



Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

It's a truism that 'a week is a long time in politics' but at the moment 24 hours is a huge time in our state of Victoria. Who would have thought that a week ago the readers of The Granite News who live in both the Greater Melbourne area (and yes there are readers in this location) and also closer to home in the Mitchell Shire, would be back experiencing Covid-19 Stage 3 restrictions?

For those of us who live in either Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shires or further afield life, although still a little different, continues to be less restrictive and hopefully will remain that way. However to ensure that is the case we need to remember those 4 important preventative measures and employ them assiduously.

We also need to spare a thought for those TGN readers who find themselves somewhat 'stuck' until 19th August. Hopefully by the time that date comes around, Victoria will be winning this unpredictable battle.

On a lighter note **THANK YOU** so very much to all of you who have enthusiastically responded **YES** to the HCCC's Membership drive. The Editor's email inbox has seen a steady stream of **YES** responses each day. At the moment that translates to 63 members and I'm wondering if it is possible to maybe double that number between this issue of TGN and the next? Remember it's easy to do, does not involve any cost and all you need to do is send an email to editor@tgn.org.au and type YES.

Once again thanks so much in advance for your interest and support. See p.4 for further details.

Until next issue continue to stay warm and safe,
Pauline

And Kenny? Was sitting just below the June rainfall results.



Feedback? - editor@tgn.org.au
or to subscribe on-line go to
www.highlands.org.au

**"My present was a cake.
Ablaze with so many candles, I fully
expected to see boy scouts camped
around it."**

Anon



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

Prof. David Lindenmayer gave a Zoom talk last month to over 500 library listeners on Fire, Logging & Fauna. If you have a spare hour it's a very informed view

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YCSr7dZKRM&feature=youtu.be>

Covid Cat comes out in style & ready for anything

It seems that the mystery maker of those delightful displays on the Ghin Ghin cutting has been at it again.

When the situation started to progress in Melbourne last week the Cat on the Cattening Curve suddenly donned PPE gear and is now not only safe but, after this weekend's rain, dry too.

Thanks again to the creative soul who has such great, quirky ideas. It is always a joy to see what turns up next.



Community Notices & Classifieds

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

<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">1st weekend of the month (not winter) 10-4</p>	<p>DARREN GILBERT's OPEN STUDIO 2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</p> <p>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.</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">2nd Monday each month @ 11am</p> 	<p>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</p> <p>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</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">2nd Wednesday each month @ 9.30am</p> 	<p>TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA Community Centre</p> <p>This enjoyable social event is open to anyone who enjoys a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce. enjoy a cuppa, swap</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm</p> 	<p>DRINKS ON THE TABLE Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>Starts at 6.30pm. A chance to catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially those who don't have a power. at Highlands Community Hall</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">3rd Thursday or Friday each month</p>	<p>HUGHES CREATIVE COLLABORATIVE MEETING at ??????</p> <p>The next meeting will be in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome. Enquiries? - contact Justus 5790 4268</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm</p>	<p>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS at Caveat Church</p> <p>All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">4th Saturday each month 10-12 or 12-2</p> 	<p>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET at 94 Old Highlands Rd</p> <p>Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</p>	<p>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE at Highlands Community Hall</p> <p>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!!</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Every Monday @ 10 am</p>	<p>QIGONG AT RUFFY at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</p> <p>Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien on 5790 4205 or email: vivienwatmough@gmail.com</p>
<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm</p>	<p>SWING DANCE CLASS at Euroa Uniting Church Hall</p> <p>Swing dances featuring Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!! Enquiries? Ray 0467 951559</p>

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

GREAT NEWS - the missing Angus steers have been found!

However here's a bit of fun

LOST - have you seen this cutlery?

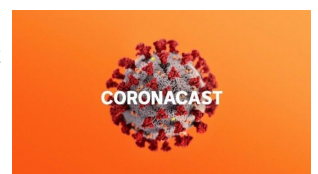
Numerous items are missing from Dawnstan Park, 160 Nolans Road, Ruffy near Ruffy Town Hall. They have no tags. Missing since last century when our family was highly sociable attending many progressive dinners in the district and functions at the Hall. If you've seen them or have any information, please leave them in our mailbox or leave a message on 57904205. We have a number of rogue cutlery items that I'm happy to return to owners if you send a snap of the pattern I'll match what's here and round them up. **Judith**



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](#).



