



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Was it only 3 weeks ago that we were sweltering in 40+ degree temperatures with fires bearing down on Ruffy and yet in the last week it's been dig out the jumpers and fluff up the doona? What crazy weather February is throwing at us this year. This week's Website is all about Climatewatch & how we can engage in monitoring biodiversity & phenology (the seasonal changes in nature). There is also an app, so why not explore these options for yourselves? Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** - was listening to the defibrillator talk at Highlands.

St Mary's Caveat celebrates a special Mass

Last Saturday a great get together was held at the Caveat Church with about 70 people turning up from Alexandra, Yea and Melbourne as well as a few locals. Rosary was held at the grotto and then finished inside the church as the most welcome rain dampened everyone standing outside. Mass was then conducted by Fr Roland with a local girl from Yea leading the singing with a very distinctive voice. She was assisted by a young man on a guitar. Lunch was held after mass and a great spread was available with everyone bringing many plates of food. Lots of people were amazed at the condition of the church with Landcare members and locals being commended on the works and the care being taken to preserve this icon of the district. Some people involved in the actual building of the church were present and many of their children, now grown adults, also turned up for this enjoyable revisit into history. Stories were told of the past as many who attended were small children in the early photos of the church. Speeches were made and much appreciation was given to the McAlpin family for donating the land upon which this church was built. The day was finished by the ringing of the bell which was said to be heard a kilometre away.

by Michael Kopanica, photo credits Jim McCooley



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



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Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

**"The smallest act of kindness
is worth more than the
grandest intention."**
Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

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

GARAGE SALE

Saturday 23rd February 10 - 3
245 Old Highlands Rd,
Highlands Cash only.
No early callers please.
Follow the balloons!!

For Sale

John Deere Mower Blades

Sabre 38" cut

1 pair = brand new

1 pair = 2 hours use

\$75 cash the lot

Contact Phil 57904218

WEBSITE of the WEEK

www.climatewatch.org.au

Climate watch is an initiative of
the Earthwatch Institute of
Melbourne University and well
worth exploring.

Community Notices & Classifieds

CALENDAR of EVENTS — February & March

Monday 18th February Last chance to enjoy	CARRIAGE HORSE DRIVING TRIALS - Mini Enduro around Ruffy, Terip & Caveat An excellent opportunity to see Carriage Horse Driving happening in our own backyard. Refer to previous attachments for details & locations. Enquiries? - Kerrie 0488 240408
Saturday 23rd February  10 - 12	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Claire 57969366
Saturday 23rd February  @ 8pm	Café Culture Series 2019 - FEVER! at Ruffy Public Hall Fever! is a brand new show and the first of the 2019 Café Culture series. Discounted Season tickets are \$75/\$50 conc or \$25/\$15 for each concert Tickets? Christine 0419 561386 or ruffartztickets@gmail.com
Thursday 28th February @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, gold coin donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat
Friday 1st March 6.30pm for 7.15 	PLATYPUS & RAKALI COUNT at Yea Wetlands A very pleasant way to commence the weekend - a BYO picnic at the Flat Plat followed by a quiet hour in the Yea Wetlands counting any platypi and rakali that surface in the annual Platypus and Rakali Count. Assemble in the John Cummins Reserve Car Park, see attachment this week for more details.
Saturday 2nd March 9 - 1	HEALTHY HECTARES - Day 1 at Euroa Council Chambers Euroa Arboretum presents an introduction to Healthy Hectares including farm planning & preparation bushfire preparedness & safe animal handling. See this week's attachment for further details.
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd March 10-4	DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands Darren's studio, with his stunning, creative works is now open to the public on the first weekend each month. Quality art in the local community and not too far to travel to enjoy it.
Friday 8th March  @ 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. Enquiries? 57969247 Judy
Monday 11th March  @ 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 & with the same good company! BYO lunch & great tea & coffee will be provided. Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361
Wed. 13th March  @ 9.30	TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA at Terip Community Centre This enjoyable social event is open to all members of the community, come along, enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce and enjoy meeting others.
Sunday 17th March from 10 - 2	CAR BOOT SALE at Terip Community Centre Another great new initiative is being planned by our Committee! Thanks to the CFA and the Tennis Club for providing the BBQ and morning tea. We hope it will be a great opportunity to catch up with neighbours even if you haven't caught onto the current decluttering craze. Enquiries? Kerry 57904191
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 1 dates for 2019 - Feb 27th, March 13th & 27th and April 10th & 24th.
Every Monday @ 10 am	YOGA AT RUFFY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy Yoga with Kylie Penny is about to start. 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.



