Welcome, Wumindjika and G’day

Good news for all those TGN readers who are not in the Melbourne area, we have a little more flexibility in our lives. Common sense on many levels has assisted with this, so let’s continue to practise social distancing, wear our masks and keep ourselves and others safe.

Another 6 readers have indicated their membership support of the HCCC in the last week, which is excellent and the HCCC President Jenny Webb has a small request of everyone, all 142 of you, see below.

Until next issue continue to stay warm and safe, Pauline

And Kenny? Was checking out the beautiful Free to Good Home couch.

HCCC News

Many thanks to all those TGN readers who have registered as members of the Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative Landcare group. We are most grateful for your interest and support. HCCC would like to find out more about your concerns regarding conservation and land management in the area in order to prioritise issues and meet community needs and expectations. Attached is a short survey, the results of which will be valuable for both planning purposes and for supporting all future submissions, including ongoing funding for our facilitators.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HCCCSurvey

We look forward to receiving your responses and moving forward with important Landcare issues and activities in a post-Covid environment.

Thank you again,
Jenny Webb, President HCCC

Living in Highlands

For many people, perhaps for most, the Covid-19 pandemic brings intense and lasting suffering. I can hardly imagine what people are going through. Apart from the health scare, the economic cost is enormous, with the most vulnerable hit hardest. Those of us who live in rural areas do have some respite from the restrictions experienced by city dwellers.

Lying in bed in the morning the first call I hear is the Kookaburra chorus. Is it the first call or the second? I’m not sure. Soon the Grey Shrike Thrush sings a beautiful solo on the verandah, followed by the cute shrill of the Fantailed Cuckoo. I wonder whose nest s/he has an eye on. There are other calls among which is the Eastern Spinebill, who I am sure is already buried in the Grevillea bush. When I open the curtains the Superb Blue Wrens are tapping on the window. On the lawn outside a group of Crimson Rosellas are busy seeking seeds unperturbed by the Yellow Wattlebird splashing in the bird bath. When I go outside the family of Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos are busy in the trees behind the house & the Swallows are checking nesting sites around the mudbrick garage. Near the gazebo two magpies are seriously working the lawn. I can’t help seeing the mess the Echidna has made overnight in the rockery, but try not to worry. Looking out across the cleared area in front of the house, a dozen kangaroos are grazing, conscientiously keeping their social distance. There are no planes overhead & no traffic sounds. Apart from the birds the silence is pervasive. How lucky I am to live in Highlands? The sounds are beautiful, the silence healing & the scenery wonderful.

Stuart A. Reid - Highlands

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

“Isn’t it bit unnerving that doctors call what they do - practice!”

George Carlin (1937-2008)
American comedian, actor & author

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

HCCC Membership so far
142... and counting

Website of the Week
If last week’s website all about STUFF was of interest then this link on the same website, all about Plastic should appeal too. For the month of September there’s a FREE film to view too!

https://www.storyofplastic.org/
### CALENDAR of EVENTS — or something to look forward to...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 3rd &amp; Sun 4th October from 10-4</td>
<td><strong>DARREN GILBERT’s OPEN STUDIO</strong></td>
<td>2742 Highlands Rd, Highlands</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Monday each month @ 11am</td>
<td><strong>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</strong></td>
<td>Caveat-Dropmore Rd, the same time 11am and with the same good company! BYO lunch &amp; coffee will be provided.</td>
<td>The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2019 at the same place and time, enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce and enjoy meeting others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Wednesday each month @ 9.30am</td>
<td><strong>TERIP TERIP MORNING TEA</strong></td>
<td>at TGN Community Centre</td>
<td>An inspirational environment where both art and sculpture come to life in a beautiful scenic countryside of Highlands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Friday each month @ 6.30pm</td>
<td><strong>DRINKS ON THE DECK</strong></td>
<td>at Highlands Community Hall</td>
<td>This enjoyable social event is open to all members of the community, come along, enjoy a cuppa, swap any books or home-grown produce and enjoy meeting others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Thursday or Friday each month</td>
<td><strong>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING</strong></td>
<td>at ???</td>
<td>The next meeting will be held in 2020 commencing at 7pm. All welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Thursday each month @ 5.30pm</td>
<td><strong>SECRET MEN’S BUSINESS</strong></td>
<td>at Caveat Church</td>
<td>All people in the district are welcome, pink note ($5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Saturday each month 10-12 or 12-2</td>
<td><strong>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</strong></td>
<td>at 94 Old Highlands Rd</td>
<td>Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every second Wednesday 10.30-12.30</td>
<td><strong>MURRINGINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</strong></td>
<td>at Highlands Community Hall</td>
<td>The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Monday @ 10 am</td>
<td><strong>QIGONG AT RUFFY</strong></td>
<td>at Tablelands Community Centre Ruffy</td>
<td>Vivien Watmough looks forward to welcoming you to enjoy the benefits of this ancient well-being practice. For bookings and enquiries please call Vivien on 57953349 or email: <a href="mailto:vivienwatmough@gmail.com">vivienwatmough@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Thursday @ 7.30 (sharp) - 9pm</td>
<td><strong>SWING DANCE CLASSES</strong></td>
<td>at Euroa Uniting Church Hall</td>
<td>Swing dances feature the jazzy Big Band music of the 1930s and 40s, and they are definitely all about having fun!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FREE TO GOOD HOME

