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Covering Queensland's Sunshine Coast Hinterland



Hinterlandgrapevine Online

Friday June 22nd, 2007

Our Thoughts

For some time now we have been trying to promote our web site as a local community Online newspaper. Some weeks ago we changed the style of a weekly newsletter that we send out to our database of local email addresses.

I suppose that this is just a little self praise but on Tuesday this week I received an email from the Marketing Manager of "The New York Observer" newspaper, in short saying; "I visited your web site earlier today and I just wanted to congratulate you on a well presented, and informative web site. It is not often that I come across a web site that offers a wealth of quality and hard to find information."

The New York Observer, was founded by Arthur L. Carter in 1987, is the weekly newspaper of New York and we are pleased to have received this favourable comment from such a respectable New York newspaper.

You can read their online news at the following web site: www.observer.com

A Coming Event

The Blackall Range "Woodies" group is holding a "Show and Tell" day on the Montville Village Green on June 30th and July 1st.

This is a great opportunity to see some of the best woodcraft items in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland.

Entry is by donation and proceeds go to support the Blackall Range Care Group. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided by the Mapleton Community Library Volunteers.

Maleny R.F.B. celebrates 25 years of active service

Both present and former volunteers from the Maleny Rural Fire Brigade celebrated 25 years of continuous active service to the Maleny Community at a function at Tranquel Park last Saturday night.

Along with approximately 70 other people attending the function were Lloyd Larney and Tom Malone who are the only original members left who are still active members of the group today.

The original First Officer, Scott Battersby, a former teacher at the Maleny State High School returned to Maleny for the night.

Other guests who attended included, Mr. Peter Slipper, Federal member for Fisher, Ms Carolyn Male, State Member for Glasshouse, Cr Don Aldous, Mayor of Caloundra City and local Caloundra City Councillor, Dick Newman.

In his address to the function, the Emergency Services Minister, Pat Purcell said, "In Queensland alone Emergency Service Volunteers provide over \$30 million dollars of unpaid time to help fellow Queenslanders each year."

Group Leader for the association of Rural Fire brigades in Caloundra City, Peter Pammet praised the Maleny Group as

being a leader in a number of fields. They founded the Caloundra City Group which brings a focused plan to rural fires in Caloundra City, they pushed the state for upgraded training standards and now are the lead agency for training in the Caloundra City area. The Group also created a communications plan after many shortcomings were found during the Bells Creek Fire Emergency in the mid 1990's.

This R.F.B. plan was subsequently amended and is now the basis of the communications plan for the whole state.

Cr Don Aldous praised the number of younger members of the Maleny community who have joined the Maleny R.F.B. and have started their voluntary service to this community. Many of those younger members progressed from the Maleny Naval Cadet Unit.

Thankfully, units are now much better resourced than when the Maleny R.F.B. started 25 years ago.

Jobs from Hinterland Employment Services

Need a new employee to help out in these times of low unemployment? Call Jenny on

PH: 54999850

Visit our web site: <http://www.hinterlandgrapevine.com>

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Truthful Jones Tells...



When I spoke to Truthful yesterday he was not in his normal good mood. He appeared a little taken a back. I asked him what was wrong and he replied; "This morning my wife, who is in her late 50's was at home happily jumping on our bed and squealing with delight. I watched her a while then asked, "Do you have any idea how ridiculous you look? What's the matter with you?"

She continued to bounce on the bed and said, "I don't care how ridiculous I look. I just came from having a mammography and the doctor says I have the breasts of an 18-year old."

Truthful said, "What did he say about your 55 year-old ass?"

"Your name never came up," she replied.

This week's Saying

If you carry on like a pork chop chances are you'll end up covered in gravy...

.....Think about it

This week's Special

Wattyl Paintit Int Low Sheen - WTB

6 Litres

\$39.95

Maleny Paint Place

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THREE EASY STEPS FOR PAINTING A RAILING

1. If the timber is oily, has black spots (mould) or has greed from weathering, clean the railing thoroughly using Wattyl Exterior Timber Cleaner, otherwise brush down the surface with a soft bristle brush. Some sanding may be required for previously coated timber or timber in poor condition. Leave to dry completely before coating, this may take 1 - 2 days.
2. Apply one coat of Wattyl Deck and Exterior Timber Paint to the entire surface. Leave to dry for 2 hours.
- 3 Apply a second coat of Wattyl Deck and Exterior Timber Paint.