Bob Hawke Landcare Award

The Bob Hawke Landcare Award is a prestigious, national award that publicly recognises an individual involved in championing Landcare and who inspires others to take action on their own property or through a Landcare group.

The award acknowledges an individual's leadership and commitment to Landcare, natural resource management and sustainable agriculture. The award nomination is open to an individual who champions the uptake of sustainable agriculture practices and can demonstrate the adoption of improved practises among landholders as a consequence this action.

They will be closely involved in Landcare, and can demonstrate an outstanding commitment to local communities and drive community activity.

Nominations close: 31 August 2020

Prize: the Bob Hawke Landcare Award recipient will be awarded a **prize package to the value of \$50,000** for further development of their knowledge and skills in sustainable land management to enable an even stronger contribution to Landcare.

Award presentation: the Bob Hawke Landcare Award will be presented at the National Landcare Awards gala dinner on **Thursday 11 March, 2021** in Sydney.

For more information & to submit a nomination: visit the Bob Hawke Landcare Award website:

<https://bobhawkelandcareaward.com.au/>

Do your bit for the environment & go

Plastic Free this July

This July, as part of its ongoing efforts to increase sustainability and protect our environment, **Murrindindi Shire Council** is joining forces with **Plastic Free July** to talk with our community about single-use plastics and the steps we can take to reduce their use, so they don't end up as rubbish. By making simple changes in our daily lives and habits, we can all work on reducing the single-use plastic waste each of us is sending to landfill.

Together, with **Plastic Free July**, Council will be supporting residents with resources to help them make positive changes - especially at home. Plastic is everywhere in our homes and is a genuinely useful material, but so often we use it once and throw it away.

Why not get behind the **Plastic Free July** campaign to take on the challenge of plastic waste reduction? The focus for **Plastic Free July** this year is on things all of us can easily change around the house including how we shop, what we cook and the types of products we use in the home. Using recycled mesh produce bags when shopping & refusing to buy any fruit or vegetables wrapped in plastic is a start.

If you'd like to participate, enter your details at www.plasticfreejuly.org/take-the-challenge/ You can take a pledge to reduce your reliance on single-use plastics for a day, a week or the entire month of July – you choose. Make changes that you think are going to be achievable and sustainable for you in the future. While the pledge you make is for July, the goal here is permanent behaviour change, for the benefit of our environment & our children.

For **Plastic Free July**, and to participate in online activities, go to murrindindi.vic.gov.au/plasticfreejuly



SAVE the DATE (to be confirmed)

Terip Tennis Club AGM

Monday August 3, 2020

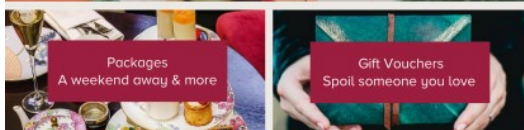
@ 7.30pm

@the Terip Rec Reserve



THE DINDI STORE

Support our local Murrindindi Shire businesses and shop our range of artisan produce, hand crafts, decadent dining experiences and luxury escapes. Spoil someone you love or treat yourself!



thedindistore.com.au

Murrindindi Shire Council VICTORIA State Government



GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS PROGRAM

Register now for our online information session

Have you got a project, event or activity that will contribute to community wellbeing, increased visitation and economic development for Murrindindi Shire? Applications are now open for Council's 'Grants and Contributions Program'.

If you are interested in applying for a grant, you can register to attend an online information session where you will learn more about the Program and how to write a competitive grant application.

Information sessions will be held online throughout the year. The first session will be held at 6.30 pm on Monday 14 July. To register, please visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/grants or give us a call on 5772 0333.



We need your help- HCCC Landcare needs official members

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) are reviewing the Landcare Facilitator Program.

The Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program funds 78 part-time Landcare facilitators who are employed directly by a range of organisations including Landcare and environmental groups and networks.



