



BITS OF BOTANY & BIRDS

YOU'VE GOTTA BE ECHIDDING !

We were at a small shallow spring-fed dam the other day when we noticed an echidna taking a swim !

Granted, it was a hot day but this was something that we'd never seen before. It appeared to be "duck-diving" and searching for food and then coming back to the edge for a rest before entering the water again.

Luckily, there was a camera on hand so we could prove that we weren't suffering heat induced delusions!

We talked to some folks at a HCCC Landcare meeting and none of them had seen an echidna swim either.

By Susan Milroy



Editor's Note

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment Tasmania's website states that "...Surprisingly, echidnas are good swimmers, paddling about with only the snout and a few spines showing.

They have been seen to cross wide beaches to swim and groom themselves in the sea."

HI ARTS FESTIVAL A Ringing Endorsement

THE HI ARTS EXHIBITION IS ABOUT THE VISITORS, ARTISTS AND EVERYONE WHO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL EVENT WHO ARE ALL RECEIVED BY THE PEOPLE OF A BEAUTIFUL RURAL COMMUNITY IN A WARM AND WELCOMING EMBRACE.

THE HEARTFELT WELCOMING FRIENDSHIP AND BOUNDLESS ARTISTIC CREATIVITY WAS A HIGHLIGHT FOR ME OF THE WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE AS ARTIST IN RESIDENCE IN 2012.

THANK YOU.

Wendy-Jane Sheppard - Artist

LANDCARER of the MONTH

**Peter Saglietti & John Macklin
of "Ponkeen" at Tarcombe**



Peter & John have put a great deal of effort into blackberry and Paterson's curse control in recent years.

Take a drive down Ponkeen Creek Rd from Upton towards Tarcombe & you'll notice the changes in the landscape, especially along the creek lines.

All their larger blackberry infestations have gone.

In 2013 they have a follow-up programme patrolling every paddock and spraying all the small blackberry seedlings that have sprung up.

Peter reports that this work has taken one month so far this season and will take another month to complete.

To support Ponkeen, HCCC Landcare subsidised 50% of herbicide costs via funding from Goulburn Broken CMA.

Well done Ponkeen Team for making weed control a farming priority !

You are HCCC Landcarers of the Month for January

FOX ON THE RUN BAITING PROGRAMME

HCCC Landcare has obtained funding to continue the successful "fox on the run" hunting competition in 2013.

An opportunity exists to implement a subsidised baiting programme to complement this, so we are seeking interest from any local landholders.

Details are yet to be decided and may depend on the number of landholders who wish to participate.

The HCCC is also looking at subsidising an ACUP course to be held in our area and expressions of interest are encouraged as a minimum number of participants would be required.

To register your interest in either or both of these programmes

Contact Simone 5790 4146



Hughes Creek
Catchment Collaborative

WELCOME TO ISSUE 4 2013

Contact editor@tgn.org.au Ph: 5790 4007

Now that Whiteheads Creek, Highlands, Caveat, Terip & Ruffy have TGN Drop-Boxes we need **you** to let your neighbours (who don't have email) know that they can collect their copy of TGN from Tuesdays each week. Thanks for your help, 'e-mailers'

A CALL FOR HELP—ANSWERED !

Thanks to Cindy Hayes for volunteering to deliver TGN to the Whiteheads Creek drop-box on Tuesdays. Your help is much appreciated Cindy.

LANDCARER AWARDS

The Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative has launched our "Landcarer of the Month" award to recognize and publicly thank any local community member who has made some outstanding efforts towards caring for our land in some way.

The "Champion" can be any person or group who has accomplished something environmentally positive in our catchment ie: blackberry control, protection of remnant bushland, tree planting, hunting of feral animals, co-ordinating community projects that benefit our landscape etc.

If you have someone in mind please record what they have achieved, aim to get a photo (if possible!!) and pass this information on to your local Landcare representatives Janet Hagen at jhagen@harboursat.com.au or Simone Ulstrup at hughes.creek1@gmail.com.

An article will run at the start of each month in the Granite News, and at the end of each year one person will be chosen from this group to be awarded

Landcare Champion of the Year!!

RABBIT RIPPING SUBSIDY AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE HCCC LANDCARE GROUP



A 50% subsidy may be available to you for warren ripping.

