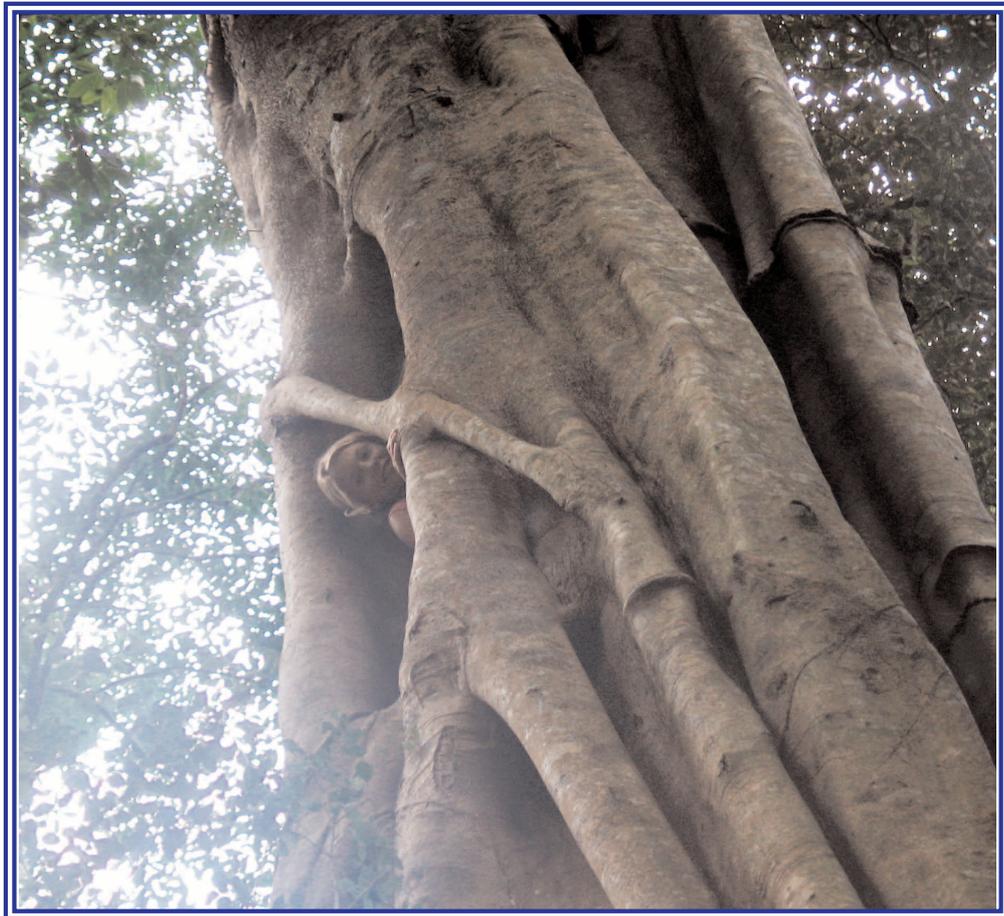


July 2005

Mountain

News

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



Inside: Jobs, Politics,
Competitions, News, Olds...

Looking after Life on the Mountains – ask MEPA

MEPA (Mt Nebo/Mt Glorious Environment Protection Association) is a not-for-profit association concerned with environmental issues in our mountain communities. MEPA answers your questions about bush regeneration, weeds, local plants etc!

Email questions to askmepa@yahoo.com.au or write to ASKMEPA, PO Box 29, Mt Nebo, QLD 4520.

Looking at the weed-control efforts along the road past Mt Glorious village, I am curious about the risk of new weeds taking over the cleared areas and whether the lines of Lomandra used along the road edge present future problems of its own.

Whenever a site is cleared of weeds like Lantana there is always the potential for a re-invasion of the area by plants taking advantage of the new opportunities. Of course, some of these will be local plants recolonising the area; for example local Bleeding Heart and Red Ash are rapidly recolonising areas cleared at Glorious. Others will be less welcome like the numerous Cobblers Pegs and other exotic weeds that also see a chance to take hold. Regular working-bees and maintenance work by locals who have generously adopted sections of the roadside will help to keep these short-term weeds at bay for a few years until the native vegetation takes over and suppresses them. (As always, we are keen to hear from anyone wanting to help. Some sections of the roadside are obviously still looking for carers; the work is minimal and satisfying, so why not give it a go!)

