



# THE GRANITE NEWS

11TH JUNE 2020

VOLUME 14

COVID-19 #15

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Anyone for frost? Yep we get frost up on the Tablelands and the valleys are in fog, so it must be June.

As there's been a 33.3% strike rate so far with mushroom and/or toadstool identification, let's try again and see if anyone out there in reader land can put a name and maybe some information to this picture of a locally grown little fungi. Thanks Colin.

Any/all suggestions can be sent to [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) and I look forward to adding to my botanical knowledge base.

Until next issue stay warm and safe, **Pauline**

**And Kenny?** Was catching up with his friend the Swamp Wallaby.



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)

**"I booked the (Hobart) Town Hall - I want to make these (his slides of Lake Pedder) into an audio-visual, and we will show it."**

**Olegas Truchanas (1923-1972)**

**After paddling Gordon River 1st time**

**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

### How do you manage weeds & pests?

The Weeds and Rabbits Project at Agriculture Victoria is seeking support from private and public land managers to help combat pests and weeds which cost Victoria more than \$1 billion a year.

Landowner and land managers are being invited to take part in a [state-wide survey](#) about how they manage weeds and rabbits on their property.

The results will provide a better understanding of the barriers people face with implementing weed and rabbit management practices.

Agriculture Victoria is the lead agency in the delivery of programs to combat established invasive species, which is underpinned by the Commonwealth Government-funded Weeds and Rabbits Project.

Complete the survey at [weedsandrabbits.com/survey/](http://weedsandrabbits.com/survey/)

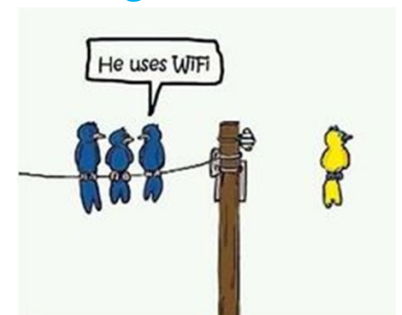
The survey opens Tuesday 26 May and closes Wednesday 24 June.

E: [pestanimalsandweeds@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:pestanimalsandweeds@ecodev.vic.gov.au)

W: [www.weedsandrabbits.com](http://www.weedsandrabbits.com)

**Neil van Buuren - HCCC Facilitator**

## Let's laugh



## Coronavirus 24hr Hotline

**1800 020 080**

## Website of the Week

Like to find out more about the fascinating platypus, its habitat and way of life, the Australian Platypus Conservancy has a wealth of information.

[www.platypus.asn.au](http://www.platypus.asn.au)

## Community Notices & Classifieds

### CALENDAR of EVENTS — or something to look forward to...

1st weekend of the month (not winter) 10-4	<b>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO</b> 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. 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands
2nd Monday each month @ 11am 	<b>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</b> The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2019 at the same place Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch & coffee will be provided. contact Jan 5790 4361
2nd Wednesday each month @ 9.30am 	<b>TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA</b> This enjoyable social event is open to anyone who wants to enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce. Highlands Community Centre
2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm 	<b>DRINKS ON THE TABLE</b> Starts at 6.30pm. A great way to catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially those who are new to the area. Highlands Community Hall
3rd Thursday or Friday each month	<b>HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING</b> The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. at ?????? Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268
Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat at Caveat Church
4th Saturday each month 10-12 or 12-2 	<b>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</b> Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. at 94 Old Highlands Rd Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366
Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?? Please note the Mobile Library Service is temporarily suspended until further notice!! at Highlands Community Hall
Every Monday @ 10 am	<b>QIGONG AT RUFFY</b> Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien or email: <a href="mailto:vivienwatmough@gmail.com">vivienwatmough@gmail.com</a> at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy
Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm	<b>SWING DANCE CLASS</b> Swing dances featuring Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! at Euroa Uniting Church Hall Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559

All these monthly events will be returning to a place near YOU, hopefully soon, but not until it is safe. Stay tuned .....



Postponed until further notice

### Get off gas & consider your appliances - courtesy of Environment Victoria's energy saving tips

The extraction and burning of this dirty fossil fuel is contributing to climate change. Gas infrastructure such as import terminals can cause environmental damage to precious natural environments (for example, check out [AGL's plans](#) for a gas import terminal in the pristine Westernport Bay). We strongly encourage all households to prioritise the replacement of gas appliances in the home to electric, with the view to install solar panels as soon as possible.

#### APPLIANCES

Appliances, including ovens, washing machines, water heaters and TVs, are a major source of energy use and therefore, potential energy savings. Appliances in the average home account for approximately 28 percent of energy use, or 10kWh/day of electricity and 2.5 MJ/day of gas. Thanks to Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS), appliances are becoming more efficient each year. Thus, it can be beneficial to replace old appliances with highly efficient new ones.

