



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Week 2 and we're thoroughly enjoying the spectacular scenery that is everywhere in Canada as well as the great locals. There is an excellent book *Down Under*, written by Bill Bryson, about his travels in Australia. One chapter in particular is devoted to all the things that can kill, maim, bite or inflict pain on you. It really is quite an impressive list and our Canadian camping companions one night had obviously read the book and when they found out we were from Australia they became alternatively sympathetic and paranoid about our predicament. They had obviously taken Chapter 7 to heart and were amazed that we had survived this long. We replied by saying that Canada had bears, which seemed a lot more life-threatening than any red-back spider or tiger snake. Their reply was, "Yeah, but you hardly ever see them." Likewise we said - stonefish, taipans and salt water crocs preferring Queensland as a habitat. We then all laughed with relief and shared the Toblerone, chocolate being an international language. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** - was catching up with his old friend the Macquarie Perch.

CFA RECOGNISES RUFFY FIRE BRIGADE'S LONG SERVICE

The CFA's Strathbogie District Catchment Officer Rohan Taylor, made a visit on Sunday 26th August to salute 16 members of the Ruffy Rural Fire Brigade for their combined 600+ years of service to the Brigade and the local community. CFA Service Awards were presented to Craig Martin, Phil Brown, Justus Hagen, David Austin, Ray Paget, Graeme Johnston and Adrian Martin for between 25 years and 40 years of service, as well as 9 CFA Life Member Service Awards made to Ruffy brigade members who had logged 45+ years. The longest serving was Ruffy's Stan Artridge with 65 years of service. An enthusiastic crowd was entertained by some historic anecdotes from Stan, his brother-in-law Henry Noye and their neighbour Bill Eddy. Visiting dignitaries Rohan Taylor, State Member for Euroa Steph Ryan and Strathbogie Shire Councillor Alistair Thompson shared a common theme as they spoke of the sense of altruism and deep commitment to the community that Ruffy CFA members have displayed down through the years. Ruffy Captain George Noye and Euroa Group Officer John Furlanetto updated the guests on the upcoming fire season before a sumptuous lunch was served at the Ruffy Hall.



Ruffy Rural Fire Brigade CFA Service Award Recipients

Rear— Phil Brown, Florence Brown, Justus Hagen, Ray Paget, Craig Martin, Graeme Johnston, Captain George Noye, D22 Catchment Officer Rohan Taylor, David Austin, Euroa Group Officer John Furlanetto, Gerard Hill
Front—Adrian Martin, Henry Noye, Stan Artridge, Edward Sprunt, John Macklin, Michael Hill, Bill Eddy and John O'Connor



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

"The world is a book and those who stay at home only read one page."

St Augustine

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**

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Looking to buy, at a reasonable price, 4x4 vehicle must be manual to be able to use in the paddock Ring Tim 5796 9306



WEBSITE of the WEEK

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au>

Self-explanatory really with a wealth of excellent information

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 — September & October 2018

 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. <i>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</i>
Friday 14th September @ 1.30pm	RED CROSS FUNDRAISER—Tea with the Dames at Euroa Cinema An excellent afternoon out - a film followed by afternoon tea. \$15, tickets at the door. (See separate flier)
 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>
Friday 21st September 6.45 for 7 pm	MURRINDINDI FILM SOCIETY - Gorillas in the Mist at Murrindindi Council Chambers in Yea The final night of quality entertainment for 2018. Like further details? <i>Contact Maree - maree@spphav.org.au</i>
 Saturday 22nd Sept. @ 12 - 2	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>
Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd Sept.	43rd VICTORIAN ROGAINING CHAMPIONSHIPS in the Strathbogie Ranges Covering some excellent terrain in the Bogies. Why not be in it?? Rob, Jan, David & Aileen have!!
Sunday 23rd September @ 2pm <i>RuffArtZ</i>	RuffArtz "Sensational Sundays Matinee" at Ruffy Community Hall Ship: The Journey of Ticonderoga 1852 Portsea, Victoria: a true story of tragedy, heroism and hope – a one-man show, written and performed by Michael Veitch. Tickets \$25, includes afternoon tea. Please book early to ensure your seat. <i>Bookings: Christine 0419 561 386 email: ruffartztickets@gmail.com</i>
Thursday 27th Sept. @ 7pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.
 Sunday 30th Sept. @ 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>
Saturday & Sunday 6th & 7th October 10 - 4	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.
Saturday 13th October 6 & 8pm	Dr HERNANDEZ Ruffy Store An eclectic collection of musical styles - TexMex, Afrobeat, Film music, Ska, Funky & Cuban - is the hallmark of Dr Hernandez. Come along and enjoy the music or the music and munchies as well. Small plates served at 6pm, show starts at 8pm. Drinks at bar prices. Tickets are \$30 & \$25 (Conc.) Bookings essential. <i>Enquiries? Christine 0419 561386</i>
Friday 19th October 6pm—HCCC meeting 7.30pm—Fox on the Run presentations	HCCC Meeting / AGM & FOX on the RUN presentation night Ruffy Store The HCCC Monthly meeting and the AGM will be held prior to the Fox on the Run presentations. All welcome. <i>Enquiries & RSVPS - contact Justus 5790 4268</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 - Sept 12th & 26th Oct 10th & 24th Nov 7th & 21st and Dec 5th & 19th Don't forget the cake and coffee a bargain @ \$4!
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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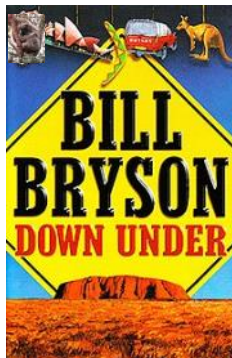
WOW!! What a feast of culture, sport & entertainment ~ why would we want to live anywhere else??