There has been considerable discussion about the use of Lomandra (the clumping, strap-leafed Mat-Rush plants) lining the cleared areas. Concerns expressed include the non-natural look of the neatly planted line, the size to which such plants can grow, potential problems with pedestrian access, visibility, and the potential for the plants to reduce vital water run-off into the forest.

Their use along the road-edge is, we agree, less than perfect and the many pros and cons have been much discussed (with input from Dept of Main Roads, experienced bush regenerators, etc.) but in the end the view was that they offered the best short-term solution to the difficult problem of how to deal with edge effects. Re-infestation by potentially disastrous weeds like Madeira Vine and Cat's Claw, car traffic (parking and turning), and wayward Council mowing all threaten regeneration

attempts through damage and decline, especially while the new plantings and regenerating seedlings remain small. A close eye is being kept on their growth and if problems begin to emerge steps will, of course, be taken to remedy them. Eventually the forest will recolonise the cleared areas and a barrier will no longer be necessary, but until then the slightly artificial line drawn will, we hope, hold the line against damage. With such a large effort going into the long-term rehabilitation of the road reserve, some short-term costs are, we think, worthwhile.

Pedestrian access and visibility are, as pointed out, also extremely important issues. Like residents, relevant authorities have been keen to emphasise road-safety issues arising from work in the road reserve, with input into the project. Pedestrian access along the road between the village and Maijala National Park has also been the subject of much discussion at Community Association meetings, with talk in 2003 of Council rebuilding the old path on the east side of the road. Revegetation work on the west side has tried to take account of visibility and safety requirements but, of course, we would really appreciate hearing of any particular points of concern and/or mistakes made so that we can remedy them as quickly as possible.

Like you, we all hope that the drive up Mt Glorious Road will, in future be flanked by once-glorious forest-edge that everyone loves so much. We're not there yet, but hope things are moving in the right direction.

NB: a further question raised by the same resident will be answered next month.

The opinions and viewpoints expressed in these articles are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily represent those of MEPA members.

Dominic Hyde
MEPA

REMEMBER IN CASE OF FIRE:

Telephone **000** then

Terry Bradford: 3289 8181

or **Bob Snowdon: 3289 0150**



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Is there a Dog Baiter on the loose at Mt Glorious?

The deaths from poisoning of 2 dingos near Maiala Picnic Area at Mt Glorious in the last fortnight would suggest that some 'low life' is successfully baiting dogs on the mountain.

A post mortem on the dingos by National Parks staff showed internal haemorrhaging which is indicative of some type of rat bait. A toxicologist from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines indicated to Parks Staff, that the poison was more than likely Brodifacoum, the main ingredient of Talon rat baits. Unlike Warfarin (formerly used as a rat bait) which has a biological half life of 6 hours, Brodifacoum has a half life of 157 days!

Brodifacoum is very highly toxic to mammals & birds. It is particularly dangerous to birds through secondary exposure, especially raptors feeding on animals poisoned by Brodifacoum.

Obviously this 'valued citizen' of the mountain, either through ignorance or spite, hasn't thought through the ramifications of their action. Granted it has removed 2 dingos which may have eaten the occasional paddymelon. However, the dingos also keep the feral pigs in check & limit the feral cat & fox problem. Monitoring by Parks staff has already shown increased cat activity which may well decimate the small mammal & bird population.

Apart from the obvious ramifications to the wildlife population, there is of course the human danger, particularly to children. The only antidote to Brodifacoum poisoning is regular injections of Vitamin K & in some cases blood transfusions. (This of course raises the broader issue of why we really need such a deadly poison freely available in Supermarkets!)

Hopefully the perpetrator will desist from further poisoning & also strongly consider whether the mountain is really the place for them to live.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Brown

Mt Glorious Getaway Cottages & Conference Centre

www.mtgloriousgetaways.com.au

Tel: + 61 7 3289 0172

Residents' Association Report

Safety first

Another motor bike rider was killed at the entrance to our village a few weeks ago. This is two in recent times near the village entrance in areas where speed limits could have been slower. While we can't stop people speeding we should be serious about creating an environment which promotes safer driving. A public meeting, inviting senior police, Main Roads and Council is being planned for Wednesday August 17 at 6:30pm at the Nebo Hall. There have been 118 reported injury accidents on the Nebo-Glorious Road since 2000.

