

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



12th May 2024 | Volume 18 Issue 16

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Last week I included some dot points, jotted down from the workshop on Soil, and it appears that my note taking was a bit awry when it came to getting the facts correct about the appearance of 'flowering' plants on Earth as well as the number of ice-ages the Earth has experienced.

Luckily TGN reader Ray took the opportunity to clarify this.

Pauline,

Thanks as always for your informative newsletter and especially its emphasis upon soil. Especially appreciate the difficulty taking notes and getting every detail correct.

It may be that in your comment re ice ages and plants starting there may be a word left out such as "flowering"

Thought the following might be of interest:

Scientists have recorded five significant ice ages throughout the Earth's history: the Huronian (2.4-2.1 billion years ago)

Cryogenian (850-635 million years ago)

Andean-Saharan (460-430 mya)

Karoo (360-260 mya) and

Quaternary (2.6 mya-present).

Moss is 470 million years old

Agathis (Kauri) 300+ million years old

All the best

Ray



It's always a dull day when you don't learn something new!

As a result, I have just thought of a very special plant that I 'work' with in my day job and the dates attached to it are mind-blowing. Stay tuned for next week's TGN to find out more.

Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline

And Kenny? Was hiding in the Ruffy Vege Growers' vege basket

SPONSORSHIP and/or BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

From time to time a back page ad space becomes available and readers are offered the opportunity to financially support this great weekly community newsletter.

One such space is currently available and for an extremely reasonable \$250 you could either promote your business, or altruistically support our iconic local wildlife. **Interested? email the editor - editor@tgn.org.au**

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

"Camping - getting close to nature but not too far from a cold beverage."

Anon.

my weekend away was
amazing guys, pictures don't
do it justice.



Anne Frank is in Alexandra








For those readers who haven't had a chance to visit Anne Frank's House in Amsterdam and would be interested in finding out more about this young girl's life pop into the Alexandra Library, Perkins St.

"Let me be Myself" a travelling exhibition of Anne Frank's life is on display there from May 1st until June 29th during library hours.

What's On - May 2024

Variable Dates & Events

Set Dates & Times

	Mon. 13th May @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNERS @ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd The Highlands Spinning Club will get together at the same place and the same time with the same good company. BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided. Enquiries? Jan - 5790 4361
	Sat. 18th May @ 10am	POTTERY WORKSHOP @Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy Come along and create a tile or two for the latest TCC project.
	Mon. 20th May @ 10am	RUFFY VEGE GROWERS CLUB @ Strathbogie Special Mushroom Growing session, cost \$10 Bookings essential. Cheryl 0409 019763
	Thurs. 23rd May @ 7pm	HCCC MONTHLY MEETING @ Whiteheads Creek Hall Everyone is welcome, put the date in your diary now. Enquiries? Justus 0427 524473
	Fri. 24th May @ 7pm	TERIP TERIP CFA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING @ Terip Rec Reserve All welcome. Enquiries? Capt. Shannon Roach 0400 842009
Details? See p.4	Sat. 25th & Sun. 26th May	ANNUAL UFO (UnFinished Objects) WEEKEND @ Highlands Hall All crafty (creative) readers are invited to come along and join in the fun.
	Sun, 26th May @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS starting @ Highlands Community Hall Everyone is welcome. Enquiries? Andrew 0437 249038 or Robyn 0409 528235
	Thurs. 30th May @ 5.30	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat
	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 15th & 29th May and 12th & 26th June.
	Every Monday @ 7pm	TABLE TENNIS MONDAYS Not happening in winter - too cold! @TCC Ruffy Come along & have some fun! Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	Every Tuesday - 6pm	MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA @ Highlands Community Hall BYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cash Enquiries? 0436 428065
	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1-3	DIGITAL & ON-LINE LEARNING @ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy 21st May and 4th & 18th June Enquiries? Bob - 0480 348788
	2nd & 4th Sundays	ST DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH - TERIP RUFFY 2nd Sunday 11.15am Pastor Scott Leslie / 4th Sunday 11am Morning tea & Study group
NEW times!	Mon 8.45-9.45am Wed. 6.15-7.15pm	CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid at the Tablelands Community Centre \$25 per hour long class BYO mat and blanket Enquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com

Two roles available in the New Futures Project

As you may know, this year we've been active in a new project, the New Futures for Victorian Landcare, of which you can find a summary at this link. <https://tinyurl.com/5hyu4nfu>

The working group behind this project is called Granite2Goulburn (G2G), and it includes Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative, Euroa Arboretum, Longwood Plains Conservation Network, and Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Network.

We are currently looking to fill in two roles - Finance and Governance and Communication and Engagement.

