

# THE GRANITE NEWS



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



23rd June 2024 | Volume 18 Issue 22

## Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Whilst TGN readers come and go, since taking on the job of Editor in January 2018 an extra 322 readers have added themselves to the weekly e-mailing list, making a grand total of 710 current TGN readers.

Now I can appreciate that not everyone reads this weekly epistle from end to end, after all life gets in the way of such things sometimes, but I was most concerned last week when the techy gremlins meant that TGN wasn't able to be sent, as usual, on Sunday evening.

In the past when this has happened some avid TGN readers, who just happen to rise with the birds, have emailed me to let me know of this omission and to wonder when they can expect the latest issue to arrive.

I was therefore most relieved about two things last week -

1. That my stress levels were lowered considerably when early Monday morning all systems were go....and
2. That not many TGN readers leap out of bed on cold, frosty mornings in June to let me know that TGN hasn't arrived as expected.....except for Kevin!

### Letter to the Editor

Crikey Pauline, I woke this morning and no TGN. This was akin to the sun not coming up. It was with great relief that both the sun and TGN have now both appeared.

Keep up the good work.  
Best regards,  
Kevin



I read this little gem and chuckled, hope you did too.

### DON'T FORGET!!

This issue is the last one for a couple of weeks, as the school holidays are upon us. The **NEXT** issue will be Sunday 14th July (Bastille Day - if you're French) so make sure that any articles, ads or anything else arrives by **Thursday 11th July**. Thanks,

Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline

And Kenny? Was looking forward to the Bunding Creek walk.

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

"I write the notes that like each other."

**Paul McCartney - musician.**



## World Environment Day Quiz

2. What percentage of the world's population suffers from the impact of land degradation?

- 20 %
- 40 %
- 60 %
- **Answer = 40%**

See p.5 to find out the impact of this

3. What is Earth's most diverse habitat?

- Coral reefs
- Deserts
- Forests
- Soil

Answer in next issue of TGN.

What's On - June & July 2024		
	<b>Sat 24th June @ 1.30pm</b>	<b>RUFFY VEGE GROWERS' CLUB</b> <span style="float: right;">@ 230 McLeans Lane, Ruffy</span> New members are always welcome <span style="float: right;">Enquiries: Janet 0458 904268</span>
	<b>Thurs. 27th June @ 5.30</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Caveat Church</span> All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat
	<b>Thurs 27th June @ 7pm</b>	<b>TERIP TERIP REC RESERVE AGM</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Terip Rec Reserve</span>
Details? See p. 4	<b>Sat. 29th June @ 7pm</b>	<b>TERIP'S TANTALISINGLY TERRIFIC TRIVIA NIGHT</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Terip Rec Reserve</span>
Details? See p. 3	<b>Mon. 1st July @ 7pm</b>	<b>RUFFY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> <span style="float: right;">@ TCC Ruffy</span>
	<b>Fri. 5th July from 6pm</b>	<b>FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Tablelands Community Centre</span> It's time to put the fun back into Friday nights! Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	<b>Sat. 6th &amp; Sun 7th July 10-4</b>	<b>DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO</b> <span style="float: right;">@ 5 Gifford St, Yea</span> Open the first weekend of each month - discover some stunning artwork.
	<b>Fri. 12th July @ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS on the DECK</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Highlands Community Hall</span> Bring food to share and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin to cover power. <span style="float: right;">Contact Paula 0419 551882</span>
	<b>Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Highlands Community Hall</span> The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in? <span style="float: right;">Forthcoming dates are 26th June and 10th &amp; 24th July.</span>
	<b>Every Monday @ 7pm</b>	<b>TABLE TENNIS MONDAYS</b> <span style="float: right;">@TCC Ruffy</span> Come along & have some fun! <span style="float: right;">Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com</span>
	<b>Every Tuesday - 6pm</b>	<b>MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA</b> <span style="float: right;">@ Highlands Community Hall</span> BYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cash <span style="float: right;">Enquiries? 0436 428065</span>
	<b>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays 1-3</b>	<b>DIGITAL &amp; ON-LINE LEARNING</b> <span style="float: right;">@ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy</span> 3rd & 17th July <span style="float: right;">Enquiries? Bob - 0480 348788</span>
	<b>2nd &amp; 4th Sundays</b>	<b>ST DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH - TERIP RUFFY</b> 2nd Sunday 11.15am Pastor Scott Leslie / 4th Sunday 11am Morning tea & Study group
<b>NEW times!</b>	<b>Mon 8.45-9.45am Wed. 6.15-7.15pm</b>	<b>CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid</b> <span style="float: right;">at the Tablelands Community Centre</span> \$25 per hour long class BYO mat and blanket <span style="float: right;">Enquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com</span>

## Boosting pollinators in the Strathbogrie Ranges A Victorian Landcare Project = **FREE PLANTS**

If you want flowers or fruits in your garden, they'll need pollinating, and native bees are among Australia's most powerful pollinators.