### Coronacast - all yours for free!

In these times of instant social media and 'fake news' Coronacast is an accurate podcast that helps to answer your questions about coronavirus or COVID19. The latest news and research is broken down to help you understand how the world is living through an epidemic.

Listen for free on [ABC listen app](#), [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Google Podcasts](#).





## Angus the tree planting dog takes a break after helping Shannon plant her Landcare trees.



## A Date for your Diary

Thursday 18th June  
10am-noon  
Tablelands Community Centre

### Longwood Ruffy Rd Upgrade

If you are interested in discussing the delay of the Longwood-Ruffy Rd upgrade come along to this meeting.

In order to meet social distancing restrictions RSVPs are essential ring **0438 670762** or email [communications@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto:communications@strathbogie.vic.gov.au)



## Is this the next generation of Ruffy farming?

Four year old Ethan helped me fill in the holes Arty (wonder dog) had dug in our back lawn. We had a barrow load of top soil. I offered him the little trowel but he preferred a bigger shovel. He scooped out a bit - most of it falling back into the barrow as he lifted the shovel. "This is very hard work," he commented, "but I am a farmer!"

Judith Artridge



## Spotted a platypus lately?

Since the Australian Platypus Monitoring Network was launched last year, the Australian Platypus Conservancy has conducted several regional rollouts to promote community participation and develop better public awareness of platypus conservation needs. One such rollout was undertaken in partnership with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority in Victoria.

Eighteen community information and training sessions were presented in the CMA's region in 2019, with 39 monitoring sites subsequently established. The rollout and its associated media coverage also contributed to a seven-fold increase in the number of incidental platypus sightings that have been reported as compared to the previous year.

The widespread bushfires earlier this year plus the onset of Covid-19 restrictions have unfortunately forced the rollout program for 2020 to be suspended for now. However, the APC are hopeful that activities can resume in the second half of this year.

In the meantime, going out to monitor platypus on a regular basis remains a great way to stay active and in tune with the natural environment. For more information about how to get involved, please visit the APMN website at [www.platypusnetwork.org.au](http://www.platypusnetwork.org.au).



### JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE WEBINAR WITH PROF. DAVID LINDENMAYER

The Murrindindi Library Service is hosting a webinar with internationally-recognised ecologist, conservation biologist and author, Professor David Lindenmayer. The webinar will be held from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm on Tuesday 23 June.

David is a Research Professor at The Australian National University and he is an expert in landscape ecology, conservation and biodiversity. During the webinar, David will discuss what we need to know and what we need to do, to have an impact on the future of our forests and natural landscape. The session summarises David's 37 years of insights into the ecology and management of wet forests in the Yarra Valley, including research on the effects of wildfires on forests and biodiversity.

If you would like to attend the webinar, please register your details at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/webinar](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/webinar) and we will email you some further details.



[www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
Phone: 5772 0333

It's on again!

HCCC News



# Fox on the Run

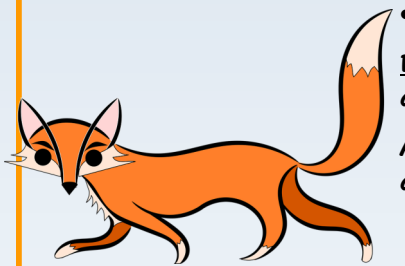
Advice from members indicates that fox numbers in the catchment are increasing, and the committee has decided to bring back the Fox on the Run initiative.

As in past years, the bounty will be \$3.00 per tail and \$250.00 to the winning team or individual.

Only registered participants can claim the bounty and prize.

## How to enter:

- You can enter as an individual or a team
- Send an email with your contact details to Neil van Buuren at [hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com](mailto:hughes.creek.fac@gmail.com).
- Competition runs from June until the end of July 2020.



**Please note:** All participants must be licenced shooters under the rules and regulation set out by the Victorian Government.

All shooters are reminded that care should be taken to avoid the accidental harming of farm stock, native animals and domestic pets.

By registering, participants agree that the members and committee of HCCC cannot be held responsible for the actions of the participants.

## Fox on the run

### Time to think about Paterson's Curse

With the very dry summer and wet winter its anticipated that we could have a large increase in weed infestation from 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 August - September.

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 the Load price is \$1450.00 plus GST. Covers 26 Ha per load as opposed to 16 Ha last year.

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

Please contact me ASAP so that we can pre-order the chemicals, last year all local suppliers rang out of chemicals early.

Phone: 0417 503 472 or 03 5796 9111

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



### Rabbit ripping

Subsidies are now available through HCCC Landcare group for Rabbit Ripping.  
(Conditions Apply)

Please email Neil van Buuren

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





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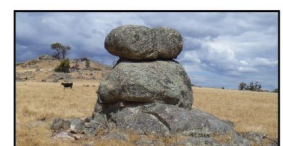
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