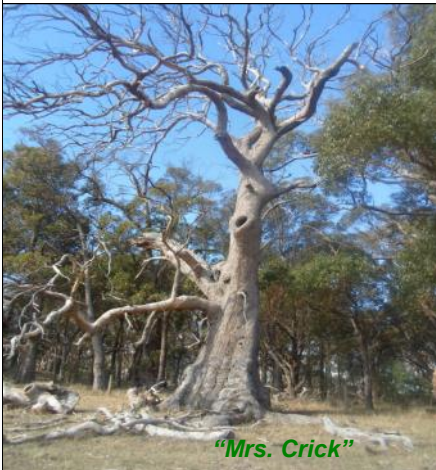




## BOTANY, BIRDS & CREATURES

### TALL TREE in TERIP TERIP

There have been some very interesting tree stories of late and we have a very special Gum tree on our property at Terip that I wanted to share with Granite News readers. Her age is unknown, perhaps she has been there over 100years and she has been the choice place for many a good picnic for our family.



*"Mrs. Crick"*

We refer to her as female, heavens knows why and have even named her "Mrs. Crick". While she stands as a landmark on a hill top overlooking Yarck and Alexandra she has been a great delight to us all as well as animal life that have taken up residence in her great trunk. Hopefully she will continue to stand for many years to come.  
By Helen McKenzie

## FOX ON THE RUN BAITING PROGRAMME



The Hughes Creek Catchment Landcare group are seeking landholders who are interested in a subsidised fox baiting program. The subsidy would cover up to 50% of contractor costs subject to the number of landholders who participate. This is a one off opportunity, so get in fast to get your name on the list. Expressions of interest are required by end of June 2013.

Contact Simone 5790 4146  
[hughes.creek1@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek1@gmail.com)

## NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Student of the Week *Kaylam*



**For working hard on his Children As Authors book. Well done!**

**Somers Camp:** Congratulations to Kaylam and Luke who have been selected to represent Highlands Primary School at Somers Camp. They will depart for the 8 day camp in the first week of term 3.



**Luke & Kaylam are off to Somers !**

**Miranda update:** Miranda arrived safely in Copenhagen last Friday night. Today she flew to Milan. We are following her trip on Google maps! Mrs Cronk is having a lovely time in the senior room and we thank her for fitting in so well. By Meagan Callander-Principal HPS

## RABBIT RIPPING SUBSIDY AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE HCCC LANDCARE GROUP



The DPI has recently completed a Rabbit Control Survey within the district and many Landholders have been issued with a Directions Notice. A 50% subsidy may be available to you for warren ripping.  
Contact Simone 5790 4146  
[hughes.creek1@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek1@gmail.com)



**Hughes Creek**  
Catchment Collaborative

### FINDING 'FOXY'

We've had feedback from readers that they have been unable to locate 'Foxy', the tiny fox that we hide somewhere in each edition of TGN. So, each week we'll reveal 'Foxy's' location from the previous week. Last week he was at the top of Page 2.

## READERS' WRITES

\* "Great to read the article on the dreaded Carp. When we arrived 13 years ago we tried to eradicate them from our Billabongs at great expense. When the floods came back they came and some of our Billabongs have water not suitable for stock.

*Roll on the virus and out with the Carp."*

—Carolyn & Gerhard Braun, Trawool

\* "I have read with interest Ben Laycock's account of his "Panther" sighting..my brother Dr John Dyson has a 190 acre property on Harry's Creek road .5 k into the 'Bogies' ..on April Fools day he was 'up the hill' in the mid afternoon right on the top of the property where it backs onto State Forest country..lots of 'roos and other wild life.

John was sauntering down to what he thought was a wombat..when a black cat about the size of his Labrador plus ..stood up and casually wandered off towards the bush..John was upwind and thankful..he came back down from the hill white faced!.....he was so concerned that he roll started his motorbike a good distance from the cat.

