



THE GRANITE NEWS

31ST MAY 2021

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 18

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Anyone have a feeling of déjà vu? All local HCCC & Victorian TGN readers will know what I mean as we're back in lockdown - again, but it's only for 7 days and we're all becoming quite expert at adaptation.

A lockdown is announced and one goes into automatic pilot mode. Even though essential shopping is exempt, there is always a quick mental calculation of how much food is at home—especially cans of dog food! In my day job, there is the notification to the volunteer staff that their services are not required until next Friday, signs attached to the front door advising closure for 7 days and the phone message changed to reflect the current circumstances. Then it's back to working from home! It's annoying, but not alarming - we've done it before and we know that aside from a fully vaccinated population that masks, lockdowns and quarantine are the best ways to ensure that this insidious virus doesn't get the upper hand.

What is concerning though are the following facts and the lack of progress to rectify some of them

- The Covid-19 virus is global, highly infectious and like all viruses it is able to morph and mutate
- The virus is spread in many ways, but for some time now aerosol droplet dispersal has been accepted as one of them
- There have been 17 outbreaks, in 5 states, of virus spread from hotel quarantine over the last few months
- Several states, Victoria included, have put forward plans for purpose-built quarantine facilities (like Howard Springs) for the more high-risk/positive quarantine cases, yet so far none of these plans have been given the green light
- The roll-out of vaccines, across the country, is way behind any original plans due to a multitude of reasons including mixed messages across the media
- Although there is concern re blood clotting with the Astra Zeneca vaccine in the under 50s, medical experts have advised that there is a 1 : 88,000 chance of this happening. One has a greater chance of winning Tattsлото Division 3 (5 winning numbers) - 1 : 36,689
- Another Victorian lockdown has meant that both Covid tests and vaccinations have set new records over the last couple of days
- Within hours of the latest lockdown being announced the Federal Government released an extra 100,000 vaccine doses for Victorians which hopefully might finish vaccinating the old and the disabled.
- My local doctor is only allocated 50 vaccine doses a week, but even if more were made available there is not enough extra staff or space to administer them, which means that, although I booked in 3 weeks ago for a vaccination, my appointment is not until 8th July!

Apologies for going on at length about this but every life is precious and we CAN beat this mongrel virus. See p. 3 for a list of vaccination locations.

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

And Kenny... was back on his favourite fire truck publicising Mudbash.



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

"Common sense is not so common."

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

Irish poet & playwright

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



Post Covid - Post Carbon

**World Environment Day is
June 5th**





Established 1974 by the United Nations in order to encourage awareness & action for the protection of the environment

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

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

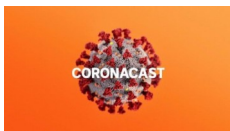
Community Notices

WHAT'S ON — May & June

Monday 31st May @ 10am	QIGONG CLASSES with VIVIEN WATMOUGH RESUME - see below Recommencing NEXT week now 7/6/21 after COVID lockdown restrictions lift!
Friday 11th June @ 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. 57969247 & Contact Judy
Friday 11th June - Sunday 13th June 	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT RFB FUNDRAISING @ MUDBASH at Mafeking Park Volunteers for bucket rattling are required at the following times Friday 11/6 3 - 7pm (includes setting up as well as fundraising) Also 7 - 11ish pm - donations only Saturday 12/6 9-11am and 11am-1pm Sunday 13/6 9-11am and 11am-1pm (includes dismantling) Offers of assistance 0427 529551
Monday 14th June @ 11am 	HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2021 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. Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361
Thursday 17th June @ 7pm	HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL MEETING at Highlands Community Hall All community members are invited to attend this Hall meeting and maybe consider becoming more involved with the Hall Committee. NB New Date! Enquiries? - Judy 57969247
Thursday 17th June @ 7.30pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING venue TBC All are welcome to attend this monthly meeting. Enquiries? - contact Justus 0427 524473
Saturday 19th June 12-2pm 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
Sunday 20th June @ 12.30 for 1pm	WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION at Ruffy Community Hall Everyone is welcome to come along and celebrate the winter solstice with food and games, friends and family. See p.3 for more details. Enquiries? - Sharron 5790 4329
Thursday 24th June @ 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
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—June 9th & 23rd and July 7th & 21st.
Every Monday @ 10 am	ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA at Tablelands Community Centre Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy. For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	SWING DANCE CLASSES - Free! at Euroa Uniting Church Hall Swing dances feature the jazz, Big Band, and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! Postponed until further notice Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559

Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080



Coronacast is an accurate podcast that helps to answer your questions about Covid 19. Listen for free on

ABC listen app, Apple Podcasts or Google Podcasts

Re-grow...

Australians spend around \$20 per week on veggies, or about \$1,000 annually. Yet it is easy to GYO Grow Your Own, which means fewer trips to the shops and the health benefits of organic produce. You might not even have to pay for the seedlings - save the seeds from tomatoes or cucumbers, plant them in a container - and old egg carton is fine and watch your crop grow. Fresh celery can be grown from a celery base and potatoes can be planted to grow - even more potatoes.

HCCC News

HCCC will be running a field at 2 sites on Tuesday 22nd June - 9:30 am Tarcombe & 1:30 at Bluetop Rd Highlands A light lunch is included

The aim of the field day is to demonstrate how to build carbon and improve soil health. It is also important to address any underlying constraints such as soil acidity, compaction, or other chemical, physical, or biological barriers.

Join us for a soil pit workshop in June to highlight that building soil carbon is dependent on overall good soil health.

The workshop will be presented by

Dr Cassandra Scheffe, AgriSci Pty Ltd, who is a soil scientist with over 20 years' experience in

- identifying and addressing soil constraints in agriculture and
- with expertise and experience spanning the R, D & E spectrum; from nanoscale reaction work to hands-on soil pits.

Cassie works with farmers, industry, academia and government to improve the delivery of quality knowledge, products and processes to farmers to support profitable, sustainable food production.

Cassie has authored 20 scientific journal papers and numerous conference proceedings and holds Adjunct positions with The University of Melbourne and Charles Sturt University, and is accredited as both a Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) by Soil Science Australia, and a FertCare accredited advisor.

In 2019 Cassie was awarded the Recognising and Rewarding Excellence Award from the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), Southern Region.

Neil van Buuren
Facilitator Weeds and Pest animals
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative

For further information please open the attachment with this week's Granite New and/or contact Neil at neil.hccc@gmail.com or 0417 503472 to RSVP



WANTED - URGENT!

Volunteers to help with CFA fundraising

Every year the Queen's Birthday weekend rolls around and the Highlands-Caveat RFB holds its annual fundraising event rattling donation buckets and selling firewood to these Rovers.

Volunteers are required to help rattle donation buckets on the gate at designated times (see p.2) on the Fri/Sat/Sun of the Queen's Birthday weekend. All community members welcome. **Ring Pauline 0427 529551 ASAP** if you are able to assist with this. Thanks.



HCCC Area - Covid Vaccination locations

The following Covid 19 vaccine locations are found within the HCCC area. Why not book in now?

Mitchell Shire - Kilmore Hospital 5734 2000
Goulburn River Group Practice, Seymour
5792 1977

Murrindindi Shire - Yea Medical Centre 5736 4000
Alexandra Family Medical Centre
5772 1699
Alexandra Hospital has a clinic each
Friday by appointment 5772 0900

Strathbogie Shire - Ring the Shire 1800 065993 for details
For **Melbourne** vaccination hubs ring 1800 675398

Winter Solstice Gathering

A get together to celebrate the shortest day of the year with friends and family.

Sunday 20 June 12.30 for 1pm @ Ruffy Community Hall

You are invited to join us for a lunch of soup, crusty bread and snags by the fire with good conversation and children's activities. Everyone is welcome.

Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.

