



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

With bushfires blazing across 2 states in early November and catastrophic conditions forecast for the next few days in NSW disasters seem to be the order of the day. However, on the news tonight a woman from Millewa, near Mildura, was interviewed. Her farm is seriously drought affected and has been for some time. The only option they have for saving their breeding stock is by daily hand feeding and watering. The visuals accompanying the story showed just powered dust as the overwhelming feature of the farm. During the course of the interview she made a valid point that while disasters grab the headlines and receive all sorts of immediate aid, droughts sort of creep up on you like a cancer over longer periods of time and didn't hit the front page quite like fires and floods do. With this thought in mind I have included a Poem to the Prime Minister, that I received as an email from a friend of mine (who grew up on a local farm 60-70 years ago). The writer lives at Wee Waa in northern NSW, 300 kms from Dubbo, an area that is also drought affected and has been for several years. Whilst it is addressed to our current PM it could quite conceivably be written to a Prime Minister of any party. The third last line, for me, is the one that has the most impact. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** Was cosyng up with the beautiful cacti—ouch!.

HCCC News

Grass Identification Field Day

At Ruffy - TCC (old school)

Friday 6th December 2019 starting 10am - 2pm

Presented by Native Grass Expert Paul Foreman from Blue Devil Consulting.

Visiting local sites - numbers limited to 20 participants - practical sessions in paddocks and bushland. Learn how to sort true native grasses from weedy exotic grasses and desirable pasture grasses.

Understand the difference between annual grasses, perennial grasses, herbs and forbes. Discover the range of native grasses we have growing in our landscape and why they are valuable.

Please contact Janet Hagen to book a place :
hughescreek2@gmail.com or
0458 904268

This is a **FREE** event supported by Goulburn Broken CMA "From the Soil Up" Project, delivered by Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Landcare Network.



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

"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives." Robert M. Hutchins
US educational philosopher
(1899-1977)

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**

Free

Player piano plus approx. 25 music rolls. Needs tune and service. Ivories in perfect condition. Ring Gavin 0419 309431 Located in Highlands

Save the Date - Friday 13th December

End Of Year Get Together
Highlands Hall
Friday 13th December
Details to follow....





Website of the Week

www.recyclingnearyou.com.au/nationalrecyclingweek/

November 11-17 November is National Recycling Week. Why not find out more....?

Community Notices & Classifieds

CALENDAR of EVENTS — November & December

| | |
|---|---|
|  <p>Wednesday 13th Nov. @ 11am</p> <p>NB New Date!</p> | <p>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 13th Nov. @ 7.45pm</p> | <p>RUFFY COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP—AGM & Quarterly Meet at Tablelands Centre</p> <p>ALL community members WELCOME- please come along and have your say about your Community and, if you wish, take on a committee role. We will be electing new committee members.</p> |
| <p>Friday 15th November 6.30-9.30pm</p> | <p>YWDC 2019/2020 Speaker Series - Prof. David Karoly at Beaufort Manor, Yea</p> <p>The second talk in this excellent series—Climate Change & Community Responses. See p.3 for more.</p> |
| <p>Friday 15th November 7.30pm</p> | <p>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE - AGM at Tablelands Centre</p> <p>All welcome to attend the AGM first, followed by a short general meeting. Enquiries? 0458 904268</p> |
| <p>Saturday 16th Nov. 10-12noon</p> | <p>DUNG BEETLE FARM WALK at 141 Monkey Creek Rd, Limestone</p> <p>Discover how useful these little beggars can be. Details in last week's TGN. Enquiries? Prue 0412 753385</p> |
| <p>Saturday 23rd Nov. @ 11am</p> | <p>STRATHBOGIE RANGES CONSERVATION - AGM at Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>Come along and have your say at the SRCMN's AGM. RSVPs events@strathbogieranges.org</p> |
|  <p>Saturday 23rd Nov. 12-2pm</p> | <p>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd</p> <p>Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</p> |
| <p>Saturday 23rd Nov. @ 5pm</p> | <p>WHITEHEADS CREEK/TARCOMBE RFB CHRISTMAS PARTY at Whiteheads Ck Fireshed</p> <p>Come & celebrate, BBQ meat supplied, bring along a salad or dessert. See attachment for more details</p> |
|  <p>Sunday 24th November 8.45am - 2pm</p> | <p>STRATHBOGIE RANGES - RIPARIAN WALK #3 at 100 Kelvin View School Road</p> <p>A challenging walk in the wonderful ranges. See last week's TGN for details & don't forget your RSVP!</p> |
| <p>Thursday 28th Nov. @ 5.30pm</p> | <p>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church</p> <p>All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat</p> |
| <p>Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th December 10 - 4</p> | <p>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</p> <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Saturday 7th December @ 6.30pm</p> | <p>TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</p> <p>More details to come but SAVE the DATE!</p> |
| <p>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</p> | <p>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? Term 4 dates for 2019 - November 20th and December 4th & 18th.</p> |
| <p>Every Monday @ 10 am</p> | <p>YOGA AT RUFFY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</p> <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm</p> | <p>SWING DANCE CLASSES - Free! at Euroa Uniting Church Hall</p> <p>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</p> |

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Letter to the Editor - a BIG thank you !