The commitment is about 3-4 hours/week (mainly online, plus additional occasional face to face sessions). A compensation is included for time and costs associated with the roles.

If you think you may have the skills and you could be interested in this opportunity, please get in touch with us and we'll provide you with more details.

vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au



The GREAT Caveat Mystery!

The mystery of this photo is still unsolved. As there was no identification left with it, it now resides inside the church.

Can any TGN reader solve this mystery?

If so please email - editor@tgn.org.au Thanks



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Terip Terip Fire Brigade Annual General Meeting

will be held at the Terip Terip Rec Reserve on

Friday 24th May at 7.00pm.

Enquiries? please contact the Captain Shannon Roach **0400 842 009**

It's on again - the 18th UFO weekend @ Highlands Hall

For all those crafty - that's creative rather than sneaky - readers who would enjoy a fun day or two commencing, continuing or completing some of their

UFOs - UnFinished Objects

the date(s) for your diaries are
Saturday 25th May 9-5 and Sunday 26th May 10-4

Fully catered for a very reasonable \$45 per day, for further details email - pdphroberts@gmail.com

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Pottery

WORKSHOP

COMMUNITY TILE MAKING
WE NEED A FEW MORE TILES

TIME: 10 AM
TEA/COFFEE PROVIDED

SATURDAY 18TH
MAY 2024

27 nolans road
ruffy

REGISTER NOW

tccruffy@gmail.com 0427 690 970



THIS
SATURDAY!

<<<<<<<<

Come along and use your creative
flair to add to this community
initiative.

Are you interested in adding to the
iNaturalist'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.



UPCOMING REGENERATIVE AG COURSES IN JUNE

Join agroecologist, David Hardwick and highly experienced practitioners in their fields to explore our regenerative ag courses.

UNDERSTANDING SOILS AS LIVING SYSTEMS

JUNE 27 @ 9 AM - 3.30 PM
@ BIBBARINGA, BOWNA NSW

- Explore how soils self organise into an equilibrium deepening on their context
- Explore each soil element
- Cover the key soil properties that emerge in a soil system
- Use the HASH soil monitoring approach to understand soil system



MAKING COMPOST ON FARM

ONLINE JUNE 26 - JULY 23
@ 7.30 PM - 9 PM

- We explore how to make compost using a minimum to no turn approach called fermentative composting as well as making aerated compost with a turner.
- We look at the range of ingredients for making compost tips.



REBOOT MY SOIL

ONLINE JUNE 24 - JULY 29
@ 7.30 PM - 9 PM

- Looking to change the way you farming?
- Learn how to regenerate your soil's health.
- Develop a soil action plan based on 21st century soil knowledge



I really enjoyed the course + I'd like to thank David for his time.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://bit.ly/courses-HCCC> or



SOIL LAND FOOD
ECOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE

**Monday 10th June
is the second
King's Birthday holiday**

and on the same weekend

**Mudbash is celebrating its
52nd year!**

As usual the Highlands-Caveat RFB will be selling firewood and rattling donation buckets on the front gate as its annual fundraiser.

Can you assist with this?

Working on the many hands make light work principle, all HCRFB members, as well as local community from Highlands - Caveat are invited to help out.

If that's you please ring
0427 529551



We made it to the next round

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE

PITCH MY PROJECT

It's time to have your say on your favorite community projects 2024/2025 with Strathbogie Shire Pitch My Projects

VOTE 1

Voting closes 5pm
Friday 24th May 2024

www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au - click on Pitch My Project link
or
you can complete a hard copy at the Tablelands Community Centre
tcacruffy@gmail.com 0427 690 970

Dry area for BBQs Dry area for Street Library Dry area to Shelter

Veranda on the Shelter Shed

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Scan now for candidate information and upcoming sessions

Strathbogie
SHIRE COUNCIL

www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au

Highlands Book Group

Late last year a group of local bibliophiles started meeting, approximately monthly, at the Highlands Hall to chat and discuss selected titles, as well as any good reads they had enjoyed during the previous few weeks. As well as enjoy some delicious food and drinks - usually wine. Last week's meeting generated lively reviews as well as an impressive list of titles to choose from for the next meeting on **Saturday 15th June at 6pm**.

New attendees are always welcome (Enquiries? - contact **Robyn 0409 528235**) or if a book club isn't your thing, but you enjoy a good read, then one or two from the selection below are sure to please.

Recommendations for June 15th Book Group

Home to Biloela - Priya Nadesalingham with Rebeka Holt

The dramatic inside story of the Tamil refugee family which became a cause celebre all around Australia, and the epic fight by a small rural community to set them free.

