



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

The daffodils are blooming and the wattle is painting splashes of gold across the landscape, so it must mean that spring is just around the corner and won't that be a welcome development. Although the winter has been cold and bleak, rain has not been a predominant feature and even now the CFA is considering commencing the fire season a month or two earlier than normal. So if you haven't yet started "cleaning up" around the house now might be a good time to kick start that spring cleaning. Have fun!

Until next week, **Pauline**
And **Kenny**? - was checking out one of the cutest donkeys in the world.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Queensland Fruit Fly Monitoring Program



Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni*), or QFF, is a significant horticultural pest which permanently inhabits parts of the Northern Territory, Queensland, New South Wales and now parts of Victoria.

QFF attacks a wide range of host plants, decreasing production and making fruit inedible. This can have severe consequences for local and international trade, as well as for you, the home gardener.

While QFF activity generally increases in spring as the weather gets warmer, it is not strictly tied to a particular season. If sufficiently warm weather persists into autumn or winter, fruit flies can continue through their life cycle providing that a suitable host fruit or fruiting vegetable is available.

Since host fruits mature at different times of the year, it can be useful to relate QFF activity to the host plant's growth stage rather than to the season.

The Upper Goulburn Landcare Network (UGLN), has recently been successful in obtaining a grant to support community awareness of this issue. Currently there is only anecdotal evidence of the presence of QFF in this area. The UGLN, in partnership with Murrindindi Shire Council, will be providing QFF traps to community members in the hope that we can identify the presence, or not, of QFF in this region. If identified as being present in the area, information regarding QFF management will be circulated to the community with support from Agriculture Victoria, Murrindindi Shire Council, and other interested community organisations, to contain this pest.

These traps contain a pheromone which will attract the male fruit fly and an insecticide which will kill it. The traps only need to be monitored once or twice per week and a monitoring sheet completed. If the fruit fly is caught, physical or photographic evidence must be given to the contacts below. **Traps will be available from -**

***UGLN (in the GBCMA office building) Shop 5, 10 High St, Yea,**

***Murrindindi Shire Council offices in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake**

For information about the program and the monitoring process please contact;

Judy Watts, Landcare Facilitator
Upper Goulburn Landcare Network
57974405

Sue McNair
Environmental Officer—Murrindindi SC
57720702 0472 835007

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



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

"When somebody says it's just a book, smile, because they just don't understand."

Anon.

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

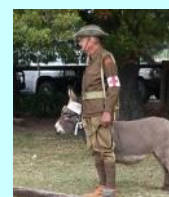
The Granite News

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








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Community Notices & Classifieds

COMMUNITY "WHAT'S ON" CALENDAR — August & September 2018

Thursday 23rd August @ 7 pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING The next meeting will be held in Ruffy commencing at 7pm. All welcome. Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268	at Ruffy Community Centre
Friday 24th August @ 7.30pm	YEA RIVER CATCHMENT LANDCARE GROUP Filmed over 5 years "The Bentley Effect" documents a community's highs and lows when dealing with the coal seam gas industry. \$15 = film and soups. (see attachment) Enquiries? & RSVPs - Judy 0448 972563	at Yea Council Chambers
 Saturday 25th August 12 to 2pm	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other.	at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Candi 57969366
Sunday 26th August 10.00 am - 12.30pm	TREE STORY - DIE BACK or GROW BACK? & Tree Planting 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.	along the GV Rail Trail
 Sunday 26th August 10.45 for an 11am start	RUFFY CFA AWARDS PRESENTATION A celebration of CFA members' contribution and dedication to the community. There will be special guests (see TGN 12/8/18) & lunch provided. RSVP by 20/8. Enquiries? Felicity 0413 483450 or George 0432 928301	at Ruffy CFA Shed
 Sunday 26th August @ 10.30	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS Our next walk will commence at 10.30 from the Highlands Hall - more details to come....stay tuned. Enquiries? Andrew 0427 969297 or ajshaw577@hotmail.com	at Highlands Community Hall
 Monday 27th August @ 7pm	TERIP TERIP TENNIS CLUB AGM All welcome!	at Terip Rec Reserve Enquiries? Sue Martin 57904277
Monday 27th August @ 7.30pm	TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM Election of committee and office bearers followed by a general meeting. All welcome. Enquiries? Melissa 0404 833388	at Tablelands Community Centre
Thursday 30th August @ 5.30 pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.	at Caveat Church
Saturday 1st September @ 8pm 	"Café Culture Series" - Dr Crask & his Swinging Elixir Band 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. Bookings: Christine 0419 561386 email: ruffartztickets@gmail.com	at Ruffy Community Hall
Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd Sept 10 - 4 on both days	DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO 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.	2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands
 Monday 10th Sept. @ 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. Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361	
 Friday 14th September @ 6.30 pm	DRINKS ON THE DECK 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.	at Highlands Community Hall 57969247 & Contact Judy
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight - August 29th Sept 12th & 26th Oct 10th & 24th Nov 7th & 21st and Dec 5th & 19th Don't forget the cake and coffee a \$4 bargain	at Highlands Community Hall
Every Monday 10 am	YOGA AT 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	at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy

