

THE GRANITE NEWS



The Granite News - serving the communities of Caveat, Highlands, Hughes Creek, Ruffy, Tarcombe, Terip Terip & Whiteheads Creek.



28th August 22 | Volume 16 Issue 29

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

With only 4 more sleeps to spring and the Bureau of Meteorology predicting a La Nina weather pattern - which means wet - for the upcoming spring, no doubt there will be a lot of long grass around as we head into summer. When this dries off it could make for an 'interesting' summer from a bushfire / grassfire point of view. However not only do we need to be aware of the increase in flammable vegetation this year we also need to take on board a whole new Fire Danger Rating System coming into play this summer across our wide, brown land. See below....

Read on for another great issue... **Pauline**

And Kenny Koala...was trying to interest readers in the shredded paper

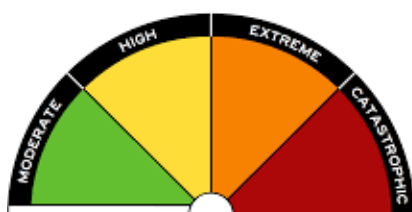
A NEW Australia-wide Fire Danger Rating

A NEW (Australia-wide) Fire Danger Rating system will commence from 1st September.

Moving from a previously state-based rating system, a new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) launches nationally and in Victoria on 1 September 2022. Fire danger ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start. They are important because they provide people with information so that they can take action to protect themselves and others from the potentially dangerous impacts of bushfires.

As part of the transition to the new national system, the Emergency Management Commissioner will no longer issue 'Code Red' ratings. **Code Red will be reclassified as 'Catastrophic'** and the rating will be issued by the Bureau of Meteorology through their regular forecasting processes.

The new AFDRS has four levels instead of six: moderate, high, extreme, and catastrophic. This national system incorporates the latest scientific understanding about weather, fuel availability and fire behaviour across eight different types of vegetation to improve the reliability of fire danger forecasts.



MODERATE Plan and prepare	HIGH Be ready to act
EXTREME Take action now to protect life and property	CATASTROPHIC For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

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

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

"You can do more and more the longer you live, but the best motto to think about is not to waste things."

Sir David Attenborough's reply to a 5 year old child who asked what he could do to save the planet.









Can you work out 3 more Victorian towns or suburbs?

Name of a famous general
Cattle
Many trees

Website of the Week

As a means of highlighting the plight of Australia's mammals and their extinction rate Cosmos magazine has been running a competition for Mammal of the Year. Why not check to see who the winner for 2022 is?

www.cosmosmagazine.com

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	What's On - September 2022	
	Friday 2nd Sept. @ 6pm	FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! tccruffy@gmail.com	at Tablelands Community Centre Enquiries: 0427 690970 or
	Sat. 3rd & Sun. 4th from 10-4	DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO A unique studio experience at the Yea Butter Factory	at Yea Butter Factory 13 Rattray St, Yea Enquiries: 0421 378451
	Friday 9th Sept @ 6.30pm	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. Contact Paula 0419 551882	at Highlands Community Hall
See p.5 for more	Saturday 10th Sept. 10-4	TABILK TABILK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL A great day out with lots of things to see and do and FREE entry! Details - tahbilk.com.au	@ Tahbilk Estate, Nagambie
	Monday 12th Sept. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2022 at the same place - 450 Caveat - Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided.	Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361
	Thursday 15th Sept. @ 7pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING All welcome.	@ Whiteheads Creek Enquiries? Justus 0427 524473
	Saturday 17th Sept. 12-2pm	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other.	at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? Clare 0428 969366
See last TGN	Sunday 18th Sept. 9.30 - 1	GREAT VIC NATURE WALK Moderate 4.5km walk with huge granite boulders RSVP - admin@strathbogieranges.org	@ Mt Tenneriffe, Locksley
	Sunday 25th Sept. @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district. Enquiries: Andrew Shaw 0437 249038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235	@ Highlands Hall
See p.5 for more	Sunday 25th Sept. 10-3	AWE & WONDER in NATURE ART WORKSHOP A day with acrylic paints using collages to create images of the local granite. For further information, email admin@strathbogieranges.org	@ Mitre Rock
	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. Why not pop in?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be in Highlands on Sept. 7th & 21st & Oct. 12th & 26th.	at Highlands Community Hall
It's Back!	Returning on Monday 5th Sept. @ 10am	QI GONG Returning for 2022, everyone is welcome.	at the Tablelands Community Centre Contact Vivien 0405 612 400

Regenerating Rural Landscapes with a focus on land rehydration

Our first event within HCCC's project on Regenerative Agriculture was very successful, with over 25 people from different backgrounds and industries attending a presentation by David Hardwick on Soil Health. The event was kindly hosted by Jenny and Rick Webb on their farm in the Highlands, and I'd like to publicly express my deepest gratitude for having all of us there.

