

# THE GRANITE NEWS



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



2nd October 22 | Volume 16 Issue 32

## Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Are we over the rain, wet paddocks and overflowing tanks as yet? It might be something that we need to get used to for the next few months as since the last issue of TGN the BOM has officially declared that we are definitely in a La Nina weather pattern, for the third year in a row, and that means it is going to be a wet spring and summer.

So, what exactly does La Nina mean? Well, its definition sort of explains what we are going to be living with for the next few months

- a cooling of the water in the equatorial Pacific, which occurs at irregular intervals, and is associated with widespread changes in weather patterns complementary to those of El Niño, but less extensive and damaging in their effects.

Australia's weather is influenced by many climate drivers. El Niño and La Niña have the strongest influence on year-to-year climate variability for most of the country. They are part of a natural cycle known as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). The ENSO cycle loosely operates over timescales from one to eight years and means that the practical application of the La Nina definition is

- Increased risk of heavy rainfall across much of Australia
- Cooler daytime temperatures (south of the tropics)
- Warmer overnight temperatures (in the north)
- Increased risk of flooding due to the increased rainfall
- Shift in temperature extremes
- Decreased frost risk
- Greater tropical cyclone numbers
- Earlier monsoon onset



'Winter Falls' at Crows Nest - Highlands 2 weeks ago... a sign of things to come?  
Photo: Alistair Lade

Given the increased growth of vegetation due to the rain it also means that there is more likelihood of grassfires this year rather than 'bushfires' in forested and timbered regions. So, if those blades need sharpening on lawnmowers and ride-on mowers, now might be a good time to do it.

Read on for another great issue... **Pauline**

And Kenny Koala...was looking forward to celebrating 30 years of Euroa's Arboretum

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

"Spring is sprung, the grass is riz,  
I wonder where the mower is?"

**Spike Milligan (1918-2002)**

How to keep all the cookies to yourself:



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

A 12 inch lobster = Footscray  
Puzzling Water = Riddells Creek  
Happy Gum = Merrigum

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
Sept.	93.9 mm	92.5 mm
2022 Total	706.1 mm	690 mm
Rainy Days	16 days	15 days

	NB: Fully vaccinated attendees are appreciated at all events.	What's On - October 2022	
Details see p.3	Thursday 6th Oct. @ 7.30pm	<b>TERIP TERIP REC RESERVE AGM</b> Everyone is welcome to attend as the committee encourages community involvement	
	Friday 7th Oct. @ 6pm	<b>FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ</b> It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a>	at Tablelands Community Centre Enquiries: 0427 690970 or
Details see p.3	Saturday 8th Oct. @ 8.30am	<b>HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT CFA TRAINING AND PRE-SEASON MEETING</b> at Fire Shed All active members are required to complete a pre-season training session, see you there!	
Details see p.4	Saturday 8th Oct. @ 7.30pm	<b>THE ROYAL HIGH JINX</b> at Ruffy Public Hall Reservations essential: Contact Kelly <a href="mailto:ruffartztickets@gmail.com">ruffartztickets@gmail.com</a> or 0407 017 090	
	Monday 10th Oct. @ 11am	<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>	
NB: D/S time!	Thursday 13th Oct. @ 7.30pm	<b>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> at Highlands Hall All welcome. <b>Enquiries? Justus 0427 524473</b>	
	Friday 14th Oct. @ 6.30pm	<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 to cover power. <b>Enquiries? - contact Paula 0419 551882</b>	
	Saturday 15th Oct. 10am-12	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> at 94 Old Highlands Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <b>Enquiries? Clare 0428 969366</b>	
Details see p.4	Sunday 16th Oct. 10.30-2	<b>BIODIVERSITY MAPPING</b> at Tablelands community Centre, Ruffy Like to find out how to map or endangered and/or unique wildlife and plants? Then this workshop is for YOU! BYO phone, tablet, laptop to download the essential tools required	
Details see p.3	Saturday 22nd Oct. @ noon	<b>SPRING FLING!!</b> at Ruffy Recreation Reserve Come along and be a part of this community gathering with an international flavour - both food and friends. <b>RSVPs by 12/10 to Jenny - 0408 969236 or Justus - 0427 524473</b>	
	Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30	<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 - Oct. 12th &amp; 26th and Nov. 9th &amp; 23rd.</b>	
It's Back!	Every Monday @ 10am	<b>QI GONG</b> at the Tablelands Community Centre Returning for 2022, everyone is welcome. <b>Contact Vivien 0405 612 400</b>	

