The Granite News

20th May 2018
Volume 12
Issue 16

Whiteheads Creek • Terip Terip • Caveat • Ruffy • Highlands • Hughes Creek

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

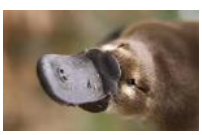
The week before last I headed down the Yea/Highlands Rd (Ghin Ghin Rd) and noticed that long overdue roadworks had begun on this very important access road to our plateau. The outdoor crew were busily digging a large hole about a metre deep and excavating some really nice mustard coloured soil. Later that day I noticed that all the soil previously piled up along the side of the road had been reinstated back into the hole and I must admit to thinking, "So what was the point of that?" Fast forward to this last week and I found myself waiting at a Stop sign and asked the chap on the pole, "I'm curious why are you digging holes just to fill them up again?" He was most forthcoming with his answer and I thought that I would share it with you as such excavation is probably common to roadworks across our entire catchment area. It goes like this—holes are dug in the parts of the road where a drainage problem or ditch in the road has been noted and marked out on the bitumen. Once the hole is dug, and before the soil is replaced, a layer of Geofabric is laid along with some agi pipe. Basically this results in effective drainage of the problem area by absorption of excess water by the Geofabric and drainage away down the newly laid pipes. This should mean that all those little springs that pop up along this section of the road, after a solid rain, will no longer appear as they will be dealt with at a subterranean level. An the absolute bonus for the next financial year is that the undulating and pitted bitumen will replaced, courtesy of a nifty little machine called a profiler, that gobbles up the asphalt at the front end and spits out new hot mix at the back end simultaneously. So the road leading "up above the fog" should become as smooth as and less prone to water erosion as a result of all these works - both intended and currently being undertaken. Until next week, **Pauline**

And Kenny? — in the background of Retrosuburbia!

YES!! Opera House nets banned in Victoria

The Victorian Government recently announced that as of **July 1st 2019** Opera House nets will be banned in all public and private waters throughout Victoria, with reforms that will benefit native animals that live in and around waterways including platypus, rakali and turtles. Open top lift nets can still be used in both public and private waters and are proven to be effective yabby catchers. As part of the changes, a one-for-one trade-in is planned, whereby fishers can trade their opera house nets for free "wildlife friendly" open top lift nets. Trials have indicated that wildlife friendly gear, such as open top lift nets can actually catch more yabbies than opera house nets when fished actively, so it'll be even easier to put yabbies on the table. from Agriculture Victoria

N.B. Although this is fantastic news it doesn't come into effect until **NEXT** year so please continue to think about your yabby catching options between now and then. Ed



PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

At the May offering of Drinks on the Deck there was cause for GREAT joy as Margaret-Anne Milburn and Dennis Spiteri were surprised with a fantastic birthday party that celebrated them turning 60 and 70 respectively. Sadly no photos seem to exist of this excellent occasion but a great time was had by all.

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

Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Landcare

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

"Today was good, today was fun, tomorrow is another one!"

Dr Seuss (much-loved children's author)

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***

SELL IT—BUY IT

WANTED - if anyone reading this is thinking of selling some land - 200 to 600 acres in the Highlands area, then please contact Norm on 0418 379401

FOR SALE: **15** small bales of wheat straw. Construction quality. Stored in a dry shed for 12 months, 95cm x 45cm x 30cm. Take some or all. @ $5 per bale ONO. Pick up only, near Avenel. Call Jon 0490 038 957

WEBSITE of the WEEK

https://csiropedia.csiro.au/

CSIRO has been shaping innovation since 1916. Find out how here.

Community Notices & Classifieds

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

Thursday 24th May 7pm	**HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING** The next meeting will be held at the Caveat Church, commencing @ 7.00pm. All welcome. *Enquiries? - contact Justus 57904268*
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 am	**RETURN of the "BLACK MARKET"** *at 94 Old Highlands Rd* Anyone interested in a local food swap'n'sell as per the Black Market that operated at Rocky Passes several years ago. Come along to discuss the possibilities of commencing another such operation. BYO Chair, cup and warm clothes and RSVPs would be appreciated. *Enquiries? - Candi & Vitto 57969366*
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 - 12 on both days	**WORKING BEE @ TERIP TERIP REC** Even if you can only come along for an hour on one of these days, it would be a big help!! Many thanks.
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
Monday 11th June 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*
Wednesday 13th June 7.30pm	**HIGHLANDS CAVEAT CFA Bi-Annual GENERAL MEETING** *at Highlands CFA office* No need to RSVP just be there!
Saturday 30th June	**TERIP TERIP REC RESERVE - SAVE THE DATE !!!** End of Financial Year Winter Fundraiser - stay tuned for further information!
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??

ENCOUNTERS WITH FUNGI

Mushroom Discovery Workshop

This 3.5 hour workshop with both theoretical and practical components will introduce participants to the diversity, ecology and curiosities of the Kingdom Fungi, specific to fungi found in the Yea region but also within a wider Australian context.

It includes a 90 minute interactive session around a specimen display table where participants will learn the basics of fungus identification, fungal ecology, and the natural and cultural history of fungi. Fungal specimens from the local area will be displayed, discussed and examined. The edibility and toxicity of fungi will also be discussed.

Following the indoor session will be an exciting foray through various local habitat types to search for species of interest. Participants will learn to recognise the various diagnostic characteristics used to identify fungi in the field and understand their ecological significance in local ecosystems.