G'day Pauline.

I wonder if you would be able to please place a "thank you" note in TGN for me.

By way of explanation, I had to go into Yea on Monday 4/11/19 and could not take my little pooch, Lucy with me. I have previously left her behind a few times without having any problems. I leave the "doggy door" open so that she can move in and out of the house as she needs. In those instances, I am generally only away for an hour to an hour and a half at the maximum.

However, as I was away for over three hours, that could have been the catalyst for her to go walkabout (looking for me maybe??). When I arrived home, she was not there, so I started a search down the roads where we go for our afternoon walks. No luck, so back up to the main road, down to the base of the cutting and back up O.H. Road. Back to home. Still no luck. Then I decided to check with the people we visit, and yes, there she was sitting on the verandah at Archie's house, patiently waiting for one of us to show up. (Lesson learnt - lock the "doggy door" if she has to be left alone inside for longer than an hour).

A **BIG THANK YOU** is to the couple who saw her on O.H Road and tried to coax her to come to them without success, before Lucy took off. She was wearing her jacket with my contact numbers written on it, and they got close enough to decipher the numbers. The lass then phoned my landline number leaving a message explaining what was happening.

They did not leave their names and the contact phone number she gave dropped out after the first numeral (5) so I do not know who to contact personally to thank. If you would please post a **BIG THANK YOU** from me, (in the hope that they see it, or it is passed on by someone else) I would be most grateful!!!!

Kind Regards,

Ray Shannon.

FOR SALE - Beautiful Plants

Assorted succulents & cactus for sale at Terip Terip. Most are in flower now, great everlasting Christmas present. **Open most weekends or by appointment call Kerri on 5790 4191.** Prices vary on item size.



Session #2 Climate Change and Community Responses

Friday 15 November 2019, 6.30pm - 9.30pm
Beaufort Manor, 111 High Street, Yea

Prof David Karoly, NESP Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub, CSIRO, will examine the science underpinning climate change and how it is affecting climate globally. Yea, has a long history of being a climate change hub. Yea, has a long history of being a climate change hub. Yea, has a long history of being a climate change hub.

\$60pp - include
Bar service avail



NB: NEW location
Talk is now being held at the Y Water Discovery Centre, same day and time but with finger food & drinks to commence.

Bookings:
booking.com/BEPDN

For further information contact:
03 5797 2663
www.ywatercentre.com.au
@ywaterdiscoverycentre

Dung Beetles a most unattractive helper

The dung beetle is inadvertently the farmer's little helper. You will find at least a couple of species in your paddocks at various times of year. Fresh dung is the dung beetle's sole diet and it also buries dung as part of its reproductive cycle. Join Yea River Catchment on a Landcare Group farm walk in Limestone (and morning tea) to find out more about this extraordinary insect and how it helps improve your farm in so many ways. Bring along specimens for ID. RSVP Prue King. See last week's TGN for more details.

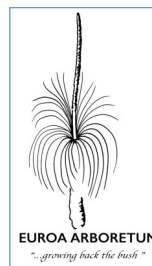


Euroa Arboretum is now taking orders for 2020 planting

Even though the nursery is closed from 1st November to March 2020 staff will be busy planting and collecting seed throughout the hot season. They will also still be at the Euroa Farmer's Market, the third Saturday of each month.

For more information and to place a 2020 plant order, contact Carolena (see below) Plant order forms can be downloaded at

<http://euroaarboretum.com.au/plant-order-form/> Please specify pick up month on order carolena.helderman@euroaarboretum.com.au



CFA Fire Restrictions will commence....



Mitchell Shire— 1am on Monday 11th November 2019

Murrindindi Shire—1am on Monday 11th November 2019

Strathbogie Shire—commenced on Monday 28th October 2019



The poem that's gone viral after NSW farmer Joanna Collett posted it on the Prime Minister's facebook page:

Reflections on the Drought

G'day Mr Morrison, I trust that you are fine,
Sorry to be bothering you, but there's something on my mind
I listened to a bloke last week; he had a bit to say
You lot may have heard of him? He delivers all that hay?

He spoke of countless hours and the distances they drive
Feeding starving stock, to keep bush hopes alive
They do not get assistance from your tax funded hat
They do it on their own, all off their own bat

I'm not politically minded and I don't have any clout
And I know you've done a tour, to learn about the drought
But there's just some burning questions, that have left us feeling beat
Why did we fund a foreign land, to learn to cut up meat?

And what about those soccer boys, who went and got all lost
You pulled out all the bloody stops, plain just showing off
You've bigger problems here at home, there's drought up to our necks
So what does your mob go and do ? Give them big fat cheques!

Don't they have a government to deal with all this stuff?
Why should it be up to us, what's with all your fuss?
Should we not be reigning in and look after our own
Have you never heard the phrase "charity starts at home"?