In addition, our 'village entry' campaign is now seeking ideas for entrance structures at both ends of the village that slow people down and reflect the place we live in and our values. All ideas welcome. Prizes available!

Market Day

We're considering holding a market day as one fundraiser idea (sort of like Treasure Island at the Hall). There will be a Residents Association stall and we're seeking contributions to that. See separate ad in this Mtn News.

Grumpy ol' Noise

The 'Grumpy old man' songs in last issue of Mtn News rasping against noisy monsters such as chainsaws, whipper snippers, leaf blowers etc made me wonder whether our community could try to cooperate in a 'peak noise period' on weekends. For instance, we could try to use our noisy machines on Saturday afternoons, leaving Sundays quieter (except for motor bikes). Of course Sundays may be the only time people can work around the house and that should be accepted. Any thoughts?

Manorina toilets

We have written to various agencies suggesting that the Manorina toilets not be closed. Apart from being a public facility there are hopes the bushfire brigade will be housed near the picnic area and, if so, it would be useful if the toilets were there.

Town Plan

The Pine Rivers proposed Town Plan is at www.pinerivers.qld.gov.au and at Council offices in Hall Street Strathpine. Submissions can be made up till 2 September. Anyone with an interest in helping the Association consider and comment please contact me.

Our meetings are first Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm at the community hall. The Association aims to support a safe, healthy, vibrant community environment and manages our community-owned hall.

Robert Lachowicz, President

Phone 3289 8337

'Village entry' Competition

Give us your ideas or designs for entrances to Mt Nebo village that reflect the place we live in and our values.

Comp closes August 15. Prizes - includes having your name immortalised on the structure (if you want).

Drop them in at the PO or contact Mt Nebo Residents' Association –

Robert Lachowicz 3289 8337

or

Jessica Bradford 3289 8136

Mt Nebo Hall Insurance Fundraiser

Saturday
September 10

Want to be involved
by doing
music, poetry, comedy,
food-making,
helping in organisation?

Please call Robert 3289 8337

Bush Tales

For years I had left a large and luxuriously appointed possum-box hanging up in the tree near the house. It was lovingly made from a weathered old piece of tree-hollow a friend had given to me. I had toyed with the idea of a horizontal Kookaburra nest-box but decided in the end that Sugar Gliders would be more fun. ... If I could attract them in, that is.

After absolutely no action for five years I decided that the local housing opportunities provided by Nature were just so good that I couldn't compete with what It had to offer. And you have to admit, a large snug hollow high up in a 400 year old Tallowwood must be pretty hard to beat. My meagre offering was a slum by comparison, and I really had no chance in the Glider real estate market. Home renovations, all the rage with humans, seemed out of the question.

Then last month it finally happened. They signed the papers and moved in ... rent free, though I wasn't complaining. A quiet family of five little Sugar Gliders are now in residence. By day, there's not a sound from them. The perfect neighbours. Then each evening, as the last light of the day leaves the high tops of the Blue Gums, they start scratching around in their hollow log home. Eventually one comes out, runs up the tree and quickly leaps into the air, gliding off to find something to eat and a bit of fun, no doubt. As with most families, there's always an early-bird (or glider in this case).

The rest of the family get up at a more leisurely pace. Probably a bit of scratching, some more snoozing, and then they too emerge to run up the tree and glide off into the dark, one after the other. Watching them head off it's a bit like the Airport ... planes queuing up one after the other to take flight.

In fact, our barbecue happens to be right next to a very popular flight-path. Sitting there in the evenings cooking, you can see them in the half-light come gliding down past you before they quickly veer right and land low down on the old Green Wattle. The first couple up at dusk fly straight to it. They spend quite some time licking the sap before heading high into its upper branches to launch themselves out into space and off to another tree. It looks like the Wattle is on the top of the menu. It might pay to be an early-bird after all.

I've seen them around the place a bit at night since. I don't know how long they'll stay, but it's nice to think of them out there each night playing round, gliding past the window occasionally, with a big smile that you can only get from flying through the forest at night in a warm fur coat.

bushtales@hotmail.com

The **Wilson** Report

Samford Wins Gambling Fund Grants

In the latest round of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund grants, the Samford Farmers Hall Trust received \$4,541 for upgrading catering facilities and the Samford State School P&C received \$30,000 for the construction of a multi-purpose court. Congratulations to both groups.

