



## CONVERSATIONS

### \$485M to be cut from LANDCARE

#### What Are They Thinking???

I had an hour in the car with Justus Hagen on Friday and, like everyone else in the country, our conversation turned to the recent Federal budget.

The Federal Government makes much of its desire to devolve responsibility for Health and for Education to the local level where, they claim, these crucial services can most effectively & efficiently be delivered and managed.

Personally, I cannot think of a better example where such a devolved model has worked than with LANDCARE.

Most farmers and rural folk have an ingrained sense of environmental responsibility, partly because they live with the effects & indirect costs of past insensitive environmental practices.

But farmers tend to be a conservative bunch and they don't take kindly to people turning up at their gate and telling them how to do things.

The current Landcare model has been so wonderfully effective because it combines two potent ingredients: SELF INTEREST and SELF HELP.

As with most new things, Landcare had its early adopters while others took longer to be convinced, but a significant factor in Landcare's success has been the 'over the fence' learning. When a well respected neighbouring farmer demonstrates the benefits of planting indigenous trees & under-story, fencing off streams, bogs & swamps and re-establishing wildlife corridors there is a measurable snow-ball effect throughout the district.

I heard Barnaby Joyce on radio a few days ago telling us that The Green Army will be funded by the cuts to Landcare and that they will pick up where Landcare leaves off.

So, from right across Australia one or more of the 16,000 members of The Green Army will somehow find their way to your farm gate to do what you and Landcare have been doing so very effectively for decades.

I reckon this is a classic case of trying to fix something that's not broken.

By Don Cook

*Disclosure: The writer is paid by Landcare to produce, edit, and distribute The Granite News.*

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Student of the Week Daniel



#### For a terrific letter to an author for his homework task....Well done!

**Fundraiser:** Last Saturday's fundraiser was a huge success and the feedback was very positive.

Thank you to Gaelyn, Maree, Tania, Bridget, Philip, Cindy, Cath, Heidi, Marg and Chris, who donated food, prepared sandwiches, set up the hall, washed dishes and cleaned up. Because of everyone's generosity and assistance on the day we raised \$800 for the school.

This money will go towards staffing. We are currently staffed beyond our means with 2 teachers and we are working to fill the shortfall.

**Excursion:** We have booked a whole school excursion to a Dinosaur exhibition at the Caulfield Racecourse for Tuesday 24th June. We will travel by train. More details to follow.

By Meagan Callander—Principal, HPS

## LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

### FOX ON THE RUN 2014

#### TEAM WITH THE MOST FOX TAILS WINS!



HCCC Landcare is once again running the "Fox on the Run" competition which commences on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

To register your team please email Simone [hughes.creek1@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek1@gmail.com) prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>



Hughes Creek  
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME to ISSUE 17 2014  
Contact [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) 5790 4007

## FARMING & ENVIRONMENT

### Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua*

The Messmate was one of the first eucalypt species to be described by French botanist L'Heritier in 1788. It is widespread in wet forest areas and some coastal localities throughout South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and eastern New South Wales.



The messmate's timber is commonly used in general construction, furniture, panelling and flooring.

This is a very foxy tree that tolerates drought well once established and can recover well after fire.

The messmate tree is also favoured by koalas as a food source.

**Family:** Myrtaceae

**Height:** to 90 metres

**Lifespan:** 80 plus years

**Growth rate:** Moderate to fast

**Soil preferred:** Well drained, sandy/clay loams

**Appearance:** Tall tree (no kidding), in poorer soils can be small with many branches, thick, rough fibrous stringy bark

**Flowers:** White flowers from December to February, can sometimes flower year round

Info: [www.anbg.gov.au](http://www.anbg.gov.au) ,  
[www.victoriannativeseed.com.au](http://www.victoriannativeseed.com.au)