See the back of the pack for detailed preparation and application instructions.



All you need to do this job is available from Maleny Paint Place, 12 Bunya Street, Maleny. Phone 54942002

Fifth Avenue Collection
We create beauty and success

The new watches are in!! Beautiful pieces of fashion jewellery. Men are not forgotten, as there is a wonderful watch for the ladies, with a matching one designed for the man in your life.

The new rings are a delight, beautifully feminine, and designed to please. The new release for June is due out on Friday,

Click here to find out how to make a new career for yourself.

Shirley

Need Help buying a car? New or second hand

Whilst talking to Dan I asked him. "Why can't I get the same good deal as you do?"

He replied, "In some cases you can. But be prepared to do your homework, waste a lot of your valuable time and speak to a lot of one eyed salespeople whose sole aim is to keep profit in the deal. And, what sort of backup do you have if you have a warranty issue? Or, just want some technical advice on your car? Probably, none! We would hazard a guess to say that once you have purchased from the salesperson, you pretty much won't hear from them personally again. And any support you need, you will have to find for yourself.

Just ask yourself these questions:-

- (1) Do I really know everything that I need to know about this vehicle?
- (2) Am I really getting a good deal?
- (3) Do I really have the time to do this?

I then asked him, "How much do you charge?"

"Nothing!!! Our service is absolutely free when we deliver you a vehicle that has been purchased from a dealership. In fact you will end up saving money by using us as we always negotiate a price that is discounted. We do offer some services that we charge for but they will be discussed with you fully before we proceed."

I then asked him, "How do you get paid?"

"When we organise a delivery from a dealership, they pay us a set brokerage fee. This is not a commission on the vehicle, as you would pay if you were dealing direct with the salesman yourself."

When buying a new car why not take the stress out of the exercise? Have a talk to Dan at Suncoast Auto Brokers on 1300 365 352.

This weeks notices brought to you by Maleny Paint Place

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Maleny Rural Fire Brigade - Twenty-five years on...

Necessity is often the mother of invention and so it was with the Maleny Rural Fire Brigade.

Prior to 1982 the area outside of Maleny township did not have official fire protection. Then the Maleny Fire Auxiliary was part of the Caloundra Fire Service and serviced the Maleny town area, where there was retriulated water.

The main difference being that the Maleny Fire Auxiliary was equipped to fight structure fires and used water volume to extinguish the fire. As a result their fire tender was a "pumper" and connected to the town water supply.

Unlike Metropolitan Fire Services Rural Fire Brigades normally fought bush fires with fire, backburning and bush raking to bring fires under control. Whilst it was all hard backbreaking work but it also satisfying to know that people's property was spared from in many cases certain destruction. There was never a charge to those people for fire services rendered.

Whilst the Maleny area did have bush fire brigades in the 1930's and 1940's they had not operated for over 40 years so when the Maleny State Emergency Service Group was formed in the early 1980's they took on the duties of a bush fire brigade as part of their charter.

This continued on for a couple of years but it was soon found that bureaucracy was becoming a problem as funding was not available for fire fighting

through the State Emergency Services but was available through the Rural Fire Services. Even through this service funding was not available to groups who were not "officially" part of the Rural Fire Service network.

During this time, the mid 1980's, because of the growing popularity of rural residences being built in the middle of bushland there was an increasing call on the volunteer service for bush fire suppression. Funding at this time was gained through local fundraising ventures. Fuel costs alone was a major expenditure, without wear and tear on the meagre amount of "firefighting" equipment that was available to the Maleny State Emergency Service. What equipment that was available was generally supplied by the volunteers and friends themselves.

As a result it was decided to form the Maleny Rural Fire Service to service the Maleny area.

Those volunteers who were members of the Maleny State Emergency Service also became members of the Maleny Rural Fire Service.

Well known local identity, Lloyd Larney was group leader of the Maleny State Emergency whilst Maleny High school teacher, Scott Battersby was First Officer of the Maleny Fire Service.

