

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



14th May 2023 | Volume 17 Issue 16

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

It's amazing just how many days are designated for various things each year and I'm sure that you will be surprised to know that yesterday (13th May) was World Migratory Bird Day. However, don't worry if you didn't know about it as apparently there are two of these days this year and the second World Migratory Bird Day is on 14th October, reflecting the cyclical nature of bird migration with varying migration periods in each hemisphere.

Migratory birds are the ultimate explorers, whose spirit of adventure knows no bounds! Every year they embark on extraordinary journeys spanning vast distances, continents and hemispheres. Unlike us, migratory birds don't set off on their annual travels for merriment, adventure and enrichment – they undertake these journeys to find food and habitats for breeding, with the necessary climates.

And it's not always smooth sailing. The journey itself can be perilous, and climate change is having an increasing impact on migration patterns and the ability for birds to locate suitable habitats and food sources. Sadly, these factors have led to declining populations of many migratory bird species.

So, next time you see one of the many species of migratory birds in your backyard or paddock, just appreciate how far they have come. Read on for another excellent issue, Pauline And Kenny? Was highlighting the Tablelands Kids' Play Group

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 know when you are being told the truth because the truth hurts."

Galarwuy Yunupingu
(1948 - 2023)



Did you know?

If trees are standing in situ they are vertical habitat and if they have fallen over then they become horizontal habitat. Both are equally important.

Know Your Weeds

Paterson's Curse

This annual weed can dominate grazing land and annual pastures and is toxic to some stock in large quantities.

A 1.2m tall erect plant covered with coarse hair. Flowers are purple and trumpet shaped, occurring between August and December. Rosette shaped leaves are usually broad, 25cm long and paddle-shaped. Several stems rise from the base leaves and are covered with hairy bristles.



Best time to control the spread is between May and October by hand weeding or spot spraying on foliage as both seeds and plant pieces can be spread in a multitude of ways.

For further information re eradication email -
info@hccclandcare.net.au

Month	Highlands	Ruffy	Terip
April.	79.6 mm	60.5 mm	70.8 mm
2023 Total	165.9 mm	137 mm	218.4 mm
Rainy Days	3 days	10 days	13 days

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	What's On - May & June 2023
Details? See p.6	Thurs. 18th May @ 10am	CLIMATE, WATER AND SOILS @ Gargarre Botanical Gardens, Girgaree Using technology and observations for management decisions in agriculture
	Thursday 18th May @ 7pm	HCCC MONTHLY MEETING Terip Rec Reserve Everyone welcome - put the date in your diary now. Enquiries? Justus - 0427 524473
Details? See p.6	Saturday 20th May @ 9.30am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT RFB FIREWOOD - CUT, SPLIT & STACK Many hands make light work with a BBQ lunch to follow. Contact David 0417 150113
	Wed. 24th May @ 7pm	TABLELANDS COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP @ Tablelands Community Centre
	Thursday 25th May @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat
	Sunday 28th May @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS @ Highlands Hall Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district. Enquiries? Andrew 0437 249038 or Robyn 0409 528235
	Monday 29th May 2-4pm	RUFFY VEGE PATCH CLUB @ Pip & Steven's 91 Boat Hole Road Ruffy Sharing, ideas, knowledge and produce - NOTE new time Enquires? Janet 0458 904268
	Fri. 3rd June from 6pm	FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH @ Tablelands Community Centre It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! Enquiries: 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	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. Why not pop in? Forthcoming dates are 17th & 31st May and 14th & 28th June.
	2nd Tuesdays 10-noon	TABLELANDS KIDS PLAY GROUP @ Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy All ages welcome - Nature play - Playground - Toys - Friends 25th May, June 6th & 20th
	Every Monday @ 10am	RUFFY QI GONG has recommenced - EVERY Monday - at 10.00am.
	2nd & 4th Sundays	ST DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH - TERIP RUFFY 2nd Sunday 11.15am Pastor Scott Leslie / 4th Sunday 11am Morning tea & Study group
	Every Tuesday 8.45 - 9.45 am	CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid at the Tablelands Community Centre \$20 per hour long class BYO mat and blanket Enquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com

Recent Field Day on Farm Dams

From your HCCC Landcare Coordinator, Vanessa Malandrin

On the 6th of May, Janet and Justus Hagen hosted our field day on farm dams on their property in Ruffy. Despite the cold and wet day, it turned out to be a great success, with over 45 people coming along to hear about the latest research on dams. We also had participants from other Landcare groups, who came to learn all about it and then report to their committees. The next step for me will be to edit and share all my notes from this event (and the previous one I've attended in September), as promised.

In July then I will attend a full day of training on Farm Dams, delivered by the ANU's Sustainable Farms Team with the purpose to train the trainers, so we'll keep the conversation going. In the meantime, you can check out the amazing resources available on [their website](#), including videos and documents to download.

