



THE GRANITE NEWS

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

MOST IMPORTANT - CHANGE of DATE - the NEXT HCCC Meeting (with special guest Dr Cassandra Scheffe speaking about Soil Carbon) will now be held on **FRIDAY 19th NOVEMBER**, not Thursday 18th as previously advertised. See p.3 for more details.

Well COP26 has ended with a whimper rather than a bang and Australia's uncompromising stance has definitely had an impact on the final result. One can only wonder what the next generations think as they look on as their future destiny is being shaped, at glacial speed, when so much more is required from the world's leaders.

In recent times I have come to the conclusion that the term Climate Change does not accurately describe what is happening to our beautiful planet as there is confusion amongst some as to the difference between climate and weather. NB: Weather is what happens on a daily basis and climate is the pattern of weather over a longer time span.

I find the term Global Warming to be more accurate as one can actually see the coral bleaching that is occurring, the glaciers that are melting, the polar bears and Inuit people whose habitats are decreasing in ice and snow on an annual basis and the Pacific Island nations who are dealing with inundation from rising sea levels - all the result of Global Warming.

Until the next issue of TGN, take care and stay safe, **Pauline**
And Kenny... was checking out the Mobile Library at Highlands



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

www.highlands.org.au

"Climate change is now the greatest long-term threat to the Great Barrier Reef."

From a landmark report on the reef published by the Marine Park Authority in 2007 — 14 years ago.

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**

CONGRATULATIONS to Andrea & Alex

At last... the **WEDDING of the YEAR** occurred at the beautifully appointed Ruffy Hall on Saturday 13th November. Whilst the weather didn't come to the party, it was bitterly cold and blustery, this didn't dampen the joy and enthusiasm of all who attended, in particular the bride and groom—locals Andrea Whitaker (Highlands) and Alex Bauer (Terip).

Save the Date invitations were sent out months ago to family and friends but as events in the wider world impacted plans, regular updates were dispatched advising that numbers could be limited and the wedding venue changed. With only a week or two to go until the big day the options finally became clear, the Ruffy Hall was chosen and double vaccinated guests (as required by the government) RSVPed to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

And celebrate they did!
See p.4 for more photos.



Let's laugh



Website of the Week

This week is Australian Pollinator Week 13-21 November

Find out more at

www.australianpollinatorweek.org.au

HCCC Membership so far
174 ... and counting

Community Notices

WHAT'S ON — November & Deember NB: All may be subject to Covid variations until late Nov.

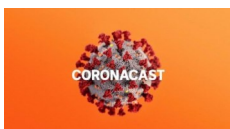
IMPORTANT NOTE >>>		ALTHOUGH THESE EVENTS ARE LISTED AS HAPPENING ALL ARE SUBJECT TO GOVT. RESTRICTIONS, CHECK WITH THE NOMINATED ORGANISER PRIOR TO THE DATE FOR VIABILITY AND ANY LIMITS.
Tuesday 16th @ 5.30pm & Saturday 20th @9am 	HIGHLANDS CFA FINAL PRE-SUMMER TRAINING The (FINAL 2) pre-summer training sessions for pumping, drafting, entrapment & Tree Hazard (update) for the upcoming fire season at the Highlands fire shed. RSVP—Scott 0427 969259 or email see below Covid Update - all CFA volunteers and staff must provide their vaccination status in order to continue to undertake activities outside their ordinary place of residence. scottmckay@activ8.net.au Please bring your document number and we can update your details on CFA Online.	
Friday 19th November @ 6pm NB New Date!	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING at TCC, Ruffy A special meeting all about soil carbon, with Cassie & David. More details on p.3. Everyone is welcome to attend, but you must be doubly vaccinated! Enquiries? - contact Justus 0427 524473	
Sat. 20th November @ 10-12.30 	HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Come for the Black Market & stay for a great workshop & lunch. See last week's TGN for more details. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366	
Sunday 21st November @ 9am 	HIGHLANDS HALL - WORKING BEE at Highlands Community Hall Lots of jobs to do, everyone is welcome as many hands make light work. Enquiries? - contact Miranda 0408 969261	
Thursday 25th Nov. @ 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.	
Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th December 10-4	DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands 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.	
Friday 3rd December	HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY END-of-YEAR GET TOGETHER More information next week	
 Saturday 4th December	RUFFY CHRISTMAS PARTY - SAVE THE DATE!! More information to come...	
Monday 6th December @ 11am  NB New Date!	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	
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 - Nov. 17th and Dec 1st & 15th	
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	

****Very IMPORTANT Notice for ALL Community Members****

PLEASE NOTE: Any persons attending events held at the Highlands Community Hall - meetings, concerts, functions, including Drinks on the Deck, must be double vaccinated in accordance with government regulations.

