



THE GRANITE NEWS

16TH NOVEMBER

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 35

WHITEHEADS CREEK • TERIP TERIP • CAVEAT • RUFFY • HIGHLANDS • HUGHES CREEK

2008 National Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment:

The Aust govt has just released this report. The major findings are:

- * Many of Australia's biological assets are still in decline, and threats are ongoing and compounded by climate change.
- * Progress has been made in the collaboration between national, and state and territory jurisdictions in improving Australia's biodiversity information.
- * Despite this progress, there are insufficient data to report on national trends in important aspects of Australia's biodiversity.
- * A range of useful monitoring systems exist at regional and state levels.
- * Landscape-scale approaches are pivotal to long term biodiversity conservation successes, but there is a lack of effective and systematic monitoring systems at this scale that can be used for evaluation.
- * The strengthening and consolidation of the regional delivery model for natural resource management (NRM) has assisted delivery of biodiversity outcomes.

This Assessment has highlighted the lack of many nationally consistent datasets to assess the status and trends of biodiversity in Australia, while showing that there are many instances of good datasets at a state and regional level. There is a need to:

support strategic long-term monitoring of selected species and communities following agreed protocols

support strategic research to establish empirical relationships between biodiversity and important surrogates, including native vegetation and wetlands

support adaptive learning from major biodiversity management and conservation program

support research into the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and its interactions with existing stressors, and support programs that build resilience in ecosystems, communities and species to threats to biodiversity. The report is available on the DEWHA website <<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/publications/terrestrial-assessment/index.html>> .

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Student of the Week

Stohm Gabrielle: For using his knowledge of the Coloured Words to write independently. Well done Stohm!

Swimming Programme

We celebrated the end of swimming with the 'Pool Monster'. It was great to see the persistence and determination demonstrated by everyone and to hear the encouraging cheers offered by others on the side. What fun!!



End of Year Concert:

Each Monday afternoon, Susan Bennett comes to work with us on the end of year concert items. Susan has put in a huge amount of effort writing the skits and songs that all concentrate on the history of Highlands and surrounding areas. All students are in several items, including short skits, poems, songs and dances. The End of Year Concert will be held in the hall on Friday 4th December at the hall starting at 6pm. Parents are asked to provide a plate for supper after the show. We thank Susan for her amazing work!

WELCOME TO ISSUE 35

Please send all articles etc to Miranda@omnipotent.com.au

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE GRANITE NEWS BY EMAIL TOO?

The advantages are:

It arrives earlier, AND it is in colour AND It is easy to keep as a record. Just email me your address and I'll add you to the address book which is already well over 300. Don't just think it, do it.

ADVERTISING ON THE BACK OF THE GRANITE NEWS IN 2010

Please get a move on so you don't miss out. The ads will be smaller and therefore the cost has been reduced from \$250 a spot to \$200 (includes GST).

If you would like a spot you first need to contact Miranda by email or phone 57969261 and the spaces will be allocated on a first in, best dressed basis. Nine spots have already been allocated, five of these are new. If you are on this year you still need to contact me for next year. Cheques need to be made out to the HCCC and posted to Neville Ford 29/100 Commercial Road South Yarra 3141

The advertisements will be 4.75cm W X 4.75cmD in size and need to be sent in that size to ensure that the ad looks exactly how you want it to be. Sounds like a square to me. From experience they are clearer and easier to read with less detail and simple graphics.



