



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

As I've mentioned previously one of the delights of this editing job are the responses that are received from readers as a result of articles published in The Granite News. My thanks to those of you who do the take the time to do this, it is most appreciated and makes for some very interesting "conversations". One of those responses is published this week on p.3. It is from John Curtis and in his own words is, "A local response in respect to vegetation effects following the climate change discussion last week and previously." The photos that accompany it were taken last April and as the saying goes a picture is worth 1,000 words. There has also been feedback re using the term "Climate Change" in The Granite News given that 1,110 jurisdictions in 20 countries, including 62 local governments representing over 6 million people, or 25.19% of Australia's population, have declared a "Climate Emergency". So what do you think? I would be interested in receiving further feedback on this topic as to the preferred definition to be used in future issues of this newsletter. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** Joined the climate protestor with the imaginary hot boyfriend

Black Market & Fruity Demonstration Day

The Black Market Pruning, Grafting and Espalier demonstration day was a great success. We had beautiful weather and all enjoyed walking around three nearby properties, as Brian shared his extensive knowledge and showed us his methods. There was lots of discussion throughout the day and over lunch.

Some asked about the excellent loppers that Brian uses. They are:

Pro-Pruner P50 61CM, 1700g from Forestry Tools ...

<https://www.forestrytools.com.au/index.php?id=22>

Brian can be contacted for advice or contract work on 0429 186 927



Please note: Thursday evening is the deadline for inclusion in the following week's TGN although this will depend on space and time constraints—thanks



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

"Look deep into nature and you will understand everything better."

Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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**

Wanted

Cleaner required for cottage in Highlands.

Interested? Contact James on 0409 538173.

FREE...FREE...FREE !

Free to a good home. Computer desk x 2 plus a sturdy 3 drawer desk. Phone 0418 513 340



Burning Off News

Some readers may, or may not, be aware of the different restrictions in place for fuel reduction burns in their local council areas prior to the fire season being declared. Why not check out your local council's website to see what is possible?

Community Notices & Classifieds

CALENDAR of EVENTS — October & November

 Monday 14th October @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2019 at the same place—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided. Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361
Saturday 19th October @ 11 am	FREE FARM FIELD DAY- Home Creek/Spring Creek Landcare at 3391 GV Hwy, Koriella Come along and discover how an integrated approach to farming is reaping the benefits of increased bio-diversity, drought resistance & regeneration. See attachment. RSVPs by 16/10 to Grant 0438 399972
Friday 25th October 5.45pm for 6pm start	CLIMATE-SMART FARMING —Yea River Catchment Landcare at Beaufort Manor, Yea Yea River Catchment Landcare Group is offering a 2 course dinner (\$25 pay on the night) & a discussion with 3 experts, on Climate-Smart Farming. See last week's attachment. Enquiries? Judy 0448 972563
 Saturday 26th October @ 9am	HIGHLANDS/CAVEAT RFB - Pre-season Training at Highlands Fire Shed A second pre-season training session for any members who missed the first one. RSVPs Judy 57969247
 Saturday 26th October 10am -noon	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
Sunday 27th October 10.30am - 12.30pm	ORGANIC FRUIT FLY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP at Blue Tongue Berries, Seymour Are you a grower using organic principles? Then this workshop and discussion is for you. See p.3 for further details about this excellent opportunity to manage and mitigate fruit flies.
Thursday 31st October @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd November 10am - 4pm	DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands Darren's studio, with his creative works is now open on first weekend each month. An inspirational environment where both art and sculpture come to life in a beautiful scenic countryside of Highlands.
Tuesday 5th November @ noon	TERIP'S ANNUAL MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON at Terip Rec Reserve It's almost that time of year again when Terip Central comes alive for Melbourne Cup Day! A Chicken and Champagne lunch, sweeps and of course LIVE telecast of the race that stops the Nation! See flier.
 Friday 8th November @ 6.30pm	DRINKS ON THE DECK at Highlands Community Hall 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 donation to cover power. 57969247 & Contact Judy
Friday 15th November 7.30pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE - AGM at Tablelands Centre All welcome to attend the AGM first, followed by a short general meeting. Enquiries? 0458 904268
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? Term 4 dates for 2019 - October 30th, November 6th & 20th and December 4th & 18th.
Every Monday @ 10 am	YOGA AT RUFFY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy Yoga with Kylie Penny continues into spring. All welcome! Equipment provided, \$20 per class or \$153 per term paid upfront. (BYO water bottle) Any enquiries please call/SMS Kylie 0418 899966 or email kyliepenny@gmail.com Please note bookings are essential via SMS, phone or email.
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASSES - Free! at Euroa Uniting Church Hall Swing dances feature the jazzy Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559

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Organic Fruit Fly Management Workshop

Are you a grower using organic principles? So are we, so its important we get on the front foot and share as much knowledge as possible about how to identify, manage & mitigate against pests such as fruit fly so we can all keep growing food without synthetic chemicals.

