THE GRANITE NEWS



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



20th April 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 13

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Welcome back to this issue of Granite News and I hope that all readers have enjoyed the Easter break and caught up with family and friends. As the year whizzes past it seems that there are heaps of activities upcoming in the local area over the next few weeks, so why not participate in an event near you? There are lots to choose from.

Also, please note that the last ad space on the back page has become available for any reader wanting to advertise their business or altruistically support this excellent community newsletter. At just \$250 for a year - email editor@tgn.org.au if you are interested.

Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline And Kenny? Was helping Santa disperse presents at Ruffy

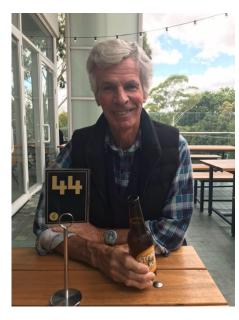
VALE

Archie Currie 19th April 2025

Archie was a much loved and valued member of the Highlands community - a very gentle man and a gentleman.

Friends and neighbours are sad that Archie will no longer be in their lives, but his legacy of love will remain.

Rest in peace Archie.



WANTED For the Highlands Community Hall *Foldable Table Tennis Table* Please call Robyn - 0409 528235 if you have one to sell or donate



Feedback? <u>editor@tgn.org.au</u> or to subscribe on-line go to <u>www.hccclandcare.net.au</u>

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

"Retirement is no longer about stopping work, it's about managing and balancing your money, health and happiness in a way that suits you."

Bec Wilson Author of An Epic Retirement

** Congratulations Alison **

Someday we old folks will use cursive writing as a Secret Code !

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
March	57.4 mm	64 mm
2025 Total	87.9 mm	120 mm
Rainy Days	4 days	5 days

		What's On - April & May 2025
	Thurs. 24th Apr. @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat.
	Sunday 27th April @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS WALK meet @ Highlands Community Hall Everyone is welcome to come and explore our stunning local area. Enquiries? Andrew 0437 249038 or Robyn 0409 528235
Details? See p.4	Sunday 27 th April 9am >>	WORKING BEE & PICKLE BALL @ TERIP REC RESERVE
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative	Thurs 1 st May @ 7.00pm	HCCC MONTHLY MEETING All Welcome - in person or via ZOOM @ TCCC Ruffy
×	Friday 2nd May 6pm >>	FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH @ Tablelands Community Centre It's time to put the fun back into Friday nights! Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	Friday 9th May @ 6.30pm	DRINKS on the DECK@ Highlands Community HallBring food to share and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially newfaces. Gold coin donation to cover power.Contact Paula 0419 551882
	Monday 12th May @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNERS@ 450 Caveat-Dropmore RdTea, coffee, friendship and laughs will be in plenty.Enquiries? Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	Sunday 18 th May 10-12.30	DON'T BE SCAMMED - NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH@ TCC RuffyCome along and find out how scams work and how to protect yourself from them.
Details? See p. 6	Saturday 24 th May @ 6pm	TERIP CFA BRIGADE'S BONFIRE NIGHT
	Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE @ Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in? Forthcoming dates are 30th April and 14th & 28th May.
	Every Monday @ 6pm	MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA@ Highlands Community HallBYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cashEnquiries? 0436 428065
	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1-3	DIGITAL & ON-LINE LEARNING@ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy6th & 20th MayEnquiries? Bob - 0480 348788
	2nd & 4th Sundays	ST DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH - TERIP RUFFY 2nd Sunday 11.15am Pastor Scott Leslie / 4th Sunday 11am Morning tea & Study group
Carlow And	Mon 8.45-9.45am	CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingridat the Tablelands Community Centre\$25 per hour long class BYO mat and blanketEnquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com

Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative leaps into 21st C technology

The next meeting of the HCCC (Thursday 1st May) will see a new, innovative way of engaging more residents and landholders in important discussions about Landcare. zoom

For the first time attendance at the meeting can be via in the comfort of your own home - more details to follow...