I realise there's many things, that need an allocation
And I also can appreciate, complex trade relations
I'm not sure if you realise, but if our stock all die,
There won't be any trade you see, your deals will all run dry

As a rule we're not a whinging lot, our requests are but a few
Most of us who work the land, are tested, tried and true
We respect that we are guardians, and sustain it for the kids
But I often have to wonder, what future will it bring?

I guess all that I'm wondering, is "where's the Aussie aid"?
Wrapped up in a swag of tape, only then to be repaid !
There's Aussie blokes and chicks out there, putting you to shame
Helping fellow Australians, in their time of pain

I'm just a simple farmer, grazier, wife and mum
And even though we're feeding stock, we're better off than some
I've never had to shoot a cow, who could no longer stand
But many have before me, and I pray, I'm not dealt that hand

So will you take another look; admit that we're in strife ?
And do more than bloody empathise, before another farmer takes their life ?
I'd like to think you'll do what's right and put Australia first
And help your own damn country, before this drought gets any worse

Joanna Collett

Wee Waa NSW

Tourism, Arts and Culture Advisory Group – Expressions of Interest

An opportunity has become available for a community representative to fill a vacant position on the Strathbogie Shire Council - Tourism, Arts and Culture Advisory Group.

This group was formed in August 2017 to support Council in their commitment to public participation, and utilizing the general community to assist in the achievement of future Council Plans and strategies that govern the future of the Shire. **The roles and objectives of the TACAG are:**

- To provide a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in the development & implementation of the Arts & Culture Strategy.
- Act as advocates and champions for Tourism, Arts and Culture programs and projects within the Shire that are of community benefit.
- Provide a forum for discussion of Tourism, Arts and Culture industry trends & best practice in the Local Government sector.
- Assist Council to work strategically to encourage, foster, value and promote Tourism, Arts and Culture.

The TACAG is made up of Councillors, Council Officers, business and community representatives. The group currently meets once a month for one hour at various locations throughout the Shire (additional meetings may be convened at the discretion of Council).

If you have an interest in joining the Tourism, Arts and Culture Advisory Group and feel like you have the appropriate skills and knowledge to assist in achieving the objectives of the TACAG, please contact us via email at info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au, including a brief description of your experience and reasons for wanting to join.

Should you require any further information, please phone on 5795 0000 – submissions close 22 Nov. 2019 @ 5pm.

Community Pool Kiosks

Strathbogie Shire Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from community groups and other interested parties to operate the kiosk at the Avenel, Euroa, Nagambie and Violet Town pools during the 2019-2020 pool season. Key duties for this role will include the procurement and sale of agreed kiosk goods and other opportunities that may be agreed.

Pool season runs from 1 December 2019 to 9 March 2020.

Please submit details of your interest and relevant experience by 5pm Wednesday, 20 November 2019.

Any questions? contact Council Offices on 1800 065 993

Terip Terip Tales...

There are still some advertising spaces for businesses left in the **Terip Community Calendar** at the great price of \$100. If you are interested in placing an ad, please contact **Jonathan on 0448128 298.**

Strathbogie Shire Community Pools Advisory Committee – EO

In accordance with the recommendations of the Draft Strathbogie Community Pools Strategy 2019-2029 adopted by Council on 21 April 2019, Strathbogie Shire Council has resolved to appoint a Pools Advisory Committee.

The objectives of the Committee are to advise Council on:

- The implementation of the Strathbogie Shire Community Pools Strategy 2019-2029;
 - The development and review of policy and strategy relating to Community pools and assets;
 - Policy relating to the management of pools; and
 - Potential advocacy priorities regarding pool and aquatic issues and initiatives of community safety and benefit.
- Council will take the advice of the Committee into consideration as part of its deliberations regarding matters concerning our Community pools and assets. The Committee will be made up of Councillors, Council Officers, Community and Youth representatives. The Council or Committee may second people to the Committee with technical expertise or engage with interested parties as required for a temporary period. Membership will be based on a mixture of skills, location and experience with the preference for two members to represent the Avenel, Euroa, Nagambie and Violet Town pools.

Youth representatives should ideally be within 16 years and 25 years of age and members may need to obtain their Working With Children's Check (WWCC) if they are required to have regular and ongoing engagement with young people under the age of 18 who do not have their parent/guardian present. The Committee will meet at least quarterly at a date and time to be determined at the first meeting (additional meetings may be convened at the discretion of Council).

If you are interested in joining the Strathbogie Shire Community Pools Advisory Committee or wish to obtain a copy of the Committee Charter, please contact Jeff Saker, Group Manager Community Assets at info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au or phone on 1800 065 993 to obtain the Application Form.

Applications are to be received no later than COB Tuesday 12 November 2019.

Phil Howard - Acting Chief Executive Officer

Another Christmas Party...!

This one will be held at the Tablelands Community Centre

on Saturday 7th December at the TCC in Ruffy, commencing at 6:30pm.

More details to follow.

Contact Melissa McDowall
0404-833-388.



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