Contact Simone 5790 4146
hughes.creek1@gmail.com

COMMUNITY IMMINENT EVENTS CALENDAR - JAN/FEB 2013



CFA ROSTERS

W/C Feb 3rd

- **Whiteheads Creek/Tarcombe**..... Driver: Rob Hayes Assistant: Lindsay Heffer
- **Ruffy** 3rd Lieutenant Ryan Furlanetto's Team
- **Terip Terip**..... Captain Geoff Penny's Team

<p>Monday 4th February to Monday 25th February</p>	<p>GALLERY 34 34 High Street Yea A Group Exhibition Titled 'On Home Ground' by Marion Bruere, Mary Hyde and Julian Bruere Gallery Times: Thursday to Sunday 9am-4pm Mondays 10am-4pm & Public Holidays 9am-4pm Contact Grace Leslie 57973222 info@gallery34.com.au</p>
<p>Thursday 7th February 10:30am-12:30pm</p>	<p>RUFFY PLAYGROUP Tablelands Community Centre@ Ruffy (Old Ruffy School) Various Supervised Kids' Activities. This month "Cut & Paste and Colouring In" Cost: \$3:00 per Family. Bring a small plate of food to share. Contact Sally Kubeil 5790 4335 or 0407 904335</p>
<p>Friday 8th February 6:30pm</p>	<p>"DRINKS ON THE DECK" Highlands Community Hall All Welcome, especially new faces Bring food to share. Catch up with Friends old & new Gold coin donation to cover power</p>
<p>Saturday 9th February 10am-12pm</p>	<p>"BLACK MARKET" FOOD EXCHANGE 'Killara' 5 Hamiltons Lane, Sugarloaf Creek (west of Broadford) Monthly food exchange where you can Swap & Sell your local home produce. Also an 'open garden' event. Contact Paul Macgregor 5797 0229 Email: diversity@diversity.org.au</p>
<p>Saturday 9th 8:00pm & Sunday 10th February 4:00pm</p>	<p>EUROA CINEMA "The Intouchables" 112 mins (M) Bio/Drama *** 3 stars A French film based on a true story about a millionaire, paralysed from the neck down, who hires a Senegalese man just out of prison, to be his carer. A feel good, "odd couple" movie in which the performances are great. *Note—This Movie has Subtitles.</p>
<p>Monday 11th February 8:00pm</p>	<p>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE @ RUFFY Old Ruffy School, Nolans Road Ruffy Monthly Committee Meeting Everyone Welcome Contact John Furlanetto 5795 3435</p>
<p>Saturday 16th February 11:00am</p>	<p>ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH—HIGHLANDS vs RUFFY Hume & Hovell Cricket Ground, Strath Creek Players needed for both teams (No 'ring-ins' this year Scotty!). Also need an Umpire & a Scorer. Cost per Player—\$70 inc Buffet Lunch Guests Lunch—\$35 Bus will run from Ruffy via Highlands ~\$20pp Any GENUINE locals from either Highlands or Ruffy who wish to play Contact Doug Maclean 5790 4387</p>
<p>Saturday 16th February 2pm—5pm</p>	<p>HILLCREST GALLERY 33 Old Highlands Rd, Highlands A special preview of 'Angels' an exhibition of paintings by Dennis Spiteri. RSVP by 11th February. Phone 5796 9373 or Email: dennispiteri@activ8.net.au The exhibition will continue until 31st March. Gallery Hours 10am—5pm</p>
<p>Saturday 16th February 6:30pm BBQ 8:00pm Show</p>	<p>LIVE IRISH MUSIC & DANCE plus FREE FAMILY BARBEQUE Ruffy Hall, Nolans Rd., Ruffy A fun family night of Irish Revelry with a live Irish Band, dancing and supper to follow. Everybody Welcome. No Entry Fee. Sponsored by Ruffy Community Action Group. Contact Sharron 5790 4329</p>
<p>Friday 22nd February 6:00pm</p>	<p>ROCKY PASSES TAPAS NIGHT 1590 Highlands Rd., Whiteheads Creek The popular Tapas nights are back. Come along for a relaxed evening. Bookings a must. Ph: 57969366 or Email: contact@rockypasses.com.au</p>
<p>Thursday 28th February 5:30pm</p>	<p>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS Old Caveat Church, Caveat-Dropmore Rd, Caveat Come along and have a casual chat with other local blokes. BBQ Tea Provided (Gold Coin) BYO Drinks</p>
<p>Friday 1st March Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd</p>	<p>HI ARTS EXHIBITION Highlands Hall, Highlands Artists wishing to exhibit can download applications from the web www.hiarts.org. Entries need to be in by Feb.12th and exhibits with the Curator by Sunday Feb 24th. Contact Stuart Reid 5796 9358 or Email: kadumbla@mac.com</p>
<p>Saturday 2nd March 9am-2pm</p>	<p>YEA COUNTRY MARKET Yea Railway Park, Station Street, Yea Showcasing local producers, growers and makers offering an array of stalls, the best in fresh local produce, arts and crafts, children's activities, play ground and skate park. Gold coin donation entry</p>
<p>Saturday 2nd March Showtime 8:00pm</p>	<p>RUFFARTZ Ruffy Hall, Nolans Road Ruffy. The evening presents a double bill Ventriloquist Sarah Jones performs her own work "Sarah Doesn't Play Well with Others" followed by Denis Coard with his sequel "The Umpire Strikes Back.....May the Farce Be With You" BYO Drinks. Coffee & Cake available at interval. Contact Glen George on 5790 4318</p>

