



THE GRANITE NEWS

19TH JULY 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 24

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

A little reminder to all TGN readers that, as we have now reinstated only one issue of TGN per week, any articles, ads or just general information needs to be received by the Editor by Thursday night for the Sunday issue. Many thanks for your assistance with this, it makes the job a little less frenetic and is most appreciated.

Given that we are still 'all in this together', no matter where we live, it's good to stay at home and limit any excursions to the 4 necessities of life -

- Care or caring duties * Education (if allowed)
- Grocery shopping * Work, but only if you can't work from home

Also as of Wednesday evening when mask wearing, outside of the home, in Greater Melbourne and Mitchell Shire becomes compulsory you might like to consider making some reusable masks to wear instead of purchasing disposable ones.

For those readers handy with a needle and thread, or sewing machine, there are some excellent mask patterns to be found on the following website. Several different designs should fit a variety of faces for comfort.

<https://www.diy crafti.com/diy-mask-ideas-for-virus-protection/>

Many thanks again to those readers who have responded **YES** to the HCCC's Membership drive. After last week's request we didn't quite double the 63 members but we did make it up to 90, which is a rather impressive effort. Remember it's easy to do, does not involve any cost and all you need to do is send an email, by **July 31st**, to editor@tgn.org.au and type **YES**. Why not do it now?

Until next issue continue to stay warm and safe, **Pauline**

And Kenny? Was fairly obvious just underneath the weekly quote.



Hughes Creek
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Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

"There is no wealth without health."

Kerry Packer

(1937 - 2005)

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

FOUND IT !!!!!



Mystery Garbo

It appears that the Covid-19 Cat is not the only thing, alongside our roads, to have mysterious origins. Along the Seymour-Highlands Rd last week a mystery garbo has been performing a fantastic service for our local community.

Did any readers notice that someone had picked up all the roadside rubbish and put it in piles beside the white posts on one day and then the next day all these neat piles of rubbish had disappeared!

Can anyone solve the mystery as to who is responsible for cleaning up this mess please? Was it Council, the scouts, a local individual or who? Whoever it was a BIG thank you is thoroughly deserved for this very thoughtful effort. The last thing we need is more rubbish to end up in the Pacific Gyre, it has more than enough to cope with at present.

Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080

Website of the Week

Beyond Zero Emissions (BZE) is an internationally recognised climate change think tank, providing independent solutions for Australia. Want to know how all sectors of the Australian economy can decarbonise, repower & benefit from the transition to zero emissions? www.bze.org.au

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

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. A chance to catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially those who are new to the area.	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.	at ??????
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.	at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
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 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!!	at Euroa Uniting Church Hall Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559

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



Postponed until further notice

As it's been a great season for fungi...here's some more

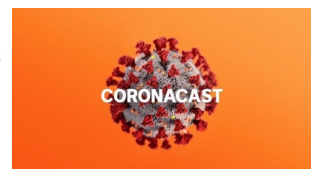
If any readers know the names and/or anything about this latest selection, please let the Editor know, thanks.



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Incorrect use of outdoor heating can result in fires or exposure to toxic carbon monoxide gas

Patio heaters are designed for outdoor use only. Never use indoors or in enclosed spaces such as sheds, garages, caravans or caravan annexes.



Before using a patio heater:

- ensure the gas hose connection has not perished, and that connections are tight;
- check for leaks with soapy water.

Visit the CFA website for more information on planning and preparing for fires: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare and the Energy Safe Victoria website for information on gas safety: <https://esv.vic.gov.au/>



What a great little place we live in!

This rather unique photo was taken by Alistair Lade at Highlands and illustrates that rain AND fog can occur simultaneously! Thanks for sharing this phenomena. Not to mention the fabulous view.



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SAVE the DATE (to be confirmed)

Terip Tennis Club AGM

Monday August 3, 2020

@ 7.30pm

@the Terip Rec Reserve



Ecosystem decline in Victoria - have YOUR say.

The Environment and Planning Committee of the Victorian Parliament is undertaking an **Inquiry into ecosystems decline in Victoria**. The Inquiry will look at measures to restore habitats and populations of threatened and endangered species.

