

# THE GRANITE NEWS



The Granite News - serving the communities of Caveat, Highlands, Hughes Creek, Ruffy, Tarcombe, Terip Terip & Whiteheads Creek.



4th September 22 | Volume 16 Issue 30

## Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

September not only heralds the arrival of spring but is also National Biodiversity month and included in its 30 days, on September 7th, is National Threatened Species Day which makes for an interesting combination of environmental issues.

It has been mentioned previously in this informative epistle that the 7th Sept. was chosen for National Threatened Species Day as that was the day, in 1936, when the last known surviving Thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) died in captivity in a Hobart Zoo.



Adult Leadbeater's Possum  
Photo: Dave Harley ANU

86 years on from that species' extinction event one could ask the question - Have we learnt from our mistakes? and the answer is definitely no..

Whilst regenerative farming is certainly heightening people's awareness of a better way to do things, for all living creatures, the attrition rate of living organisms in Australia, mammals in particular, is nothing to be proud of.

Australia has one of the most diverse collections of plants and animals in the world and our continent is home to more than 1 million plants and animals, many unique to our wide, brown land. However since 1788 we have had a steady rate of extinction of approx. 4 species per decade.

Our extinction of mammals is appalling - since 1500 - 35% of all global mammal extinctions have been Australian, that's 30 out of 84 extinctions worldwide. Sadly feral predators have been implicated in 28 of these extinctions and of the 273 Australian endemic land mammal species, 11% are extinct!

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) maintains a Red List of not only extinct species but endangered and threatened species too. Australia comes in at #5 on the extinction list but also features in the **Top 10 for endangered and threatened species with 909 species currently listed as critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable!**

Two of these critically endangered species - the Greater Glider and, Victoria's faunal emblem the Leadbeater's Possum - live just south of the HCCC area in the Tallarook and Toolangi State Forests. Forests that are either being logged or tagged to be! Mammal extinctions 31 & 32 are preventable - we just need to value and protect both them & their habitat. Read on for another great issue... **Pauline**

And Kenny Koala...was highlighting the funding to protect bio-diversity!

**NB: Next week's TGN issue is the last until Sunday 2nd October.**

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)

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

"In a world where you can be anything - Be Kind."







Seen on a T-shirt worn by a teenager



Did you work out the names of 3 more Victorian towns or suburbs?

Name of a famous general - **Macarthur**  
Cattle - **Cowes**  
Many trees - **Forrest**

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
August	117.1 mm	123.5 mm
2022 Total	612.2 mm	600.00m m
Rainy Days	22 days	12 days

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	What's On - September 2022
	<b>Friday 9th Sept @ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS on the DECK</b> at Highlands Community Hall 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. <b>Contact Paula 0419 551882</b>
See p.5 for more	<b>Saturday 10th Sept. 10-4</b>	<b>TABILK TABILK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL</b> @ Tahbilk Estate, Nagambie A great day out with lots of things to see and do and FREE entry! Details - <a href="http://tahbilk.com.au">tahbilk.com.au</a>
	<b>Monday 12th Sept. @ 11am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b> The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2022 at the same place - 450 Caveat - Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea & coffee will be provided. <b>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</b>
	<b>Thursday 15th Sept. @ 7pm</b>	<b>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING @ Whiteheads Creek</b> All welcome. <b>Enquiries? Justus 0427 524473</b>
See p.3 for details	<b>Saturday 17th Sept. @ 10am</b>	<b>SEYMOUR URBAN LANDCARE - Discover Macroinvertebrates in Whiteheads Creek</b> Everyone is welcome to come along and 'meet the neighbours'. <b>Vanessa 0475 459741</b>
	<b>Saturday 17th Sept. 12-2pm</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> at 94 Old Highlands Rd Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <b>Enquiries? Clare 0428 969366</b>
See 21/8	<b>Sunday 18th Sept. 9.30 - 1</b>	<b>GREAT VIC NATURE WALK</b> @ Mt Tenneriffe, Locksley Moderate 4.5km walk with huge granite boulders RSVP - <a href="mailto:admin@strathbogieranges.org">admin@strathbogieranges.org</a>
	<b>Sunday 25th Sept. @ 10am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS</b> @ Highlands Hall Everyone is welcome to come rambling and discover our local district. <b>Enquiries: Andrew Shaw 0437 249038 or Robyn Lingard 0409 528235</b>
See p.5 for more	<b>Sunday 25th Sept. 10-3</b>	<b>AWE &amp; WONDER in NATURE ART WORKSHOP</b> @ Mitre Rock A day with acrylic paints using collages to create images of the local granite. For further information, email <a href="mailto:admin@strathbogieranges.org">admin@strathbogieranges.org</a>
	<b>Thursday 29th Sept. @ 5.30</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> at Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat
	<b>Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> at Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? <b>YAY! The Mobile Library will be in Highlands on Sept. 7th &amp; 21st &amp; Oct. 12th &amp; 26th.</b>
<b>It's Back!</b>	<b>Returning on Monday 5th Sept. @ 10am</b>	<b>QI GONG</b> at the Tablelands Community Centre Returning for 2022, everyone is welcome. <b>Contact Vivien 0405 612 400</b>