Classifieds & Community Notices

LOCAL GOINGS ON

ACHERON BREAKAWAY BRIDGE REFURBISHMENT

Following the findings of a specialist bridge engineering consultant, Murrindindi Shire Council will be able to undertake refurbishment works on the bridge by reinforcing the structure with hidden steel beams.

Infrastructure spokesperson Cr Bernie Wagner said the report provided significant analysis of the bridge structure and provided the framework for future works.

"The Breakaway Bridge project reference group recently met and formed a unanimous agreement on the refurbishment option. The group agreed to keep the bridge in its original form with the agreed option to reinforce the bridge with hidden steel beams and to design a new handrail in line with the original bridge handrail," Cr Wagner said.

Reference Group spokesperson Samantha Gloury welcomed the minimal change option.

"The design is in line with the community's expectation to retain the feel of a traditional iconic type of timber trestle bridge," Ms Gloury said.

"Our community did not want a highly engineered bridge and the reference group has supported that wish throughout the consultation process."

Council, in conjunction with the reference group, is finalising the design and will prepare a tender for the works. Works are anticipated to be completed by mid 2013.

From Murrindindi Shire Council



Acheron's Iconic Breakaway Bridge



Editor's Note: Does the Breakaway Bridge really need 10 signs at the approach?

A thing of beauty spoiled by 'Sign Pollution'!

NOTES FROM HIGHLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. What a lovely start we've had. It was so great to see everyone again and hear about the exciting holidays. There was a large group of parents at school this morning and it was lovely to see everyone. 2013 is already shaping up to be a busy year and I look forward to working with you and your children. Please remember that all staff are always available to chat about any concerns or feedback you may have.

Preps/Foundation: A special welcome to our new prep Elwyn Rudd. Elwyn spent a bit of time at HPS at the end of 2012 and we look forward to her being part of our school. We also welcome Elwyn's parents Cath and Paul and her sister Freya. Please introduce yourself if you see them at school. Just a reminder that preps don't attend school on Wednesdays until Wednesday 13th March. A day off in the middle of the week allows a rest day as they transition to a busy school life.

By Meagan Callander—Principal

'BLACK MARKET' Food Exchange

Since 1991, Janet & Carlo De Martinis have planted over 10,000 trees and bushes, added 3 dams, built a house, established two orchards, a vineyard and a vegie garden on their 21 acre property 'Killara' at Sugarloaf Creek.

This month they are hosting the 'Black Market' Food Exchange, where you can Swap & Sell your local home produce.

It will also be an open garden event where you can take time to appreciate the work that Jan & Carlo have done to create their lovely property.

'Killara' is at 5 Hamiltons Lane, Sugarloaf Creek, just west of Broadford.

Date is Saturday 9th Feb 10am—12pm

Contact Paul Macgregor 5797 0229
Email: diversity@diversity.org.au

TRADING PLACES

Good stuff for private sale or wanted by friendly locals

FOR SALE—DAMARA SHEEP

Damara low maintenance fat tail rams & wethers.

No shearing or crutching required. Drenched, vaccinated & ear tagged. Very colourful, great lawn mowers.

Nice pets for the kids.

Sept 2012 drop, plenty to choose from.

Minimum purchase is 3 for \$195 as they are at their best when with friends



Sales & info about the Damara breed
www.campruffy.com/damara.html
Contact Roger 5790 4166

ALPACA SHEARER WANTED

I need an experienced Alpaca shearer to shear 3 Alpacas at Highlands. If you can do the job or refer me to the right person I'd really appreciate it.

Contact Cameron 0408 130192

FOR SALE ALUMINIUM UTE CANOPY

Has roof rack, access ladder, spare wheel bracket & 6 sliding drawers. Fully carpeted, waterproof, & dustproof. Exc.Cond. Suit Camping or Tradesman Canvas awning on driver side PLUS Steel storage trolley for the Canopy when not on the Ute.



\$6500 ONO

Contact Jim Davidson 5790 4202

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Highlands Primary School is seeking someone who has good scrapbooking skills to teach a group of enthusiastic students the art of scrapbooking.

