

September 2005

Mountain

News

Community news from Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious
www.gloriousnebo.org.au/MTN/

Mt Nebo State School was vandalised and robbed early this term. This cost our school over \$2000, which is a lot for a small school's budget to endure. We are asking our community to please report any suspicious activity after school hours to the Gap Police Station on 3364 6461 or Ferny Grove Police Station 3872 1510.

The Mt Nebo State School Community wishes to thank –you for your much needed help in keeping our school safe.

Our School will celebrate its 75th birthday next year. We would love to hear from any residents who have any history of the school or is interested in contributing to the Planning Committee for this celebration. Please contact Sue Biffin (A/Principal Mt Nebo SS) on 3289 8162

Our school celebrated National Tree Day on the 29th July, with lessons about trees and their importance to our lives. Each student also contributed by planting and caring for their own native shrub. A special Eucalypt was planted to commemorate this special occasion.



Five students were selected for the Small School's Literacy Extension Program at Nudgee Beach Environmental Centre. Isabel Taylor, Alex Ganis, Samantha Newton, Chris Van Cooten and Rhys Van Assen represented our school with distinction and also created a colourful King Parrot in the form of a large puppet. The rest of the school enjoyed their performance at parade later in the week.

A recent Working Bee was a raging success showing an excellent community spirit with nearly half the School's families working at improving the grounds. Their efforts are much appreciated and are reflected by our beautiful grounds. We are looking forward to an even better response for our next Working Bee and BBQ.



Old Art Gallery

This month's 'must see' at the Queensland Art Gallery is a small but delightful collection of watercolours, featuring Toowoomba born JJ Hilder. The luminosity of his watercolours has to be seen to be believed. From a historical point of view, one tiny watercolour with the title of 'Kedron' is quite interesting as there is not one building in the painting. It's worth sparing a minute to compare this with today's Kedron which is now a busy suburb.

I am aware that not everyone on the mountain is blessed with good hearing. An auslan interpreted talk for the hearing impaired will be given on Tuesday 27th Sept at 3pm. Just make yourself known at the information desk and you will be introduced to the guide. This month's tour will highlight paintings and an installation by the Asian artist Lee U Fan.

A floor talk about the gallery's collection of indigenous prints will be held on Wednesday 21st September at 1030am. This is a free talk and includes work from Tiwi Island, Arnhem Land, Cape York Peninsula and Torres Strait. The prints are on display in gallery 15 and are hung under the collective title 'Black Ink'.

If you are feeling frustrated with your own painting, take some time out and drop into the Queensland Art Gallery.

Hope to see you there,

Janette

Local Art Show!

A Wine & Cheese evening

On: Friday the 14th of October

At: Mt Nebo Hall 6.30pm

A Gold coin donation.

There will be Soup, Tea, Coffee and Cake for sale.

So....any artists wanting to Exhibit & sell Artwork please give us a call.

There will be a 20% commission on works sold and all profits will go to

paying for Mt Nebo Hall insurance.

We need help organising and all volunteers are welcome!!!

Call Brodie Krogh 32890221

relaxing3@bigpond.com.au

Kara 32890178

pixi-bell@hotmail.com



Most residents will by now have seen the new changes at the Transfer Station. The large Blue Bin for cardboard and paper products is working really well. Residents can fill the bin within 3 weeks now and almost no card and paper is being thrown into the Cleanaway Bin.

Twice this year the Pine Rivers Shire Council has randomly taken full Cleanaway Bins to their major site at Dakabin to evaluate the contents for levels of recycling (or waste) being placed in the Bin. On both occasions our Mt Nebo/Mt Glorious Transfer Station has 'bin' by far better than any other tip in the shire. Well done youse lot!!

Now we have to focus on the new setup for plastics recycling. The collection of wheelie bins are basically for plastics and although other items (bottles, tins, etc.) are acceptable, separate containers are provided for these items. Tins go into the Simsmetal Bin (labels off!) and glass into the other wheelie bin collection next to Treasure Island.

I know it can be a bit tedious sorting the recyclables, but this is the way to go in the future. All recyclable plastic products should have a number stamped on them somewhere; the numbers range from 1 to 7. Any items that are unmarked can be dumped in the Cleanaway Bib. Please try to crush all containers flat by removing caps, etc. Avoid placing any large items (watering cans, plastic hose, or in-laws, etc.) as these only fill the bins unnecessarily with rubbish. Just think - you are getting so much fitter with all this crushing, folding and thinking!

