; after the chill of the winter months, nature was coming to life again. In the Middle Ages it was a special treat to eat decorated eggs after Mass on Easter Sunday, after fasting through Lent. The chocolate eggs that we delight in today began to be manufactured in the nineteenth century," Professor Cusak said.

"Eggs related to fertility. In Germany, they used to bury painted eggs for treasure hunts and because hares are often seen in gardens in Spring, folklore said the hares hid the eggs for children to find. The first association of the rabbit with Easter is a mention of the 'Easter hare' in Germany. Hares or rabbits are associated with Easter because they are reputed to breed rapidly -- a life-affirming thing.

There's a good explanation for why the date we celebrate Easter is different every year -- it has to do with the fact that for the early church, Easter was a matter of connecting a Lunar and Solar calendar and that's still how the reckoning is done today.

"The Greek and Russian Orthodox churches work it out differently but for us it works like this: when Jesus is actually crucified and dies and then rises on the Sunday, the supper he has on holy Thursday is connected to Passover," Professor Cusak said. "In the New Testament it says it's the Passover season. Passover is the feast in the book of Exodus when then Israelites are told to have a meal and smear blood on their doorsteps. The angel of God comes by each house and kills the first born of all the Egyptians, but spares the Israelites. So it's a story about death and life. And what happens is that Pharaoh is so grieved he tells the Israelites they can leave Egypt and go to the holy land. They are no longer his slaves. It's very important as it becomes one of the major feasts of the Jewish religious year and it's a special meal people eat together." (Exodus 11. 1-10)



***To all our readers, we would like to wish everyone a
Happy and Safe Easter.***

To the residents of Alton Downs and surrounding district.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself (to those who don't already know me) ; my name is Wayne Boon , I have been a resident of Alton Downs for 16 years now , so not yet a local , but I consider myself as one .

Two years ago I started up my own business manufacturing security screens and doors from home (Boonys Screens). I had worked for a local company in town for 14 years where I learnt the trade . As luck would have it , a contract glazier followed me and supplies me with the bulk of my work , which has helped considerably to build my business .

Last month I acquired a license to manufacture Crimsafe products which is a great boost to our community and to me of course . So for all your home security needs from fly screens , security screens and doors , glass sliding doors and glass replacement , patio enclosures and Crimsafe screens and doors , which offer up to 15 years warrantee , please don't hesitate to call me or my lovely wife Tracey for a free measure and quote , you'll find me very reasonably priced and fast friendly service . My mobile number is 0421273391 ; Home 49341032 ; Email wboonyscreens@gmail.com

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Community Update

Events

Alton Downs Hall Assoc
upcoming events:-
Dance | 7.30pm | 31 March
Cent Sale | 7.30pm | 22 April
Card Night | 7.30pm | 20 May
Come along and meet your neighbours and have some fun.

Community Notices

Stitch and Chat Group
Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month starting at 9.30 a.m. QCWA room. All welcome
Phone 4934 5145.

Ridgelands & District Sporting & Agricultural Asscn Inc.
Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Ridgelands Show grounds. Next meeting 12th April.

QCWA Ridgelands Branch Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday every month, commencing at 9.30 a.m.
Contact Joyce 4934 5120.

The QCWA will be holding a Mother's Day afternoon tea on Sunday 7 May at 1.30 p.m. at the Ridgelands Hall. Delicious afternoon tea.

QCWA Ridgelands Branch will be holding an Afternoon Tea and multi draw raffle on Sunday 10 September at 1.30 p.m. in aid of the Capricorn Helicopter Service. Please support this most worthy cause.

Have you planted your giant pumpkins for the pumpkin completion at the Ridgelands Show on the 3 June.
1st prize \$100.00

Community Notices

Alton Downs Dump Hours
September to June
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday
3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

RIDGELANDS CAMPDRAFT
14 - 16 APRIL

Ridgelands Showgrounds

More info:

Belinda Ellrot 4934 5131



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BIG COLOUR WORKS

sponsors the printing of *Around the Ridges* every second month for free. Please support them when you can.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to all the residents in our community who are having a birthday in March:-

- Jenny Reeve
- Jill Fry
- Katie Bull
- Jenny Dendle
- Alex Reid
- Peter Hunt
- Casey Laver
- Alison Alick
- Keallan Thompson.