The Inquiry's **Terms of Reference** include:

- the extent of the decline of Victoria's biodiversity and the likely impact on people and ecosystems
- the adequacy of the legislative framework protecting Victoria's environment and ecosystems, particularly in the context of climate change impacts
- the adequacy and effectiveness of government programs opportunities to restore the environment while upholding First Peoples' connection to Country.

Submissions: close 31 July 2020

Go to <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/committees/making-a-submission>



Help us Understand Climate Change And Bushfires

In 2018 Land for Wildlife conducted a survey with RMIT seeking views on Climate Change from individual perspectives in rural areas & Land for Wildlife members. These results are now available from RMIT.

A new survey has recently been developed to help us understand the relationship between climate change and bushfires. We are once again requesting your support to complete this new survey which will take about 15 minutes to complete. Please copy and paste the following link into your browser -

https://rmit.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4SdrZk6SMen44Ch

Working with researchers from RMIT University, Land for Wildlife has developed this new survey to people's views on climate change and bushfires. This will help Land for Wildlife look at ways to anticipate potential climate change related issues, and thereby support private land conservation management into the future.

The survey will take about 15 minutes and we ask that you please complete it by **Friday 31st July, 2020**

Thank you so much for participating in this important survey to help us understand the role of bushfires and climate change.

If you have any questions please email peter.johnson@delwp.vic.gov.au or ring his mobile 0409 793 364.

Peter Johnson

Statewide Coordinator - Land for Wildlife Victoria



RMIT and Land for Wildlife take the security of your personal information seriously and your responses will be confidential. Land for Wildlife will only have access to anonymous information and summary reports.

As we continue to live in interesting times....

Here are some tips from DHSS to ensure your mental well-being at these times. In terms of your physical health the most important thing you can do is to maintain basic hygiene, in particular frequently washing your hands with soap or using a hand sanitiser. For your mental wellbeing, here are a few suggestions -

- Maintain a healthy diet, exercise and sleep regime
- Talk to loved ones about worries and concerns
- Engage in hobbies and enjoyable activities
- Be prepared - ensure you have enough food, supplies and medication on hand. Ask for help if necessary for collecting these items
- Avoid or reduce your use of alcohol and tobacco



You may feel stressed listening to the news, so make sure you receive information through trusted and credible sources, rather than social media. Make sure that one of these sources is specific to your own state. This will help you feel more in control. If you can't access the internet, get a friend or family member to show you the most up-to-date information from credible sources.

Eastern Banjo or Pobblebonk Frog (*Limnodynastes dumerilii*)

The Eastern Banjo, or Pobblebonk Frog, gets its name from the sound that it makes a banjo-like 'plonk' or 'bonk' sound. One calling frog usually triggers several nearby males to call in quick succession. These calls can be heard at anytime of the year coming from vegetation, streams or burrows in creek banks.

Pobblebonk is that lovely word – an onomatopoeia – sound as it sounds the way it is spelt, but the best bit is that the males usually just shorten this down to 'Bonk', come mating time. Nature works in mysterious ways, says it all really.

In some areas the Pobblebonks prefer to call man-made lagoons and dams home as, when full, they are a little deeper than any other natural billabongs and frog lagoons, but their very distinctive call can be heard over quite a distance wherever they decide to reside.

The Eastern Banjo Frog is common in a wide range of habitats from woodland to rainforest from farmland to grassy areas and can be found throughout South-Eastern Australia.

These large, warty frogs are the burrowing kind, digging themselves underground during the hot, dry season, and only emerging for the rain, when the females will spawn en masse, laying up to 4,000 eggs each in one go.

Not content with just laying their eggs and hoping for the best, these Pobblebonk mums use their forearms like egg beaters to whip up a foam from the clear jelly surrounding them. This gently cradles the eggs on the surface of a creek, or sticks them to vegetation, hopefully away from hungry mouths.

The females will also use the large skin flaps on her fingers to carry air bubbles from the surface of the water into the foam nest to keep their eggs healthy and oxygenated.

The Pobblebonk frog really takes to its surroundings, and has evolved into five different subspecies with distinct ranges and habitats.

Thanks to the Australian Museum & Bec Crew for the text & Hayley, Helen & Chris for the picture.



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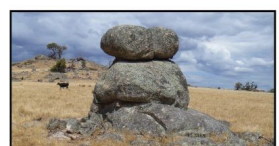
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