

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



26th October 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 36

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

WOW - what did we think of the wind that enlivened most parts of the state last Wednesday. Whilst the wind was impressive inland it was along the coast, particularly the west coast, where the impact was felt the most. When a Watch & Act warning was issued from the SA border through to Port Fairy we knew that the 130kmph winds were going to make life interesting for those living in that chunk of the state. Fortunately they didn't materialise into the cyclonic gales predicted but even so such weather conditions are a reminder of the vagaries of life on the land and how adaptation to the unpredictable climatic conditions is going to be a feature of any future agricultural undertakings.

Up on the Tablelands we are more used to Watch & Act warnings in response to bushfires, rather than wind or floods, and no doubt some of these will be heard over the pagers and radios as summer progresses. In the meantime - have you cleaned up around **YOUR** place to make it as safe as possible for the fire season? Hope so.

Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline
And Kenny? Was inspecting the Highlands Hall's security door.

**Important date for your diary...
be there with your soccer boots on!**

see p.4



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

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

"People are like books. Some deceive you with their covers and others surprise you."

Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)
Irish author, poet & playwright



Normal Heartbeat



Dead Heartbeat



Brown snake in the backyard

(Especially for Peter)



DON'T FORGET !

the **EXCELLENT** Perpetual
Garden Calendars - **only \$10**

GREAT Xmas gifts!

Ring Cheryl - 0409 019763



		What's On - October & November 2025	
Details? See p.5	Monday 27th Oct. @ 1.30pm	RUFFY VEGE GROWERS CLUB New members are welcome to attend.	@ 134 Weibye Track Enquiries? Cheryl 0409 019763
	Tues. 28th Oct. @ 4pm	RUFFY ADULT RIDING CLUB AGM	@ 9 Binney St, Euroa Enquiries? Robyn 0407 358191
	Thurs. 30th Oct @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat.	@ Caveat Church
Details? See p.5	Sunday 2nd Nov. 9-1	RUFFY COMMUNITY MARKET - FREE ENTRY	@ Ruffy Community Hall Enquiries? sharronbatt@gmail.com
	Monday 3rd Nov. @ 1pm	CRAFTERNOON Come enjoy some creative company and craft the afternoon away.	@ Tablelands Community Centre Gabrielle 0402 335840
	Friday 7th Nov. from 6pm >>	FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH It's time to put the fun back into Friday nights.	@ Tablelands Community Centre Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tcscruffy@gmail.com
	Sat 8th Nov. @ 10.30am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT FROIE COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING Everyone is welcome - learn how you can keep your family and friends safe this summer!	@ Highlands Hall
Details? See p.1&4	Sat. 8th Nov. from noon >>	ANNUAL AFGHAN BBQ Come along and have some fun, get fit & enjoy yummy food.	@ Ruffy Rec Reserve Justus 0427 524473
	Monday 10th Nov. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT SPINNING CLUB Tea, coffee, friendship and laughs will be in plenty.	@ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Enquiries? Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30	MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in?	@ Highlands Community Hall Forthcoming dates are 29th October and 12th & 26th November.
	Thursdays @ 6pm	MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA Note NEW Day BYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cash	@ Highlands Community Hall Enquiries? 0436 428065
	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1-3	DIGITAL & ON-LINE LEARNING Dates for November 4th & 18th.	@ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy Enquiries? 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	
	Mon 8.45- 9.45am	CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid at the Tablelands Community Centre \$25 per hour long class BYO mat and blanket	Enquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com



Hughes Creek
Catchment
Collaborative
Landcare



Blackberry control and revegetation project

Is there a blackberry problem on your property?
Do you need some revegetation once the weeds are gone?

Target areas: Old Highlands road and Highlands road (Rocky Passes)
The HCCC has received grant funding for the control of weeds and some revegetation, for 50Ha of weeds and 5Ha of revegetation.

Looking for land owners with blackberry infestation willing to undertake work on their property.

Contact Neil on 0417 503 472 for more information.



