Funds Needed for New Main Ridge Fire Station

Main Ridge Fire Brigade is getting close to resolving issues surrounding the building of a new fire station.

Brigade Captain, Ian Troutbeck said the new station is on the State Government’s Rural Fire Station program with funds available to build a new two-bay fire station at Main Ridge in the coming financial year, 2013/14.

The existing fire station is more than 40 years old and has been falling short of meeting requirements for some time. The brigade is currently considering alternative sites for the new station.

“A new site is preferred,” Ian said. “On the present site we have to back the trucks in from the road so for several months we have been working towards finding an alternative site.”

The other challenge facing the Brigade is raising $100,000 so that the new station can house its three trucks. This is because the brigade is officially a two-truck station and the brigade is required to fund any additions above the CFA’s standard two-truck build and fit-out.

“The CFA has supplied one fire truck here. The brigade itself has met the cost of providing a second and third vehicle – a big fill and a hose laying utility – so we need a three-bay station to accommodate three vehicles,” Ian said.

“In response to letters sent out to local residents we have already raised around $20,000. We only have about 750 residents in Main Ridge but we feel confident that over time we can raise this amount in our community. We’ve had a relatively good summer as far as major fires are concerned but people living in this community are not complacent. They are very conscious of the threat of bushfire and they know the importance of having a well equipped and well housed brigade,” he said.

Last summer was the hottest and driest since 2009 and the brigade’s 22 members responded to fires in Main Ridge, Gippsland and Victorian alpine areas.

Brigade leaders are happy to discuss plans for the new station – call Ian Troutbeck 5989 6055 or Graeme Flockart 5986 3636.

Donations can be sent to Main Ridge CFA, c/- 286 Barkers Road, Main Ridge, 3928. All donations over $2 are tax deductible.

Anxiety About Arthurs Seat Tip Is Growing

Nearly 500 concerned residents attended a public protest meeting at Dromana about the proposed Arthurs Seat rubbish tip on Saturday, June 8.

Organised by the Peninsula Preservation Group a number of speakers addressed the meeting on key issues and a motion opposing the tip was carried unanimously by the meeting.

A report on the meeting is on page 4 together with a response elicited from Peninsula Waste Management on the key issues raised at the meeting.
Ray Holmes, a native of Red Hill, retired as Victoria’s Surveyor General in 1988. He is a classic example of a man who applied a lifetime of accumulated skills and experience to provide him with a unique adventure and a significant accomplishment in his retirement years. Ray is one of the several pioneer Holmes families in Red Hill and he’s now living here again in his retirement.

RAY HOLMES: HIS DISCOVERY OF THE BURKE AND WILLS PLANT CAMP

Ray Holmes worked out that the navigational equipment and other items buried by explorers Burke and Wills in 1861, just days before they perished in Central Australia, were not in the exact spot they had been buried because they had been washed down a creek bed to a site about 4 kms from the original burial site.

Ray and members of his family spent many days in several separate stints using a metal detector before they found the buried items in 2008. The artefacts found included a brass case with a spirit level used by William Wills, the navigator for the exploration party, a pair of scissors, a darning needle, a horseshoe which Ray is sure came from the hoof of Burke’s horse ‘Billy’, rifle and revolver shells and some brass hinges and screws.

Now 85, this former Surveyor General of Victoria from 1979 to 1988 can articulate a detailed account of the exploration undertaken by Robert Burke and William Wills.

The imperative for the Burke and Wills exploration was an area of unclaimed land in then unexplored country, now part of western Queensland. There was intense competition to claim this land. Burke and Wills, Victorians, were pressed into urgent service in 1860 in order to beat a South Australian party led by explorer John McDouall Stuart to explore Australia from south to north following 140 degrees longitude which cut through the unclaimed land.

The Burke and Wills party set out from Melbourne with 26 camels, 23 horses and 19 men with 20 tons of supplies and 6 tons of firewood. Along the way Burke broke the group up and established advance parties and left small groups behind to follow up with the gear. Burke, in Ray’s view not a good leader, made the mistake of travelling 7 days a week, whereas explorers generally rested their men and their animals on a Sunday. Burke, with a small party, got to the tidal area of the Gulf of Carpentaria but could not get through the mangroves. They blazed trees with camp numbers on the journey and Camp 119 was the camp furthest north. Despite criticism of Wills, Ray believes he was a meticulous surveyor. He kept the party on track and he (not Burke) kept the daily diary. He must have spent many hours each day and night taking his readings including using the discovered spirit level to help create an artificial horizon and then using a sextant and chronometer, to work out latitude and longitude.

On the return journey the explorers relied mainly on dried camel meat and a green leaf plant called port shellac. They also ate a native plant called ‘Nardoo’ which was filling but unless prepared properly lacked nutritional value.

When yet another camel died Burke gave the order “to leave behind everything but the grub and just what we carry on our backs”. Wills, no doubt reluctantly, buried his navigational instruments at Camp 46R (R for Return) and from there on no observations could be made. Failing to connect with their support party Burke and Wills both perished soon after and John King was the only one of the party to survive, later found being cared for by an aboriginal tribe.

Ray Holmes started his own exploration nearly 150 years later – searching for ‘Plant Camp’, where the navigational equipment and other items were buried. Using his knowledge of river flows, gained from 30 years experience with Victoria’s State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, and a metal detector, Ray Holmes, assisted by family members, found a number of items including the Wills spirit level in its case buried in riverbed mud on a Kidman pastoral property in far south-west Queensland. The items were later gifted to the State Library of Victoria. Ray Holmes showed extraordinary persistence and skill in completing his own exploration. - RB.
RED HILL BUTCHER MOVES AND GOES ‘GREEN’

The butcher’s shop at Centrepoint had been there for six years, owned by Brad and Tracey O’Malley, with Brian Laidlaw there as manager for five years.