We're very grateful to The Australian National University's Sustainable Farms Team for all they've contributed with to make this happen, included offering lunch for everyone and providing various brochures on the topic. Many thanks to Damien Gerrans (Gecko Clan), Amber Croft (ANU) and David Smith (ANU - Sustainable Farms).

Special thanks to our gracious hosts, Janet and Justus, who started fencing their dams 18 years ago and have been so generous in sharing their experience with us. Congratulations also to all the participants for defying the weather and for those who brought some delicious food to share. Still thinking of those homemade pretzels! (Thank you Rolf and Traude).



Field day on Farm Dams in Ruffy

Saturday 6th of May, after the weather cleared a bit.

Photo credits: Aberly Croft,
Engagement & Communications
Officer
North East Victoria
Sustainable Farms - The
Australian National University.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The windfarm proposed between Avenel, Ruffy, Caveat and Highlands covers an area with a pristine landscape, characterised by magnificent roadside vegetation of canopy eucalypts and intact understory, including some threatened plant species.

As well as being an integral part of the valued Southern Strathbogie landscape these form important wildlife corridors linking patches of remnant bush. Many old trees provide nesting hollows for birds and mammals.

The three municipalities making up the windfarm area have recognised the importance of these corridors and designated many as significant roadside vegetation areas.

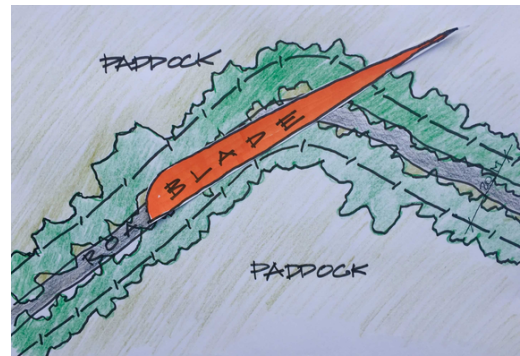
The construction of the proposed windfarm will require the transport of massive pieces of construction equipment and the turbine structural elements.

For example the turbine blade is 96 metres long. Most of the roads in the area are a 2 chain or 20 metres wide reservation with a 6.0 to 12.0 metre carriageway.

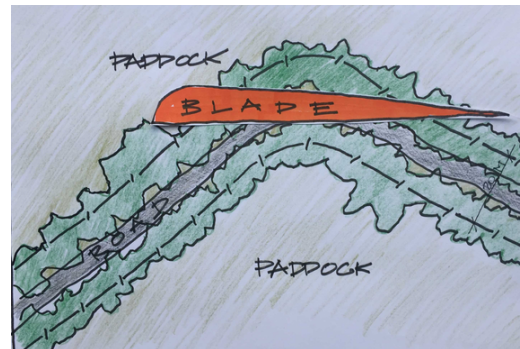
The diagrams adjacent show the consequential vegetation loss which will occur along any road bends or corners.

We cannot afford to lose this beautiful part of our SHARED landscape.

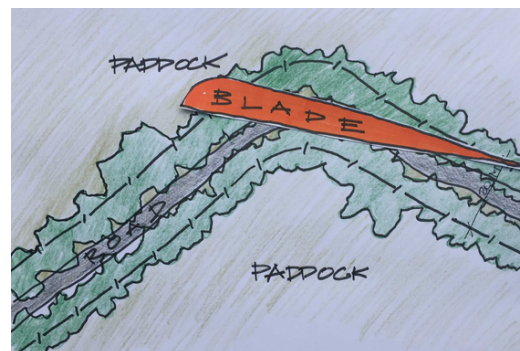
**John Curtis
Highlands**



Blade approaching corner



Blade on corner



Blade proceeding out of corner



Coming up soon – A social occasion to talk about farming

Many local farmers have expressed the interest in getting together to share opinions and doubts, exchange experiences about their management practices, or simply to talk about their everyday experience.

We're happy to make this happen and to facilitate the event, leaving it quite open-ended to let you decide to chat about what matters most to you right now but, as an alternative, we could also try to organise a Q&A session with an expert (if they're available).

We're committed to provide a safe, non-judgmental space for this occasion and anyone who might be interested is welcome to join us.

Date and time are still to be confirmed; possible locations for the meeting are the Ruffy School, the Whiteheads Creek Hall, or Yea, where we could easily meet with other farmers from Yea and Alexandra. Refreshments will be provided.

Please feel free to get in touch to express your interest to participate. vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au

This event is brought to you as part of our Soil Carbon project, and is funded by the Goulburn Broken CMA, From the Ground Up program through funding from Australian Landcare and the Australian Government.