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](#)



Maxine the Vaccine Mobile Hub is visiting Terip Terip on Friday 19 November

Do you live in Terip Terip? Goulburn Valley Health's 'Maxine Vaccine' bus is coming to you!

If you are yet to be vaccinated or you're looking to get your second dose, this is your chance. No bookings required, just turn up with your photo ID and Medicare Card.

For more information, please call 0429 804 171.

Where

Terip Terip Recreation Reserve

When

10.00 to 10.45 am on Friday 19 November



HCCC News

Soil Carbon Workshop

The next meeting of the HCCC will be a meeting and information session / workshop on the Carbon Project. Soil carbon is now becoming more important as the federal government has agreed to zero emissions by 2050 and farmers will have an important part to play in reaching this target. As this is funded by the state government the workshop will follow Covid rules as set out in the Victorian Covid Road Map. (see below)

Friday 19th November @ 6pm at TCCC at Ruffey
a presentation by -

Dr Cassandra Scheffe, CPSS

Soil Scientist

Honorary Fellow - The University of Melbourne

Adjunct Senior Research Fellow - Charles Sturt University



Cassie will talk about the work planned for the three farms in the Carbon Project and all things carbon as it relates to farming and pasture.

There will be time for questions and general discussion.

After the Carbon presentation there will be a short break followed by the regular meeting.

Everyone is welcome to attend this excellent presentation provide they are fully vaccinated.

The State's Roadmap stipulates -

"Community facilities such as public libraries, community centres and community halls, can open if everyone present is fully vaccinated, is under 16, or has a valid medical exemption (indoors at one person per 4 sqm)" **Thanks for your understanding**

Electricity Bill Savings Tips - why pay more?

All retailers invoice for a daily charge regardless of customers' power usage. This varies from 65c per day (energylocals.com.au) to 126.78c per day (simplyenergy.com.au).

That's a \$225/yr difference!

Usage charges (flat rate) vary between 18.43c/KWh (lumoenenergy.com.au) and 29.75c/KWh (covau.com.au). For the average family using 20KWh per day the difference could be up to \$826/yr!!



Solar feed-in tariffs vary between 6.7c/KWh (**most retailers**) and 12c/KWh (dodo.com). A huge difference, and best for solar/battery households with minimal grid import and heaps of export. To figure out which retailer has the best combination of daily/usage/feed-in tariffs to suit your own household go to compare.energy.vic.gov.au armed with a recent electricity invoice.

Special Note: Application for a \$250 Power Saving Bonus for Pensioner Concession Card holders and some Health Care Card holders (including JobSeeker, Youth Allowance, Austudy and Abstudy recipients) is available on the Compare Energy website.

With thanks to Southern Otways Sustainable for this information

WANTED

Cherry pickers on a casual basis from mid November. Cherries also available for sale in December.

Adrian Martin 03 57 904201

Terip Tennis Club

Social memberships available
For more information please contact

Cindy 0429 772 011



Or use this link to sign up

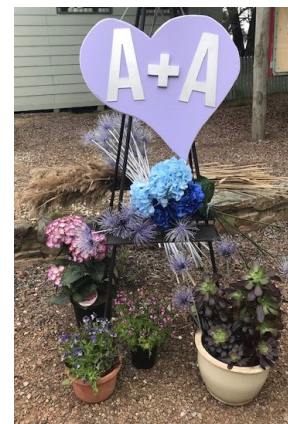
<https://play.tennis.com.au/teriptertenniscub/Membership/Join>

Andrea and Alex celebrate their 'Wedding of the Year'

To say that Andrea and Alex's wedding was one of the most individual, creative and joyous celebrations that has been held, not only in the local area, but in the wider world for some time does not do it justice. While grooms wait nervously for their beloved to make an appearance, brides have been known to arrive by a variety of transport means—foot, bicycle, car, limo, horse and cart even, but I would hazard a guess that none has ever arrived by ride-on mower! Or any grooms either for that matter. What an entrance for them both!

