



BOTANY, BIRDS & CREATURES

Have you been outside on the verandah or inside the shed or maybe walking in the bush and seen a small, grey-brown creature hop or scurry away and thought‘that was a mouse’.

Well it may have been a common house mouse or it may have been an Agile Antechinus (*Antechinus agilis*).

They are about the same size as a mouse, but they can grow to 12 cm long with a tail about the same length again as their body. Their fur can be grey like a mouse but can also be grey-brown with a light coloured stomach.

Their eyes are quite dark and large by comparison. They hop and scurry in a similar fashion to a mouse however they

are also very good climbers. There are 2 easily identifiable characteristics of an Antechinus which differentiate them from a house mouse. Their ears have a fold in them and their snout is more slender and pointed with the front of their lower jaw set about 1 cm back from its nose whereas a mouse's lower jaw starts just back from the nose. Antechinus are found in SE mainland

Australia and are quite common in the Strathbogies & Gippsland.

They mate annually from mid August to end of August (in Gippsland area). The gestation period is 4 weeks after which 6 -10 young are born. Research has shown that the young from one litter are often fathered by up to seven different males.

The Agile Antechinus does not have a

pouch (as do most other antechinus), each young attaches itself to a nipple and they are all dragged about as the mother moves around. Ouch!!

It has been found that the number of nipples an Agile Antechinus has varies from 6 to 10 (in pairs) and hence a natural weaning occurs when there are more young born than there are nipples available on the mother.

Antechinus are nocturnal by nature but I have seen them early morning or evening during daylight hours.

- Antechinus build communal nests of dry grass and leaves in hollow logs or tree hollows. Up to 20 families have been recorded in the one community.
- Antechinus eat insects, small invertebrates, spiders, nectar and berries.
- Following mating, the male Antechinus dies and hence they never live longer than 10-11 months (Aahhh. But what a way to go!!)
- Female Antechinus are known to live up to 4-5 years.

Apart from their natural enemies such as goannas, raptors, owls, etc. Antechinus are also threatened by introduced animals such as cats, dogs and foxes. The Agile Antechinus is not a threatened species, however, leaving hollow trees and fallen logs on your property will ensure that there is habitat available for these wonderful little creatures.

*This article was written by John McClumpha for
Binginwarri Landcare Group of Yarram Yarram Landcare Network, Gippsland*



The slender snout & folded ear are key identifiers



This young lady helped herself to the skin from the salmon I left on my dinner plate on the sink



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LANDCARE NOTICE BOARD

FOX on the RUN 2017



This year we are changing it up a bit and rather than tails we need the front left foot!

\$3 per each front left foot up to a maximum of 100 feet.

You can register as a team or an individual.

The competition runs from the 4th June until 8th July with feet to be handed in by the 9th July.

Dinner and presentation to be held in July with trophies for the most collected.

'Fox on the Run' caps for those that register.

* Contact Mel to register

0417126975 57969157

hughes.creek1@gmail.com

READERS' WRITES

"Thanks so much for including the article about John Hine - I was a bit like Colonel Clink ie "I know nothing" about that fungus!

I now have a mask in my chain saw kit "

Norm Drew — Highlands

"Many thanks to everyone who responded to our notice seeking a small rotary hoe. Job done !

Mini vineyard prepared.

Yes, that's how the last one started! "

Vitto

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disappoint!

Classifieds and Community Notices

The Bungle Boori Times (final)

EDITORS: H. MACLEAN, B. MACLEAN. DATE: 19-9-81 PAGE: 5

SNOOPY

By H. Maclean.



If no one answers the phone, dial louder.



There's nothing more embarrassing than barking up the wrong tree.



I would have won, but I got off to a bad finish.



Life is like an ice-cream cone. You have to learn to lick it!

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SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

A philosophunculist
is someone who pretends to
know more than they do
to try to impress others.
There's also a colloquial term
for this type of person!!



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**Black & Tan
Female**

Not microchipped or tattooed
Approx 2-3 yo Very friendly
Found in the Caveat area
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Photo for illustration only
This is not the found dog



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is now on Facebook
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READERS' WRITES

"The intense antagonism between the prophet Elijah and queen Jezebel is legendary. Hence today, to be called a Jezebel is not very complimentary. You can read their story in the first book of Kings of the Hebrew Scriptures.

If we take up the story in chapter 19 we read of Elijah in fear of his life. He had just won a theological encounter with Jezebel and she is furious and wants him killed. Feeling rather sorry for himself, Elijah escapes into the desert. Whilst there he has a vision that God is to appear. I leave the writer to tell the story (19:11f).

'Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, the Lord was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.'
(Revised Standard Version)

In other English translations of the Bible the last phrase is variously translated as and after the fire 'the sound of a gentle breeze', 'a still small voice'. A literal translation of the Hebrew reads: 'and after the fire the sound of gentle stillness'.

If you don't believe in God then this passage might confirm your position. If you are agnostic and are neutral as regards belief in God then it could perhaps be reassuring. However, both responses may be in danger of missing the poetry and subtly of the text.

I am a believer and think that the 'sheer silence' and 'gentle stillness' is a marvellous metaphor for an understanding of God.

What do you think?"

Stuart Reid — Highlands

**FINDING FOXY Issue 20 2017
Brrr Foxy Page 3**

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — JUNE/JULY 2017

Sunday 25th

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

meet at Highlands Hall

Last Sunday was far too cold and wet for most people and our walk was postponed and we will try again to walk with Andrew Shaw from Spaniak's Road to Lades Road weather permitting! Start from Highlands Hall or join us at the corner of Spaniak's Road & Highlands Road at 10.45am. **For more info contact Judy Reid 5796 9358**

TODAY !!



Thursday 29th

SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS

Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat

Come along and have a casual friendly chat with other local blokes.

Everyone Welcome BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks

YES- It's on again due to the Granite News editor's error last week (What a Goose!)



June

5:30pm

Saturday 1st

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 & skate park. Gold coin donation entry

July

9am—2pm

Monday 10th

HIGHLANDS SPINNERS

450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd. Caveat

Bring anything that you may be busy working on – knitting, embroidery, spinning, etc..... All Welcome

July

11am



Friday 14th

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.

July

6:30pm

Contact Judy 5796 9247



Saturday 15th

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

July

9am—1pm

Sunday 25th

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**

July

9am — 1pm

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