



10th YEAR !!

THE GRANITE NEWS

21ST FEBRUARY 2016

VOLUME 10

ISSUE 05

WHITEHEADS CREEK

TERIP TERIP

CAVEAT

RUFFY

HIGHLANDS

HUGHES CREEK

FARMING & ENVIRONMENT

Wildlife research highlights need for long-term rabbit biocontrol strategy

The research, which was published in the journal *Conservation Biology* and led by Reece Pedler, analysed small mammal data collected over a 45 year period by the South Australian Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

The results found three threatened mammals have staged dramatic recoveries in the past 20 years, predominately due to the release of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV) in 1995. RHDV reduced rabbit numbers, with associated reductions in their main predators, cats and foxes, leading to native mammals having less competition for food and less predation pressure.



Andreas Glanznig, CEO of the Invasive Animals CRC is now looking ahead to the future. In consultation with rabbit experts from around Australia, a 20 year rabbit biocontrol strategy has been developed which will complement and improve existing biocontrol agents and investigate the suitability of new biocontrol agents.

"It has been twenty years since the release of the RHDV, and it is excellent to see research highlighting that a long-term drop in rabbit numbers results in an extensive recovery of threatened wildlife species such as the Plains Mouse and Dusky Hopping-mouse.

A major aim of the strategy will be to have biocontrol agents (such as new RHDV strains and other novel agents) ready for release to keep rabbit impacts at a minimum and population levels stable or in decline. The strategy will support our integrated approach to rabbit management through traditional methods of control such as warren ripping, fumigation and poisons.

For more information about the Invasive Animals CRC go to www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animal-species/european-rabbit/

BOTANY, BIRDS & CREATURES

Community Action Group Explores the 'Boathole'

Following the formation of the Ruffy Community Action Group in 2009 the community was invited to indicate their preferences and priorities for future projects. The refurbishment of the Ruffy Boathole reserve on the Hughes Creek received a high ranking. Back in the day, the Boathole had been one of the focal points of community fun and relaxation. It was a popular swimming spot with a diving board and rope swing, and boats did actually get launched there for fishing & fun.



Christine Glassford, GBCMA advised the Boathole working group

As community needs and preferences have changed the Boathole reserve has become somewhat neglected but it's environmental beauty remains; a platypus has even taken up residence.

An informal working group has formed under the auspices of the RCAG to explore ways in which the Boathole may be refurbished in conjunction with the GBCMA and the Strathbogie Shire as an attractive spot for environmentally sensitive recreation.

By Don Cook



Janet & Justus Hagen, Christine Glassford and Erwin & Verena Weinmann



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

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 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.

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Highlands— Scott McKay	5796 9259
Ruffy— Don Cook	5790 4007

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Payment on Invoice from
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Subsidies are now available through



Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Landcare group for Rabbit Ripping.
Please email Simone on hughes.creek1@gmail.com or call 57904146 for more info.

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Classifieds and Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

RuffArtZ

Escape the ordinary for four nights

Season Tickets still available!

The RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays 2016 is set to hit the ground running with the first of the four shows in the annual program featuring four dynamic young women who sing like angels.

"Co-Cheol" (pronounced Co-Sharl, meaning 'harmony' in Scots-Gaelic) not only sing in four part harmony but also between them play harp, flute, piano accordion and ukulele.

The group has enjoyed great success, including taking out the "Best Up & Coming Celtic Act" award at the 2015 National Folk Festival.



The other shows in the RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays will be
5th May Melbourne Guitar Quartet - 10th Sept The Lagerphones
19th November Kate Auty & her Band in Backwards in High Heels

BYO drinks and nibbles (the famous \$5 'cake & coffee/tea' at interval)

Please book early to ensure your seat.

Season Ticket: 4 shows \$75 Individual Show Tickets \$25
 Student concessions and Supervised Children under 16 free.

