



# THE GRANITE NEWS

8TH AUGUST 2021

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Anyone for Ground Hog Day?

Not to worry - we're on to it, whenever another lockdown is announced we're all becoming experts in Charles Darwin's theory of adaptation. And sometimes adaptation can mean so much to people who have so little. The following was originally published in the Apollo Bay News Sheet with the quick thinking adaptates not only solving a practical problem for themselves but assisting so many other people with their kindness.

"Good news is always welcome, but sometimes you have to search for it. Last week there were two very heartening articles in The Age. The first was about the closure of the Prahran Market because of a COVID situation meaning millions of dollars' worth of fresh food was put in peril. Generous traders donated 2,000 kg of fruit and vegetables, 1,000 kg of seafood and several hundred kilograms each of dairy products and ready to eat meals to FareShare, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, OzHarvest and SecondBite. One seafood trader gave 600 kg of premium fish which was being used to make 3,000 free meals for the disadvantaged. The CEO of the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre said that 300 families would benefit from fresh fruit and vegetables given as a gesture of love, compassion and decency.



The next day we read about FoodBank who (with great foresight and long before the pandemic) realised they might not always be able to rely on donors for in-demand products. So the food charity approached Simplot Australia which makes Leggo's pasta sauce in Echuca. Since 2011, Simplot has produced more than one million jars of pasta sauce free of charge, using misshapen tomatoes, donated glass jars and cardboard boxes. A remarkable collaborative supply project. 'To meet these salt-of-the-earth blokes who work in the factory and have them break down in tears when they hear about the families that this pasta sauce has gone to is so powerful", said the FoodBank CEO."

NB: The demand for food relief has risen by 47% during the pandemic!

Until the next issue of TGN, stay safe, warm and keep smiling, **Pauline** And Kenny... was checking out the Strathbogie Granite Project on p.6

## Still going up ...

The readership of The Granite News continues to increase with another 5 readers this week, up to **713 readers** of this great weekly epistle. I'm still wondering though if we can increase our HCCC Membership to 200? Just email [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) to register, with no obligation or cost involved.



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)

"Once I had satisfied myself...that my spirit could dominate my body, there was no reason to continue."

Herb Elliott — Gold Medallist  
1500m at the 1960 Olympics in Rome  
He retired soon after - p.3 for more

**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



DOWNTON TABBY






## Website of the Week

Head to YouTube and search **Herb Elliott 1500m Rome** to see not only a World and Olympic record fall but one of the most decisive wins in any Olympics.

HCCC Membership so far  
167 ... and counting

## Community Notices

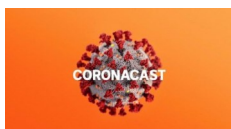
**WHAT'S ON — August & September** NB: All are subject to Covid variations!

 <p><b>Monday 9th August</b> <b>@ 11am</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b></p> <p>The Highlands Spinning Club will get together at the same place—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with a BYO lunch and great tea &amp; coffee will be provided.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday 10th August</b> <b>@ 7pm</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL MEETING</b> at Highlands Hall</p> <p>See page 5 for more information</p>
 <p><b>Wednesday 11th August</b> <b>@ 9.30am</b></p>	<p><b>TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA</b> at Terip Community Centre</p> <p>This enjoyable social event is open to all in the community, come along and enjoy.</p>
 <p><b>Friday 13th August</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>DRINKS ON THE DECK</b> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>Friday 20th August</b> <b>@ 7.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> at Highlands Hall</p> <p>The next meeting will be held in Highlands commencing at 7pm. All welcome.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268</b></p>
 <p><b>Saturday 21st August</b> <b>12 - 2</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> at 94 Old Highlands Rd</p> <p>Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <b>Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</b></p>
 <p><b>Sunday 22nd August</b> <b>@ 10am</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS</b> meeting at Highlands Hall</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enquires: Andrew Shaw 04372 49038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday 24th August</b> <b>@ 7pm</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL PUBLIC MEETING</b> at Highlands Hall</p> <p>See previous TGNs for more information.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 26th August</b> <b>@ 5.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> at Caveat Church</p> <p>All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat</p>
<p><b>Friday 3rd September</b> <b>@ 6pm</b></p>	<p><b>RUFFY FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ</b> at Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! <b>Enquires: 0427 690970 or <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a></b></p>
<p><b>Saturday 4th &amp; Sunday 5th September</b> <b>10 - 4</b></p>	<p><b>DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO</b> 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</b></p>	<p><b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? <b>YAY! The Mobile Library will be at Highlands on these dates—Aug. 11th &amp; 25th and Sept. 8th &amp; 22nd.</b></p>
<p><b>Every Monday</b> <b>@ 10 am</b></p>	<p><b>ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA</b> at Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400</b></p>

### 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](#)

### Mt Bernard Geology Walk

This walk led by Neil Phillips has been rescheduled to Spring and hopefully we will be out of lock down and vaccinated.

