



THE GRANITE NEWS

20TH MARCH 2022

VOLUME 16

ISSUE 10

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day



Call me a troglodyte but I'm not much into all the CGI that one can use to 'enhance' one's photos so you can imagine my excitement when these photos landed in my inbox earlier this week (ta Sue) as they have not been photoshopped or altered in any way - which means we are looking at a **WHITE wallaby**,

and a local white wallaby what's more.

For the overwhelming majority of readers I think you will agree that we are so very lucky to live in our unique and beautiful part of the world and, occasionally, the wildlife even outdoes the scenery. Until the next issue of TGN... **Pauline** And Kenny Koala ... was catching up with the local koala population on p.6



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

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**

HCCC News

As featured on the front page of the last issue of TGN Jenny Webb, HCCC President, recently attended a Landcare event entitled 'Reconnecting Our Catchment'. Not only did she attend but was also invited to speak about what HCCC does and its plans for the future. Jenny's points are succinct, incisive and make for interesting reading.

WHAT WE DO - Over the years HCCC has tried to identify and address critical issues which affect our unique, natural environment and our local community.

FOCUS for the NEXT 2 YEARS -

- To engage a new cohort of enthusiastic and talented local residents and to develop a strong succession plan for the group. A new HCCC website will be a valuable communication tool and will keep all stakeholders involved.
- Our **Soil Carbon** and **Regenerative Farming** projects will serve to inform more sustainable agriculture in the area.
- Our **Biodiversity** project will identify and examine the degradation of selected sites, followed by remediation works and a field day to inform the local community.



If we couple the above aspirations & activities with the **Top 10 Responses** (rated Important and Extremely Important) on the survey, that was completed in 2018 by interested landholders, then it is also possible to see what has been achieved and/or acted upon in the last few years and realise the importance of the HCCC's environmental work in the local area

The Top 10 are **listed on p.5** and, of those 10 concerns, 5 of them — **highlighted in green** are currently being undertaken with the assistance of the local community—YOU! The remaining topics are in planning stages

"We are prone to say that this or that subject is of paramount importance, but in actual fact all other problems are secondary to that of a better education."
John Dedman (1896-1973)
MHR for Corio (1940-1049)

Let's laugh

Just One Question








Post Covid - Post Carbon

Did you know?

In 1860 Irish Physicist John Tyndall's experiments measured that carbon dioxide could trap nearly 1,000 times as much heat as dry air. So way back in 1860 the discovery was made that the atmosphere will easily let in the Sun's heat but stop most of it from leaving. That's over 160 years ago!

Community Notices

WHAT'S ON — March & April 2022 NB: COVID—double vaccinated will apply to all events

 <p>Saturday 27th March 9-10am</p>	<p><i>YOUR SURYA YOGA CLASS - Special Guest Teacher</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Come along to this special Yoga Class. Bookings essential via website www.yoursurya.com</p>
<p>Thursday 31st March @ 5.30pm</p>	<p><i>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</i> at Caveat Church</p> <p>All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat</p>
 <p>Friday 1st April @ 6pm</p>	<p><i>FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ</i> at Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! Enquires: 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com</p>
 <p>Friday 1st April 6-8pm</p>	<p><i>CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES & ADAPTATIONS</i> at YWDC, 2 Hood St, Yea</p> <p>The first in a trilogy of public information sessions - more details see p. 4</p>
<p>Saturday 2nd April all day</p>	<p><i>CYCLE DINDI</i> along the Great Victorian Rail Trail</p> <p>Cycle Dindi, a fully-supported, family-friendly bike ride is a great excuse to explore the GVRT.</p>
<p>Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April 10-4</p>	<p><i>DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO</i> Yea Butter Factory, Rattray St Yea</p> <p>Darren's studio, with his creative works is now open on the first weekend each month.</p> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; color: black; font-weight: bold;">NB: New location !</div>
 <p>Sunday 3rd April @10am</p>	<p><i>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS</i> meeting at Highlands Hall</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Enquiries: Andrew Shaw 04372 49038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235</p>
<p>Friday 8th April @ 5.30pm</p>	<p><i>Murrindindi Library Service presents—ON THE ROAD</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to attend this annual feast of excellent books, DVDs, etc—more details to come</p>
 <p>Friday 8th April @ 6.30pm</p>	<p><i>HIGHLANDS – CAVEAT RFB AGM</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>All brigade members and local community are invited to attend the very short, sharp and stress-free HCRFB's AGM. Sandwiched between books and beers, come for one and stay on for the others. All nominations for positions please contact the secretary - cometdh88@hotmail.com or 0422 217904</p>
 <p>Friday 8th April @ approx.7pm</p>	<p><i>DRINKS ON THE DECK</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Starts at 7ish this night 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. Contact Paula 0419 551882</p>
 <p>Every Thursday 6—7.30pm</p>	<p><i>YOUR SURYA YOGA CLASSES in 2022</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Come along to Sandra's yoga classes in Highlands. Bookings essential via website</p>
<p>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</p>	<p><i>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</i> at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? YAY! The Mobile Library will be back at Highlands in March 23rd and April 6th & 20th.</p>
<p>Every Monday @ 10 am</p>	<p><i>ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA</i> at Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400</p>

WANTED - a touch-typing volunteer

Can you touch type?
Would you like to volunteer your services to convert some very interesting HCCC 1990's Landcare documents into electronic copy?
This will allow these to then be placed onto our new website.
USB provided.

