



# THE GRANITE NEWS

16TH APRIL 2020

VOLUME 14

COVID-19 SPECIAL 7

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Mea culpa. I commenced the previous issue of The Granite News with the line “for the observant reader...” I perhaps should have applied it to myself and been an astute observer. In my defence though I’ve never been an enthusiast for cryptic crosswords, where there are several meanings for each clue, and it was the Easter eggs that made me ‘see’ Easter rather than the fact that the wee stuffed toy to the right was not actually a rabbit!

It is in fact a cat, and what is that cat sitting on? A curve. So the mysterious exterior decorator on the Ghin Ghin cutting is not only celebrating Easter, but the Cattening or Flattening of the curve too! Did any other readers spot the cryptic aspect of this delightful display or, like me, missed it completely? I hope I’ve got some company.

Until next issue, **Pauline**

**And Kenny?** Was welcoming Larry home to Highlands.



## HCCC News

Janet would like to thank the many TGN readers who decided to plant all those free trees advertised in the last few issues. As she hopped around the area, delivering trees over Easter, she says that she felt like the Easter Bunny!

## The Million Paws Walk

For several years now the RSPCA has held its major fundraising event, the Million Paws Walk, on a weekend in May. Sadly, like so many other events in the recent and foreseeable future it has had to be cancelled, which aside from resulting in a lot of disappointed dogs wanting to go walkies, also means a severe dip in funds for the care and housing of the thousands of animals that the RSPCA looks after each year.

However, yet again due to Covid-19, we are learning to work outside the box and the RSPCA has done just this with a slight tweaking of the Million Paws Walk concept. Instead of a one off single day event they are inviting dog owners to sign up for the 2020 Million Paws Walk (for free) and commit to a 30 minute walk, with their best friend, every day in May. Not only will your four-footed friend thank you, you get valuable, on-going exercise too!

You can even arrange sponsorship for the number of days/kms you walk. Interested? Go to [www.millionpawswalk.com.au](http://www.millionpawswalk.com.au) Believe it or not these 2 puppies will be ready to go on May 1st—go team



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)

**“Near enough is not good enough.”**

**Scratched on the wall, in pencil,  
of Frank Hurley’s dark room at  
Commonwealth Bay.**

**Mawson’s official photographer**

**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!

The fuel price drop during a lockdown is the equivalent to a bald man winning a hairbrush.



## Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

**1800 020 080**





## Website of the Week

**Earth Day 2020 is April 22 (see p.3)**

[www.earthday.org/earth-day-2020](http://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2020) why not read all about the 50th anniversary of this event or discover this website instead [www.cleanuptheworld.org](http://www.cleanuptheworld.org)

## Community Notices & Classifieds

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

1st weekend of the month (not winter) 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—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & 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 all members. Enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce and enjoy the company of friends.	Strip Community Centre
2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm 	<b>DRINKS ON THE DECK</b> Starts at 6.30pm bring a drink and a snack. All welcome, especially new members.	Community Hall
3rd Thursday or Friday each month	<b>HUGHES CR</b> The next meeting is on Thursday 11th April commencing at 7pm. All welcome.	at ??????
Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm	<b>SECRET MEN'S LUNCH</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.	at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
DON'T FORGET to BID!! 	<b>RUFFY CFA WOOD RAFFLES</b> The fundraising for the Royal Children's Hospital continues and you've got to be in it to win it!! A tandem trailer load of wood is up for auction each month—April, May, June & July. Bidding opens the first day of each month and closes midnight last day of each month. Winners notified and published in TGN. Delivery is included to Ruffy, Highlands and the Tablelands. Bids can be placed by phone, SMS, email or in person to Don Cook - 0408 929818 or <a href="mailto:mavdon50@gmail.com">mavdon50@gmail.com</a>	
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?? Please note the Mobile Library Service is temporarily suspended until further notice!!	at Highlands Community Hall
Every Monday @ 10 am	<b>QIGONG AT RUFFY</b> Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the health benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien on 0408 929818 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 CLASSES</b> Swing dances feature the 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

All these monthly events will be returning to a place near YOU, hopefully soon, but not until it is safe. Stay tuned .....

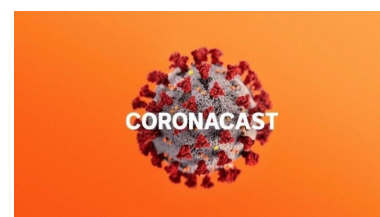


Postponed until further notice

### 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.

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



## Earth Day 2020

This year, April 22nd 2020, marks 50 years of celebrating Earth Day.

For those who believe climate awareness is a more recent phenomenon you may be surprised to hear that pollution concern has been around much longer than the Millennials and Greta Thunberg.

Earth Day was established on April 22 1970 motivated by a huge oil spill in February 1969 in which 800 square miles of ocean shore in Santa Barbara, California, was covered in crude oil.

20 million Americans took to the streets in hundreds of cities to protest against environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward. The outcome was a wave of laws in the United States. This included the Clean Air Act (1970), Clean Water Act (1972), Endangered Species Act (1972) and the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency (1970).

These same initiatives were adopted worldwide.

Earth Day of the 70s was rowdy and you can expect Earth Day 2020 won't be near as rambunctious - yet its underlying sentiment remains the same. This year's focus is on climate action. A modern day wording of the same fundamental global challenge raised 50 years ago, "How do we reduce our pollution and curtail its impact on the health of the eco-system (nature, people and animals)?"

