



# THE GRANITE NEWS

12TH DEC. 2021

VOLUME 15

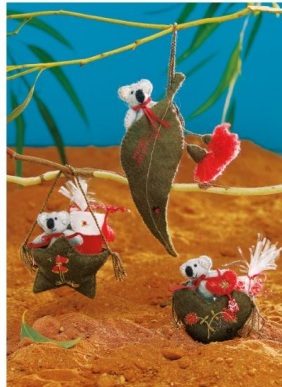
ISSUE 42

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Thank you to all those wonderful TGN readers who contacted me last Sunday re the delayed appearance of The Granite News. It's a dull day when you don't learn something new and last week I learnt that if you try to send a subsequent email, when the first one hasn't completed its distribution list, it will gazump the first email. So the second email (Terip Tennis Tournament) took precedence over the first one (TGN). I am hopeful that everyone received both emails and enjoyed reading The Granite News when it finally arrived. Thanks for your patience.

As this is the final TGN for 2021 my thanks to all those supporters of this great community newsletter—be it the HCCC Committee, readers who supply me with feedback or submit articles and those generous businesses and individuals who financially support the ads on the back page. Without all of you this weekly epistle would not be possible. I enjoy editing it and I hope that YOU enjoy reading it.



I wish everyone all the best when celebrating the festive season with your family and friends and may next year be a much kinder and less disrupted year, than both 2020 and 2021, for all of us.

Until next year and the next issue of TGN, take care, **Pauline**

And Kenny... was publicising the HCCC's drive for quality photos to populate its new website. For new readers who may not know what they are looking for with Kenny Koala (see what he looks like on p.3) but he is much smaller, when hidden in TGN. See if you can find him next year!

## Grey Shrike Thrush update...

We have an old mulcher on the side deck and now I know why we have a couple of Grey Shrike Thrushes, as permanent residents. The next generation is on its way. I can't wait to meet the babies!



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



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)

"It isn't where you came from; it's where you're going that counts."

Ella Fitzgerald (1917 –1996)

American Jazz Singer known as the  
First Lady of Song

**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

For those of you who have a bit of spare time over summer and access to a creek/river you might want to become a citizen scientist.

<https://www.platypusnetwork.org.au/>

HCCC Membership so far  
179 ... and counting

## Community Notices

**WHAT'S ON — Dec. 2021 & Jan. 2022** NB: COVID—double vaccinated will apply to all events

<b>Monday 13th December</b> @ 7.30pm	<b>RUFFY CFA Pre-Season Meeting - all attendees must be double-vaccinated</b> Thank you for your understanding, see below for more details
<b>Saturday 18th December</b> 10-12 	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> <span style="float: right;">at 94 Old Highlands Rd</span> Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <span style="color: red;">Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</span> <span style="color: blue;">NB: Please come only if you have had your second Covid vaccination, thanks.</span>
<b>Sunday 19th December</b> @ 7.30pm	<b>STRATHBOGIE - CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT</b> <span style="float: right;">at St Andrew's Uniting Church Strathbogrie</span> All welcome - BYO Folding chair, electric candle, mask and mosquito repellent!
	<b>** Best Wishes for the Festive Season and a Happy, Healthy &amp; Hassle-free New Year! **</b>
<b>Saturday 1st &amp; Sunday 2nd January</b> 10-4	<b>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO</b> <span style="float: right;">2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</span> 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.
<b>Friday 7th January 2022</b> @ 6pm	<b>FIRST FRIDAY BBQ</b> <span style="float: right;">at Tablelands Community Centre</span> Attendees must be fully vaccinated. Bookings / further info contact <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a> or <span style="color: red;">Alex 0430 530 319</span>
<b>Saturday 8th January</b> 9.30 for 10am	<b>TERIP TERIP TENNIS TOURNAMENT</b> <span style="float: right;">at Terip Rec Reserve</span> More details are on p.5 or contact <span style="color: red;">Cindy on 0429 772011</span>
<b>Sunday 16th January</b>	<b>The Granite News returns for 2022 !</b>
<b>Saturday 21st January</b> 10-12 	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> <span style="float: right;">at 94 Old Highlands Rd</span> Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <span style="color: red;">Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</span> <span style="color: blue;">NB: Please come only if you have had your second Covid vaccination, thanks.</span>
<b>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> <span style="float: right;">at Highlands Community Hall</span> The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? <span style="color: red;">YAY! The Mobile Library will be at Highlands on these dates - Dec 15th &amp; Jan 12th.</span>
<b>Every Monday</b> @ 10 am	<b>ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA</b> <span style="float: right;">at Tablelands Community Centre</span> Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy. <span style="color: blue;">NB: Qigong will happen on 6th &amp; 13th December before taking a holiday break, returning on January 10.</span> <span style="color: red;">For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400</span>

### 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/teripteriptenniscub/Membership/Join>

**January 8 2022 – SAVE THE DATE**

Terip Tournament is back! Great social day of tennis – 9.30 for a 10am start!



