



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Ok so to this week's blurb, which might sound a wee bit girly, but please bear with me. I have just spent a fantastic 3 day weekend away with 5 of my fabulous "quilting friends" traveling from Kyneton to Bendigo to Echuca to Shepp with fabric shopping being the excuse for this excellent mini-break. The reality though is not the fabric but the friendship and the fun that fills the rest of the time and a sense of community and sharing. We had a ball. And I can't help thinking of the crowd of people who turned up to Drinks on the Deck last Friday night and shared a meal and a drink with their neighbouring Highlanders and enjoyed that company and friendship too. In a couple of weeks time that sense of camaraderie will happen again at Secret Men's Business and then again at the Ruffy CFA Service Awards presentation which will, "celebrate the contribution and dedication of members to the brigade and the community." And once again I am reminded of the great extended community that we all live in, or visit from time to time and the fact that it's a very special part of the world. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny** - was swinging with Dr Crask.



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

"The road to a friend's house is never long."

Danish Proverb

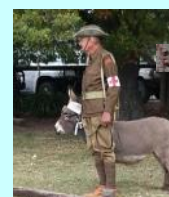
The Granite News is an open but moderated community forum. Readers are encouraged to contribute articles and we also encourage you to air your views on things that interest or concern you within our community. We certainly welcome feedback from you, positive or otherwise on anything that is published in **The Granite News**

SELL IT—BUY IT

WANTED

The cutest donkeys in the world would like someone to clean up & pick up all the small to medium size fallen timber in their paddocks and put it in piles to burn.

This is **paid work**, so please ring Deb on 0412 251114, to let her know if you can assist. (While these donkeys may be cute, they can't answer phones!)



WEBSITE of the WEEK

www.scienceweek.net.au/faq/

Australian National Science Week
11-19 August - check out this website
for further details.

RuffArtZ

Two very special September shows!

Saturday 1st Sep 8pm

Café Culture Series DR. CRASK & HIS SWINGING ELIXIR BAND

Whatever ails you, a dose of Dr Crask and his band will get you toe tapping and smiling. Swing dance tunes by Fats Waller, Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington to name a few. Rhythm and horns, silky smooth vocals – that fun, engaging 'little big-band' sound! Tickets \$25 BYO drinks and nibbles.



Sunday 23rd Sep 2pm

Sensational Sunday Matinee: HELL SHIP: THE JOURNEY OF THE TICONDEROGA

Michael Veitch (comedian, author, and actor) writes and performs a one-man show of an historical maritime event that is also a family legacy. In 1852, the emigrant ship Ticonderoga limped into Port Melbourne after a nightmare voyage from England in which many passengers had died of typhus. A true story, this saga of tragedy, loss and heroism gripped the people of our young nation like nothing before. Tickets \$25 – afternoon tea included



www.ruffartz.com.au



Ruffy Community Hall, 3 Nolans Rd Ruffy

Christine 0419 561 386 or ruffartztickets@gmail.com - book early to ensure a seat!!

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 — August & September 2018

 Monday 12th August @ 11 am	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. <i>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</i>
 Wednesday 15th August @ 7 pm	MURRINDINDI SOLAR BULK BUY MEETING at Yea Shire Hall The Dindi Bulk Buy brings Murrindindi Shire home, business and farm owners free impartial energy advice on their solar options. For further information check out www.dindibulkbuy.com.au
Friday 17th August 6.45 for 7pm	MURRINDINDI FILM SOCIETY at Yea Council Chambers MFS presents the 2012 German psychological drama "Barbara" acclaimed as "an elegant drama".
Thursday 23rd August @ 7 pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING at Ruffy Community Centre The next meeting will be held in Ruffy commencing at 7pm. All welcome. <i>Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268</i>
 Saturday 25th August 12 to 2pm	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <i>Enquiries? - Candi 57969366</i>
Sunday 26th August 10.00 am - 12.30pm	TREE STORY - DIE BACK or GROW BACK? & Tree Planting along the GV Rail Trail Come along, plant some more beautiful trees and find out about the Strathbogie Ranges Tree Health Project. Meet at the Merton Cemetery car park - Tree planting is on the rail trail & morning Tea will be at Merton Cemetery where Janet Hagen will present the 'Tree Storey' Project - assessing tree health in our landscapes.
Sunday 26th August 10.45 for an 11am start	RUFFY CFA AWARDS PRESENTATION at Ruffy CFA Shed A celebration of CFA members' contribution and dedication to the community. There will be special guests (see attachment) & lunch provided. RSVP by 20/8. <i>Enquiries? Felicity 0413 483450 or George 0432 928301</i>
Sunday 26th August @ 10.30	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS at Highlands Community Hall Our next walk will commence at 10.30 from the Highlands Hall - more details to come....stay tuned. <i>Enquiries? Andrew 0427 969297 or ajshaw577@hotmail.com</i>
Monday 27th August @ 7.30pm	TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM at Tablelands Community Centre Election of committee and office bearers followed by a general meeting. All welcome. <i>Enquiries? Melissa 0404 833388</i>
Thursday 30th August @ 5.30 pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.
Saturday 1st September @ 8pm 	"Café Culture Series" - Dr Crask & his Swinging Elixir Band at Ruffy Community Hall Whatever ails you this show is guaranteed to get your toes tapping: a luscious sizzling "little big-band" sound. Tickets \$25, BYO drinks & nibbles. Please book early to ensure your seat. <i>Bookings: Christine 0419 561386 email: ruffartztickets@gmail.com</i>
Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd Sept 10 - 4 on 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 14th September @ 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. <i>57969247 & Contact Judy</i>
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE at Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight on the following dates - August 15th & 29th Sept 12th & 26th Oct 10th & 24th Nov 7th & 21st and Dec 5th & 19th
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