You are invited to 'The Mass', a series of paintings by

Dennis Spiteri

The exhibition runs from Saturday 26th April to Sunday 25th May.

Gallery open only on weekends during these dates.

Opening times: 10am – 4pm Saturdays and Sundays.

Weekday visits by appointment.

Hillcrest Gallery 33 Old Highlands Road, Highlands Victoria.

Telephone: (03) 57969373

Email: dennisspiteri@activ8.net.au

For Sale

Exercise bike. \$60.00.

Home gym. Weider Pro2000 brand (as new condition) \$300.00.

Punching bag (Fenech brand) with 2 pairs boxing gloves (also Fenech brand) sizes Large & Small

Good condition. \$150.00.

Phone: 0412 074571



For Sale

Garden Equipment.

All purpose Magnum Chipper Chopper cc3OO. Electric. Excellent condition.

Retails for \$650.00 new. Selling for \$200.00.

Phone: 0412 074571



and boot guards 4th Prize - 3 bags organic lucerne mulch



TICKETS DRAWN SUNDAY 31st MAY 2025

61% Compost, 30% Gypsum, 6.6% Crusher Dust, 2.4% Guarno

Compost mix in bulka bag loaded on to your trailer or ute in Ruffy

Ticket purchases:tccruffy@gmail.com or 0427 690 970 Call in at the Tablelands Community Centre on a Tuesday between 10am till 3pm Ticket sellers will be out and about

Proceeds of the rafile will go towards ongoing development of the Tablelands Community Centre circular garden project. We thank you for your support of this project and wish you GOOD LUCK with your ticket purchase





the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network for a night of frog discovery. Learn to recogn different frog calls and help us collect important data on the rare Bibrons Toadlet

There will be a short introduction from ecologist and frog expert David De Angelis followed by a guided walk along the rail trail listening, looking, and recording frogs.

April is the peak calling season for the threatened Bibrons Toadlet, so now is the time for us to get out and listen for them. The male toadlets call in autumn from depressions withi damp leaf-litter. Eggs are then laid in the leaf litter and hatch after rain floods the area, providing water for the tadpoles.

Families are very welcome. Please wear clothing suitable for the weather (frogs love rain so don't be put off by a rainy evening). Bring a torch or headlamp.







Letter to the Editor

Hi Everyone,

A busy morning is planned for Sunday 27th April at the Terip Rec Reserve. Everyone is welcome to join any or all parts of the morning as detailed below.

WORKING BEE @ 9:00 AM:

It has been a while since we've had a working bee at the Rec Reserve so we have quite a few jobs to do including: dead tree removal, whipper snipping, and a general tidy up. Also, we need to put up a new safety fence around the solar panels so a few extra hands would be most welcome.

PICKLE BALL - Come and Try from 10:00 AM:

Have you heard of this new popular game played on a small court? We have a great facility in Terip so why not come and have a try. Anyone with prior experience would be most welcome to teach novice players.

MORNING TEA from 11:00 AM

Re-connect with your fellow community members over a well earned cuppa. Please bring a small plate to share.

If you know of any new members of our community, please pass on this information to them. The Committee looks forward to seeing you there.

Regards, **TTRR Committee**



Are you interested in adding to the



i Natutaliste's

environmental knowledge base of the local HCCC area?

If YES then download the App now, follow the instructions for use and start recording our unique natural wonders of both fauna and flora. It's an incredibly valuable resource.

Major Alice Ross-King (Appleford)

was an ANZAC nurse who served at both Lemnos and on the Western Front during WWI.

She was awarded the Military Medal in 1917 - an award that had been instituted the previous year for bravery in the field for non-commissioned officers and privates and had been extended to nurses. She was awarded this medal, along with 3 other nurses - Clare Deacon, Dorothy Cawood and Mary-Jane Derrer - for their 'courage and coolness' during a bombardment on the No 2 Casualty Clearing station at Messines. Whilst chaos reigned down on them the four nurses tried their utmost to keep their patients safe and alive despite the carnage around them.