The decor of the new shop could be described as ‘boutique’, with its modern hanging lights and shadow boxes on the back wall displaying olive oil, vinegar, chopping boards and of course featuring the National Sausage King trophy cup they won in 2011 for the best sausages in the Australian Meat Industry Council’s Australia-wide competition.

“We’ve also changed all our suppliers to convert to hormone free and chemical free products,” Brian said.

“We now have Tasmanian grass fed, hormone free beef, pasture fed lamb, Otway free range pork, Bannockburn free range poultry, King Island beef and certified OBE organic beef.”

“We moved our smokehouse oven from the other shop and all of our small goods are now low nitrate, low salt products,” he added. “Fish comes from Clamms Seafood.”

The new shop is bigger and it provides space for display of refrigerated products and a comfortable space for customers.

“This is a better environment, we have a fresh outlook working in a clean, new shop and I’m glad to say our customers have followed us here,” Brian said.

To top it off they’ve changed the name from Red Hill Gourmet Meats to Red Hill Free Range Meats. “In other words, as some people say, we’ve gone green,” Brian quips.

The Red Hill butcher was given a wrap-up in The Age Epicure on May 25, nominated as one of the six ‘must visit’ places in Red Hill. It read: “Tracey and Brad O’Malley, butchers famed for their Bloke’s Banger, have moved to a little shop opposite the Red Hill School and gone a tad upmarket. ‘We specialise in grass-fed and free-range meats’ says Tracey. ‘Grass-fed beef, for example, tastes so much better, plus we couldn’t stand the way cattle in feed lots were cramped in and force-fed.’ Their smoked ham and bacon is worth trying, and their sausages, including their gluten-free range, are excellent.”

The meat obviously suits Tony Barber, a resident of Flinders who was the long-time host of TV show ‘Sale of the Century’. He came into the shop for his weekly supplies while I was talking to Brian, closely followed by the chef from Johnny Ripe who wanted some beef trim to make their popular pies. As well as having good meat the shop is certainly a place to meet the locals.

— RB.

DAVID JARMAN
AWARDED AN OAM

David Jarmar, former long-serving councillor with Monrington Peninsula Shire Council was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the recent Queen’s Birthday honours list for his service to the community, both locally and internationally. He has been a member of the Dromana Rotary Club since 1972 and vice president since 2011. He has helped build homes for the underprivileged in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea and been involved with St John’s Anglican Church in Flinders. A member of Flinders Golf Club, he was president from 2004 to 2009.

LOCAL WALKS

Although the hinterland has more walks than you can poke a stick at, it is quite clear that some people, for reasons of their own would prefer to walk on tracks that are exposed to the road eg. the relatively new walking path from Shoreham Road to the Red Hill Consolidated School is used more by lone walkers than say the equestrian trail.

I believe the Arthurs Seat track should be continued all the way to Arthurs Seat, but recommencing on the other side of the road at the school intersection.

A sealed walking path from the Glass Blowers in Red Hill Road all the way to Shoreham beach would also be a great asset to the area. If the magic wand could still be waved, tracks along Monrington Flinders Road and Main Creek Road with an adjoining track along Shands road would almost complete the picture.

One of the most delightful walks in the area is along Mc Ilroys Road. There is very little traffic along this road and great at this time of the year as there is no dust when the occasional car does pass. There have been in the past tracks that wind in and out along the road side formed by horses but most have overgrown.

A McIlroys Road track connecting tracks along the Red Hill Road and Whitehill Road would form a marvelous circuit from the Post Office. The Bald Hill Nature Reserve in Bowrings Lane could be accessed and alternatives routes along Sheehans and Arkwells Lane would help to form a safe walking path.

Happy walking

Michael Leeworthy

Red Hill Spring Garden Festival ‘Grow for Life’

The Red Hill Gardening Society is in full swing planning our next Spring Garden festival. This will be our second year, so if you missed us last year come along; if you visited us, please come back we will have more stallholders and an even larger flower show.

Adults $5, children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult.

Come along to be inspired by a traditional Flower Show and the Expert Information Sessions. Indulge in the specialist nursery and garden services stalls.

Meet our special guest, Millie Ross, author of ‘The Thrifty Gardener’.

Free children’s activities. Don’t forget to check us out on Facebook and Pinterest as well.

Red Hill Recreation Reserve (Showgrounds)
Arthurs Seat Rd, Red Hill VIC 3937
Saturday 14 September 2013
10am – 4pm
If you are interested in exhibiting you can visit the website www.rhgs.com.au or phone 5981 0338 for further information.

H I L L ’ N ’ R I D G E

Hands Up for Lions!
PUBLIC MEETING TURNS UP THE HEAT ON TIP PROPOSAL

“The Ross Trust should hang its head in shame.”

This comment by a speaker at the tip protest meeting on Saturday, June 8, drew loud applause. Sadly, this previously highly respected charitable trust, once admired for its generosity to the community, is now attracting community derision.

Nearly 500 concerned residents attended the meeting called by the Peninsula Preservation Group and packed the Dromana Community Hall to overflowing. Chaired by Lee Burton, Secretary of the Group, an array of speakers outlined concerns about the proposed rubbish tip at Arthurs Seat.

At the end of the meeting a motion rejecting the landfill was put by Red Hill resident, Professor John Stanley. It called on the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and the Environment Protection Authority to reject the granting of planning approval and works approval and was carried unanimously.

Another suggestion was that the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council should conduct a plebiscite on the tip proposal.

Proponents for the tip, Peninsula Waste Management Pty. Ltd., a subsidiary of the Ross Trust, have made applications to the Council and the EPA seeking approval for the tip. The EPA has advertised the works approval application and those attending the meeting were encouraged to lodge objections with the EPA by the closing date of June 19 and to call on the EPA to convene a meeting of objectors to provide more information and explanations. The EPA is scheduled to make its decision in September.

At the time of the meeting the Council had not advertised the planning application and it is understood that Council consideration of the application is still a couple of months away.

