

WHITEHEADS CREEK

TERIP TERIP

CAVEAT

RUFFY

HIGHLANDS

HUGHES CREEK

**BOTANY, BIRDS & CREATURES****The Powerful Owl**

For 2017 the HCCC Landcare Group's sponsored local fauna is the Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*.



The Powerful Owl is native to Australia and is our largest owl with an impressive wingspan of 135cm. It is one of the supreme nocturnal predators in the forests of SE Australia

It is hawk-like with a relatively small head and a rounded tail. It is dark grey to greyish brown above, with white barring, and off-white below, with distinctive dark v-shaped chevrons. The eyes are yellow, set in a dark grey/brown facial mask. The legs are feathered and the yellow to orange feet are massive with sharp talons.

The Powerful Owl is found mainly on the eastern side of the Great Dividing Range, from SE Queensland to South Australia.

It inhabits open forests and woodlands, as well as along sheltered gullies in wet forests with dense understoreys, especially along watercourses. The Powerful Owl is a carnivore, eating mainly medium to large tree-dwelling mammals, particularly possums and gliders. It will also take roosting birds and sometimes small ground-dwelling mammals such as rabbits or small marsupials. It forages mainly in trees, swooping down on prey and taking prey with its feet.

It is totally dependant upon old growth tree hollows for its nests. During 2017 HCCC Landcare will be conducting a Powerful Owl survey in Highlands.

*This article sourced from "Birds in Backyards" - "SWIFFT" - Birdlife Australia*



**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 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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**HCCC Landcare wants to gauge the level of interest in a Progressive Farming Group.**



We envisage an active group of young farmers who would like to tap into the collective local farming knowledge but who are also keen to explore innovative techniques to improve productivity & farm outcomes.

**More info in future editions of The Granite News**

**INTERESTING BUT USELESS FACT**

SPY Magazine once sent some of the world's richest people cheques for 13 cents to see who'd cash them. The only people to do so were an arms dealer and Donald Trump.

**Tablelands Rainfall**

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
December	128.2 mm	63 mm
2016 Total	1083.2 mm	915.5 mm
December Rain Days	8	5

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RIT EXCAVATIONS  
0457740394



## Classifieds and Community Notices


### LOCAL GOINGS ON

#### Historic Local Newsletter Discovered

The Granite News is entering its 11th year of reporting on local events and items of general interest, especially those with a farming flavour. However a recent search by the owners of one of the district's signature properties has unearthed a forerunner to the Granite News.

The "Bungle Boori Times" was created by the children of Doug Maclean while he was managing the property back in the 1980s. Helen, Anne & Darren Maclean were the contributors and according to Doug, his daughter Helen has retained her talent for sketching & drawing.

We'll serialise this 5 page publication over the coming weeks so that we can all celebrate the simpler times when kids made their own fun.



EDITORS: H. MACLEAN, A. MACLEAN DATE: 17.9.81 PAGE: 1


The whole of "Bungle Boori" were thrilled when the judge announced Debonier had won first prize in his class. He then competed in the junior champion Murray Grey bull, but he was unfortunately defeated.

The next "Bungle Boori" heifer to be judged was Marba. However, she came a disappointing last. The judge said he would have liked to give a ribbon to all the heifers in the class.

Barbara and her calf came seventh, which was a good effort, for there were fifteen in her class.

The final judging for "Bungle Boori" was the group class where all the cattle named above entered. Bungle Boori came last (sixth) in this class, however the judge said the fifth and sixth were a dead heat. So over all Bungle Boori did well considering it was their first time for many years they entered in the Royal Melbourne Show.

REPORTER: H. MACLEAN.



Maclean

#### "FOUND"



Three sheep, wandering along  
Creightons Creek Rd Ruffy,  
early New Year,

Contact 0413 002 506

#### SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

The longest one syllable  
word is the ten-letter  
"scaunched" found in a 1620  
translation of Don Quixote.

### TRADING PLACES

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or wanted by friendly locals

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# COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — JAN/FEB 2017



**W/C Sunday  
Jan 29th**

Highlands/Caveat.....Driver: Richard Wallis Radio: Jeff Swain  
Ruffy.....3rd Lieutenant Peter Saglietti's Team

**Thursday 2nd  
February  
7:15am—9am**

## **WORLD WETLANDS DAY**

## **Morning Walk with the Birds**

The walk will start at Yea's Y Water Discovery Centre, Cnr Hood & High St., Yea  
Bring your camera and binoculars and join us for an expertly guided walk with  
Murrindindi Birdwatchers. This is a free event. **Book at** [wetlands.yea@gmail.com](mailto:wetlands.yea@gmail.com)

**Friday 10th  
February  
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. **Contact Judy 5796 9247**



**Friday 17th  
February  
From 6:30pm**

## **RUFFY COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP COMMUNITY MEETING & DINNER**

**Ruffy Hall, Nolans Road, Ruffy**

What is the future of the Ruffy Community Action Group?  
That's the important question to be discussed at this meeting to which all community  
members are invited. Please mark this date prominently in your diary, more details in  
next issue of Granite News. **Contact Verena Weinmann 5790 4309**

**Saturday 18th  
February  
9am—1pm**

## **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)

**Friday 24th  
February  
From 10am**

## **REMEDIAL HEALTH MASSAGE**

**at Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy**

**Kristy Adams, from Euroa**

Deep tissue massage— Sports massage— Relaxation massage NST – Bowen Therapy  
Kristy is a member of the Australian Association of Massage Therapist (AAMT) and  
treatments are claimable on private health extras cover.

Bookings need to be placed directly with Kristy a week prior to Ruffy sessions.

**Contact Kristy 0409 999957**



**Friday 24th  
February  
7:30pm**

## **HCCC LANDCARE**

**at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy**

Monthly Landcare meeting to discuss and promote essential and innovative  
environmental management issues that affect every landholder. All welcome

**Contact Mel Bronca 0417 126975**

**Sunday 26th  
February  
9am—1pm**

## **NAGAMBIE FARMERS MARKET**

**on centre median strip High St Nagambie**

Experience a true accredited farmers' market in the picturesque  
lakeside town of Nagambie. **Further details Contact** [nagambiefarmersmarket.com.au](http://nagambiefarmersmarket.com.au)

**Sunday 26th  
March 2017  
10:30am**

## **HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS**

**meet at the Highlands Hall**

Bring a carry lunch & a water bottle. Our destination has not yet been decided.

**For more details Contact Judy Reid on 5796 9358**