If you live locally and you'd like to get involved then please call

Meagan Callander 5796 9208

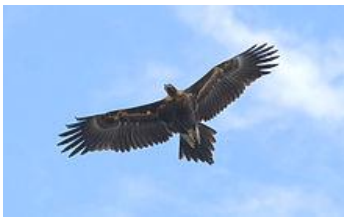
**KOPANICA PASTORAL
EXCAVATIONS**



PH. 0357 904 235
MOB. 0429 804 235

RABBIT RIPPING, DAMS, DRIVEWAYS
GENERAL EARTHWORKS &
MACHINERY HIRE

DONATION FROM A WEDGE
TAIL EAGLE LOVER



**HABBIES HOWE
BEEF**

Mature, well hung &
available. Prahran,
Yarck, Ruffy or Habbies

5796 9260

www.habbieshowe.com.au

ruffy
producestore
www.ruffy.com.au

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

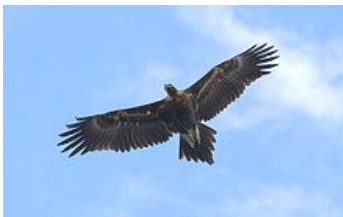
Cavanagh Hayes & Assoc.
Management Consultants

**"Helping you focus on
what is important!"**

Customer Value Discovery -
understanding what is
important to your clients and
community

cavhayes@westnet.com.au
0419557571

DONATION FROM A WEDGE
TAIL EAGLE LOVER



**Rocky
Passes**

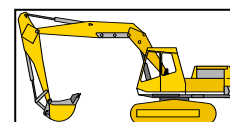


Tastings &
"blackboard
menu" lunch
Sundays
11am - 5pm

Tapas bar
last Friday of
the month
from 6pm

Bookings 57969366
1590 Highlands Rd
www.rockypasses.com.au

**A.J. & S.L. SHAW
EXCAVATIONS**



GENERAL EARTHWORKS

Andrew 0427969297
Sharyn 0437281072

**FRANZ KLOFT
MECHANICAL REPAIRS**
Repairs & service of
vehicles

Tyres, Windscreens, Batter-
ies, Brakes, Exhausts, Wheel
alignment, Automatic
transmission

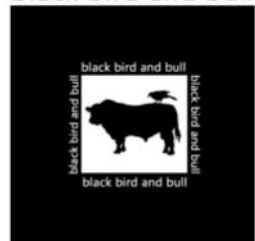
Phone 57952910
38 Railway Street, Euroa
FREE QUOTES

**AG Fencing
&
Contracting Services**

All fence constructions,
Equipment maintenance &
Pump repairs,
Blasting Service,

"Not sure if we do it?"
Give us a call 0407 028 122

black bird and bull



picture framing
and studio gallery in Terip Terip
57904167 or 0419131650

**ALEXANDRA VETERINARY
CLINIC**

Emergency Service
Mobile AH 0408 576056

Dr Doug Norman B.V.Sc.(Hons)
Dr Denia Ford B.V.Sc.(Hons)
Phone: 5772 1600

Regular trips to the Tablelands on Friday
afternoons with discounted travel

LAWSON

- General earthworks
- Hole boring
- Diesel repairs & servicing
- Metal fabrication & welding
- Shed construction & removal

m. 0437 182 223 h. 5796 9265
lawsoneuroa@gmail.com



Phone Ian on

: 0408990487

: 57904328

Registered Electrical Contractor:
License No. 16959

WALES RURAL

Let the
land
produce

38 Emily Street Seymour
Ph. 5792 1088

Digit Downs Deco
Painting, Maintenance,
Design, Decoration

**Neil Doran
Ruffy**

0457 253875

DigitDowns@gmail.com

Rodwells
A RURALCO BUSINESS

Come see Rodwells Alexandra
for all your Farm Supply
requirements, from Fencing &
Animal Health needs to
Agronomic Advice.

Please phone (03) 57 722 444
Free Delivery Available



PETER & SUSAN 0421 407 721 (03) 5796 9192

**BAILEY'S FUNERAL
SERVICES P/L**

27 Highlands Rd, Seymour
Offering a caring and
professional service
Prices starting from \$3500
Cremation, \$4500 Burial plus
cemetery fees.
Contact Garnet on
57992007 24 Hours.



Abseiling, BMX bikes,
9 hole golf course, cabins,
camping and much more.

Bookings: 0423 006 667
Site ph: 5797 6351

www.mafekingroverpark.com

This Space Booked mk

This Space Booked ss

This Space Available for
Promotion of
Your Business

This Space Booked jm