Strategically this protest meeting was well timed. The Peninsula Preservation Group knows that ‘making noise’ is important, but it is not enough. Strong argument countering the opinions of experts on issues such as fire, groundwater, odor noise traffic movements and flora and fauna is also required. Several speakers identified weaknesses and deficiencies in the claims made by the proponents and their experts. For most people in attendance this was their first exposure to alternative information on some of the key issues.

On the ‘noise’ front it was reported that there are now over 10,000 signatures on a petition opposing the tip. The Peninsula Preservation Group (PPG) has 16,000 supporters and generous donations are being made to fund their campaign.

Influential bodies, Get Up and Peninsula Speaks are also backing the PPG.

For those residents who spend their summers worrying about the threat of bushfires one of the most frightening points was made by Dr Janet Stanley, Chief Research Officer at the Monash Sustainability Institute at Monash University, who has studied bushfires and arson.

“With a tip in this location, the fire risk in this area will double,” she announced.

“Tip fires often emit dangerous chemical fumes and can be difficult to extinguish. A fire in the tip could travel rapidly up the north facing slope through the neighbouring State park to the Red Hill Consolidated School, endangering the lives of children and staff.”

Dr Mark Fancett, Vice President of the PPG, addressed groundwater contamination. He said the site was in breach of EPA Guidelines, which state that new landfills must deposit wastes at least 2 metres above groundwater.

“This quarry lays 25 metres below groundwater. The groundwater supports many households and businesses including vineyards, orchards and stock,” he said.

He said that manufacturers of tip liners concede that even the most modern, state-of-the-art liners can fail and leak, hence the need to site landfills well above groundwater.

He has assessed that up to 50,000 litres of water would need to be pumped daily into Sheepwash Creek for the lifetime of the tip and decades beyond. Sheepwash Creek runs into Port Phillip Bay.

Arguably the most worried man to speak at the meeting was Andrew Duncan, a grazier who fattens cattle on a 100-hectare property with Sheepwash Creek running through it. His cattle drink from this creek and he simply does not believe Peninsula Waste Management when they say that leachate will never be discharged to any creek.

Mary Karamitsios, PPG’s Communications Officer, addressed the question of need and alternatives. She claimed that 70% of the rubbish going into the Arthurs Seat tip would be imported from other municipalities and she asked why the tip at Hampton Park, just 50 kms away, could not be used as it has capacity up to 2040. On the question of availability of tipping space Mary cited the Melbourne Metropolitan Landfill Schedule:

“the geology, hydrogeology and patterns of development in metropolitan Melbourne are such that there is a relative abundance of sites that could be suitable for development of (future) landfills. Furthermore, the extraction rate from metro Melbourne quarries is creating space about 6 times faster than it is being filled.”

“Yet we are being told that a rubbish tip within a protected State Park - in peaceful bush surrounds, overlooking the bay, neighbouring wineries, orchards, cafes, cherry farms, Arthurs Seat chairlift, our townships, in a region attracting many tourists – is necessary,” she said.

The only politician at the meeting was local councillor, Graham Pittoc. He did not speak, except to say from the back of the hall that he had to consider the proposal objectively, his reason for abstaining from voting on the rejection motion at the end of the meeting.

Some politically astute residents see local Federal MP, Greg Hunt as their main hope to head this proposal off. Given his sensitivity to environmental issues and as the only politician facing the people in the immediate future they believe he will see that this proposal is ill conceived and be very aware that his stance on it could sway voters on September 14.

When contacted by Hill ‘n’ Ridge to state his position on the issue Greg...
Hunt revealed that he is currently actively involved as a facilitator between the parties.  
“I have written to the Council as a matter of urgency on this issue as well as having approached both the proponents and the State. I have also met with the opponents and arranged for them to meet with the proponents who had been blocking any meeting,” he said.  
One questioner at the meeting asked whether the Mornington Peninsula Council had considered buying the site. This may well turn out to be an idea to be seriously considered by a Council that is caught up in a very difficult situation. If the Council bought it and developed it as a recreational garden and lake, as had once been proposed, they might be community heroes, at least in this part of the Shire. – RB.

CANADA’S BUTCHART GARDENS GIVE MODEL

The Butchart Gardens on Vancouver Island in Canada provide an excellent model of what can be done with a disused quarry.  
Nat and Rosalie White from Main Ridge Estate visited the Gardens last year and discovered something of its history. According to research by the Whites the Butchart Gardens were developed on a former limestone quarry. The stone from the quarry was used to build the city of Victoria on Vancouver Island in the late 1800’s. Jennie Butchart, wife of the industrialist who had profited from the quarry, ashamed of the devastation left behind, decided to establish a garden, much the same as the late Roy Ross stipulated for the future of the Ross Trust quarry in Dromana.  
Today the Butchart Gardens are one of Canada’s greatest draw-cards, attracting over one million visitors each year. Interestingly it was Jennie Butchart’s grandson, R. Ian Ross who developed the Gardens into a world attraction, building them up after they had fallen into neglect during the Second World War.  
“Like our disused quarry in Dromana, there is a State forest and sea on its boundaries, allowing access by road or ferry. Of course, an Australian garden would not mimic a Canadian garden. It is the concept which is inspirational,” Rosalie White said.  
The Queen Elizabeth Park in Vancouver is another example of a quarry transformed into a park.  
“Even the idea of philanthropic involvement from Passionate Peninsula People seems entirely possible, whereas support for a tip seems entirely impossible,” Rosalie added.  
Landfill need is assessed by the Regional Waste Management Group. It

Hill ‘n’ Ridge invited Peninsula Waste Management to respond to the three main concerns raised at the public meeting – need, groundwater and fire risks. David Maltby, PWM’s landfill consultant, provided the following explanations.