Only 12 months before Alice's fiance, Harry Moffitt, had been killed at the Battle of Fromelles, still the worst 24 hours in Australia's history with 5,533 casualties (1,917 of them killed) in one night! NB: The toll at Fromelles was equivalent to the total number of casualties in the Boer, Korean and Vietnam wars combined.

Although devastated by Harry's death Alice continued to nurse the boys under her care throughout the remaining years of the war. En route home to Australia in 1919, aboard the City of York, she was put in charge of the ship's hospital where she worked with the ship's medical officer Major Sydney Appleford. Sydney was engaged to a girl in Geelong but called off their engagement as he felt she would never be able to understand his wartime experiences.

Alice and Sydney subsequently married in August 1919 and moved to Lang Lang in Gippsland where Sydney ran a medical practice with Alice's help and they raised 4 children.

In the late 1930s, as the threat of war loomed, Alice began training young women as members of the VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachments) when war broke out both she and Sydney joined up. Alice became the assistant controller of the Voluntary Aid Detachments in Victoria with the rank of Major.

She subsequently became responsible for 1900 servicewomen, 300 of whom were sent overseas and played a leading role in organising appeals and raising funds for the Red Cross and other causes.

In May 1949 the International Red Cross awarded her the Florence Nightingale Medal - bestowed only every second year on no more than 36 women from all countries with a Red Cross organisation.



The citation read "No one who came in contact with Major Appleford could fail to recognise her as a leader of women. Her sense of duty,

her sterling solidarity of character, her humanity, sincerity, and kindliness of heart set for others a very high example."

Alice resigned from the Army in 1950 and returned to helping Sydney in his practice until his death in 1958. Following her death in 1968 the Australian Army Medical Service established the Alice Appleford Memorial Award, presented annually to a member of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps. In March 2008 her work and service were recognised when her name was added to the



Victorian Women's Honour Roll.

Alice led a full and accomplished life, both professionally and personally in a loving relationship. However, there was a part of her that stored a private grief for Harry Moffitt.

Each year on the anniversary of his death, she would spend the day quietly, retiring to her bedroom for a time.

After her death her children discovered a shoebox under the bed in which she kept her most personal possessions. Inside was Harry's last letter.

Precised from Peter Rees' book - ANZAC Girls - the extraordinary story of our World War I nurses. (2014)

Editor's Note - I can heartily recommend this book.

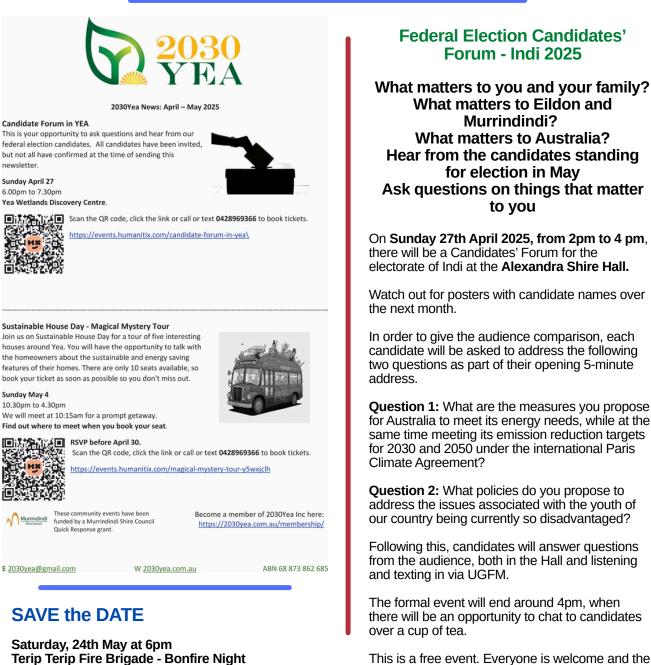
Did someone say Election?