The walk is restricted to a group of 20 per day, so will be on consecutive Saturdays of 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021.  
**Bookings essential** through Kevin Whithear, Avenel Natural Conservation Group [kgwhithear@gmail.com](mailto:kgwhithear@gmail.com)

## DATE CHANGE to 3rd September

Tablelands Community Centre

27 Nolans Road Ruffy

**First FRIDAY of the Month BBQs Come along for  
a catch up with friends old and new**

**Everyone welcome**

**Snags, dim sims, veggie burgers and fresh bread will be  
provided**

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

**Bookings helpful for catering**

**FOOD AVAILABLE FROM 6:00 PM**

**See you on the first Friday of each month**

**Contact: [tccruffy@gmail.com](mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com) or 0427 690 970  
for more information**

## Olympic Trivia - Herb Elliott

With the Tokyo Olympics coming to a close there have been some amazing performances from these 21stC. athletes whether they have won medals or not.

With Peter Bol running 4th in the 800m final and Stewart McSweyn, from little King Island, running 7th in the 1500m final it may be that Australia now has long distance quality runners starting to shine to rival the greats of another generation—John Landy and Herb Elliott.

Elliott's track record, even today, is incredible. He won 44 consecutive races at 1500m or a mile in distance and ran 17 sub-four-minute-mile races winning the gold medal for the 1500m in the 1960 Olympics in Rome. His time of 3.35.6 - a World and Olympic record and 18 metres clear of the rest of the field, would have won the gold medal in seven subsequent Olympics, up to and including Atlanta in 1996!

Unbelievably Herb Elliott was a 30-40 cigarettes a day smoker prior to being coached by Percy Cerutti in his eccentric manner amongst the sandhills of Portsea.

A talented school boy athlete from Perth he could run naturally and effortlessly but it was a family trip in 1956 to the Melbourne Olympics that inspired him to make more of his talents. He watched the Russian runner, Vladimir Kuts, win both the 500m and 10,000m races with ease and decided that he wanted to be like him.

In an amazing piece of serendipity, after Elliott had won the 1500m in Rome, he was congratulated by Kuts on his achievement. He retired from competitive running shortly after aged just 22.



## Geology of the Swanpool district and Strathbogie Ranges

• A public lecture and discussion led by Neil Phillips •

*Universities of Melbourne and Stellenbosch RSA*



The Strathbogie granite fills the large area between the Hume freeway, Goulburn Valley highway and Midland highway. This triangle between Benalla, Seymour and Mansfield is an iconic landscape of boulders, slabs, cliffs, gorges and numerous waterfalls carved into the granite. The same granite extends east to the Samaria plateau placing Swanpool and Lima in more fertile gaps where the granite has been eroded by the ancestral Goulburn River and now the Broken River.

**THE STRATHBOGIE GRANITE PROJECT** is a long-term collaboration amongst researchers led by John Clemens and Neil Phillips involving particularly the University of Melbourne, and Stellenbosch University in South Africa. John has a global granite perspective and leads the laboratory work; Neil leads the field work covering much of the ground from Tallarook to Mt Samaria. This field work has been supported through the generous co-operation of many hundred landowners who have provided land access, and many others who have shared their knowledge during the community walks on the Tallarook, Highlands and Seven Creeks plateaus. Community presentations such as this one at Swanpool are opportunities to provide feedback on the research findings. An aim of the project has been to develop the geological platform to assist in understanding the whole natural environment including groundwaters, soils, vegetation, agriculture and geomorphic landforms. The Strathbogie Granite is recognised globally amongst granite experts for its widespread mineral

(condierite) and for the exceptional period of violence when it formed 370 million years ago. The research continues to pose challenging questions, and we might be able to answer some of these such as why the Broken River valley is so broad, and what role the granite has played in the quarry at Lima South adjacent to the granite. There are also puzzles such as why gold is found adjacent to the granite but not in it, and how quartz crystals form. The evening will include a small display of some typical rocks, and a presentation by Neil Phillips followed by general discussions.

