



THE GRANITE NEWS

22ND AUGUST 2021

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 28

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Well who could have picked it? A 2 hour window between Saturday's announcement and a statewide lockdown for Victoria! Talk about quick, but it's not really surprising given that some people regard restrictions as something to be challenged, or not applying to them, or something to be totally ignored.

I encountered one of these gems in my 'day job' last Monday who arrived in the centre, maskless and when asked if he had one announced that he had a medical reason for not wearing one. It was the body language that gave him away though as it said, "Couldn't care less, this doesn't apply to me." Then when asked for some photo ID, as has been the norm this time around in lockdown, he really started to let rip, "What for? I don't need to show you that! I'm a worker."

If one hadn't thought him a bit dodgy to begin with his argumentative response definitely gave him away as an escapee from Melbourne. (Which was later confirmed) And the result of such sojourns into the Victorian countryside mean that we now have Covid cases in our rural communities.

I'm not exactly certain where all Granite News readers live but with one exception—TGN's UK correspondent Miss Laura Bennett—I would hazard a guess that all other readers whether you live in the HCCC area, the rest of rural Victoria, Melbourne, NSW, Sydney or even Wellington NZ are now all in varying degrees of lockdown. So, isn't it great that the Paralympics are just about to start and we have a welcome diversion whilst confined to home for the next few weeks. It certainly looks like these puppies have been practising!



Until the next issue of TGN, take care and stay safe and warm, **Pauline** And Kenny... was about to head up the Ruffy-Longwood Rd



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare

Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

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www.highlands.org.au

"Reading is an act of civilisation; it's one of the greatest acts of civilisation because it takes the free raw material of the mind and builds castles of possibilities."

Ben Okri - Nigerian poet & novelist

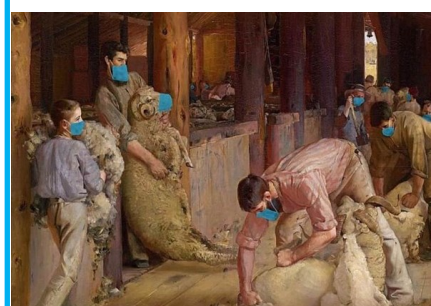
The Granite News is an open but moderated community forum.

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

In 2012 London heralded the competitors of their Paralympics Games as the Superhumans, it's a great ad <https://youtu.be/locLkk3aYIk>

Still aiming for 200

The readership of The Granite News plateaued at **714 readers** this week but I'm still hoping we can increase HCCC Membership to 200? With only **33 more members** to go, why not email editor@tgn.org.au to register? And with no obligation or cost involved, there's no impost on readers just your important support of the HCCC and the work it undertakes.

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

HCCC Membership so far
167 ... and counting

Community Notices

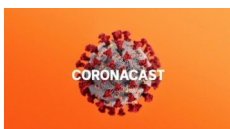
WHAT'S ON — August & September NB: All are subject to Covid variations!

Tuesday 24th August @ 7pm	HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL MEETING See previous TGNs for more details <div style="background-color: pink; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Postponed - Date TBA</div>	at Highlands Hall
Thursday 26th August @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation, BBQ, BYO and chat	at Caveat Church <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Cancelled</div>
Friday 3rd September @ 6pm	RUFFY FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH It's time to put the FUN back in Friday <div style="background-color: green; color: black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Postponed until October</div>	at Tablelands Community Centre Enquires: 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
Friday 3rd September @ 7pm	JULIAN BURNSIDE AO QC - Myths about Refugees A free, Covid-safe event so bookings are essential trybooking.com/BSMVX or 0467 413767 for more.	at Alexandra Town Hall
Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th September 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
Saturday 4th Sept.	TERIP STAR GAZING @ TERIP, maybe? With more information to come....	
Wednesday 8th Sept. @ 9.30am	TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA This enjoyable social event is open to all members of the community, come along, enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce and enjoy meeting others.	at Terip Community Centre
Wednesday 8th Sept. 7.30 for 8pm	GEOLOGY of SWANPOOL & STRATHBOGIE RANGES A public lecture and discussion about the Strathbogie Granite Project led by Neil Phillips. Attendance is free and supper follows. See p. 3 for more details. RSVPs essential to Ian - limaeaster@bigpond.com	at Swanpool Memorial Hall
Friday 10th September @ 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.	at Highlands Community Hall Enquiries? Judy 5796 9247
Monday 13th September @ 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
Saturday 17th Sept. 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?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be at Highlands on these dates, hopefully Sept. 8th & 22nd.	at Highlands Community Hall
Every Monday @ 10 am	ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy. For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400	at Tablelands Community Centre

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](#)

Indi Youth Panel

Whilst most readers of TGN would be over 18, the following might be of interest to younger community members.

Local Federal Member Helen Haines has launched an Indi Youth Advisory Panel to advise her of the issues that are important to young people. Commencing with an online survey the answers will guide the panel's work. Why not encourage any 15-24 year olds to take this survey and become involved with parliament at the grass roots level. www.helenhaines.org Survey link is on the home page

Share your pet-tastic ideas!

We're currently reviewing our **Domestic Animal Management Plan** and are seeking your feedback, thoughts and advice.

The plan outlines the key issues, objectives and priorities for how cats and dogs would be managed in our Shire.

Visit www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au to find out more and have your say!

