



# THE GRANITE NEWS

9TH FEB. 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 4

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Last Friday I spent an interesting and informative evening, listening to a talk by Pam Beattie, who works for the Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority and discovering all the different varieties of Wetlands that are to be found in Victoria and how we can look after them. Basically, Wetlands are any part of the landscape that holds water and they can be fresh or saline, flowing or still, coastal or inland and natural or man-made. Victoria has more than 35,000 wetlands, mostly on private land (72%), covering 780,000 hectares in total.

However an estimated 4,000 natural wetlands sites have been lost since European settlement due to a variety of reasons including river regulation, excavation, livestock, salinity, vehicles and climate change.

In the 21stC the general goal of Wetlands Management is to maintain the diversity of healthy wetlands types in our landscape with a priority to keep the wetlands we have, especially the fresh-water ones.

Landholders with wetlands on their properties can assist with this maintenance & possible enhancement. Why not contact either the **GBCMA on 5736 0100** or **HCCC facilitator 0417 503472** to find out how.

Until next week, **Pauline**

**And Kenny?** Was discovering one of our local Wetlands habitats



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

or to subscribe on-line go to

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

**"Sport-- tiring exercise done by people with whom I share nothing other than the right to trial by jury."**

**Fran Lebowitz (1950 - )**

**American author & occasional actor**

**Thanks to Andrew Summons for this**

**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**

## Free ...sort of

For a donation to OCA this beautiful, just dry-cleaned, vintage party dress could be yours. Size 8, yes that size does still exist, ring **0408 246308** to find out more.



## Website of the Week

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

is an interesting website from the Mount Alexander region that aims to increase, enhance & restore biodiversity in that region. Definitely worth exploring further.

## Important Message from Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative

**It's summer and it's time to think about Blackberries.**

**Please help us to get rid of this noxious weed !**

HCCC is again subsidising the costs for chemicals for Blackberry spraying. Each landowner will be subsidised 50% for the cost of the weedicide, and wetting agent.



Please contact Neil van Buuren with your requirements ASAP, once we have final quantities HCCC will negotiate a price for the chemicals from a local supplier.

This subsidy is for all properties in the Hughes Creek Catchment which covers Whiteheads Creek, Highlands, Caveat, Terip, Ruffy and Tarcombe

HCCC also have a range for sprayers and can be hired for a small donation to Landcare. (This helps pay for the maintenance of the units)






Contact Neil van Buuren for information **0417 503 472** or **03 5796 9111**

Email [hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com) **NB: Note NEW email address!**

Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) is a Weed of National Significance. It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia due to its invasiveness, potential for spread, & economic and environmental impacts. **Blackberry is a designated noxious weed and landowners are required to control it!**

# Community Notices & Classifieds

## CALENDAR of EVENTS — February & March

 <b>Monday 10th February</b> <b>@ 11am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b> The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2020 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. <i>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</i>
 <b>Friday 13th February</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS ON THE DECK</b> <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i> Starts at 6.30pm bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. <i>57969247 &amp; Contact Judy</i>
 <b>Saturday 22nd February</b> <b>@ 8pm</b>	<b>RUFFARTZ is back in 2020 with "The ROYAL HI JINX"</b> <i>at Ruffy Public Hall</i> Season tickets are now available from the ticket secretary <b>Kelly Molloy on 0407 017090</b> or at <a href="mailto:ruffartztickets@gmail.com">ruffartztickets@gmail.com</a> For further details about this amazing musical evening see p.3
<b>Thursday 27th February</b> <b>@ 5.30pm</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> <i>at Caveat Church</i> All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat
<b>Friday 28th February</b> <b>7 - 8.30pm</b>	<b>PLATYPUS &amp; RAKALI COUNT</b> <i>at Yea Wetlands</i> Join in the annual count of these unique Australian creatures. See p.5 for more details
<b>Saturday 7th &amp; Sunday 8th March</b> <b>10-4</b>	<b>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO</b> <i>2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</i> 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.
<b>Saturday 7th March</b> <b>10.30 for 11am start</b>	<b>WILDERNESS .v. RICHMOND UNION over 60s Cricket Match</b> <i>at Ruffy Rec Reserve</i> It's BACK!! The cricket game to end all cricket games is on again. See p.4 for all the details & be there!
 <b>Friday 13th March</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS ON THE DECK</b> <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i> Starts at 6.30pm bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power.
 <b>Saturday 14th March</b> <b>@ 6pm</b>	<b>CASSEROLE DINNER Fundraising for Gobur Grave Restorations</b> <i>at Ruffy Hall</i> Come along and support this great cause. \$25 per head with kids under 12 Free! BYO Drinks. <i>Enquiries? Geoff 57904282 or Millie 57734287</i>
<b>Saturday 14th &amp; Sunday 15th March</b> <b>10-4</b>	<b>UGLN FARM CHEMICAL USERS COURSE</b> <i>at Taggerty Hub</i> Subsidised course for safe use of farm chemicals for the eradication of pest plants & animals. See p.4.
<b>Friday 20th March</b>	<b>A FILM NIGHT to remember - 2040 - details to follow</b> <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i>
<b>Every second Wednesday</b> <b>10.30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i> The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? <b>Term 1 dates for 2020 - Feb. 12th &amp; 26th, March 11th &amp; 25th and April 8th.</b>
<b>Every Monday</b> <b>@ 10 am</b>	<b>QIGONG AT RUFFY</b> <i>at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</i> Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call <b>Vivien on 57953349</b> or email: <a href="mailto:vivienwatmough@gmail.com">vivienwatmough@gmail.com</a>
<b>Every Thursday</b> <b>@ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm</b>	<b>SWING DANCE CLASSES - Free!</b> <i>at Euroa Uniting Church Hall</i> Swing dances feature the jazzy Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! <i>Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559</i>