### Want to be Warm next Winter?

Woodfire Scandia Warmbrite 200 and flue. Heats up to 200 m2.  
Removed from demolished house. Used about 40 times.

**Best offer. Pick up @ Caveat.**  
**Ring Damian 0428 149 701**



### RUFFY CFA Pre-Season Meeting

Our Preseason Meeting will be at 7.30pm at the Ruffy Fire Shed on Monday 13th December.

Whilst not compulsory you are very much encouraged to attend.

As per CFA requirements: You must be double vaccinated against covid 19 to attend.

**Please RSVP to me (Ann) via email or text 0421 364 263.**

Come and hear about the expected fire season and updates on equipment and/or processes.



## Tablelands Christmas Party @ Ruffy

Thank you to all who braved the unseasonably cool weather to attend the Tablelands Xmas Party. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends and enjoy a superb range of homemade food and a delicious BBQ.

As always, the highlight of the night was Santa's arrival in the Ruffy 2 Fire Truck and each child receiving a special gift and time with Santa. Many thanks to Pete Burgun for acting as Santa's Local Advisor. The Jumping Castle was also a big hit, thanks to George Noye for ensuring it was securely tethered against the wind gusts!

We especially wish to thank the Ruffy CFA for generously providing their Fire Truck and BBQ and for purchasing the meat and soft drink. CFA members Chris and Theo Lagarde and Darryl Otzen did all of the cooking and their efforts were very much appreciated.

The Christmas Tree lights have been renewed and look truly beautiful on the Giant Redwood Sequoia. We are very grateful to Jason from JT's Tree Services for donating his time and equipment to professionally install the lights. They will remain on the tree for a month and are well worth a night drive to the Tablelands Community Centre (TCC) in Ruffy to see them.

The TCC Committee also wishes to thank Annabel and Kay for giving up their Saturday to clean and prepare the TCC for the party.

Thank you everyone for your time, your donations and your attendance.

**We wish you all a happy and healthy year ahead.**

**TCC Committee**



## Ghin Ghin Cutting elf strikes again!



**Thank you!**

## HCCC News

### WANTED !!

The HCCC is constructing a website and wants to populate it...

- \* with local photographs
- \* by local photographers

Do **YOU** have any high resolution, good quality and interesting photos of our local area or features?

If **YES** then please send them to [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) before the first issue of TGN in 2022.

Thanks.

NB: Inclusion is at webmaster's discretion



## Are You Fire Season Ready?

Now is the time to prepare for this summer's fire season which is shaping up to be another hazardous one for grassfires. Grass fires can move very rapidly and instantaneously generate high radiant heat loads.

One of the greatest hazards in country areas is being caught on timbered roads where trees or branches have fallen - even a relatively small branch brought down by high winds can result in entrapment. Many fire-wise country people carry a wire cutter to enable exit to a nearby cleared area if one is available - a small bolt cutter is ideal for high tensile wires. However this must be used only in a last desperate life-challenging situation.

Leaving early on an extreme fire day and before strong winds develop, is of course the most sensible course of action. Regrettably numerous surveys have demonstrated that far too many people adopt a 'wait and see' attitude and rely on a fire truck to arrive. That's exactly why many deaths occurred both on Black Saturday 2009 and the forest fires of the 2019/2020 summer.

You would want to leave your house and assets as well protected as possible. Some people use fixed roof and verandah sprays to fill gutters and wet-down surrounds with pumps that are powered by fuel or a portable generator. However high winds can render such sprays pretty ineffective.

A system of fixed under-eave sprays directing water onto to walls, doors, windows and floors can be very effective providing a good water supply is available. Each spray can be controlled by a lever-operated gate valve so higher rates of wet-down can be directed according to where the threat is coming from.

**Sandy MacKenzie**



**Images** The effectiveness of roof sprays can be offset by strong winds (note the ember screen on the window).  
Under eave adjustable wall sprays.

## Fire Restrictions Dates 2021-22

Mitchell Shire—commencing 13/12/21

Murrindindi Shire—commencing 13/12/21

Strathbogie Shire—already in force

NB: All fire restrictions will be lifted on 1/5/22







The Annual  
Terip Terip  
Social Tennis Tournament  
is back!