GOULBURN  
BROKEN  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

FINDING FOXY Issue 16  
Top of Page 2 & Lower Left of Page 4

**KOPANICA PASTORAL  
EXCAVATIONS**



PH. 0357 904 235  
MOB. 0429 804 235

RABBIT RIPPING, DAMS, DRIVEWAYS  
GENERAL EARTHWORKS &  
MACHINERY HIRE

**HABBIES HOWE  
BEEF**

Mature, well hung &  
available. Prahran,  
Yarck, Ruffy or Habbies

5796 9260

[www.habbieshowe.com.au](http://www.habbieshowe.com.au)

**Cavanagh Hayes & Assoc.  
Management Consultants**

**"Helping you focus on  
what is important!"**

Customer Value Discovery -  
understanding what is  
important to your clients and  
community

[cavhayes@westnet.com.au](mailto:cavhayes@westnet.com.au)  
0419557571

**Rocky  
Passes**



Tastings &  
"blackboard  
menu" lunch  
Sundays  
11am - 5pm

Tapas bar  
last Friday of  
the month  
from 6pm

Bookings 57969366  
1590 Highlands Rd  
[www.rockypasses.com.au](http://www.rockypasses.com.au)

**FRANZ KLOFT  
MECHANICAL REPAIRS**  
Repairs & service of  
vehicles

Tyres, Windscreens, Brakes,  
Batteries, Exhausts,  
Wheel alignment,  
Automatic transmission

Phone 5795 2910

38 Railway Street, Euroa  
FREE QUOTES

**ruffy**  
producestore  
[www.ruffy.com.au](http://www.ruffy.com.au)

open lunch fridays  
dinner every  
friday night  
weekends & holidays  
breakfast from 8.30am  
lunch from 12 noon  
bookings a good idea  
phone 5790 4387

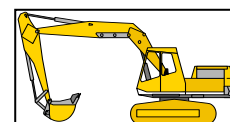
**ALEXANDRA VETERINARY  
CLINIC**

**Emergency Service**  
Mobile AH 0408 576056

Dr Doug Norman B.V.Sc.(Hons)  
Dr Denia Ford B.V.Sc.(Hons)  
Phone: 5772 1600

Regular trips to the Tablelands on Friday  
afternoons with discounted travel

**A.J. & S.L. SHAW  
EXCAVATIONS**



GENERAL EARTHWORKS

Andrew 0427969297  
Sharyn 0437281072

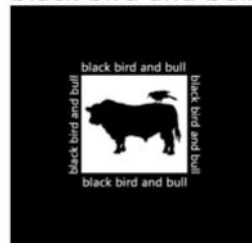


**SUSAN & PETER KRICKIC**  
0421 407 721 (03) 5796 9192

Donation from  
Supporters of  
The Macquarie Perch  
in our Streams



**black bird and bull**



picture framing  
and studio gallery in Terip Terip  
57904167 or 0419131650

**AG Fencing &  
Contracting Services**  
Grant Wheatley

All fence constructions,  
Equipment maintenance &  
Pump repairs,  
Blasting Service

"Not sure if we do it?"

Give us a call  
0407 028 122



**LAWSON**

General earthworks & hole boring  
Diesel repairs & servicing  
Metal fabrication & welding  
Shed construction & removal

Callum - 0437 182 223 5796 9265  
[lawsontop@gmail.com](mailto:lawsontop@gmail.com)



Phone Ian on

: 0408990487

: 57904328

Registered Electrical Contractor:

License No. 16959

**WALES RURAL**

Let the  
land  
produce

38 Emily Street Seymour  
Ph. 5792 1088



**CF & HL HANDASYDE BUILDERS**  
Established 1978  
NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS,  
RENOVATIONS, DOMESTIC, RURAL  
ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS.  
Registered Building Practitioner

Call Colin for a quote  
Telephone: 0419 502 782  
[handasydebuilders@bigpond.com](mailto:handasydebuilders@bigpond.com)

**Rodwells**  
A RURALCO BUSINESS

Come see Rodwells Alexandra  
for all your Farm Supply  
requirements, from Fencing &  
Animal Health needs to  
Agronomic Advice.