As both groups had the same members it was easy to train together and attended the various incidents together, thus sharing vital equipment. In real terms it was the same organisation, but with two dif-

ferent names. All of this to satisfy bureaucracy.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's saw a continuing period of "callouts" to fires. The fires were getting more intense and in some difficult areas. Fires in those difficult areas in previous years would have been left to burn until they came out to easier ground. With the increasing number of bush residences in these areas this was no longer possible. Those same residents also required a "greener future and for some years it was impossible to do fuel reduction burns. As a result fuel loads in our bushland continued to increase resulting in hotter fires when they did occur.

Local farmers, especially Ray Lucas and Fraser Skerman regularly provided not only their knowledge and expertise but their 4wd tractors to assist in these areas. Rod Wild of "Wild Water Deliveries" was only a phone call away with his tanker when needed.

Some of the more difficult fires included areas such as Bald Knob where there were generally yearly fires, some being particularly dangerous, the Mt Mellum area where fires would escape into the forestry area. On one occasion due to extreme weather conditions a fire was likely to burn through from Mt Mellum to Peachester, The Reesville area above the Conondale valley where certain farmers would regularly light fires and would allow them to burn out of control approaching the newly built houses around the rim of the range.

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Apple Safari browser on your windows computer

The world's fastest web browser for Macs is now available for Windows PCs. Safari 3 is the fastest browser running on Windows, based on the industry-standard iBench tests, rendering web pages up to twice as fast as IE 7 and up to 1.6 times faster than Firefox 2.

Safari joins iTunes in delivering Apple's legendary user experience to both Windows and Mac users as well as full support of open Internet standards.

In the first 48 hours of availability, customers downloaded more than 1 million copies of the Safari for Windows public beta. Safari 3, the world's fastest and easiest-to use web browser, supports all modern Internet standards including HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SVG and Java. It's available as a free download at www.apple.com.au/safari/. Try an Apple today.

Maleny Rural Fire Brigade

- Twenty-five years on...

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The fires between Caboolture and Beerwah in 1995 were particularly severe. Those fires destroyed hundreds of acres of mature pine forest. These fires needed fire-fighters and Queensland Forestry workers from as far away as Brisbane and they burnt for over a week.

Sadly, it was during these fires that a fire vehicle from Palmwoods was overrun by fire and totally destroyed. The crew of seven all suffered severe burns requiring hospitalisation for months.

Danger is always present around bush fires but can be minimised by using common sense and experience. Unfortunately, sometimes because of prevailing circumstances this danger is underestimated and disaster occurs as we saw a few years ago with the fires around Canberra where hundreds of

houses were destroyed.

On Saturday June 16th about 70 newer and original members celebrated 25 years of operation at a function at Tranquel Park Restaurant.

Following very strong representation in the early 1990's by First Officer Scott Battersby and others to the Caloundra City Council a fire levy was placed on rural residences to help fund Rural Fire Brigades. This levy is now common to many rural councils. This, in association with a much better funding system provided by the State Government has led to much improvement in the state of equipment provided to local volunteer Rural Fire Groups.

Today the Maleny Group has its own support group which is responsible for fundraising, attracting new volunteers, feeding the volunteers during operations and general help with administration.

This group is now as important to the Voluntary Operations Group as the actual firefighters as they take the worry of ensuring that the group is properly resourced from those who have to do the actual firefighting.

Apart from fire fighting you often see the Maleny Rural Fire Brigade assisting the Maleny Stgate Emergency Service with traffic control at local events such as ANZAC Day march.

If you are interested in joining the Maleny Rural Fire Service Group or the Support Group why not contact First Officer Mal Moore on (07) 5494 3697.

Support your local Businesses

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Hinterland Employment Service		5499 9850
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Impact Painters	-	0429 640 732
Maleny Cheese Factory	-	5494 2207
Maleny Print & Copy Centre	-	5494 2888
Maleny Paint Place	-	5494 2002
Partner Foods	-	5494 3155
Maleny Paint Place	-	54942002
Suncoast Auto Brokers	-	1300 365 352

Local Businesses offer support and services to you and your business. They also provide local employment. Why not support them.

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