



FARMING & ENVIRONMENT

Another Everyday Farm Job that Poses a Potential Risk

Glenaladale CFA volunteer John Hine was faced with a battle last year, one he never saw coming.

This time last year John was cutting up the annual supply of Redgum firewood on his farm in Woodglen.

John had no idea he was inhaling a small fungus that lives in some timbers. The substance is in form of a white powder that when

disturbed becomes airborne. John said a few weeks after cutting the firewood he began to feel sick.

"I started experiencing symptoms such as muscle aches, fever, sweating and headaches so severe no amount of Nurofen or Panadol could help



me," said John. Initially it was thought that John had lung cancer as chest X-rays and CT scans revealed a shadow on the lungs.

"I was referred to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne for further scans and a bed was set aside for immediate transfer to the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

"It was soon discovered that in fact I didn't have cancer but a rare fungus infection which has spread from my lungs into spinal fluid and into the brain.

The rare fungal infection is called *Cryptococcal Fungus*.

The illness is very uncommon and on average 6 to 10 Victorians are diagnosed with infection every year. "An intense medical treatment plan was administered including daily intravenous therapy of anti-fungal fluid by a team of specialist doctors and nurses.

"The treatment really flattened me, after my release I returned weeks later. It's been a really long journey which all started exactly 12 months ago.

It's not completely gone yet, fingers crossed I can beat this."

The strain of fungus John inhaled is most commonly found in Redgum, but other strains exist in other timbers including

Blue gum, and Blackwoods.

John shares his story so that others may learn. John said simple precautionary steps could have been taken like wearing a face mask. "Our family and friends keep a pack of respirators on hand now; I hope I can educate others about the risk.

I'm a self-employed farmer and CFA volunteer who drives the fire truck. I never even knew of *Cryptococcal Fungus* until I caught this illness. I just want to thank my family and my wife Carmel who has been by my side and seen me through ups and downs."

This article appeared on the CFA website June 1st 2017 and is reprinted in the interests of Public Safety



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

Contact editor@tgn.org.au
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www.highlands.org.au



HCCC Landcare

is now on Facebook

Keep up with all of our activities

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LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

FOX on the RUN 2017



This year we are changing it up a bit and rather than tails we need the front left foot!

\$3 per each front left foot up to a maximum of 100 feet.

You can register as a team or an individual.

The competition runs from the 4th June until 8th July with feet to be handed in by the 9th July.

Dinner and presentation to be held in July with trophies for the most collected.

'Fox on the Run' caps for those that register.

* Contact Mel to register

0417126975 57969157
hughes.creek1@gmail.com

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Classifieds and Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON



Take a Bite out of Winter

The Highlands Community Group was formed 2 years ago as a way to bring together the community of Highlands.

Our first event was held in July last year 'Take a bite out of Winter' as a stress-free casserole/curry night.

Around 50 people turned out on a typically freezing Highlands Saturday night to enjoy great conversations and even better home cooked meals.

Neil Van Buuren's Coq a Vin was a stand-out and many recipes were exchanged between members of the community.

The night was such a success that we had many requests to make it an annual event. So we did!

Please join us on Saturday the 24th of June at the Highlands Hall.

'Take a bite out of Winter' enjoy a home-cooked meal and a hearty conversation.

Contact Mel 0417126975 or Judy 5796 9247



TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

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FOR SALE

BRAND NEW
Kemlan Super Nova
fire place



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2 x Buffet/Hutch Sideboards
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1 x Kingsize Bed with Custom-made Timber Headboard
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plus many more items

5790 4190

Inspection Welcome/ Offers Invited



FOUND

KELPIE

Black & Tan

Female

Not microchipped or tattooed

Approx 2-3 yo Very friendly

Found wandering the Caveat area

Friday June 9th

0439 257693

*Photo for illustration only
This is not the found dog*

SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

The verb form of the English word "run" has been calculated to have almost 650 different meanings

WANTED

TRITON WORKBENCH
or
ROUTER STAND

With or without
Power Tools

Please Contact John

0417 549 137

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x 2

\$180 each

From Highlands/Caveat CFA

Please Contact Pauline

0427 529 551

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — JUNE/JULY 2017



Tomorrow

Monday 19th
June
7:30pm

RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

at Ruffy Fire Shed

All members are encouraged to attend the End of Season Meeting. Updates on the past season and information on how the Brigade is preparing for future challenges. **Further information from Justus Hagen 5790 4268**

Thursday 22nd
June
5:30pm

SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat

Come along and have a casual friendly chat with other local blokes. Everyone Welcome BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks



Saturday 24th
June
6:30pm

TAKE A BITE OUT OF WINTER

at Highlands Hall



Curry and Casserole night - bring a slow cooker or Casserole to share. BYO drinks. Gold coin donation.

Please let us know if you can make it Mel 0417126975 July 5796 9247

Sunday 25th
June
10:30am

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

meet at Highlands Hall

Last Sunday was far too cold and wet for most people and our walk was postponed and we will try again to walk with Andrew Shaw from Spaniak's Road to Lades Road weather permitting! Start from Highlands Hall or join us at the corner of Spaniak's Road & Highlands Road at 10.45am.

For more information contact Judy Reid 5796 9358



Saturday 1st
July
9am—2pm

YEA COUNTRY MARKET

Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea

Showcasing local producers, growers and makers offering an array of stalls, the best in fresh local produce, arts and crafts, children's activities, play ground & skate park. Gold coin donation entry

Monday 10th
July
11am

HIGHLANDS SPINNERS

450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd. Caveat

Bring anything that you may be busy working on – knitting, embroidery, spinning, etc..... All Welcome

Contact Jan 5790 4361



Friday 14th
July
6:30pm

DRINKS ON THE DECK

at Highlands Community Hall

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.

Contact Judy 5796 9247



Saturday 15th
July
9am—1pm

EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET

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Sunday 25th
June
9am — 1pm

NAGAMBIE FARMERS MARKET

on centre median strip High St Nagambie

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