For details on the field work, contact [neil.phillips@bigpond.com](mailto:neil.phillips@bigpond.com)



WHERE: Swanpool Memorial Hall, Swanpool. TIME: 7.30pm for 8pm  
If you are attending please advise Ian Herbert - [limaeaster@bigpond.com](mailto:limaeaster@bigpond.com)

No Charge. Supper follows.

THIS PRESENTATION COULD BE PROVIDED AT A FURTHER LOCATION IN THE FUTURE

WEDNESDAY  
8th  
September  
2021



## WINTER GATHERING IN RUFFY

On a stunning sunny winter afternoon the Ruffy Hall Committee hosted a winter gathering to celebrate the winter solstice and beginning of the slow journey to the return to longer days and shorter nights of summer.

The Committee served a selection of delicious homemade soups with crusty bread followed by a traditional Ruffy afternoon tea. Folk gathered in good company around the roaring fire or sat out in the garden enjoying the winter sunshine. We even attracted a Viking all the way from Tallarook to celebrate the shortest day.

Committee members Andy and Bill set up a mini golf challenge and many tried their hand at this very tricky golf course. Pam Sprunt was best on the day and Sue Martin received a prize for the most number of hits.

Many thanks to Debbie from the Nuttery at Longwood for sending along her husband with boxes of Avocados and Olives to sell as a fundraiser for the hall, they were very well received.

The Committee took the opportunity to draw the Ruffy Hall Restoration Project Raffle. The raffle was very well supported by those both on and off the tableland, thank you.

Many thanks to the many local businesses who donated prizes and goods for the hamper Euroa Pharmacy, Dindi Naturals, Koala Cherries, Nutrien Harcourts and the Good Guys. Thanks also to those who donated delicious local produce for the hamper and a big thank you to all of you who purchased tickets especially those who supported our dedicated volunteers rugged up in the chilly weather at the back of Burton's. The winners were:

**Hamper of Local Produce - Frank and Tracey Gallo – Ruffy**

**Dindi Naturals Hamper – Deb Hoare – Strathbogie**

**Manchester Pack– Alan Borden – Euroa**

**Electric Throw Rug – Valda Martin – Ruffy**

**Good Guys Voucher – John McLean – Ruffy**

Many thanks to all the participants and all the volunteers who helped make this a most enjoyable and relaxing day with friends and neighbours.

**Sharron Batt**

**Bill & Andy**



**Pam golfing**



**Smiling Viking**



**Viking picnic**



## LIFEGUARD POSITIONS - 2021/22 POOL SEASON

Council is looking for energetic and enthusiastic people, who like to work as part of a great team, to apply to work at our pools in Alexandra, Eildon, Marysville and Yea. We are recruiting for the following positions for the 2021/22 pool season.

**Facility Supervisor / Lifeguard (casual position)**

**2IC / Lifeguard (casual position)**

**Lifeguard (various casual positions)**

**These roles are available from October 2021 to March 2022.**

Experience is not necessary, but Pool Lifeguard and Level 2 First Aid qualifications must be gained before commencing in these roles. There is also the opportunity for ongoing work in future seasons.

**For more information, including position descriptions, or to apply, please visit the 'jobs' section of our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or give us a call on 5772 0333.**

## Monkey Tail Design Studio Open Days

While we might be in stasis at present it always pays to plan ahead and Darren Gilbert's studio, with his amazing heavy metal sculptures alongside the most delicately drawn black and white drawings will be back open for the spring and beyond.



With any luck **September 4th & 5th** will be clear of limitations for visiting and enjoying local attractions so put this date in your diaries now! See What's On p.2 for further details.



## Living with Wombats

- A wombat generally lives for around 5 years in the wild, but can live up to 30 years in captivity
- A wombat's burrow can be up to 30 metres long underground
- Female wombats have a backwards facing/opening pouch, so that when they are nursing their young, they don't fill their pouch up with dirt when digging a burrow NB: Koalas have the same style of pouch so that they don't brush bark and dirt into it, and onto their babies, when climbing trees
- Wombats can run up to 40km per hour!
- The wombat's closest living relative is the koala
- A wombat walking around during the day could be an indication that something is wrong. Usually that could mean that they have been infected by mange, which is thought to be spread by foxes
- Mange can be successfully treated in the wild by placing a specifically designed device at the burrow's entrance which tips out medication [Treatment Methods - Wombat Mange Management](#)





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