



THE GRANITE NEWS

18TH JULY 2021

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 23

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Deep breaths everyone, in and out, because here we go again!

Statewide lockdown #5 for hopefully 5 days, or maybe even less in regional Victoria, if numbers don't increase exponentially or cases spread like tendrils out from Greater Melbourne.

I get it. I really do get it! Health is paramount for everyone and we don't need, or want, another curve to flatten. What I don't understand is how other parts of our wide, brown land haven't learned valuable lessons from Victoria's second wave last year and reacted accordingly and in a timely manner.

And I really don't understand how 3 cowboy removalists could be so ignorant, so incompetent or just so damn inconsiderate to flout the rules under which they were permitted to travel across borders to work. Add in the 4th unbelievably selfish, or just seriously stupid, individual who went shopping, whilst supposedly in home quarantine for 14 days and the result of 4 people's senseless actions have impacted about 5 million others!

I was driving home on Thursday as the latest lockdown was announced and the radio presenter suggested that people send in their choice of song to describe the current situation. I had arrived home by the time the winner was announced but I did like quite a few of the suggestions made en route - Hotel California by The Eagles and We've got to get out of this place by The Animals certainly appealed. So now I'm wondering if any TGN readers would like to contribute their own musical suggestions. Please just email them to editor@tgn.org.au In the meantime enjoy this gem.



What if... and hear me out... we moved the Montague Street Bridge to the border? It's Melbourne's greatest weapon against removalists!

Until the next issue of TGN, stay safe, warm and keep smiling, **Pauline** And Kenny... was hanging out with the toilet paper collecting cat.

We have topped 700!!

Not all news this week is gloomy or with a feeling of déjà vu, there is GOOD news too, we have just topped **700 readers** of this great weekly epistle. Now I'm wondering if we can increase our HCCC Membership to 200? Just email editor@tgn.org.au to register, with no obligation or cost.



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare

Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

**"History is long, but know that
justice will prevail."**

Archbishop Desmond Tutu (1931 ...)

**Nobel Laureate & Human Rights
Activist**

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



Website of the Week



**With NAIDOC Week over for
2021 why not explore culture
and indigenous stories further
on**

www.deadlyandproud.vic.gov.au

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

Community Notices

WHAT'S ON — July & August

Sunday 25th July @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district. <i>Enquires: Andrew Shaw 04372 49038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235</i> <i>meeting at Highlands Hall</i>
Thursday 29th July @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat <i>at Caveat Church</i>
 Monday 2nd August @ 7.30pm	TERIP TERIP TENNIS CLUB AGM All welcome ! <i>at Terip Tennis Clubhouse</i>
Wednesday 4th August @ 7.30pm	RUFFY COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP Important meeting to appoint a new leadership team. See article below on this page <i>at Tablelands Community Centre</i>
Friday 6th August @ 6pm	RUFFY FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights. See p.3 for your invite or tccruffy@gmail.com for more details. <i>at Tablelands Community Centre</i>
Tuesday 10th August @ 7pm	HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL PUBLIC MEETING See p. 5 for more information <i>at Highlands Hall</i>
 Friday 13th August @ 6.30pm	DRINKS ON THE DECK 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. <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i>
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?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be at Highlands on these dates—July 28th and August 11th & 25th. <i>at Highlands Community Hall</i>
Every Monday @ 10 am	ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy. <i>at Tablelands Community Centre</i> For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400

DON'T FORGET...

We are holding a meeting to appoint a new leadership team for the Ruffy Community Action Group. If you are interested in taking on one of the roles please come along on **Tuesday 20 July - TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE @ 7.30pm** (opp. Ruffy Store)

If you would like to discuss any of the positions please call **Rob Jamieson on 0401 993 681 or Felicity Sloman 0413 483 450** for a chat.

Please Note—Due to Lockdown #5 this meeting has been postponed until Wednesday 4th August—same place and time.

Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

1800 020 080

Coronacast is an accurate podcast that helps to answer your questions about Covid 19.



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YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

Tablelands Community Centre Inc 27 Nolans Road Ruffy

First Friday of the Month BBQs

It's time to bring back the fun into Friday nights!

Come along to the Tablelands Community Centre for a catch up with friends old and new

EVERYONE WELCOME

Snags, dim sims, veggie burgers & fresh bread will be provided

Please BYO drinks, good times and any salads/desserts you want to share within your group

FOOD AVAILABLE FROM 6:00 PM

See you on the 6th August!

And then the **first Friday of each month** after

Visit tccruffy@gmail.com for more information

HCCC News

HCCC at the NAIDOC Week Expo

HCCC Facilitator Janet Hagen and HCCC Secretary Justus Hagen flew the flag for HCCC at the NAIDOC Week Environmental Expo, held on Saturday 10th July at the YWDC in Yea. Local Landcare groups were asked to participate in this new initiative as the theme for this year's NAIDOC Week was Healing Country. Thanks J & J.



Janet assisting an interested visitor to learn about the importance of Landcare.

Healthy Hectares

For all of those with a bit, or alot, of land why not visit our [Healthy Hectares website](#) to see new videos, information about upcoming workshop days and there's a Resources page to link you up to all sorts of websites. There's also the Healthy Hectares booklet which you can download. If you would prefer a hard copy, contact me and I'll do my best to get a copy to you.

For all those tree changers (yes, I hate being called that), but for those of you who have purchased land and would like to know all about planning your farm, water, dams, biodiversity, handling stock, fire restrictions, council planning, dealing with pest animals and weeds and getting to know your soils; the Healthy Hectares workshops are the perfect days to sink your teeth into.