Please phone (03) 57 722 444  
Free Delivery Available

**SOLAR ELECTRICS**  
SOLAR PUMPS

\* For Bores \* For Creeks

\* For Dams \* For Foxy

SOLAR ELECTRIC FENCES

OFF-GRID INSTALLS &

UPRADES

SOLAR LIGHTING

GENERATORS

44 Tarcombe St., Euroa

Ph 5795 1567 or 0408 619779

[www.commodoreaustralia.com.au](http://www.commodoreaustralia.com.au)

**BAILEY'S FUNERAL  
SERVICES P/L**

27 Highlands Rd, Seymour  
Offering a caring and  
professional service  
Prices starting from \$3500  
Cremation, \$4500 Burial plus  
cemetery fees.

Contact Garnet on  
57992007 24 Hours.



Abseiling, BMX bikes,  
9 hole golf course, cabins,  
camping and much more.

Bookings: 0423 006 667  
Site ph: 5797 6351  
[www.mafekingroverpark.com](http://www.mafekingroverpark.com)



- Needs NO electricity or fuels to run & operates with zero operating costs
- Nearest thing to perpetual motion
- Self-lubricating & low maintenance
- Gives long-lasting service
- Harness your own hydraulic power to pump water using only water

Manufactured by Misal Technologies Pty. Ltd.

Ph: 03 9876 5222 [www.misaltech.com](http://www.misaltech.com)  
Email: [misaltech@bigpond.com](mailto:misaltech@bigpond.com)

**gotafe**  
choose success

Agriculture & NCDEA Farm  
division of GOTAFE offer  
industry specific short courses  
to improve on-farm profitability  
& employment skills.

For details of our  
next workshop

Contact Robyn 0407358191  
[rrichards@gotafe.vic.edu.au](mailto:rrichards@gotafe.vic.edu.au)

**Koponica  
Pastoral  
Company P/L**  
Livestock, Water and  
General Cartage

**We Will Cart Anything**

Phone 5790 4235  
Mobile 0447 775 247

**BenCo**  
PLUMBING SERVICES

Ben Laycock  
License no. 105134

0438512299

[bencoplumbingservices.com](http://bencoplumbingservices.com)  
[ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au](mailto:ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au)

# Classifieds & Community Notices

## LOCAL GOINGS ON



Ruffy Store and Brave Goose Vineyard invite you to a fabulous shared table dinner matched with handmade, boutique wines, introduced by winemaker Nina Stocker

**Saturday May 24th 7pm**  
**26 Nolans Road Ruffy Vic**

\$60 pp. RSVP Helen 03 5790 4387  
Email [store@ruffy.com.au](mailto:store@ruffy.com.au)

## 'FAMILIAR GROUND'

An Exhibition of Pastel works  
by Hurstbridge artist, Kylie Sirett.

Kylie began using pastel as a medium because of its ability to accommodate life's little interruptions, and over the past few years has developed her own unique style.

Kylie's recent work focuses on the strong shadows that objects create and she draws inspiration for her intimate still life works from her immediate surroundings; seeing strength in the objects' original design. She boldly re-creates objects through her complex layers of colour built up from short strokes of pastel, enriching each item with texture and character.



You can join Kylie Sirett (whose current exhibition 'Familiar Ground' is showing at the Ruffy Store) as she demonstrates her particular style of pastel work. Kylie will take participants on a hands-on journey through the method she uses to create her pastel images, sharing personal insights into her own specific style.

The workshop on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> of June is suited to both beginners and the more experienced.

The cost is \$79 including all materials required for the day and morning tea on arrival. Lunch available at the Ruffy Store or BYO

Places are limited, bookings essential by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June  
Contact Helen on 5790 4387 or [store@ruffy.com.au](mailto:store@ruffy.com.au)

## LOCAL GARDENING WORKSHOPS

We still have two more workshops to go in the series .

On 27<sup>th</sup> May at the Tablelands Community Centre award winning landscape designer Brian Rankin will return to finalise our plans.

On 19th June the last workshop will be held at the Euroa Arboretum, learning how and when to take cuttings from native plants.

