



# THE GRANITE NEWS

18TH JUNE 2020

VOLUME 14

COVID-19 #16

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

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Unfortunately no-one could enlighten TGN's readership as to the variety of toadstool on the front of last Thursday's Covid-19 special issue. However John Thompson has sent in a photo of some little fungi gems and he has another question that needs an answer, if anyone can assist.

Don't forget that for an incredibly reasonable \$250 annual fee, or as the end of the financial year approaches \$125 pro rata, you can advertise your business to a wider audience via The Granite News. Currently there are over 700 readers of this great little newsletter so that's a rather impressive captive audience to advertise your talents, wares, or services to. At present there is one space available for a new business, with the possibility of more to come so if you are at all interested please email me at [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) for more details.

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

**And Kenny?** Was checking out any roadworks for the Longwood-Ruffy Rd.



## Anyone for really small fungi?

Pauline,

I continue to be amazed at the variety of fungi that have appeared this year. These little characters are very plentiful around my paddocks. The larger one in the photo is just over one centimetre in diameter.

But I have a query that your readers may be able to solve. How do relative soft fungi push their way up through hard clay soils, breaking their way up through dry compacted earth?

Regards,

John



And can anyone supply a name for these colourful little gems too? Ed.



Hughes Creek  
Catchment  
Collaborative  
Landcare

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)

**"First we will price water, then we will price carbon and then we will price bio-diversity."**

**Emeritus Professor Snow Barlow**

**Plant physiologist & agricultural scientist**

**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**

**Let's  
laugh**



**Coronavirus 24hr Hotline**

**1800 020 080**





**Website of the Week**

Like to see what all the animals get up to when no-one can visit their zoo? Well now is your chance with live cams, speaker talks and virtual updates.

<https://www.zoo.org.au/animals-at-home>

## 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 on 0428 969366 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

### Let's look at insulation - courtesy of Environment Victoria's energy saving tips

#### Insulate the shell of your home (walls, ceilings and floors)

Insulating the walls, floors and ceiling of your home is a crucial way to keep your home comfortable all year with reduced energy use. There are a range of products and materials out there for different housing types and purposes, ranging from thermal bats to pumped foam. We recommend engaging a fully qualified tradesperson to install any insulation due to potential fire hazards related to electrical equipment. Make sure your electrician and insulation installer communicate with each other, so the electrical and insulation work is conducted safely and effectively.

#### Double glazing

After many of the of the above improvements have been made, double glazing is a good way to improve the performance of windows by up to 50 percent. Double glazing isn't cheap and should be used in combination with a range of building shell upgrades, draught proofing and appliance replacement to achieve maximum benefit.

### 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](#).





## After Covid-19?

I can't complain too much about the pandemic shutdown. Apart from missing visiting my family and catching up with friends, my life hasn't changed much.

This is in sharp contrast to the lives of millions of people who are suffering and who will continue to suffer for months to come. Of course, as with many crises, it is the most vulnerable who suffer the most, particularly women.

My fear is that when the shutdown is lifted, things will sink back to where they were before. Will we continue to take for granted our nurses, those who care for the elderly and people with disabilities, our preschool workers and teachers? Will we go on paying them poorly? Will we go on exploiting people in the hospitality industry, the shop assistants, the cleaners who look after our everyday needs? Will we continue to devalue the contribution of those in the arts and entertainment community?

Will we push the homeless back on the streets and overlook social housing, and instead hand cash to the affluent to renovate their kitchens? As for the unemployed what can they hope for if they are refused a decent allowance? Let's not forget those who suffer domestic abuse. In the background our indigenous people continue to suffer the highest incarceration and mortality rate including in custody and are still without constitutional recognition of their history.

We could name many other injustices in our society that the shutdown has exposed. The questions we and our governments face are profound. When the crisis fades, will we be able say we have grown as a people and as a community? Will we emerge as a more caring and just society, or will we simply slip back to the business as usual. What do you think?

Stuart Reid—Highlands

## YEE HA!!!! Just what we've been waiting for...

Subject to the Covid-19 restrictions in place on the proposed date, the

**Highlands Hall Committee** has decided to resume **"Drinks-on-the-Deck"** commencing on the evening of **Friday 10th July at 6.30pm.**

Put the date in your diary now and stay tuned for further details.



