



THE GRANITE NEWS

25TH APRIL 2021

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 13

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Another ANZAC Day has just about gone and things are almost back to 'normal' this year with Terip's annual ANZAC commemoration back on the calendar. It doesn't feel as though a year has gone by since April 25th 2020, as so many things were in stasis over the last twelve months. Some things have changed dramatically, others not at all and I presume that we are all becoming dab hands with QR codes for registering our presence in many and varied locations.

Speaking of many and varied, some of you may have noticed that there are a couple of back page ads in need of sponsorship this year, and this week a few more vacancies were made available. Whilst most spaces advertise businesses, you don't necessarily need to advertise a business, if you value the community communication aspect that The Granite News does, then you could donate altruistically for an ad space instead.

As we are almost a third of the way through the year these spaces have been adjusted for pro rata sponsorship and now cost only \$160 for the remainder of the year. If you are interested in financially supporting this great community newsletter please email editor@tgn.org.au, thanks.

Until the next issue of TGN, stay safe, **Pauline**

And Kenny... was desperately trying to give away Judy's spa bath.



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

**"Remember the ANZACs Australia,
it's good to live in a democracy."**

**Message written on a blackboard
sign and seen on Kangaroo Island
today.**

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**

Ruffy Celebrates the Tablelands & Tomatoes

Easter Saturday saw the sun shining and loads of locals descending upon Ruffy for the official opening of the Tablelands History Project, the announcement of the winners of the GREAT Tomato Challenge, some fun with old-fashioned games and an excellent fund-raising effort that will enhance the TCC's newly renovated kitchen. For the full story and pictures see p. 3.



Let's laugh



Post Covid - Post Carbon

Don't forget your keep-cup when heading out for a take-away drink. Around 1 billion disposable coffee cups hit landfills in Australia each year. Some cafes offer discounts if you BYO cup too! That's a win-win!

HCCC Membership

Don't forget that membership of the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative is ongoing and free! Just email editor@tgn.org.au to join.

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

Community Notices & Classifieds

WHAT'S ON — April & May

April 11th - May 9th 10-4 daily	DENNIS SPITERI's 2021 EXHIBITION at Hillcrest Studio Dennis's annual exhibition of his most excellent paintings will be open daily. Enquiries? 57969373
April 9th	WHAT WE SEEK II at backARTS, 20 Cowslip St, Violet Town An exhibition of the latest works of art by Kristen R. MacKenzie.
Thursday 29th April @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.
Saturday 1st May @ 8.45am 	RIPARIAN WALK #3 - Starting @ Watkins Rd, Creek Junction—ending @ Creek Junction Rd The final Strathbogie RangesCMN walk for the third round of these walks. This one is 7.5kms long and of moderate difficulty. Numbers are limited to 20, so bookings are essential! See p.4 for more details. To enquire and/or book - admin@strathbogie_ranges.org
Sat. 1st & Sun. 2nd May 10-4	DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands 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.
Tuesday 4th May 6-7.30pm	COMPOST Q & A for all Mitchell, Murrindindi & Strathbogie residents Do you have any questions about compost? Well now is the time to find out the answers, see p.3 for more information or Contact Grace - grace.davis-williams@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au with your Qs.
Thursday 6th May 5.30—6.30pm	YEA 2030 CLIMATE ADAPTATION 'POD' at Yea Library Launching the 2030Yea Climate Adaptation online information "pod" which includes three locally made videos that will be shown for the first time (see p.4 for more info.) Enquiries? Clare 0428 969366
Monday 10th May @ 11am 	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2021 at the same place, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided. Enquiries? - Jan 5790 4361
Wednesday 12th May 6.00 - 7.30pm	ON THE ROAD at Highlands Community Hall Come along to the Murrindindi Library Service's annual 'On the Road' event for a feast of excellent literary, audio and visual delights that are available to enjoy via the library service. To RSVP 5772 0333
Friday 14th May @ 6.30pm 	DRINKS ON THE DECK at Highlands Community Hall Starts at 6.30pm bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. Contact Judy 57969247
Saturday 15th May 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
Tuesday 18th May @ 7.30pm	RUFFY COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP AGM & GM at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy All community members WELCOME . Please come along with suggestions and ideas of projects and activities which would benefit our community during the next financial year. We encourage wider community participation with all current Committee roles declared vacant. If there are any associated costs, please invoice RCAG, c/- Rob Jamieson via email - robjam054@gmail.com
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE at Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be at Highlands on these dates— April 28th and May 5th & 26th.
Every Monday @ 10 am	QIGONG AT RUFFY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien on 57969247 or email: vivienwatmough@gmail.com
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASS at Euroa Uniting Church Hall Swing dances featuring a live Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559

