



THE GRANITE NEWS

11TH OCT. 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 36

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Thank you to all the local TGN readers who have been alerting the HCCC to both the prevalence and distribution of Indian Myna birds across the Tablelands. It's a bit depressing to know that they are definitely HERE and in some observed cases dealing out damage and death to the local avian population.

For those residents who live in the Shire of Murrindindi, and are a bit fingers and thumbs when it comes to DIY construction, the shire has a couple of traps available for loan. Contact **Sue McNair on 5772 0333** for more details. Further reports of this invasive bird would be most helpful.

After the last few days I can hardly wait to see what local records will be broken for the October rainfall. Normally this magnificent waterfall, on the Highlands-Seymour Rd is just a trickle, but not any at the moment! Until next issue continue to stay warm and safe, **Pauline**

And Kenny? Was checking out the batteries ready for recycling.



Meet Misha and Harley

Misha loves to intimidate and scare everyone who comes to visit, Harley, Misha's sidekick loves to tell Misha when someone is coming.

These 2 are best buds, they love helping me wake up all the animals for breakfast, then we go for a run around the property looking for rabbits and digging holes in the top paddock. After that it's inside while I do a few domestic chores, being bored with this they sit on their beds and wait till it's time to go outside again and help with the fencing, spraying, feeding, chasing Cockies and eating lamb poo.

I'm only allowed 1/2 hr for lunch and then its time to go outside again to do more raking, fixing and more until dinner time, then they help me put all

the chickens, ducks and turkeys to bed, a bottle for the lamb, a quick run down the driveway to check on the horses then its inside for their dinner. Waiting patiently for the cats to finish their dinner so they can do the dishes. Harley then grabs my slippers & takes them to her bed, Misha lies at my feet & sleeps.

A big day for all, only to do it all again tomorrow with the same enthusiasm as today.

Carolyn Rogers



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

"We don't need to increase our goods nearly as much as we need to scale down our wants."

Rev. Donald Horban

Canadian Pastor

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



HCCC Membership so far
149 ... and counting

Website of the Week

Have you reached your limit for sour dough breadmaking during the last 6 months? This website will broaden your recipe collection and excite your tastebuds as well.

www.taste.com.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...

Sat 7th & Sun 8th November from 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 great way to meet up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially those who enjoy a drink. 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 ?????? 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. 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 0428 951559 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

Some of these activities could be reinstated soon so ... stay tuned!
Darren's Back, see above



Postponed until further notice

Seymour Rotary Club wants YOUR batteries



The Rotary Club in Seymour collects batteries as a fund source.

If anyone has any batteries laying around on their farm and wants to get rid of them, Ron Halicki would be happy

to collect them. Why not give him a call on 0428 674006?

WANTED

Border Collie pup or young dog as a family pet. Prefer a female, but open to the right dog. Please ring Debbie on 0428 972710



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Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080

Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative (HCCC) survey results

We would like to thank all those who took the time to participate in our 2020 survey.

We now have a much greater understanding of who our members are, and what concerns them regarding the Landcare activity.

We will be taking on board all the issues that are important our members when developing the action plan for the next 3 years.

Key points from the survey

The following shows the top 10 concerns expressed by those who participated in the survey

1. Protecting rivers, creeks, bogs, and wetlands
2. Protecting remnant vegetation
3. The need for financial support for projects & Landcare staff
4. Maintaining pest animal, and weed management
5. Establishing new tree plantings
6. Soil health decline and pasture deterioration
7. Adaptation to climate change
8. Establishing native shelterbelts
9. The need for education and technical support
10. Protecting paddock trees and growing new ones



