

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



13th August 2023 | Volume 17 Issue 27

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

After sending out last week's Granite News I was delighted that the Editor's email inbox subsequently contained no emails from readers informing me that TGN had not arrived. YAY! I hope that this is indicative of the distribution problem being solved...fingers crossed.

Now as most readers are probably aware TGN is primarily two things - a vital means of communication to our local communities, as well as a source of informative articles about Landcare and the environment - so sport usually isn't a feature.

However, I feel compelled to make a brief mention of that incredible soccer match that saw Australia and France vying for a place in the semi-finals of the World Cup. I sat transfixed on Saturday evening watching the athleticism, skills, techniques and dedicated focus of both teams as they fought with every last ounce of determination to progress to the next game. It was a joy to watch.

After a 90-minute game, followed by 30 minutes of extra time, the penalty shootout was definitely a cruel way to decide a winner but what an amazing climax to an incredible game. In a way it was a pity that there could only be one winner. Having said that bring on Wednesday's match against England and more awe-inspiring fitness and athleticism. Go girls!!!



Please read on for another interesting (thanks Peg) issue, Pauline And Kenny? Was checking out the new What's On board in Ruffy.

Janet Fay Taylor

Larry Taylor and his family would like to thank all the wonderful friends and neighbours who have helped in some way since Jan passed away quietly on Saturday 5th August.

For those readers who would like to celebrate Jan's life, a service will be held at the **Highlands Hall on Friday 18th August at 11.30am.** Refreshments will follow.



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

"Happiness and freedom begin with one principle some things are within your control and some are not."

Epictetus - 1st Century Greek stoic philosopher



War on Waste - Recycling

How much do you know about recycling and the waste facts from the fiction? Test yourself - answers in next week's TGN.

Australians buy, on average, 15kg of clothes a year each. How many kilograms do we throw away?

- A - 5 kg
- B - 20kg
- C - 2kg
- D - 10kg

And the answer to last week's question - Pretty clean with most food or liquid washed out.

Although it varies from Council to Council pretty clean is usually the norm, as large chunks of food and liquid contaminate the recycling process.

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	What's On - August 2023
Details see p.6	Weekends in August 10-4	DENNIS SPITERI - WINTERREISE - a NEW series of paintings @ Hillcrest Studio Dennis is showcasing another excellent exhibition on weekends in August - 5796 9373
	Monday 14th Aug. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2023 at the same place - 450 Caveat - Dropmore Rd, at the same time and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea and coffee will be provided. Enquiries? Jan 57900 4361
Details see p.7	Tuesday 15th Aug. @ 7pm	CREIGHTON'S CREEK et al NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AGM @ CC Comm. Centre Everyone is welcome and all residents are encouraged to attend.
Details see p.4	Sunday 20th Aug. 10-noon	WATTLE PLANTING DAY @ Telegraph Rd, Seymour Come along and help to plant bio-link corridors for gliders in Seymour. All welcome.
	Monday 21st Aug. 2-4pm	RUFFY VEGIE PATCH CLUB @ 16 Hobart St, Ruffy Sharing ideas, knowledge & produce, all welcome. Enquiries? Janet 0458 904238
	Friday 25th Aug. 6-8 pm	HIGHLANDS BOOK GROUP - FIRST MEETING! @ Highlands Community Hall BYO finger food and drinks to share. Enquiries: Robyn 0409 528235
	Sat. 26th Aug 10-12 & 2-4	2 MEETINGS re the FERA WINDFARM PROPOSAL Details? Darryl srrcg.com Meeting 1 from 10-12 @ Ruffy Town Hall Meeting 2 from 2-4 @ Upton Hill CFA
	Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE @ Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in? Forthcoming dates are 23rd August and 6th & 20th Sept.
	1st & 3rd Tuesday 10-12	TABLELANDS KIDS' PLAY GROUP @ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy All ages welcome - Nature play - Playground - Toys - Friends - 15th Aug.
	1st & 3rd Tuesday 1-3	DIGITAL & ON-LINE LEARNING @ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy 15th August and 5th & 19th September Enquiries? Bob - 0480 348788
	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 Tues. & Fri. 8.45-9.45	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

New events for the project “Biolink corridors for gliders in Seymour”

Dear Granite News readers, while everyone seemed to be on holiday in Italy over winter, I've been quite busy organising new events for our Gliders' project! Let's have a look at what's on the calendar.

