



# THE GRANITE NEWS

29TH MARCH 2020

VOLUME 14

COVID-19 SPECIAL 3

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Another Sunday evening is upon us which means that it's time for the weekly Granite News and what week it has been. Our world has certainly changed in the last week, let alone the last month but whether our previous lifestyles are irretrievable and/or sustainable only time will tell.

In the meantime I've been taking Sandy's suggestion from the last issue seriously and have bought some winter vegetable seeds. I've also cleaned out a pile of pots, planted the bulbs within them elsewhere, and look forward to harvesting, what I hope will be, a bumper crop.

Pots are definitely the way to go at my place as we have competition from the rabbits and roos if any food sources are planted in the ground, and now there's deer to contend with too. Nothing like a few freeloaders making short work of the veggie soup supplies.

Hopefully, by now the overwhelming majority of Victorians, where possible and practical, are self-isolating for the benefit of not only themselves, but their wider communities, because the sooner we can lower the 'new cases' rate the better and healthier for us all.

**And Kenny?** Is still self-isolating, he'll be back again soon...



Until next issue, **Pauline**



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)

**"Why stress out about what you can't change? Why stress out about what you can change?"**

**The 14th Dalai Lama  
(born 1935 ...)**

**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**

## Information on Emergency Relief Packages for Victorians

Emergency relief packages are available to support people who:

- Are in mandatory self-isolation (because they have COVID-19, are suspected of having COVID-19 or have come into close contact with people who have COVID-19 or have recently travelled overseas) AND
- Who have little or no food, AND
- Have no network of family and friends to support them.

Each eligible household will receive a two-week supply of essential goods. Food packages will include items such as long-life milk, pasta, cereal, canned vegetables and sugar. Personal care packages will also be distributed to eligible households and include soap, toothpaste and deodorant. Additional items may also be provided depending on the needs of the household, such as nappies or baby formula.

For more information about the support services people can call the coronavirus hotline on **1800 675 398** or visit the website: [dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus).

Murrindindi Shire Council has activated its Pandemic Plan and details are to be found on p.3. For TGN readers in the Mitchell and Strathbogie Shires please consult those Council's websites as to the current measures that are in place for residents. For readers in other areas, check out your own local council's websites for up-to-date information.

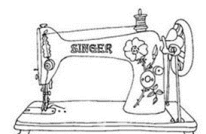
## Let's Laugh!



## For all your sewing needs


Mending, buttons, zips, hems. Soft furnishings (cushions) personalised painting smocks. Bags—library, shopping, craft.

**Marj Leigh**  
57904298



## Community Notices & Classifieds

### CALENDAR of EVENTS — April

<b>Friday 3rd April</b> <b>@ 7.30pm</b>	<b>WASPS of the Upper Goulburn</b> Yea River Catchment Landcare Group presentation by Ron Litjens. See p.4 for more info. <b>at Yea Butter Factory</b>
<b>Saturday 4th April</b> <b>@ 1.30pm</b>	<b>MEMORIAL GATHERING for ...</b> Phone <b>03 57904205</b> for more details. <b>at Ruffy</b>
 <b>Friday 10th April</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS ON THE DECK</b> Starts at 6.30pm bring food to share for ... and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. <b>at Highlands Community Hall</b>
<b>Friday 17th April</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS HALL BLUES NIGHT</b> Come along for an excellent evening of jazz ... support the hall. <b>Enquiries? Judy 57969247</b> <b>at Highlands Community Hall</b>
 <b>Monday 20th April</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 and ... great tea & coffee will be provided. <b>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</b>
<b>Every second</b> <b>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?? <b>Please note the Mobile Library Service is temporarily suspended until further notice!!</b> <b>at Highlands Community Hall</b>
<b>Every Monday</b> <b>@ 10 am</b>	<b>QIGONG AT RUFFY</b> Vivien Watmough looks forward to ... this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call <b>Vivien</b> on <b>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> Swing dances feature the jazzy Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! <b>Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559</b> <b>at Euroa Uniting Church Hall</b>

### COVID-19 Local Community Connections

Hello. If you are self-isolating due to the COVID-19 virus, we can help with:

- Picking up shopping
- Posting mail
- Urgent supplies or medicines
- A friendly phone call.