I have a very nice two-seater sofa that is free to a good home on condition that the person picks it up in the near future from the Terip Terip area! If anyone is interested, please contact Annabel on 0428 380114.

### WANTED

Border Collie pup or young dog as a family pet. Prefer a female, but open to the right dog. Please ring Debbie on 0428 972710.

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**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.

**Coronavirus 24hr Hotline**

1800 020 080
Our dear friend Glen has passed away peacefully at home in Broadford on Sep. 15 2020. Over the years Glen and Terry developed their Ruffy farm ‘Parrindi’ on the Weibye Track into a world class Alpaca stud. Upon retirement they moved to Broadford and purchased a narrow boat in the UK. They would spend half of each year touring on the canals enjoying the glorious countryside and visiting historic sites.

Glen was a stalwart of the RuffArtZ team. Many of you may have encountered her in her role as the kind hearted ticket secretary. She could never say no, no matter how late you rang or how full the hall was she would always find you a seat. As a result some events were very cozy affairs.

Glen was also creator, founder and driving force behind the renowned Ruffy Art Show. Her lovely nature, professionalism and deep respect for the artists and their work earned the Ruffy Art Show a state wide reputation for excellence, among artists and patrons alike. Apart from raising thousands of dollars for the community it also showcased the work of local people who had been inspired by the Art Show to develop their creative talents.

Glen’s creative spark, professionalism, integrity, generosity and capacity for hard work was an inspiration to us all. She had a smile for everyone, and a heart of gold and she will be sadly missed. 

Love and sympathy to Terry and the family.

The Funeral Service to celebrate her life will be held on WEDNESDAY (Sep. 23 2020) commencing at 11.30am at Mark J. Floyd Funeral services chapel - floydfunerals.com.au (03) 5795 1086 Numbers are limited due to Covid 19 restrictions.

A Livestream of the funeral service will be broadcast at www.pscp.tv/floydfunerals Mark J. Floyd Funeral Services

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VALE - GLEN GEORGE

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Some NEW Diary Dates… at last!!

Want to catch up on these opportunities?

If you missed out on viewing the Grant Workshops organised by Helen Haines’ office then click on this link to find out about grant resources and the Indi Funding Finder.

https://www.helenhaines.org/resources/grants?ct=t (EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_9_18_2020_17_12)

Also this Wednesday at 10am will see the launch of the Local Power Plan which will connect community-led renewable energy organisations across the country. Registrations are free - https://zoom.us/webinar/register/2415978853204/WN_w1ka5leks6mYlf3il1m3Q?ct=t(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_9_18_2020_17_12)

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Local Council Elections are coming up...

During October postal voting will decide who the incoming councillors will be for the next 4 years for local councils throughout the state of Victoria. Normally, The Granite News does not accept electoral copy from prospective candidates for any elections, Federal, State or Local. However, during these unprecedented times nothing is normal and with the restrictions currently in place candidates are unable to get out and meet and greet local residents prior to the election.

With this situation in mind TGN will offer all candidates, in all 3 local council areas covered by the HCCC - Mitchell, Murrindindi & Strathbogie - the opportunity to submit a short biopic and their proposed ideas and priorities if elected to their local councils. Please note any copy will need to be in a format that can be edited for space, if necessary, and photo sizes to be in KBs not MBs.