Any items you are not sure about, please give me a call on 3289 0249 (civilised hours only) and I will enlighten you further.

I recently spent a whole Sunday at the Tip, as the weekend 'tippers' are less likely to sort their waste than the arrivals during the weekdays. It was interesting to observe on Sunday how the majority of Tip arrivals would hurl their entire bootful of 'waste' into the Cleanaway Bin, then hurry to see what Treasure Island had for them. There was a decided lack of communication between the 'weekenders', where the weekday arrivals stand and bang-on for ages and generally get themselves in the way, especially with their vehicles - most of the cars look as though they've been abandoned rather than parked!

Some widening and road base has been laid to improve access around the Tip and to stop any mud sticking to your little pinkies as you leap out of your sparkly cars on rainy days on the way to work. (Yes! It will rain again...won't it Malcolm?)

Down on the wood pile a large collection of good solid doors with glass windows insert was laid; but not for long as some of the local lads arrived to smash all the windows. Please lean such items against the large tree in future. Any item lying down is in danger of being smashed up. It's on the weekends that the damage is done. Last Sunday, a family arrived at Treasure Island and began to examine some tins of paint by levering the lids off with cutlery found on the shelves. After deciding they didn't want to paint, they drove away, leaving the opened cans and cutlery on the Tip face.

And, on a lighter note, about 6 tonnes of recyclable waste and 200 tonnes of general waste was collected at the 2004 Ekka, on top of 2,500 tonnes of animal manure (I wouldn't mind that lot!). Much of the Ekka manure is used to fertilise Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

Keep sortin' yer piles.

Vic xxx

Letter

Subject: Re:VIC'S TIP BITS (Mountain News August 2005)

This just reminded me how much I miss Treasure Island!! Having moved house twice in the last 4 months, we have little or no 'junk' around like timber, corrugated iron etc. and there are *no* tips around where you can poach stuff for free. The local ones near Innisfail are unmanned but you pay to enter and are not really supposed to take stuff away, and there are Transfer Stations, the best one is in Cairns and you have to go to a Buy Back shop where you are arbitrarily charged to take stuff away, similar I presume to every other 'tip' in Brissie. Look after Treasure Island, I am sure some bureaucrat in PRSC will want to take it away one day, what a great resource. Keep sortin' yer piles indeed.

cheers, M

Bellbirds Take Their Toll

All mountain dwellers love bellbirds (bell miners). I know I like them tolling somewhere off in the distance but I'm not so sure when they "ding-dink" in my ear or when they are bombing and bullying other innocent birds. These minor annoyances aside, bellbirds may actually play a more sinister roll in the welfare of our bushland.

Bellbirds feed on nectar from gum trees and other blossoms but also actively farm gum tree sap feeding insects called psyllids. They feed on the honeydew resulting from the insect attack on the leaves of the host. In a healthy ecosystem no long-term damage to the tree is done. However severe psyllid attack causes eucalypt dieback and tree deaths that have become common in some parts of the bellbirds distribution. Bellbirds have been implicated in eucalypt dieback to the extent that a 4-letter acronym has been coined: BMAD Bell Miner Associated Dieback - and a BMAD Working Group has been established to study the problem in northern NSW.

Quoting from a recent report by the working group, "The outward expression of BMAD is generally characterised by:

- trees stressed and dying;
- high populations of psyllids and other sap-sucking insects contributing to tree stress;
- high Bell miner numbers, with their aggressive territorial behaviour, driving away insectivorous birds that would otherwise help to control insect numbers;
- alteration of the forest structure: canopy and midstories depleted with grassy and wet and dry sclerophyll understoreys replaced by dense shrubby vegetation, often associated with lantana invasion. "

Sounds a lot like some spots on Mt Nebo. Should we B MAD?

Llew Rintoul

Mt Nebo Market Day

(aka Treasure Island at the community hall)

Sunday 16 October 9am – 3pm

Interested in having a stall or donating to the Residents Association stall?

