



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

For various reasons it has been a while since Peter and I have been in the audience for a Ruffartz presentation. Luckily the stars were in alignment for the first production of 2019—Fever! - and we had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Rebecca Barnard's 6 piece band of instrumentalists and vocalists certainly didn't disappoint with their professionalism and musicianship and a great night was had by all who attended. Personal favourites were Eternal Flame, Big Yellow Taxi and the Wang Dang Doodle (you had to be there, it's a song about Wangaratta). However if you missed out on this excellent evening and can't wait until the next Ruffartz offering why not head for the Ruffy Store on **Sat. 16th March** for



Photo credit—Dale Mann

The Thin White Ukes see p.3 for further details. Until next week, **Pauline And Kenny?** - was still chatting with his new friend the Sugar Glider.

Panic Stations?

My understanding is that on **Friday 15th March** there is going to be a worldwide strike by school children to draw attention to climate change. I am glad our children are being responsible, I can't say the same for their parents, their grandparents, their politicians in fact most of us adults. For our Prime Minister to make such supercilious criticisms of striking school children indicates that he still doesn't understand. I am not interested in the climate change deniers, they are no longer relevant. History tells us that it took a long time for some people, including the church, to come to realize that the earth is round and goes around the sun. How brave is Greta Thunberg, the young Swedish girl who sparked the whole idea of school children taking things into their own hands and going on strike, while we adults continue to sit on our hands. Let me leave you with her own words that concluded her speech to the World Economic Forum in January this year.

'Some say we should not engage in activism. Instead we should leave everything to our politicians and just vote for a change. But what do we do when there is no political will? What do we do when the politics needed are nowhere in sight? Adults keep saying, 'we owe it to the young people to give them hope.'

But I don't want your hope. I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if our house is on fire. Because it is.' Stuart Reid - Highlands



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

"Live each day as though it's your last, because one day you're sure to be right."

from the film Breaker Morant

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**

AGISTMENT AVAILABLE

60 acres for sheep agistment in Ghin Ghin. Happy to have them free of charge in exchange for maintenance of fences as required. We really only want someone who lives locally and really cares well for their stock. If you are interested please contact Teresa on 0409 055 007

Tuppaware Party!

Why not join the lovely spinning ladies on **Monday 11th March @ 12-2** for a Tuppaware Party? It will be good fun & a chance to catch up with the new Tuppaware of the 21stC. If you can't make it but would still like to shop, ring **Judy 57904256**

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
February	13.6 mm	?? mm
2019Total	29.8 mm	?? mm
February Rain Days	4 Days	?? Days

Community Notices & Classifieds

CALENDAR of EVENTS — March

Thursday 7th March @ 7pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING at Whiteheads Creek Hall The next meeting will be held at Whiteheads Creek. All welcome. Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
Friday 8th March @ 6.00pm 	DRINKS ON THE DECK & ON THE ROAD at Highlands Community Hall This special evening starts at 6.00pm! Enjoy a lively evening and nibbles with friends new and old while Murrindindi Library Staff preview great books, award winners, DVDs and eBooks. Everyone is welcome but bookings are essential - 57720351 Enquiries? 57969247 Judy
Saturday 9th March 9 - 2.30	RIPARIAN WALK # 2 - Wombat Creek commencing from Mt Wombat The Strathbogie Ranges CMN are off walking again in 2019. Become more acquainted with the local waterways and enjoy a day in the bush. See last week's attachment for further details.
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. • & TUPPAWARE PARTY FROM 12—2 ring Judy 57904256 Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361
Tuesday 12th March to 9th April 7.30 - 9pm	TAGGERTY PROJECT MANAGEMENT COURSE at Taggerty Community Hub This 5 week course is for community groups and not-for-profit organisations to develop project management skills. For further details see p.3 and attachment in this week's TGN.
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.
Saturday 16th March @ 9.30am 	FRUIT FLY FIELD DAY at 20 Myles Bend Dve Murrindindi Cathy Mansfield, Statewide Fruit Fly Co-ordinator will be conducting in-orchard demonstrations on all aspects of fruit flies. See attachment. RSVPs—Stephanie 0409550958 or sjcmurph@bigpond.com
Saturday 16th March @ 2.30 & 6-8pm	THE THIN WHITE UKES at Illalangi & Ruffy Store A day of ukuleles in Ruffy commencing with an afternoon workshop followed by dinner and a performance at the Ruffy Store. See p.3 & attachment for further details. Bookings—Cass 0412934183
Sunday 17th March from 10 - 2 	CAR BOOT SALE at Terip Community Centre Another great new initiative is being planned by the Committee! Thanks to the CFA and the Tennis Club for providing the BBQ and... it will be a great opportunity to catch up with neighbours. See p.3 & attachment... week for further details. Enquiries? Kerry 57904191
Saturday 23rd March 10 - 12 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 57969366
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 - 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.
Every Wednesday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASSES - Free! at Ruffy 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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HCCC News

