



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

So...let's talk about **Climate Change**, not whether it exists or not but what it actually is. A couple of weeks ago I came across this very succinct summary in the latest Tahbilk newsletter. I found it to be very easy to understand and with the approval of its author, Hayley Purbrick, reprint it here. Many thanks Hayley.

N.B ppm = parts per million

"Carbon is not well understood so we're going back to basics to explain the Green House effect...Let's start at the beginning, I think many of us have forgotten we live in the universe on a planet called Earth. The Earth is the **only** planet that can sustain life and support life in all its forms: from basic living micro-organisms to highly sophisticated and intelligent human beings. And without it we don't have anything.

But what makes the Earth so special?

*** A breathable atmosphere; oxygen is present in the atmosphere and water, released by plants.**

*** A suitable stable climate caused by the moderate amount of carbon in the atmosphere.**

*** Water in abundance in 3 forms frozen (ice), liquid (seas/lakes/river) and gas (clouds) which help regulate and store carbon dioxide.**

*** Regular sunlight (24 hours) that promotes plant growth and photosynthesis (the plants process of releasing oxygen) .**

*** Perfect distance from the sun**

*** The ozone layer prevents harmful UV rays from the sun hitting the Earth's surface.**

*** The Earth's magnetic sphere protects the atmosphere from the sun's radiation.**

You might also hear people say climate change, or the warming of the planet, is because of natural causes - erupting volcanoes and the like. But this is not true. The Earth has a pretty nifty self-regulation regime, a thermostatic cycle, which keeps it in check. This process is called the Greenhouse Effect and CO₂ is the primary greenhouse gas which helps to regulate temperature.

The problem is once you add humans into the mix, particularly the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas) agriculture and land clearing you increase the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This creates an enhanced greenhouse effect which is contributing to warming the Earth. Prior to the Industrial Revolution, carbon dioxide stood at roughly 280ppm. Since then human activities have committed a massive amount of carbon pollution to the atmosphere. It has driven carbon dioxide levels to record highs year after year currently sitting at 400ppm driving to dangerously high levels. So you can see we, people, businesses, are contributing to global warming and throwing the Earth's natural thermometer out of whack. This isn't good, so what can we do?"

Hayley then went on to explain that Tahbilk is actively taking steps to reduce their carbon footprint (so far by 25%) but I'd just like to stop at... "So what can **we** do?"

Until next week, **Pauline**

And Kenny? — hopped into Jenny's fridge to check it out!



Feedback? - contact editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

"If at first you don't succeed then sky-diving definitely isn't for you."

Steven Wright (US comedian & writer)

The Granite News is an open but moderated community forum.

Readers are encouraged to contribute articles and we also encourage you to air your views on things that interest or concern you within our community.

We certainly welcome feedback from you, positive or otherwise on anything that is published in

The Granite News

Your HCCC Landcare group is currently building a database of weeds in the district. If you know of a roadside or property that has significant issues with Blackberries, Paterson's Curse or any other weed of concern please contact
Neil van Buuren.

5796 9111 or 0417 503472

hughes.creek1@gmail.com
All info will remain anonymous

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Jon 0490 038 957



WEBSITE of the WEEK

www.greatachievements.org
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Please note: Thursday evening is the deadline for inclusion in the following week's TGN although this will depend on space and time constraints—thanks

Community Notices & Classifieds

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — May & June 2018



Monday 14th May
11am

HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB

The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2018 at the same place—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided.

Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361

Saturday 18th May
6.45 for 7pm

MURRINDINDI FILM SOCIETY

at Council Chambers Yea

1990 Canadian film *The Company of Strangers*. Directed by Cynthia Scott, this largely unscripted film concerns 8 older ladies stranded in the wilderness when their bus breaks down.

Saturday 19th May
9am - 2pm

RIPARIAN WALK #5 - BOATHOLES RUFFY

departing Hughes Creek bridge on Boathole Rd

The 5th walk in a series to become better acquainted with local waterways. A beautiful walk with mainly gentle slopes that meanders along Hughes Creek. 5-6kms long, moderate to hard, RSVPs are essential reply to strathbogierangescmn@gmail.com

Saturday 19th May
7.30 for 8pm



RUFFARTZ - CAFÉ CULTURE SERIES 2018

at Ruffy Community Hall

Red Dress & the Sugar Man a knockout cabaret show intelligently constructed, written and wonderfully performed by Marisa Quigley. BYO drinks & nibbles. Tickets \$25. Please book early to ensure your seat. An excellent evening's entertainment ***** **Bookings:** Chrissy 0419 561386 or ruffartztickets@gmail.com

Thursday 24th May
7pm

HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Caveat Church, commencing @ 7.00pm. All welcome.

Friday 25th May
7.30 pm

TERIP TERIP CFA BI-Annual GENERAL MEETING

at Terip Terip Rec Reserve

Saturday 26th May
9am

HIGHLANDS CAVEAT CFA

at Mafeking Rover Park

It's on again!! The annual wood drive for sales at Mudbash. Many hands make light work so come along and help to saw, split and stack and the pile will be finished rapidly. Let Callum know you'll be there **0437 182223**



Sunday 27th May
10.30 am

HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS

A 10.30 departure from the Highlands Hall will commence the day's walk. **Enquiries? - Andrew 0427 969297**

Thursday 31st May
5.30pm

SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS

at Caveat Church

All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.

Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd June
10-4 ~ both days

DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO

2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands

Darren's studio, with his stunning, creative works is now open to the public on the first weekend each month. Quality art in the local community and not too far to travel to enjoy it.



