



THE GRANITE NEWS

26TH APRIL 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 13

WHITEHEADS CREEK • TERIP TERIP • CAVEAT • RUFFY • HIGHLANDS • HUGHES CREEK

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Well, what a bumper issue this TGN is with several contributions by readers, which is always most pleasing, thank you. Ruby is our Dog of the Month for April (see p.3) and she definitely appears to have life sorted in Caveat, having landed on all four little paws when she met Jan & John. Don't forget if you have a very special dog (and whose isn't?) that you would like to be featured in TGN please, just send a small story to editor@tgn.org.au with a photo or two, the smaller in KB size the better.

As life seems to have fallen into a predictable pattern around Covid-19 at the moment, the next issue of TGN will feature a little quiz to liven up the brain cells with the opportunity to win a fantastic prize.

Until then, take care and stay safe, **Pauline**

And Kenny? Was waiting to attend Secret Men's Business .



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare

Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

**"I feel like I am growing young,
even though I am already old."**

**58 year-old Nepali woman who is
learning to read for the first time
in her life.**

(Seven Women Project)

History Repeats itself - This poem was originally written in 1869, then reprinted in 1919...

This is Timeless....

And people stayed at home
And read books
And listened
And they rested
And did exercises
And made art and played
And learned new ways of being
And stopped and listened
More deeply
Someone meditated, someone prayed
Someone met their shadow
And people began to think differently
And people healed.
And in the absence of people who
Lived in ignorant ways
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,
The earth also began to heal
And when the danger ended and
People found themselves
They grieved for the dead
And made new choices
And dreamed of new visions
And created new ways of living
And completely healed the earth
Just as they were healed.



Thanks to Sandy Mackenzie for sending in this poem, also the details below as it appears that history is repeating itself every 100 years or so.

1720 - Bubonic Plague - in and around Marseilles

1820 - Cholera - mainly Asia, Persian Gulf, Turkey & Syria

1920 - Spanish Flu - Worldwide pandemic

2020 - Coronavirus - Worldwide pandemic

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

Let's Laugh!



Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080

Website of the Week

For more information see p.4 re the Commission for the Human Future.

<http://>

www.humansforsurvival.org/

Community Notices & Classifieds

CALENDAR of EVENTS — or something to look forward to...

1st weekend of the month (not winter) 10-4	DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 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. 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands
2nd Monday each month @ 11am 	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2019 at the same place Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch & coffee will be provided. contact Jan 5790 4361
2nd Wednesday each month @ 9.30am 	TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA This enjoyable social event is open to anyone who wants to enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce. Highlands Community Centre
2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm 	DRINKS ON THE TABLE Starts at 6.30pm. All welcome, especially those who like to socialise. Highlands Community Hall
3rd Thursday or Friday each month	HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat at Caveat Church
4th Saturday each month 10-12 or 12-2 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366 at 94 Old Highlands Rd
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? Please note the Mobile Library Service is temporarily suspended until further notice!! at Highlands Community Hall
Every Monday @ 10 am	QIGONG AT RUFFY Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien 0428 969366 or email: vivienwatmough@gmail.com at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASS Swing dances featuring Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559 at Euroa Uniting Church Hall

All these monthly events will be returning to a place near YOU, hopefully soon, but not until it is safe.
Stay tuned

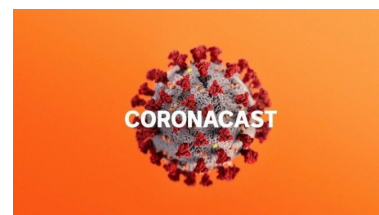
Job Opportunities - Working for Victoria

Murrindindi Shire is encouraging any of its residents, whose employment is affected by the Coronavirus, to register their details on the 'Working for Victoria' website to access new work opportunities. Those eligible to apply can use their skills in new roles or take up training opportunities for specific roles instead. Go to www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria for details. Quite possibly Mitchell and Strathbogie Shires are offering something similar, why not give them a call to find out more?

Coronacast - all yours for free!

In these times of instant social media and 'fake news' Coronacast is an accurate podcast that helps to answer your questions about coronavirus or COVID19. The latest news and research is broken down to help you understand how the world is living through an epidemic.

Listen for free on [ABC listen app](#), [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Google Podcasts](#).



DINDI DIRECTORY

It's Business as Unusual

#supportlocal from the comfort of your home

Murrindindi Shire Council has launched a new online business and services directory to help support and connect business with their customers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

'Dindi Directory' gives the community information about hospitality and retail businesses, trades and services, health and fitness, library and learning services within Murrindindi Shire.

Show your support to our businesses by purchasing products and services locally. It's a great way to #supportlocal from the comfort of your own home.

If you're a business or service provider, all you need to do is register your details on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/supportlocal or give us a call on 5772 0333 and we'll create your free listing on the Dindi Directory.

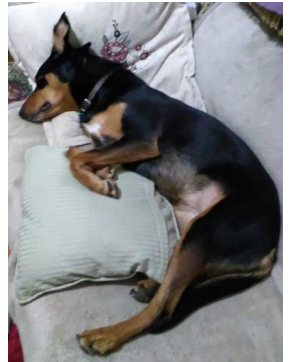
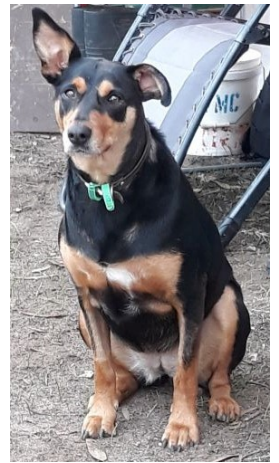


RUBY

I would like to introduce our four-legged, "Human in a dog suit". Her name is Ruby and she is 4 ½ years old. She came into our home at 4 months old, and it was love at first sight. We were lucky that she "flunked" out as a working dog – too timid.