Demographics of membership and what you are willing to do

53% have some involvement in farming

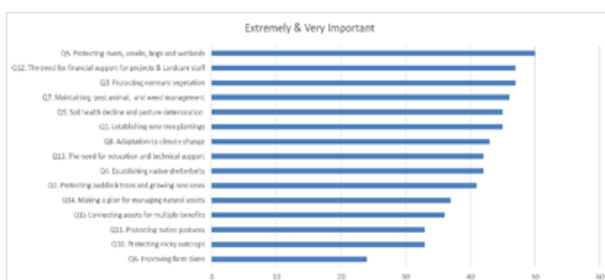
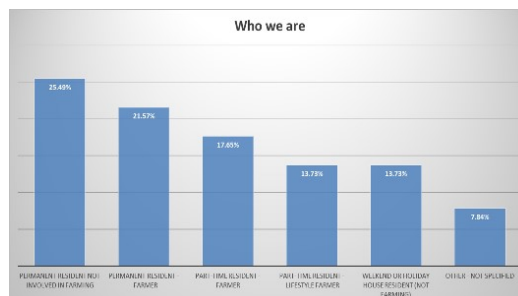
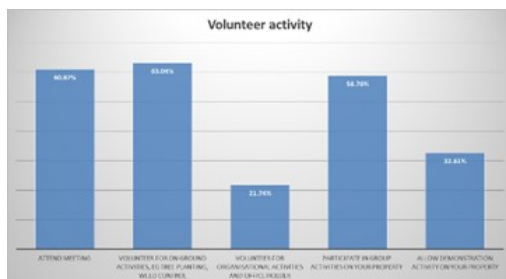
25% no farming activity

14% are holiday / weekend retreats

61% are willing to attend meeting

63% are willing to volunteer for on ground activity

58% will allow activity on their property



This third table shows the results of those who selected very and extremely important.

We will be taking all your concerns into account when developing the actions and from the results we expect to see lot more people attending the meeting where you can have a direct say in what goes into the plan.

Thanks again and with your help and support we can make the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative a viable and relevant community organisation. We look forward to seeing more of our members at meetings and Landcare activities.

HCCC Committee

Aquatics Operations and Active Living Officer

Full time – Band 6

Are you passionate about supporting healthy, connected and inclusive communities?

Council is looking for someone to lead a dedicated team in the newly created role of Aquatics Operations and Active Living Officer.

The successful applicant will

- have extensive experience in community engagement and program development
- be experienced in the delivery of aquatic programs and services
- demonstrate passion and capability for strengthening community connection and physical wellbeing

For more information about this role and to view the position description, please visit our website murrindindi.vic.gov.au/jobs or call **Council's Coordinator Community Development, Stuart Collier on (03) 5772 0333**.

You can submit an application and any accompanying attachments:

On Council's website - you will receive an email notification confirming your application

By email to msc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Applications close Friday 23 October 2020.

Making Cent\$ of Carbon & Emissions on Farms

This excellent and informative booklet has just been published by Agriculture Victoria and its title summarises its contents perfectly.

As it cites in the introduction "Victorian farm businesses are getting on with the job of making more food and fibre, while dealing with changeable season & weather patterns. We also know that more attention is being paid to the carbon and emissions performance of our agricultural industries and farms.... We know we must grow more food & fibre as the demand for food steadily increases. Farmers

are constantly looking for efficiencies to improve farm productivity and resilience while maintaining productivity."



The booklet aims to introduce management options to lower farm emissions that may also improve operational costs and improve profits along the way. Like a copy?

www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

FIRE SEASON PREPARATION

Council has simplified its burning-off laws to make it easier for residents to maintain their properties in preparation for the summer fire season.

Residents may now burn off at any time (excluding the Fire Danger Period) without requiring a permit, providing they meet the following conditions:

- you must have adequate means available at all times to prevent the escape of fire and to extinguish the fire
- the burn area must be cleared of flammable material for a minimum radius of 3 m
- the fire must be extinguished if you are directed to do so by an authorised officer
- you must ensure all ashes are spread and thoroughly extinguished at the completion of the burn
- the smoke must not cause a nuisance
- the burn pile must not include damp or green materials. The materials to be burned must be suitably dry (cured)
- the fire must be adequately supervised, with an adult person present at all times

Additionally, if your land is less than one hectare, the burn pile must not exceed 1 m x 1 m.

