



10th YEAR !!

# THE GRANITE NEWS

30TH JANUARY 2016

VOLUME 10

ISSUE 02

WHITEHEADS CREEK

TERIP TERIP

CAVEAT

RUFFY

HIGHLANDS

HUGHES CREEK

## FARMING & ENVIRONMENT

### GERRY BOUNCES BACK and DRONES ARE GO !!

A couple of years ago our HCCC Landcare group invited community feedback and ideas for future projects. The particular meeting was very well attended with several interesting and innovative ideas being advanced for consideration.

However, Ruffy resident Gerry Ginnivan stunned the crowd that night with a proposal to introduce remote controlled drones to photograph the local landscape to scope and assess environmental issues such as weed control, erosion, vermin infestation and the like.



Gerry & his co-pilot 'Gilly' send the drone skyward

It's fair to say that back then Gerry's idea received a less than enthusiastic response; perhaps because drones had gained an unenviable reputation following Wikileaks' revelations of some military mishaps that had cost the lives of innocent civilians.

However, Gerry is a thick-skinned and determined fellow with a reputation for achievement. This January's HCCC Landcare Annual General Meeting went

quiet when Gerry rose to speak, fully equipped with a state-of-the-art remote controlled Drone that he had sourced from Hong Kong. Once again the crowd was stunned, but this time they were awestruck by the almost limitless possibilities that **"Ginnivan's Gyro"** presented to Landcare and to our broader environmental management. The Drone is powered by a LiPo Battery, it has 4 rotors, it can reach a height of 400 ft and is operator-guided by a combination of joysticks and a smart phone app that receives photo images. The Drone recognises its GPS home-base and will self-seek its return to base in case of mishap.

The camera attached to the flight module delivers extremely high resolution and there can no longer be any doubt that Gerry's vision for Drone-led environmental management is eminently achievable.

*By Don Cook*



At an elevation of 150 feet the drone's field of view and resolution are stunning



**Hughes Creek**  
Catchment Collaborative

Contact [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) 5790 4007  
To subscribe online go to  
[www.highlands.org.au](http://www.highlands.org.au)

## LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

### HCCC Landcare Chemical Subsidy

The HCCC offers a 50% subsidy on some chemical costs.

Chemical can be purchased through your preferred Rural merchant

To be eligible you must contact Simone Ulstrup **57904146** or [hughes.creek1@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek1@gmail.com) for information on the steps involved before submitting your receipts.

Proof of purchase & declarations need to be submitted before you can receive a rebate.

Due to change of ownership at Wales Rural Seymour, HCCC no longer holds an account with that business.

We are setting up an account with another Rural supplies merchant to make the process easier.

### HCCC SPRAY UNITS

Tarcombe— Rob Hayes **5790 4319**  
Caveat—Michael Kopanica **5790 4235**  
Highlands— Scott McKay **5796 9259**  
Ruffy— Don Cook **5790 4007**

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## Classifieds and Community Notices

### LOCAL GOINGS ON

#### YEA ARTS CARNIVALE LINKS THE AGES at HIGHLANDS



*Denis contemplates "Klingsor's Garden"*

Denis Spiteri has combined his passion for art and music in a fused media exhibition with his long-standing work "Klingsor's Garden" inspired and accompanied by the music of Wagner.

The sheer scale and sophistication of Denis' work is both confronting and engaging. While pursuing his career as a Librarian at Melbourne University, Denis never gave up on his dream of

building a cavernous rural studio with breathtaking views.

How lucky are we that Denis realised his dream right here at Highlands?

Darren Gilbert is a Graphic Artist who yearned to live off the grid in a rustic setting where he could indulge his twin skills of fine-line sketching of native fauna along with the creation of robust sculptures using recycled timber and metal.

It makes your heart sing when you visit Darren's rough-hewn workshop, powered exclusively by wind and solar and you experience the textures and absorb the aromas of his unique creations here on our home turf at Highlands.

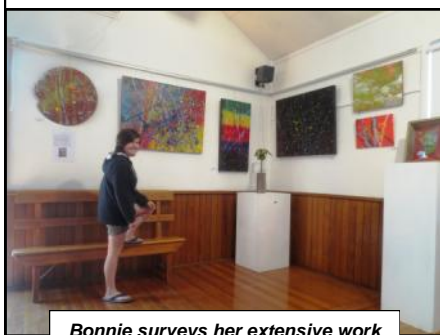


*Darren's workshop exudes rusticity*

Bonnie Neicho is about to embark on her secondary education after 6 years at Highlands Primary School where she received support for her prodigious talents. Even at her young age Bonnie has made a substantial impact on the local Art scene with her creative abstract painting and her unusual but interesting animal skulls.

