

# THE GRANITE NEWS



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



30th October 22 | Volume 16 Issue 36

## Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

114 years ago, in 1908, Dorothea McKellar wrote these immortal words -  
"I love a sunburnt country, a land of sweeping plains  
Of rugged mountain ranges, of droughts and flooding rains...."

At the moment, as the storms continue, we could do with a little less of those flooding rains or seeping plains might be a more appropriate line.

For those readers who have been affected by the floods I have attached another document to this email - October 2022 Victorian Floods Business Support - which may be of assistance in obtaining both financial and mental health support, as well as contact numbers for immediate assistance. There is also a link below for information about structural assessments of any buildings impacted by the flooding.

For readers impacted by the rising flood waters of the Goulburn River, water is still being released from Lake Eildon and the Brankeet Arm at Bonnie Doon should perhaps be called the Brankeet Leg as the water now stretches for 7 kms. The old railway bridge now a Rail Trail, over that stretch of water, is very close to meeting those waters, about 8' to go.

Read on for another great issue... **Pauline**  
And Kenny Koala...was checking out the Boathole bridge and its flood.



## STOP PRESS - Changes happen...

**Strathbogie Local** was a volunteer start up in response to the first round of pandemic lockdowns. It began as a way to support food producers in our community while they couldn't sell their goods at their usual outlets, with farmer's markets and restaurants being closed across the state.

While we are no longer in lockdown, there have been other challenges to contend with...

Due to the recent wild weather some of our producers, including Somerset Farm in Seymour, have been severely impacted by the floods. This latest event has caused us to re-evaluate our service. Last week we've made the tough decision to take a break.

A big thank you to all shoppers for being a part of this little local food hub! We hope to see you back here in the near future! In the meantime any/all suggestions are welcome - [strathbogielocal@gmail.com](mailto:strathbogielocal@gmail.com)

Feedback? [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au)  
or to subscribe on-line go to  
[www.highlands.org.au](http://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

"Friendship improves happiness and abates misery by doubling our joys and dividing our grief."

**Marcus Tullius Cicero**  
Roman statesman, lawyer,  
scholar & philosopher  
106 BC - 43 BC







Did you work out the names of 3 more Victorian towns or suburbs?

Lady's name + TOWN = Violet Town  
Bonnie's boyfriend - Clyde  
A bird that talks - Cockatoo

**Flood damage? Need structural assessment?**

Register your property with Vic.Gov. for a structural assessment  
<https://www.vic.gov.au/register-structural-assessment-october-2022-floods>

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	<b>What's On - October &amp; November 2022</b>	
	<b>Thursday 27th Oct. @ 5.30pm</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat	<b>at Caveat Church</b>
<b>Details see p.6</b>	<b>Friday 28th October 10.30a</b> 	<b>LONGWOOD EAST ROADSIDE WALK</b> the community and agencies together to reflect on past bushfires and discover the ecology of the area.	<b>meet at 331 Gap Rd Longwood East</b> <b>RSVPs by Tuesday 25th Oct 0407 604012</b>
	<b>Sunday 30th Oct. @ 10am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS</b> Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district <b>Enquiries: Andrew Shaw 0437 249038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235</b>	<b>at Highlands Hall</b>
<b>See last TGN</b>	<b>Tuesday 1st Nov. 8.30-9.30am</b>	<b>CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid</b> \$20 per class BYO mat & blanket	<b>at the Tablelands Community Centre</b> <b>Enquiries? Ingrid <a href="mailto:ingstar.7@gmail.com">ingstar.7@gmail.com</a></b>
	<b>Friday 4th Nov. @ 6pm</b>	<b>FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ</b> It's time to out the FUN back into Friday nights! <b>Enquiries: 0427 690970 or <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a></b>	<b>at the Tablelands Community Centre</b>
	<b>Sat. 5th &amp; Sun 6th Nov. 10-4</b>	<b>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO @ YEA BUTTER FACTORY</b> Open first weekend each month - 13 Rattray St, Yea - discover some stunning artwork!	
	<b>Thursday 10th Nov. @ 7pm</b>	<b>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM</b> All welcome	<b>at 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy</b> <b>Enquiries? 0427 690970 or <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a></b>
	<b>Friday 11th Nov. @ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS on the DECK</b> 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 to cover power. <b>Enquiries? - contact Paula 0419 551882</b>	<b>at Highlands Community Hall</b>
 <b>See p.5</b>	<b>Saturday 12th Nov. @ 7.30pm</b>	<b>RUFFY HALL RESTORATION - TRIVIA NIGHT</b> Come along and support the Ruffy Hall Restoration Project, as well as having great fun! <b>Enquiries? Bill Eddy on 5790 4264 or <a href="mailto:j.eddy29@bigpond.com">j.eddy29@bigpond.com</a></b>	<b>at Ruffy Hall</b>
	<b>Monday 14th Nov. @ 11am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b> 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. <b>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</b>	
	<b>Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? <b>YAY! The Mobile Library will be in Highlands - Nov. 2nd, 16th &amp; 30th</b>	<b>at Highlands Community Hall</b>
<b>It's Back!</b>	<b>Every Monday @ 10am</b>	<b>QI GONG</b> Returning for 2022, everyone is welcome.	<b>at the Tablelands Community Centre</b> <b>Contact Vivien 0405 612 400</b>

## UPDATE on the SOIL CARBON Project

As part of our HCCC Soil Carbon project, at the end of March 2022 we had the Soilkee Renovator come to Looking Glass in the Highlands. The event was opened to all local farmers but we were only able to give a short notice due to logistical difficulties.