This time we are bringing you 4 workshop days in the Murrindindi Shire and you may do one day or as many as you'd like. \$30 per workshop, including lunch and morning tea and most days end with a farm visit.

Stay safe and well and we hope to see you at the upcoming Healthy Hectares series. Contact me for further information but you can see all the details on the website and bookings are now open with limited tickets.

Carolena

Euroa Arboretum

events@euroaarboretum.com.au

www.healthyhectares.org.au

A poster for the 'Healthy Hectares' event series. The title 'Healthy HECTARES' is at the top in a stylized font. Below it, 'Euroa Arboretum presents' is written. The poster is divided into four colored boxes representing the four days of the event: Day 1 (Introduction, Saturday 24th July), Day 2 (Water on your Farm, Friday 13th August), Day 3 (Biodiversity and Pest Plant and Animals, Saturday 11th September), and Day 4 (Healthy Soils & Pasture, Friday 8th October). Each box lists the time, location, and presenter. A QR code is provided for bookings, and the website 'www.healthyhectares.org.au/events' is listed at the bottom. The Euroa Arboretum logo and 'beyond soilcare' tagline are also present.



This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA, Euroa Arboretum and the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and Murrindindi Shire Council.

HIGHLAND RAMBLERS ARE BACK !

Andrew Shaw met 10 keen ramblers at the Community Centre on the 27th June at 10am.

With picnic lunches in backpacks we shared cars to the end of Blue Top Road where we were led through fields to the stunning and enormous National Bank Rocks.

Other highlights were the views from the top of Mount Helen with its trig marker and seeing one of the largest Banksia trees in the district.

A great day of friendship, discovery, history and local information about our area.

We are all keen for the next ramble. (see p.2 for more details)

by Robyn Lingard

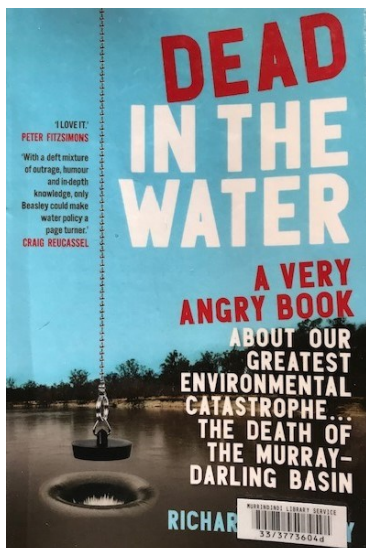


Dead in the Water - Richard Beasley

This book's sub-title "A Very angry book about our greatest environmental catastrophe...the death of the Murray-Darling Basin" says it all really.

Richard Beasley was Council Assisting Bret Walker QC, the Royal Commissioner for the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, instigated by the South Australian Government in 2018.

As such he heard and examined a wealth of information about the degradation and mismanagement of the most important river system in our country. He goes to great lengths to explain the machinations of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and their lack of transparency, their cavalier attitude towards the legally binding Water Act 2007 and their total disregard for any scientifically verified facts that illustrate the devastating impact our current use, and abuse, of the water is having on the environment. It really is a VERY angry book. Some readers will find Beasley's idiosyncratic style of writing entertaining and humorous, others may find it offensive and inappropriate. All readers will find this book simultaneously depressing, illuminating and addictive. As the HCCC is a part of this massive and vitally important river system this should be an essential read for everyone. There will be copies at local libraries, reserve yours now!



HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL

Notice is given of a

PUBLIC MEETING

to be held at the Highlands Hall on **Tuesday 10th August commencing at 7.00pm** to nominate persons as the Committee of Management for the Highlands Community Hall for a term of three years.

The current committee's term will expire on 23rd August 2021.

All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night.

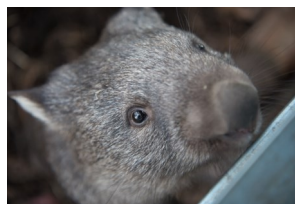
Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting the **Secretary, Judy Cameron on 5796 9247.**

Please note: Although all positions will be declared open we will have a definite vacancy for a Chairperson. This should be a very rewarding position to lead and support the Hall Committee.

We would welcome you to our next committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 13th July 7.00pm to meet the current committee and see what is involved.

Wombats & how to discourage them

Wombats can come intrusive if they decide to take up residence anywhere near our residences so here's a wee tip. If a wombat is digging a burrow under your property the simplest step to discouraging them is to "dirty up" their living space as wombats are very clean



animals. Strong smelling objects such as blood and bone or even dog poo placed in and around a burrow can be an effective deterrent. Good luck.

Return Yourself to the Library

- Murrindindi Shire Council is urging the community to get back into our libraries in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake, and our Mobile Service which stops at eight localities across our Shire. **(including HIGHLANDS see p.2 for dates)**
- The Murrindindi Library Service is part of the state-wide 'Return Yourself to the Library' initiative in an effort to boost library number attendance and encourage our community members to reconnect with one another.
- Libraries play a critical role in providing a social space, learning opportunities, and in providing access to a wide variety of information for people from all walks of life. Many of us have gotten used to doing things online during the pandemic. While this is very convenient, there's nothing quite the same as visiting the library in person.

A Date for YOUR Diary

TERIP TERIP Tennis Club AGM

Monday August 2 @7.30pm

At clubhouse - all welcome



Boxes anyone??

Do you need boxes for moving or storage? Can be flat-packed or left intact. Please contact **Melissa 0404-833-388.**

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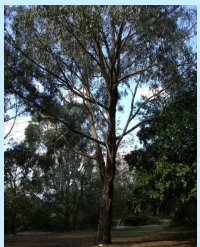
HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL

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