If you can assist with this request please contact the Editor
editor@tgn.org.au ASAP and make their day. Thanks.

Archie's friends farewell him see p.3



**** Farewell Archie ****

Well known and respected in the Highlands community for 18 years, Archie Currie recently sold his Old Highlands Road property. He has plans to travel to many parts of this great country once he gets a new vehicle and camper van sorted.

Three key dates stand out for Archie:

July 2004 - This was when he and Leonie purchased their property. Archie recalls moving in on his own for a few weeks to clean up the buildings which had been left vacant for some years.

2009 - Leonie and Archie got married. However neither of them wanted a traditional wedding. They bought their wedding rings and made their own vows to each other - as Archie puts it "in front of the universe" at their special place on their picturesque property.

2015 - Leonie passed away after a long battle with cancer.

On a beautiful Autumn afternoon on 13 March 2022, a farewell gathering was held for Archie.

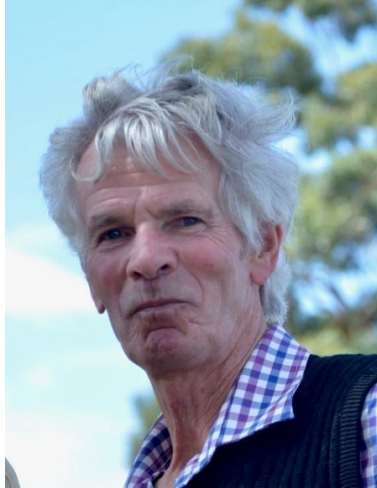
The event was generously hosted by Teresa and Simeon Boseley (assisted by sons Noah and Ethan). Around 30 people attended, comprising members of Archie and Leonie's family, together with a bunch of close neighbours. It was also good to see Nina joining in the festivities. Many of you will remember her coming to Drinks on the Deck with Archie. Being an outdoor event, no masks were needed, and it was a great opportunity for a chat, delicious food (and cakes which looked like Archie), and the odd glass of or two of liquid refreshment.

Archie gave a heartfelt speech, showing he is always the true Gentleman/good bloke we have come to expect. He has promised to stay in touch and call in whenever he gets the chance! Archie, we are sorry to see you go, but wish you all the best in your travels. Above all get out and enjoy yourself!

Due to a serious vehicle issue, Archie will be around Highlands for a bit longer, so there is still a chance to catch up with him before his travels begin.

MOST IMPORTANTLY - Does anyone have a cottage or granny flat Archie can rent? He is of modest means but one of the world's true gentleman. Please PM call Archie if you have, or know of anything, available in the Highlands.

Archie - 0499 744 464 Thanks.



The Felt Workshop finally happened!

The Ruffy Hall Fundraiser Felt Workshop was run by Pam Bannister who donated all proceeds to the Hall Restoration Project.

Participants enjoyed perfect felt making weather on Saturday 12 March and Pam got their creative juices flowing as they each produced a beautiful, colourful woollen scarf. Each one a unique work of art in itself. Delicious freshly made scones for morning tea, homemade quiches, salad and slice for lunch were enjoyed by all.



The Ruffy Hall Committee would like to extend a big thank you to the catering volunteers, and many thanks to Pam Bannister for her wonderful efforts providing all the equipment and materials and for sharing her expertise to bring the creative experience of felt making to members of our community.

Sharron Batt



The Granite News has a NEW back page supporter who can help you kill blackberries

As we all know, Blackberries are an invasive species and negatively impact Australian native ecosystems. They can have a large impact on primary industries making grazing and cropping difficult with large infestations and can also become a hazard during natural disasters.

Why Aerial spray with us?

With new and forever changing technologies, aerial spraying has and is constantly changing farmers lives and workload easier, and for the better. The manoeuvrability of the helicopter allows the pilot to spray those troublesome paddocks with large trees and powerlines, reaching inaccessible, steep, and hilly locations fixed wing aircraft and ground rigs can't, effectively turning unproductive land into productive land. The downwash of the blades and the use of the Accu-flow nozzles are designed to push the chemical down and out to saturate through the bush to provide accurate, exceptional, and noticeable target results, with maximum drift control ensuring no contamination of non-target crops. If necessary, we can use our spot sprayer on a long line, to get to those tricky smaller hidden bushes.

The aerial application method is found to be favoured as it also minimises disturbance of native vegetation and wildlife, requires no specialist skills or training for volunteers, limits chemical exposure to workers and farmers, removes the need to carry large amounts of water, and is extremely time effective because treated areas require little follow-up treatment.

Paton Air's new online mapping system 'Tracmap' also allows you to make an client account straight to our companies Helicopters GPS tablet. This new system allows you to do your own mapping with google earth satellite imagery from the comfort of your home, leaving notes, map markers, exclusion zones, buffers, chemical rates all for the pilot to see before we get to your job. Our loader truck is fully equipment with all mixing necessities including a large 3000L water tank, pump hoses, a stainless-steel chemical agitation vat, JET-A1 fuel, flow meters, pumps and more, even better our truck is 4x4 meaning it can get to those tricky loading spots on higher ground. Our staff are fully trained and ACUP holders.