Just call (insert name here) on \*\*\*\*\* or text \*\*\*\*\* , and someone from our small group will do their best to help you (for free).

Even if you are just feeling anxious about the virus and what you need to do, please give us a call or text.

**Please take every precaution and spread only kindness.**

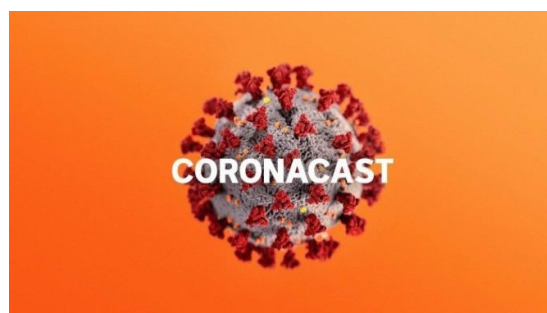
Avoid physical contact (1.5m distance) and wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds (sing Happy Birthday twice).

**Why not set up one of these connections in your local area?**

### 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 corona-virus or COVID19. The latest news and research is broken down to help you understand how the world is living through an epidemic.

Listen for free on [ABC listen app](#), [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Google Podcasts](#).



**WOW!! What a feast of culture, sport & entertainment ~ why would we want to live anywhere else??**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing how we operate. We have activated our Pandemic Plan so we can continue to deliver critical services to the community, while we also take steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection in our Shire.

**At the time of writing (26 March),** we have stopped some services and changed how we deliver a number of others.

#### **CLOSED**

- Customer Service Centres (including closure to services we normally host for other agencies, including VicRoads in Alexandra and the Centrelink Access Point in Kinglake)
- Libraries (including the Mobile van)
- Visitor Information Centres
- Playgrounds and outdoor gym equipment
- All public toilet facilities

#### **OPEN**

While a number of our buildings are closed, we are still providing a range of services to our community. These include

- Customer Services, including payments via electronic means or by credit card over the phone
- Libraries - 'book butler' service
- Public health and sanitation services
- Community safety services
- Kerbside waste collection
- Resource and Recovery Centres (no cash payments accepted; the 'Scrap Shacks' are closed)

To access our services, you can

- Find information online 24/7 at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

- Submit a customer request online

- Email us at [customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

- Call us on 5772 0333

#### **MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND IMMUNISATION**

Maternal and Child Health Services (MCH) are open, with some changes to the methods of delivery. You can contact our MCH team during business hours on 5772 0333 for information. We have suspended our First Time Parent groups and our Parent Education groups.

**Please remember the 24 hour MCH Line is always available on 132 229.**

#### **FAMILY DAY CARE**

Council's Family Day Care program is operating as usual at this stage, however we have suspended our Supported Play-group program and our PEEP program.

#### **YOUTH SERVICES**

We have also suspended Youth FReeZA events and the Youth Leadership Program, but will be looking at other ways to deliver these in the coming weeks.

#### **BUSINESS SUPPORT**

If you are a business and need advice about support available at this time, please visit our website.

#### **REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

During the course of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Council may be asked by the State Government to coordinate assistance to community members to the Shire. We are not sure what this will look like yet, but it may include support to deliver food and other essential goods to the homes of quarantined or isolated people.

If this eventuates we may need assistance from volunteers living in the local area and from local Registered Class 2 food businesses. Check out our website for links to a survey where you can register your interest and details.

#### **COVID-19 UPDATES AND ADVICE**

We know there is a lot of information out there about Coronavirus. You can stay up to date on what is happening in our Shire by checking out our website, following our Facebook page or tuning in to our daily radio updates on UGFM (Monday to Saturday at 8.30am and Wednesdays 9.05am)

If you are looking for the latest information on closures and restrictions in force by the State and Federal Government please visit the DHHS website.

