



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

With summer almost upon us it's time to think about getting rid of the noxious weeds - especially blackberry - see below and planning ahead for planting come autumn. Not to mention ripping for rabbits in the cooler months or fencing, at any time. So many things to do on the land and so little time, isn't it great that attached to this week's TGN is a list of suppliers, contractors, etc for all the above and more. So at least you don't have to research these resources, just print off the attachment! Thanks to UGLN for this valuable list. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** - was looking forward to going on the Rail Trail walk.

Feedback? - contact editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

"Creative people don't have a mess, they just have ideas lying around everywhere."

Anon.

The Granite News is an open but moderated community forum.

Readers are encouraged to contribute articles and we also encourage you to air your views on things that interest or concern you within our community.

We certainly welcome feedback from you, positive or otherwise on anything that is published in *The Granite News*

HCCC News

Important Message from the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative (HCCC)

It's summer and it's time to think about Blackberries. Not jam or fresh fruit for Pavs but eradicating the weed!

HCCC is subsidising the costs for chemicals for Blackberry spraying.

Each land owner/ rent/ lease will be subsidised 50% for the cost of the weedicide, and wetting agent to a maximum of 3.

The chemicals can be purchased from;

- Seymour Equine and Rural, Emily street Seymour or
- Seymour Ag Emily street Seymour

To get the subsidy you just have show that your property is in the Hughes Creek Catchment which covers Whiteheads Creek, Highlands, Caveat, Terip, Ruffy and Tarcombe.

HCCC also have a range of sprayers that can be hired for a small donation to Landcare. (This helps pay for the maintenance of the units) Contact Neil van Buuren for further information

Help us to get rid of this noxious weed!

Phone Neil - 0417 503 472 or 03 5796 9111 or email
hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au

Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) is a Weed of National Significance. It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its invasiveness, potential for spread, & economic and environmental impacts. See attachment for Supplier information & pricing.

****** Blackberry is declared noxious in all states and territories except the Northern Territory. Landowners are required to control it. Check with your local council or state/territory government agency about its requirements for blackberry control. ******

SELL IT—BUY IT

WANTED - more bees, would you believe?

Janine would like to acquire a hive - ring 0409 013344 if you have one that needs a new home

Wanted

Paterson's Curse - DEAD, cactus, killed off, exterminated & mort!



WEBSITE of the WEEK

www.sustainabilityvictoria.vic.gov.au

This website is a one-stop shop for all things sustainable from saving energy to solar power to waste and recycling.

Please note: Thursday evening is the deadline for inclusion in the following week's TGN although this will depend on space and time constraints—thanks

Community Notices & Classifieds

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — November, December & January

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Wednesday 28th Nov. @ 7.30 sharp - 9pm | SWING DANCE CLASSES The swinging dancers are at it again with another series of classes, come along and join in the fun bopping away to the music of Glenn Miller and his friends. | at Ruffy Hall Enquiries? - Ray 0467 951559 |
| Thursday 29th Nov. @ 5.30 pm | SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat. | at Caveat Church |
| Friday 30th November 9 - 11 am | UGLN - RAIL TRAIL NATURE WALK This event is part of Bird Life Australia's Challenge Bird Count and walkers will record all bird species and numbers observed. See previous attachment for further details. | meet @ Cheviot Tunnel Car Park, Cheviot Rd, Limestone Enquiries? Chris 0413 855490 - ugln.projects@ugln.net |
| Friday 30th November BBQ @ 6.30 pm | HIGHLANDS END of YEAR GET TOGETHER BBQ snags & hamburgers provided BYO salad to share. As this is a community event ALL local community groups are & community members are invited to attend. See previous attachments for further details | at Highlands Community Hall |
| Saturday & Sunday 1st & 2nd December 10 - 4 | DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO Darren's studio, with his stunning, creative works is now open to the public on the first weekend each month. Quality art in the local community and not too far to travel to enjoy it. | 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands |
| Tuesday 4th December @ 7.30pm | RUFFARTZ AGM All welcome! New members of committee most welcome to fill vacancies. | at Ruffy Hall Enquiries? 0448 978432 |
| Saturday 8th December @ 6.30pm | RUFFY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY Further details to come, but Save the Date!! | |
| Monday 10th December @ 11 am  PARTY!! | HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2018 at the same place—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! This is our Christmas break-up, so please bring a plate or bowl of something to share. | Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361 |
| Friday 14th December | No Drinks on the Deck for December, but the weekly party returns on Friday 11th January, same bat time, same bat place - be there! | |
| Sunday 16th December | The LAST Granite News for 2018! | |
| Saturday 22nd Dec. @ 12 - 2  | HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. | at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Candi 57969366 |
| Saturday 12th January 10am start | TERIP TERIP ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT For more details contact Cindy 0429 772 011 or Frances 0427 904 262 | at Terip Terip Tennis Courts |
| Sunday 20th January | The RETURN of Granite News for 2019! Don't forget to send in your articles, ads & attachments in advance for inclusion in TGN Volume 13 Issue 1 to editor@tgn.org.au | |
| Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30 | MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight - Dec 5th & 19th Don't forget the cake and coffee a bargain @ \$4! | at Highlands Community Hall |
| Every Monday 10 am | YOGA AT RUFFY Yoga with Kylie Penny is in full swing. All welcome! Equipment provided, \$15 per class. (BYO water bottle) Any enquiries please call/SMS Kylie 0418899966 or email kyliepenny@gmail.com | at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy |

