



THE GRANITE NEWS

6TH AUGUST 2017

VOLUME 11

ISSUE 25

WHITEHEADS CREEK

TERIP TERIP

CAVEAT

RUFFY

HIGHLANDS

HUGHES CREEK

CONVERSATIONS

GROCER GIVES THE GAME AWAY AND RETREATS TO RUFFY

The Cat in the Hat, the Mayor of Maggies Lane, the Breeder of Shaggy Sheep and the Grocer who's Gone off the Grid.

Roger Morgan is all of these things (well maybe the Mayor title is a stretch) but most importantly he's become a pillar of the Tablelands Community in the 8 years that he and wife Christine have been in the district. Roger is probably best known locally for his high jinks as 'The Cat in the Hat' as he promotes and comperes the annual Ruffy Chizia nights, but there's a whole lot more to him than that.

Roger was working at a frantic pace as a Director of his family's vast retail grocery business when he tragically lost Jill, his first wife to bowel cancer.

Jill's deathbed plea was for Roger to get himself checked and low & behold, he was diagnosed with an advanced case of the same disease. He underwent emergency surgery & thankfully needed no chemotherapy but his ordeal was enough to make him pause & re-evaluate his life.

With a love of four-wheel driving and camping in Victoria's high country, Roger and his new wife Christine fell in love with the bush block that they discovered at the bottom of Maggies Lane at Ruffy. They built an off-grid home that's powered by a combination of hydro and solar. Roger & Christine themselves are powered by the solitude and the stunning views.



in the market for OHS, Quality & Environmental Consulting to the civil construction and mining industries so she and Roger started their business—'Smarter Safety'. Working primarily online from their eerie at Ruffy, they deliver compliance programs to businesses in every Australian state & territory.

Roger's background in Rotary has imbued him with a deep sense of community engagement and he has been the driving force behind Chizia (**C**hallenges, **Q**uizzing, **T**rivia) that celebrates its 6th year next Saturday night at the Ruffy hall.

This quirky evening has raised several thousands of dollars for the community and has become a fixture on the local events calendar.

There's insufficient space to talk about Roger's passion for breeding Damara sheep or his relentless pursuit of the Ruffy panther.

You'll just have to introduce yourself next time you see 'The Cat in the Hat' so he can regale you with those stories.

By Don Cook



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

Contact editor@tgn.org.au

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www.highlands.org.au



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Tablelands Rainfall

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
July	92.4 mm	112.5 mm
2017Total	381.8 mm	430 mm
July Rain Days	20	12



**GOULBURN
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CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
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FINDING FOXY Issue 24 2017
Rotary Foxy Page 4

SPEAKING PLAIN ENGLISH

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Classifieds and Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

HIGHLANDERS RAMBLE ON



Ready, Set...Ramble!

On Sunday 30th July 11th, people ranging in age from 7 years to 81 years joined Andrew Shaw on a walk from Fassifern Road along Fassifern Creek (Jacks Creek) and up to Spaniaks Road and back to Fassifern Road.

We watched an eagle soaring overhead as we crossed the creek several times without getting wet.

Lunch was eaten on top of a hill at Andrew's 'handcrafted table' with wonderful views.

It did not rain! In fact it was a perfect day for walking.

Some of us then enjoyed afternoon tea at Stuart & Judy's home.



View from Andrew's Table

Thanks to Andrew for a great walk and to Louise for helping us to identify native plants along the way.

Report by Judy Reid



Strathbogie Shire becomes a Refugee Welcome Zone

Strathbogie Shire has officially become a Refugee Welcome Zone.

This initiative was developed by the Refugee Council of Australia in 2002 and there are now over 140 official Welcome Zones across the country, 40 of which are Victorian.

Mayor Amanda McClaren and her fellow Councillors attended the Welcome Scroll, an initiative of Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR), when it came to Euroa on Tuesday 4 July to celebrate the endorsement of the initiative.