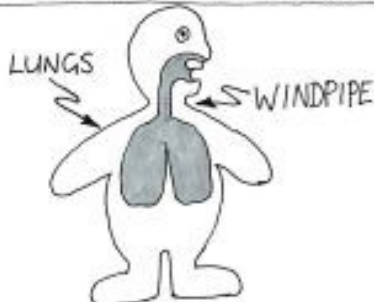
If you are looking for the most reliable health advice and information or if you think you or a family member might have been exposed to Coronavirus, you should follow advice on the DHHS website at [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

**Get in touch with Council on 5772 0333 or [customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)**



# ROUGH SCIENCE PRESENTS... CORONAVIRUS -VERSUS- SOAP!

1. CORONAVIRUSES ARE A TYPE OF VIRUS THAT CAUSE PROBLEMS IN YOUR BODY WHERE YOU BREATHE.



2. THERE ARE LOTS OF TYPES OF CORONAVIRUSES. THIS NEW ONE IS CALLED SARS-CoV-2.



3. THIS VIRUS WANTS TO GET INTO YOUR LUNGS TO CAUSE A DISEASE CALLED COVID-19.

4. THE ONLY WAY INTO YOUR LUNGS IS THROUGH THE HOLES IN YOUR FACE, LIKE YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE.



IF YOU HAVE THE VIRUS ON YOUR HANDS, IT COULD END UP IN YOUR LUNGS IF YOU TOUCH YOUR FACE...

5. BUT, CORONAVIRUS HAS A WEAKNESS!



THE VIRUS IS A BIG GOOEY BAG THAT CONTAINS THE INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE MORE VIRUSES.

THIS BALL IS HELD TOGETHER BY FAT! (THE SCIENTIFIC NAME IS 'LIPID BILAYER ENVELOPE'. A 'LIPID' IS A TYPE OF FAT.)

6. DO YOU KNOW WHAT DISSOLVES FAT?  
**SOAP!**



ARRRGH!  
I'M MELTING!

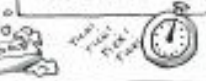
WHAT A WORLD!  
OR WHAT A WORLD!

7. TO HELP SLOW DOWN THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS, YOU NEED TO REGULARLY **WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP!**



THE SOAP WILL MOVE THE VIRUS ON YOUR HANDS AWAY!

SO:  
① USE SOAP!  
② WASH FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS!



AND STOP PICKING YOUR NOSE!

BY SEAN M. ELLIOTT @seanmelliott  
www.roughscience.net seane@roughscience.net  
MARCH 2020

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This info-graphic cleverly illustrates why washing our hands is SO important just now, thanks Sean.

## A new graph for another week....

Another interesting graph, sadly without a cat, but with some excellent modelling illustrating the reason behind the importance of social distancing.

Just think of the old school assemblies when lining up arms distance apart was an integral part of every ceremony, but the social distance for today is double arms distance or 1.5m away from each other.



Data source: University of Sydney. Chart: ABC News Story Lab

# **RUFFY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE**

## **Royal Children's Hospital FUNDRAISING AUCTIONS**

**The 2020 Good Friday Ruffy CFA Seafood Lunch is cancelled !**

**We are not even permitted to 'door-knock' or 'tin rattle'  
to raise funds for the Royal Children's Hospital.**

**BUT, we have a target to beat !**

**So, we are auctioning a tandem-trailer load of split firewood  
each month for April, May, June & July.**

**Bidding opens 1st day of each month & closes midnight last day of month**

**You can place your bids by phone, SMS message, email or in person to**

**Ruffy Rural Fire Brigade Treasurer—Don Cook**

**Mobile: 0408 929 818—Email: mavdon50@gmail.com**

**Progressive Auction totals will be notified to current bidders,  
posted on the Ruffy Facebook page and at the Ruffy fire-shed  
Or just call Cookie for a bidding update!**

**ALL funds raised from these Auctions will go to the  
Royal Children's Hospital  
Good Friday Appeal**



*Delivery is included to the  
Ruffy /Highlands/Tablelands*

A message from the **RuffArtz Committee:**

**RuffArtZ**

We regret to inform you that the upcoming RuffArt presentation of 'Canyon Callers' has been cancelled. The **RuffArtz Committee** advises that in response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic & new Government regulation, **we have regretfully cancelled the 'Canyon Callers' show, originally scheduled for 23 May at the Ruffy Hall.** Season pass holders will be advised by email over the coming weeks about possible rescheduling. Meanwhile, the **Ruzzartz Committee** encourage you to support electronic formats of the Arts & we hope that live entertainment will return soon.



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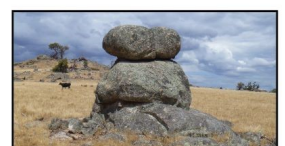
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## Kelly's Hut



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