Over the last 50 years we have come a long way in our individual global awareness of the damage human population has caused to the eco-system. Yet awareness doesn't always transpire into action and many people just feel helpless.

Don't feel helpless this Earth Day. Renewed pressure is being placed on governments to act by global protests such as the School Strike 4 Climate and Extinction Rebellion replicating the unrest of Earth Day 1970.

And if you are looking for something to do turn to Clean Up Australia Day's sister initiative Clean up the World (supported by the UN) to find ways to live greener, donate or get involved. The world will be a better place by us all acknowledging we can do something, no matter how small or big that is.

**Hayley Purbrick - Tahbilk**

\* I have included previous articles by Hayley Purbrick in TGN as she is one of the next generation actively, and successfully, pursuing the concept of carbon neutrality and writes succinctly on environmental issues. **Ed.**



## Terip takes some Timeout

Dear Everyone,

Please note that we have been required to close the Terip Community Centre, tennis courts and public toilets at the Terip Recreation Reserve due to Covid-19 restrictions. As soon as these restrictions are lifted we look forward to seeing everyone again at our regular events. The committee wishes everyone a Happy Easter and hopes that our community stays safe. We are lucky to be isolated in such a beautiful place like Terip!

## More Sanity Saver Suggestions

How do you keep a sense of normality when all around us is not normal? Here are a few more suggestions...

- Have you discovered TED talks yet? Now might be an excellent time to do so & tune into the topic of your choice, as knowledgeable speakers from around the world take you on a journey of discovery. With over 3,000 talks to choose from you'll never be bored [www.ted.com/talks](http://www.ted.com/talks)
- Bonjour! Comment ça va? Brushing up on the old form 2 French has never been easier or you can learn a plethora of other languages at [www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com) C'est facile, non?



## AMNESTY BURN PERIOD

Since the CFA declared an end to the fire danger period, an amnesty burn period has been in place and will remain in place until

**Monday 4 May 2020.**

Residents in farming areas can burn off vegetation material without a permit. Residents in township zones and built up areas can burn-off vegetation material without a permit until **Monday 4 May 2020.**

Residents can also deposit green waste **free of charge** and all year round at any of Council's Resource Recovery Centres. There are a number of conditions that still apply. Before burning off, please register your burn by calling **1800 668 511.**

For more information about burning off and the amnesty period, please visit our website and search 'amnesty', or give us a call.

## Gardening for Wildlife in a Time of Isolation

We hope you are all keeping well and well occupied in your new lives. We have been spending a lot of time in the garden during our lovely Autumn days.

Judging by the conversations with friends – and the sale of seedlings in the local shops – many people are also sitting outside with a cup or glass or getting down and dirty in the garden. The time now available to many of us at home has created lots of opportunities to enjoy, enhance our gardens and record the wildlife in our backyards.

Read on....

### Creating a Garden for Wildlife

Now is a great time to working in your gardens. We have been re-organising our vegetable garden and planting lots of vegetables. But we have also re-designed our garden to accommodate more native plants. We are now seeing a few more birds and a wide variety of insects, spiders and more in our backyard. Recently we were surprised and very pleased to see a female Red-capped Robin in our yard.

Apart from the pleasure of watching native wildlife in your garden, you will be helping the survival of our local fauna and your garden will benefit from attracting all the pollinators and predators needed to create a healthy garden and a joyous place to be.



In addition to planting a diversity of native plants for birds and insects, you can also: set up a bird bath or 2, make and install insect hotels for native bees, set up a frog pond (I have seen clips on using PVC pipe scraps to create shelter for frogs), set up rock piles for shelter and basking areas and much more!

Here are some useful sites on providing information and ideas for helping you make a garden that is wildlife friendly.

**Gardens for Wildlife:** <https://gardensforwildlifevictoria.com/>

Local Group at <http://www.apsmitchell.org.au/gardens-for-wildlife/> or @g4wmitchell on Facebook

**Habitat Stepping Stones:** <http://www.habitatsteppingstones.org.au/>

**Sustainable Gardening Australia:** <https://www.sgaonline.org.au/> Great site for resources and advice on setting your gardens up sustainably – useful for productive and non productive gardens as well as tips for wildlife friendly gardening.

### Citizen science in your backyard

You can get even more involved by recording and talking about the species you see in your backyard. Several citizen science projects are running now and they are great family activities.

**Birdlife Australia: Birding at Home activities:** <https://www.networkbirdlife.org/birding-at-home> Enjoy a cuppa with the birds – 10 min bird survey during your morning cuppa. Site has information, video clips of birds and resources.

### Wild Pollinator Count – open now:

<https://wildpollinatorcount.com/blog/> This is a simple survey run twice yearly – get involved. The site has great resources and guides on how to contribute

Happy gardening  
Peter and Barbara

**\* Reprinted with many thanks to Peter & Barbara as this article was taken from the most recent BEAM Newsletter.**

So what are you waiting for? Get digging or keep an eye on the birds.



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## [DKO] CONSTRUCTIONS

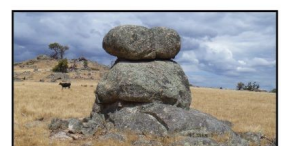
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## Kelly's Hut



## Strathbogie Granite Project

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