GOULBURN
BROKEN
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY



VICTORIA
State
Government



Landcare
Victoria Inc.

WEBINAR

Managing Rabbits as a Pest in Victoria
Thursday, 30 October
5.30pm - 7pm



VICTORIA
State
Government

Managing Rabbits as a Pest in Victoria

Go to the Landcare website to register and find out more

Meeting notification

Ruffy Adult Riding Club
AGM 4pm October 28th
9 Binney St Euroa

Enquiries 0407 358191 Robyn

Join our team at Holmesglen, Eildon!

Chef Position

Salary: \$59,246 p.a. + 12% super Reasonable overtime will be offered which can be taken as a 25% salary loading equating to \$14,812 p.a. by agreement.

Position: Full Time, 1.0 EFT.

Location: Eildon campus.

Status: Ongoing contract of employment, with a 6-month qualifying period.

ABOUT US

Holmesglen at Eildon is a purpose-built Conference facility. Visit www.holmesglenteildon.com.au for more information.

TO APPLY

Visit the Careers at Holmesglen section of our website at
<https://www.holmesglen.edu.au/about-us/careers>

Like to know more?

Please contact Manager of Holmesglen at Eildon – Corey Dewhurst at
corey.dewhurst@holmesglen.edu.au or 0476 830 191.

If you require specific support to apply for this position or have any application queries, please contact the People Experience Department at recruit@holmesglen.edu.au or on 03 9564 1530 and we will work with you to identify the best way to assist.

Afghan Picnic Day

(But it's not just a picnic! A call for Soccer Players!)

For many years past HCCC president Jenny Webb has been involved with people in war-torn and dysfunctional countries. Over the years she has made many contacts and visited countries like Myanmar (Burma) and Afghanistan more than once. Fast forward to more recent years and many people from these countries came to Australia as refugees or as immigrants.

Shepparton was one town where many of the arrivals found their new homes - working their way up until they could purchase orchards, farms or start businesses of their own. Three years ago our Landcare Group, helped by the contacts made by Jenny over the years, invited the Shepparton Afghan Community to Ruffy for an Afghan style BBQ picnic at the Ruffy Recreation Reserve. We were overwhelmed with the response: and the day was such a great success that a return visit was planned for the following year at the Euroa Arboretum.

This year the Afghan Picnic has been set for Saturday, November 8th, again at the Ruffy Recreation Reserve. It will have all the hallmarks of an Afghan Picnic Day, with delicious food and good company, but an invitation has also been issued to the Tablelands Community:

A Soccer Game between the Afghans and the local residents of our tablelands.

(It will be a friendly match but honour could be at stake)

So we need to ask all who think they could participate to let us know, so that we'll know if it's **Game ON!** It should be a lot of fun and we're hoping for young and old to get involved!

We'll also be presenting a fire information session with both the Ruffy and Highlands Brigades bringing the fire trucks on the day, emphasising the importance of fire safety when camping (there will also be a camping display and info session) and the correct approach to responsible camping and 4WDing.

If you think you could join in on the day, (and kick a soccer ball around!) please get in touch with Justus (0427 524473) or Jenny Webb(0408 69236) or Fearghus Wallis (0481 99195).



The Great Soccer Challenge!

We've been invited to join the Afghan visitors to a friendly soccer match at the rec ground on the Afghan Picnic Day.

Have YOU got what it takes?

Join us for an afternoon of fun and good company.

Saturday November 8th from 12 noon.

Enquiries: 0427 524473



FIRE SAFETY COMMUNITY MEETING

HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT

Highlands Community Hall
1603 Ghin Ghin Rd, Highlands
10:30am | Saturday 8th November 2025

Bushfires happen every year!

Spend 1 hour with CFA learning how you can keep you, your family and your friends safe from fire this season.

OUR FIRE SAFETY ESSENTIALS SESSION COVERS:

- Local fire risk
- What to expect from fire
- Preparing for fire
- Fire Danger Ratings
- How to stay informed
- Seasonal Update

CONTACT US

☎ 03 5735 3114
✉ d12cmmmed@cfa.vic.gov.au
🌐 cfa.vic.gov.au



For further information on how to prepare your property for fire scan QR code or visit cfa.vic.gov.au



Come and enjoy
the very first...