Restoration Project Raffle will be drawn on the day

Contact Sharron 57904329 or Henry 57904246 or Bill 57904264

Gold coin donation to help with costs appreciated.

* Ruffy Hall is accepting donations

Many thanks to those wonderful TGN readers who have contributed to the Ruffy Hall Fundraising effort. **One very important request if you are EFTing a donation PLEASE make sure that you put your name in the reference section! If you have already donated anonymously please let Sharron know - sharronbatt@gmail.com** There are two options for non-Ruffy residents either by direct credit...

A/C Name - Ruffy Public Hall **BSB** - 06 3682

A/C Number - 1002 5391 OR cheques can be sent to **Melissa Eddy, (Treasurer) 2 Nolans Rd, Ruffy 3666**



STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Strathbogie Shire Council will be conducting two Extraordinary Council meetings on Tuesday 8 June 2021 at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, as per details below -

1.00 p.m.

Business:

- Receiving / Hearing of Submissions to a Proposed Closure of Euroa Tip Road at the Railway Crossing, Euroa

Please Note: If there are no submissions received, the meeting will be cancelled and notices placed on the website and via social media.

4.00 p.m.

Business:

- Receiving / Hearing of Submissions to the following –
 - Draft 2021/2022 Revenue and Rating Plan
 - Draft 2021/2022 Budget
 - Draft 2021/2022 Fees and Charges

If either/both meetings go ahead, the agendas for the meetings will be available on Council's website by close of business the Friday prior to the meetings.

Julie Salomon
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RECYCLING QUIZ

As promised here are the answers to last week's quiz.

1. Are McDonalds' cups recyclable?

No. The cups are made from liquid paper with a low amount of plastic in the cup. It's not worth the time to re-process at the moment.

2. Are milk cartons recyclable?

Not at the moment as they're made from liquid paper, but this may change in the future so keep putting them in the recycle bin. They are currently sorted and then used as thermal mass to offset fossil fuels.

3. Can batteries be put into your recycling bin?

No, as they can start fires in the truck or processing facility. They can be recycled by dropping off at council disposal depots or at Officeworks.

4. Which item is the hardest to separate out in the recycling process?

Paper bags.

5. Can shredded paper be recycled?

No, it ends up as paper dust and damages the machinery. Put it in your compost bin and consider using a black marker to cross out any important details instead of shredding the paper.

6. Can heat-activated receipts be recycled? (These receipts are the ones that turn black when left in the sun.)

No, it contaminates the paper being sorted.

7. Should you crush aluminium cans before putting them into the recycle bin?

No, the machines are designed for the standard aluminium can shape and size.

8. Should you do anything special with aluminium foil or trays before putting them into the recycle bin?

Yes, roll it into a ball as then it doesn't resemble paper.

9. Can you recycle aluminium containers lined with paint or plastic?

Yes, the furnace will deal with it.

10. Can you recycle steel bottle tops?

Yes, consider putting them in a steel can and closing them in. More steel is used for bottle caps than cars. They're important to recycle.

11. Can you recycle pet food sachets?

No, metalised plastics can't be recycled.

12. Can you put green waste into a recycling bin?

Absolutely not, it can lead to the whole collection in the truck being taken to landfill. Use your green bin or take any green waste to local council resource recovery centres.

Source: originally published in The Yea Chronicle.

Food Drive for the ASRC Foodbank

Thank you for making a difference to people seeking asylum by providing one of the most basic human rights, food. ASRC Foodbank currently provides free groceries to around 1000 people every week, most of whom have no income and no work rights. EVERY donation makes a difference.



TOP 10 MOST NEEDED ITEMS

1. tuna in oil 400g
2. tinned vegetables 400g
3. tinned tomatoes 400g
4. honey small bottles
5. coconut cream 400g
6. deodorant spray pref.
7. disposable razors
8. dishwashing liquid 500/750ml
9. shampoo + conditioner 350/400ml
10. laundry powder 1kg max



inquiries (03)9326 6066
email donatefood@asrc.org.au

Please note that the ASRC does not need baked beans, tinned soup or tinned spaghetti.