Feedback closes on the 27th August, 2021



Strathbogie
shire

Storage Needed

The Tablelands Community Centre has for quite some time now, for both the Centre and other hirers, been able to call upon the Longwood Community Centre to borrow a portable stage to use for local functions.

We are very grateful to the Longwood Community Centre for the use.

As we call on the stage more than their use, it is now proposed that the stage be stored in the tablelands for all including Longwood (Australia Day)

If you feel you can help us out please contact tccruffy@gmail.com or phone 0427690970

Artichokes anyone?

Hi Pauline,

We have had an abundance of Jerusalem Artichokes this year. Planted far too many ! They make very yummy soup (quite filling).

Apparently they can also be baked or roasted. If anyone wants some, they are here for the taking. They don't keep terribly long after harvesting, so it is NOW or NEVER, as the song goes.

After two or three weeks (at most) what is left will go on the compost heap.

Kind regards,

Jan Sporry - 5790 4361



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Postponed until Spring 2022

Owls - do you know your neighbours?

Although Science Week 2021 has just finished there is a great Citizen Science Project ongoing until February whereby 'Hoot Detectives' can listen to recorded sounds and see if they can identify the animals they belong to—owls in particular, and then submit their findings for further investigation.

Meet the Owls | Hoot Detective

Of course if you don't want to be a part of the bigger picture you can still make use of the owl calls that have been recorded on this site to see if you can identify any of the owls that live in your local area like this not so little chap. He's a Powerful Owl and looks it!



Letter to the Editor

Two years ago, the Granite News published several photos of the stressed red stringybark after the hot and dry summer and autumn of 2019.

These were on our property, on the northern slopes of Looking Glass, but also occurred across the Strathbogies including Wallaby Gully.

Some trees have recovered fully or coppiced from the base or trunk. However many are now totally dead.

Previous plantings of red box and long leaf box had survived these dry and hot conditions on northern and western rocky slopes with thin soils.

During the last two winters, we have interplanted areas of dead trees with red box and some long leaf box.

These species were previously not characteristic of this part of the Strathbogies.

Climate change is happening and considerations of local provenance and species, endemic to the locations, to my mind are less important in order to ensure the future resilience of the landscapes of the Strathbogies.



I also had some observations on koalas. When we moved to Highlands 30+ years ago there was always one or more koalas in the stand of manna gums near the house. Today we are lucky to see one every few months.

I remember back then a well known zoologist at the time, living in Strathbogie, suggested there may be a need for some culling or relocation from the Strathbogie Ranges as the population of koalas

was so great that this would cause stress on the remaining habitat trees.

Initially, I thought we were seeing fewer koalas because of the replanting of manna gums we had undertaken, enabling koalas to be more widely spread. However, I now think there has been a decline as I rarely see them in other trees or along the roadside.

Kind regards,

John Curtis

Taungurung – Healing Country Environmental Talk

Speakers – Shane Monk – Proud Taungurung Clan Member

Matt Shanks - Proud Taungurung Clan Member

Francisco Almeida – Archeologist

Alejandro Voysest – Anthropologist

Healing Country – Introduction (Matt Shanks)

The Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) is the legal entity representing the Taungurung nation.

TLaWC has negotiated with the State, and have delegated Statutory Functions for the protection of Cultural Heritage as the Registered Aboriginal Party, as well as a Recognition and Settlement Agreement that seeks to recognize and empower Taungurung nation to activate their rights on Country.

After 65,000 years of sovereignty the TLaWC seeks to lead by example, and progress the community's vision of healing and caring for Country.

By Healing Country and making it healthy and safe the following can also be achieved –

- Healing people

- Strengthening knowledge

- Applying knowledge

- Developing research programs, led by Taungurung, with their partners

- Focusing on culturally significant species (which might not necessarily be endangered) but are important to Taungurung culture

- Involving both private and public (State) landholders in this healing work.

Taungurung ancestors managed the land in accordance with the seasonal variations, progression of the constellations, the lifecycles of flora and the migration of fauna, birds and fish.

Taungurung clan members are able to assist the wider community by embedding traditional Taungurung knowledge and practices into contemporary water and land management and also by expanding the cultural fire practice for ongoing and future healing of Country.

Taungurung Flag



The Taungurung sovereign flag was designed by Taungurung elder Loraine Padgham and features The Seven Sisters (The Pleiades) constellation on an ochre coloured background – ochre being a common feature of Taungurung lands.

The black base is for the Taungurung people and the yellow line represents the topography of the Taungurung lands – mountains and rivers – as well as the wanderings and ascent of the Taungurung people.

This design was chosen in 2020 from 36 entries submitted for consideration & was the first Traditional

Owners' flag to be flown in the state of Victoria.

NB: This talk was given during NAIDOC Week 2021 at the Y Water Discovery Centre and its content is definitely worthy of a wider audience. Over the next few weeks I'm intending to feature the rest of the topics for readers to consider and enjoy. The text, although taken from my notes, has been approved by the TLaWC, with thanks.

Editor.

HABBIES HOWE BEEF

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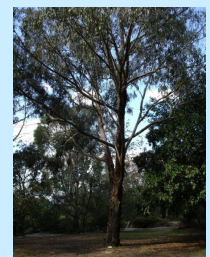
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Strathbogie Granite Project

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