If you would like to try your hand with cuttings, its best to get some good tips of plants – around 20cm length. Pop them straight into a plastic bag with some moisture and keep them cool – refrigerate if collecting the night before. But fresh is best. Very new, soft growth will wilt like crazy and not work – best to use quite robust stems. Or plant material will be available at the Arboretum on the day, cost for this workshop is \$5 per person to cover materials.

**Bookings contact Fiona 5790 4369 or Helen 5790 4387**



## TABLELANDS "WINTER BINGO" is BACK.....YAY !!

Come along and bring family & friends for a Fun Night with other local folks.

Quirky prizes and Free Supper

Friday May 30th at Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy  
**7:30pm 'Eyes Down' at 8pm Sharp**  
For further information  
Contact Sally 5790 4335



## TERIP TERIP RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

AGM and Election of Office Bearers

Wednesday 21st May 7:30pm

Terip Recreation Reserve

All Members are encouraged to attend

Contact Jim Davidson 5790 4202



## RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING




Monday 26th May 7:30pm

At the RUFFY COMMUNITY HALL

Members and Guests are Welcome and Encouraged

Contact Justus Hagen 5790 4268

# COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR MAY/JUNE 2014

<b>CFA ROSTERS W/C May 19th</b>	• Terip Terip..... 3rd Lieutenant Tim Lawrence's Team
<b>TERIP TERIP MOWING ROSTER</b>	<p><b>W/C 19th May</b> Alec &amp; Marion Rowan—Max &amp; Joan Eddy Car Park &amp; All Four Courts</p> <hr/> <p><b>W/C 2nd Jun</b> Peter Short &amp; Betty Jenkins—Brad Kellett &amp; Kate Wright Both sides of Springs Rd &amp; All Four Courts</p>
<b>Sunday 18th May 12:00 Midday</b>	<p><b>STRAWBERRY FIELDS MUSIC FESTIVAL MEETING</b> <span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">TODAY !</span> at 'Strathnaver' Gum Road, Caveat</p> <p>Everyone is Welcome to come along to a BBQ to meet the organisers of this year's Music Festival that will be held at Strathnaver on the weekend of 21st November. BYO Drinks &amp; Chairs. Please RSVP for catering purposes <b>Contact Julia McKay 5796 9259</b></p>
<b>NOW until Sunday 22nd June</b>	<p><b>'FAMILIAR GROUND' ART EXHIBITION</b> <span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">ON NOW !</span> at the Ruffy Produce Store Nolans Rd., Ruffy</p> <p>An exhibition of pastel works by Hurstbridge artist, Kylie Sirett. Free Viewing—Yummy Cake &amp; Coffee are extra !</p>
<b>Monday 19th May 8:00pm</b>	<p><b>RUFFY HALL COMMITTEE MEETING</b> Ruffy Community Hall, Nolans Road Quarterly committee meeting and All Welcome. <b>Contact Sharron Batt 5790 4329</b></p>
<b>Wednesday 21st May 7:30pm</b>	<p><b>TERIP TERIP RURAL FIRE BRIGADE</b> at the Terip Recreation Reserve</p> <p>Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers All members are encouraged to attend.  <b>Contact Jim Davidson Secretary/Treasurer 5790 4202</b></p>
<b>Friday 23rd May 7:00pm</b>	<p><b>RUFFY HAPPY HOUR (or TWO!)</b> Ruffy Community Hall, Nolans Road "Come along and catch up with friends or meet someone new, everyone welcome!" BBQ provided BYO meat/drinks and a salad or sweet to share <b>Contact Henry 5790 4246</b></p>
<b>Friday 23rd May 7:30pm</b>	<p><b>W B GADD WINTER 2014 FASHION PREVIEW &amp; LIVE MUSIC</b> 1 Queen St., Avenel</p> <p>Come along and see our Winter Fashion Range with Guest Speaker Peri Drysdale from MerinoMink 5% of proceeds, incl tickets sales &amp; knitwear sales from the weekend following - donated to the Avenel Kindergarten Also, back by popular demand <b>CLAUDE CARRANZA (Black Sorrows)</b> \$25 per head <b>Book at <a href="http://www.wbgadd/events">www.wbgadd/events</a></b></p>