Community Water Grants

The Federal Government has recently released information on their "Community Water Grants" which is one of the initiatives announced as part of the "Australian Government Water Fund". The Federal Government intends to call for application from interested community organisations and schools in June 2005 and grants will be assessed on a competitive basis. Copies of the guidelines can be obtained by calling 1800 780 730. Further details are available at www.nrm.gov.au/water-fund. Although this is a Federal Government initiative, I am keen to ensure that local organisations and agencies get a share of funding from the Commonwealth for local water efficient projects.

Memories for Seniors' Week

The Arana Hills Library is seeking entries for their Memories Writing Competition. If you have any amusing, exciting, historical anecdotes that you would like to share with others, just write your story of up to 300 words on an A4 sheet. Clear hand-writing is okay, but they would prefer putting your story on a computer. All entries must be in before August 1, and the winner will be awarded a prize at their Senior's Day Party to be held during Seniors Week. If you would like to access a computer, ring my Electorate Office on 3851 1570.

Samsonvale Rural Fire Brigade funding grant

The Samsonvale RFB were pleased to receive a \$44,000 grant from the Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund earlier this year. The grant will be used to make extensions to their fire shed. The Jupiters GCBF grants do not have any advertised closing dates, and applications can be lodged at any time. Applicants can expect to be advised of an outcome within six months of lodging their submissions. Details of the JCCBF including guidelines and application forms can be accessed at www.jccbf.org.au. Phone 1800 336 958 to request a copy by telephone.

Active and Out There!

The Queensland Government's Creative Youth Competition provides an opportunity for young people, aged 12 to 25, to showcase their creative talents through the use of photography, CDs, painting, creative writing, poetry, film making or digital art. The Creative Youth Competition aims to enhance communication between generations by challenging young people to portray older people through creative art and writing. Entries close 25 July, 2005 and six competition winners will each be presented with a digital camera, valued at approximately

\$500, in a special awards ceremony on 10 October.

For more information about the Competition, or entry forms visit www.generate.gld.gov.au or contact the Office for Seniors, on 1300 132 654.

www.geoffwilsonmp.com

Have you checked out my website yet? It has been designed to be user friendly and has loads of current information as well as many useful links. It's worth a visit.

IN CLOSING, I welcome people contacting me with their views, as well as seeking information or help with any State Government matter.

Telephone me on 3851 1570, fax me on 3851 1261, email me on ferny.grove@parliament.qld.gov.au, or check out my website, www.geoffwilsonmp.com. My Electorate Office is at 3/6 Nepean Avenue, Arana Hills

(office hours 9:00 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 5:00 pm, week days).

Appointments can be arranged by phoning my Electorate Office.

Geoff Wilson MP

State Member for Ferny Grove

Working with our local community

Working with our local community

Geoff WILSON MP



**State Member for
Ferny Grove**

ELECTORATE OFFICE:
Nepean Centre
Unit 3/6 Nepean Ave
Arana Hills

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm
Tuesday night by appointment

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



Councillors Column

COUNCIL BUDGET 2005-06

The Shire's 2005-06 budget was brought down on Thursday 23rd June after the close of contributions for this edition of the Mountain News and whilst a Shire newsletter should issue shortly, I will provide some information on specific local aspects of the budget in the next edition. I can say, however that given the increasing demands being placed on local government and the increased costs of many of the services and products Council requires to operate, this years rate increases have been kept as tight and low as possible and compare favourably with other Shires and Cities in growth areas of South East Queensland. The impact of recent valuations has been addressed by adjusting downwards the rate in the dollar by which Council sets its rating requirements, so I suspect that there will be very few Mountain residents that will have a concern with their 2005/06 rates notices.

BROADBAND ON THE MOUNTAIN

Whilst this issue is not primarily one for local government, I have for the last couple of years been working with the Federal Member, Peter Dutton to push for improved broadband access in the western part of the Shire and liaising with other private suppliers of wireless broadband to bring about a much quicker delivery of the service. Given the problems and delays being experienced in delivering ADSL to some areas on the Valley floor, I suspect efficient conventional ADSL to the Mountain maybe some way off. I understand that the local broadband service provider, Techsus (ph 3289 1414) has established almost total coverage of the Mountain area with wireless technology and has many very happy customers.