## Why not SPRING into the SPRING FLING

**22nd October 2022 @ noon**  
**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.



If you would like to be a part of this international day of sharing the HCCC's organising committee need your **RSVPs (for catering purposes) ASAP, but by Wednesday 12th October at the latest**

**Text or ring Jenny - 0408 969236 or**  
**Justus - 0427 524473**

## FOR SALE

2 Male turkeys  
(8 months old)  
\$50 each.  
Ph: 5790 4298



## HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT CFA TRAINING AND PRE-SEASON MEETING

A pre-season training session will be held on **Saturday 8th October** at the Highlands CFA shed for all active members commencing at 8.30am. Please bring personal protective clothing. It is important that all active members complete a training session prior to the fire season.



The training session will be followed at 10.00am with a breakfast and pre-season meeting at the Highlands Hall. CFA members and all community members are welcome.

**Please RSVP for catering purposes - Judy 5796 9247**

## Terip Recreation Reserve AGM

The Terip Recreation Reserve AGM is next **Thursday, 6th October at 7:30 pm.**

The main role of the Committee includes:

- organising Community events such as the recent Star Gazing Night, Anzac Day Service and other fundraising/social events - new ideas welcome!
- working with Murrindindi Shire to maintain and improve our facilities such as the recent installation of the new folding doors

We would love to see as many members of the community involved as possible.

If you can't make it to the meeting but would like to be involved, please contact any members of our Current Committee: Jonathan, Shannon, Kerri, Frances and Jenny

## FOUND

Car trim on Nolan's Rd  
(Donovan's Hill)  
No damage.  
Ph: 5790 4298



## Returning to Ruffy THE ROYAL HIGH JINX

Saturday 8th October, Ruffy Public Hall

**Doors open 7.30 pm**

Performance commences 8.00 pm

Reservations essential: email Kelly

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

or 0407 017 090

Adults \$25, Students/Pensioners \$15

BYO Nibbles and drinks

Coffee and cake available at intermission \$5.00

**PRESENTED BY RUFFARTZ**



**\*\* A huge thank you to Margaret-Anne for taking on the role of Secretary for the Highlands Hall Committee \*\***

## It's time to think about Paterson's Curse

HCCC is now looking for expressions of interest from all landowners to join in with the Landcare group in its annual helicopter spraying for Paterson's Curse. The spraying will take place in May - June.

Each landowner will be subsidised 50% for the cost of the weedicide, to a maximum of 3 loads. This year we will be using a larger Helicopter and the Load price is \$1450.00 plus GST. This covers 26 Hectares

Contact Neil van Buuren to book your property for this particularly important community event and help us to control the spread of this noxious weed.

**Phone: 0417 503 472**

**Email [hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com.au)**



## Did you know that we share our home with some very special animals?

***Learn more about why your contributions are important to help understand what is living around us.***

At a time where many areas in south eastern Australia have been impacted by bushfires, expanding developments and changing climate, our local environment is an important refuge for a range of iconic species such as the quirky Gang Gang cockatoo. This wonderful bird visits us each summer and autumn to feast on a range of seeds, ranging from Hawthorn berries, Wattles and Eucalypts. Sadly, this species is now classified as Endangered on the national threatened species list following the Black Summer fires impacting much of their habitat in NSW. Check out their story [here](#).