In the next months David will be back to introduce us to the essentials of Regenerating Rural Landscapes, with a focus on land rehydration. **The dates will be the 15th November and the 13th December**, as following your feedback we decided to split this workshop, that is usually delivered over a weekend, into two parts. Lunch will be provided for those who will attend.

A flyer will be included in next week's TGN about the general topics that will be covered over the two days, but in the meantime I would like to encourage anyone who might be interested in attending one or both these days, to start booking now and also send me (vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au) any specific questions or interest on these topics related to your farm, and I will pass them on to David, so he can fine tune his presentation based on your needs.

We are now looking for an EOI from one/two properties that can host us on the 15th November and/or the 13th December. We're looking for a place with an open shed where we can fit around 30 people; access to toilets would be ideal.

It would be great for any offered properties to be able to showcase some variation across the paddocks; a creek; erosion issues, and access to at least one hilltop from where we could read the landscape. It would be ideal to have also a map available, outlining the drainage lines and the catchment area.

What's in for you?

David Hardwick is a very knowledgeable expert that will provide you with valuable feedback on your farm, regarding regenerating the landscape and increasing land rehydration.

This workshop is worth \$450/person, but we'll be able to attend for free thanks to a Victorian Landcare Grant from the Victoria State Government that funds our Regenerative Agriculture project.

Last but not least, biosecurity measures will be in place and HCCC will make sure that protocols will be followed and all the precautions will be taken to safeguard you and your farm.

Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss your interest in hosting one of both days of this workshop.

Vanessa Malandrini

Project Coordinator
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative

T: 0475 459 741
E: vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au

Letter to the Editor

In response to the article 7/8/22 and then a follow up Letter to the Editor 14/8/22 re Melbourne's sprawl - this letter has been received and may shed some light on other ways of doing things as well as planning rules.

Hello Pauline,

I have a little bit of information that you might like to pass on regarding the protection of the red gums on the other side of Melbourne.
About 15 years ago my brother and his then wife purchased a block of land and built in an estate called Cambridge Gardens, in the suburb of Attwood. Right on the main road so you see all the trees easily.

The big attraction to them was the lovely open spaces that had been incorporated in the planning, including walking tracks along the water way which features these enormous ancient red gums. The estate looks the same now as back then.

He has since moved on, a bit further up the road actually, very dense living out there that's for sure!

So I googled the estate name and the developers who were responsible for it appeared, **Breese, Pitt, Dixon, Phone 03 8823 2300.**

I would expect that they would be able to provide some information regarding planning rules etc. so maybe worth contacting.

Hope this helps, I hate seeing the urban sprawl, I am now a convert to high-rise type high density living.

Kind regards
Jacqueline



Recycling is made easy thanks to Recycle Mate

Recycling can be confusing! And to make matters worse, just because an item is recyclable somewhere, does not mean it necessarily belongs in your kerbside bin. How to get it right can be tricky, but there's an app for that - **RECYCLE MATE !**

Nine in ten Aussies say that recycling is important. We want to do the right thing and feel that the more we can recycle, the better. Cos the less we send to landfill in those red bins, the better right? Wrong! The irony is that, in order to recycle more, we have to recycle less. And we certainly have to recycle better!

No matter how much we'd like to send our stuff to a 'good' place, we have to stop clogging the recycling stream with non-recyclable items. Our aspirational recycling can contaminate an entire batch of recyclables, forcing everything to be sent to landfill. That's right - it potentially only takes **one** non-recyclable item to contaminate an entire load of recyclables.

Knowing the best way to recycle and whether to recycle certain items can leave many of us stumped. Recycling rules vary from council to council because they have access to different recycling facilities, and each facility has unique equipment and capabilities and is able to process a different set of items.