RESPONSE ON TIP NEED, GROUNDWATER AND FIRE RISKS

has long been considered that the Dromana site is required as a replacement for Rye when Rye is full. While there is a relative abundance of landfill space in the west of Melbourne, on the east side of Melbourne putrescible landfill space is becoming increasingly scarce. There appears to be confusion about the capacity of the Hallam site and the duration of the planning permit. It is correct that Hallam has a planning permit that allows operation until 2040, however, the capacity of the Hallam site is finite. The Metropolitan Waste Management Plan shows that there is a landfill airspace need in the East of 740,000 tonnes per annum. Two putrescible landfills in Clayton (TPI Fraser Rd, and Clayton Regional Landfill) will close within the next two years and the only other site Hallam (Hampton Park) would fill in 5 to 10 years if it were to take waste currently going to the Clayton sites. This is without the additional waste that would have to come from the Peninsula. Without a replacement site for Rye, waste will ultimately have to be transported to the west to sites such as Werribee. This means more trucks going through the already overcrowded Domain Tunnel. This is clearly not acceptable from a cost, environmental and social perspective if there is a suitable site on the Peninsula for our waste. The Dromana site has the necessary attributes for a site to accept municipal waste. It is unreasonable to expect the West to be the destination for all of our waste. The fact that it is proposed that some waste may come from an adjoining municipality such as Frankston is required to keep the cost to operate the site at a reasonable level. I disagree with the proposition being put by opponents to our site that it not OK to accept waste from Frankston but perfectly OK to send all the waste to the West. Also, if wastes never crossed municipal boundaries then every municipality would have its own landfill. Groundwater is being raised as an issue by opponents to this proposal. Opponents have stated that the site is in breach of EPA Guidelines as it is partially below the watertable. The EPA Guidelines state: “All new landfills must deposit waste at least two metres above the long-term undisturbed depth to groundwater, unless the operator satisfies EPA Victoria that sufficient additional design and management practices will be implemented and EPA determines that regional circumstances exist that warrant the new landfill.” Clearly the site is not in breach of the EPA Guidelines as the site is the only site that meets EPA siting criteria and the site design includes substantial additional engineering measures.

The EPA Guidelines also require that the lining system achieve the following: “To maintain groundwater quality as close as practicable to background levels.”

To achieve this it stipulates a number of engineering controls. The proposed lining system for this site meets, or exceeds all of the engineering controls contained in the guideline. A risk assessment was also undertaken that evaluates the potential impact on groundwater assuming that there are defects in the membrane liner. This assessment shows that even with a defective membrane liner the clay liner would still meet the requirement of maintaining background levels for groundwater. The design and assessment reports are large and detailed and we are confident that they will meet the requirement for the protection of groundwater as well as Sheepwash Creek. That does not mean that all the opponents to the site will share our confidence. That is their right to have a different opinion and that is why we have an independent process to assess the merit of both our proposal and objections to our proposal.

The risk from fire is often stated as a reason to not have a landfill at this site. The risks from fire at this site have been assessed in a report by experts in this field. They have concluded that this proposal does not pose an unacceptable risk. We stand by the opinion of our experts. It should be noted that according to statements made by opponents in letters to The Age and other forums there will be an exposed flame from the landfill gas flare. This is incorrect; there will be no open flame. The landfill gas flare is a back up to the gas generator and all combustion occurs within the combustion chamber with no naked flame.

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a for a local bushfire ‘safer place’
a to keep the Green Wedge green
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redhillcommunityaction@gmail.com

LANDCARE EVENT
What – Landcare computerised farm mapping workshop
Where – Rosebud Shire Offices
When – Friday 19th July and Friday 26th
July 9.30 am – 2.30 pm
Cost – $50 includes materials
To register: Jacqueline.salter@mornpen.vic.gov.au

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5989 0599
In Hill ‘n’Ridge issue number 26, I presented some introductory words about Permaculture. Food Forests incorporate many of the Permaculture Design Principles as determined through the observation of nature. A forest requires no human maintenance and no inputs of fossil fuel energy, pesticides, herbicides or fertilisers to create an abundance of life. By modelling our edible and medicinal gardens on the principles of a forest, we too can also have low maintenance, low input gardens – gardens with all the diversity, resilience and beauty of natural systems! A ‘food forest’ is a system of gardening using a diversity of mostly perennial (long-lived species, as opposed to annual vegetables) chosen and arranged such as they compliment and support each other, minimising weeds, pests and maintenance while providing a rich variety of harvests. Fruit trees are the centrepieces, the framework, of the food forest. You can further stack the system out with a variety of other food and support plants at different heights. They should be arranged in such a way that they complement each others’ needs. Let’s start from the canopy and move down with some suggested species for the back yard.

Trees. The canopy of the food forest is usually the fruit trees. Often in the Victorian climate these are best deciduous, allowing winter light through to layers below. Evergreen trees might be included too, but kept small or at the southern borders of the area. Large Shrub/Small Tree Layer. Wild forests almost always include nitrogen-fixing species which will improve the soil, we can add suitable acacias for this purpose, for other large shrub/small tree layers we can add some shade tolerant food producing plants such as tamarillos, elderberries, hazelnuts and plums (the latter kept small by pruning).

Shrub Layer At the shrub layer some suitable herbs and companion plants include wormwood, southernwood, rosemary, lavender, hyssop, lemon verbena, citronella, scented geraniums, tansy and other shrub sized daisies and mountain marigold and all of which produce strong smells which are thought to confuse pest insects (and please us). The latter few examples also have flowers attracting beneficial insects. Edible shrubs include currants, gooseberries and cape gooseberries and cherry and yellow guavas.