When: Sunday 27th May 2018 **Time:** 1pm—4.30pm

Where: Yea Community House

Maximum participants: 20 **Cost:** $20pp ($15 concession)

Requirements: *Participants are asked to wear appropriate clothing and sturdy footwear for the outdoor session which will go ahead, regardless of weather. Participants are encouraged to bring along specimens for identification during the workshop.*

Bookings ESSENTIAL

LANDCARE VICTORIA

Gorse be gone…

The Victorian Gorse Taskforce (VGT) is calling for applications for their 2018/19 community grants program. This is a great chance to clear your property of gorse and protect the environment and agriculture in the process. Groups of 2 or more landowners, or local Landcare groups, can attract up to $30,000 in grants to help combat gorse in our local area. The VGT community grants program will support groups who are genuinely willing to control gorse and align with the goals of the Victorian Gorse Control Strategy 2014-2019. All landholders who receive the grant funding must sign up to a 3 year voluntary agreement to maintain their control. Applications are now open for the VGT 2018-19 grants - closing on Tuesday 5th June. For further information visit www.vicgorsetaskforce.com.au

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.

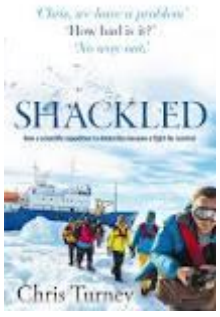
Sunday 27th May 10am - 11am
At Candi and Vitto's place
94 Old Highlands Rd (opp. Granite Hills Rd)
Highlands 57969366
BYO Chair, cup and warm clothes!

Literature landing in Highlands

Wow, as a bibliophile from waaaay back - be still my beating heart - because as of **Wednesday 6th June** the new, you beaut, rather spiffy looking Mobile Library from Murrindindi Shire will be servicing our local community. **From 10.30 to 12.30 on a fortnightly basis** it will be parked outside the Highlands Hall. Not only will it offer library items and services but a range of Council services as well eg: pay your rates, animal registrations and more. Stay tuned for more details but here's a little taste of what's to come…. the first book review !

Shackled by Chris Turney

In 2013 the news raced around the world that a scientific expedition ship was caught in the ice in Antarctica . The Akademik Shokalskiy was well and truly stuck and going nowhere with about 70 people on board. In this book Turney, the expedition's leader, explains what the voyage was all about, compares his situation with that of Shackleton 100 years before and enlightens the reader as to how treacherous and unforgiving the magnificent white continent can be.



An excellent read!!

Please note I may be a little biased here as the Akademik was the ship Peter and I sailed on 2 years before - Ed.

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.

Habbies Howe Beef

Mature Well Hung and Available
Gary's Meat Prahan Market
Berties of Richmond and St Helena
www.habbieshowe.com.au

Kopanica Pastoral Excavations

Ph. 0357 904 235
Mob. 0429 804 235

Rabbit Ripping, Dams, Driveways
General Earthworks &
Machinery Hire

HILLSIDE FENCING & WEED SPRAYING

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

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

ruffy produce store

www.ruffy.com.au

open lunch fridays
dinner every
friday night
weekends & holidays
breakfast from 8.30am
lunch from 12 noon
bookings a good idea
phone **5790 4387**

Reserved for Seymour Equine

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

BenCo PLUMBING SERVICES

Ben Laycock
License no. 105134
0438512299
bencoplumbingservices.com
ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au

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

Kopanica Pastoral Company P/L

Livestock, Water and
General Cartage

We Will Cart Anything

Phone **5790 4235**
Mobile **0447 775 247**

MACSHAY

Hay & Silage
Contractors
Rounds and Small Squares
We also do Contract Slashing
& General Freight Carriers

John 57969267 0429861817

EZY ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Phone Ian on
: 0408990487
: 57904328

Registered Electrical Contractor:
License No. 16959

IT Professional in the Highlands

Can help with all problems with your mobile phone, I Pad, box computer or any email issues

Happy to travel

John Campbell
0478221311

EDUCATION SPACE

For Hire

The Tablelands Community Centre at Ruffy

Ideal for Meetings, Lectures or Arts & Crafts

Very Reasonable Rates
Contact Melissa Macdowall
0404 833388

LAWSON

General earthworks & hole boring
Shed design, construction & removal
Metal fabrication & welding
Crane truck hire

Callum - 0437 182 223
lawsonbluetop@gmail.com

AB Home, Garden & Property Services

For regular help or one-off projects like painting, tiling, carpentry, gardening, fence repairs, and more...
call Andrew on
048 777 1234

Donation from Supporters of the LACE MONITOR

Chris Sharman

Energy Efficiency & Solar Energy Specialist
Acme – Air Conditioning | Electrical | Solar
M: 0418 551 301 |
T: Office - 9785 7339
E: chris@acmeair.com.au

ACME air conditioning, electrical & solar

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL

Meeting Room and/or Hall available for hire

MEETINGS
FUNCTIONS
WORKSHOPS
PARTIES
WEDDINGS

Reasonable rates
Contact Judy Cameron
5796 9247

Reserved for KellBell

Kitchen Table Coaching

*Overcome life's challenges
*Use inner "core muscles"
*Ask self challenging questions
*Sample delicious food

Your Coach Maxien
0401 320727

Amelia Rise Donkeys at Hee Haw Farm

Caveat Rd, Terip Terip.
Open to the Public
Entry by Donation
Opening Hours are by
APPOINTMENT ONLY
Please phone to check if the weather is inclement

PH: 0412 251114

FARM CONTRACTING

From sowing & spraying to haymaking & transport

Call Joerg 0418 557 390

ROGAINING