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Time to make WAR on Wasps

Hi everyone,

I am writing to you as we approach the warmer weather – hooray! – as Queen European Wasps will soon start making an appearance to search for food and nests before they begin their breeding cycle.



It is important if a queen wasp is seen that it is destroyed, as this is the source from which so many other wasps are produced, and targeting the Queen certainly reduces overall numbers.

Murrindindi Shire Council are asking for expressions of interest from community to determine if there are any community members out there who may be interested in being trained on how to destroy wasp nests and so may assist in the community in destroying these nests when and if they come across them.

There would be some training to understand the process involved in destroying the nests, and the use of personal protective gear, safe use of the chemical etc.

For information about European Wasps go to; <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/environmental-health/pesticide-use-and-pest-control/common-pests-in-victoria/european-wasps-pest-control>

“I am hopeful the community will not consider this to be about transfer of responsibility, this is recognising that the problem is a large one and more resources are needed within the community in order to combat the situation of such numbers.” Sue McNair, Environmental Officer, Murrindindi Shire Council.

If you would like to be involved in wasp nest control, please contact Sue McNair 57720702

CFA NEWS - RSVP by Monday 20/8!

The annual D12 BTC forum is to be held on **Sat 25th August** at the **Seymour Fire Station**.

Opportunities will be provided to have a hands-on experience with the Virtual Reality Roadshow (see attachment with TGN) that has been touring the state and is in high demand. We will also have sessions covering:

- The Learning & Development space – changes that are occurring and how we can adapt and make the most of them
- Everything you need to know about the Shelley Burn Camp – if you’ve not heard of this camp, you are missing an excellent opportunity to skill your members up on prescribed burning practices

The Learning Management System (Learning Hub) and how to get the most out of it for your brigade

There will be plenty of time for questions to be answered, so get them down in writing now to bring along and have answered by the relevant subject matter experts on the day.

We'll even throw in lunch!

So if you haven't let us know you're coming yet and you can find the time in your busy schedules, let us know by email d12.training@cfa.vic.gov.au or phone 5735 3156 by the end **Monday 20 August**. Be sure to advise if you have any special dietary requirements.

(Apologies for the short RSVP, notice was only just received) Ed



Meet the Mobile Library Team

With the recent appointment of some new Library and Customer Service staff it is now possible to meet either Sarah or Piers in the Murrindindi Mobile Library along with a wonderful array of books, CDs, DVDs, magazines, and talking books for adults and children. The Mobile Library Service is at the Highlands Hall all every second Wednesday morning between 10.30am and 12.30pm. You can also meet Judy or Judy or Netta serving tea and coffee with cake in the warmth of the hall for only \$4. What a bargain!



Reduce, Re-use, Recycle & Refuse Tips #6

Even though plastic bags are being phased out at supermarkets some people still buy plastic bin liners and use them to contain their rubbish, before taking them to the local tip. These plastic bags can take up to **500 years to bio-degrade!** So as well as making use of your own reusable shopping bags, think about how you can best dispose of your non-recyclable or non-compostable rubbish.



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