Ruffy Community Action Group

Meeting: Wednesday 24th May

Time: 7pm

Place: Tablelands Community Centre

27 Nolans Rd Ruffy

Vika and Linda to headline Seymour flood recovery concert

Mitchell Shire Council has welcomed the announcement that Australian music icons Vika and Linda Bull will headline a flood recovery concert in Seymour later this month, an event that will provide a much-needed boost to the flood-affected community.

Vika and Linda will perform at the **Prince of Wales Hotel in Seymour, on Saturday 27th May from 1-5pm**, and be accompanied by Wallan-based country rock singer-songwriter Kaitlyn Thomas.

The initiative is part of the State Government's \$1 million Live Music for Flood Recovery Program aimed at attracting visitors to Victorian communities hit hard by the October 2022 flood.

Along with the Seymour concert, a series of music events will also take place in Tallarook as well as Mooroopna, Euroa, and Rochester.

Mitchell Shire Mayor Fiona Stevens shared her enthusiasm for the event, which she said highlights the State Government's commitment to supporting communities through flood recovery.

"The Vika and Linda concert represents an important opportunity for our community to come together and enjoy a positive event," she said. "Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there."



Tickets for the concert can be reserved at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/vika-and-linda-supported-by-kaitlyn-thomas-live-at-the-pow-tickets-63261134656>



<<< FOR SALE >>>

Havahart P-1089 Catch and Release Trap

\$45.00

Provides the ability to
relocate small animals

Dimensions- L61cm
W19cmH21cm



Ring Stuart 0412 805 872

MAY 18TH 10AM

CLIMATE, WATER AND SOILS:
Using technology and observations for management decisions in agriculture

Goulburn Broken CMA and Goulburn Murray Landcare Network and are co-hosting a fantastic line up of speakers.

- Dale Grey (Ag Vic) - Seasonal Forecast Outlook
- Dale Boyd (Ag Vic) - Soil Moisture Probes and understanding how deep soil moisture can influence decisions on farm
- James Diack (Soils for Life) - observational tools to understand soil health and how farmers are using these tools to change management practices.

Where: Gargarro Botanical Gardens Cafe, Winter Rd, Girgarre

For more information and booking, please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/sz7CMB4rSs> or use QR code

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE GOULBURN BROKEN CMA THROUGH FUNDING FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAM

Logos: Australian Government, National Landcare Program, AGRICULTURE VICTORIA, Soils for Life, from the ground up

Many hands make light work

With Mudbash at Mafeking Park almost upon us - and for the first time in 7 decades it will be on the King's Birthday Weekend - the Highlands Caveat CFA will once again be selling firewood and rattling donation buckets, along with POS squares, at the front gate.

If any community members who would like to help out with this fundraising effort please contact
David - 0417 150115 for wood sales OR
Pauline - 0408 246308 for fundraising at the gate

Letter to the Editor

Hi All

It's that time of year again when the Highlands-Caveat CFA organise wood for the Rovers at Mafeking Park.

If you could lend a hand with the wood cutting / splitting / stacking it would be greatly appreciated if only for an hour or two - many hands make light work!!!

Join us on Saturday 20th May at 9.30am and a BBQ lunch will be provided. This is a good time to socialise with other volunteers and help our local brigade.

You don't have to be a CFA member, all are welcome.

Please **RSVP** to me for catering purposes on either **0417 150 113** or david_webb1@bigpond.com

Thanks
David Webb

<<< FOR SALE >>>

Fresh Chestnuts

Highlands

\$5 /kilo

Ring / Text Debbie

0457 319 537

<<< FREE to GOOD HOME >>>

Piano to give away

Contact - 5796 9328 OR 0450 035981



Calling all crafty people, that's crafty as in arty, as opposed to sneaky....