But good news! A new app removes the recycling guesswork, no matter where you are in this big land of ours! The free Recycle Mate app helps you recycle anywhere in Australia – whether at home, at a friend's house or when you're on holidays. Just take a photo or type the name of an item you would like to know more about and Recycle Mate will give you disposal advice specific to your location:

- **Confirm which bin to use or learn if there is a better recycling option near you.**
- **Search from over 5,000 items in its comprehensive directory. This is continually growing with community feedback.**
- **The app uses AI to identify your waste and recyclables to find the best local disposal option. Every photo taken using the Recycle Mate app and every question asked helps continually grow Recycle Mate.**

Covering all areas of Australia, Recycle Mate provides information for every council kerbside recycling system. For those times when an item can't be recycled at home through kerbside bins, the app now has over 20,000 away-from-home reuse and recycling options and this number is continually growing.

And while recycling opportunities keep evolving, it's important that we move away from 'set and forget' recycling behaviours to actively seeking new information.

FREE !

Free to a good home - Steck pianola.
Fully restored, comes with over 80 rolls.
Heavy so will require specialist removal.

Phone Lauris 5790 4351



FREE too !

7 large bags of shredded paper.
Great for compost, garden beds or packing.

Ring 0408 246308



Expression of interest: Potential funding

To enhance & protect biodiversity on private land



Significant areas of the Goulburn Broken catchment's native vegetation is located on private land. This vegetation provides multiple benefits to landholders and the environment such as:

- Improved property values and aesthetics
- Wind and shade protection for stock and crops
- Food, shelter and 'stepping-stones' across the landscape for native animals
- Habitat for pollinating insects

The GB CMA regularly advocates for funding that could assist landholders to implement conservation activities on private land including:

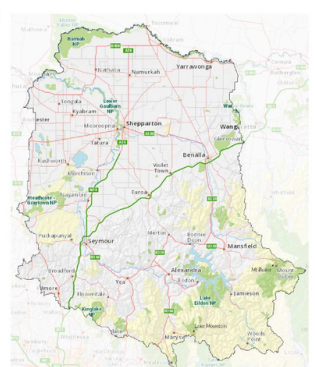
- Revegetation (direct seeding or planting)
- Pest plant and animal control
- Fencing of remnants and plantings

To be eligible for potential future funding, sites need to:

- Be in the Goulburn Broken catchment
- Preferably contain existing remnant vegetation (trees, shrubs, and/or grasses)
- Be of significant natural value or have the potential to be of value if connected to other vegetation
- Be larger than 2 hectares
- If a corridor, be 40 metres or wider
- Be signed up to a 10-year management agreement through the Goulburn Broken CMA and agree to implement works.

To express your interest (for when, and if funding becomes available), please complete the form on the reverse of this flyer and return to reception@gbcm.vic.gov.au

Landholders will be contacted once funding becomes available (please note this may take time).



The Goulburn Broken Catchment

Awe and Wonder in Nature Art Workshop



A day with acrylic paints using collage to create images (both real and imaginary) of the local granite.

No art experience is necessary just a desire to have fun. Ann Cremean loves the granite tors of the Strathbogie region and uses them as inspiration for her abstract landscape art practice.

The Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network offers this workshop as part of their series aiming to bring new insights and connections into the natural world.

The Awe and Wonder project is funded by Landcare.

Experimental Painting Acrylic and Collage Workshop

When? : 10:00am – 3:00pm Sunday the 25th of September 2022

Where?: Bishops Mitre Rock, Ruffy

Cost: \$28 (materials and afternoon tea included, BYO lunch)

For further information, email admin@strathbogieranges.org

Can YOU help???

The Highlands Hall Committee is **STILL** looking for a new member to undertake the position of Secretary. Word processing skills and a desire for community involvement is all that is required. We hold a meeting every 6 weeks - never longer than 2 hours 😊

Our goal is to maintain the Highlands Hall as a centre for the locals and revitalise the Highlands community after the years of Covid isolation. It's a great way to be involved with the local community. We all know that volunteering is good for your sense of wellbeing so come and join us.

For more details, please contact Gayle:

Mobile: 0418 889 017 (If I don't answer please leave a message so I can phone back)

Email: gaylearnold5@gmail.com

NETTING GRANTS FOR VICTORIAN PRODUCERS

Victoria's horticulture industry will benefit from a Commonwealth Government funding boost that will support a new round of grants under the Horticulture Netting Program.