Down Under by Bill Bryson

Although Bryson is an American he has lived most of his life in Britain and his writing style reflects this combination of influences. Overwhelming he has written travel books and his style is informative, humorous and extremely diverting.

Down Under is an oldie but a goldie, as it was written earlier this century, but is still in print. As mentioned previously (see p. 1) he devotes an entire chapter to all those venomous or poisonous Australian animals that we

rarely encounter, but he also takes us on a romp around our own country from a different viewpoint, that of a curious traveller. As a result we not only laugh out loud but learn some things along the way. I particularly like 2 vignettes, one that describes a cricket game being broadcast on radio, with lots of pregnant pauses and the fact that a little old lady in the back-blocks was a key player in broadcasting man's first walk on the moon. Why I hear you cry? Well, why not borrow, or reserve it, from the Mobile Library and find out.



November 9th - 11th weekend 2018

The weeks are ticking by and the Ruffy Art-fest will be here before we know it. If you are intending to be an exhibiting artist in this year's event you will find an Artist's Entry Form attached to this week's Granite News. Print it off, fill it in and return to

The Co-ordinator
Ruffy Artfest 2018
97 Kelly's Lane,
Creighton's Creek, 3666



by Fri. 28 Sept. to secure your place. As usual artists who exhibit artwork are invited to the Opening Night free of charge. Details are now available on the website www.ruffycommunity.com.au/site/ruffy-artfest/ and payment can now be made on-line too. Enquiries? Robyn 57903275

Rogaining is for Everyone - so why not be in it?

We are starting our next phase of preparation for the 43rd Victorian Rogaining Championships which involves placing a coloured marker with an electronic pen at all 70 control locations. Some markers are in forest and others in farmland. We are very happy to show people what these are and how they work, but we would ask that the ones that we place are not touched, please. All these markers and pens will be collected on 24-25 September once the event is complete.

As well as the 24-hour Championships, we have a 6-hour event starting at noon on **Saturday 22nd September**. Novices are welcome in both events, but many might find the 6-hour the ideal occasion to try out a navigation sport and enjoy the forest and farmland of the plateau. Each team can choose their own route and our experienced rogainers can offer advice before or after the start. There is no compulsion to complete any set course and points are earned for each control that is visited.

As a wholesome outdoor activity, rogaining has a strong focus on appreciating and caring for the natural environment, teamwork, self-reliance and leadership skills. Scouts, cadets, outdoor education groups and schools enter teams in many rogaines, and some organisations have been supporting their young adults to attend for the last decade or more.

Details are available from vra.rogainc.asn.au where the nature of the sport is explained. On the website you will find guidance as to how you can enter, basic requirements, and some tips for novices. You can also access the association's insurance policy, our updated biosecurity policy, the history of the sport, guidelines for our event managers and photos of previous events.

As we set this course we have been lucky enough to visit some wonderful places, and I see some amazing geology. Once the event is over and we have completed the tidy-up, I have agreed to lead a community session on the geology either as a presentation or an outdoor walk.

Neil Phillips 0417 300 400

Help Needed to Improve Land for Wildlife

Are you a Land for Wildlife Member? Have you received a recent survey seeking your views about land management and climate change on Land for Wildlife properties in Victoria? If not - you may have dropped off their mailing list or not changed over to electronic newsletters - contact Peter Johnson peter.johnson@delwp.vic.gov.au or mobile 0409 793 364.

Land for Wildlife has developed this survey, working with researchers from RMIT University, to understand how you manage your Land for Wildlife property and your views on climate change. This will help Land for Wildlife look at ways to anticipate potential climate change related issues, and thereby support private land conservation management into the future. While many of the questions in this survey relate to your views and opinions on climate change, they are asking that you still consider completing the survey. If you prefer not to participate, please let Peter know and he will direct you to an alternative option, as there are 3 different versions of the survey. **Please complete this survey by Wed. 19 Sept. 2018.**

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