In recent months there has been a mass exodus of backyard beekeepers due to the pest Varroa mite. But because native bees are not directly impacted by the Varroa mite they are a great (and often stingless) alternative to European honeybees.

They are also facing their own fight for survival due to factors including habitat loss, overuse of insecticides, climate change and natural disasters such as the Black Summer Bushfires.

So, whether you're interested in the sweet benefits of backyard beekeeping, having your plants pollinated or simply helping our bees out, here are some ways to make your garden a friendly place for native bees.

Strathbogrie Ranges Conversation and HCCC Landcare are offering 100 members a box of 50 pollinator attracting native plants **FREE**.

You can order a 'farm pack', for boosting pollinator activity in farm plantations or a 'garden pack' of pollinator attracting wildflowers and shrubs.

These plants have been grown at Euroa Arboretum and are ready for planting now.



Please text **Janet Hagen 0458 904268** or email [hughescreek2@gmail.com](mailto:hughescreek2@gmail.com) if you are interested.

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### Ruffy Neighbourhood Watch AGM.

**Venue: Ruffy Tablelands Community Centre (TCC)**

**Date: 1st July, 2024**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

Please come along and support the NHW team. We are low on membership and your support will help strengthen our effectiveness in keeping our community safe.

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### HIGHLANDS BOOK CLUB



The Highlands Book Club continues to grow and its members enjoy sharing GREAT individual reads from the previous month or a group discussion on selected titles.

A list of this month's book offerings can be found on p.6 for any TGN readers who are looking for a good read to cuddle up with and enjoy on these cold winter nights.

Next meeting is Sat.27th July @ 6pm @ the Highlands Hall  
Everyone is welcome, BYO some food to share.

Are you interested in adding to the

**i Naturaliste's**

**environmental knowledge base of the local HCCC area?**

If **YES** then download the App now, follow the instructions for use in **TGN 30/7/23**, and start recording our unique natural wonders of both fauna and flora. It's an incredibly valuable resource.

**iNaturalist**

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**WANTED**

**Does anyone have a set of bellows they do not use.**

**Please contact  
Rob 0411 880024.**

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**Terip's  
Tantalizingly  
Terrific**

**TRIVIA**  
*night*  
**FUNDRAISER**

at the Terip Community Centre

**Saturday, 29 June 2024, 7:00 for 7:30 pm Trivia kick-off**

**Tickets: Adults \$15, Children \$5**

*Supper provided*

**BYO Drinks and Nibbles**

*Teams of 6-8 can be entered or come long and join a team on the night!*

RSVP by Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> June for catering to [teripterip3719@gmail.com](mailto:teripterip3719@gmail.com) , message our Terip Community FB page or phone: Frances 0427 904 262 or Jenny 0448 833 875

**Highlands Community Hall  
Notice is given of a  
PUBLIC MEETING**

to be held at Highlands Community Hall

1603 Ghin Ghin Road,  
HIGHLANDS 3660

**on Thursday 25 July 2024 commencing  
at 7:00 pm.**

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9) persons as the Committee of Management for the Highlands Community Hall Committee of Management for a term of three years.

The current committee's term will expire on 23 August 2024. All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night.

Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action office or at the meeting.

For further enquiries please contact the Secretary,  
**Margaret Milburn on 0499 478 884.**

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## An Invitation is extended...

The Highlands Community is invited to an afternoon tea to say farewell to Margaret Nagle.

Margaret is 'reluctantly' moving from Highlands after over 40 years but fortunately moving to Melbourne with one of her daughters and family.

The afternoon tea will be held at the

**Highlands Hall on Sunday 21st July from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.**

Tea & Coffee will be provided (BYO drink if you'd prefer).

Please bring a plate to share.

Margaret is so looking forward to saying goodbye to everyone and we'll be able take photos for her to have memories of her wonderful years spent in such a wonderful community.

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## Avenel Active Guided Granite Trek – Bunding Creek

The next guided trek featuring the beautiful Bunding Creek will be on **Saturday 29th June 2024** commencing at 9.00am. Anticipated duration of the walk is 4 to 5 hours.

The planned walk is approximately 6-8km with smaller climbs than our previous treks. The start point of the walk is off Lambing Gully Road, Avenel. We will walk across grazing land and alongside a small creek until it joins with Bunding Creek.

We will follow Bunding Creek up through a small gorge with delightful scenery. However, it involves climbing over and around boulders for a few hundred metres. This part of the walk will need to be negotiated with care and for this reason we have graded the walk degree of difficulty as Category 4 of the Australian Walking Track Grading System.



We will talk about the geology including granite and some hornfels, how creek capture has worked with nice examples, the power of floods to bring down rocks and debris, and why the real name of the creek might have been Bunting rather than Bunding. And of course, the larger trees and smaller shrubs that rely on the creek.

