



THE GRANITE NEWS

29TH AUGUST 2021

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 29

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

With spring arriving on Wednesday the year is looking up and although we might not be able to get out and about as quickly as we think to enjoy it, the sun and the warmth are a welcome reminder that all things must pass.

Another annual spring event is Fathers' Day and this little pic is especially for those dads enjoying the challenges of home schooling whilst working from home. Have a great day next Sunday.

Over the last couple of weeks I've mentioned how many new TGN readers have signed up each week, (now 715) and also the aspiration that it would be great if we could increase the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative membership by another 33 people to take that membership up to the nice round figure of 200 members!

So far I haven't been inundated with responses so please take some time out to register your interest at editor@tgn.org.au and support of the HCCC in its Landcare work. There is no obligation or cost involved and no impost on readers to attend any activities. The HCCC financially supports this great little weekly newsletter, so if you enjoy reading TGN why not support the HCCC by registering as a member?

Until the next issue of TGN, take care and stay safe and warm, **Pauline** And Kenny... was checking out tree planting & dieback on Looking Glass



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare

Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

"Do as much good as you can, while you can."

Michael Caton - Australian actor

(Best known as Darryl Kerrigan in The Castle - How's the serenity?)

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



Weekly pub raffle!

Letter to the Editor

WILD DOG ATTACK IN HIGHLANDS !!

Like many in our district we run a few sheep on our place at the dead end of Yorston Rd (off Lades Rd).

Up until this week we had 10 lambs less that one month old. However recently it was gut wrenching to find that 3 lambs had been killed and 1 injured - not able to walk & had to put down.

This was not the work of a fox but of a wild dog as evidenced by the heavily devoured remains of one lamb.

This incident is reported in the hope that others in our community will be extra alert about this danger as lambing season continues.

Norm Drew - Joyce Park

Editor's Note: It appears that 7-8 chooks have also been taken in the manner of wild dogs in the same area. Keep a watch on your livestock.

Website of the Week

Women's Health Week 2021

6 - 10 September—see p.3 for more information & check out

<https://womenshealthweek.com.au>

**HCCC Membership so far
167 ... 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 — September NB: All are subject to Covid variations!

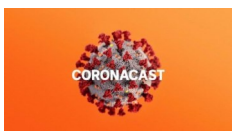
Friday 3rd September @ 6pm	RUFFY FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH It's time to put the FUN Postponed until October Enquires: 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com at Tablelands Community Centre
Friday 3rd September @ 7pm	JULIAN BURNSIDE AO QC - Myths about Refugees A free, Covid-safe event so bookings are essential Postponed until March 2022 Enquires: 0427 413767 for more. at Tablelands Community Centre
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 Depends on restrictions - alternatively 11th & 12th Sept 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 Both Postponed at Terip Community Centre
Wednesday 8th Sept. 7.30 for 8pm	GEOLOGY of SWANPOOL & STRATHBOGIE RANGES A public lecture and discussion about the Strathbogie Ranges Also Postponed 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. Enquiries? Judy 5796 9247 at Highlands Community Hall
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
Friday 16th September @ 7.30pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING Next meeting will be at Ruffy commencing at 7.30pm. All welcome. Enquiries? - Justus 0427 524473 at TCC Ruffy
Saturday 17th Sept. 12-2	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366 at 94 Old Highlands Rd
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 Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling Not at present at Tablelands Community Centre

STORAGE FOUND - Good news a shed has been found to store the Longwood stage.

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](#)

Plastic - the polluting convenience

Some of you may be aware of the Pacific Gyre, a collection of mainly microscopic plastics covering a huge area of the North Pacific Ocean from California to Hawaii and from Hawaii to Japan. The size of this floating rubbish tip has increased exponentially in recent decades.

Here are some ideas to avoid adding to it—

- * let your fruit and veg go naked in the trolley
- * look for metal alternatives to plastic when buying as 88% of metal is recycled or reused in Australia
- * grow herbs at home, straight to your plate and no plastic packaging

The Future of HiArts ?

Over the last few years HiArts has largely been in recess. The last exhibition was held in 2013.

We have however, continued to provide prizes to the top art students at Seymour College and Yea High School. HiArts currently lacks sufficient human resources to hold the kind of exhibitions it held in the past and there is some ambivalence as to an alternative future.

Consequently, the HiArts Committee has been considering closing the organization but seeks feedback from the community. With this in mind a meeting will be arranged in October when a decision will be made.

Many in the community, particularly newcomers will be unfamiliar with HiArts, for this reason we will publish a short history of the founding and activities of HiArts. This will be done in two parts in The Granite News.

Stuart A Reid
President

kadumbla@mac.com



Women's Health Week 6-10 September



The Jean Hailes for Women's Health institute is Australia's leading and most trusted women's health organisation. They are a national not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving women's health.

Since 2013 Women's Health Week has been a nation-wide campaign of events and online activities – all centred on improving women's health and helping you to make healthier choices.

As women are usually the main caregivers in any relationship and/or family, this week is a designated time for women to step back, reflect & investigate how they could improve their own health and well-being and take some time out for themselves.