As nominations close on Tuesday 23rd Sept. candidates’ submissions will be publicised in TGN after this date and will need to display official authorisation. Voting will close at 6pm on Friday 23rd Oct.
ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO 1 – USE OF THE COMMON SEAL 2020

Notice is given that, pursuant to section 119 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the 1989 Act), at a meeting held of the Strathbogie Shire Council on 25 August 2020, the Council resolved to adopt Local Law No 1 – Use of the Common Seal 2020.

The following information about the adopted Local Law is provided in accordance with section 119(2) of the 1989 Act:

**Purpose of the Local Law:**
The purpose of the Local Law is to:
- provide for continuity in regulation around the use of Council’s Common Seal and to prohibit its unauthorised use; &
- repeal the existing Strathbogie Shire Council Meetings Procedures Local Law No 1 of 2014, which is being replaced by Governance Rules required under the Local Government Act 2020 (the 2020 Act).

**General purport of the Local Law:**
The Local Law provides for the administration, storage and use of Council’s Common Seal and repeals an existing local law that is required to be replaced by Governance Rules under the new 2020 Act. The Local Law creates an offence for the misuse of the Common Seal.

**How can I get a copy of the Local Law?**
Copies of the Local Law are available in hard copy from Council’s Customer Service Centres at Euroa (109a Binney Street, Euroa) and Nagambie (293 High Street, Nagambie) during office hours.
An electronic copy can be found on Council’s website [www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au) You may also request a hard or electronic copy by calling our Customer Service Team on 1800 065 993.

JULIE SALOMON - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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**Eastern Spinebill – (Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris)**

The Eastern Spinebill inhabits shrubs in open eucalypt forests, as well as shrubland, heathland and suburban gardens. They use their long, slender, decurved bills to probe deep into flowers, at all levels from the canopy down to the undergrowth, to feed on the sweet nectar. Some plants appear to have evolved specially to be pollinated by them. Fuelled with this energy-rich nectar, Eastern Spinebills are also often seen actively darting about on whirring, fluttering wings, after flying insects.

The Eastern Spinebill is most easily recognised by its very long, fine, down-curved beak and energetic flight, during which its white outer tail feathers are prominent. Males have a grey-black crown which extends in a black line on either site of the breast. The breast and throat are white, with a rufous patch in the centre of the throat. The wings and lower back are dark grey and the underparts and upper back are buff. Females are similar to males but have less distinct markings.

The Eastern Spinebill’s range is generally east of the Great Dividing Range from Cooktown in Queensland to the Flinders Ranges in South Australia and it prefers heath, forest and woodland for his habitat.

Its diet consists of insects and nectar while perched or while hovering. Nectar is obtained from a wide array of flowers, including grevilleas, but its beak is particularly well-suited to extracting nectar from tubular flowers like heaths.

The Eastern Spinebill’s nest is a small cup of twigs, grass and bark, combined with hair and spider’s web, built in a tree fork, generally between 1 and 5 metres from the ground. Only the female builds the nest and incubates the eggs, but both parents feed the young when they hatch.

Text: Birdlife Australia Photos: Philip Glowacki
NB: Whilst this initiative is directed at communities in the Murrindindi Shire the 3 Dindi offers can be accessed by all TGN readers - either by on-line shopping, trade/business enquiries or just chilling out with some excellent artists each Friday evening.

Shop Local
Support Local
Connect Local

It may be ‘business as usual’ for many in Murrindindi Shire, but there are still plenty of ways our community can help support our local businesses, community groups, food and wine producers, artists and performers.

Shop locally from the comfort of home
Support 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

#Support local

It’s Business as Unusual
Your one-stop-shop with information about local businesses in Murrindindi Shire, including hospitality and retail, trades and services, health and fitness and library and learning services.
dindidirectory.com.au

Dindi Live
Bringing the arts to you
Dindi Live brings the best local talent direct to your lounge room. Tune in each Friday at 6.30 pm via our Facebook page or our website. The events are also streamed on local radio UGFM.
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/dindilive@murrindindishirecouncil

Murrindindi Shire Council
Victoria State Government