BRISBANE FOREST PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Council has recently responded to a request from the Minister for Environment to nominate a possible second representative to serve on the Park Advisory Board. Given my interest in many of the issues that involve the Park and surrounding parts of the Shire, I will be maintaining close contact with the Council representative(s) as well as the local community member elect, Dominic Hyde.

SUCCESSFUL RIVERCLEAN PROJECT – HIGHVALE

Council recently committed \$30,000 towards the start of what will be an increasing programme of catchment rehabilitation to improve stream and water health and quality. On 5th June in conjunction with the partners in Riverclean and the Pine Rivers Catchment Association, over 1500 trees were planted in a fairly degraded part of a small creek that crosses Days Road and feeds into the South Pine River. Along with MEPA and the personal efforts of many who support our local bushcare groups, there is plenty happening out there.

PINE RIVERS PLAN RELEASED FOR COMMENT

The Pine Rivers Shire's new Planning Scheme (Town Plan) was released for public comment last Monday and will be available for viewing at various Council offices and libraries until Friday 2 September. Because of its size and complexity, a major display has been mounted at the Council's Strathpine Office and will be attended by Council officers for the duration of the advertising period to provide assistance where necessary. This plan will guide development in the Shire until 2014 but generally speaking, Council has maintained the broad planning strategy which has been in place since 1988 and which will contain urban development to the south and eastern 15% of the Shire. The remainder of the Shire will be primarily used for rural and conservation purposes and will retain its current rural residential townships of Samford and Dayboro. Residents will have recently received an information brochure providing further details on the new plan, with this information and the Plan also available on Councils website www.pinerivers.qld.gov.au. The State Governments South East Queensland Regional Plan released late last year will also require Council to make amendments to the advertised plan before it can formally be adopted.

TENDIRIS/OGLE PLANNING COURT APPEALS

There have been no developments on this matter since I last reported although Council has put in place all the required resources it requires to defend its decision to refuse the major development application it had previously received.

Bob Millar

Councillor - Division 1
Pine Rivers Shire Council



Working with the Community

Council Services: **3480 6666** Fax: **3205 7305**
 Mobile: 0409 890 203 A/H: 3289 5560
 Email: bob.millar@pinerivers.qld.gov.au
 Website: www.pinerivers.qld.gov.au
 PO Box 5070, Strathpine Qld 4500



“MEMORIES” for SENIORS’ WEEK

August 22nd – 27th 2005

If you have any amusing, exciting, historical etc. anecdotes that you would like to share with others, why not enter our Seniors’ Week “MEMORIES WRITING COMPETITION”?

Just write your story of up to 300 words on an A4 sheet. Clear handwriting is OK, but if you can put your story on to the Computer that would be preferable. The story must be created by a Senior but you can get your grand-kids to help, they may even be able to put in some clipart/graphics/borders in for you too!

An entry form available from the Library must be attached to the back of your entry.

All entries must be in before August 1st and the winner will be awarded a prize at our Seniors’ Day Party held during Seniors’ Week.

Those judged to be the most interesting will be reproduced in a booklet that will be made available for free at Arana Hills Library.

ARANA HILLS LIBRARY

Cobbity Crescent

Phone: 3351 3401

Bulletin Board Bits

The Mountainfolk Board is still growing. Welcome to the latest 'newbies'. Join us, it's all free and instant communication with locals.

If you want to chat about something interesting or obscure, or just lurk around reading what everyone else is saying, then join up.

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mountainfolk>)

‘Hoon line’

3364 3555 or 33646464

For police response to
dangerous driving

Residents Market Day

Interested in having a market stall, or contributing to someone else’s stall or donating to the Residents Association stall?

Contact Juanita Stout -
3289 8285 or 0417730903

We’ll go ahead *IF* there’s
enough interest.

Mt Glorious Roadside Revegetation Working Bee

10 -12 am

Sunday, July 17th

Bryces Rd gate, Mt Glorious

(opposite Camp Constable)

Tea, coffee and biscuits to finish!

Broadband News

Hi, Just a quick note: Telstra have recently moved the page where you can register your interest in ADSL broadband internet, and the automatic redirection to the new page doesn't work properly. Try this page instead:

<http://www.bigpond.com/internetplans/broadband/availability/lodgeprospect/initial.asp>

Best wishes,

Iain Anderson

iain@funwithstuff.com - <http://funwithstuff.com>

Bushfire Prepared Communities

You are invited to a community discussion on preparing yourself and your property for bushfires. We want you to know what you can do – not only when you are under threat, but more importantly, before the bushfire season starts.