School Holiday Activities
Archer Park Rail Museum
Lots to do for the kids – Tram Rides, colour in table, block mat for the toddlers, Find the Answer - Questionnaires for the older kids, knockems – win a chocolate frog. Morning tea and hot food. Tour guides to tell the stories of how the Morse Code, Electric Staff's work.
DATE: Wednesday 12th April
TIME: 10am – 1pm
COST: \$8.50 for entry children with one adult free. \$5.80 for extra adults.

Grant

Christoff

Landscaping

Need work done?
All aspects of landscaping including retainer walls, paving, irrigation, turfing, fencing and entertainment areas. Ph: 0419 179 839
BSA: 1080766



Useless Information

The most common invention of the 19th century was the washing machine. Between 1804 and 1873, at least 1676 patents were issued by the United States Patent Office for various forms of this device.

A little History for you.....

1880. In The Morning Bulletin (TMB) May 8, *'the formation of the **Pandora Sugar Company** is proceeding somewhat slowly, though, we believe, surely. About 4400 shares have been applied for and deposits have been paid upon half this number. Rapid progress is being made with the Fitzroy Bridge. There are at present fifty two men engaged on the work. The fitters and others are busily employed in placing the chains in position prior to their suspension across the river. The land chains from the abutments to the saddles of the piers on both sides of the river are connected.'* In 1880 the **first telephone** exchange opened in Melbourne.

1884 A short-lived plantation and mill at **Pandora**, Alton Downs (Pandora Mill), and another (Cawarral Sugar Company) at Cawarral, had failed with the price crash of 1884. Pandora Mill was semi-mechanised and had been the only new mill having a 'concretor' for crystallisation. *Pacific Island Labourers Act Amendment Act 1884* (Qld) meant that from then, the Islanders were to be limited to field-work in tropical agriculture, removing them from working in sugar mills, the pastoral and maritime industries, and effectively limiting them to the coast. There was a full exemption from this clause for all Islanders who had arrived in Queensland before 1 September 1879. This affected the Sugar Mill profits as the indentured labour force received low wages.

1st January 1901 Australia's six former British colonies combine in a national federation –**Commonwealth of Australia** and Edmund Barton is the first Prime Minister. The first national general election is held in March 1901. Pacific Islands Labour Act stopped most use of Islander (Kanaka) labour - a precursor to the 'White Australia Policy'.

1902 Australia's Federal Government takes control of the colonial armed forces and creates an Australian Army of mainly part time volunteer militia. The **Alton Downs Cemetery Trust** was formed.

1906 The First Burial was conducted at the Alton Downs Cemetery. In February 1906 Albert Handley was buried there. It cost 10 shillings for a burial site. The Church Gazette of December 1906 reported, as part of the life of St Paul's Cathedral Parish and under the heading "Alton Downs", that the Rector, Archdeacon George Halford spent time assessing the need for a Church. He opened a building fund for the building of churches in Stanwell and Alton Downs. A piece of land was donated by Mr Campbell Murray at '*Fitzroy Park*' (near Hunt Rd). On January 20th **1907**, the foundation block of the newly named **St. James Church** at Alton Downs was laid by Mrs Campbell (Mary) Murray, of '*Fitzroy Park*'. The church was built in less than 8 weeks. The first service was held on the 17th March 1907 and services were held monthly.

1911 William "Billy" Hart made his **first solo airplane flight** on the 3 November, and on 4 November he undertook an historic flight from Penrith to land in Parramatta Park in New South Wales, one of the earliest and longest flights. 16 November 1911 Billy Hart completed flying tests conducted by the Aerial League of Australia. He was presented with *Australian Aviator's Licence Number One* and became the first qualified pilot in the country. He followed this achievement with a remarkable 47 mile (76 km) flight from Penrith via St Mary's to Sydney,

1913 Australian Flying Corp was established as a branch of the Army. CFS was inaugurated at Point Cook, Victoria, in March 1913. In May the **first wedding** to be held in the new St James Church was that of Miss Marion Murray, daughter of Mr Campbell and Mary Murray, as she married Mr William Orr.

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