The guests were then entertained by the sight of Cinderella, aka Andrea, having her Prince Charming (Alex) swap her gumboots over for something more appropriate in the footwear department and then Alex being assisted to divest himself of his overalls and farm hat for a snappy blue suit. The bride of course was radiant in a beautifully re-created vintage dress, by Longwood local Karen Mizzi, that incorporated some of Andrea's mother's wedding dress. A lovely touch and just one of the many little personal and individual additions that made this day so special for not only Andrea and Alex but for all the guests too. It will be a wedding that is definitely remembered fondly for many years to come.

Best wishes to Mr & Mrs A Bauer for the years ahead and if their wedding is any indication their lives will be filled with much love, joy and laughter.



**** Congratulations! ****



HOW TO MAKE A BEE HOTEL

By providing food and water in your garden, you can encourage native bees to visit.

By making them a hotel, you can encourage them to stay!

There are more than 1500 species of native bees in Australia and they play an important environmental role pollinating plants. To encourage native bees into the garden, why not build them a Bee Hotel. It can be made from a good-sized wooden box or it can be much smaller and multiplied by using a range of old tins. Different species of bee have different housing requirements, so a mixed material hotel is a good idea.

As this week is Australian Pollinator Week why not make one now?



Materials

You'll need...

- A weather proof house, a wooden box is fine but don't use chipboard as it's not waterproof
- A range of different diameter materials eg: terracotta pipe, bamboo stalks, clay-filled pipes to fill the box
- You can also make smaller Bee Hotels by using bamboo cut into smaller pieces to fit into what ever size tin(s) you have chosen and stuff the gaps with soft natural materials like moss, then suspend the tins.

Positioning the Bee Hotel

The native bee hotel should ideally be facing between the north and east, in a sunny to semi-shaded position that is sheltered, above 1 metre off the ground, but no higher than 2 metres. Make sure it won't get too hot in summer. Don't forget to provide lots of food and water for your bees and why not plant some plant varieties that attract bees as well.

Assemble the Bee Hotel

Arrange the different nesting materials by evenly spacing the habitat types within the box. Pack it tightly so nothing moves. Fill in any gaps with bundles of pithy stems and bamboo pieces.

- **Fennel stems** - Strip foliage from main stem and then cut stem into lengths making sure there is at least 10 - 15 centimetres of pithy stem between joints. Tie cut pieces together with twine and place them in the 'hotel.'
- **Bamboo hollows** - Cut bamboo stalks into sections leaving 10 - 15 cm of hollow stem between joints with an enclosed end to entice the bees.
- **Drilled logs** - Use untreated sections of cut logs. Using a variety of drill bits ranging from 3 mm - 8 mm, drill holes into log to a depth of at least 10 cm. Space the holes around 2 cm apart. Use sharp drill bits to minimise burrs to keep the tunnels smooth and inviting.
- **Clay packed pipes and blocks** - Pack sifted clay into earthenware pipes or concrete blocks. Using a poker that is 8mm wide, push holes into clay around 10 - 15cm deep into the pipe.



Adapted from ABC Gardening Australia 2017

Soil Carbon - did you know?

Carbon is held in the soil in the form of decomposing plant and animal material and living microbes, fungi, roots, and worms. Soil organic carbon is the basis of soil fertility. It releases nutrients for plant growth, promotes the structure, biological and physical health of soil and is a buffer against harmful substances. The carbon derives primarily from plant materials created through the capture of atmospheric carbon dioxide via the process of photosynthesis. These organic materials are cycled through the soil and used by organisms as a source of energy and nutrients.

Soil carbon is part of the natural carbon cycle and the world's soils hold twice the amount of carbon that is found in the atmosphere and vegetation. This makes soil the world's largest carbon sink!

Like to find out more? www.healthysoils.com.au/carbon.html OR better still come along to the **FREE talk on Soil Carbon THIS Friday** at the TCCC, Ruffy. See p.3 for more details.

National Recycling Week (9-15 November) But are you still a little confused about what goes where?

No matter where you live if you are unsure if you can recycle a specific item:

1. Check out your local government's kerbside bin flyer.
2. Look for the [Australasian Recycling Label](#) on the packaging.
3. If you are still unsure, place it in your garbage bin or get in contact with your Council's customer service team.
4. Use the [Recycle Buddy](#) app to find out more.

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