



THE GRANITE NEWS

15TH MAY 2022

VOLUME 16

ISSUE 16

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

Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

DON'T FORGET there is an **EXCELLENT** opportunity to advertise...

TGN has 2 advertising spaces on the back page now available at a pro-rata rate for the rest of 2022. For just \$187 you can either advertise your business or altruistically support this wonderful local news sheet. Contact editor@tgn.org.au for more details.

Until the next issue of TGN ... **Pauline**

And Kenny Koala ... was overseeing in the sale of Margaret's single beds

HCCC News

Whiteheads Creek Bioblitz

If you're wondering what this means, The Whiteheads Creek Bioblitz is an innovative citizen project aiming to discover the plants and wildlife of Whiteheads Creek.

It is important we know what is there when considering the creek in the future, and the plants and wildlife that call it home.

Mostly, Whiteheads Creek flows through our town, largely ignored until it floods. Yet it is known to provide habitat for at least 64 species of birds as well as Platypus, Goannas and probably many more.

To start the Bioblitz, we are pleased to announce two exciting guest speakers.

Geoff Williams of the Australian Platypus Conservancy has been asked by Seymour Urban Landcare to share his knowledge of this amazing monotreme on **Sunday 5 June at 1.30pm at Chittick Place, Pollard Street, Seymour.**



Geoff will highlight the features that make the platypus so special, explain its conservation needs and how to go about helping these animals. He'll then give some hints on how to spot platypus in the wild and outline the possibilities of becoming involved in 'citizen science' programs to monitor local populations.

The second speaker is **Alison Pouliot**, who is well known for her fascinating presentations on **Fungi**. This talk is on **Saturday 11 June at 10.00AM, at Chittick Place, Pollard Street, Seymour.** There will be Fungi on view and also a trip outside to see Fungi in the wild.

These talks are sure to delight anyone with an interest in wildlife and the creek that flows through Seymour town.

Bookings can be made by phoning 0428 339 989, or emailing janethhagen@gmail.com



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare

Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au

or to subscribe on-line go to

<https://www.hccclandcare.net.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

"HOME is where dog hair is a condiment."

Especially for Ruby dog

Let's
laugh



Irish wolfhound
with subwoofers

Word of the Week

This week, a new intermittent column. Some words not only roll around your mouth when you say them, but just sound satisfying too. Try this one for size...

Boondoggle

NOUN— an unnecessary, wasteful or fraudulent project

VERB—to spend money or time on unnecessary, wasteful or fraudulent projects

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 — May - June 2022 NB: COVID—double vaccinated will apply to all events

| | |
|---|--|
| Friday 20th May @ 6.45pm | MURRINDINDI FILM SOCIETY at Yea Council Chambers The award winning Australian film Shine will commence this year's film season. Enquiries? Jill 57972480 |
| Friday 20th May @ 7pm | HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING at Highlands Hall The next meeting will commence at 7.00pm. All welcome. Enquiries? - Justus 0427 524473 |
| Saturday 21st May 8am - 6pm | ELECTION 2022 - Don't forget to vote! at Tablelands Community Centre, Ruffy If you're not one of the 2.5 million Australians who have voted see pages 3 & 4 for more information. |
|  Sunday 22nd May @ 10am | HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and NB New Date! other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366 |
| Sunday 22nd May 1-3.30pm | PEST & ANIMAL PLANT FORUM at Yarrck Hall A number of experienced speakers on the control of deer, fox, rabbits, blackberries, cats & European wasps. See p.5 for more details. |
| Thursday 26th May @ 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 |
|  Sunday 29th May @ 10am | HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS meeting at Highlands Hall Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district. Enquires: Andrew Shaw 04372 49038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235 |
| Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th June 10-4 | DARREN GILBERT'S OPEN STUDIO Yea Butter Factory 13 Rattray St, Yea A unique studio experience at the historic Yea Butter Factory. www.monkeytaildesign.com |
| Sunday 5th June @ 1.30pm | WHITEHEADS CREEK BIOBLITZ at Chittick Place, Pollard St, Seymour Geoff Williams of the Australian Platypus Conservancy will share his knowledge of this amazing monotreme. For bookings 0428 339 989 or janethhagen@gmail.com |
| Saturday 11th June @ 10am | WHITEHEADS CREEK BIOBLITZ at Chittick Place, Pollard St, Seymour Alison Pouliot is an expert on fungi and will enthuse all who attend this fascinating presentation. For bookings 0428 339 989 or janethhagen@gmail.com |
|  Every Thursday 6—7.30pm | YOUR SURYA YOGA CLASSES in 2022 at Highlands Community Hall Come along to Sandra's yoga classes in Highlands. Bookings essential via website www.yoursurya.com |
| 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 in Highlands on May 18th and June 1st, 15th & 29th. |
| Every Monday @ 10 am | ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE at Tablelands Community Centre Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling & more. In recess till August For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400 |

After an hiatus of 2 years... it's back - MUDBASH @ Mafeking Park!!