FREE ENTRY

RUFFY COMMUNITY MARKET!

**SUNDAY 2ND
NOVEMBER
9AM – 1PM**

Fundraising for the Ruffy
Hall & hosted by the
Ruffy Hall Committee,
3 Nolans Rd, Ruffy, 3666

CELEBRATING THE AWESOME PRODUCERS, FARMERS & MAKERS OF OUR AREA!

Have you heard of the legendary Ruffy Hall cooks?
Their treats are the stuff of local fame! Come taste for
yourself and enjoy a morning filled with good food,
fresh finds and country charm.



Calling all local makers,
farmers & producers!

We're offering stalls for the first Ruffy Seasonal
Market for just \$20! We have both inside stalls and
outside spaces gazebo spaces. Please email Hall
Secretary Sharron Batt to apply ASAP -
sharronbatt@gmail.com

SCENIC DRIVE – COUNTRY VIEWS – DELICIOUS TREATS



WELCOME TO
Open Gardens
YEA & DISTRICT
Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 November 2025
Enjoy 3 country and 2 town gardens
Plus Yea Garden Club's plant sale and
Yea & District Memorial Hospital's Open Garden (gold coin entry)

• Town gardens \$5 • Country Gardens \$8 • Weekend pass \$30
Book tickets at <https://www.trybooking.com/DCELD>,
visit Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre
or purchase at each garden gate (cash only)
For more information – www.yearotary.org.au
Phone 0408 935 733 Email ticklife@bigpond.com
Maps and garden descriptions will be available
on the website in October

**10AM
TO 5PM**

Rotary
Club of Yea

Vege Growers Club

Monday 27th October at Chris & Theo's
134 Weibye track Ruffy @ 1:30pm

New members always welcome and as usual
please something to share for afternoon tea and
any produce or seeds to share.

Any queries please phone Cheryl 0409 019763.





Tallarook – a sport is born

Tallarook was the site for the first rogaine in 1976. This was a cross-country navigation event for teams using map and compass and lasting for 24 hours. Organisation was an alliance between the Surrey Thomas Rovers of Brighton and the newly formed Victorian Rogaining Association.

After 1976, rogaining events became a regular feature on the Victorian Rogaining Association calendar with 200-400 participants at rogaines in most months. Over the next decade the sport spread to every Australian state.

Soon after the 1976 rogaïne there was debate whether a special class for veterans over 40 should be introduced with some doubts about the potential interest. Today rogaining caters for teenagers to octogenarians with classes for veterans, super vets, and even ultra vets.

From the late 1990s, rogaining went international with events and participants from over 30 countries. The pinnacle of competition is the World Rogaining Championships with the 20th WRC in South Australia set for 2027.

50th Anniversary Rogaine 2026

From mid-2025 we are in the planning stages of the 2026 Victorian Rogaining Championships with an early preference for holding the rogaïne on the Tallarook plateau—recognising the birthplace of the sport 50 years ago. During the feasibility stage we are consulting with the community including landowners; there is no entry to private property without landholder permission, and we are currently seeking that permission.

Provisional date: 25-26 September 2026 (Friday – Saturday)

Further details:

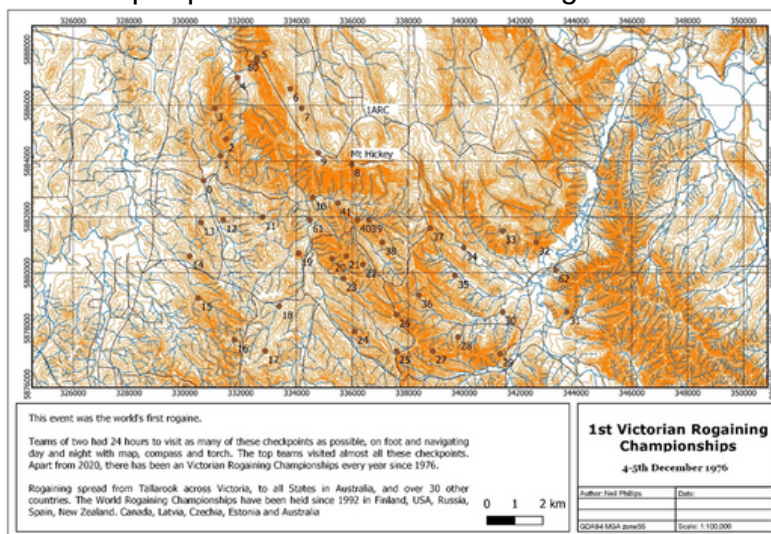
Neil Phillips gneilphillips@gmail.com 0417 300 400 (Community Liaison volunteer)

Nick Somes nick@rogainevic.org.au 0407 871 046 (Event Co-ordination volunteer)

World Rogaining Championships ~400-700 participants

1992: Beechworth Australia
1996: Mt Singleton Western Australia
1998: Kamloops Canada
2000: New Zealand
2002: Czech Republic
2004: Arizona USA
2006: Warrumbungle Ra, NSW
2008: Estonia
2010: Cheviot New Zealand
2012: Czech Republic
2013: Russia
2014: S Dakota USA
2015: Finland
2016: Ross River Australia
2017: Latvia
2019: Spain
2022: Czech Republic
2023: California USA
2025: Spain (https://wrc2025.org/live/WRC25_OverallResults.html)
2027: Flinders Ra, Australia

Map reproduction from the first rogaïne: 1976



Book recommendations - Highlands Book Group

Always Home, Always Homesick by Hannah Kent

In *Always Home, Always Homesick*, Hannah shares the story of her year as a 17-year-old exchange student from Australia living in the small, remote town of Sauðárkrúkur in Iceland and then her return visits to research for her eventual bestseller *Burial Rites*.

Lyrebird by Jane Caro

Lyrebirds are brilliant mimics, so if they mimic a woman screaming in terror and begging for her life, they have witnessed a crime. But how does a young, hung over PHD student and a wet behind the ears new detective, convince anyone that a native bird can be a reliable witness to a murder, especially when there is no body and no missing person? And what happens when they turn out to be right?

The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver

Mexico, 1935. Harrison Shepherd is working in the household of famed muralist Diego Rivera and his wife Frida Kahlo. Sometimes cook, sometimes secretary. Shepherd is always an observer, recording his experiences in diaries and notebooks. When exiled Bolshevik leader Lev Trotsky arrives, Shepherd inadvertently casts in his lot with art and revolution and his aim for an invisible life is thwarted forever.

Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets by Svetlana Alexievich

A 2013 book by Belarusian Nobel laureate Svetlana Alexievich. An oral history of the Soviet Union and its end, it shares the feelings and views of its people as the country transitioned to capitalism. The book contains few comments from the author herself.

The Gathering by Anne Enright

The Gathering is about the Hegarty family, who gather in Dublin for the wake of their wayward brother, Liam, who drowned himself at sea. Narrated by Veronica Hegarty, the novel explores three generations of the family's history, driven by Veronica's desire to understand the childhood event in her grandmother's house that she believes caused Liam's self-destruction. The story is a lyrical and unsettling exploration of memory, loss, desire, and the dark secrets that bind a family together.

Every Good Boy Deserves Fruit by Dieter Barkhoff

Every Good Boy Deserves Fruit is a collection of short stories. The first story opens in a schoolyard in North Sunshine. The last story, *Mother Tongue*, closes as a migrant boy is about to begin his education in the same schoolyard. In between are eleven stories that encompass various phases of the lives of men and women and children and cats and dogs in a place called Victoria, Australia, spanning the years 1956 until the present.