If you are interested in assisting with this food drive for others less fortunate than ourselves please email your interest to editor@tgn.org.au before June 7th. Thanks



REVIEW OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989 AND 2020

In accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Acts 1989 and 2020* Council is required to review Mayoral and Councillor Allowances prior to 30 June 2021.

At its meeting of 18 May 2021, Council resolved to give notice that the review has commenced and is now seeking community input into the review.

Allowances are set by the Minister for Local Government and **Strathbogie Shire is a Category 1 municipality – Small Rural Council.**

At its May Council meeting, Council resolved in principle to retain allowances at their current levels, which are:

Mayoral allowance: \$62,884 allowance plus \$5,973.98 allowance equivalent to the superannuation guarantee of 9.5%

Councillor allowance: \$21,049 allowance plus \$1999.66 allowance equivalent to the superannuation guarantee of 9.5%.

Submissions from the community are now sought in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* in relation to this allowance review.

Written submissions must be received by 5pm Monday 21 June 2021 and must be addressed to:
Julie Salomon
Chief Executive Officer
Strathbogie Shire Council
PO Box 177, Euroa VIC 3666
Or via our online engagement hub at www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au or email to info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au

Please indicate in your written submission if you would like the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to Council in support of your written submission, or have someone act on your behalf to make this verbal submission for you..

The meeting to hear submissions is to commence at 4pm on Tuesday 29 June 2021 and will be held in the Community Conference Centre, Bury Street, Euroa.

Submissions made in accordance with section 223 of the Act are considered public documents and may be incorporated in the agenda and minutes of the Council Meeting at which they are considered and available on Council's website as part of the relevant agenda and minutes of the meeting.

Any queries can be directed to the Executive Manager, Governance and Customer Service on 1800 065 993.

Board Member Community Representative



Goulburn Valley Regional Library Corporation, trading as Goulburn Valley Libraries provide Library services to the communities in the municipalities of City of Greater Shepparton, Moira Shire and Strathbogie Shire. We operate ten Libraries in the townships of Cobram, Euroa, Mooroopna, Nagambie, Nathalia, Numurkah, Tatura, Violet Town, Yarrawonga and the City of Shepparton and a Mobile Library service that serves smaller communities within the region. A Central Administration centre at Shepparton supports the Library operations by providing shared support services and logistics.

The Corporation is established by an Agreement between the three member municipalities, approved by the Minister for Local Government in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

The Corporation is governed by an independent Board consisting of representatives from each of the three municipalities. The Board employs a Chief Executive Officer who is responsible for the management and operation of the organisation.

The main roles of the Library Board are to:

- Set the strategic direction of the corporation
- Determine and approve policy
- Monitor organisational performance.

The Board consists of nine members, three nominated from each member municipality, including:

- A Councillor,
- A Senior Officer
- A Community Representative

The Board is independent from the member Councils and must act in the interests of the Corporation.

VALUED KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- Knowledge or experience in Board Governance is desirable
- Financial management skills would be an advantage to fulfilling your role
- Business management experience or skills
- An understanding of the function & operation of public libraries in Victoria
- Community consultation experience
- Well developed communication skills
- Ability to analyse and report on data and information
- Understanding of business Risk Management and Strategic Planning

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- The Board usually meets in Shepparton due to the central location
- Ability to utilize communications electronically through email is required
- The Board meets at least five times per year
- Meetings are currently scheduled for 2-3 hours on Thursday afternoons commencing at 2pm.
- Sub-committee roles may require additional meeting
- There is no remuneration offered for this position

For further information about this position, please contact David Roff, Senior Officer Board Member for Strathbogie Shire on 5795 0000.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, and a response to the key selection to info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au

Applications close 9am, Thursday 10 June 2021

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Cr John Walsh
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jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
0437 835 586

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Strathbogie Granite Project

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