Community What's On Calendar—November/December 2009	
Week beg 16th November	Terip Terip mowing roster Merv Penny Max & Joan Eddy 5790 4222 Car park and all 4 courts
15th - 21st Nov	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK ROSTER Allan Coulson Glenn Christensen HIGHLANDS CAVEAT RFB TRUCK ROSTER Crew A Scott McKay
17th November	STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING IN RUFFY HALL The Council will meet with the Ruffy Community Action Group at 5.00 pm, followed by the Council Meeting at 5.00. The meeting is open to the whole community. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF STARTING TIME TO 5.00 pm!
20th November	CFA FIRE READY VICTORIA LONGWOOD Community Meeting (public) 7.30PM-9.00PM Longwood Community Centre - Down Street, LONGWOOD
21st November	Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative AGM and a farewell to Marj and Brian Tolley Ruffy Produce Store , 7pm . Please ring Janet Hagen for catering purposes.PH 57904268
22nd November	CFA FIRE READY VICTORIA YARCK Community Meeting (public) 9.30AM-11.00AM Yarck Hall - Maroondah Hwy, YARCK
22nd November	CFA FIRE READY VICTORIA TARCOMBE Community Meeting (public) 10.30AM-12.00PM Nazek Crt off Telegraph Rd, TARCOMBE
22nd- 28th Nov	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK ROSTER Tim Hayes Lindsay Heffer HIGHLANDS CAVEAT RFB TRUCK ROSTER Crew B Peter Roberts DRIVER ROSTER Pauline Roberts
28th November	Whiteheads Creek Tarcombe RFB are having a send off for Brian and Marge Tolley at the Whiteheads Creek Hall. Brian has been with the CFA for 34 years, 29 with Tarcombe and Whiteheads Creek and Marge served with Tarcombe. The night will be catered please advise numbers Peter Wales 57921088
29th November	CFA FIRE READY VICTORIA TRAWOOL Community Meeting (public) 10.00AM-11.30AM Trawool Fire Station - Goulburn Valley Hwy, TRAWOOL
29th November	Highlands Recon starting 10am from Fire Shed, more details next week
29th Nov– 5th December	WHITEHEADS CREEK- TARCOMBE RFB TRUCK ROSTER David Freeman John D'Alziel HIGHLANDS CAVEAT RFB TRUCK ROSTER Crew C Callum Lawson DRIVER ROSTER Frits Pompe
6th December	Highlands rambblers last walk for the year. 10am highlands hall. Afternoon tea at Peg Lade's place
12th December	White Hart Hotel Longwood T: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com 7.45pm - Potty's Disco - spinning us some great tunes, old and new
20th December	White Hart Hotel Longwood T: 03-5798-5203 E: white.hart@bigpond.com 4.30pm - The Hairy Lasso's - the dirty old towners are here to have some fun

"JOURNEYS NEAR AND FAR"

Paintings and sculpture

by

Leone Gabrielle

**Opening on the 5th December 2009
from 5pm onwards**

RSVP 27th November

Leone Gabrielle has delighted locals in the Highlands area near Rocky Passes Estate for a number of years with her wry, beautifully executed art works, which are inspired by her personal journeys through the everyday and providential in her life.

She is having her long-awaited first solo exhibition of paintings and sculpture at the intimate gallery space at Rocky Passes Estate.

Leone Gabrielle was born in 1966 and attended a number of different art schools during her formative years, when she worked mostly in black and white.

After moving to Highlands, Victoria in 1999, Leone began working in oils on canvas, as well as on a number of community murals and sculptures. She also began to work in 3D bronze at the Kobyboyn Dead Wombat Foundry.

In January 2009, Leone was invited with five other artists, to create one of six large steel panels - a permanent installation - that tells the history of the land which has now become the Euroa Arboretum.

**All enquiries:
Rocky Passes Estate
1590 Highlands Rd
Whiteheads Creek
(03) 57969366
contact@rockypasses.com.au
www.rockypasses.com.au**

Classifieds & Community Notices

URGENT TENDER FOR MOWING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Expressions of interest are being called for the mowing of Highlands Primary School grounds, including the oval for 2010. It is anticipated that mowing will be required on 8 separate occasions (depending on seasonal conditions) Equipment can be supplied to the successful tender. Expressions should be in writing to Meagan by Friday 27th November 2009. Any questions, please contact Meagan Tel: 5796 9208

FOR SALE

Quick Fill Pump 6.5 Hp. Honda Copy.
Brand New -Still in Box. \$256.
Contact J.Hagen 57904268,
(M) 0428 524 473

FEEL LIKE A SUNDAY WALK IN RUFFY?

Ruffy Sunday Walkers/Ramblers.
Meet at Ruffy Hall every Sunday at 10.
Contact Neil, Produce Store
57904387 or Hagens 57904268 for
details of the week's walk.

BUSHFIRE COMMEMORATION SERVICES & MEMORIALS

By the community for the community says Council. Says Mayor Lyn Gunter " before making any decisions we are committed to a thorough and sensitive consultation process with those affected, particularly those who have lost loved ones."

In recognising the importance of "getting it right" Murrindindi Council has sought support from specialist consult agencies who undertook similar work following the Canberra bushfires.

