



# THE GRANITE NEWS

22ND NOV. 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 42

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

I am pretty sure that all readers would be familiar with the term, “lower than a snake’s armpit”, to describe someone whose actions are very underhanded or nefarious. Well, it appears that such people do exist and sadly have been spotted, at night, prowling around the local HCCC area.

Trespassing on private property, with the aid of a torch, in the wee small hours of the morning is not an acceptable nocturnal activity and one that should be condemned and called out for what it most probably is - illegal.

Many years ago, when I lived in a share house in leafy, suburban Balwyn, the neighbour across the road appeared one Sunday night and asked if we had seen any unusual activity at his place over the weekend. We hadn’t, but it turned out that, while he had been away for a couple of days, his house had been broken into and he had been robbed. His solution to the problem was to install movement detector lights, front and back of his property, that lit up the garden like war-time searchlights. A sad footnote is that this was the only time, in 3 years of residency, that we met him.

Happily, in the bush, we tend to be a little more friendly and aware of our neighbours & keep an eye out for each other, whether we be permanent residents or weekenders. Obviously, now is one of those times when we perhaps need to be even more aware of our surroundings and what is happening to not only our own property, but our neighbours’ too.

Our tableland communities are caring, resourceful and welcoming and the only snakes we want to see around the district are

a) at a distance and  
b) of a reptilian disposition, minus legs and without torches!

Until next issue, **Pauline**

**And Kenny?** Was part of the BEFORE at the working bee at Highlands Hall.



Hughes Creek  
Catchment  
Collaborative  
Landcare

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)

**“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”**

**Nelson Mandela (1918—2013)**

**Anti-apartheid activist, political leader & the first democratically elected president of South Africa**

**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  
156 ... and counting**

**Website of the Week**

[www.localpowerplan.com](http://www.localpowerplan.com)

**An initiative of Federal member for Indi, Dr Helen Haines, this website highlights the potential of Community Energy power plans and how one can become a part of this action.**

## Did you know?

After 42 Granite News and 18 Granite News Covid Specials in 2020 there are only 3 more issues of The Granite News left to enjoy for this year. The Editor will be taking a well-earned break for a few weeks from **December 13th and the first issue of TGN in 2021 will appear on January 17th.**

Although social events have been a bit thin on the ground this year if any readers wish to notify the TGN readership of any forthcoming activities in the new year now is the time to send that information to the Editor for inclusion. Also, if there are any local tradespeople, or altruistic community members, who would like to support TGN by placing an ad on the back page in 2021, the Editor welcomes all enquiries. [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.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...

Sat 5th & Sun 6th December from 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 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	<b>HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. 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. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366 at 94 Old Highlands Rd
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?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be back on the following dates— Dec. 2nd & 16th and Jan. 13th & 27th. 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 0429 772 011 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!! Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559 at Euroa Uniting Church Hall

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

Postponed until further notice

#### Exciting news! - The Mobile Library is BACK!

We are pleased to announce that Council's Mobile Library and Customer Service has resumed operations with revised hours and a full COVID-safe plan in place. There are strict limits on the number of customers allowed inside the van at any one time, given space limitations. A maximum of one customer or up to three customers from the same household are allowed inside the van at any one time.

The revised schedule is listed above and also available on Murrindindi Shire's website. It will also be displayed at each Mobile stop location.

For more information, please give us a call on 5772 0333 or check our [website](#).

#### Terip Tennis Club

Our courts are available for social use (following Covid rules).

Social memberships are now available.

Please contact Cindy Hayes for details



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

## Mutual Relationships

I have a problem with one sided relationships. I once had to relate to a person who after having time with her I would be left completely unsatisfied. It was as though I had met someone but never really engaged with them.

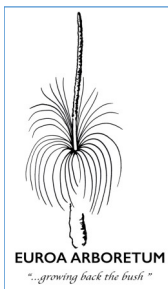
The conversation was completely one sided. She would never stop talking about her family and what she was doing herself. In the middle of it all there would be criticisms of what other people were doing and what the authorities were not doing. Every now and again I would manage to get a word in, either to enlarge the conversation and maybe say something of my own situation. This was usually received by a glassy look in her eyes followed by further talk unrelated to what I had said. The consequence was that I was left with a detailed description of her life but nothing more.

Maybe this is an extreme example, but I do detect it in some people I have met. I have wondered whether this is just a case of pure self absorption and lack of empathy, or perhaps it is a feeling of inadequacy in lacking the skills to draw out and involve other people in conversation. It is true some people are often hesitant to ask questions of others, fearing being too intrusive.

Such one sided conversations leave me cold and dissatisfied. It can be hard work trying to break in to such monologues, maybe it would be helpful if we did persevere. One never knows. To avoid the contact altogether, does not help the other person. I believe in the value of working towards real mutuality in meeting. It is the only way to have constructive and creative relationships. It is also essential for building community.