Postponed until further notice

Composting Q & A - On-line Webinar

Do you have some questions about composting? Well we have all the answers.

Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shire residents are all invited to join our panel of experts to answer all your composting questions. We have organised a free online compost Q&A style webinar for International Compost Awareness Week Australia (ICAWA) which is May 3-9.

Join us online on Tuesday, May 4, and ask us your tricky, curly and strange composting questions – Our panel of experts will answer your questions live and give tips for troubleshooting home compost systems.

To ensure your question gets answered, you can submit composting questions before the event by emailing text, photos or even a short video to grace.davis-williams@mitschellshire.vic.gov.au

Recommended age: All ages

When: Tuesday May 4th

Time: from 6.00-7.30PM **Bookings are essential register -** <https://compostqa.eventbrite.com.au>

Ruffy Celebrates in style



Anyone for FREE Feijoas?

Jan has a feijoa tree, which has dropped a LOT of fruit (either by itself and /or combined with some help from the parrots).

They are free to anybody who can make use of them.

Just ring on **5790 4361** to arrange collection from Caveat.

Ruffy Celebrates ... continued

The sun was shining for the Tablelands Community Centre Open Day. Cr Laura Binks cut the ribbon to officially open the Tablelands History Project - a static display and timeline.

You can download a copy of the timeline at www.tablelands-community.com.au The much awaited announcement of the great tomato challenge was next & winners were presented with their hamper boxes.

- The first red tomato record broken and eaten on the 25th November by Oliver Ford
 - The best hat while planting your tomato had equal winners with Corby Baird - fit for the races and Craig Martin - so proud of his hat that he will keep on stitching it together forever
 - The heaviest tomato at 265g went to Carole Mansfield
 - The youngest grower went to Floyd Clarke
 - The best tomatoes I have grown and worthy of crystal bowl display went to Annabel Hawkins.
- Jars of tomato chutney and sauces were lined up for judging
- The winner of the best tomato chutney went to Mandy Edwards and how quickly did that go at the BBQ.

Roscoe was back in Ruffy after many years, entertaining children of the children he has entertained in the past. Everyone was a winner with laughs a plenty in the egg and spoon and sack races.

The silent auction of the old playground equipment saw 3 lots sold.

The fundraising envelopes lovingly decorated by Mabel, Audrey, Henrietta, Lawson and Sienna have raised enough funds to see the rangehood installed in the newly renovated kitchen at the Tablelands Community Centre. There are still envelopes for sale with this fundraiser.

The day finished off with the BBQ and cakes galore while listening to music from Geoff Achison - world class blues - roots musician.

