



# THE GRANITE NEWS

29TH NOV. 2020

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 43

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

I have spent the last few days in the Upper Murray River region enjoying the beautiful mountains and the incongruity of a very narrow “Mighty Murray” River wending its way across the valley floor. However the most dominant features of the area are the stark remnants of this year’s bushfires. All the ridges around Corryong have skeletal gums saluting the skyline and the regrowth down the slopes is a vibrant bright green. Whilst there is a certain beauty to this regeneration it is also a reminder of the destructiveness of fire and how I probably need to continue the clean up around my home and paddocks before summer arrives. Do you? Until next issue, **Pauline**



**And Kenny?** Was checking out the 1970s caravan that is for sale.

## South African Orchid Weed

Watch out for this highly invasive grasslands weed. It’s called South African Orchid Weed and can spread very quickly after wetter spring seasons. Each plant produces thousands of fine seeds which spread on the feet of animals (including humans) and in the wind. The flower looks like an asparagus shoot or a native leek or onion orchid. They are often associated with kangaroo grass.

**If you spot plants dig them up carefully making sure to include the bulb at the base then bag and bin. If unsure of ID I can help (Janet Hagen 0458 904268 )**

Two Gobur landholders have dug hundreds of these little devils out of their previous native grasslands this Spring.



## Did you know?

After 43 Granite News and 18 Granite News Covid Specials in 2020 there are only 2 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**



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)

**“Social justice is important to me.  
Life isn’t about every man for  
himself. Life should be about  
co-operation and collaboration.”**

**Alan Davies**  
(British actor & stand-up comedian)

**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



A sign used in Australia to advise that slow drivers are about to temporarily increase their speed

**HCCC Membership so far  
158 ... and counting**

## Website of the Week

[www.tiny.cc/zw85tz](http://www.tiny.cc/zw85tz)

**This is a link to a Google Doc that has a bit more information and pictures about Everesting, see p.3. Why not give the Everesters some support on Ghin Ghin Rd on Dec 5th & 6th?**

## Community Notices & Classifieds

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

<b>Sat 5th &amp; Sun 6th December from 10-4</b>	<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
<b>2nd Monday each month @ 11am</b> 	<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
<b>2nd Wednesday each month @ 9.30am</b> 	<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
<b>2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm</b> 	<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
<b>3rd Thursday or Friday each month</b>	<b>HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. at ?????? Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
<b>Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm</b>	<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
<b>4th Saturday each month 10-12 or 12-2</b> 	<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
<b>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</b>	<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
<b>Every Monday @ 10 am</b>	<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
<b>Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm</b>	<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

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





## Letter to the Editor

Hi Pauline,

I am a Caveat local (weekender) and was hoping you could put a piece in the Granite News about an upcoming event I am a part of.

It is a cycling event called Everesting, and involves riding up and down Ghin Ghin Rd all day, on the weekend of **December 5-6**. We have booked the Highlands Hall as a base. I thought it would be good to let the community know this is on.

It is essentially a group of like-minded people choosing to challenge themselves, by no means a race.

Many thanks,  
Alison Skene



## 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](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com)

**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.



## Inclusive Clubs Workshop

Are you part of a local sporting club or association that is looking for innovative ways to grow participation?

Council, together with Valley Sport, invites you to join an interactive 'Inclusive Clubs' workshop which will focus on increasing membership and participation. During the workshop, we will explore diversity and inclusion and how can we apply these principles to make sport, recreation and leisure more appealing to all members of our community.

The free online workshop will be held via Zoom on Monday 7 December from 6.30 pm.

For more information and to register, please visit our website and search 'good sport' or give us a call.



## 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



## TERIP TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Regretfully we have decided to not go ahead with our tournament in 2021.