*Of course I thought it was an April Fool joke, but John was adamant of his observation...we have since spoken with a couple of neighbours who confirm similar sightings and some other interesting accounts from farmers in the district.*

*Pad prints have been sent to the Melbourne Zoo confirming the likeness of the pads to that of Mountain Lions... and sheep carcass have been found with the skin and frames licked clean ..dogs don't do that.*

*Cameron..A wool Broker who lives along Long Gully Road has quite a reference of 'stories' that farmers and others have recorded...so there is 'something out there'."—Ross Dyson*

# COMMUNITY “WHAT’S ON” CALENDAR

# JUNE/JULY 2013

<p><b>Thursday 27th June 2pm-7pm</b></p>	<p><b>DRAFT HUME REGIONAL GROWTH PLAN</b> Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre, Chittick Park, Pollard Street, Seymour Opportunities to discuss the draft plan with Department of Planning and Community Development officers</p>
<p><b>Thursday 27th June 5:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>SECRET MEN’S BUSINESS</b> Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks</p>
<p><b>Friday 28th June From 6pm</b></p>	<p><b>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT</b> Rocky Passes Winery 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek 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 Email <a href="mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au">contact@rockypasses.com.au</a></b></p>
<p><b>Friday 28th June 7:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>TABLELANDS FAMILY BINGO NIGHT</b> Tablelands Community Centre@Ruffy Nolans Road 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>
<p><b>Friday 28th June 7:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>HCCC LANDCARE MEETING</b> Ruffy Produce Store, Nolans Rd., Ruffy “Free Drinks” All local landholders are welcome &amp; encouraged to attend. The meeting is relaxed &amp; informative and Landcare is interested to hear your views about how we can deliver the most appropriate &amp; effective environmental programmes to support the local community of flora, fauna and people. <b>Contact Janet Hagen 5790 4268</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday 29th 8:00pm Sunday 30th June 4:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>EUROA CINEMA “Kon-Tiki”</b> 113 Mins (M) Action/Adventure/Biography **** 3.5 stars This movie is based on the amazing expedition in the 1940’s by Thor Heyerdahl in his boat the Kon Tiki when he crossed the Pacific in his balsa wood raft. Although slightly fictionalized the movie manages to capture the epic adventure undertaken. In some parts it is positively breathtaking and quite dramatic. A slight departure from our usual programming, but this is an opportunity to see a version of something that was groundbreaking and which captivated everyone’s attention back when it happened 70 years ago.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 4th July 10:30—12:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>RUFFY PLAYGROUP</b> Tablelands Community Centre (Old Ruffy School) Nolans Rd., Ruffy This Month it’s Cut &amp; Paste/Colouring Cost: \$3:00 per Family. Bring a small plate of food to share. <b>Contact Sally 5790 4335</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday 6th July 9:00am-2:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>YEA COUNTRY MARKET</b> 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 and skate park. Gold coin donation entry</p>
<p><b>Sunday 7th July 10:am-12pm</b></p>	<p><b>RUFFY WEEKEND WALKERS</b> Monthly ramble to High Points of Interest around the district We’re on a Mission to walk to all of the district’s Piniger cairns. Meet at Ruffy Community Hall at 9:45am <b>Contact Neil Doran 0457 253875</b></p>
<p><b>Monday 8th July 7:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE@RUFFY</b> Nolans Rd., Ruffy (Old Ruffy School) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Election of Chairperson and Secretary following recent resignations. All tablelands residents are encouraged and welcome. Supper will be provided. <b>Contact Kerry 5790 4392</b></p>
<p><b>Friday 12th July 6:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>‘DRINKS ON THE DECK’</b> 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. <b>Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247</b></p>
<p><b>Friday 19th July 7pm</b></p>	<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>
<p><b>Saturday 20th July 9am-1pm</b></p>	<p><b>EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET</b> Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa “Meet, Greet, Eat &amp; Shop” A wonderful range of farm fresh produce from “local” producers. <b>Contact Leah Jones 5795 1886 or <a href="mailto:hunaleah@mcmmedia.com.au">hunaleah@mcmmedia.com.au</a></b></p>

# Classifieds & Community Notices

## LOCAL GOINGS ON

### CAVEAT'S MUDBASH—2013 a 'ROARING' SUCCESS

Rover Scouts is for young adults aged between 18 and 26, which through a diverse range of activities helps develop community leaders.

