



THE GRANITE NEWS

30TH APRIL 2020

VOLUME 14

COVID-19 SPECIAL 9

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Let's hear it for all this glorious rain, the ducks & frogs are in party mode.

As promised this, week we have a little quiz to stretch the brain cells and maybe even win a lovely prize, donated by John & Lisa, with many thanks. So there are 5 questions, with answers to be sent to editor@tgn.org.au by **Monday 4th May**, winner to be announced in next Thursday's TGN with the prize dispatched to the winner shortly after that.

Bearing in mind that the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative is the organisation behind The Granite News the questions are all related to the HCCC and/or Landcare, so good luck to everyone.

1. In what year was the HCCC formed?
2. Which original Landcare groups comprised the HCCC?
3. Name 3 feral animals that inhabit the local (HCCC) area?
4. Who is credited with bringing rabbits to Victoria? Hint: Barwon Park
5. For how many years has The Granite News been published?

Until next issue, take care and stay safe, **Pauline**

And Kenny? Was back in Kopanica's excavator—he just loves big toys .



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

On home-schooling during Covid-19

Right about now, many parents are going to discover the teacher wasn't the problem.

Anon

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**

WANTED

Border collie or kelpie pup as a companion dog. A good home is assured with lots of walks and cuddles. If you can assist ring **Michael 0429 804235**



Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

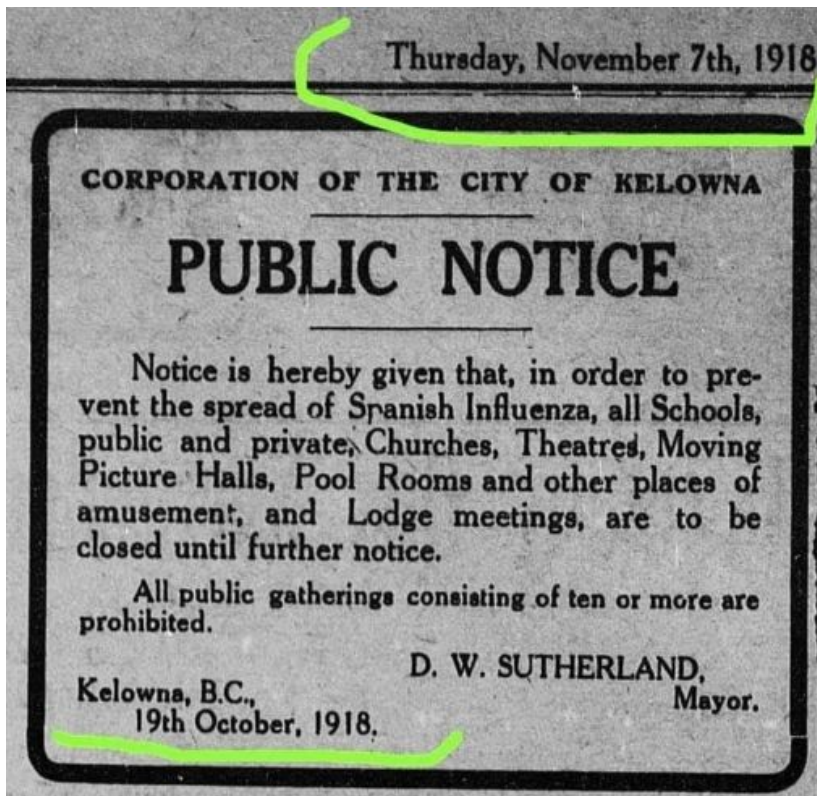
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Website of the Week

In the last few weeks our visual and performing arts communities have been decimated due to Covid -19. For ballet enthusiasts... enjoy

<https://australianballet.com.au/the-ballets/digital-season>





History Repeats itself - again!



Kelowna is in British Columbia, Canada and thanks again to Sandy Mackenzie for this little piece of repeated history.

Community Notices & Classifieds

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

1st weekend of the month (not winter) 10-4	DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 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 	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB 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 	TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA 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 	DRINKS ON THE TABLE Starts at 6.30pm. A great way to meet 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	HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. at ?????? Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS 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 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE 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	QIGONG AT RUFFY Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien or email: vivienwatmough@gmail.com at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASS 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

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

Job Opportunities - Working for Victoria

Murrindindi Shire is encouraging any of its residents, whose employment is affected by the Coronavirus, to register their details on the 'Working for Victoria' website to access new work opportunities. Those eligible to apply can use their skills in new roles or take up training opportunities for specific roles instead. Go to www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria for details. Quite possibly Mitchell and Strathbogie Shires are offering something similar, why not give them a call to find out more?

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](#).



DINDI DIRECTORY

It's Business as Unusual

#supportlocal from the comfort of your home

Murrindindi Shire Council has launched a new online business and services directory to help support and connect business with their customers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

'Dindi Directory' gives the community information about hospitality and retail businesses, trades and services, health and fitness, library and learning services within Murrindindi Shire.

Show your support to our businesses by purchasing products and services locally. It's a great way to #supportlocal from the comfort of your own home.

If you're a business or service provider, all you need to do is register your details on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/supportlocal or give us a call on 5772 0333 and we'll create your free listing on the Dindi Directory.



The Human Condition

During the summer, many people lost their homes and businesses in bush fires and now Covid-19 comes along with all its new restrictions, frustrations and heartbreak. It must almost be too much? Bush fires, droughts, floods and pandemics with the climate crisis also the elephant in the room. This is in fact the 'human condition'. We can't actually avoid it.

Richard Dawkins tells us, **Nature is not cruel, but piteously indifferent. This is one of the hardest lessons for humans to learn. We cannot admit that things can be neither good nor evil, neither cruel nor kind – but simply callous, indifferent to all suffering, lacking in purpose.** ('River Out of Eden' p. 95)

Add to that the role of human folly, ignorance and greed then we do live in a world of uncertainty and gratuitous suffering. There is no perfect world. The mythical paradise of the garden of Eden never really existed except in the dreams of human beings. Forget the conspiracy theories that a god is pulling the strings and punishing us for our sins. This is the reality of the world we live in, it is if you like the 'default condition'. There are no easy answers as one Prime Minister once said, 'life is not meant to be easy.'

It is left to humanity to rise to the occasion. We have proven throughout history, that through human ingenuity, knowledge, strength and skilfulness we can do amazing things to lessen the uncertainty and suffering. But one thing is clear we cannot manage this individually, we need each other, we need to have faith in each other, it is our only hope. To get through these current crises, dreaming of heaven does nothing, only empathy, compassion and love will win the day.

Stuart Reid - Highlands

Let's Laugh Nature rallies as humanity steps back.



It's beautiful and heartening to see baby Plesiosaurs making the arduous and dangerous journey from Loch Ness to re-populate Scotland's other lochs.....
A sight not witnessed by humankind since the Bronze Age!

Getting Started with Zoom Meetings

Hands up all those who say, 6 weeks ago, had never heard of ZOOM? Yep quite a few I suspect.

Well for those of you who have not yet had to engage in an on-line meeting, since Stage 3 lock-down, Zoom appears to be the preferred method to do so. So if you are curious or ready to start using Zoom, but need some help check out this website

<https://www.zoom.us/webinar/register>

Drop-in for the daily (Mon-Fri) quick starts! A Zoom expert will take you through a 30-minute high-level tour of Zoom and cover the basics to get you up and running. It's as simple as logging in, scheduling a meeting, and finding the controls.

So why not start Zooming today!

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