Mr Rob Gordon, a prominent clinical psychologist, has also agreed to assist in the process to give his support and practical advice to help reach the best outcomes.
Mr Gordon said it was critically important to understand and respect the feelings of those most deeply affected. Not only those who lost loved ones and those who were injured, but also for so many others whose friends, homes, pets, possessions and communities were lost.

Further information is available from Jenny Branton 5772 0333.

BITS OF BOTANY AND BIRDS

BULBINE LILY

This is a bright yellow native lily - I noticed some good patches on the Creighton's Creek Road recently. It would be interesting to try it in a garden. It dies down after flowering to an underground tuber, and re-shoots in autumn. It is frost tolerant, but is sensitive to drought, and susceptible to slugs and snails.



Hi Miranda,

I think I must have mislabelled the Indigofera photo from last week's edition of TGN- the shot is of Digger's speedwell (Derwentia perfifolia!!) OOPS Can you mention this error and red-face moment in the next issue? Cheers, Sam DONE! Of course it could have been me.....M

FOR SALE

2.7 M long solid red gum table and 4 bench seats
PH Jan Hayes 57904319

FUNDS TO HELP WILDLIFE CARERS PREPARE FOR FIRE SEASON

"The Government's Wildlife Rehabilitators Grants program will provide grants of up to \$2000 to help wildlife rehabilitators to buy equipment such as overalls, boots and gloves which is vital when they go into bushfire affected areas to search for injured animals.

"Accredited wildlife carers play an important role in our response to bushfires by finding, caring for and rehabilitating injured animals and we have to make sure they can carry out this important work safely."

SAFE FOOD

Australian Food Safety Week 2009 will be held 9-15 November 2009 The theme is 'Safe food – smart and great value'. It will focus on food safety in the light of Australians now cooking and entertaining more at home, and seeking good value. Smart shopping, storing and cooking will be highlighted.

There are many things to remember to keep your food safe. Here are few:

Wash and dry your hands thoroughly before and after touching or eating food, after using the toilet, after blowing your nose and after touching a pet.

Keep food preparation surfaces, utensils and containers clean.

Wash fruits and vegetables.

Keep your fridge clean. Label and date food you put in the fridge.

When taking food to eat away from home, keep it cool.

Unsafe food can lead to food poisoning. In Australia each year, food poisoning results, on average, in 120 deaths, 1.2 million visits to doctors, 300,000 prescriptions for antibiotics, and 2.1 million days of lost work. The estimated annual cost of food poisoning in Australia is \$1.25 billion.

The Food Safety Information Council provides information to consumers on the safe storage, preparation and serving of food in the 'domestic' environment. There are Fact Sheets and a Q & A page on the website of the Food Safety Information Council – www.foodsafety.asn.au. If you don't have access to the internet, contact a Community Health dietitian and ask for the information you need. (Information from www.foodsafety.asn.au)

ROADSIDE SPRAYING AND SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION

The Murrindindi Shire has been spraying the roadsides which is part of their legal responsibilities. However, they are aware that some roadsides have significant plants that need to be preserved.

If you know of an area that should not be sprayed **please** contact Sue McNair at the Shire and let her know where the sensitive areas are located. **Please make the effort to contact Sue so that the best results are achieved for our area.**
suemc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Rocky Passes



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

Tapas bar
last Friday of the month from 6pm

Bookings 57969366
1590 Highlands Rd, Whiteheads Creek

Ruffy Produce Store

Breakfast & Lunch
Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays from 8am

Lunch Fridays from 11.30am

Need to book, call Helen or Doug

T: 5790 4387
E: info@ruffystore.com
F: 5790 4209

BUILDING

Matt and Braydon Smith
57 969280 0428 417242
Small excavator

PLUMBING

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Phone Ian on
: **0408990487**
: **57904328**

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License No. 16959

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57969269
0427834546

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Steve Horne

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Building, Landscaping, Back hoe,
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57969398

Discover the natural Healing method of Reiki

靈氣

Karli Chase
57969396

KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS



PH. 0357 904 235
MOB. 0429 804 235

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Mob: 0428 628 640



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1300gotafe 1300468233



Kendalee Fencing Service
Terip Terip & Kendalee Stables (Performance Horse Stud)

Phone: 03 57904303
Mobile: 0427 904303
E-mail: kendaleestables@hotmail.com

ANTCLIFF'S CHASE



- WINE SALES
- 10am - 5pm Weekends
- Weekdays by Appointment

Ph: 57 904 333