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End of an Era

After 23 years of dedicated service Ruffy local Sharron Batt has retired from her position at the Alexandra Library. Sharron's passion, for not only literature, but for involving the local community in the many and varied programs offered by the library service will be sorely missed.

Best wishes for a happy, relaxing and rewarding retirement Sharron!!



The Sugar Glider - all you need to know.

Last year was the year of the Lace Monitor and this year we have the incredibly delicate and cheeky Sugar Glider featuring as TGN's special friend on the back page. So what are some of their characteristics...

The sugar glider is a small arboreal marsupial. It has a head-body length of 16 – 21 cm and a 16 – 21 cm tail. Adults weigh 100 – 160 grams, with males slightly heavier than females. The body is covered with grey to brown fur with a prominent dark dorsal stripe that extends to the forehead. Its tail is long, well-furred and prehensile. It has stretchy membranes that extend between the front and back limbs and help it to "fly". They are common throughout the coastal areas of Queensland and NSW, most of Victoria and Tasmania and can be found scattered across the top of the Northern Territory and WA. Sugar gliders are social, nocturnal and arboreal. They live in woodlands



that contain tree hollows and sufficient food. They spend their nights gliding between trees and climbing in the foliage in search for their diet of tree sap, nectar, pollen, (the reason for the sugar in their name) and invertebrates.

The Thin White Ukes @ Ruffy Store

The Thin White Ukes have been performing the songs of David Bowie with small strings and big harmonies in their hometown of Melbourne and beyond since 2014. Spanning six decades from *Space Oddity* to *Blackstar*, their lovingly handcrafted arrangements of the Thin White Duke's mercurial songbook have teased the neck hairs of spellbound audiences from the Brisbane Powerhouse to Byron Bay; the Adelaide Fringe Spiegeltent to the Port Fairy Folk Festival and even a tour of China in 2018.

"Bowie with a darkness and delicacy that gives you goosebumps" — Angie Hart (Frente)

"A new standard of what to expect from this humble instrument" — Steve Kilbey (The Church)

"The best version of 'Ashes To Ashes' you ever heard" — Robert Forster (The Go Betweens)

The gig will be held at **Ruffy Store, 6pm** with small plates and dinner and the **show starts at 8pm**.

\$20 covers the band, food and drinks at bar prices.

ALSO at 2.30pm there will be a ukulele workshop held by the band for Uke players both experienced and beginners. **\$25 covers the cost of the workshop and the evening show. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL call Cass on 0412 934 183.** See attachment for details.

Project Management Course @ Taggerty

At the newly established Community Hub at Taggerty - the "home" of the Cathedral Landcare group and the Murrindindi Climate Network - the Taggerty Community Progress Group Inc. are offering a project management course over 5 evenings for a relatively modest course fee of \$50. Included in this price is a project management software that course facilitator Dr. Tony Richardson has programmed on Excel - so that community groups don't have to buy the very expensive project management software packages on the market (they are normally around \$1000). Participants are encouraged to bring along a project that they need to organise, to work with as a case study. This course is tailored for Landcare and other not-for-profit community groups. Details?

Rita 0411 168840

Unfortunately the Car Boot Sale, planned by the Terip Community for **Sunday 17th March**, has had to be cancelled due to a low number of site bookings.

CANCELLED!!



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