Victoria's Rover Scouts put their hard work into practice at their annual car racing event, 'MUDBASH', held at Caveat's Mafeking Rover Park on the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

Attracting over 800 campers and an additional 500 visitors on open day, a huge number of people were in attendance for what is the premier event on the Rovers' motorsport calendar.



*'Apprentice' navigating Boyd's Dam*

The event saw Rovers compete in buggies across a series of tracks and obstacles to determine who would be named Mudbash Champion.

Just under 40 buggies competed this year, with the infamous obstacle course again being the highlight for the spectators.

Mudbash Chairman Louise Pocock said "Rover Scout Crews look forward to Mudbash every year and it's really great to watch them competing after all their hard work building the cars."

The cars, a mix of sedans and frame buggies compete in a series of races during the two-day event.

The Open Day on Sunday was once again a great day and is always a brilliant opportunity for the general public and members of the other Scouting sections to witness all the best of Rovering in one day.

There were heaps of fun activities for the kids including archery, abseiling, bouldering wall, face painting and live bands, plus everyone had the chance to watch Rover Scouts in action, getting dirty as they put their cars to the test against the mud.

On the Friday before the event began, some members of the Mudbash Committee took some buggies for a trip to visit **Highlands Primary School**, where they explained the event, showed off some of the vehicles and gave all of the students tickets to the open day.

A special mention must be given to the international team from New Zealand, who despite flying into Australia only the week before the event, managed to claim the overall win.

By Dale Sheehan  
Mudbash 2013 Committee



*Highlands-Caveat CFA provided Support  
(and kept an eye out for Jim McCooley's missing cat)*

## TRADING PLACES

*Good stuff for private sale  
or wanted by friendly locals*

### BOX IRONBARK ECOLOGY COURSE

**Nagambie, 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>  
September 2013**

For those interested in gaining a general understanding of ecological processes and principles.

*"This course has been run by DSE for the past 14 years and many environmentalists from the Hughes Creek Catchment have attended, all have enjoyed the experience. I can thoroughly recommend it"*  
—Janet Hagen

Five absorbing days of field studies in the heart of Box Ironbark country

#### Registrations Now Open!

#### Location details

The course is based at Nagambie in Victorian Box Ironbark country. Accommodation will be shared, in comfortable on-site units at the Nagambie Lakes Leisure Resort with en suite facilities. Catering is inclusive of all meals.

#### Course Fee

The course fee for 2013 is \$1400 (plus GST) which includes accommodation, meals, transport, instruction, and course notes.

#### Numbers

The course is limited to 30 participants. Further details, including the Course Notes, will be mailed out to registered participants, closer to the date.

#### Enquiries

Kate Stothers, DSE Benalla

[kate.stothers@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:kate.stothers@dse.vic.gov.au)

## ALARMING FACT

Fifteen thousand collapsing bores and a half-billion dollar repair bill are endangering the future of Australia's groundwater – but Australian homes, towns, cities, farmers & miners will rely increasingly on underground water as our population grows, surface water supplies dwindle, and as droughts multiply under a warming climate

—Daily Soils Digest 05/02/2013



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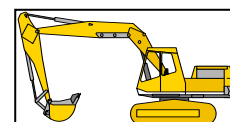
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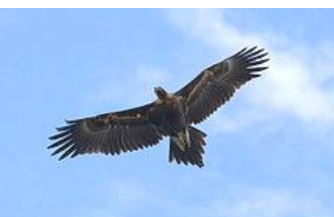
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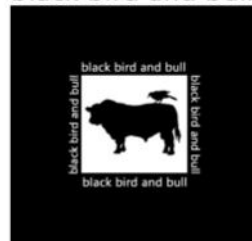
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