The new round of grants will be open to all eligible horticultural enterprises, excluding wine grapes, for the purchase and installation of new netting over established production areas. Agriculture Victoria will implement the grant program on the Commonwealth Government's behalf.

The grants (capped at \$150,000) are available to eligible producers covering up to 50 per cent of the cost to purchase or install horticultural netting over commercial production areas. Netting has been shown to deliver productivity benefits by protecting crops from extreme weather and predators and increasing water use efficiency.

Applications are now open and will close on 17 October 2022. For more information on the Horticulture Netting Program or to apply for a grant visit - <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/nettin>

**tabilk~tabilk
COMMUNITY
FESTIVAL**

10 SEPTEMBER 2022

**LIVE MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS**  

TAUNGURUNG WORKSHOPS

SNAKE MAN • MARKETS

WETLANDS BOAT TOURS 

PICNIC • WINE TASTINGS

TAHBILK ESTATE, NAGAMBIE

10AM-4PM - FREE ENTRY

TAHBILK 
 **Strathbogie**


Scan for the Festival program and to book free workshop sessions tahbilk.com.au

This community festival is possible thanks to funding from the Australian Government through the Building Better Regions Fund.

GNARLY NEIGHBOURS SKATE SESSIONS

Council and Gnarly Neighbours are partnering up to deliver two FREE days of skateboarding lessons during the upcoming September school holidays. Lessons are available for anyone aged between 12 - 17 years living in Murrindindi Shire and will be held from 11.00 am onwards at the

- Yea Skate Park, 14 Station Street on Thursday 22 September
- Kinglake Skate Park, 40 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road on Thursday 29 September

Gnarly Neighbours skate coaches will be there to teach you every step of the way and help you find your feet on the board. To register or find out more information, visit the Youth Hub page on The Loop at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/youth

These events are made possible with support from the Victorian Government's FReeZA Program, an initiative that supports young Victorians to get involved in their community by planning and running drug, alcohol and smoke-free events for other young people.

YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

Are you a young person aged between 12 -17 years who is interested in driving climate change action? We're looking for 10 young people to lead the way as part of our Youth Climate Action Group. No experience is necessary, but a passion for the future is a must.

To register your interest, visit the Youth Hub page on The Loop at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/youth

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET INVOLVED

Visit our online community engagement platform, The Loop, at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au and have your say on key projects and initiatives.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request
5772 0333

EVENTS AT OUR LIBRARIES

We offer a range of free events at our libraries in Alexandra, Kinglake and Yea, as well as the Mobile Service, including author talks, workshops, craft sessions, film screenings and much, much more! The following events are just a taste of what's on offer at our libraries.

- Mobile phone help at the Alexandra Library on 16 September from 11.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Author talk by Jock Serong at the Yea Library on 30 September from 3.00 – 4.30 pm
- Social craft group session at the Kinglake Library every Friday from 2.30 – 5.00 pm

For information on these events and more, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraryevents or follow the Murrindindi Library Service Facebook page.

COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

We recently adopted a new Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and endorsed a Statement of Commitment to child safety. Council is committed to embedding a culture in which everyone - staff, volunteers, parents, carers and children - feel confident, enabled and supported to safely disclose child safety or wellbeing concerns. As a child safe organisation, we're taking deliberate steps to protect children from physical, sexual, emotional and psychological abuse and neglect.

You can view our Statement of Commitment to child safety and our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy on our website.

TENDERS

We're inviting qualified suppliers and contractors to submit tender bids for the the following services and projects.

- Cont22/12 Panel Contract - Plant and Heavy Fleet - Maintenance Services (tender bids close 30 September)
- Cont22/17 Unsealed Roads Resheeting Program 2022 (tender bids close 8 September)

For more information and to download the tender documents, please visit our online e-tender portal at eprocure.com.au/murrindindi