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WOW!! What a feast of culture, sport & entertainment ~ why would we want to live anywhere else??

What, another book review??

Some readers may be wondering why, in every second TGN, a book review appears. Well there's a couple of reasons for this...in another lifetime I was a librarian and I love to recommend **GREAT** reads in the hope that others will enjoy them too. However, more importantly, it's a little reminder that the Murrindindi Mobile Library is visiting the Highlands Hall the following Wednesday morning. Most locations in the HCCC area would be within 30 minutes drive of this location and it is well worth the effort to discover not only what is on the shelves, but also the extended catalogue of titles that can be reserved for later collection. You do not have to be a Murrindindi ratepayer to make use of this service - just bring along some ID and sign up - as the BEST things in life are free! However if you are a ratepayer of Murrindindi then you can also pay accounts like rates & animal registrations with credit/EFTPOS cards too. Why not pop in and have a chat with Piers or Sarah? And don't forget the yummy cake and coffee on offer to complete the morning's outing.

A BIG thanks to the 14 farmers who have signed up to the MLA's Healthy Soils Program. Hopefully the HCCC's application will be accepted and discussion about soil can begin. Happy worms like healthy soils!



Egad - one less social occasion !!!

Due to the fantastic End of Year celebration at the Highlands Hall on Friday 30th November - be there or be square - sadly, there will be no Drinks on the Deck happening on **Friday 14th December**. HOWEVER due to popular demand Drinkies on the Deck will return in 2019 on **Friday 11th January!** YAY! CHEER! See you there...



Save the Date - Saturday 12th January

Fancy yourself the next Rodger Federer or one of the Williams' sisters? Well brush up your forehand, drop volley and on court antics and you'll have an excellent time at the annual **TTTT** Terip Terip Tennis Tournament.

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Details in coming issues or call Cindy 0429 772 011

You've got to be in it to win it!!



Sexual Abuse

I hesitate when someone recommends a book saying that 'everyone should read it', however Bri Lee's 'Eggshell Skull' (Allen & Unwin 2018) does come close. It deserves a wide readership of all ages. It is a memoir of Bri's experience as an Associate to a District Court Judge in Queensland, dealing mainly with cases of sexual abuse. She also describes her own struggle for justice following being abused as a young girl. It is a story of courage and perseverance; as the subtitle indicates it is a 'memoir about standing up, speaking out and fighting back'. It shows how difficult it is for sexual abuse victims to get justice in our legal system. The recent Child Abuse Royal Commission confirmed this difficulty. Most cases of abuse end up to be a contest of my word against yours, in other words it is difficult to get a verdict of 'beyond reasonable doubt'. Sadly, history tells us that men tend to be believed more than women. The current high profile cases simply reinforce this bias. I admire Bri's strength in standing up for herself, despite its cost to her emotionally. It's easy for a man to say that women should fight back against sexual harassment and abuse, but it is really a male responsibility to call it out. Only when men have the courage to speak up will there be any real change in attitudes. Some might say we have had enough talk about sexual abuse lately. I disagree. It is so easy to just let things lie and hope it will all go away. We cannot in all conscience let sexual abuse go off the agenda until we have dealt with it in terms of justice and positive cultural change. What do you think?

Stuart Reid

Highlands

RuffArtz News

RuffArtz is holding its AGM on Tuesday 4th December at 7.30pm at the Ruffy Hall. All welcome. Positions vacant on committee and any new members would be welcomed. Enquiries? 0448 978432. In 2019 RuffArtz will be 20 years old! In that time it's enriched the culture of the district with music from all over the world, presented plays & one person shows of a high calibre & brought quality entertainment to the Tableland.



Never wait for an official warning before you leave, as you may not get one. Fires can start quickly and threaten homes and lives within minutes. Make sure you have a plan!

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