



# THE GRANITE NEWS

9TH AUGUST 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 27

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

With one week down and five to go until the **Stage 3 & 4 restrictions** are lifted in Victoria - **bring on September 13th** - the all important numbers seem to be heading in the right direction, down, which is definitely a better scenario than the trend in recent weeks. Let's hope that this continues and we all continue to do the right things to ensure this is so. A reminder to all what those Stage 3 restrictions will mean for the HCCC area. **We must stay at home!** There are only 4 reasons that are exempt

1. Shopping for essential items eg: food
2. For care-giving or receiving care
3. Exercise
4. Work, if you can't do it from home

And don't forget to wear a mask when you are not at home. I had the joy of wearing one for an 8 hour shift last week and as my glasses were pretty much fogged up for most of that time, was rather pleased to arrive home!

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

**And Kenny?** Was checking out the chap lifting up his German Shepherd dog.



## Nothing stops dedicated tree planters, not even Covid-19

See p.3 for story and more pictures...



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



Hughes Creek  
Catchment  
Collaborative  
Landcare

Feedback? - [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au)

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[www.highlands.org.au](http://www.highlands.org.au)

## On sat nav systems & directional aps

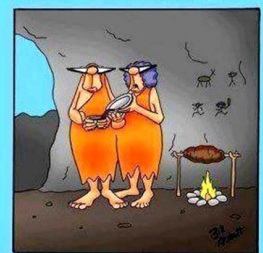
**"People wish to be led, & they are now willing to trust anonymous companies to take them to places they had previously managed to find for themselves." - Simon Garfield**

**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

## WINE PAIRING IN THE STONE AGE



"Simple rule of thumb; if it tries to eat us, serve with red. If it runs away from us, serve with white."

## HCCC Membership so far

117... and counting

## Website of the Week

Not quite a website but a YouTube clip about Platypus being Healthy Water Indicators - enjoy.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5UOWchDoIU&fbclid=IwAR2SJR Bm7CygPI8M80ghS5g3Y1fIP\\_OGkV OUkGVBxohE-15JfIVHn52ftpc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5UOWchDoIU&fbclid=IwAR2SJR Bm7CygPI8M80ghS5g3Y1fIP_OGkV OUkGVBxohE-15JfIVHn52ftpc)

## Community Notices & Classifieds

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

1st weekend of the month (not winter) 10-4	<b>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO</b> 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 	<b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b> 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 	<b>TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA</b> 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 	<b>DRINKS ON THE TABLE</b> Starts at 6.30pm. A great way to catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially if you have a power. Highlands Community Hall
3rd Thursday or Friday each month	<b>HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. at ?????? Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> 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 	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> 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	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> 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	<b>QIGONG AT RUFFY</b> 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: <a href="mailto:vivienwatmough@gmail.com">vivienwatmough@gmail.com</a> at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	<b>SWING DANCE CLASS</b> 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

### TERIP TERIP TENNIS COURTS STAGE 3 RESTRICTIONS

In line with Tennis Victoria directives, outdoor tennis is permitted for two people.

Doubles is only permitted with people from the same household.

Only two courts can be used at the same time, leaving the middle court free.

We ask that you please adhere to these guidelines, along with sanitising the gate and lock box before and after use.

#### COURT HIRE

NON MEMBER court hire is \$10 per court per hour, and money can be placed in the safe box on the verandah of the club house.

Social 12 month memberships are available, please contact Cindy on 0429 772 011

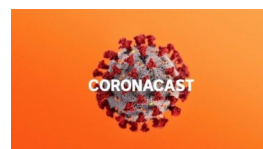


### Coronacast - all yours for free!

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.

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### Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080



## Letter to the Editor

Greetings Pauline,

Norm here, part time resident in Yorston Rd, I commenced beef cattle activity in Highlands in 1986

Well done on issuing our local paper every week !!

Had a recurring thought of late that it would be good to encourage articles for TGN about places and things of significance from the early days around the readership area (Long / short/ pictorial or otherwise)

To give one example - the history of the old timber delivery box on the Highlands - Seymour Rd opposite Lades Rd was profiled in the news several years ago outlining how daily deliveries from Seymour of mail, bread, papers etc were dropped off there for families up Lades & Yorston Rds before WWII.

I like many others, I'm sure, love reading about things that remind us of how life was 50+ years ago.

People like Mrs Lade senior who now resides in Yea or Steve McAlpin's sister who prepared a book based on her mother's diaries about life in Highlands around WWI would have many stories to share I'm sure & there would be other senior locals with interesting stories from way back.

Best regards & keep up the good work for the local community

**Norm Drew**



NB: The Editor has copy of the Highlands book by Helen McCall, but not Tales of the Tablelands, which could assist with this request. So...does anyone have a copy of Tales that I could borrow please? Or failing that would any older residents in the HCCC area like to write an article or two about their experiences and send it to [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) Many thanks. Ed.

## Book Butler at your Service

As these unprecedented times continue Murrindindi Library Service is still offering its **Book Butler Service** to patrons. A **FREE** non-contact delivery of items personally selected to your taste/loan history can be delivered to your door. If you haven't yet made use of this excellent service ring **57720349** to enquire now.



NB: the Mobile Library Service remains suspended until further notice.

## 2020 Landcare Tree Day

Despite the cancellation of the official 2020 National Tree Day event many of our Landcare groups were still keen to get the revegetation projects they had been planning for completed.

With the safety of all participants the main priority planting days over the last couple of weekends still went ahead.

Kinglake Landcare Group revegetated an open paddock on a member's property at Kinglake West.



Flowerdale Landcare Group held two planting days at a site on the King Parrot Creek at Moores Reserve and also at a member's property.