**We will be back in January 2022!**

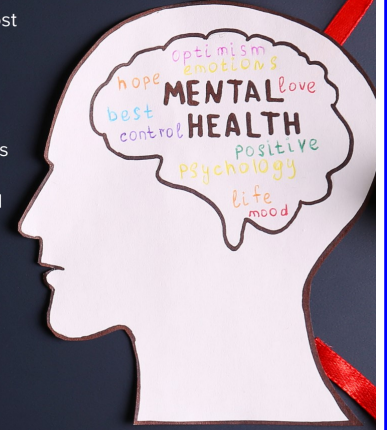


## Murrindindi Shire Council's Mental Health Information Session

7.00 pm on Wednesday 9 December

Strong mental health helps improve social connection, boost our mood and manage stress. Want to learn more about managing mental health? Join Council and a panel of local mental health support providers for an informative webinar to learn more about the signs and symptoms of mental health as well as useful strategies to improve mental health and wellbeing.

For more information and to register, please visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/mentalhealthsupport](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/mentalhealthsupport)



**Get in touch with Council**

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au  
murrindindi.vic.gov.au  
5772 0333



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

## Survey volunteers required.

Briarbird, an independent market research company, has been commissioned by the Mitchell Shire Council to speak with residents in relation to ways it can improve its customer service, whether face to face, by phone or online on their website.

**Specifically targeting single parent families or single seniors living in the Highlands & Whiteheads Creek area of Mitchell Shire, to participate in a 60 minute Zoom interview, either via computer or smartphone in the coming weeks.**

As a thank you for your time, you will receive \$80 which will be paid via EFT 24-48 hours after the interview. Only two volunteers required.

Should you wish to partake in our research or have any queries, **I can be contacted on 8658 4018 or email below.**

Thank you for taking the time to read about our project.

Kind regards

[admin@coopersymons.com.au](mailto:admin@coopersymons.com.au)

Yvonne Lieblich—Project Coordinator

**Submitted by Whiteheads Creek Landcare Group via Janet**

## Darren Gilbert is planning ahead for 2021

Darren's studio, a cornucopia of delights from heavy metal sculpture to fine B&W drawings, will be open the first weekend in January 2nd & 3rd 2021, as well as Dec 5th & 6th. Why not do some Christmas shopping?



## 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!**

## FOR SALE

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For more details

[Click here](#)



## Hey Neighbour!

Spreading local kindness

Do you want to spread some  
local kindness in your community?

Hey Neighbour! is an initiative identified in Council's COVID-19 Community Recovery Plan and aims to help reduce feelings of social isolation and encourage the re-establishment of local connections within our community.

Spread some kindness locally by grabbing a 'Hey Neighbour!' postcard from your local shop or community organisation and popping it in your neighbour's letterbox to offer a helping hand, show your appreciation, say thanks or invite them over for a (COVID-safe!) backyard BBQ.

For more information about the Hey Neighbour! Initiative, please visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/heyneighbour](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/heyneighbour)



## Hello Mt Wombat Ward residents!

I wanted to thank you for your confidence in me to be your elected representative in the Strathbogie Shire Council. I am honoured by the opportunity you have given me and am committed to doing my best to represent every one of you.

As I write this I am 3 weeks into this new role and I have learned loads, been challenged, had to negotiate and had successes. A dear friend asked how councillor life was today and I replied it is a lot and I am loving it!

I am making time to get around and catch up with as many community groups and residents as possible in this post-lockdown and pre-Christmas period. If you would like to talk to me or show me your special patch of Mt Wombat Ward, please email or call me, I'm here for you.

If I don't get to see you before Christmas, I wish you a fabulous festive season. May it be full of love, joy and generosity.

Stay safe, **Cr Laura Binks**

Photo credit: Suzie Bates

[laura.binks@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto:laura.binks@strathbogie.vic.gov.au) 0437 906 687



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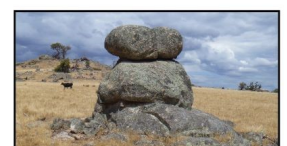
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