For continued funding for 2020-21, an Expression of Interest will open later in the year for Landcare and environmental volunteer groups and networks who would like to seek funding to employ a Landcare Facilitator from 1 January 2021 under the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program. This new program is competitive and is open to any community group that is considered environment friendly.

The HCCC committee is currently working on an EOI and will be submitting an application to continue to employ our hard-working facilitators. **To strengthen our case we need to develop a membership register to show support for the work Landcare has done and will continue to do.**

Currently the HCCC does not have any official members. Any community member with any an interest in Landcare and sustainable farming has always been welcome to attend meeting and participate in Landcare activities at no membership costs.

We are requesting the readers of the Granite News become official members of the HCCC.

Nothing will change, there will be no membership costs and both members and non-members will be welcome to attend meetings and participate in all activities. This is open to anyone with an interest in Landcare in the area; it is not confined to permanent residents.

To make this process as simple as possible for recipients of the Granite News to become members please just reply back to TGN's Editor with your name and YES as an indication of your interest in HCCC membership.

This can be done in two ways

- 1. Reply back to the email that sent you this Granite News with your name and YES or**
- 2. Email your name and YES to the editor at editor@tgn.org.au ASAP but by July 31st at the latest**

Further information on the Facilitator Program can be found on the following web site

https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0030/465672/VLFP-FAQ.pdf

Your support would be greatly appreciated by your HCCC Landcare committee. Thank-you

Is anyone interested???

I was a prolific jam maker but now that my best customer (Dad) has gone I have a large quantity of glass jars and lids to move on. I will deliver locally if the new owner will take all of the jars. They are 350g size or larger. I quickly counted 50 but I have more stored elsewhere.

Interested? Contact Judith at dawnstanpark3666@icloud.com or wait till July 12th for more information.

River Red Gum - (*Eucalyptus Camaldulensis*)

The mighty River Red Gum is a common species of eucalyptus and found in most areas of Australia, but in particular throughout the Murray-Darling Basin. It is an iconic and important species of this catchment, both ecologically & economically, & commonly grows on riverine sites.

River red gums are a perennial, single-stemmed, large-boled, medium-sized to tall tree to 30 m high although there are some records of trees to 45 m. It is also estimated that these trees could reach ages of 500 to 1000 years.

The trees possess deep sinker roots and these roots have extremely high rates of hydraulic conductivity, making them very effective in conducting water. This high water use of river red gums contributes to maintaining water tables at depth. They also demonstrate moderate salt tolerance.

River red gum forest wetlands provide habitat for fish and waterbirds (breeding, feeding and refuge areas). Hollows in river red gums provide habitat for water and forest birds.

Pollination is mainly by insects but also by birds and small mammals. Flowering in most years is from late spring to mid-summer although about 45% of flowers fail to mature. River red gums have probably one of the fastest growth rates for a tree and, with a good water supply, can attain a height of 12-15 m in a few years, with flood timing affecting germination success.

River red gums obtain water from three main sources: ground water, rainfall and river flooding. It is river flooding which enables the species to survive in semi-arid areas, although permanent inundation results in tree death. However it is also very fire sensitive and even low intensity fires may cause injury and a fire kills regeneration.

River red gum forests are historically and culturally important due to the number of significant Aboriginal sites they contain. Common relics include canoe and shield trees. Such trees show scars where the bark was removed. Since European settlement the wood has also been used for heavy construction, railway sleepers, flooring, framing, fencing, plywood and veneer manufacture, wood turning, firewood and charcoal production.

These majestic trees are also of major importance as a source of honey, producing heavy yields of nectar in good seasons as well as providing bees with an important source of good quality pollen.

Stands of river red gum are associated with the surface flooding regime of watercourses and related ground water flow. The species is a profligate and opportunistic water user, and this is a contributing factor to the maintenance of water tables at depth. Even without large amounts of empirical data it is clear that loss of large tracts of the species in the Murray River corridor would have a major impact on the hydrology of the system, as well as on vegetation communities and associated biodiversity.