**Stuart A Reid**

**Highlands**



## Euroa Arboretum 2020 AGM and walk

**Saturday 29th November**

**9.30 - 12.30 @ Euroa Arboretum**

See out spring & join us at the beautiful Euroa Arboretum for our AGM. The AGM will be preceded by a walk and talk led by the Project Manager of the Euroa Arboretum, Cath Olive. The Native Grassland Restoration and Wetlands are looking magnificent after the excellent spring rain. Lunch will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

RSVPs are essential, so please let us know you're coming by emailing us at [events@strathbogieanges.org](mailto:events@strathbogieanges.org)

Meeting documents can be downloaded from our website [www.euroaarboretum.com.au](http://www.euroaarboretum.com.au)

## Important Message from the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative (HCCC)

### We need community support to control the spread of Blackberries

### Its summer and it is time to think about Blackberries.

### Please help us to get rid of this noxious weed

With the wet spring and warmer months, the blackberries are growing in profusion. The problem can be worse along creeks and riverbanks. Large Blackberry infestation can harbour rabbit warrens with rabbits also being pest animals.

The problem is awfully bad on Highlands Road up to Fernside Road next to the Buckland Creek.

If you identify a problem area, please contact HCCC or the local shire for further action.

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.

### Contact Neil van Buuren with your requirements ASAP

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 that can be hired for a small donation to Landcare. (This helps pay for the maintenance of the units)

### Contact Neil van Buuren for further information

**Phone: 0417 503 472**

**Email: [hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au)**

**Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) is a Weed of National Significance.** It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic & environmental impacts.



### Legislation

**Blackberry is declared noxious in all states and territories except the Northern Territory. Landowners are required to control it. Check with your local council or state/territory government agency about its requirements for blackberry control.**



## Smartphone Stories

Smartphone Stories Victoria has been funded through the Vic Health – Art of Good Health Partnerships Grants program and is a creative arts-based project that contributes to health and wellbeing by reducing social isolation, building self-esteem and strengthening community connection through accessible filmmaking practices.

It's a fun, interactive community-based workshop project that gives participants the skills, information and equipment to be able to develop and make their own films, and tell their own stories, using a mobile phone.

A smartphone story might be a short drama or comedy film, a short documentary, an experimental film, a music video or a vlog, or something else. A story can be made by one person, or by a team of people. A smartphone story can be made by anyone – imagine being able to film the family gathering over Christmas and turn it into a story to look back on for years to come!

Participants attend a 2-day workshop where they will learn the skills to produce, write, direct, shoot and edit a film made entirely on a mobile phone, while creating their first digital story. Remote mentoring support is then available for three months after the workshop to produce their own original films, and participants will have the opportunity to showcase their film at a local event and online.

**Workshops are open to anyone (whole of community) and are FREE – just register at -**

[www.smartphonestories.com/register](http://www.smartphonestories.com/register)

### Workshop 1 (Euroa)

Monday 7 December 2020 - 9am-4pm and  
Wednesday 9 December 2020 - 9am-4pm

### Workshop 2 (Nagambie)

Tuesday 8 December 2020 - 9am-4pm and  
Thursday 10 December 2020 - 9am-4pm



## The Tablelands Community Centre

As we are now able to reopen under a COVID Safe Plan A COUPLE OF WORKING BEES are planned Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> (has already gone) BUT

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November @ 10am**

awaits your participation.

BYO tools, wheel barrows, whipper snippers would be helpful

Contact 0427 690 970



## 'Putting Rona in the rear-view' YOUTH VOICE 2020

Are you a young person aged between 12 and 25 years?  
Do you live, work or play in Murrindindi Shire?

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Council is inviting young people from across our Shire to participate in the '2020 Youth Voice' Project. We want to hear how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected you, what challenges you are currently facing and how we can help support you. Your voice will help inform the development of youth programs for 2021 and beyond.

To share your experiences and ideas and to go in the draw to win one of five \$50 vouchers to spend at a local business near you, please visit our website, check out our Murrindindi Shire Youth Facebook page or give Council a call.



## Tablelands Tomato Growing Challenge

Craig Martin, with his much loved and well-worn hat, takes up the Tablelands Great Tomato Growing Challenge.



## FOR SALE

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For more details

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# Ruffy Tablelands Community Family Christmas Party



**Saturday 5th December from 6:30 PM**  
**at Tablelands Community Centre - Ruffy**

**Everyone Welcome – NO Entry Fee**

Complimentary BBQ Dinner—Cooked for you

**BYO Drinks, Salad & Sweet (No sharing due to COVID-safe)**

Christmas Lights & Kids' Jumping Castle

Santa will arrive at 7:30pm

Adults, please wear Masks while moving about

Kids are encouraged to 'free range' and have stacks of fun

Mums & Dads – bring a wrapped gift for your kids for Santa's sack!

Kids' gifts to Justus Hagen before 7pm please.

**Further details: Fiona 0427 690 970**

**YAY! It's on again! Covid Safe—of course!**



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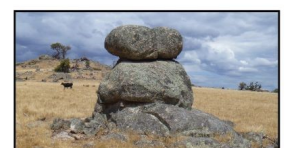
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