*Join us to learn how to map our local native biodiversity sightings to monitor and record their presence.*

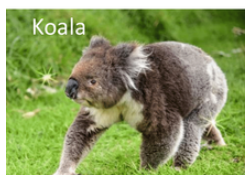
There's a number of mapping tools that record species distribution to help a range of organisations and environmental managers to better understand which native plants and animals live where. Our contributions are particularly important to understand the role of habitat on private property, where formal surveys are rarely undertaken.

This session will help you head out and record the many cool plants and animals that visit your home.

**Where:** Ruffy Tablelands Community Centre

**When:** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 10:30- 2:00pm.

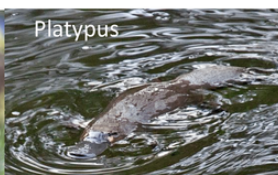
**What to bring:** Your favourite device (phone, tablet, laptop) to upload apps and practice recording your sightings.



Koala



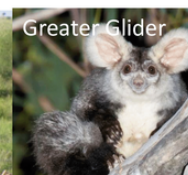
Gang Gang Cockatoo



Platypus



Wedge Tailed Eagle



Greater Glider

# Thinking of putting in a multi-species Covercrop? **Think SOILKEE**

**Multi-species cover crops are a great way to build your organic matter whilst also providing feed for your livestock. Why is organic matter important?**

- Organic matter in soil often makes up less than 5% of the soil by weight, but controls 90% of the soil functions essential for plant growth.
- As organic matter increases from 1% to 3% by weight, the water holding capacity doubles!

**NOW TAKING BOOKINGS**

## **How does the Soilkee Renovator work?**

- A diverse mix of seeds from clover seed to faba bean size can be applied from the seed box during operation with seeds dropping in kee's. The Kee's are mechanically made by rotating blades, leaving around 80% of the pasture undisturbed
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### COMMUNITY POP-UP SESSIONS

Community feedback informs Council plans and projects to best reflect community needs and aspirations. During October and November, Council will be popping up at several events across Murrindindi Shire to chat to the community about some of the projects we are working on, including:

- Changes to Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services
- Housing and Settlement Strategy
- Climate Action Plan
- Public Open Space Contributions Policy

These events are taking place at:

#### **Marysville Market**

9 October, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

#### **Eildon Information Centre**

11 October, 10.00 am - 12 noon

#### **Yarck Market**

15 October, 9.00 - 1.30 pm

#### **Flowerdale Market**

16 October, 10.00 - 2.00 pm

#### **Kinglake Market**

23 October, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

#### **Alexandra Spring Fair**

30 October, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm

#### **Taggerty Twilight Market**

4 November, 6.00 - 9.00 pm

#### **Yea Railway Market**

5 November, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Come along and provide your feedback in person, or visit our online engagement platform, The Loop, at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au) for more information.

### NEW LIBRARY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE OPENING HOURS

From Monday 3 October, Council's Library and Customer Service Centres across the Shire will no longer close at lunchtime.

This change is based on feedback we received from the community earlier in the year, while we were preparing our Library Strategy and Action Plan.

For all opening hours, visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au) and search 'opening hours' or give us a call.

### STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news) or follow us on Facebook.

### GET IN TOUCH

[customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
[murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request)  
5772 0333

### SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH CONNECTIVITY IN MURRINDINDI SHIRE

We're seeking input from the community to help us better understand your experience, and identify the issues you're having, with mobile connectivity or nbn access.

We're after information about 'where' and 'when' you're experiencing issues.

The information we receive from you will support our advocacy efforts to telecommunications providers and State and Federal Governments for better infrastructure, and a system that's stronger in the face of natural disasters.

To provide your feedback, visit [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/connectivity](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/connectivity)



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**Murrindindi Shire Council**

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

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**Strathbogie Granite Project**

[neil.phillips@bigpond.com](mailto:neil.phillips@bigpond.com)

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.