## Seymour Urban Landcare Community Event

### Whiteheads Creek: habitats, in-stream vegetation and water bugs

Have you ever wondered what lives amongst those reeds along Whiteheads Creek?

Ever heard about the Mayfly, the Stonefly or the Caddisfly?

They're awesome water bugs that live in our creek, and with a good magnifying lens you will be able to observe them in detail.

If you'd like to learn more about all this and much more, we invite you and your family to our next event with our guest speakers, **Karen Brisbane and Christine Glassford from the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.**

**Saturday the 17th of September**, bring a picnic rug and join us at 10 am at our favourite spot along the Whiteheads Creek, opposite Abdallah Road. That's where we met for National Tree Day.

Morning tea will be provided!

Please send your RSVP to

[seymoururbanlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:seymoururbanlandcare@gmail.com)



Sponsored by Seymour Urban Landcare, Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative, & the Victorian Government.



Vanessa Malandrin

Project Coordinator  
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative

T: 0475 459 741  
E: [vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au](mailto:vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au)

## Don't forget the Regenerating Rural Landscapes Workshops in Nov/Dec

A poster for the 'Regenerating Rural Landscapes' 2 Day Bootcamp. The top half shows a person in a hat and blue shirt crouching in a field, looking at the ground. The text 'REGENERATING rural LANDSCAPES' is prominently displayed in yellow and white. Below this, a list of goals is provided: 'Looking to: rehydrate your farm landscape, implement regenerative cropping or grazing, improve farm biodiversity, create a healthy and productive farm landscape'. A large grey circle at the bottom contains the text '2 DAY BOOTCAMP' and 'Places Limited'.

### Learn how rural landscapes work! Explore ways to regenerate and rehydrate your property!

Join us for this intensive, hands on Bootcamp as we explore the basics of rural landscapes, landscape thinking and the science and practice behind landscape regeneration and rehydration. This course will deepen your understanding of how your farm landscape works. It will help you improve the natural capital of your business. You will learn:

- how to "see" your landscape using landscape thinking
- about landscape patches: the building blocks of your farm's landscape
- the water and nutrient cycles in rural landscapes
- how energy flows and biodiversity functions in rural landscapes
- the role of soil health for landscape function
- the basics of Landscape Rehydration
- the range of strategies for regenerating your farm's landscape
- the key steps to Rural Landscape Regeneration

#### David Hardwick

is an agroecologist and a leading educator in soils, regenerative agriculture, land management and whole farm planning. He works across eastern Australia on soils and land management projects and his skills lie helping landholders build practical skills and knowledge in regenerative agriculture through innovative and fun learning approaches. He has a Bachelor degree in Ecological Agriculture from the University of Sydney.

#### More Information

[www.soilandfood.com.au/courses](http://www.soilandfood.com.au/courses)  
[david@soilandfood.com.au](mailto:david@soilandfood.com.au)

See last week's TGN for more details or contact Vanessa 0475 459741 or [vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au](mailto:vanessa@hccclandcare.net.au)



## SAVE the DATE

### **“Spring Fling” 22nd October 2022 Ruffy Recreation Reserve**

Following the success of our last event to “rekindle, reunite and reconnect” our community after an arduous couple of years of lockdowns and lack of opportunity for social interaction, HCCC is holding another community get-together at Ruffy in October.