Who knows what lies ahead for her, but if you talk to Bonnie about her inspiration and motivations you'll be convinced that whatever her long term goals, she has the passion and the determination to achieve them.

*By Don Cook*



*Bonnie surveys her extensive work*

### TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

#### NEWS FROM THE RUFFY STORE

We're taking a break.  
The Ruffy Store will close from  
Monday 1st February. We'll re-open  
on Friday 19th February

### FOR SALE

Brand new Tiffany style  
resin lamp bases.

Wide bases suit  
leadlight shades



More than 10 available  
\$25 each

or a pair  
for \$40.

Contact Simone  
57904146

FINDING FOXY Issue 01 2016  
Macquarie Fox Page 1

### Landowner Expressions of Interest for Revegetation Works

Council is seeking expressions of interest from landowners wishing to participate in the implementation of revegetation works on their properties within the Murrindindi Shire.

Suitable candidate projects will include revegetation of areas adjacent to waterways, roadsides or locations where the revegetation assists in the creation of link-ages between existing native vegetation. Incentive funding payments will be available to successful candidates for the implementation of revegetation works. Interested candidates will need complete an Expression of Interest (EoI) form. EoI forms are available at all Council offices, on Council's website at [www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/revegetationprogram](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/revegetationprogram) or by contacting Heather Bradbury, Coordinator Environmental Programs on 5772 0333. Expressions of Interest are to be submitted to Council by 5pm on Thursday 18th February 2016



# COMMUNITY “WHAT’S ON” CALENDAR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016



**CFA ROSTERS**  
w/c  
7th February

- ♦ **RUFFY** ————— 4th Lieutenant Matt Ulstrup’s Team
- ♦ **TERIP TERIP** ————— 2nd Lieutenant Ed Greenwood’s Team
- ♦ **HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT** ————— Driver: Les Lawson—Radio: Joerg Taubitz
- ♦ **WHITEHEAD’S CREEK /TARCOMBE**——— Driver: Tim Hayes - Asstnt: Lindsay Heffer

Friday 5th  
February

Doors Open  
6pm

Movie at  
6:30pm

**THE EUROA CINEMA “He Named Me Malala”** 88 Mins (PG) Bio/Documentary  
An intimate portrait of the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Malala Yousafzai, who was targeted by the Taliban and severely wounded by a gunshot when returning home on her school bus in Pakistan.  
She was singled out for advocating education for girls. She survived the attack and has continued her campaign and the film gives us a glimpse into her life, her speeches at the UN, along with the relationships with her parents and brothers.

Saturday 6th  
February

9:00am—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 and skate park.  
Gold coin donation entry

Saturday 6th  
February  
8:00pm

Sunday 7th  
4:00pm

**THE EUROA CINEMA “The Belier Family”** 148 Mins (M) Comedy/Drama (Subtitles)  
The Belier family is mostly deaf and heavily reliant on the only hearing member of the family (daughter/sister Paula) to translate their rapid fire communications to those outside the family. This tight-knit farming family can be delightfully chaotic at times, funny, totally engaging but at the same time facing their own personal challenges. In spite of his deafness, the father decides to run for council; Paula discovers her singing ability can take her to Paris; and the family needs to recognise what their life will be without her by their sides as she moves away. This was the highest grossing movie in France last year—one to be enjoyed.

Thursday 11th  
February  
7:30pm

**RuffArtZ Committee Meeting** Ruffy Hall Nolans Rd Ruffy  
Everyone welcome.  
**Contact Sharron 57904329**

Friday 12th  
February  
From 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.  
**This night will be a farewell to Leanne & Adam so anyone who wants to catch up with them please come along.**  
**Contact Judy Cameron 5796 9247**

Monday 15th  
February  
8:00pm

**RUFFY HALL MONTHLY MEETING** Ruffy Hall Nolans Rd Ruffy  
Everyone welcome.  
**Contact Sharron 57904329**

Saturday 20th  
February  
9am—2pm

**EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET** Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa  
“Meet, Greet, Eat & Shop”  
A wonderful range of farm fresh produce from “local” producers.  
**Contact Helen Brook 0456 723331 [www.euroavillagefarmersmarket.org](http://www.euroavillagefarmersmarket.org)**

Thursday 25th  
February  
5:30pm

**SECRET MEN’S BUSINESS** 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