Whilst there are over 300 activities planned in Victoria during the course of the week, it is unlikely that the face-to-face ones will go ahead in that format. However the website is a wealth of information, as are the on-line events, and by registering your interest a daily email will keep you up to speed with the featured topics.

There will be exclusive articles, interviews, recipes, quizzes, podcasts and tips for each of the daily topics: movement, periods, sexual health, mental health and sleep. Why not make 2021 the year to take some time to look after yourself? **And it's free!**



PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK ON COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLANS

In recent months, Murrindindi Shire Council has been busy developing a number of important strategic plans, which will guide our work over the next four years. We are now seeking community feedback on the following draft plans

**2021 - 2025 Council Plan (incorporating the 10 Year Financial Plan)
and Year One Priority Action Plan
Domestic Animal Management Plan
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan**

To read the plans and provide your feedback, please visit The Loop at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au

For those who don't have access to The Loop, you can give Council a call on 5772 0333 to arrange for a copy of the draft Plans and a paper feedback form to be posted to you instead.

All feedback must be received by Sunday 5 September 2021.



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



Protecting Native Pastures

High quality native grasslands may support up to 100 plant species, including many types of grasses, lilies, daisies, sedges, rushes and herbs. However, they are now very rare in Australia's south-eastern wheat-sheep belt, due primarily to clearing for improved pastures and crops, and overgrazing.

While these native grasslands are rare, mixed pastures that include native perennial grasses are more widespread. They are a key natural asset on farms, supporting both biodiversity and production. Native perennials are deep rooted, so can draw on moisture deep in the soil, stabilise soils and provide groundcover year round. In turn, they reduce soil erosion from wind and water, improve water infiltration rates, and improve soil moisture retention.

Because they are summer-active, native pastures hold more moisture and remain greener during summer than winter-active annuals, so are less susceptible to fire. If they are burnt, they recover quickly. With good management, native pastures can be hardy during drought, providing more reliable feed for livestock when feed is scarce elsewhere.

Native pastures support many native plants and animals including birds such as the stubble quail, little button-quail and Horsfield's bushlark. Reptiles associated with native pastures in some areas include the southern rainbow skink, grassland earless dragon and striped legless lizard.

To protect native pastures, consider the following:

- Control the timing and intensity of grazing to meet ground cover targets and allow desirable species to seed, recover and persist.
- Just as for improved perennial pastures, native perennial grasses will need to be rested occasionally to allow recovery from grazing.
- Control encroaching exotic plants by strategically grazing these areas before invasive plants set seed.



Fat Tailed Dunnart



Stubble Quail



Southern Rainbow Skink

Originally published by Sustainable Farms - ANU

www.sustainablefarms.org.au

Taungurung – Healing Country Environmental Talk

Speakers – Shane Monk – Proud Taungurung Clan Member

Matt Shanks - Proud Taungurung Clan Member

Francisco Almeida – Archeologist

Alejandro Voysest – Anthropologist



Caring for Culture – learning from the past to inform the future (Francisco Almeida)

What is cultural heritage and where can it be found?

How did Taungurung ancestors manage Country?

How did they adapt their lives over millennia?

Archeology can provide some answers to those questions and after the Black Saturday fires in Kinglake and the more recent ones at Mt Buffalo fire stripped the landscape bare many artefacts were found in amongst the ash. Stone axe heads being most common.

When the Yea Quarry was extended remnants of 13, well preserved, ovens were found. Quite a lot of the stones and flints recovered in and around Yea can be traced back to Mt William at Lancefield for their source.

For an archeologist fire remains can also provide clues for identification of how long ago a fire was made and what fuel was used for burning. Fat, left behind, can also identify what was cooked and it is possible to study preserved DNA on soils.

A property at Highlands has yielded a rich supply of stone artefacts, dug up over several decades, with accompanying records as to where they were found and when. In one case a very large grinding stone, originating from outside the area had DNA evidence of its use – being used to grind Bogong moths for food.

Most archeological work is related to the proposed or actual destruction of cultural sites and it is rare to have a site to study scientifically over time. Reedy Lake (a wetlands area) near Nagambie is an anomaly as a site that has been studied over time and yielded some interesting discoveries including scar trees and stone artefacts, as well as earth mounds that warrant further exploration.

Taungurung have a scar tree register for both private and public land and very detailed marquettes (small replica sculptures) of the trees are made for future reference – there are several on display in a glass cabinet at YWDC. Such models can take several months to create, after drawing and measuring the actual trees, and are a reminder of on-going indigenous culture in the event that the actual tree is lost - by death or destruction.

Taungurung rock art, found near Euroa, is evidence of the Taungurung occupation of this area for more than 23,000 years.

NB: If you have any scar trees or evidence of indigenous heritage on your property why not contact Taungurung Land & Waters Council at Broadford on 5784 1433 for further information/assistance. Ed.

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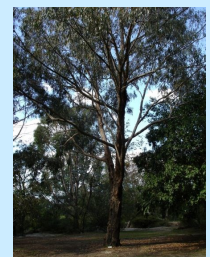
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