<p>HABBIES HOWE BEEF</p> <p>MATURE, WELL HUNG & AVAILABLE</p> <p>IGA SEYMOUR GARY'S MEATS, PRAHRAN MARKET L&L MEATS, BENTLEIGH</p> <p>SCOTCH AND FILLET ST HELENA, MENTONE & MERNDA</p>	<p></p> <p>LAWSON</p> <p>General earthworks & hole boring Diesel repairs & servicing Metal fabrication & welding Shed construction & removal</p> <p>Callum - 0437 182 223 5796 9265 lawsonbluetop@gmail.com</p>	<p>Chris Sharman</p> <p>Energy Efficiency & Solar Energy Specialist</p> <p>Acme - Air Conditioning Electrical Solar</p> <p>M: 0418 551 301 T: Office - 9785 7339 E: chris@acmeair.com.au</p>	<p></p> <p>CF & HL HANDASYDE BUILDERS</p> <p>Established 1978 NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS, RENOVATIONS, DOMESTIC, RURAL ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS. Registered Building Practitioner Call Colin for a quote Telephone: 0419 502 782</p>
<p>The Pond Professor Peter Graf</p> <p>DESIGNS, CREATES & MAINTAINS BEAUTIFUL PONDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pond Cleaning• Filtration Systems• Fountains and Waterfalls• Aquatic plants and fish• Algae control• Water testing• Design and construction• Consulting services <p>Phone: 0429 969 243 Email: info@pondprofessor.com http://www.pondprofessor.com.au</p>	<p></p> <p>SEYMOUR EQUINE & RURAL</p> <p>Supplying everything you need</p> <p>Products & Expertise in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Animal Production- Pasture/Crop Protection- Fencing & Livestock Handling <p>PH: (03) 5792 1088 HELPING YOU GROW</p>	<p>Brought to you by a Yellow Footed Antechinus, living on a roadside near you.</p> <p></p> <p>Image kindly donated by Ros Wathen</p>	<p>BenCo</p> <p>PLUMBING SERVICES</p> <p>Ben Laycock</p> <p>0438 512299 Licence no. 105134</p> <p>ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au bencoplumbingservices.com</p>
<p></p> <p>nomad art</p> <p>Online & by appointment Avenel, M: 0428 308 793 www.nomadart.com.au Limited edition prints from regional and remote Australia</p>	<p>KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS & CARTAGE</p> <p></p> <p>DAMS EARTHWORKS STOCK+WATER CARTAGE & MORE</p> <p>0429 804 235 MICHAEL.KOPANICA@GMAIL.COM</p>	<p>RURAL FENCING SERVICES</p> <p>JARRAD</p> <p>0409 082 257</p> <p></p>	
<p></p> <p>Murrindindi Shire Council</p> <p>Cr John Walsh Koriella Ward Murrindindi Shire Council jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au 0437 835 586</p>	<p>Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>Upgraded facilities & playground Ideal for Private or Community gatherings Meetings, Workshops Very reasonable rates Hosts 1st Friday BBQs Contact tccruddy@gmail.com Ph 0404 833 388</p>	<p></p> <p>PATON HELICOPTERS</p> <p>For All your Aerial Spraying or Spreading Needs. Specialising in Blackberries, Broadleaf, Thistles, Spreading lime/fertilizer & More</p> <p>Call 0484108854 48 Magills Lane Maindample 3723</p> <p></p>	<p>Donated by supporters of our local koala population</p> <p></p>
<p>Donation from Supporters of the SPOTTED PARDALOTE</p> <p></p>	<p>2022 - Greater Glider Vulnerable to Endangered</p> <p></p> <p>STOP logging old growth forests</p>	<p>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL</p> <p>Meeting Room and/or Hall available for hire</p> <p>MEETINGS FUNCTIONS WORKSHOPS PARTIES WEDDINGS</p> <p>Reasonable rates Contact Paula Lade 0419 551 882</p>	<p>Donated by friends of the Long Leafed Box Trees</p> <p></p>
<p>Echidnas take care of their habitat</p> <p></p>	<p>Advertising space available</p> <p>If interested contact Editor editor@tgn.org.au</p>	<p>Need a website? bluetopbiz.com.au Affordable web design & maintenance. Presentations, marketing copy. Grant applications, project management. Call</p> <p>Sue 0411 010 379 Neil 0417 503 472</p> <p>Email: sue@bluetopbiz.com.au</p>	<p></p> <p>Strathbogie Granite Project</p> <p>neil.phillips@bigpond.com</p>

The Granite News is usually created on the lands of the Taungurung clans - First people of the Rivers and Mountains.



We thank the Taungurung ancestors and elders who, for millennia, have cared for this country on which we now live, work, play and grow.

May the current generations of Taungurung, landowners and residents continue this important custodianship into the future.