Mollie by Rosalie Ham

Molly is an historical novel and a prequel to the bestselling *The Dressmaker*, published in October 2024. It follows Molly Dunnage as she begins her corsetry business and participates in the suffrage movement in 1914, only to have her dreams challenged by the outbreak of war and an ominous figure in her life, all before she eventually moves to the town of Dungatar.

The Bookseller at the End of the World by Ruth Shaw

A rich, immersive, funny and heartbreaking memoir of the charming bookseller who runs three tiny bookshops in the remote village of Manapouri in Fiordland, in the deep south of New Zealand.

Kingmaker by Sonia Purnell

An electrifying re-examination of one of the twentieth century's greatest unsung power players - Pamela Churchill Harriman (Winston Churchill's daughter-in-law). Harriman's astonishing life of seduction, intrigue and power, from the bestselling author of *A Woman of No Importance*. This biography explores behind the scenes WWII strategies and intrigue. Amazing that one "uneducated" woman could accomplish so much.

AVENEL SPRING CONCERT 2025

TUESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER 2025
AVENEL MEMORIAL HALL

Concert starts: 7pm
Doors Open: 6pm
Tickets: \$45
Antipasto Box: \$15
Drinks at Bar prices

FLINDERS QUARTET

Returning to Avenel for the third time, one of Australia's most loved chamber ensembles, Flinders Quartet is thrilled to perform again for our local community.

Playing with them will be promising young performers, the Lumina Quartet, winners of the 2024 Musica Viva Strike a Chord Flinders Quartet Mentorship Prize.

Proceeds from this concert will support local Avenel community projects.

Bookings via TryBooking:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DFQLQ>
or the QR Code





DUNG BEETLE FIELD INFORMATION GROWING UP DUNG BEETLES



Presented by Karen Thomas
from Melbourne Water

Hosted by Whittlesea
Landcare Group

**Saturday, 8th
November 2025**
• 10:00am – 1:00pm

Learn about the
importance of dung
beetles for soil
health and ecology



Book here: <https://events.humanitix.com/growing-up-dung-beetles> or email:
whittlesealandcare@gmail.com

Attendance is FREE for WLG members --- \$5.00/ per couple or family unit for non-members

Location: Private property in Whittlesea. – Address will be emailed to registered attendees 48-24 hours prior to event.

Infield/ outdoor event - wear suitable foot ware and clothing, we encourage all members to be sun smart. Attire should be suitable for walking around the paddock! And don't forget to bring a water bottle.

Join us for a light lunch following the information session.

Send any queries to whittlesealandcare@gmail.com.

*I realise that this workshop is a bit out of the HCCC area but if you're passing through, these guys are fascinating little creatures and workhorses to boot. **Ed.**



Are you interested in adding to the
i Naturaliste'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.



THE **BIG RIDE** FOR **PALESTINE**

Organised by The Big Ride for Palestine-Australia supporting the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's partner organisations - MA'AN Development Centre & Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organisation.



Register to ride, run or walk.



Choose a target distance.



Get your campaign jersey or tee.



Participate individually or join a team to raise funds—ask your community to support your efforts for Palestine.

8-30 November around Australia

Melbourne Events

15 November: Highlands Lakeside - 10:00am Walk/Run

22 November: Merri Creek Trail Walk/Run/Cycle

30 November: Euroa - 8:00am Cycle, 10:00am Walk/Run

Scan the QR code and register to ensure you receive updates!



Union Aid Abroad **APHEDA**
The global justice organisation of the Australian union movement