<b>Saturday 24th May 7:00pm</b>	<p><b>BRAVE GOOSE VINEYARD — DINNER</b> Ruffy Produce Store, Nolans Rd., Ruffy Ruffy Store &amp; Brave Goose Vineyard invite you to a Shared Table Dinner. Featuring wines by winemaker Nina Stocker. \$60 pp. Bookings Essential <b>Contact Helen 5790 4387 <a href="mailto:store@ruffy.com.au">store@ruffy.com.au</a></b></p>
<b>Saturday 24th 8:00pm Sunday 25th May 4:00pm</b>	<p><b>EUROA CINEMA "Tracks"</b> 113 mins (M) **** 4 stars</p> <p>In April 1977, Robyn Davidson began a 3,200km trek from Alice Springs to the West Australian coast, accompanied by three adult camels, one baby camel and a dog. She fortunately received good advice from an Aboriginal elder but nothing can really prepare her for the isolation, invading bull camels and the amazing wilderness of the Australian outback</p>
<b>Sunday 25th May 11:15am</b>	<p><b>ST.DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH TERIP-RUFFY</b> Ruffy Road, Terip Terip</p> <p>This service will be conducted by our minister, Reverend Glenys Gill. All welcome. <b>For any information Contact Jennifer Penny 5790 4233</b></p>
<b>Sunday 25th May 4:00pm</b>	<p><b>PIPED MUSIC in THE BUSH—A FANTASY of CLASSICAL PIPES</b> at Peter Hagen's Broadford Studio</p> <p>The third concert in Peter Hagen's series just out of Broadford will feature a real pipe organ on loan from the Melbourne University Early Music Studio. Tickets \$38 each. Book at <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/71878">http://www.trybooking.com/71878</a></p>
<b>Monday 26th May 7:30pm</b>	<p><b>RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE</b> Annual General Meeting Ruffy Community Hall </p> <p>All members &amp; guests encouraged and Welcome to attend <b>Contact Justus Hagen 5790 4268</b></p>
<b>Tuesday 27th May 3pm-5pm</b>	<p><b>LANDSCAPING &amp; GARDENING WORKSHOP No. 3</b> Tablelands Community Centre Nolans Rd., Ruffy</p> <p>Brian Rankin will return to finalise our plans for the design of the new garden at the Tablelands Community Centre All welcome entry by gold coin donation. For further information <b>Contact Fiona 5790 4369 or Helen 5790 4387</b></p>
<b>Thursday 29th May 5:30pm</b>	<p><b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat</p> <p>Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks</p>
<b>Friday 30th May 6:30pm</b>	<p><b>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT</b> Rocky Passes Winery 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek</p> <p>The popular Tapas Nights provide a relaxing way to end the week by enjoying great food &amp; wine with friends. <b>Contact 5796 9366 or <a href="mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au">contact@rockypasses.com.au</a></b></p>
<b>Friday 30th May 7:30pm</b>	<p><b>TABLELANDS FAMILY BINGO NIGHT</b> Tablelands Community Centre @ Ruffy Nolans Road</p> <p>Family Fun &amp; Prizes—20 Rounds—\$1 per Playing Card Every Round Wins a Prize—Final Round Prize \$50 Everyone is Welcome Free Supper Provided <b>Contact Sally 5790 4335 or 0407 904335</b></p>
<b>Saturday 31st May 11:00am</b>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT RURAL FIRE BRIGADE</b> at the Highlands Fire Shed </p> <p>End of Season Meeting &amp; AGM (Election of Office Bearers) Followed by a BBQ—BYO Drinks Everyone welcome (new residents encouraged) <b>Contact Les Lawson 5796 9265 or Alistair Lade 5796 9276</b></p>
<b>Sunday 1st June 9:00am</b>	<p><b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE WORKING BEE</b> at the Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</p> <p>We need to have a good old clean up before Winter. Bring your own tools &amp; implements and we'll provide a BBQ Lunch</p>
<b>Friday 13th June 6:30pm</b>	<p><b>'DRINKS ON THE DECK'</b> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome - especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. <b>Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247</b></p>