**Saturday January 8th, 2022**

9.30 for a 10.00am start

Section 1 & 2 – Ladies and Mens  
Mixed Doubles Competition – Alternating partners  
& Juniors (if sufficient numbers)

**\$10 entry**

Includes approximately 4 sets, light morning tea and  
Terip's renowned afternoon tea

Light lunch available from \$5  
BBQ tea - \$10  
Soft drinks and icy poles available

Enquiries: registration  
Cindy Hayes 0429 772 011 [temagong@bigpond.com](mailto:temagong@bigpond.com)  
Frances Lawrence 0427 904 262 [penlaw@clearmail.com.au](mailto:penlaw@clearmail.com.au)  
Sue Martin 57904277 - Sally Kubeil 0407 904 335

Pre-registration is required by Monday 3rd January by phone or email.  
(Please indicate which section you are entering and no. of people attending  
BBQ tea)  
QR or manual check-in plus proof of vaccination will be required to attend this event.

**COUNCIL SERVICES OVER  
CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR PERIOD 2021-22**



Murrindindi Shire Council advises all residents and ratepayers that our Christmas and New Year operating hours will be as follows:

**ALEXANDRA, KINGLAKE AND YEA LIBRARY  
AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES**

Thursday 16 and 23 December 2021: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm  
Friday 24 December 2021: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm  
Saturday 25 December 2021 - Monday 3 January 2022: CLOSED  
Tuesday 4 January 2022: Normal hours resume

**MOBILE LIBRARY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES**

Thursday 16 December 2021: Glenburn 10.30 am - 12 noon (no service to Strath Creek)  
Thursday 23 December 2021: Toolangi 10.30 am - 12 noon (no service to Flowerdale)  
Saturday 25 December 2021 - Monday 3 January 2022: CLOSED  
Tuesday 4 January 2022: Normal hours resume

**SWIMMING POOLS**

Saturday 25 December 2021: CLOSED  
Visit our website for opening times

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES**

Friday 24 December 2021: 9.00 am - 3.00 pm  
Saturday 25 December 2021 - Monday 3 January 2022: CLOSED  
Tuesday 4 January 2022: Normal hours resume

**KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES**

There is no change to kerbside garbage and recycling collection services.

**RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRES**

All Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs) are closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. In addition to these closures, all RRCs are closed on days of Total Fire Ban.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS**

- Maternal and Child Health Advice Line: 13 22 29
- Poisons Information Line (24 hours): 13 11 26
- Community Safety - after hours emergency (stock on roads, dog attacks etc): 5772 0333
- Infrastructure Services - after hours emergency (dangerous road conditions): 5772 0333



Get in touch with Council  
[customers@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customers@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
[murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
5772 0333

For advice and guidance regarding  
COVID-19 restrictions, please visit  
[coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or call the  
Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

## CFA Bushfire Safety Information

On Wednesday 8th December, approx. 15 people braved the Antarctic wind to attend this CFA meeting, that was well presented by our very own Highlands resident, Kimberley Cameron.

Did you know that Victoria is the third highest bushfire prone area in the world, coming after California and Spain?

This was a general information session that got us all thinking again about fire. It doesn't matter how many of these meetings you attend there is always something new to learn. Kimberley discussed many things including fire danger ratings, knowing your fire zone, the Vic Emergency app, other forms of communication the importance of preparation and having not only a written plan but a rehearsed one!

My take home points were -

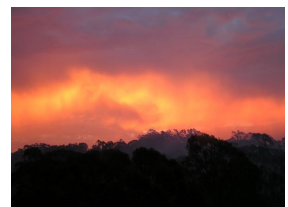
- A Severe fire danger rating is a trigger to activate your fire plan
- You need a Leave Early Plan, a Stay and Defend Plan in case you cannot leave and a Place of Last Resort Plan because fires and circumstances are unpredictable
- On Severe fire danger days change the Watch Zone on Vic Emergency to 50kms as spot fires can occur more than 30kms ahead of the fire front
- If leaving - plan to be away for 5 days
- Tell someone what your plans are
- Develop/recognise an area of cool ground - an area without vegetation, a safe place for yourself, pets and stock, perhaps a place of last resort where the fire will not reach and the ground will cool quickly if a front passes through



Kimberley left us with a challenge. Get every person and pet who is going with you and then try and get everyone below the window level of your car. Yes that is without all your stuff. Good luck!

Many thanks to the CFA, including Kimberley and Scott McKay who attended. More information can be obtained from Kimberley/CFA including fire plan templates. There was some interest in running a fire planning workshop so watch this space...

Andrea Bauer



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Murrindindi Shire Council  
[jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
**0437 835 586**

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