Wattle-planting day: Sunday 20th of August - 10 am- 12:30 pm on Telegraph Rd, Seymour (see p.4)

We'll be planting 100 acacia trees (*Acacia pycnantha* and *Acacia implexa*), and once they're grown they will contribute to provide food for gliders in this green corridor, where nest boxes had been previously installed. We will meet on Telegraph Rd between the intersection with Kobyboyn Rd and the creek (cattle yards on your left 100 m north of the intersection with Kobyboyn Rd). We'll be all in Hi-Vis, so you cannot miss us! And a traffic management plan has been organised by the Shire to allow us to work in the safest possible way. Parking is available along the road and closer to the cattle yards. We'll be happy to see you there even if you come just for the company, a friendly chat, and a picnic!

Spotlight walks at twilight: looking for gliders and learning about citizen science.

These walks will be guided by Ecologist Chris Pocknee from the Biolink Alliance, our partner in this project. Chris will bring a video camera and a thermal scope, that detects infra-red light. Other experts will be there to provide extra support during the walk and to show us how we can contribute to citizen science projects by recording our sightings with a GPS tracker. Bring your own torch where possible; we have 6 head torches to share and a few more hand torches. Please wear warm clothes and sturdy shoes/ boots. Dates and locations may be subject to change, in which case we'll send you an update (please check your email or our Facebook page).

Friday 25th August at 5:45 pm, meeting at the end of Bolton St, off Emily St, in Seymour.

We will walk on a path along the Goulburn River up to where the Whiteheads creek merges in (about 500 m). Level of difficulty: low, suitable for everyone. Watch out if wondering away from the path at dark, as there's steep banks going straight into the river. Parking is available at the end of Bolton St (no through road), or nearby along Hanna St.

Thursday 31st August at 5:45 pm, meeting at Seymour Bushland Park, Telegraph Rd entrance.

How to get there: from Seymour take the Goulburn Valley Highway towards Yea; past the Golf Course turn left into Telegraph Rd and after 1.3 km you'll see a gate on your left. The gate will be open to allow for more parking spaces. We will walk on a path inside the reserve (fenced area), where there's a few old trees with hollows, ideal for spotting some gliders. Low level of difficulty, suitable for everyone. The length of the walk will vary according to circumstances. Watch out for tripping hazards, especially if wandering away from the path and into the bush.

Saturday 2nd of September at 5:45 pm, meeting at the end of Anglesey St (off Anzac Avenue).

We will walk down to the Goulburn River, on a slope and uneven terrain and then on a path along the river for 1 km or more, according to circumstances. Participants can decide to leave earlier and go back to Anglesey St, if they have their own torch. Compared to the previous ones, this walk will be a bit longer and may present more tripping hazards.

Hope to see you there! Let's keep up the good work.

Vanessa Malandrin, HCCC Project Coordinator

This project is funded by the Victorian Government (DEECA, ex DELWP) through the Environmental Volunteering New Growth Project.





A DATE for your DIARIES - Sass and Secrets

Saturday 6th September, Ruffy Public Hall Doors open 7.30 pm. Performance commences 8.00 pm.

Reservations essential: Email Kelly: ruffartztickets@gmail.com or Mobile: 0407 017 090

Adults \$25, Students/Pensioners \$15

BYO Nibbles and drinks

Coffee and cake available at intermission \$5.00

PRESENTED BY RUFFARTZ

A wickedly funny cabaret featuring awe inspiring magic, mentalism, fabulous singing and physical comedy mayhem! Not to be missed!!!



Victorian Landcare Program 2022 Delivery

The Victorian Landcare Program strengthens and supports environmental volunteer groups and networks across the State to protect our environment

2022 Snapshot



Victorian Landcare Grants
\$4.1 million for 206 Project Grants and 282 Support Grants



Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants
\$413,000 for 111 projects



Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program
\$4.4 million to support 740 groups and networks



Regional Landcare Coordination
\$1.7 million for 10 Regional Landcare Coordinators



Environmental volunteers supported by the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program made a **\$12.06 Million economic contribution***
*Based on a monetary value of \$41.72/hour for volunteer contribution



Group Health – **84%** of Landcare groups and networks **healthy and functioning well***
*Based on self-reporting of group health as ok, strong or thriving

Biodiversity 2037 Contribution Highlights



12,686 volunteers acted for nature through the Victorian Landcare Program, contributing a huge **288,986 volunteer hours**



Community grants supported **threatened species** by creating wildlife corridors for Malleefowl, protecting habitat for Helmeted Honeyeaters and restoring ecosystems for critically endangered Bog Gum



44,907 Ha of revegetation, weed control and herbivore control was undertaken to protect Victoria's biodiversity



32,000 participants connected with nature at Landcare Facilitator supported education and engagement events



Learn more: www.environment.vic.gov.au/landcare



Victorian
Landcare
Program



‘WINTERREISE’

A new series of paintings by **Dennis Spiteri**.

Experience a ‘winter journey’ through painting, poetry and music.