A huge thank you on behalf of the Tablelands Community Centre Inc to all the volunteers and participants who brought the day together and especially to -

- * RuffArtz for their generous sponsorship of the entertainment on the day
- * Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative for supplying the tomato seedlings
- * Splitrock for keeping us hydrated on the day with bottled water and soft drinks
- * Dindi Naturals for donations to hamper boxes
- * Helen at the Ruffy Store for use of her kitchen and donation of ice and veggie burgers
- * Nutrien Harcourt for hand sanitiser and sunscreen
- * Andy Williams for a great job mowing the grounds leading up to the day
- * Ruffy CFA and Ruffy Recreation Ground for use of their BBQ, chairs and tables
- * Cassie Moore for flier design and
- * Adrian Martin for hamper boxes

Acidic soils, acid-tolerant pasture species,



GOULBURN
BROKEN
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY

moisture probes, and deep-core soil sampling



Event details

Date: Friday 7 May 2021

1st Workshop – Lime, pasture species, Moly and GA trial site. Hear from Strathbogies SoilCare group members about what they have learnt over the past five years from their trial site and what has influenced them.

Meeting place: Carpenters Lane Strathbogies
Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm

Please wear sturdy walking shoes and bring a drink, hat and writing materials.

2nd Workshop – Accessing and using probe data. With Brad Costin and Damien Gerrans.

Meeting place: Strathbogies Hall
Time: 12.30pm – 2.00pm

If you are unwell, awaiting results of a COVID test or have been in a hotspot, please do not attend this event.

Numbers are limited and registration is mandatory for this workshop due to COVID-19 requirements.

To register, [click here](#) or contact Karen on 0409 955 396,
karenb@gbcm.vic.gov.au

Background

The Strathbogies SoilCare and Strathbogies Tableland Landcare groups have been trailing ways to boost their pasture production since 2016.

They installed a lime trial comparing 2.5 tonne/Ha, seven tonne/Ha, and a control to increase soil pH and reduce aluminium.

In their second trial, the group sowed nine acid-tolerant pasture species in the lime trial site.

A trial using Molybdenum (trace element in soils) and Gibberellic Acid (artificial hormone) has also been added.

Gecko CLaN Landcare Network installed a weather station and two moisture probes to 80cm at the trial site. Data collected includes rainfall, soil moisture and soil temperature.

The site has also had soil samples taken to 80cm to examine differences in soil structure down the profile.

Brad Costin, AgVic, and Damien Gerrans will discuss how to use the data to make on-farm decisions. We will assist land managers to log in and access the data monitoring site.



This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Riparian Walk #3.6

After getting back into the swing of things in Upton Hill, we now find ourselves taking the final Riparian stroll for the year.

Continuing our exploration of the Seven Creeks we will be exploring the most upstream section to date. Starting on private property we will soon reach the Crown frontage. This runs all the way down to Gooram, which was the first ever riparian walk.

Expect a long walk (7.5kms / 4.5 hrs) of easy difficulty with blackberries and multiple creek crossings to contend with. Hiking experience isn't necessary but an average level of fitness and mobility will be required. The walk difficulty will increase if the weather is wet beforehand or hot on the day.

Walkers will meet on the side of the road where the Seven Creeks passes under Watkins Rd. From there walkers will enter private property before transitioning to the Seven Creeks Crown frontage. After crossing Ankers Rd and heading down to the Creek Junction Road there will be a short car shuffle back to the start.

No dogs or other pets are allowed and if you can provide assistance with the car shuffle please indicate in your RSVP email. Bookings are essential so register your interest at
admin@strathbogieranges.org



RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKSHOPS

2030Yea is a group of volunteers from Yea and surrounds dedicated to the goal of Yea operating solely on renewable energy by 2030.



Council is pleased to support 2030Yea to host a series of workshops at the Yea Library, which will be presented by experts in the renewable energy space. During the workshop you will learn ways you can reduce your energy costs and move to renewable energy.

The following workshops will be held from 5.30 to 6.30 pm.

- Thursday, 8 April - Understanding Your Energy Use
- Thursday, 15 April - Renewables
- Thursday, 22 April - Community Energy
- Thursday, 29 April - Home Efficiency
- Thursday, 6 May - DELWP's Climate Adaptation in Yea project
- Thursday, 13 May - Regenerative Agriculture

Numbers are limited for these workshops so get in quick. For more information and to register for any of these workshops, please call 5772 0333, drop in at the Yea Library or visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraryevents

murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries
Phone: 5772 0333



nbn™ is strengthening its commitment to regional Victoria.