This time, we have invited a number of Afghan Hazara families to join us. This will be our opportunity to “unite and connect” with one of the many ethnic groups living in Shepparton.



Many of these families have come from a rural background and are keen to learn more about our unique landscape and connect with the countryside and community here.

It will invariably be an opportunity for mutual learning and we hope that it will be the beginning of an ongoing relationship.

We invite all interested community members to join us for a BBQ lunch and a chance to engage with our neighbours in Shepparton.



More information about the event will be provided next month. **Jenny Webb - HCCC President**

## **Women's Health Week 5th - 11th September**

Women's Health Week is a nation-wide campaign of events and online activities all centred on improving women's health and helping women to make healthier choices.

Why not log onto

[womenshealthweek.com.au](https://womenshealthweek.com.au)

to discover more and to participate.


### **Anyone for yoga?**

Hi, my name is Ingrid and I am new to the Strathbogie Shire.

I am keen to get to know the wonderful people making up my new found home and community.

I hope to inspire and encourage all and any who want to move into a warm welcomed spring with balance, inner strength, positivity and wellness to come along and take a few deep breaths with me as we find joy and peace via a blend of Yoga, Qui Gong and Tai Chi.

**Like to know more? 0456 720498**



**YOGA WORKSHOP**

**Tablelands Community Centre**  
**September 2022**  
27 Nolans Road Ruffy

Wednesday 14th @ 8am -9am  
**Back to the breath and listening to the body**

Saturday 24th @ 3pm – 4pm  
**Building strength, flexibility and balance**  
\$20.00

## Awe and Wonder in Nature Art Workshop



A day with acrylic paints using collage to create images (both real and imaginary) of the local granite.

No art experience is necessary just a desire to have fun. Ann Cremean loves the granite tors of the Strathbogie region and uses them as inspiration for her abstract landscape art practice.

The Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network offers this workshop as part of their series aiming to bring new insights and connections into the natural world.

The Awe and Wonder project is funded by Landcare.

### Experimental Painting Acrylic and Collage Workshop

**When?** : 10:00am – 3:00pm Sunday the 25th of September 2022

**Where?**: Bishops Mitre Rock, Ruffy

**Cost:** \$28 (materials and afternoon tea included, BYO lunch)

For further information, email [admin@strathbogieranges.org](mailto:admin@strathbogieranges.org)

## The GREAT Australian Platypus Survey

The Great Australian Platypus Survey results have been announced  
eDNA Samples were collected in November 2021

Hughes Creek at Dropmore - **Positive platypus detected**

County Creek at Tarcombe - **Possible platypus detection**

Whiteheads Creek at Seymour -

**Possible platypus detection.**

Discovery Creek at Wicket Hill Road -

**No platypus detected**

<https://www.thegreataustralianplatypussearch.org/results-2021>

Thanks to this research, ecologists were able to deduce that platypuses remain widely distributed throughout Victoria, with more extensive populations in the eastern regions compared to the drier and more modified northern and western areas of the state, where populations appear much more restricted and fragmented.

Clare Watson and Janet Hagen from Landcare collected the Hughes Creek samples, linking us to one of the world's biggest citizen science projects! With their help the project was able to collect close to 2,000 eDNA samples from waterways all over Victoria and develop never before seen spatial data on Victoria's platypus population.





# tabilk~tabilk COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

10 SEPTEMBER 2022

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**FOOD TRUCKS**  

TAUNGURUNG WORKSHOPS  
 **SNAKE MAN • MARKETS**  
WETLANDS BOAT TOURS   
**PICNIC • WINE TASTINGS**

**TAHBILK ESTATE, NAGAMBIE**  
**10AM-4PM - FREE ENTRY**



Scan for the Festival program and to book free workshop sessions  
[tahbilk.com.au](http://tahbilk.com.au)

This community festival is possible thanks to funding from the Australian Government through the Building Better Regions Fund.