As most readers of The Granite News would know TGN is an apolitical publication and as such does not offer political opinion or accept advertising of a political nature.

It does however aim to inform its readers and to assist with understanding matters affecting our local communities and the wider world.

To that end there are not one but two Meet the Candidate meetings being held just south of the HCCC area in Alexandra and Yea on Sunday 27th April.

All constituents of Indi are invited to come along and meet the candidates standing for election on May 3rd.



An end of fire season community get together for all Tablelands residents and guests - BBQ and warmth provided, more details soon.

Contact 0418 886 915

What matters to you and your family? Ask questions on things that matter

for Australia to meet its energy needs, while at the same time meeting its emission reduction targets

This is a free event. Everyone is welcome and the organisers anticipate a polite discussion at all times.

Enquiries? Contact the organisers: RAR Alexandra and MCN c/bevdick3903@gmail.com



Sustainable House Day - Magical Mystery Tour

Join us for a Sustainable House Day Magical Mystery Tour. You will have the opportunity to discover energy efficient ideas that homeowners have used to make their homes comfortable, and to reduce energy costs.



Date: Time: Sunday May 4 10.30pm to 4.30pm



RSVP before April 27

Scan the QR code or **call or SMS to 0428969366** to book your seat and for more information.

• Seats are limited, so please book early.

Coming up next:

- The Latest in Renewables June 26
- Ethical Retirement Investments July 17



These community events have been funded by a Murrindindi Shire Council Quick Response grant. Become a member of 2030Yea Inc here: https://2030yea.com.au/membership/

More excellent reading suggestions from the Highlands' Book Club

	reading suggestions from the Highlands' Book Club
TITLE & AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION
The Light Between the Oceans by M.L. Steadman	A boat washes up on the shore of a remote lighthouse keeper's island. It holds a dead man - and a crying baby. The only two islanders, Tom and his wife Izzy, are about to make a devastating decision. They break the rules and follow their hearts. What happens next will break yours.
The End of the Affair by Graham Greene	Writer Maurice's affection for Sarah, his ex-mistress who abruptly ended their affair, is rekindled after he bumps into her and her husband. Fueled with jealousy, he hires a detective to follow her.
The Signature of all Things by Elizabeth Gilbert	The story follows Alma Whittaker, daughter of a botanical explorer, as she comes into her own within the world of plants and science. As Alma's careful studies of moss take her deeper into the mysteries of evolution, she starts a spiritual journey which spans the 19th Century.
This House of Grief by Helen Garner	This House of Grief is a 2014 non-fiction book by Helen Garner. Subtitled "The story of a murder trial", its subject matter is the murder conviction of a man accused of driving his car into a dam resulting in the deaths of his three children in rural Victoria, Australia, and the ensuing trials.
Molly by Rosalie Ham (Prequel to The Dressmaker)	It's 1914 and Molly Dunnage wants to see change: at home, at work and in underwear. Her burgeoning corsetry business is starting to take off, thanks to some high-profile supporters. She's marching with Melbourne's suffragists for better conditions for women everywhere. When true love drops out of the sky & into her arms, her hopes for her life & the world are entirely upended.
The Girl Who Fell From the Sky by Emma Carey	A memoir about her near-death experience skydiving in Switzerland, where she survived a fall from 15,000 feet after her parachute failed, becoming paralysed and facing a long journey of recovery and finding joy again.
The Frozen River by Arial Lawhon	A gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th- century midwife who investigates a shocking murder.
By Any Other Name by Jodie Picoult	A captivating novel about two women, centuries apart, fighting to be heard - one of whom may be the real author of Shakespeare's plays. It is about the resiliency and censorship of women, during a time when a society was primarily run by men who will beat women into a perfect box of submission and desire. The comparison on how society still views women with a strong voice (or with an important story to tell) today is very thought provoking.
The Lost Colony by A.G. Riddle	The third and final book in the "Long Winter" trilogy, a sci-fi thriller where the last survivors of humanity on a new world, Eos, face their greatest challenge as they unravel the secrets of the grid and humanity's past and future.
Chronicles Vol 1 by Bob Dylan	A memoir written by American musician Bob Dylan. The 304-page book covers three selected points from Dylan's long career: 1961, 1970, and 1989.
Who Could Ever Love You by Mary Trump	An intimate, heartbreaking memoir of a father, a mother, and a family's exile from the Trump dynasty. Mary Trump grew up in a family divided by its patriarch's relentless drive for money and power.
Shirley Hazzard: A Writing Life by Brigitta Olubas	This biography explores the distinctive times of Hazzard's life, from her youth and middle age to her widowhood and years of decline and traces the complex and intricate processes of self-fashioning that lay beneath Hazzard's formidable, beguiling presence.