The Soilkee was used to shallow till and sow a diverse mix of seeds (Winter Super Mix) directly into the existing pasture, with the benefits of eliminating paddock downtime associated with pasture renovation, improving pasture quality and increasing soil carbon. The mix included triticale, forage oats, cereal rye, forage barley, annual ryegrass, arrow leaf clover, Persian clover, crimson clover, forage radish, purple top turnip, peas, vetch, lentils, beans, safflower.

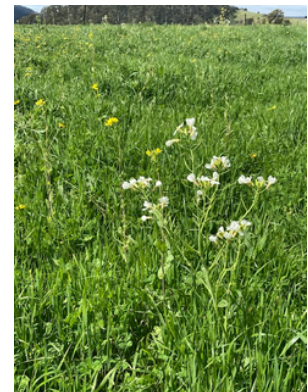
The Winter Super Mix can be found at Downundercovers.



Initially there were a few issues with Red Mites but spraying with Nutrasoil worm juice in May has seemed to help and stopped them. With all this rain the paddocks did very well, resulting in a lush pasture. Thereafter the paddocks were lightly grazed with cattle and then left for a spell.

The results were so encouraging that the owners are planning to get the Soilkee Renovator back (aiming for 8th of November). Date and time will be confirmed soon.

If you're curious to see how it all works, the video of the Soilkee in action at Looking Glass can be found on Hughes Creek Landcare YouTube channel at this [link](#), and more videos are available at [Soilkee.com](https://www.soilkee.com).



### Local Farm Partners

Callum & Les Lawson, Lawson's Farm - Highlands  
Cameron Stewart, Looking Glass – Highlands  
Rob Hayes, Tarcombe Herefords – Tarcombe

### Funding Partners

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority's from the Ground Up program through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program

**Vanessa Malandrin**  
Project Coordinator,  
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative  
Email [vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au](mailto:vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au)



This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the Australian Government.



Our wonderful ancient trees – we love them but how to capture their magic in a photograph?

This workshop organised by Strathbogrie Ranges Conservation offers the rare chance to spend a day with the famous Alison Pouliot on how to capture the story of a tree in a photograph.



Beginners to experienced photographers are welcome.

Alison is well known for her exciting forays and workshops on the Fungi Kingdom and her publications on fungi show her exceptional talents in photography.

In this workshop she will assist you to extend your skills to express the wonder of our trees through photography.

Numbers limited to ensure workshop is interactive.

Sun 13 November 2022, 9am to 3pm, Strathbogrie Hall  
Cost \$38  
Morning tea and lunch included  
Tickets at [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/438785417997) or contact Janet Hagen 0458904268  
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/438785417997>



STRATHBOGRIE RANGES  
CONSERVATION  
MANAGEMENT NETWORK



GOULBURN  
BROKEN  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

Did you know?



GOULBURN  
BROKEN  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

Goulburn Broken CMA is gathering information from landowners about issues that they have as a result of the recent and ongoing wet weather/floods.

Send the following information to Karen Brisbane at the GBCMA

- Name
- Address
- What is the issue?
- What you need to fix it?
- A general estimate of the cost – not compulsory.

[karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au)  
or ring her on 0409 955 396.

## Letter to the Editor

I am writing in regard to Pest Animal Control.  
My name is Ted Plastow, I live in Swanpool which is between Benalla and Mansfield. I have lived in the area since 1985.  
I currently run a pest animal control business named North East Bunny Busters.

I initially concentrated on rabbit control. With the explosion of deer and problems caused by foxes and wild dogs I have put my past experiences to use and expanded my services. I have been engaged in these activities since 1990. I had my entire lambing for that year killed by dogs, this started my interest in pest animal control.

My Standard Operation Procedure when contacted is to conduct a meeting to discuss the pest animal and size of the problem, methods of control of the particular pest animal, then find the best solution to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

A Job Safety Analysis is carried out at this time and problems are discussed. Location of neighbours, buildings, fences, roads and breeds of animals farmed are all considered.  
At all times respect is shown to the target species and an ethical approach to control is the standard I work to. If you are interested please ring me.

**Ted Plastow**



# RUFFY HALL RESTORATION PROJECT

## FUNDRAISER - FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT

You are invited to put together a team and join us at the **Ruffy Hall on Saturday 12th of November** for a fun night of trivia challenges and friendly competition. There will be great prizes and the famous hot Ruffy Supper to conclude the evening. Arrive at 7.30 pm to relax, settle your team in and get ready for the quiz questions to start at 8pm sharp. BYO drinks and snacks for your table. Please bring cash for the entry fee of \$10 and coins for the fabulous wine raffle, drawn on the night.