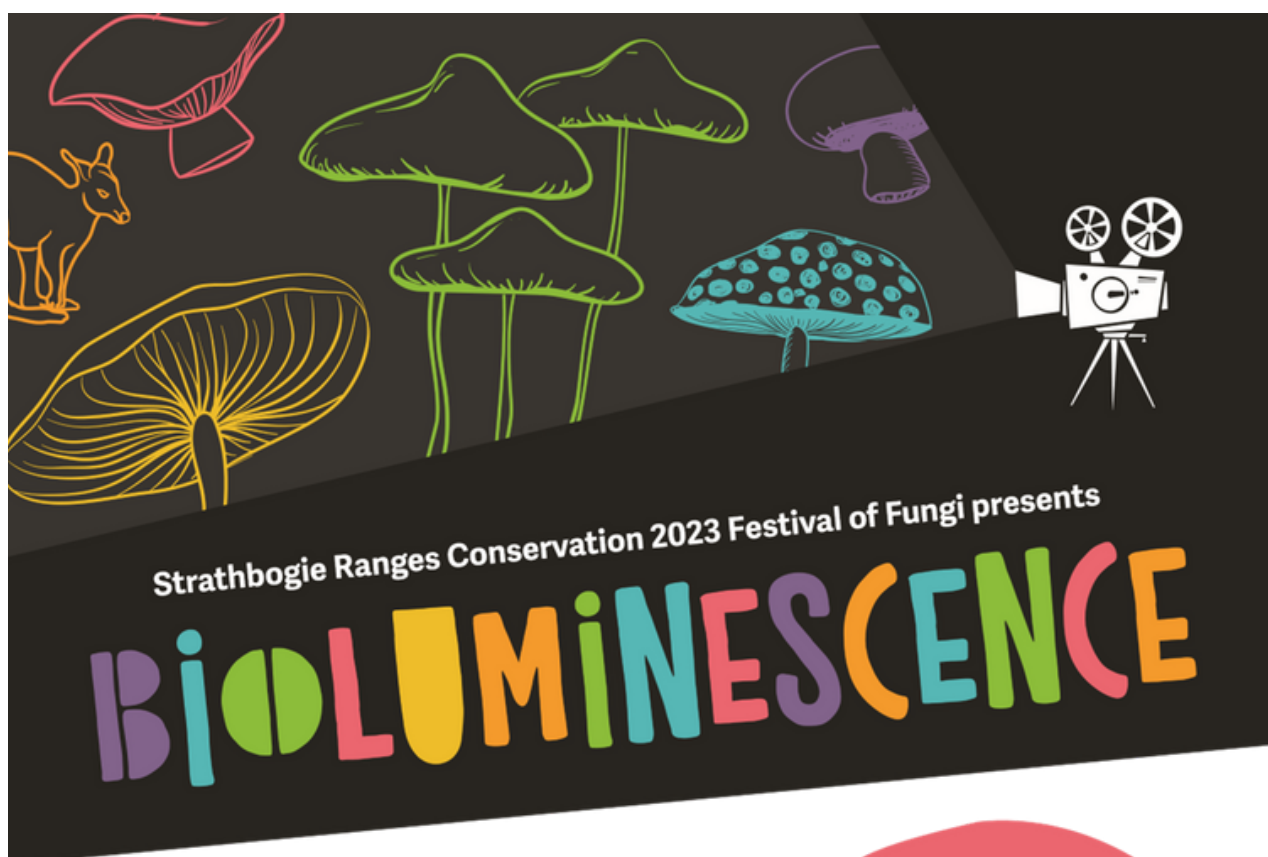
The annual UFO (Un-Finished Projects) weekend is once again happening at the Highlands Hall on

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May

Come along & have a great time continuing or commencing your next masterpiece

For further information **0408 246308**





You are invited to a free outdoor multi-sensory digital projection event streaming across the historic North Eastern Hotel building and surrounds.

This is an all ages event created by local youth and school students in collaboration with Little Projection Company.

The North Eastern Hotel is in De Boos St, Euroa. The precinct can be accessed by pedestrians from the eastern side of the town via the railway underpass. Car parking in surrounding streets. Some food vans will be onsite.

BIOLUMINESCENCE celebrates the importance of fungi in healthy ecosystems.



Strathbogie
SHIRE COUNCIL



strathbogieranges.org.au

The SRCMN acknowledges the generous support of Landcare Victoria. Thanks to Euroa Secondary College, Longwood Primary School, MACC (Mobile Art and Craft Centre) and Shire of Strathbogie FReeZA Youth Program. Writer, ecologist and environmental photographer Alison Pouliot is the inspiration for Bioluminescence.

<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>Donated by supporters of the endangered Hairy Hop bush</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>Darren Gilbert open studio!</p> <p>@ Yea Butter Factory</p> <p>Open every first weekend of the month Up to date Open Studio days & times on www.monkeytaildesign.com</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 • Native fish and plants • Algae control • Water testing • Design and construction • Consulting services <p>Phone: 0429 969 243 Email: info@pondprofessor.com.au http://www.pondprofessor.com.au</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>Little Antechinus living in a hollow near you</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>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>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>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 tccruffy@gmail.com Ph 0404 833 388</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>Donated by supporters of our local koala population</p> 
<p>Donation from supporters of the Eastern Small-eyed Snake</p> 	<p>HIGHLANDS GROVE</p> <p>Australian, family owned local producers of premium cold pressed extra virgin olive oil, made for your goodness and enjoyment.</p> <p>0417 018 070 enquiries@highlandsgrove.com.au highlandsgrove.com.au</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>Echidnas take care of their habitat</p> 	<p>Granite Hills Community Nursery</p>  <p>www.granitehillsnursery.com.au</p>	<p>Need a website? bluetopbiz.com.au</p> <p>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>Strathbogie Granite Project 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, HCCC residents & landowners continue this important custodianship into the future.