Text – CSIRO & Photo – Phil Glowacki



HABBIES HOWE BEEF

MATURE, WELL HUNG &
AVAILABLE
IGA SEYMOUR
GARY'S MEATS, PRAHRAN
MARKET
L&L MEATS, BENTLEIGH

SCOTCH AND FILLET
ST HELENA, MENTONE &
MERNDA



General earthworks & hole boring
Shed design, construction & removal
Metal fabrication & welding
Crane truck hire

Callum - 0437 182 223
lawsonbluetop@gmail.com

Chris Sharman

Energy Efficiency & Solar Energy
Specialist

Acme – Air Conditioning |

Electrical | Solar

M: 0418 551 301

T: Office - 9785 7339

E: chris@acmeair.com.au



CF & HL HANDASYDE BUILDERS

Established 1978

NEW HOMES, EXTENSIONS,
RENOVATIONS, DOMESTIC, RURAL
ALL YOUR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS.

Registered Building Practitioner

Call Colin for a quote

Telephone: 0419 502 782

ruffy

produce store

special events | venue hire

first friday night bbqs | 'Tour de Ruff'
monthly long table lunches
and more

bookings a must

03 5790 4387 0429 904 209
or store@ruffy.com.au



Supplying everything you need

Products & Expertise in

- Animal Production
- Pasture/Crop Protection
- Fencing & Livestock Handling



PH: (03) 5792 1088

HELPING YOU GROW

FRANZ KLOFT MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Repairs & service of vehicles

Tyres, Windscreens, Exhausts,
Batteries, Wheel alignment,
Brakes, Automatic transmission
& we do New car servicing

Phone 5795 2910

FREE

38 Railway Street, Euroa

QUOTES

BenCo

PLUMBING SERVICES

Ben Laycock
License no. 105134

0438512299

bencoplumbingservices.com
ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au

AG Fencing & Contracting Services

Grant Wheatley

All fence constructions,
Equipment maintenance & Pump
repairs, Blasting Service
"Not sure if we do it?"

Give us a call

0407 028 122

KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS & CARTAGE



DAMS
EARTHWORKS
STOCK+WATER CARTAGE
& MORE

0429 804 235

MICHAEL.KOPANICA@GMAIL.COM

Thompson Sound

PtyLtd



Sound PA Systems for
Special Events

Stephen 0409 672 602

www.thompsonsound.com.au

IT Professional in the Highlands

Can help with all problems with
your mobile phone, I Pad, box
computer or any
email issues



Happy to travel

John Rogers 0478 221311

EDUCATION SPACE For Hire

The Tablelands Community
Centre at Ruffy

Ideal for Meetings, Lectures or Arts
& Crafts

Very Reasonable Rates

Contact Melissa Macdowall

0404 833388

Advertising space available

Contact Editor for
details

editor@tgn.org.au

de Castella
Design & Construction

"DESIGNING & BUILDING WITH YOU"

Pre-purchase Inspection & Owner Builder Assistance Available

- Homes
- Renovations
- Extensions
- Decks
- Verandahs
- Carports

YEA & DISTRICTS

0432 991 992

Donation from Supporters of the RAKALI



bluetopbiz.com.au

efficiency, sustainability, innovation
presentations, reports,
marketing, training,
risk management,
web design & maintenance.
energy management, grant apps,
solar modelling

Sue 0411 010 379

Neil 0417 503 472

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL

Meeting Room and/or Hall
available for hire

MEETINGS
FUNCTIONS
WORKSHOPS
PARTIES
WEDDINGS

Reasonable rates
Contact Judy Cameron
5796 9247



SEYMOUR & DISTRICT

- ROADS
- DAMS
- LAND CLEARING
- TREE REMOVAL

All aspects of earthmoving

Mark Kelly 0428 547 798 | Andrew Shaw 0427 969 297
kellbell25@bigpond.com

[DKO] CONSTRUCTIONS

Building • Carpentry • Construction

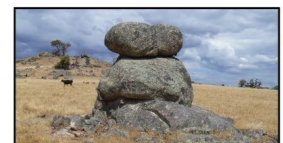
0477 640 590



A GRADE
POWER & SOLAR

Solar Design & Installation
Experts in Off Grid Battery
Systems, Solar Grid Tied
and back up Generators.
Craig Andrew 0419889555

Kelly's Hut



Strathbogie Granite
Project

neil.phillips@bigpond.com