Contact us at <https://www.patonairhelicopters.com.au> ag.patonair@gmail.com or give us a call for your next spraying needs **0484 108854**

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LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM PENGUINS



THE BIG SWITCH WITH SAUL GRIFFITH



ENERGY EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



Friday 1 April, 6pm-8pm

Presented by Fern Hames
Director, Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, DELWP
In 2019 Fern Hames spent a month in Antarctica as part of the global women's leadership program 'Homeward Bound'. The program builds leadership skills in women scientists from around the globe, in a place where the impacts of climate change are most dramatic, in Antarctica. Along the way there were plenty of leadership lessons to be learnt from millions of penguins, wild seas, and melting glaciers.
Join us to learn about this extraordinary journey south, the valuable research at the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, and actions we can all take.

Friday 29 April, 6pm-8pm

Presented by Dr Saul Griffith, Author, Inventor and Engineer
Join Dr Saul Griffith, founder of Rewiring Australia, to talk about his new book *The Big Switch*, where he explains exactly what it would take to transform Australia's infrastructure, update our grid, and adapt our homes while saving households money.
Saul will present his session virtually via Zoom with the session screened live at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre.
RACV Solar will provide a demonstration Tesla vehicle for viewing before and after the session. If you're lucky you might get a test drive!

Friday 27 May, 6pm-8pm

Presented by Glen Morris, General Manager of Smart Energy Lab & Lucinda Flynn, Home Energy Efficiency Assessor
Glen Morris is the General Manager of Smart Energy Lab, Solarquip, and Solaris and road tests most of Australia's renewable hardware at the top of Mt. Toolebewong in the Yarra Ranges. The Moora Moora community, where he lives and works, is powered by one big Microgrid, all stitched together by Glen. Lucinda Flynn runs Going Green Solutions and has worked in the sustainability and energy efficiency industry for more than 10 years. She will talk about the key aspects of home energy efficiency and suggest some practical and affordable solutions to making our homes more energy efficient and comfortable.
Join us to learn how, by reducing energy use in our homes, we can all make a difference and help mitigate our contribution to climate change.

Adapting to Climate Change Challenges

Dates April 1st; April 29th; May 27th

In 2022 the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre and 2030Yea will present a series of three public information sessions promoting community awareness and adaptation to climate change challenges. To view details of the program visit www.yeawetlands.com.au Please book online soon as these sessions will be popular!

Link to event:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/871747>

The Top 10 Responses - Cont. from p.1 Rated Extremely and Very Important

1. Protecting rivers, creeks, bogs and wetlands
2. Protecting remnant vegetation
3. The need for financial support for projects and Landcare staff
4. Maintaining pest animal and weed management
5. Establishing new tree plantings
6. Soil health decline and pasture deterioration
7. Adaptation to Climate Change
8. Establishing native shelterbelts
9. The need for education and technical support
10. Protecting paddock trees & growing new ones

Planning and results for these 10 featured in next TGN.



Creightons Creek, Ruffy, Terrip and Longwood East Neighborhood Watch Group Meeting:

Date: Monday 4 April 2022

Time: 3:30 for afternoon tea—meeting commencing 4:00pm

Venue: Creighton's Creek Hall/CFA Station

The objective of this quarterly meeting is to focus on farm crime prevention. A guest speaker will cover issues when considering farm security and will give a presentation of popular motion-sensing cameras.

Come along and ask your questions relating to home and farm security and familiarize yourself with the latest techniques for the protection of your farming or business enterprise.

The NHW group's aim is to strengthen the partnership of police, community and organisations, working together to prevent crime and improve the safety, security and quality of life for all.

Contacts for further questions:

Rob Jamieson 04019 93681

Cathy Artridge nhwatchcrtl@outlook.com OR
<https://www.facebook.com/creightonscreek/>



We are so excited to let you know that Farmers for Climate Action is coming to **Seymour and Euroa** for our Goulburn Valley Roadshow!

Let's chat over some nice food and drinks about what we can achieve together in your local area. We will discuss what Farmers for Climate Action is all about, what we have already achieved and discuss our plans for the year ahead.

It's also a great opportunity to meet like-minded people in your area.

Get together in Seymour

WHEN: 03 April, 2021 at 6:30pm (AEDT)

WHERE: The Royal Hotel

Get together in Euroa

WHEN: 04 April at 9.00am (AEDT)

WHERE: Cafe 56

If you know anyone else who might like to come, please invite them! The more the merrier.

We can't wait to meet you in person!
All the best,

Farmers for Climate Action

<https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au>

To RSVP go to

[Goulburn Valley Roadshow - Farmers for Climate Action](#)



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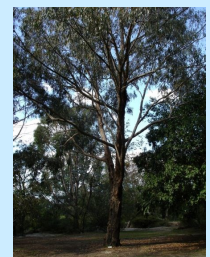
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