A Gentleman in Moscow - Amor Towles

In 1922, in the wake of the Russian Revolution, Count Alexander Rostov is arrested by the Bolsheviks. His crime is that he is an aristocrat, but improbably, he evades summary execution or exile in Siberia because of his service in the pre-Revolutionary cause (as a poet) and is instead subjected to house arrest in the Hotel Metropol.

The Lincoln Highway - Amor Towles

In June 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew.

Soil - Matthew Evans

Soil is the unlikely story of our most maligned resource as swashbuckling hero. A saga of bombs, ice ages and civilisations falling. Of ancient hunger, modern sicknesses and gastronomic delight. It features poison gas, climate collapse and a mind-blowing explanation of how rain is formed.

Tell Me Again - Amy Thunig

Memoir: Amy's story is one of not only surviving but thriving - a must read for anyone who wishes for Australia to accept the on-going legacy of our colonial history.



Would That be Funny (Growing up with John Clarke) - Lorin Clarke

In this fascinating memoir, Lorin Clarke tells the story of growing up with her famous father, her art historian mother Helen, and her little sister Lucia. Much has been written about John Clarke, but this is the insider's view of his childhood, his relationship with his parents, his decision to leave New Zealand and live in Australia, and the choices he and Helen made to create a family life that is right out of the box.

The Debutante (From high society to white supremacy) - Jon Ronson

This is the story of a Tulsa debutante who, as a result of a series of unlikely and often very bad life choices she made in the '90s, found herself in the midst of one of the most terrible crimes ever to take place in America.

Stone Town - Margaret Hickey

Hickey takes the genre of rural crime and runs with it: country fairs, a bush telegraph faster than police radio, long-held secrets, and extended drives to brutal crime scenes. Hickey's work is gloriously free of stereotypes, leading to intriguing characters searching for the truth – or trying to hide it.

Greenwood - Michael Christy

A magnificent generational saga that charts a family's rise and fall, its secrets and inherited crimes, and the conflicted relationship with the source of its fortune - trees - from one of Canada's most acclaimed novelists.



These furry flying creatures are seriously CUTE

BEAM are heading back into the Tallarook Forest looking for the wonderful, nationally endangered, Southern Greater Glider and will be hosting more night walks in May and June.

Over 150 were found in the forest during our surveys during 2020-2022 which makes Tallarook Forest one of the Greater Glider hotspots of Victoria. This helped to stop native forest logging in the Forest, and we achieved a Special Protection Zone for them from the state government.

But we were only looking in the 600 hectares proposed for logging. We are now heading to the 2,000 hectare southern half of the Forest, to see how far their range extends. We'd love to be able to create a biolink between the Tallarook Forest and the Mt Disappointment Forest, to enable the Greater Gliders to expand southwards to Mt Disappointment Forest area, where their numbers are depleted.

Knowing where the Gliders are in the southern part of the forest will help with planning the biolink corridor. Join BEAM for a Tallarook Forest Night Walk and see if you can spot some Gliders too!

Find details via the events link below, and please RSVP so we can stay in touch about plans:

Saturday May 25, 6pm-8.30pm
Saturday June 22, 6pm-8.30pm

<https://www.beam.org.au/events>

NB: If this links don't work, ring
Paul Macgregor 0418 571 572 to register your interest.



Please note slight changes to the contact details from the previous article.

May 17th ~ Endangered Species Day

As most TGN readers are probably aware Australia has one of the worst, if not THE worst, extinction rate of mammals in the world.

Over the last 200+ years 39 unique Australian mammals have become extinct and that doesn't include the extinction numbers for birds (22) and reptiles (1) with another 20 snakes and lizards expected to become extinct by 2040 due to a 2020 CSIRO study.

Sadly, human impact such as Urbanisation, Logging, Wood-chipping, Agriculture, Grazing, Fire, Mining, Pollution, Hunting and 'Pest' Extermination are all decisive factors in this biodiversity tragedy.

According to the EPBCA (Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999) there are now 6 categories designated for Threatened species in Australia with a total of 654 species listed.

- Extinct
- Extinct in the Wild
- Critically Endangered
- Endangered
- Vulnerable
- Conservation Dependent



Given the Black Summer destruction and devastation of 2019-20, that impacted nearly 3 billion animals, many of Australia's unique and iconic wildlife are now more endangered than ever with some on a fast track to extinction. In fact, whilst Victoria's koala population is currently quite healthy it needs to be treated with care as, with the diminishing numbers of koalas in NSW and Qld, it could well become an insurance population for the entire species.

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**Strathbogie Granite
 Project**
neil.phillips@bigpond.com



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.