Thanks again for your support for this valuable community asset.

**Sharron Batt**



## Paterson's Curse be gone!

HCCC is now looking for expressions of interest from all landowners to join in with the Landcare group in its annual helicopter spraying for Paterson's Curse. There is still time to spray so contact Neil ASAP.

Each landowner will be subsidised 50% for the cost of the weedicide, to a maximum of 3 loads. This year we will be using a larger Helicopter and the Load price is \$1450.00 plus GST. This covers 26 Hectares

Contact Neil van Buuren to book your property for this particularly important community event and help us to control the spread of this noxious weed.

Phone: 0417 503 472

Email [hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au)



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR DIARIES

Christmas is only 63 days away and as the HCCC area likes to celebrate this festive occasion the first two of several celebrations are planned.

So put these dates in your diaries now!

### HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY END OF YEAR BBQ

**FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2022**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

and

### TERIP CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER**

**from 6.30pm**



**Merry Christmas everyone!**

## Are you ready for another election in just 26 days' time?

It appears the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) did some voter research after the 2018 state elections and discovered the following 5Cs - that voters want **convenience, communication, choice, control** and **confirmation** that they have done things properly when voting.

As a result, the VEC has introduced these initiatives to ensure that voting is as hassle free as possible -

- a 50% increase in the number of early voting centres (from 103 in 2018 to 155 in 2022)
- 'after hours' early voting, including several late nights and all day on Saturday 19 November (9 am to 5 pm)
- not needing a reason to vote early or by post
- digital information and reminders via the VEC's VoterAlert service
- short videos on topics including how preferences work, completing ballot papers correctly and spotting electoral misinformation and disinformation
- video snippets in 23 languages on enrolling, completing ballot papers correctly and what to do if you forget to vote
- telephone-assisted voting (TAV) for voters who are blind, have low vision or a physical disability that means they require assistance to vote (from 14 November)
- translated website information in 19 languages, including enrolment forms that convert text to English when printing
- live Auslan video interpreting via the Convo app in both early and election day voting centres
- hearing loops at all early voting centres.
- **AND** telephone voting on Nov. 26th - **13 57 23** - for voters who, due to flooding, can't get to a polling booth.



OPEN GARDENS VICTORIA  
ALSO OPEN  
**CANDLEBARK**  
\$10 via Trybooking or at the gate  
www.opengardensvictoria.org.au

10AM to 5PM

**Open Gardens**  
**YEA & DISTRICT**

IN COLLABORATION WITH OPEN GARDENS VICTORIA

**Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 November 2022**

*8 unique gardens open*

• \$5 town gardens • \$8 country gardens • \$40 per 2-day pass to all 8 gardens

**TICKETS** at <https://www.trybooking.com/CAKFD>  
also on the weekend at Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre  
and at each open garden gate (cash only)

Plus YEA GARDEN CLUB Annual PLANT SALE

Information available on Rotary Club of Yea website or phone 0408 935 733  
Maps and garden descriptions available on website from September

[www.yearotary.org.au](http://www.yearotary.org.au) Rotary Club of Yea

## IMPORTANT - NEW DATES!!

Event is now on **Friday 9th December**  
and RSVPs by **Thursday 1st December**

### Longwood East Community Based Bushfire Management

#### Longwood East Roadside Walk

Friday 28th October 2022

10:30am - Meet at Barakee Welsh Pony Stud  
331 Gap Road, Longwood East

Bringing the community and agencies together to reflect on past bushfires, discover the unique ecology of the area, explore future risks and ways to collaborate to better prepare for bushfire.

12:30-1:30 Free lunch at Longwood Pub Paddock with the opportunity to chat with DEWLP Council, CFA and L

**POSTPONED**

#### PRESENTED BY

- Paul Verbeek | CFA - Reflection on past fires
- Community members - experiences of 1993/2014 fires
- Janet Hagen Landcare Facilitator & Sam Strong DEWLP - Discover the changing ecology of the area
- Darren Viney CFA - Future bushfire risk outlook

RSVP by Tuesday 25th October 2022

(please advise of any dietary requirements)

via email [leeane.bullard@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:leeane.bullard@cfa.vic.gov.au) or text/phone 0407 604 012



**Puppies  
For Sale**

Microchipped and Vaccinated

Debbie - 0490763030

Beautiful Pure bred Border Collie pups

**Regenerative Agriculture days**  
with David Hardwick  
Restore and rehydrate your farm landscape

**REGENERATING rural LANDSCAPES**

15th November, 13th December 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Rehydrate your farm landscape  
Implement regenerative grazing  
Improve farm biodiversity  
Create a healthy and productive landscape

**FREE 2 DAY BOOTCAMP** in the Highlands

Book for one or both dates

15 November  
13 December

Lunch provided

Enquiries at [vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au](mailto:vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au)  
Biosecurity measures will be in place.  
Please wear appropriate shoes & clothing, and follow biosecurity protocols at your arrival

**VICTORIA** State Government

This event is sponsored by Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative and the Victorian State Government.

Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Landcare



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