Becoming a Welcome Zone is a commitment to embracing and showing compassion and empathy to refugees who integrate into the community. This is central to Council's vision of building flourishing communities and the values of respect and inclusion driving the new Council Plan.

The drive to support this initiative came from Council's consultation sessions through their **'Let's Talk- We are Listening'** campaign held earlier this year.

The Mayor said *"It became clear through the conversation cafes held in the eight townships that becoming a Refugee Welcome Zone was something incredibly important to the Strathbogie Shire community"*.

She explained that this declaration is also *"an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions refugees have made to Australian society."*

The pledge also promotes cultural & religious diversity and builds social cohesion throughout the community.

"One of the strengths of our Shire is its strong sense of community and this commitment further acknowledges that we are a welcoming, friendly and inclusive place to live & work," Cr McClaren said.

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

Friday 11th
August
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 5796 9247



Friday 11th
August
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

Saturday 12th
August
7:15 for 7:30pm

CHIZIA (Colossal Challenges, Quirky Quizzing, Terrific Trivia)

at Ruffy Hall
BYO drinks and nibbles. Memorable Ruffy supper. Many unique prizes.
Adults \$10, pre-teens free. Bookings essential -

Contact Roger 0437 771 580

Monday 14th
August
11:00am

HIGHLANDS SPINNERS

450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd. Caveat
Bring anything that you may be busy working on. Same cheerful company
and good coffee & tea All Welcome

Contact Jan 5790 4361



Saturday 19th
August
9am—1pm

EUROA VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET

Rotary Park, Kirkland Ave., Euroa
A wonderful range of farm fresh produce from "local" producers.

Contact Helen Brook 0456 723331 www.euroavillagefarmersmarket.org

Monday 21st
August 7:30pm

TERIP TERIP TENNIS CLUB

at the Terip Recreation Reserve

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and All Welcome. Further Info Contact Cindy 5790 4226

Sunday 27th
August
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

Sunday 27th
August
10:30am

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

meet at Highlands Hall

We will join Andrew for a walk starting on Old Highlands Road and ending up at the
Highlands Community Hall. Bring a carry lunch and water and meet at the hall ready
to leave at 10.30am.

For more information contact Louise Currie 9437 1504



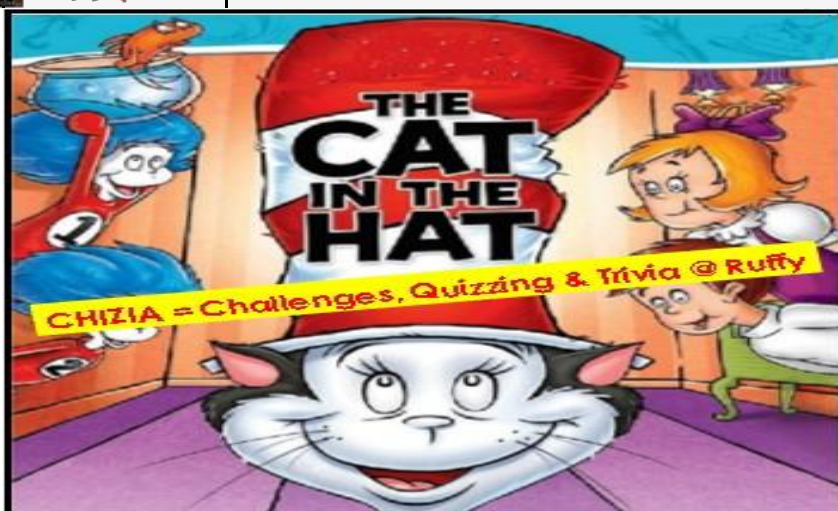
Thursday 31st
August
5:30pm

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



Sat 12th Aug 2017, 7-15 for 7.30 @ Ruffy Hall.
Adults \$10, pre-teens free. BYO drinks & nibbles.
Enjoy our warm'n'cozy hall & an amazing supper.
Numerous rare and unique prizes.
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - Phone Roger 0437 771 580

By the Ruffy Hall Committee