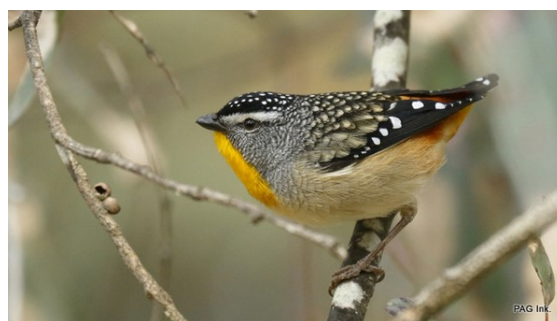
If your land is more than one hectare:

- the burn pile must be no more than 20 cubic meters
- the fire must not be lit if wind speed exceeds 15 kph
- the burn pile must not be located closer than 5 m to the property boundary or 5 m to any building

Any fire that does not meet these conditions will require a permit from Council. **Please ensure you register all burns with the CFA by contacting 1800 668 511 before lighting your fire.**

For more information about burning off (and about the free green waste disposal at Council's Resource Recovery Centres), please visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au or give Council a call on 5772 0333.

Aussie Backyard Bird Count - 19-25 Oct.



Sugar Glider – (Petaurus Breviceps)

The Sugar Glider is found in northern and eastern Australia and in all states and territories. They live in forests and woodlands and have been known to survive in remnant vegetation.

The Sugar Glider is an arboreal mammal that is most active at night, sleeping by day in nests made of leaves found in tree hollows. Groups of up to 7 adults and their young may form a 'clan' and share a nest. Among their own clan they are playful and social, but they will defend their territory aggressively and noisily if threatened by other animals or approached by Sugar Gliders from a different clan. Dominant males mark other clan members and the territory around the nest with secretions from scent glands on their chest.

In flight the Sugar Glider uses its long bushy tail for stability and steering. It also has a membrane from its fifth finger to its ankle enabling it to glide up to 50 metres between trees. Not a bad effort for a creature that it is only 16 – 21cm in body size ie: not counting the length of its tail.

The Sugar Glider commonly gives birth to twins which remain in their mother's pouch for just over 2 months. They then leave the nest to forage for food, usually with their mother. A Sugar Glider's diet consists of nectar, pollen, seeds, insects and sometimes even small birds and their eggs.

Sugar gliders can also enter a state called torpor, which enables them to slow their breathing and dramatically reduce physical activity for days or even weeks, dropping its body temperature and oxygen consumption and wrapping its body into a ball. This allows them to reduce energy needs and survive periods of food shortage.



HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR SALE – Property sold Cash & Collect from Trawool 0417 353425 (Di Schrapel)

LUMINA 6.5 L Digital Slow Cooker Model NSCD-650– hardly used \$25 ONO

LUMINA Convection Oven Model JLS-23A – never used \$25 ONO



Lots of other items for sale, sewing machines, fridges, furniture (2 x corner TV units, large pine TV unit, chest of drawers, extension laminated table, vintage vinyl couch & chairs), china, glasses, office chair, box of leather, cream separator, used pine posts, electric fencing materials (ceramic insulators, pigtailed, stand off wires), futon base, new & second hand timber, and lots more.

Enquiries welcome **Tel: 0417 353 425 or 0407 921 082**

ALSO

Mini Bike/BMX/ Mountain Bike Ramp Steel kicker ramp frame just needs a new sheet of ply wood put on it. 2670 long x 780 wide x 1300 high. Located at Trawool **\$150 ono. Cash only But wait, there's more....**

Pit Bike Parts

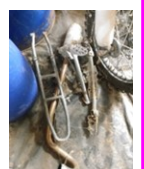
Numerous pit bike and motor bike parts ranging from 90cc to 250cc. Looking to sell as package not separate. Atomic 250 frame, Atomic 125 frame Bunch of engine parts. Some plastics from different bikes Other odds and ends. Different tyres 1 x 4.60-17 4PR, 1 x 4.60-17 6PR, 1 x 3.00-21 51P,



1 x 5.10-17 6PR

On bike rear wheel 110/100-18 Small bike rolling frame wheels Front Wheel 2.50-14, Back Wheel 80/100-12 Other smaller tyres 1 x 60/100-14 30M (2.50-14), 1 x 80/100-12

\$300 ono for the lot. Cash only



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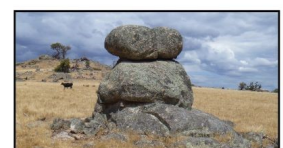
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