Contact Kym 0409 172595 or ruffartztickets@gmail.com

TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

FREE to GOOD HOME
KING-SINGLE BED

King-Single Mattress & Base

As new, has only had occasional use

Available for pick up from Creighton's Creek district

Contact Robyn

5790 3275

HIGHLANDS SPINNERS CLUB

Next meeting Monday 7th March

11am until around 3:30pm

Anyone interested in coming will be most welcome. Bring any craft work that you may be doing.

Venue is at Jan Sporry's
 450 Caveat-Dropmore Road.

Contact
5790 4361



An afternoon of *Storytelling our Country*

Saturday 27th February 2016 at 3pm - at The Old Flour Mill Gallery



A panel of local women (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) will talk about our rivers, our hills, our landscapes, our country and others will join in the story-telling with words, sketches or finger-painting . . .

And then at 6pm we will move outside to the Sevens Creek Park for the Summer Twilight Market

*featuring Films from Here and Near
 and Food from Faraway*



STRATHBOGIE VOICES

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016



CFA ROSTERS
w/c
28th February

- ◇ RUFFY ————— 3rd Lieutenant Ryan Furlanetto's Team
- ◇ TERIP TERIP ————— Captain Geoff Penny's Team
- ◇ HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT ————— Driver: John McMaster—Radio: Jack McMaster
- ◇ WHITEHEAD'S CREEK /TARCOMBE— Driver: Mark Stokes - Asstnt: Shaun Green

Wednesday
24th
February
8:00pm

RUFFY COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP at Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy

The first quarterly meeting for 2016 will inform the community about activities planned for the near future. We only have 4 meetings per year – that's why important decisions are made at each meeting. Come along to this friendly meeting to share in the discussions. For information **Contact Verena Weinmann 5790 4309**

Thursday 25th
February
10am-3pm

SOIL-TEST INTERPRETATION WORKSHOP at the Yea Community Centre

Bring along your latest results to a free soil-test interpretation workshop in Yea. Cath Botta, soil scientist, educator and facilitator, will be presenting the workshop. This a free event. Lunch is provided and participants will receive a copy of the recently published **Understanding your soil test: step by step**. **RSVP Judy Brookes 0448 972 563**

beyond soilcare

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



Saturday 27th
February
10am-1:15pm

FORUM FOR NEW & PART-TIME LANDOWNERS at the Yea Shire Hall

Run by the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network, the purpose of the workshop is to introduce new and part-time landowners to environmental issues within the Murrindindi Shire; how you can manage your property to support restoration and enhancement of the environment

For more information Contact Judy Watts 57974405 or uglandcare@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Saturday 27th
February
3:00 pm

STRATHBOGIE VOICES at The Old Flour Mill, Euroa

An afternoon of "Storytelling Our Country" A panel of local women (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) will talk about our rivers, our hills, our landscapes, our country and others will join in the story-telling with words, sketches or finger-painting

Tickets at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/storytelling-our-country-tickets-15195348697

Saturday 27th
February
8:00pm
Sunday 28th
4:00pm

THE EUROA CINEMA "Sisters" 141 Mins (MA15+) Comedy 3.5 stars

Two disconnected sisters go home to clean out their childhood bedroom before their parents sell the family home. Trying to re-capture their glory days, they throw one final high-school style party for their classmates. With Tina Fey and Amy Poehler's effervescent chemistry, you can only imagine the fun, a little more than a touch of vulgarity, and hilarious outcomes in this coming-of-age comedy.

As an extra treat on Saturday night we will have a glass of bubbles available for purchase on arrival for \$5

Saturday 5th
March
8.00 pm
Doors Open
7.30pm

RuffArtZ "A Season of Saturdays 2016" Ruffy Community Hall, Nolans Rd
Co-Cheol ('Harmony' in Scots-Gaelic) Voted the Best 'Up & Coming Celtic Act' at the 2015 National Folk Festival. Voices from other-worldly places, accompanied by harp, flute, ukulele and 'body-percussion'. BYO drinks and nibbles.

Book early to ensure your seat. Tickets \$75 for 4 shows or \$25 each

Contact Kym 0409 172595 or ruffartztickets@gmail.com

Friday 11th
March
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 Cameron 5796 9247