<p>HABBIES HOWE BEEF</p> <p>Mature, Well Hung and Available from:</p> <p>Victory Meats, Seymour Victory Meats, Broadford Scotch and Fillet, St Helena Scotch and Fillet, Mentone</p>	 <p>Donated by supporters of the magnificent King Parrots.</p>	<p>DE MARIA & ASSOCIATES Barristers & Solicitors</p> <p>Family Law Conveyancing Power of Attorney & Wills Estate Disputes Deceased Estates</p> <p>☎ 03 9717 5277</p> <p>Level 1, Suite 111 95 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen Vic 3754 justice@demariaandassociates.com.au</p>	 <p>Donated by Friends of Yellow Box (Eucalyptus Meliodora)</p>
<p>RURAL FENCING SERVICES</p> <p>JARRAD</p> <p>☎ 0409 082 257</p>	<p>"A new name but the same friendly staff at Seymour"</p> <p>Join our Loyalty card program & save.</p> <p>IF YOU WANT IT - WE'VE GOT IT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal Nutrition, Health & Feed Supplies - Pasture, Seeds, Weed/Pest Control & Fertiliser - Feed Testing - Pet Food & Accessories - Equine Supplies - Water Troughs, Poly Pipe & Fittings - Fencing & Livestock Handling <p>Glenn: 0439 990 480 Store: 03 5792 1088 Email: seymour@wbhunter.com.au</p> <p>HUNTERS TRADE • RURAL • HARDWARE</p>	<p>Brought to you by a little antechinus living in a hollow near you.</p> 	<p>BenCo</p> <p>PLUMBING SERVICES</p> <p>Ben Laycock</p> <p>0438 512299 Licence no. 105134</p> <p>ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au bencoplumbingservices.com</p>
<p>DINDI</p> <p>ELECTRICAL SERVICES</p> <p>DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>Get in touch for all your electrical needs</p> <p>Coen Bird</p> <p>0433 885 441 coenbird@dindielectrical.com.au</p>	<p>KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS & CARTAGE</p>  <p>DAMS EARTHWORKS STOCK+WATER CARTAGE & MORE</p> <p>0429 804 235 MICHAEL.KOPANICA@GMAIL.COM</p>	<p><i>Highlands Haulen</i></p> <p>AND RECOVERY</p> <p>Local and Statewide Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hay / Silage - Farm Equipment - Machinery / Excavators - Building Supplies - Sheds / Cabins - Trucks / 4X4s - 24/7 Breakdowns <p>Steve</p> <p>0419 860 484 haulen.com.au</p>	
<p>Murrindindi Shire Council</p> <p>Cr Paul Hildebrand</p> <p>Koriella Ward phildebrand@murrindindi.vic.gov.au 0428 758 617</p>	<p>Tablelands Community Centre</p> <p>Upgraded facilities & playground</p> <p>Ideal for private or community gatherings, meetings, workshops</p> <p>Very Reasonable rates</p> <p>Hosts 1st Friday BBQs</p> <p>Contact tccruffy@gmail.com</p> <p>0427 690970</p>	<p>KCK David & John Korpsohn</p> <p>KORPSOHN CONTRACTING & KILPIES SINCE 2025</p> <p>For all your livestock needs (sheep, cattle, spot spraying)</p> <p>No job to big or small. Competitive pricing. Please contact David on 0417 150113</p>	<p>Donated by supporters of our local koala population</p> 
<p>Donation from supporters of our local Platypus</p> 	<p>HIGHLANDS GROVE</p> <p>Australian, locally produced premium extra virgin olive oil.</p> <p>Farm gate pick up or delivery available.</p> <p>0417 018 070 enquiries@highlandsgrove.com.au highlandsgrove.com.au</p>	<p>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL</p> <p>Meeting Room and/or Hall available for hire</p> <p>MEETINGS FUNCTIONS WORKSHOPS PARTIES WEDDINGS</p> <p>Reasonable Rates Contact Paula Lade 0419 551 882</p>	<p>Donated by friends of the Long Leafed Box Trees</p> 
<p>Echidnas take care of their habitat</p> 	<p>Granite Hills Community Nursery</p>  <p>www.granitehillsnursery.com.au</p>	<p>Need a website? bluetopbiz.com.au</p> <p>Affordable web design & maintenance. Presentations, marketing copy, grant applications, project management.</p> <p>Call</p> <p>Sue 0411 010 379 Neil 0417 503 472</p> <p>Email: sue@bluetopbiz.com.au</p>	<p>ROGAINING • 50th Anniversary •</p>  <p>Tallarook 2026</p>



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.