Where: Mt Nebo Hall

When: 7pm start. 6.30pm bbq (sausages and bread)

Date: Friday 15 July 2005

Paul's Collect-a Cap

Thank you for collecting your caps. We cashed in the last 6-9 months worth and received a cheque for \$161. This has been used by the Combined School Care to upgrade equipment to meet licensing requirements. Please keep collecting and sending in to the school. Thank you Daphne Easley

POSITIONS VACANT

Mt Nebo Combined School Care Is seeking energetic persons to fill the position of casual assistant and relief co-ordinator.

School days only 3- 6pm

Experience in caring for children desirable.

Relevant qualifications required for coordinator position or willingness to undertake study.

Please send resume along with 2 references to

CSC Vacancy PO Box 62 Mt Nebo 4520

Submission details

Di Clark - 3289 8309

Steve Reinthal - 3289 8281

Please submit all articles by the **15th of the month** to the Mt News Box located at the Post Office at Mt Nebo, or, if e-mail, by the **20th of the month** to mountain_news@yahoo.com.au
Please supply your e-mail article with MTN in the Subject . Put articles in the body of the e-mail, as attachments can be messy. Pictures should be in JPEG or TIFF format, resolution 266dpi, copy in TEXT. We hate Microsoft Word. The articles in the Mt News reflect the views of the contributing authors and not necessarily those of the Mt News Committee. If you are reading this bit, you are probably the first to ever do so. Either you need to get a library card or you really *do* care. Thank you.

This is a community newspaper, supported by you at fundraising events. We use advertising as a service to the community and as a way to cover costs.

We have two levels of advertising—classified and display. Classifieds are by donation. Display advertising is charged at the following rates:

1/8 page:	\$15.00 per issue	\$135 per year
1/6 page	\$20.00 per issue	\$180 per year
1/4 page	\$30.00 per issue	\$270 per year
1/2 page	\$60.00 per issue	\$540 per year

Classified ads by donation.

Mailing list subscriptions to the News are \$12.00 per year

Classifieds

FOR SALE - REPCO SUPALITE RACER. 27 inch frame, 14 speed Shimano gears, quick release wheels. VGC \$100 - Phone 0407 572 976

FOR SALE - MIRROR SAILING DINGY, 11 FOOT. Ideal for young beginners, jib and mainsail, oars, just repainted, can fit on car roof racks, better on top of 6x4 trailer. \$450.00 - Phone Bob Wills 32890235

FIREWOOD - LOCAL - Phone 3289 0156

FOR SALE - 21CM REYNOLDS 531 ROAD RACING BICYCLE. Shimano and SunTour brakes, gears, hubs and crank. Mavic rims. Comes with riding shoes, computer, lights and helmet. - \$400 Phone Dominic Hyde 32890093

FOR SALE - BIOLET ELECTRIC COMPOST-ING TOILET. One-piece unit, plug in and you're away. Sits immediately on toilet floor; small chamber to be emptied every month or so. Suits a house with 2 people max. For more info go to: <http://www.biolet.com/> - \$900 Phone Dominic Hyde 32890093

FOR SALE - 1/2 SIZE PRIMA VIOLIN - case, bow and rest included - needs two new strings - \$180 Phone Louise 3289 8348

YOGA - Mondays 7.00pm, Fridays 10.00am at Mt. Nebo Hall. All welcome. Phone Jeanne 3289 0235

WANTED - Someone to assist with house cleaning and or ironing for about 4 hrs a fortnight in Mt Nebo. Times can be negotiable. Contact Cathy 3289 8282 or 0438172161

QUEEN BED FOR SALE - very solid 'distressed' timber, colonial look, slat base, mattress incl, VGC \$300.00 Phone Andy 0409 871 779

TALL BOY FOR SALE - very solid 'distressed' timber, 4 sml 3 lge drawers, matching Q Bed above, VGC ph Andy 0409 871 779 \$250.00 or buy both for \$500.00!

FOR SALE Toyota Hilux Ute. Petrol 4cyl. 2.4. 3 seat. 200,000kms. No Rust. Good condition. RWC supplied \$5995. Phone Vic on 32890249



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.