Ruby comes everywhere with us – she knows when we are off somewhere. Just has to see my handbag or see John go into the garage where the ute is. Travels with us in the motorhome, and enjoys socialising. When in Seymour we hear 'Hello Ruby' from several of her admirers. Ruby loves taking John's moccasins and chewing the fleece off them. Also, it is not uncommon for her to re-locate shoes and boots. She loves keeping an eye on the cows next door, from her side of the fence.

She managed to have 2 grass seeds embed themselves in one of her ears 12 months ago. After extensive veterinary care and antibiotics, the bacteria damaged her inner ear and also her 'good ear' blocked up with fluid. As a result of this and a big operation, she is now deaf, but it hasn't stopped her from being happy and active. She has several "beds" – where-ever she feels like sleeping!!!!



Jan & John Sporry

DID YOU KNOW?

Murrindindi Shire Council is committed to keeping our community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. We thought we'd provide a snapshot of some of the materials we have used to close our public facilities (such as playgrounds, recreation spaces, BBQs and SOME public toilets) and also safely maintain those facilities that remain open.

3000	Star pickets and caps
15km	Barrier mesh
18km	Barrier tape
10,000L	Disinfectant
150L	Hand soap
80L	Hand sanitiser
300	Closure and public safety signs



A CALL TO ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLE

“The Commission for the Human Future here calls on the nations and peoples of the Earth to come together, as a matter of urgency, to prepare a plan for humanity to survive and thrive, far into the future”

John Hewson, Chairman , Commission for the Human Future

Commission for The Human Future

Their Mission

The aims of the Commission for The Human Future (CHF) are:

- * **Provide trusted scientific advice to industry, government, media and the Australian public about the nature of all the major catastrophic risks** – and what can best be done to solve, mitigate or adapt to them.
- * Identify new opportunities for national economic and social growth and sustainability in solving the risks that face us.
- * Encourage policymaking that addresses all of the major risks we face in an integrated way.
- * Help build national consensus and engagement on the ways forward in meeting risks and so building new prosperity
- * Position Australia as a global leader in the new field of global catastrophic risk and its solutions.
- * Serve as a knowledge hub for understanding and solving global catastrophic risks.

Risks facing humans

Ecological collapse and extinction
Global warming
Weapons of Mass Destruction
Resource scarcity
Global poisoning
Food insecurity
Pandemic disease
Population
Uncontrolled technology
Self-delusion



Earthrise—William Anders (Apollo 8 Mission) 1968

New Report

Surviving & Thriving in the 21st Century

A vital new report on the human future from the Commission's Round Table held in March 2020

http://humansforsurvival.org/sites/default/files/CHF_Roundtable_Report_March_2020.pdf

Professor John Hewson, Dr Paul Barratt, Professor Sharon Friel, Julian Cribb FTSE, Em Professor Bob Douglas, Professor Russell Gruen, Professor Judith Healy, Dr Arnagretta Hunter, Ms Alison Leigh, Mr Mark Dorman, Ms Hannah Ford, Mr Rumtin Sepasspour and Ms Rachel Hay.

Contributed by Neil van Buuren (see also the Website of the Week)

Feather-horned Beetle (*Rhipicera Femorata*)

Apparently this wee visitor to our local area comes under the 'Unusual' category of beetles as not much is known about it. Which is a bit disappointing given its rather spectacular "plumage".

Did you know? That beetles are the largest group of animals on Earth. There are more than 30,000 known species in Australia and many more yet to be discovered. Conservative estimates of beetles worldwide is out at 350,000 species. Beetles can vary in size from tiny, just a fraction of a millimetre to huge, 160 millimetres long. Their sheer numbers, diversity and beauty make them an often sighted animal. Beetles belong to the order Coleoptera, which means 'sheath wings'.

Like almost all insects, beetles have 3 body parts - a head, thorax and abdomen. They have 3 pairs of legs and 2 pairs of wings. Beetles' forewings are hardened into sheath like protective coverings called elytra that protect their delicate hindwings. Beetles tough exoskeleton prevents water loss allowing them to live in almost every environment. They can be found on snow covered mountains, in harsh deserts, deep dark caves, hot springs, underwater, backyards and urban environments.

All beetles have a life cycle that includes a grub, pupa, and adult stage.

Adults range in size from 10-25 millimetres in length and are easily recognised by their over-sized fan-like antennae. The males differ from the females in that their antennae are much larger and more pronounced. The antennae are unique due to the fact that they have more than 20 segments and arise from small knob-like prominences.

The male of the species has fan-like antennae, the female, rod-like ones. The white dots on the wing cases are actually patches of hair and it is suspected that the larvae are parasitic on cicada larvae. They mate in March and spend the rest of the year underground.

Sadly, not much to go on for such an impressive creature.



With thanks to Ron Litjens for the impressive photography and the Australian National Museum for the information.



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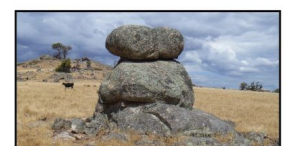
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