Meet your nbn™ local team across Strathbogies Shire from 3-5 May.

- 3/5 - 9.30-11.30am - Strathbogies Memorial Hall
- 3/5 - 1.30-3.30pm - Violet Town Community Complex
- 4/5 - 9-10.30am - Ruffy Tablelands Community Centre
- 4/5 - 12-2pm - Longwood Pub Paddock
- 4/5 - 3.30-5pm - Avenel Memorial Hall
- 5/5 - 9am-12pm - Euroa Saleyards
- 5/5 - 1.30pm-3pm - Nagambie Visitor Information Centre
- 5/5 - 4.30pm-5.30pm - Graytown Community Centre

nbn.com.au

Time to think about Paterson's Curse

HCCC is now looking for expressions of interest from all landowners to join in with the Landcare group in its annual helicopter spraying for Paterson's Curse.

The spraying will take place in May - June.

Each landowner will be subsidised 50% for the cost of the weedicide, to a maximum of 3 loads.

This year we will be using a larger Helicopter and the Load price is \$1450.00 plus GST. This covers 26 Ha's

Contact Neil van Buuren to book your property for this particularly important community event and help us to control the spread of this noxious weed.

This year due to chemical shortages, Paton Air have secured all the chemicals we need.



Phone: 0417 503 472

Email

hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au

Let's talk Telstra

Do you have ongoing issues with electronic communication in the 21st Century from your home or property?

Did you miss out on attending one of the two Telstra information sessions recently held at Ruffy & Strathbogie?

If your answer was yes to either or both of those questions then the following may be of interest.

* In order to alleviate the poor reception, particularly in the Kobyboyn valley and surrounding area, it is hoped that an extra Telstra tower will eventually be erected close to the Kobyboyn Exchange building. However this essential piece of infrastructure is dependent on Telstra receiving funding from the Federal Government for its erection. As a result it could take a couple of years to achieve this result!

Why not contact your local Federal representative to see if this timeframe can be expedited? Our safety is paramount.

Damien Drum MP—Nicholls Electorate 03 5821 5371 or email damien.drums@aph.gov.au

Helen Haines MP – Indi Electorate 02 6024 6284 or email helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au

Or if you would like to chat with a Telstra representative directly **Steve Tinker, Telstra's Regional General Manager, is willing to take enquiries—03 5832 4013 0428 538695 or email stephen.tinker@team.telstra.com**



On the Road



Join us at the Highlands Community Hall for an evening of 'On the Road'. Real people talking about real books, eBooks, magazines, DVDs and other great works.

**6.00 - 7.30 pm | Wednesday 12 May
Highlands Community Hall
1603 Ghin-Ghin Road, Highlands**

Please RSVP by calling 5772 0333



@murrindindilibrarianservice
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries
5772 0333



What We Seek II

An exhibition of the latest works

by Kristen R MacKenzie

"What you seek is seeking you" Rumi

"Drawings, prints and paintings containing multidimensional levels which should spark the imagination of the viewer to look beyond what you see. Believing in the beauty in all living things, miracles, magic and the interconnection that exists between every living thing around us. These themes have wound their way through the art works." Kristen R MacKenzie.



backARTS

20 Cowslip Street—Violet Town
Opening Friday 9th April from 6.30pm

DON'T FORGET!! For those HCCC readers who attended the excellent lunch on March 27th, it would be really appreciated if you could complete this short survey, thanks.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GL2TYWB>

Did you know?

Every year we lose more lives in residential fires than we do in bushfires. With chilly nights becoming the norm the importance of fire safety in the home cannot be overlooked. At the end of daylight saving did you change your smoke alarm battery? And if that alarm is 10 years old or more, it's time to replace it.

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