Hill ’n’ Ridge Contact List
Red Hill Agricultural and Horticultural Society (Red Hill Show)
Dianne Baxter 5989 2357
redhillshow@hotkey.net.au

Mornington Peninsula Alpaca Breeders Inc.
David Daddo 5989 2866

Main Creek Catchment Landcare
Adrienne Smith 5989 6078

Red Hill Gardening Society
Jill Hall, Secretary dhgs@dhgs.com.au and www.dhgs.com.au

Red Hill Opportunity Shop
Felicity Jackson 5989 2548
Email: redhillshop@gmail.com

Red Hill Football Club
5989 2500 Club Rooms
http://www.redhilfc.vcfl.com.au

Red Hill Junior Football Club
President Darren Morgan 0425 791 870
www.redhilfc.net

Red Hill Cricket Club
(03) 5989 2500 Club Room
http://redhillcricketvictoria.com.au

Red Hill Tennis Club
Club House 5989 2642
Phil Davies 0416229205

Red Hill Scout Association
Stuart and Wendy Westie 59892302

Red Hill Community Action
Email: redhillcommunityaction@gmail.com
Tel. Felicity Jackson 5989 2548

Seawinds Nursery Volunteers Inc.
Meets Mondays 9:00am
Kathy Wyatt 5987 3093 (Mon am)

Red Hill District Lions Club
Meets 2nd & 4th Mondays
 Lyn Connor 5989 6498

Main Ridge Tennis Club
John McEncroe 5989 6472
Night Tennis: Anne Thomas 5989 6128 0408 382 453

Main Ridge Cricket Club
Greg Hay 0407 493 337

Main Ridge Bowls Club
Club House 5989 6173
Bryan Mathews (Sec) 5989 6530
www.mainridgebowlsclub.com.au

Red Hill Football Club
David Woold 5989 6347

Arthurs Seat Probus Club (Mixed)
Meets 10am 2nd Friday Main Ridge hall
 Kerri Flockart 5986 3636

St George’s Anglican Church
201 Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill
Email: stgeorge@chariot.com.au
Services: Sundays @ 9.30am, Wednesdays @ 9am.
Canon Alfred Austin 9785 7796/0427 296 935

Peninsula Music Society
David Fickling 9789 8392
www.pmsmusic.asn.au

Sustainability Street – Red Hill
John Eldridge 0408 892 839
Virginia Richardson 0413 913 602.

Sustainability Street – Red Hill
Sustainability Tip

In Hill ‘n’Ridge issue number 26, I presented some introductory words about Permaculture. Food Forests incorporate many of the Permaculture Design Principles as determined through the observation of nature. A forest requires no human maintenance and no inputs of fossil fuel energy, pesticides, herbicides or fertilisers to create an abundance of life. By modelling our edible and medicinal gardens on the principles of a forest, we too can also have low maintenance, low input gardens – gardens with all the diversity, resilience and beauty of natural systems! A ‘food forest’ is a system of gardening using a diversity of mostly perennial (long-lived species, as opposed to annual vegetables) chosen and arranged such as they compliment and support each other, minimising weeds, pests and maintenance while providing a rich variety of harvests. Fruit trees are the centrepieces, the framework, of the food forest. You can further stack the system out with a variety of other food and support plants at different heights. They should be arranged in such a way that they complement each others’ needs. Let’s start from the canopy and move down with some suggested species for the back yard.

Trees. The canopy of the food forest is usually the fruit trees. Often in the Victorian climate these are best deciduous, allowing winter light through to layers below. Evergreen trees might be included too, but kept small or at the southern borders of the area. Large Shrub/Small Tree Layer. Wild forests almost always include nitrogen-fixing species which will improve the soil, we can add suitable acacias for this purpose, for other large shrub/small tree layers we can add some shade tolerant food producing plants such as tamarillos, elderberries, hazelnuts and plums (the latter kept small by pruning).

Shrub Layer At the shrub layer some suitable herbs and companion plants include wormwood, southernwood, rosemary, lavender, hyssop, lemon verbena, citronella, scented geraniums, tansy and other shrub sized daisies and mountain marigold and all of which produce strong smells which are thought to confuse pest insects (and please us). The latter few examples also have flowers attracting beneficial
Mornington Peninsula Wine & Food Society

The Mornington Peninsula Wine & Food Society has been active for over 25 years, celebrating good food, good wine and good company. We welcome applications for membership from those who would like to share and expand their knowledge and appreciation of wine and the culinary arts. Most of our members live on the Peninsula, but others join us from further away. Our most recent function was a relaxed Sunday luncheon at Pots, Red Hill. If you’re interested in learning more about our Society, or would like to explore the possibility of becoming a member, please contact our Secretary, John Wright, P.O. Box 451, Mount Martha 3934 or johnhwright@bigpond.com, or President Mardie Whittla at 95833087, mardie.mpwfs@gmail.com

CHANGE OF PLANS FOR HISTORICAL MURAL

In the last Hill ‘n’ Ridge it was reported that an historical time line mural was being prepared for display on the external brick wall at the Blue Moon Hardware Shop in Red Hill South. Plans have changed. The mural will now be erected at the Red Hill Consolidated School. Local artist, Michael Leeworthy was commissioned by Red Hill Lions Club to create the mural using a grant from the Council. He has made a great start working on the development of the mural with the Grade 5 and 6 children at the School.

"Ian Jarman the art teacher is wonderful to work with and the kids are very enthusiastic," Michael said. School Principal, Leanne Marshall was instrumental in having the mural relocated to the school after issues arose with it being mounted on the Blue Moon wall.

"There is a perfect spot that is in view of all the school students, parents and teachers and visitors can see it any time," Michael said. "Leanne ran it past the School Council and they are thrilled about the fact that the mural is not only informative history-wise but that the kids are directly involved," he said.

Thankyou to all those who have sent in used stamps to support Children’s Mobility projects. Stamps are still needed - just drop in an envelope and send to Red Hill Lions PO Box 72 Red Hill South

ROADSIDE CLEARING WILL REDUCE FIRE RISK

If you’ve driven up the winding road from Dromana to Arthurs Seat in recent weeks you will have observed some substantial roadside clearing. Parks Victoria has been undertaking fuel reduction works, removing pest plants like Boneseed, Sweet Pittosporum and Sallow Wattle across parts of the northern face of Arthurs Seat. Only native vegetation has been left and it’s certainly made a difference. “This work will reduce the bushfire risk to life and property in the Arthurs Seat area, as well as reducing woody weeds and their environmental impact,” said Ranger in Charge, Jack Dinkgreve.