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WOW!! What a feast of culture, sport & entertainment ~ why would we want to live anywhere else??

HCCC News

The Granite News is funded by HCCC Landcare and supported by our permanent advertisers. If you would like to make a donation to support The Granite News please contact the editor for HCCC Landcare's bank details. Many thanks to all those readers who have previously made a donation as your support is very much appreciated.

Blackberry Spraying

Due to hot and dry conditions in the region the subsidy for chemicals has been suspended until we get rain. We will announce any changes when growing conditions improve for spraying.

Please contact Neil van Buuren with any question or concerns. hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com or 0417 503 472

GARDENER

Full-time live-in position available in the Seyrnour/Tarcombe area with an excellent 3 bedroom house.

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- Successful applicant will be a keen reliable self-starter.
- Gardening skills necessary.
- Could suit a job-sharing couple

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Cleaning & Gardening work available

We are looking for a reliable cleaner to help with our property **Yabby Cottage** in **Highlands**. The cottage is rented to guests a few times a month so we need someone to clean before guests arrive and after they depart - approx. 6-10 hours per month. We are also looking for regular assistance with mowing and garden maintenance. Please contact Jenny Hunter 0409 353339 or email info@yabbycottage.com

Platypus Citizen Science Project

Platypus numbers have declined over recent years due to environmental degradation and altered flows. Monitoring platypus numbers is a key part of future planning. Like to get involved in this excellent research project? See last week's attachment for further details.



Fancy a walk along the Wilbel Traverse?

If the following words - Batholith or Siluro-Devonian or Hornfels - light up your life then this excellent little outing is a must for your calendar. If, on the other hand, you need to look up the meaning of those 3 words then, like me, you could learn a lot about a whole new world - geology in the Tallarook Ranges - not to mention have a great half day out in the bush. **Saturday 2nd March** is the date for your diary and further details can be found in this week's attachment. A Hornfels >>>



Ruffartz has Fever!!

RuffArtZ

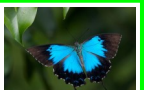
It is going to be a hot start to 2019 in more ways than one. The Café Culture Series season begins with a scorcher of a show that has been devised and developed specifically to suit the ever growing and loyal audiences of the series. After more than twenty years of delivering quality small scale shows to regional Victoria, "Just Shows to Go" manager, Mary Souness, decided to approach the wonderfully talented and respected Melbourne based singer / songwriter Rebecca Barnard and invite her to put together a show that would tick all the boxes for the dedicated regional audiences. Many years ago, Just Shows To Go toured Rebecca Barnard in a jazz quartet that included her late and great father Len Barnard on drums. This tour the drummer's seat will be occupied by her son Harry O'Mara.

Rebecca has handpicked a band to best deliver the music, surrounding herself with other talented female vocalists Monique di Mattina, Brooke Russell and Jacqueline Tonks. The band is completed with the addition of ARIA award winning guitarist Shane O'Mara.

For the repertoire for Fever! Rebecca has selected music that people connect with and allowed the band to apply their own arrangements to make the songs sparkle. The repertoire spans many genres and decades of music. You will hear a mix of jazz, pop, folk, country, rock, soul and original songs spanning from the 1940s onwards. The mood swings from the sweet and poignant Billy Holiday and Patsy Cline songs to ambitious and successful renditions of The Beatles, Paul Simon and Joni Mitchell to a trip down memory lane with Australian artists Daddy Cool & Paul Kelly along with Crowded House and the Bee Gees. Woven through the more familiar songs is a sprinkling of original compositions that showcases just how versatile and talented these musicians are. Fever! is just one of 4 shows in the 2019 Café Culture Series & discounted season's tickets are currently on sale.

See attachment & calendar entry for further details.

Well those incredibly social butterflies for Terip Terip have done it again, they have a Facebook page! So why not sign up? <https://www.facebook.com/Terip-Terip-Community-199801837287378/>



Do you have family, friends or neighbours who may need help preparing for fires? Talk to them about when they will leave, where they will go and how you can help them.

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