Friday 8th June
6.30 pm

DRINKS ON THE DECK

at Highlands Community Hall

Starts at 6.30pm 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. **57969247 & Contact Judy**

Sat 9th & Sun 10th June
all day

MUDBASH 2018 - Rover Scouts

at Mafeking Rover Park

One of the highlights of the Rover Scout calendar for over 40 years. Come along and see all the amazing Mudbash vehicles and teams battle it out for another year in the Hill Climb, Tug-o-War and other events.

Saturday 9th June
6pm Soup & buns
7pm Walk

YEA WETLANDS SPOTLIGHT WALK

at YWDC & Yea Wetlands

Come along and celebrate World Environment Day with a night-walk through the Yea Wetlands. BYO Torch. Discover what the neighbours get up to after dark. RSVP is essential - wetlands.yea@gmail.com

Wednesday 13th June
7.30pm

HIGHLANDS CAVEAT CFA BI-Annual GENERAL MEETING

at Highlands CFA office

No need to RSVP just be there!

Every Monday
10 am

YOGA AT RUFFY

at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy

Yoga with Kylie Penny is in full swing. All welcome! Equipment provided, \$15 per class. (BYO water bottle) Any enquiries please call/SMS Kylie 0418899966 or email kyliepenny@gmail.com

Last Friday of the month

MASSAGE THERAPIST - Kristy Adams

at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy

Kristy Adams is visiting the Ruffy Community Centre once a month for remedial massage sessions. Treatments commence at 10am. For further details, or to book a session, contact Kristy on 0409 999957.

WOW!! What a feast of culture, sport & entertainment ~ why would we want to live anywhere else??

Regional Achievement and Community Awards

The Victorian Regional Achievement and Community Awards have been launched for 2018 and the search for our community champions has begun. Every town has that inspiring individual, who we all wonder where they always find the time or the local business that is forever supporting its community whilst running the best business in town or the community group that helps everyone and everything.

We need to give thanks to them, and now you can, by nominating them into one of these categories;

- Prime Super Agricultural Innovation Award
- Prime Super Employer Excellence in Aged Care Award
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Diversity and Inclusion Award
- Regional Development Victoria Business Achievement Award
- Regional Development Victoria Leadership and Innovation Award
- Parks Victoria Environmental Sustainability Award
- Henry Carus & Associates and Life Activities Clubs Victoria Senior Achievement Award
- South West TAFE & Deakin University South West Regional Achiever Award
- Ricoh Australia Customer Service Award
- Awards Australia Community Group of the Year Award

Great prizes are up for grabs with either \$2,000 deposited into each winner's account from Bank of Melbourne or air time packages on PRIME7 for category winners. Plus every nomination will receive a certificate of achievement. To submit a nomination, simply go online www.awardsaustralia.com/vicraca and select 'Nominate Now'. Alternatively make the process that much easier by calling the Awards Office and passing on their details. Nominations close Wednesday 18 July 2018, for assistance please feel free to call the Awards Office on 9720 1638 or email vic@awardsaustralia.com

Local food – anyone interested?

For a long time now, the area around Seymour has hosted various gatherings to buy, swap or sell low kilometre, organic home produce.

In 2008, the "Black Market" started at Rocky Passes vineyard, and was a successful monthly gathering for many years. As more of us want to know the source and quality of our food, and as the environmental and financial costs of transporting food increase, it makes sense to grow our own as much as possible. We know that many people in the Highlands area are growing their own fruit and vegetables, producing oil, wine, eggs, honey and more. Often, it's a "feast or famine" but with a local, domestic market, we can buy, swap or sell the excess, and meet for a cuppa and discussion. There is also the local "[BEAM Bulk Food Scheme](#)" that we could become involved with if there's enough interest. Now, we realise that the Summer produce is at an end, and that winter is approaching, but we would like to host a start-up meeting to gauge interest ... to talk about what to grow for Spring ... and to discuss a name. Some early suggestions ... "Off-the-grid" and HiMart (with a nod to the wonderful HiArts). RSVPs in advance would be appreciated.

Sunday 27th May 10am - 11am
At Candi and Vitto's place
94 Old Highlands Rd (opp. Granite Hills Rd)
Highlands 57969366
BYO Chair, cup and warm clothes!



Retrosuburbia with David Holmgren

Tuesday 15th May @ 7pm

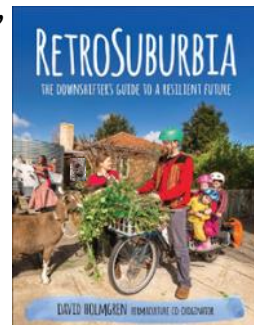
Seymour Library, Anzac Avenue, Seymour

David Holmgren will be in Seymour to help promote his new book **Retrosuburbia; a downshifters guide to a resilient future**, and to talk about "Aussie Street", a microcosm of four adjacent houses practicing the ideas presented in David's book. For bookings ring 57833555 or email

tanya.begley@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au

And on **Sunday 20th May**, there will be tours of Abdallah House in Seymour, one of the other places featured in **Retrosuburbia**. For more information and bookings, go to [https://](https://www.retrosuburbia.com/retrosuburbia-events/)

www.retrosuburbia.com/retrosuburbia-events/



Very Important Announcement !!

The Tarcombe-Ruffy bridge located 2 kms east of Ponkeen Creek Rd will be closed for replacement from **Monday 28th May through to Friday 15th June** inclusive. Please note these are the REVISED dates and any short term inconvenience will result in long term accessibility.

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