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## Ralph - Born to Retrieve

(Editor's dog)

Ralph, our beloved Wuppy (whopping big puppy) turned 4 this week and celebrated in style by clearing out Peter's sock drawer, one pair of socks at a time. As he is supposedly 50/50 Labrador and Golden Retriever what can you expect? Not that he chews them up he just likes to "retrieve" things like sticks and balls, but also ugg boots, jocks and socks and present them to us for approval. At 40kgs he is a truly lovable big boy, but his start in life was less than auspicious.

He was bought, as an 8 week old puppy, on a Friday afternoon from a local pet shop and then dumped 2 days later at the Yea Railway Station! And I still don't get it!!

How can anyone just leave a poor defenceless baby animal, or any animal for that matter, to survive as best it can and then drive off? Fortunately for him some visitors to the town brought him into my workplace late on the Sunday afternoon and as it was a bit unfair to call the local council officer at that time of a weekend he came home for the night...and the rest, as they say, is history.



For such a large lad he gets airborne quite easily, especially at dinner time & resembles a Harrier Jump Jet with all 4 paws off the ground & ears flapping. This is also his default position when welcoming us home & we love him for it.

## The Royal Hi-Jinx @ Ruffy - 22/2/20



## Royals to visit Ruffy

This is the tale of two couples happily coming together to play music and it all started back in 2011 when Jennifer Hawley invited Terry Cole and Sarah Busuttill Palmer to co-conduct the Footscray Gypsy Orchestra with her. They quickly became friends & along with Silas Palmer formed "The Royal High Jinx".

Musically, they produce a lovely textured sound, driven strongly by rhythm. Sarah's animated antics on and off stage belies her violin playing prowess and her experience playing with Melbourne Opera Orchestra and the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Orchestra.

Jen Hawley's guitar work has always been impressive & she just keeps getting better. Her work is understated, tasteful, informed & beautifully executed as Jen has spent her career exploring the spaces between jazz, blues & world music and it is now paying off.

Silas Palmer contribution must be seen to be fully appreciated. He aptly takes on the role of drummer, bass player, pianist and vocalist simultaneously!

Terry Cole on mandolin and vocals fits the band's persona like a hand in a glove. As an actor, circus performer and playwright he has toured Australia and worked local venues such as The Playbox Theatre, The Spiegeltent and La Mama and adds more than a dash of theatricality to the group.

With all this serious musical talent on tap you would expect that this group takes itself very seriously. Think again, this is cheeky cabaret at its best and they have recently returned to Australia after a very successful tour of Germany.

**The Royal High Jinx will be performing at the Ruffy Hall on Saturday 22 February. Doors open at 7.30pm.** Season tickets are now available from ticket secretary Kelly Molloy at [ruffartztickets@gmail.com](mailto:ruffartztickets@gmail.com) or call **0407 017 090**. **Limited tickets will also be available at the door or can be pre purchased which is highly recommended.** The 2020 Café Culture Series is proudly presented by Ruffartz and is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.