With the Queen's Birthday weekend only 4 weeks away it's time to get organised for a spot of fundraising at this year's Mudbash Meet. For many years now the Highlands-Caveat RFB have rattled donation buckets and sold wood to the many Rovers who come along for a great weekend of mud, mud and, did I mention, mud!! Community members are most welcome to help out rattling a bucket for an hour or two over the long weekend. After all many hands make light work!

For further information ring Pauline - 0408 246308. Thanks.



HCCC Soil Carbon Project Update

Farmers within the Hughes creek catchment are concerned about the impact of Climate Change upon their farming practices. Hughes Creek Catchment Collective (HCCC) would like to assist farmers in understanding how measuring carbon within soils and CO₂ sequestration into the soil can improve soil productivity.

HCCC set up demonstrations on 3 properties within the Strathbogie Ranges. From the information collected over two years, the HCCC will host field days to inform local farmers about how to manage their grazing practices to best utilise the carbon stored within the soil.

Last month Looking Glass used a SoilKee cultivator to shallow till and sow a winter pasture to improve pasture quality and increase soil carbon, the event was open to all local farmers.

Details of the work was published in the Granite News over the last 2 weeks.

Further information will be made public as the crop grows and further soil tests are done next year.

Local Farm Partners

Callum & Les Lawson, Lawson's Farm - Highlands

Cameron Stewart, Looking Glass – Highlands

Rob Hayes, Tarcombe Herefords – Tarcombe

Funding Partners

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority's, from the Ground Up program through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



Further details

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf3Ow2x5_IQ&t=3s

<https://www.hcccclandcare.net.au/>

Email – vanessa@hcccclandcare.net.au or neil@hcccclandcare.net.au

Tablelands Community Centre Polling Place Election day is Saturday 21 May 2022



We are all in this together, **make it convenient**



Come and **cast your vote** at the **Tablelands Community Centre**
27 Nolans Road Ruffy **Open 8am closes 6pm sharp**



Do it for local and bring some coins



Food and refreshments available including the democracy sausage

Don't forget to VOTE!

**Polling booths are open
from 8am-6pm**

Wondering what to do NEXT Saturday night...

If watching Saturday night footy on the teevee, or tuning in to wall-to-wall election results next Saturday evening doesn't appeal then maybe a walk in the woods might.

A walk in the woods **and** a chance to spot one of our seriously cute but threatened species - the Greater Glider - Australia's biggest gliding marsupial. I did this last Saturday in the Tallarook State Forest with some very passionate and committed people. They are monitoring and recording details of the local population in the hope that both their habitat, and the gliders themselves, can be protected.

Now spotting them can be a challenge, as they are solitary and don't make any noise, but with torches trained on the eucalyptus canopy the cry of 'eye shine' attracts everyone's attention and a video camera and mobile phone are utilised to record the GPS location and the animal itself. With the competition of leaves and branches it might only be one cute teddy bear ear, or a reflected eye or its metre long prehensile tail curled around the branch that's visible, but it's still exciting to see this beautiful creature in its natural home.

There were 3 verified and recorded sightings last night (sadly none I saw decided to glide) taking the total number of Greater Gliders sighted in the Tallarook Forest to just over 150 individuals.

This is gratifying as although the Greater Glider is rated as vulnerable in the rest of Australia, in Victoria, it is endangered. Like the koala it only eats gum leaves & those leaves are losing moisture as a result of the changing climate, which is leading to dehydration in both species. The loss of their habitat by logging is also a serious concern.

If any readers want to see some of these gentle creatures for themselves there's one more night walk this coming weekend on [Saturday 21 May, 7.30pm](#) **contact Paul on 0418 571572** or maybe check out your own 'backyards' as they call the HCCC area home too.

RSVP now

Ed.



Community talks about Climate Change

2030Yea Community Energy & Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre won a Victorian Government DELWP Community Mini grant to offer three community presentations at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre promoting community awareness and adaptation to climate change.