Exhibition runs from Saturday 5th August to Sunday 27th August 2023

Gallery only open on weekends during these dates.

Opening times: 10am – 4pm Saturdays and Sundays

Telephone (03) 5796 9373

Email: dennisspiteri@activ8.net.au

Hillcrest Gallery 33 Old Highlands Road, Highlands, Victoria.

Letter to the Editor

We have just conducted another community meeting on 12th August at the Molesworth Hall to let the local community know what is going on with FERA's proposal to build an industrial scale wind energy facility and associated high voltage transmission lines.

The meeting was well attended by landowners from the surrounding area, many of whose families have lived in the area for generations.

As with our recent meeting at Highlands the audience was mostly new faces, which is good to see. Also, in common with Highlands was the community attitude toward FERA, they feel that they have not been well informed by FERA and have many serious concerns as a result.

It was clear from discussions at the meeting that the threat of compulsory acquisition is a major concern to all property owners in the proposed transmission line corridor. FERA have stated that they can not compulsorily acquire land as they are a private company, but the fear is that FERA will convince the government to partner with or take over the project and force the lines through.

We will try to find out more information about this possibility and keep you informed of the situation. Also of great concern is that FERA continue to misrepresent the position of other property owners in their discussions. The only way to know what your neighbours think about the FERA proposal is to talk with them and discuss it. Don't take FERA's word for it, check for yourself.

A copy of the presentation is available on the web site at srrcg.com

FERA have also announced that they will be hosting another community meeting.

There will be 2 meetings held on the 26th of August.

The Ruffy meeting will be held from 10am to 12pm at the Ruffy Town Hall.

The Upton Hill meeting will be held from 2pm to 4pm at the Upton Hill CFA.

It has already been suggested to FERA that they hold a single meeting in a more convenient location, but this request has fallen on deaf ears.

Darryl Otzen

Secretary srrcg.com - Strathbogies Responsible Renewables Community Group



A Renewable Future for Yea # 2

Thursday 17th August at 6pm
Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre

2030Yea Community Energy is hosting two more presentations in the "Renewable Future for Yea" series.



Donald Mace
General Manager Electricity
Retail, Indigo Power

Donald will present their *Blueprint for Communities* to get to 100% Renewables.

Donald says, "Partnering with communities to tackle climate change is at the core of Indigo Power's business. We are here to collaborate with communities and aim to work with as many groups as possible. Let's create a 100% renewable energy future for your community."

Bookings essential for catering:
<https://events.humanitix.com/2030yea-presentations>



Andrew Lawson
Director
Fera Australia

Andrew will speak about the proposed *Seymour Wind Farm*.

The Seymour Wind Farm investigation area is bounded by Avenel, Longwood, Ruffy, Highlands and Tarcombe. The proposed project represents an opportunity in the transition from coal power sources in accordance with Victoria's renewable energy targets of 40% by 2025 and 50% by 2030.



Know Your Weeds

Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) (aka Field Bindweed, Morning Glory)

Bindweed is a twining herb that can grow up to 2m long and be either a prostrate or a climbing plant.

Its flowers only last one day and can be coloured white to dark pink, up to 3cm in diameter and funnel shaped. They appear from Spring to early Autumn.

Leaves are arrow-shaped, dark green, 2-5cm long and alternate on short stalks.

Bindweed is a strong competitor in cropping situations where its extensive root system robs desirable plants of moisture and although it is similar to native Bindweed it is generally much larger.

It easily spread from seed and root pieces that can be transported by slashing/mowing, carried on vehicles or machinery or with seed eaten and carried by stock and/or birds and other animals.

As a perennial weed, hand weeding or spot spraying between November and March are the best control options.

For further information re eradication email -

info@hccclandcare.net.au



An INVITATION

Book-group initial meeting planned for

Friday 25th August 6 - 8pm

BYO Finger food to share and Drinks

Expressions of interest call Robyn on 0409 528235



Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Creighton's Creek, Ruffy, Terip Terip, Longwood East Neighbourhood Watch group will be held on

Tuesday 15th August at 7pm
at the Creighton's Creek Community Centre.

All residents are encouraged to attend. Security and safety of our community is in our hands.

CLEANER WANTED:

Two households next to each other in Ruffy are looking for a cleaner, a total of approximately 7 hours each week.

Please call **Peter on 0417 390 180** or **Lauren on 0488 007 175**.

Ruffy Veggie Patch Club - Monday 21st August at 2pm

@ Andy's Place 16 Hobart Street Ruffy
Sharing ideas, knowledge and produce.
New members welcome.

Enquiries? Janet Hagen 0458 904268



FOUND

Mobile phone on Dropmore Rd
Contact Roger 5796 9213 if you think it might be yours.

<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.