“The works form part of an ongoing program being delivered by Parks Victoria to improve bushfire preparedness of public land on Melbourne’s outer urban bushland fringe,” he said.

Creative Writing at Hummingbird Eco Retreat

Like to hone your writing technique whilst enjoying stimulating company and hot chocolate by a log fire in the beautiful and inspiring environment of the Hummingbird Eco Retreat? Consider joining the 10-week Creative Writing course being offered at Hummingbird, the two-hour sessions starting at 7pm on Tuesday, July 16, at a cost of $400 or $300 concession.

“We will examine techniques that can be used to enhance and develop creative writing, either fiction or non-fiction,” said course leader, Christine Balint. “Participants will complete writing exercises and have the opportunity to share ideas and receive feedback in a supportive environment. Classes will be tailored to suit the interests and requirements of the group.”

The program is suitable for those getting started and those with a project already underway.

Christine is the author of two internationally acclaimed novels, The Salt Letters and Ophelia’s Fan. She has a PhD in Creative Arts from Melbourne University and has taught in many university and TAFE Professional Writing Courses including RMIT, Melbourne University, the CAE and Chisholm. She runs occasional short courses for Writers Victoria at the State Library. She lives on the Mornington Peninsula.

Phone Christine on 0412 506991 for more details.

BEANIES FOR SALVATION ARMY CRISIS CENTRE

Last year St George’s Anglican Church, Red Hill conducted a very successful in-house program encouraging its parishioners to knit beanies for the Salvation Army Crisis Centre in St Kilda and that resulted in deliveries of over 150 beanies. We are running the same program this year and have already collected over 30 beanies and are now encouraging knitters in the Red Hill area to produce beanies to add to our collection. Beanies can be of any size, colour or pattern and can be left at the church on Sunday or Wednesday mornings or arrange collection by ringing Margaret Kendall on 5975 5469 or Betty Willis on 5989 6008.

HALF PRICE BOOKS AND CLOTHES AT OP SHOP

The Red Hill Opportunity Shop is having a half price sale of books and clothing during the school holidays, from Saturday, June 29 until Saturday, July 1.

The Book Room has all its stock organised alphabetically and has a large variety of good quality fiction, gardening, cooking, history, travel and children’s books.

The clothing section is organised into sizes and has a great selection of good quality wear for men, women and children. Shoes, hats, scarves and bags are also half price.

The shop, opposite the Red Hill Recreation Reserve on Arthurs Seat Road, is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 until 4 and Saturdays from 10 until 2pm.

Volunteers run the Op Shop and the money raised goes to Peninsula Home Hospice and to other local charities.

Thankyou to all those who have sent in used stamps to support Children’s Mobility projects. Stamps are still needed - just drop in an envelope and send to Red Hill Lions PO Box 72 Red Hill South

Do you have two more volunteer hands to help Lions?
NEW OWNER TO RE-INVENT PIG & WHISTLE

The Pig & Whistle Tavern in Main Ridge is being re-invented. Under the new freehold ownership of Robert Lawson and his wife Analou the 30-acre property will be renovated, expanded and re-landscaped to maximize its potential as a destination for locals and visitors.

After a 26 year absence from Australia Rob sold his successful aquatic business in the USA and has returned to live in Australia. He and Analou have bought the Pig & Whistle Tavern with the intention of giving it a new lease of life.

“This place needs new thinking and it needs an investment of money,” Rob said.

The hospitality industry is new territory for Rob, but it is home ground for Phillipine born Analou (Australianised to Ann), a young singer with a stage history that started in the Phillipines when she was just 7 years old and has developed through performing in the USA, Japan and China. The Pig & Whistle will be Ann’s new entertainment venue where she will organize and participate in a program that will offer live entertainment on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with a karaoke night thrown in on Thursdays for good measure.

“It could happen spontaneously. If there’s a crowd that would like to hear Ann sing she will oblige,” Rob said.

Rob and Ann took over the Pig & Whistle on May 17.

“We want to preserve the warm atmosphere, we will serve quality, moderately priced food and give friendly service,” Rob said.

Former Pig & Whistle chef, Jed Dixon has returned to take charge of the kitchen and will specialize in steaks – eye fillet and Japanese rump – and his renowned seafood presentations. The eight famous beers are still on tap and there’s a good wine list. Architects and landscape designers have been engaged to renovate and expand the building, including the Bayview Estate Winery, and to give the extensive gardens a make-over. The winery will open again soon for wine sales and tastings.

“This place has wonderful views and we want to make the gardens a feature of the property,” he said.

The Pig & Whistle will be open 7 days a week from 12noon to 11pm for lunch and dinner and different performers will be brought in to provide regular ‘Dinner plus a Show’ nights. The first of these is on Saturday, July 27 and will feature Ron Vincent, who presents Cat Stevens cover songs at venues around Australia. Dinner and show is $65 p.p. with drinks at bar prices. Book on 5989 6130.

Rob and Ann will live on the premises and be very hands-on in running it. The locals who frequent the Pig & Whistle have warmly welcomed the new owners. “We’ve even been invited home for dinner by some of our patrons. Everyone is so friendly that we are sure this venture will give us a wonderful social life,” Rob concluded.

LOCAL FOOTY AND NETBALL BUZZING ALONG

We have just passed the half way mark of the season and the Red Hill Football Netball Club is buzzing along.

On the footy side we have two teams in the four with the seniors struggling a little but showing some glimpses of good form.

Last week our girls won all three netball games. The netballers have shown real improvement and there are great signs for the road ahead.