This **free 2 hour workshop** is being offered by ORICoop to all who grow fruit and vegetables: including commercial, backyard & small scale growers.

You will hear from guest speaker David Hardwick from Soil Land Food - A master in ecological agriculture + have the chance to ask questions from an expert panel of organic food producers who will share their insights on what has and hasn't worked for them.

Where: Blue Tongue Berries, 445 Northwood Rd, Seymour VIC 3660

When: Sunday 27th October

Time: 10.30-12.30 (followed by a lunch if you opt to stay)

Cost: Workshop Free,

Lunch \$15 ORICoop members, \$25 non members

The ORICoop Annual General Meeting will be held from 1.00-2.00pm immediately afterwards which you are encouraged to stay for.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/organic-fruit-fly-management-workshop-tickets-73345569573?aff=ebdssbeac>



TERIP TENNIS CLUB NEWS

*Congratulations to our winter ladies tennis team who took out their 4th consecutive premiership.

*Summer competition is under way with 2 wins on the board.

* Family and single social memberships are available, contact Cindy for more details 0429 772 011.

*Save the date –
Terip Tennis Tournament

Saturday

January 11

2020



Is this the effect of climate change in Highlands and the Strathbogie Ranges?

Driving north along Dropmore Road it was difficult to miss the extensive dieback of trees on the western and northern face of Looking Glass on the east side of the Stewarts Creek valley. Over a period of less than one month the hill faces took on the appearance of a post bushfire landscape.

Similar damage or canopy collapse has occurred in other parts of the Strathbogie Ranges particularly the western escarpment edge including Wallaby Gully as well as the Tallarook Range.

Recently a group of participants in the **“Dieback or Growback”** tree project sponsored by the Goulburn Broken

Catchment Management Authority visited

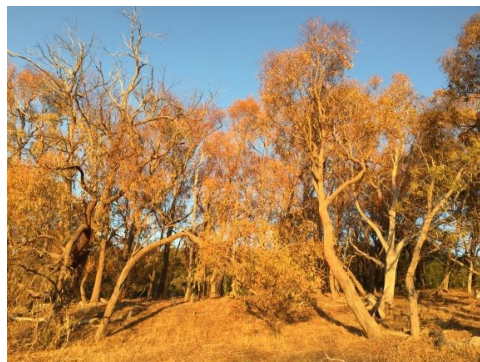
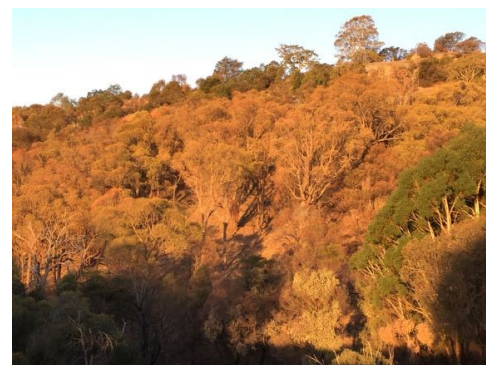
Wallaby Gully where much of the vegetation has suffered dieback.

As well as red stringybarks long leaf box and other species of eucalypt had been affected. In some parts of the bush some regrowth was occurring from dormant buds while other trees showed no signs of recovery. On the northern ridge of the Looking Glass on our property about 90% of the red stringybarks turned brown over a two week period and have since totally defoliated. With warmer spring some trees have started to re-sprout from epicormic buds as they do after a bushfire. Many others show no signs of life.

The question must be asked is this the ‘canary in the coalmine’ for the Strathbogie Ranges in respect to climate change or is this just part of a natural forest thinning process making space for the surviving trees to grow larger.

Experience with red stringybarks in other areas has shown that a series of abnormally hot and dry summers has seen the almost complete demise of the species. Only time will tell.

John Curtis



CARING FOR THE KORIELLA HILLS

Integrating agriculture and conservation



Home Creek – Spring Creek Landcare Group

FREE Farm Field Day

Saturday 19th October 2019

10.30 am - Annual General Meeting

11am - Farm Field Day commences (concludes 3pm)

WHERE:

3391 Goulburn Valley Hwy Koriella. Meet at stockyards on the south side of the highway.

TOPICS FOR THE DAY:

General landscape and revegetation:	Cathy Olive
Regenerative / biological farming & pastures:	Pat McVeigh
Erosion control:	Kerri Goschnick
Weed management:	Cameron Paterson

WHAT TO BRING:

4 x 4 or all-wheel drive vehicle if possible (car pooling is required for those in 2 WD cars)

Thermos / drinks and afternoon tea to share **lunch is provided**

Picnic chair if required at stops & afternoon tea break

RSVP: Essential for catering purposes. Please phone Grant on **0438 399 972**
or email **warrawee@virtual.net.au** by **Wednesday 16th October.**

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