**DATE for your DIARIES**

**ARTRIDGE Stan & Dawn**

Memorial gathering 4 April 2020, 1.30pm (after lunch), Ruffy. Ph [03 57904205](tel:0357904205).

## Fire awareness for all ....

**Weekend project #2** - Sand and repaint weathered timber doors and window frames on older houses. Over time, paint peels and cracks appears in the exposed and weathered timber. During a bushfire embers can lodge in these cracks and ignite.



\* Reprinted from The Conversation, by Douglas Brown, Western Sydney Uni.



## FARM CHEMICAL USERS & 1080 ENDORSEMENT COURSE

The Upper Goulburn Landcare Network (UGLN) is running a subsidised, three day course for landowners who wish to learn about the safe use of pest plant and animal control chemicals on their land.

The course will qualify attendees for the Agricultural Chemical Users Permit (ACUP) (2 day component) and/or the 1080 endorsement (1 day component)

### ACUP course

DATE: Saturday 14th March & Sunday 15th March 2020 **NB: NEW Date!!**

TIME: 9am- 4pm

WHERE: Taggerty Community Hub (formerly Taggerty Primary School)

19 Taggerty-Thornton Rd, Taggerty

Refreshments and light lunch provided

### 1080 endorsement

DATE: Sunday 29th March 2020

TIME: 9am- 3pm

WHERE: Yea CMA Meeting Room (opposite Yea Foodworks)

Tea, coffee and light refreshments provided, please bring your own lunch

\$30 for Landcare Members

\$75 for non- Landcare Members (combined course cost usually \$600+)

Contact: Cat Thomas- Landcare Facilitator 0418 655 474

or email [uglandcare@ugln.net](mailto:uglandcare@ugln.net)



## Letter to the Editor

G'day readers,

We live at the western end of Hewletts Road and the Caveat-Dropmore Road. Rest assured, Keryn, (see previous T.G.N.) it was just merely a strong breeze !! Our solar panels survived without damage and the bluegum tree opposite our front gate amazingly withstood the windy onslaught. It has been there long before we arrived.



Once again, some of those who polish office chairs, seem to know it all and don't bother asking the locals. This relates to the power outage. A landholder near the Caveat Church, through whose property the high voltage grid lines run, found the fault. One cable had fractured at the pole and lay on the ground. He, being a long-time electrical contractor, notified the appropriate authorities of the fault, stating the pole identity number, which gives G.P.S. location within an ant's eyeball. They were allegedly only interested in the general location. It took a helicopter with an observer visually traversing along the power line to finally confirm where the fault was!

Then came the cavalry !!! Fault fixed, back on line 3 hours later. A HUGE thumbs up to the repair crew.

Perhaps the boss upstairs was not happy at the degradation of the Church at Caveat, and sent a preliminary message!

John ( the Caveatian ) Sporry



## IT'S BACK!! Cricket that is....

The Wilderness .V. Richmond Union Over 60s.

(NB: The Wilderness is a combined Ruffy Highlands Caveat Tarcombe Terrip side)

Where? Ruffy Recreation Reserve

When? Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

What time? 10.30 am for a 11.00 start

What format? 40 over game of 2 \* 20 over innings.

What's to eat? Lunch will be provided.

BYO refreshments and possibly a BBQ at Ruffy following.

If you are interested in playing, please contact me on 0427 969259

Scott McKay



This is it!! The cricket game of the season, forget the 20/20 Big Bash or even the Ashes this will be **THE game** to talk about for years to come, be there or be a part of it Ed

## Pioneer Grave Restorations

Gobur Cemetery

BYO  
DRINKS

Casserole Dinner

GREAT  
CAUSE

Saturday, 14 March 2020

Ruffy Hall 6 pm

Under 12 Free!

It's On Again!

\$25.00 pp

Geoff Penny  
57904282  
M. the CUMING  
57134237

## Strathbogie Shire Council - By-election

The VEC (Victorian Electoral Commission) is calling for candidates for the Honeysuckle Ward by-election. A candidates' information session will be held on **Tuesday 11th February @ 7pm** at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, Bury St, Euroa. Nominations need to be lodged by noon Tuesday 18th February. [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) has further details.



# PLATYPUS & RAKALI COUNT

Friday 28 February 2020

Cummins Reserve Carpark, Yea Wetlands  
Goulburn Valley Highway



Australian Platypus Conservancy



Join us in the Yea Wetlands for  
an hour of quiet observation

7:00pm for a 7:30pm start

7:30–8:30 pm Fauna Count

FREE

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