Recent social events at the Club have been a roaring success. The latest was the Annual Ball where 120 young people attended and all had a great time.

Overall there is a very positive vibe around the Club.

Annual Auction Night

The Auction night is the major fundraiser for the Club each season—this year it will be held on July 20 in the Clubrooms. The ticket price of $70 per person offers great value for a fabulous night including a 3-course meal prepared by well-regarded local chef Eugen Mori.

Get together with some friends and book a table by contacting Chris on 0409 174 745.

New Veranda for Community Pavilion

Some persistent and tireless work by the Red Hill Football Netball Club, Red Hill Lions, Red Hill Junior Football Club and Red Hill Cricket Club may soon be paying off. Funding to construct a new veranda and porch at the Red Hill Pavilion is almost finalised and work is expected to commence soon. The veranda will be constructed on the north side of the Clubroom to provide some much needed shelter in winter and summer. The three sporting clubs have worked closely and cooperatively with the Lions to provide this important community project.

H I L L ' N ' R I D G E  P A G E 9
After more than 200 years, "The Mountain" has increased in interest as the most notable feature round the bay, at 314m above sea level. Like a great sheltering arm behind Rosebud, the mountain tempers the chilly winds from the south. The sweeping views can be seen to the You Yangs which stand out like miniature pyramids and the passage between Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean, the dangerous Rip.

**PROMINENT VIEWPOINTS DESCENDING BY ROAD.**

1. **CHAPMANS’ POINT** 274M and the best vantage area.

Why not live on a mountain top? How fitting it is that the pioneer family is honoured at Chapman’s point on the mountain by a memorial presented by Mr and Mrs Dyson in 1929. George and Elizabet Chapman moved to Arthur’s Seat in 1876. George, assisted by his sons, worked the timber on the mountain, grew an orchard and extensive vegetable garden. Chapman’s buggy use to come down the rough track with a sapling tied behind for a brake. The lone farm and apple orchard was a symbol of high courage. Young picnickers arriving at the top and finding no one at home were welcome to help themselves to apples, leaving silence on the doorstep. Later when James took over the family property, he was keenly interested in the development of his beloved Park.

2. **FLINDERS CAIRN and PLAQUE**
   - 75 metres walk off the road at Chapman’s Point.

   **How many locals have walked 75m from Chapman’s Point to inspect the Monument and appreciate the view as seen by Flinders?**

   Captain Matthew Flinders who ascended the mountain 27th April 1802 was entranced by the glorious panorama—gloriously recorded in his journal. The botanist Robert Brown accompanied Flinders and with William Westall and John Franklin climbed "the Mountain". Brown gathered about 3,900 plant species during the voyage including 95 specimens from this region and his work needs greater recognition. A stone cairn was built to honour the work of Flinders, our greatest maritime discoverer. There is conjecture that this was not the exact spot where Flinders first gazed over the Bay?

3. **MURRAY’S LOOK-OUT** 247m

   ‘To commemorate Lieut. John Murray of the ‘Lady Nelson’ who named the mountain ‘Arthur’s Seat on February 15, 1802. This was after the mountain of the same name just outside Edinburgh. Presented by L Carrige Esq 14th December 1928.

   **FRANKLIN POINT** 195m

   **To commemorate Sir John Franklin who ascended this mountain in 1802 and 1844.**
   **Presented by A V Shaw**
   **14/12/1929**

   There is a reminder by the roadside of Sir John Franklin, Governor of Tasmania and famous Arctic explorer who climbed the mountain on February 15, 1802 and 1844. Franklin originally served as a midshipman under Flinders. His lost Arctic expedition 1845 came after the discovery of the North-West passage.

4. **BOWEN’S POINT** 145m

   **In commemoration of Chief Officer Bowen of the Lady Nelson, first white man to enter Port Phillip Bay on the 4th February 1802.**
   **Presented by J H King Esq**
   **14/12/1929**

   "Everyone from Dromana to Rye and further, claims a share of Arthur’s Seat. To know it is to love it. Isabelle Moresby 1954 Extracts from Isabelle Moresby’s 1954 book Rosebud Flower of the Peninsula, A Dreamtime of Dromana, C McLear, Matthew Flinders K A Austin, JP"

   "The colour produced by my hand-dyeing is the central inspiration behind my current work, along with a passion for the natural world and its preservation. The combination of fabric, colour and stitch together with a subject close to my heart has proved irresistible."

**TEXTILES AT MARION ROSETZKY GALLERY**

The beautiful works of local textile artist Sharron Shalekoff adorn much of the available wall space at the gallery. In fact the Shalekoff family is well represented here. Also showing are prints and leather work by Bernie Shalekoff, and their daughter Anna is the glass jeweller who makes my new range of glass tile jewellery.

Sharron writes:

"The colour produced by my hand-dyeing is the central inspiration behind my current work, along with a passion for the natural world and its preservation. The combination of fabric, colour and stitch together with a subject close to my heart has proved irresistible."

**‘Neck to Knee’ Fashions Regulation No. Four**

An extract from the Shire regulation of 1912 reads:

“No person clothed in bathing costume shall sit, lie, loiter on or run along any part of the beach or seashore, but shall proceed in a direct line to and from the dressing place.”

**Master Plan for Red Hill Recreation Reserve**

What recreation and community facilities would you like to see at the Red Hill Recreation Reserve? Gather your ideas, talk to your friends and contribute to the discussion. Watch for the consultation date coming later this year.

**NEW HAY SHED FOR RIDING FOR THE DISABLED**

The new hay shed for Riding for the Disabled was recently provided from funding by the Red Hill District Lions.
A visit from Heronswood: The Diggers Club

On Wednesday 29th May we had Keith from Heronswood come to visit the Red Hill Preschool.

Keith sparked the children’s interest in plants by talking about the “magic of seeds.”