## FOR SALE BERNINA 820



On behalf of one of our most loved members, Yea Yakkers would like to offer For Sale, our Annie's favourite machine "Big Bertha", a Bernina 820. She comes complete with all accessories, including an encyclopaedic selection of feet, a SewEzi collapsible table and fold-away trolley. Tim from Chandler's Cottage has just completed a full service of this machine and Annie created several award-winning quilts with it.

**AT JUST \$2,500  
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**Please contact Pauline if you are interested  
0427 529 551**

## Agriculture Victoria Webinars

In these strange and unusual times readers may have discovered several new technologies for meetings, etc. Webinars have been around pre-Covid 19 and they are one of the most effective ways of participating in a range of learning activities.

More importantly, if you are unable to view the webinar at the time of broadcast, they are saved for future reference.

Why not check out the wealth of information on offer from Agriculture Victoria at <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/weather-and-climate/climate-webinars>

These Terip farmers have used their Landcare trees to establish a lovely shelter belt to improve livestock welfare.

Extra trees were purchased from Euroa Arboretum and a new fence will soon be built on the other side to restrict stock access.

An great outcome inspired by an offer of 50 free trees during the COVID-19 Lockdown period.

Does anyone else have photos of their 50 free trees? Send them to [hughescreek2@gmail.com](mailto:hughescreek2@gmail.com)



It's on again!

HCCC News

# Fox on the Run

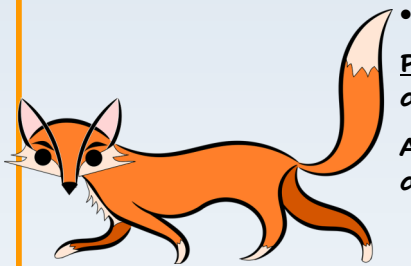
Advice from members indicates that fox numbers in the catchment are increasing, and the committee has decided to bring back the Fox on the Run initiative.

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:

- Your 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)



## A new direction for Landcare in Victoria

Greetings from the Committee of Management for **Landcare Victoria** Incorporated (LVI), your state wide organisation representing grass roots Landcarers committed to increasing biodiversity and promoting the sustainable management of land.

Many of our members are busier than ever making sure that the supply chains are well provided with healthy food. We would like to update you as our valued members and partners on some exciting new developments at **Landcare Victoria**.

**Landcare Victoria** now has energetic support from two philanthropic trusts:

Jim and Heather Phillipson (Rendere Trust) and Joanne and William Crothers (Upotipotpon Foundation).

This will bring increased capacity to support our partners and Landcarers and deliver increased recognition, resourcing and support for resilient and productive landscapes and communities.

This recent support from the philanthropic community has been a catalyst for the **Landcare Victoria** team, prompting us to develop some ambitious future plans and make sure we have the right people to drive these forward and maximise the opportunity this new support brings.

An exciting new step in the future of **Landcare Victoria** is the decision to advertise for an inaugural CEO. The new CEO will be tasked with the primary objectives of driving ongoing funding of the Landcare Facilitator program and fostering the development of more diverse funding sources and strategic partnerships.

A key theme in **Landcare Victoria's** strategic plan is to encourage a strong, vocal and resilient Landcare movement in Victoria. Working with the Victorian State Government to ensure the ongoing employment and support of Landcare facilitators across groups and networks is fundamental to this. While continuing to work with State Government, **Landcare Victoria** is also seeking diversity of funding sources and broader community recognition and support.

In order to convert our plans into action **Landcare Victoria** is establishing the **Victorian Landcare Fund**.

This public fund has the specific role of supporting biodiversity and promoting the sustainable management of land. **Landcare Victoria** is also in the process of achieving Deductible Gift Recipients status which will provide more avenues for diverse financial investment in Landcare across Victoria.

This will not only attract investment from philanthropic organisations, the fund will provide a vessel for “mum and dad” investors from the broader community, to support Landcare actions within their own communities both locally and state wide.

As a grass roots organisation, our future plans are focused on bringing even greater outcomes, raising the profile of **Landcare in Victoria** as well as the incredible work of our Landcarers, for benefit of the broader community and the environment.

<http://www.lvi.org.au/latest-news/member-news/a-new-direction-for-landcare-in-victoria/?fbclid=IwAR3CMVog8Ja8ajHWlxtDOxGQyooAgfRXFNQtracVyOxdoyAHXRxuH5ZE-Ug>

More news and information from LVI - <http://www.lvi.org.au/>





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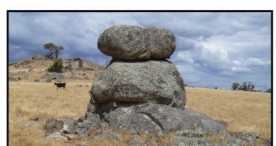
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