Could you please register your interest in taking the walk (plus others who will join you) by email to: Kevin Whithear [kgwhithear@gmail.com](mailto:kgwhithear@gmail.com).

Numbers are limited and spots will be reserved on a first in basis. I will provide further details shortly about the walk including where to park to those who register interest.

Looking forward to seeing you on 29th June 2024.

**Kevin Whithear**  
[kgwhithear@gmail.com](mailto:kgwhithear@gmail.com)

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### RUFFY VEGE GROWERS' CLUB

Next meeting is **Monday 24th June**  
@Sue and Graig's Garden- 230 McLeans Lane Ruffy @ **1:30 pm**

Please park near the Orchard shed.

As always New members welcome,

Ideas, knowledge and produce to share.

**Enquires Janet 0458 904268**

### <<< MOST IMPORTANT

Please note the **CORRECT** date  
for the next Vege Growers'  
meeting is

**Monday 24th June!**



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### The Impact of Land Degradation around the World (from p.1)

Land degradation affects approximately 3.2 billion people, or 40 per cent of the world's population. It threatens well-being and disproportionately harms those who are least equipped to cope such as rural communities, farmers and the poor. They suffer from food shortages, failing harvests, volatile food prices, and climate impacts caused by the release of carbon from degrading land. By 2030, land degradation and desertification could force 135 million people to migrate, creating social and economic inequalities.

## Why temperatures feel colder than they actually are as icy blast sweeps Australia's east



by weather reporter Tyne Logan (ABC 19/6/24)



Large parts of Australia's east have woken to their coldest morning of the year in the past two days, as icy weather continues to blast the country ahead of the winter solstice. And if the cold snap weather didn't have you reaching for the winter woollies already, the "feels-like" temperature has been even more chilly.

According to observations from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Hobart experienced a "feels-like" temperature between 3-6 degrees Celsius cooler than the actual minimum temperature on Tuesday (18/6/24), and similar again on Wednesday (19/6/24).

Meanwhile through alpine and regional areas, some towns — which were already unusually cold — plunged to well below freezing.

In the alpine areas, Thredbo and Perisher in the Snowy Mountains both had observations of minus 9C, but a "feels-like" temperature of minus 12C, whereas Mount Hotham in Victoria, on the other hand, had a comparatively milder actual minimum of minus 6C on Tuesday, but a harsher "feels-like" temperature of minus 13C.

So why does it feel so much colder than it actually is?

The main factor that makes a day feel colder than the actual air temperature is the wind - the Wind Chill Factor.

So, the reason that it was actually colder in the Snowy Mountains [on Tuesday], but felt colder on the Victorian side, was that there was a moderate breeze at Mount Hotham, whereas the other two had only a light breeze.

This is because it speeds up heat loss through a process called convection, by whisking away the warm layer of air that sits just above the skin, according to Ollie Jay, a professor of heat and health at the University of Sydney. The stronger the winds are, the faster this process occurs, which is why people fan themselves to cool down on a hot day.

"When the temperature of the air is so much lower than that of the outside of the body the temperature difference between you and the air is quite high, which means you shed quite a lot of heat naturally through this process called convection," he said. "The multiplier of that is effectively wind.

"If you think about the way in which heat transfers away from the body, you've got a micro-environment that sits just above the skin, like a pocket of air that is warmer," he said. "When you've got a higher airflow, that's basically replacing that pocket of air at a faster rate."

### **BUT - How does the BOM calculate the 'feels-like' temperature**

To try and describe this human response to temperature, the BOM uses a measure called the apparent temperature — also known as the "feels-like" temperature. This is different to what the actual air temperature is, which is what the BOM is referencing in its forecasts. To figure out the "feels-like" temperature, the BOM uses a mathematical model.

But there are essentially two key factors that go into the calculation.

**One of them is the wind speed** — which can cause significant chilling, as Dr Jay described.

**The other is humidity**, which — when it's high — can make temperatures feel hotter than they are by reducing the amount of sweat evaporating off the skin.

Of course, there are a lot of variables about how cold or warm it feels which are too specific to be factored into the bureau's equations.

For instance, women will often feel colder than men, according to Dr Jay. "Generally if...you're more slim, particularly your limbs, the amount of heat that you lose relative to your body mass is greater," Dr Jay said. "So that's why, typically, females will cool down faster than men in the same environment, because men are generally heavier, and they have a lower surface area to mass ratio."

There are also factors like age, clothing and location that can make a difference.

The bureau's calculation is based on the Steadman human model, which assumes you're an adult, walking outdoors, in the shade. This is because standing in the direct sun can increase the "feels-like" temperature by up to 8C. It also assumes you're dressed appropriately for the weather.

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 Project**  
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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.