Contact Juanita Stout - 3289 8285
or 0417730903

Bush Tales

Off the Mountain and on holidays heading for the deserts of Central Australia I find myself surrounded by creatures new and wonderful. The landscape is a stark contrast to the Mountain and, like its tall forests, the open plains take your breath away. Within a few days of travelling I'm out past the Condamine, Barcoo and Bulloo Rivers and onto the vast plains surrounding the Diamantina River. And the recent heavy rains that filled tanks and fed the Mountain creeks also swept through this dry saltbush and gidgee country, bringing it to life after prolonged dry. Carbine Creek looks like a nice place to pull up and camp. The soft evening light reflects off small water-holes strung along the sandy creek-bed cautiously marked by graceful Coolibahs. If it wasn't for the string trees it would be hard to pick out the creek from any distance in the dry, but now its presence is betrayed by flocks of Budgerigars, Cockatiels and Zebra Finches coming in for an evening drink and a chat before bed. They fly in, small groups, one after the other, gathering in the trees by the water. Their greens, yellows and greys blending so beautifully with the green herbage and masses of yellow wildflowers carpeting the usually dusty ground.

The following day, passing through red dune country and gibber plains the story is the same. Swales between the dunes are now shallow lakes with resident Ducks and the occasional group of Brolgas dancing in celebration of the sweet times ahead. The Brolga's graceful movements so sweet to behold. Bowing then reaching for the sky, a gentle flap of wings and they float suspended above the ground as if their tall crane-like bodies no longer obey the law of gravity.

And everywhere there are wildflowers. Acres of yellow, interspersed with blues with a perfume filling the air so that it gets into everything. To see the hot, hard, stoney gibber plains like this, their red desert-varnished rocks now hidden beneath a carpet of flowers, is quite a sight.

The roadside scrapes, dams with the dirt road as catchment, are also full. A group of Emus is gathered around one as we pass. They presumably have it easy for a while as they wander the now-plentiful countryside. The Dingos still look lean and hungry though. Some things never change.

The effect of the June rains is obvious right into the central deserts. Poached-egg daisies, emu bushes aflame with red, others blue and others white all display themselves extravagantly above red sands and spinifex. And even the spinifex itself is seeding up, like any self-respecting grass after good rain. The River Red Gums are in bud and Pelicans cruise up and down the Finke River. Though the early white explorers had wrongly guessed at an inland sea, the strings of ponds now lacing this country come close ... for a while at least ... all courtesy of some welcome rain that has been enjoyed well-beyond the Mountain.

bushtales@hotmail.com

REMEMBER IN CASE OF FIRE:

Telephone **000** then

Terry Bradford: 3289 8181

or **Bob Snowdon: 3289 0150**

Save Our Hall Fundraiser

Saturday 10th September

6pm - 12

Music, food, bar & 'Talent Quest'!

\$5, Kids free.

Join us for fun, friendship and to keep
your community-owned Hall afloat

(ie. pay our insurance)

Food and bar starts 6pm.

Talent quest runs all night.

Donations welcome.

Inquiries - Rob Lachowicz 3289 8250

Fun'Raiser Lineup

Peace 'n Choir

(acapella magic)

Mountain Ears

(gypsy jazz)

Carlos Lantana Band

(rock 'n hall)

Rockin' Rhythm Cats

(their crime - way too much fun)

Dave Crane

(head spinning trance)

Di Clarke

(Beatles hits)

Talent quest

(anyone game!)

Fantastic food

(yummie for the tummy)

MT GLORIOUS ROADSIDE REVEGETATION WORKING BEE

10 am - 12 pm Saturday, September 17,
opposite the National Park at Mt Glorious.

Join in! LEARN! Have some fun!

Bring hat, gloves and
water for some local weeding.

Working with our local community

Geoff WILSON MP



**State Member for
Ferry Grove**

ELECTORATE OFFICE:
Nepean Centre
Unit3/6 Nepean Ave
Arana Hills

Office Hours Tuesday night by appointment n
Thursday night by appointment

Tel: 3851 1570 **Fax:** 3851 1261
Email: ferry.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au

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Diary
Dates

1st. Wednesday of the month - Mt Nebo Residents'
Association meeting at the Hall. 7:30pm

Every Wednesday - Playgroup every Wednesday, 10am-
noon at Mt Nebo Hall, \$2 per family, babies,
toddlers, preschoolers welcome, please bring
a plate to share.

Bob Millar

**Councillor - Division 1
Pine Rivers Shire Council**



Working with the Community

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