UT Creek and Yea River Landcare Groups both held planting days on sections of the rail trail at Alexandra and Limestone.

And the Cathedral Landcare Group planted 150 indigenous plants along the Andrews Creek in Taggerty.

Regards,

**Chris Cobern**

**Landcare Coordinator & BAG Project Officer**

**Upper Goulburn Landcare Network**



## FOR SALE

10 stand calf bail feeder.

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\$100

Ring Ray.



## 2021 Australia Day Award Nominations



Do you know someone who has shown considerable dedication to the community and is worthy of an Australia Day Award? Or is there a local organisation that stands out? If so, then we would like you to put pen to paper and fill in an Australia Day Award nomination form.

**Nomination forms can be obtained in the following ways:**

- Online via the website <https://www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations>
- By calling our **Customer Service Team on 03 5795 000 or 1800 065 993** and requesting a form to be mailed to you.

### **The Award Categories are:**

- **Community Organisation of the Year**
- **Junior Citizen of the Year** (under 15 years at 26/01/2021)
- **Young Citizen of the Year** (between 15 - 25 years at 26/01/2021)
- **Citizen of the Year** (over 25 years at 26/01/2021)

Cancelled - Community Event of the Year - this category has been removed from the 2021 awards due to events not being able to be held as a result of COVID-19

**On Tuesday 26 January 2021, there will be Australia Day celebrations in Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Nagambie, Strathbogrie and Violet Town, pending COVID-19 restrictions and relevant advice from DHHS.**

Nomination forms can be lodged by the following methods:

- **Online:** <https://www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations>
- **Email:** [info@strathbogrie.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogrie.vic.gov.au)
- **Mail:** PO Box 177 Euroa, 3666
- **Phone:** Strathbogrie Shire Council 03 5795 0000 or 1800 065 993 for further information

**Nominations close 5pm, Monday 21 September 2020**

## **LOCAL RAR (Rural Australians for Refugees) BRANCH FORMED IN ALEXANDRA**

**Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) is an Australia-wide organization that supports refugees in detention, and works towards ending the detention of people who are internationally recognized as refugees but happened to arrive in Australia by boat. If and when refugees are released into the community, RAR continues its support.**

RAR has two urgent concerns. The *Migration Amendment (Prohibiting Items in Immigration Detention Facilities) Bill 2020* is currently under review by a Senate Committee, with a report due later this month. The implications for refugees would be catastrophic if this Bill passes the Senate. Mobile phones will be confiscated, and these are the only means for detainees to keep in touch with families and friends, advocates and lawyers. Without phones they would have no contact with the outside world, and become even more isolated. At stake is their mental health, as well as Australia's reputation as a humane and democratic country. We need to act now. We encourage you to voice your concern by writing to the Victorian Senators (their details are on the Government website).

The other pressing matter is the plight of the Tamil family being held on Christmas Island. Following a dawn raid in 2018, this family was flown, without warning, from Biloela in Queensland to detention in Melbourne. A court injunction prevented deportation to Sri Lanka, so Priya, Nades and their two young children were sent to Christmas Island where they are the only people held in that detention facility. This extraordinary waste of money and resources makes no sense. Continued isolation and uncertainty are affecting the family's mental health. The people of Biloela had welcomed and supported them, and has campaigned for them to be returned to their home in Queensland.

**Continued on p.5**

## Spotted Pardalote (*Pardalotus Punctatus*)

Ever been outside when a flash of yellow has whizzed past you and you've thought – butterfly? Well it could in fact have been the incredibly tiny Spotted Pardalote that is only 8-10cm in size. Now that's seriously tiny, but seriously delicate too, with a short Peep, peep call, very much in keeping with its size, to herald its presence.

It is one of Australia's smallest birds and builds its nest in a long horizontal tunnel dug into the soil of creek banks, the embankments of railway cuttings, quarries or similar suitable sites. For something so small they are very industrious and sometimes even excavate tunnels in rabbit burrows, or potted plants in gardens.

The nest itself is spherical, made from strips of bark, and built in a chamber at the end of a narrow tunnel. Sometimes they nest in tree hollows and occasionally in artificial structures. Both parents share nest-building, incubation of the eggs and feeding of the young when they hatch.

Pardalotes are usually seen foraging in the crowns of eucalypt trees, where they pluck invertebrates, especially psyllids, from the leaves.

As the Spotted Pardalote is such a tiny bird and most often to be found high in a eucalypt canopy, it is more often detected by its characteristic call. The wings, tail and head of the male are black and covered with small, distinct white spots. Males have a pale eyebrow, a yellow throat and a red rump. Females are similar but have less-distinct markings.

The Spotted Pardalote is found in eastern and southern Australia from Cooktown in Queensland through to Perth in Western Australia. It occurs in coastal areas, extending to the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range in the east.

Although the Spotted Pardalote is mostly found in eucalypt forests and woodlands it can also occur in parks and gardens with well-established eucalypt canopy.

It is definitely an example of the old adage – Good things come in small packages!

**Text – Birdlife Australia**

**Photo – Phil Glowacki**



## RAR for Refugees - continued

RAR (Alexandra) is raising funds by making and selling Covid-19 masks. Robyn Ellis has already made more than 500, and these can be purchased from *Nana Jan's Third Drawer Down* in Grant Street; \$2 from each sale supports RAR.

**Our branch holds bi-monthly meetings. The next is 1.30pm, Tuesday 29th September, at Embassy of Ideas. New members are welcome.**

**For further information contact Robyn Walsh - 0467 413767**



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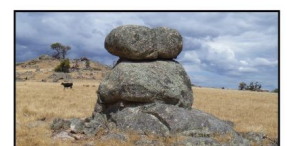
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