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL <mark>NEWS</mark>

CRMS AND PAYMENTS OFFLINE

Council's customer request management system is being upgraded and will be offline from 5.00 pm Wednesday 30 April until 9.00 am Monday 5 May.

During this time customers will not be able to make online web requests or make online payments. If attending a customer service centre during this time, or calling our team to submit a request, please be patient as they will be working with manual systems and working through a backlog of requests.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL IN APRIL

April is almost over, don't forget that from 1 - 30 April, you can dispose of your green waste for FREE at Council's Resource Recovery Centres.

This offer includes domestic quantities of garden waste. For more information on green waste disposal and what will be accepted, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/greenwaste or call us at 5772 0333.

CHANGES TO KINGLAKE AND YEA LIBRARY HOURS

Starting Tuesday 22 April, we are changing the afternoon hours for our Kinglake and Yea Library and Customer Service Centres. This change reflects how our community uses these services and ensures the safety of our staff who work alone at night.

The main changes are:

- Kinglake Library will no longer be open late until 6.30 pm on Mondays.
- Yea Library will no longer be open late until 6.30 pm on Tuesdays.

The new hours are:

- Monday to Friday: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
- Saturday: 10.00 am to 12 noon

We will continue to run regular library programs after hours as scheduled. For more information on opening hours and locations, call Council on 5772 0333 or visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries

DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET 2025/2026

Council is preparing a draft Annual Budget for the next financial year. The draft Budget is scheduled to be made available to the community for comment in May. Stay tuned for more information on how you can provide feedback.

WANT TO HOLD A NATIONAL RECONCILITION WEEK EVENT IN MAY?

If your community group wants to hold a National Reconciliation Week (27 May - 3 June) event, Council can support you through our Grants and Sponsorships Program.

If you apply for a Quick Response Grant before the end of April, and are successful, the Grant will be awarded on 6 May.

Council can also promote your event on our website and social media. Visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/NRW-Grants

Don't forget to list your event, and access the helpful resources on the National Reconciliation Week website at reconciliation.org.au

ANZAC DAY SERVICES NEAR YOU

The following services will be held on Friday 25 April 2025 to commemorate ANZAC Day.

Alexandra

- Dawn service at 6.00 am at Leckie Park Memorial.
- Assemble at 10.45 am at the RSL Hall for a march to Leckie Park Memorial.

Flowerdale

 Assemble at 10.45 am for 11.00 am service at Flowerdale Community Hall.

Strath Creek

• Assemble at 8.45 am for 9.00 am service at Strath Creek Pioneer Reserve Memorial.

Yarck

 Wreath laying service at 11.00 am at the Yarck War Memorial.

Yea

• Assemble at 10.45 am at the Yea Cenotaph for 11.00 am service.

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request 5772 0333







The Granite News is widely distributed 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, HCCC residents & landowners continue this important custodianship into the future.