

# 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-animalspecies/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.



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





## 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.

Phascogale Nest Boxes Still Available Call Janet 5790 4268



#### **HCCC SPRAY UNITS**

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

\$33 per Spray Day/\$100 per Season Payment on Invoice from HCCC Landcare

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.

# Habbies Howe

Mature Well Hung and Available Gary's Meat Prahan Market Berties of Richmond and St Helena

www.habbieshowe.com.au

### KOPANICA PASTORAL **EXCAVATIONS**



Рн. 0357 904 235 Мов. 0429 804 235

RABBIT RIPPING, DAMS, DRIVEWAYS GENERAL EARTHWORKS & MACHINERY HIRE

## This Space Reserved for

LANDMARK—YEA

**Donation from** Supporters of the Brush-tailed Phascogale



### BILLABONG **HYDRAULIC** WATER RAMS

- Needs NO electricity or fuels to run & operates with zero operating costs
- Nearest thing to perpetual motion
- Self-lubricating & low maintenance
- Gives long-lasting service Harness your own hydraulic power to pump water using only water

Manufactured by Misal Technologies Pty. Ltd.

Ph: 03 9876 5222 www.misaltech.com Email: misaltech@bigpond.com



**SUSAN & PETER KRICKIC** 0421 407 721 (03) 5796 9192

## **FRANZ KLOFT MECHANICAL REPAIRS**

Repairs & service of vehicles

Tyres, Windscreens, Brakes, Batteries, Exhausts, Wheel alignment, Automatic transmission

Phone 5795 2910 38 Railway Street, Euroa **FREE QUOTES** 

open lunch fridays dinner every friday night

weekends & holidays breakfast from 8.30am lunch from 12 noon

bookings a good idea

## AG Fencing & **Contracting Services Grant Wheatley**

All fence constructions, Equipment maintenance & Pump repairs, **Blasting Service** "Not sure if we do it?" Give us a call

0407 028 122

Kopanica **Pastoral** Company P/L

Livestock, Water and General Cartage

We Will Cart Anything

Phone **5790 4235** Mobile 0447 775 247

# PLUMBING SERVICES Ben Laycock

License no. 105134

0438512299

bencoplumbingservices.com ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au

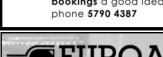
**Rounds and Small Squares** 

We also do Contract Slashing

& General Freight Carriers

**MACSHAY** Hay & Silage

**Contractors** 



We do the lot!

print and design single to full process colour photocopy business cards graphic design photocopy business cards graphic design brochures Large format printing order books minating digital imaging invoice book stubby holders envelopes .... and more!

> 45-47 Railway Street, Euroa (03) 5795 1655

## Robert Hamilton

## **L**arthmoving

\*Specialising in General earthmoving Erosion Control, Dams, Roadways, Clearing, Ripping, House/Shed sites \* A range of small & large equipment

> Contact Rob Hamilton 0429 059602



: 57904328

**Registered Electrical Contractor:** License No. 16959

Call Frits 57969318 0438969318 Call John 57969312 0429861817



**CF & HL HANDASYDE BUILDERS Established 1978** 

NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS, RENOVATIONS, DOMESTIC, RURAL ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS. **Registered Building Practitioner** 

Call Colin for a quote Telephone: 0419 502 782 handasydebuilders@bigpond.com

Come see Rodwells Alexandra for all your Farm Supply requirements, from Fencing & Animal Health needs to Agronomic Advice.

Please phone (03) 57 722 444 Free Delivery Available



For regular help or one-off projects like painting, tiling, carpentry, gardening, fence repairs, and more... call Andrew on

048 777 1234

## **EDUCATION SPACE**

### For Hire

The Tablelands Community Centre at Ruffy (Opposite The Ruffy Store)

Ideal for Meetings, Lectures or Information Sharing

Very Reasonable Rates **Contact Melissa Macdowall** 0404 833388



Energy Efficiency & Solar **Energy Specialist** Acme - Air Conditioning

Electrical | Solar

M: 0418 551 301 T: Office - 9785 7339 E: chris@acmeair.com.au



## Chris Sharman

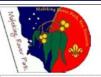


# FMS FARM MONITORING SOLUTIONS

Remotely manage your rural property from your smart phone, tablet or computer...from anywhere.

Tank Levels—Camera Weather—Electric Fence Phil Whitten 0488 093970

ales@farmms.net www.farmms.net





Abseiling, BMX bikes, 9 hole golf course, cabins, camping and much more.

Bookings: 0423 006 667 Site ph: 5797 6351 www.mafekingroverpark.com





For All Your Plumbing & Drainage Needs Drainage, Gas, Sewer. Monthly Specials Phone Paul: 0418 393 596

www.allroundplumbinganddrainage.com.au Licence no. 35985

## **Classifieds and Community Notices**

## LOCAL GOINGS ON

# RuffArtZ

Escape the ordinary for four nights

Sessop Tickets still eveileble!

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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 <u>6pm</u> 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

COMMUN		OMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016
		<ul> <li>♦ RUFFY ———————————————————————————————————</li></ul>
	CFA ROSTERS w/c 28th February	<ul> <li>♦ HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT ————————————————————————————————————</li></ul>
	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
yor	Thursday 25th February 10am-3pm	<b>SOIL-TEST INTERPRETATION WORKSHOP</b> 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 <b>Understanding your soil test: step by step. RSVP Judy Brookes 0448 972 563</b>
	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	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 <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/storytelling-our-country-tickets-15195348697">www.eventbrite.com.au/e/storytelling-our-country-tickets-15195348697</a>
	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 5 <sup>th</sup> 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