On **Friday May 27** Glen Morris and Lucinda Flynn will present the third and final talk – **Energy Efficient and Sustainable Communities.**

Glen Morris is the General Director of Smart Energy Lab, Solarquip, and Solaris and road tests much of Australia's renewable hardware. Glen told us this week that he won his first electric car in 1970 in Wellington NZ where he tried convincing his parents he could drive it to school! He will be joined by Lucinda Flynn who runs *Going Green Solutions*. Lucinda has worked in the sustainability and energy efficiency industry for more than 10 years. She will talk about all the things people anywhere can do to make their homes more energy efficient and sustainable, no matter their budget. Both Lucinda and Glen are keen to have us consider: "What's the easiest behaviour change that will reduce the cost of electricity and tackle the challenge of climate change?" (Glen) and "What are some of the ways we can rethink the way we do things in our everyday lives to reduce our contribution to climate change?" (Lucinda)

Join in at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre as well as online, 6pm for drinks and nibbles with the talks from 6.30 - 8pm. Bookings are now open for the third and last presentation by Glen Morris and Lucinda Flynn at www.trybooking.com/BXPOT. **For more information call 5797 2663.**

STOP PRESS : DEMOCRACY SAUSAGE at the Tablelands Community Centre, at Ruffy.

A reminder:

Voting for all divisions in Victoria is possible at Ruffy on Election Day. So for our local seats, Indi and McEwen and all others as well. Open for voting 8am-6pm. And yes, sausages plus other goodies will be available outside - **Justus Hagen.**



Pest Plants & Animals Forum



Join the Home Creek – Spring Creek Landcare Group for a forum where experts will speak about their experience with effectively controlling pest plants and animals.

Presenters include:

- **Barry Pearce:** Pest animal controller- Member of SSAA and conservation pest management volunteer to Parks Victoria and local councils
- **Cameron Paterson:** Blackberry Action Group Project Officer and private weed control contractor
- **Chris Coburn:** Upper Goulburn Landcare Network Facilitator and Project Officer for the King Parrot Catchment Fox Control Project
- **Murrindindi Shire Council officer:** Weeds, pest animals and animal control

When: Sunday 22nd May

Time: 1.00PM - 3.30PM

Where: Yarck Hall Supper Room

6583 Maroondah Hwy, Yarck

Gold coin donation please

To register contact Grant Scale on Mobile: 0438 399 972 or Email: warrawee@virtual.net.au



Our Iconic Wildlife



Want to find out more about the magnificent wildlife - like the platypus - that inhabit our HCCC waterways? See p. 1 & 2 for more information and put **Sunday 5th June** into the diaries.

Property Security—even more thoughts

Other Camera / System features to consider:

Night vision – capture movement & video at night and at what distance is needed.

Microphone – hear people talking or other sounds.

Speaker – talk back to people, have a pre-recorded message play, turn on sirens

Lights – have flood light turn on when movement detected

Fixed Camera – only covers a set area.

PTZ Camera – (Pan / Tilt / Zoom) Camera This can rotate horizontally, tilt up & down, Zoom in & out. You can control this from your phone or computer once notified of activity, or the in-built camera software can detect and follow the movement of people or vehicles.

Camera outside in the weather: The “IP” rating determines how dust/ water proof the camera is. IP54 is the minimum for a good rating, IP66 or 67 is excellent.

External Antenna Port - some cameras have an external antenna connection, which allows you to connect to a Yagi Antenna if mobile reception is very poor. Most cameras get better reception than your phone does.

Camera Software can have the following features:

Sensitivity adjustment: Allows you to set the level at which a movement notification is sent: people and vehicles, larger animals, but not dogs and small animals, grass or tree movement.

Recognize People and/or Vehicles: Some can recognise people/ vehicles and this triggers a notification and recording. (Facial recognition is available on some dearer cameras.) (Number plate recognition on some).

Activation Control: you can set up areas within the view of the camera only within which recording/notification is trigger: These types of features can include: Privacy Zones (e.g., neighbour's back yard-), Cross-line intrusion (e.g., when someone/something crosses a line just inside your gateway, not traffic on the other side of the gateway), Perimeter intrusion (e.g. draw a line around the area, only inside of which movement will be detected), object removal detection.

Notification Control: Options can include: Turn notifications on or off manually as required via app. Geo-fence (turns on when phone moves more than a set distance away from camera, & off when phone moves inside this distance.)

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