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Heartfelt thanks to Highlands Hall President

Judy Reid, the second longest serving Highlands Hall President in it's 116 year history, is retiring. Having been in the job longer than Vladimir Putin, more successful than Margie Thatcher and as saintly as Mother Teresa, we will sorely miss her.

After 18 years, seeing off 4 secretaries (hard boss), managing the rabble she still kindly called her committee, she is leaving the Highlands Hall in much better shape than she found it.

Immediately on becoming President she was confronted with a building in need of serious maintenance. Following our first fund raising dance it was discovered the Hall was in danger of blowing over in the gentle zephyrs that pass through the Highlands. In a short space of time funding was arranged and between 2000- 2004 the Hall was re-stumped, floors sanded and polished, painted inside and out, historic photo collection established, indoor disabled toilets built and an entrance (come bus shelter) was constructed.

In the following years a new kitchen, enclosure of the outside toilet block, the shade sailed outside deck, BBQ tables and revamped tennis/ basketball/volley ball/chess courts were installed. Power was put underground and the constant drama of water supply haunted her, which through her determination and dogged persistence has finally been put to right. Outside the Hall constant upgrading and beautification of the surrounds has taken place (I bet you have all forgotten the cypress trees) and currently the final stage of repainting the hall for the second time is in progress.

Judy has been heavily involved in HiArts, Drinks on the Deck, the Highland Ramblers, the Mobile Library, and Jayco Bike Rides, amongst many other events held at the Hall.

We will miss Judy on the Committee and her massive contribution to Highlands life can't be understated and we hope she will still come to working bees because smoko won't be the same without her Lumberjack Cake!

On behalf of the Committee and all the Highlands Community thank you, Judy for the tireless hours you have spent giving us Highlanders a Hall of which we are extremely proud.

And Stuart, you can have your wife back now....

by Scott McKay



The newly appointed Highlands Hall committee...

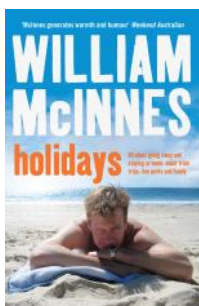
President - John Dunphy

Secretary / Treasurer - Judy Cameron

General Committee Members - Rick McAlpin, Paula Lade, Netta Lawson, Steve McAlpin, Karli Chase and Larry Taylor. Congratulations to those community members who have taken on these positions and thanks for your commitment.

Holidays by William McInnes

Over the last few years it has become apparent that William McInnes can not only act but tell a damn good yarn as well and **Holidays** is an absolute gem of a read. It's a laugh out loud meander down the various holidays on offer. McInnes relates holiday memories from his childhood and holidays with his own children. Then there are the holidays that are made possible by that dying-breed "the travel agent", as well as "other people's holidays". My favourite in this collection is the tale of his recent family holiday at Philip Island with his kids and their friends. An investment in a data projector meant that the evening's entertainment was watching old movies and TV shows on the 'wide screen' - the side of the holiday house. The description of re-runs of that Australian classic "Skippy" are hilarious, including describing Tony Bonner as the helicopter pilot who never gets to fly - it's true too! Why not borrow the book & enjoy!



A parting message from the president

"I thank all committee members past and present for your support and hard work over the last eighteen years. I also thank all those community members who have supported the hall. Having lost our Primary School, this building is an even more vital part of this community. Now that Larry has fixed the elusive water leak, may the hall remain the centre of this community. The Highlands Community Hall is owned by the Department of the Environment, Land, Water and Planning, is insured through Murrindindi Shire Council, **but it belongs to us!**"

Judy Reid

More about the Lace Monitor

Where do they Live? Lace Monitors are found along the east coast of Australia, on the ranges, slopes, and adjacent plains of eastern Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria, with a patchy distribution in adjacent parts of South Australia. They prefer semi-humid to humid forested habitat, including river basins and adjacent areas. Although often seen on the ground, they spend much of their life in trees, sheltering in hollows. If approached, they will keep spiralling round to the back of the tree, keeping the trunk between themselves & the watcher.

Reduce, Re-use, Recycle & Refuse Tips #5

Did you know there are more old, unwanted and broken mobile phones in Australia than there are people? (War on Waste 31/7/18) Phones have many valuable parts that can be recycled. Local shire offices accept these phones as part of the Mobile Muster program, why not recycle any of your old phones now?



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