He drew a picture to show the children how at first a root appears and then a shoot and then two little leaves that are very different from the rest of the plants leaves. He talked about solar panels and how these two little leaves capture the sunlight to give the plant energy.

The children looked at different seeds, noting their different sizes and colours. Then the children were able to workshop with Keith, planting bean and pea seeds in coir pots and learning about what sort of care their plants would need.

This was a fantastic experience and we would like to say a huge thank-you to Keith and Heronswood for bringing their magic to our preschool!

One of the five key areas of the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (the framework we use to guide our planning and programme for the children) is titled:

**Community: Children are connected with and contribute to their world.** This is evident when children:

- Broaden their understanding of the world they live in
- Demonstrate an increasing knowledge of and respect for natural and constructed environments
- Explore, infer, predict and hypothesis in order to develop an increased understanding of the interdependence between land, people, plants and animals.
- Show growing appreciation and care for natural and constructed environments
- Explore relationships with other living and non-living things and observe, notice and respond to change
- Develop an awareness of the impact of human activity on environments and the interdependence of living things

At a recent staff meeting the preschool educators got together to discuss how they could include activities that promoted learning in this area for the children.

The idea of contacting Heronswood; the Diggers Club was one of the ideas generated.

Contact was made and then discussion between Heronswood and the preschool were had on what sort of experiences we wanted to do and how this could fit with the ‘hands on’ learning styles of preschool children.

Keith and the preschool staff provided a hands on workshop.

TASTY APPLE CAKE AT FOOD ON THE HILL

If the thought of apple cake, moist and flavoursome and fresh from the oven, appeals to you, then head straight to this charming little café. Tucked at the back of the shopping centre beside the Epicurean Centre, it could be missed. But it is a real treat, offering not only good coffee and cakes and pastries, but delicious home cooked food of all kinds. There is also a great array of larder specialities to tempt.

Carol and Phil sold their café, Marmadukes, in Balnarring, and have now been at Red Hill for a year. They have created a delightful little business, very much reflecting their personalities. It is largely a weekend affair, but they also offer special theme nights regularly (see the message board outside the café for details) and, in winter, a soup lunch on Tuesdays. They are also happy to do functions and private catering upon request.

The café will be closed for a month in July, when Carol and Phil take off for a holiday with their two boys. We shall look forward to their return, and another taste of that apple cake!

Phone: 0425 852971
Email: foodonthehillcafe@gmail.com

RED HILL LIONS DISTRIBUTE OVER $40,000

The Red Hill District Lions Club have made donations to many local, national and international organisations for the year ending June 30.

“Our policy is to distribute the majority of our funds locally and we have supported many local organisations,” said Lyn Connor, secretary of the local Lions Club.

The following is a list of the organisations which have benefitted from Lion’s funds this year:

- Red Hill Scouts – Hiking equipment /Carport
- Pt Leo Surf Club- trailer
- Youth of the Year program
- Dromana Secondary College - HPV
- DSC - Chaplaincy/ Welfare
- DSC – Encouragement Awards
- Red Hill Preschool - gardening and outdoor equipment
- Red Hill Preschool - books
- RH Petanque – Piste maintenance
- Hill ‘n’ Ridge Community Newsletter
- Red Hill Show Society
- Red Hill Recreation Reserve—veranda
- Peninsula Hospice – training program for Volunteers
- Peninsula Health – Rosebud Hospital CT Scanner and Ultrasound
- Victorian Lions Foundation (mainly Health Foundations and Licola Camp)
- Lions Hearing Dogs
- Lions Drug Awareness Foundation
- Lions Eye Health Program
- Lions Children’s Mobility projects
- Lions Prostate Cancer Research
- Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation
- LCIF Disaster Fund
- Lions Australia Foundation (Emergency Fund)
- Operation Smile
- Sunrise Children’s Villages Cambodia.
- Atauro Clinic( Lions & Rotary) Eye Clinic East Timor
- Dolphin Research
- Riding for the Disabled - hay shed , improved safety in mounting yard
- Red Hill Op Shop- Calendar
- Red Hill Consolidated School- Books
- Vic Bushfire Appeal - Lions Need for Feed District Appeal
- Children of Courage Lions Event
- Lions Ride for Sight

Total distributed $45,361.35

Other Activities include
- Recycled glasses , Used Stamps
- Country Music Show, Christmas cakes
- Hinterland Scarecrow Festival

Contact 59896498 or lionsnewsletter@gmail.com to find out how you can help
**SPONSORS 2013**

Hill ‘n’ Ridge is proudly sponsored by

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- Dunn’s Creek Wines
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- Craft Markets Australia.

**Silver Sponsors**
- Jacobs & Lowe Bennetts, Estate Agents.
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Visit our new **Cellar Door** at 137 Mellor’s Road Red Hill
Every weekend 11am to 5pm
(Other times by appointment)
Also the home of **Limetree Hideaway**
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**Red Hill Spring Garden Festival**

Grow For Life

Saturday, September 14, 2013 10am - 4pm

Across all generations for any age!

- Stalls to enhance your garden
- Expert information sessions
- Gardening for kids
- Spring Flower Show

(Exhibits welcome. Ph. 03 5981 0336)

Under cover at Red Hill Recreation Reserve (Showgrounds), Arthurs Seat Rd, Red Hill

Admission: Adults $5  Children under 12 free

[facebook]: www.facebook.com/RedHillSpringGardenFestival
[pinterest]: www.pinterest.com/redhillgarden

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Two-year old Allegra is probably our youngest reader. Her mother, Marie Catalon-Del Ben of Arthurs Seat, sent the photo and said up until recently Allegra would munch on or playfully tear up the Hill ‘n’ Ridge. Now she ‘reads’ it. And she added: “Thank you to the Lions for keeping us abreast of the goings-on around our community. Keep them coming”.

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**Like to sponsor our community newsletter?**

Please contact the editor on 59896498
Or at lionsnewsletter1@gmail.com

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**Red Hill Pharmacy**

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