<p><b>HABBIES HOWE BEEF</b></p> <p>MATURE, WELL HUNG &amp; AVAILABLE</p> <p>IGA SEYMOUR GARY'S MEATS, PRAHRAN MARKET</p> <p>L&amp;L MEATS, BENTLEIGH</p> <p>SCOTCH AND FILLET ST HELENA, MENTONE &amp; MERENDA</p>	 <p><b>LAWSON</b></p> <p>General earthworks &amp; hole boring Diesel repairs &amp; servicing Metal fabrication &amp; welding Shed construction &amp; removal</p> <p>Callum - 0437 182 223 5796 9265 lawsonbluetop@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Chris Sharman</b></p> <p>Energy Efficiency &amp; Solar Energy Specialist</p> <p>Acme – Air Conditioning   Electrical   Solar</p> <p>M: 0418 551 301 T: Office - 9785 7339 E: <a href="mailto:chris@acmeair.com.au">chris@acmeair.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>CF &amp; HL HANDASYDE BUILDERS</b></p> <p>Established 1978 NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS, RENOVATIONS, DOMESTIC, RURAL ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS. Registered Building Practitioner Call Colin for a quote Telephone: 0419 502 782</p>
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 <p><b>nomad art</b></p> <p>Online &amp; by appointment Avenel, M: 0428 308 793 <a href="http://www.nomadart.com.au">www.nomadart.com.au</a> Limited edition prints from regional and remote Australia</p>	<p><b>KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS &amp; CARTAGE</b></p>  <p><b>DAMS EARTHWORKS STOCK+WATER CARTAGE &amp; MORE</b></p> <p><b>0429 804 235</b> MICHAEL.KOPANICA@GMAIL.COM</p>	<p><b>RURAL FENCING SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>JARRAD</b></p> <p><b>0409 082 257</b></p> 	
 <p><b>Murrindindi Shire Council</b></p> <p><b>Cr John Walsh</b> Koriella Ward Murrindindi Shire Council <a href="mailto:jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au">jwalsh@murrindindi.vic.gov.au</a> <b>0437 835 586</b></p>	<p><b>Tablelands Community Centre</b></p> <p>Upgraded facilities &amp; playground Ideal for Private or Community gatherings Meetings, Workshops Very reasonable rates Hosts 1<sup>st</sup> Friday BBQs Contact <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a> Ph 0404 833 388</p>	 <p>For All your Aerial Spraying or Spreading Needs. Specialising in Blackberries, Broadleaf, Thistles, Spreading lime/fertilizer &amp; More</p> <p>Call 0484108854 48 Magills Lane Maindample 3723</p> 	<p>Donated by supporters of our local koala population</p> 
<p>Donation from Supporters of the <b>SPOTTED PARDALOTE</b></p> 	<p><b>2022 - Greater Glider Vulnerable to Endangered</b></p>  <p><b>STOP logging old growth forests</b></p>	<p><b>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL</b></p> <p>Meeting Room and/or Hall available for hire</p> <p>MEETINGS FUNCTIONS WORKSHOPS PARTIES WEDDINGS</p> <p>Reasonable rates Contact Paula Lade 0419 551 882</p>	<p>Donated by friends of the Long Leafed Box Trees</p> 
<p><b>Echidnas take care of their habitat</b></p> 	<p><b>Advertising space available</b></p> <p>If interested contact Editor <a href="mailto:editor@tgn.org.au">editor@tgn.org.au</a></p>	<p>Need a website? <a href="http://bluetopbiz.com.au">bluetopbiz.com.au</a> Affordable web design &amp; maintenance. Presentations, marketing copy, Grant applications, project management</p> <p>Call Sue 0411 010 379 Neil 0417 503 472 Email: <a href="mailto:sue@bluetopbiz.com.au">sue@bluetopbiz.com.au</a></p>	 <p><b>Strathbogrie Granite Project</b> <a href="mailto:neil.phillips@bigpond.com">neil.phillips@bigpond.com</a></p>

The Granite News is usually created on the lands of the Taungurung clans - First people of the Rivers and Mountains.



We thank the Taungurung ancestors and elders who, for millennia, have cared for this country on which we now live, work, play and grow.

May the current generations of Taungurung, landowners and residents continue this important custodianship into the future.