

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



27th April 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 14

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Another bumper issue this week for The Granite News with lots of activities happening in the local area as well as a first for the HCCC and technology - on Thursday night it's time to ZOOM! The first on-line HCCC meeting will commence at 7pm and should allow TGN readers to be involved with Landcare and learn more about caring for our environment in the process.

If you would like to join in please email Sue for details
sue@bluetopbiz.com.au



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 looking forward to the Sustainable House Tour

HUGE THANKS

The Highlands Community Hall Committee wish to thank Jane Starey for her kind donation of our new fabulous Table Tennis Table for the hall. It came complete with a net, multiple bats and balls and has already entertained over the children's holidays.

At pick up we enjoyed a picnic and entertaining fun at her 'Avenel Maze' ★★★★★ Recommendation



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

"When we take democracy for granted, we forget how many lives were sacrificed to win it for us."

Minette Walters
British author

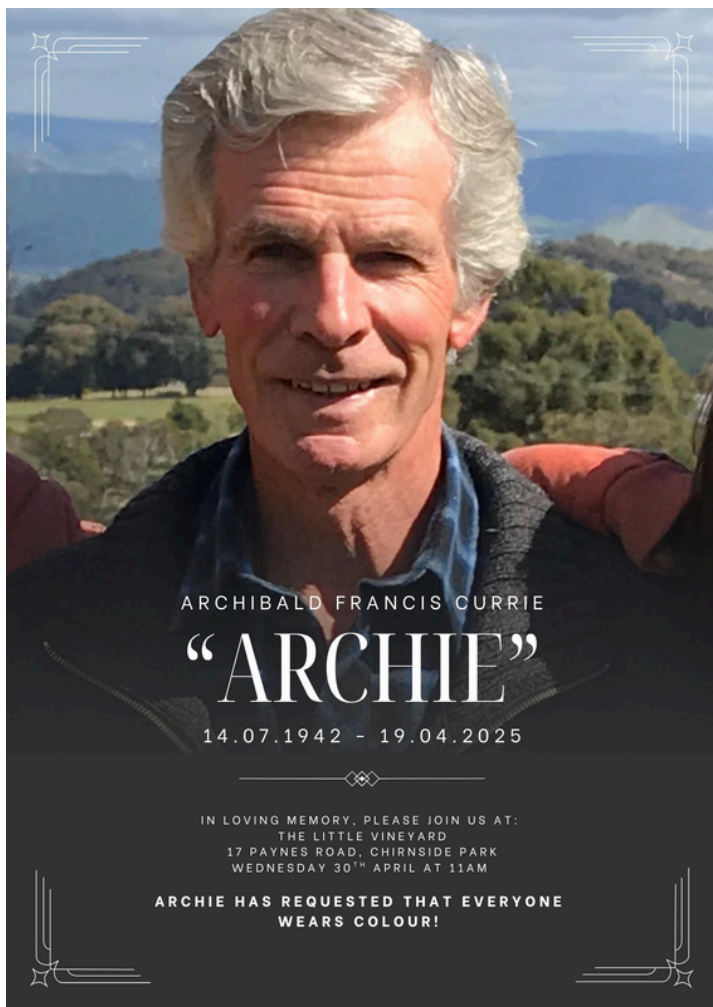


Collective nouns for some incredible creatures

A squadron of pelicans
A parcel of penguins
A paddle of platypus
A wisdom of wombats
A dazzle of zebras
A raft of otters
and
An aurora of polar bears



		What's On - May 2025
	Thurs 1st 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! Due to the election postponed until June Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	Friday 9th May @ 6.30pm	DRINKS on the DECK @ Highlands Community Hall Bring food to share and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power. Contact Paula 0419 551882
	Monday 12th May @ 11am	HIGHLANDS SPINNERS @ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Tea, coffee, friendship and laughs will be in plenty. Enquiries? Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	Sunday 18th May 10-12.30	DON'T BE SCAMMED - NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH @ TCC Ruffy Come along and find out how scams work and how to protect yourself from them.
Details? See p.4	Sat. 24th & Sun. 25th May	It's the 19th UFO WEEKEND @ HIGHLANDS @ Highlands Community Hall Once again the annual UFO (UnFinished Objects) weekend has come around and any crafty locals are welcome to apply for a fun few days of creating.
Details? See p. 5	Saturday 24th May @ 6pm	TERIP CFA BRIGADE'S BONFIRE NIGHT - more details to come.....
	Sunday 25th May @ 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
	Thurs. 31st May @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat.
	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 Hall BYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cash Enquiries? 0436 428065
	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1-3	DIGITAL & ON-LINE LEARNING @ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy 6th & 20th May 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



Creighton's Creek, Ruffy, Terip Terip, Longwood East Inc

Being Safe On-line & on your Phone

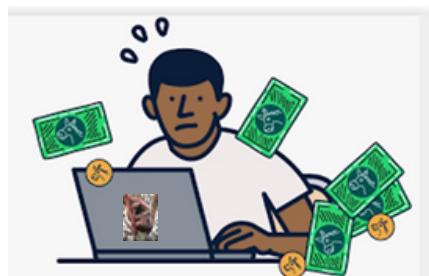
Can you pick a scam email or phone call?

Have you been scammed?

Do you know how to report a scam or help protect a family member?

Share you experiences and learn from others in our community.

**Sunday 18th May 2025 at
 TCC Ruffy
 From 10am (Morning Tea) -12.30**



Federal Election

Saturday 3rd May 2025

YOUR POLLING PLACE

OPEN AT 8AM AND CLOSE AT 6PM SHARP

**TABLELANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE
 27 Nolans Road Ruffy**

FUNDRAISING

Sausage *SIZZLE!* Burgers

Baked goods



Seedlings

Raffle tickets

cash or card



garden project

RAFFLE

TICKETS \$10 EACH

get your
tickets to
win

1st Prize - bulka bag compost mix

2nd Prize - bulka bag compost mix

**3rd Prize - Morris Outdoors assorted garden gloves
 and boot guards**

4th Prize - 3 bags organic lucerne mulch



Compost mix in bulka bag loaded on to your trailer or ute in Ruffy
 61% Compost, 30% Gypsum, 6.6% Crusher Dust, 2.4% Guano

TICKETS DRAWN SATURDAY 31st MAY 2025

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 raffle 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



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.

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

**Highlands UFO Weekend
24th & 25th May**

Calling all creative and crafty readers who would like to commence, continue or complete their current projects. The annual UFO weekend at the Highlands Hall is happening again on Saturday 24th (9-5) and Sunday 25th (10-4) May.

If you would like to join in and have some fun, please contact Pauline 0427 529551 to find out more.



For Sale

Garden Equipment.

All purpose Magnum Chipper Chopper cc300. Electric. Excellent condition.

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

Phone: 0412 074571

A Reminder from the AEC and the TCC

AEC - Voters from any electorate in Victoria can vote at the Tableland Community Centre this **Saturday 8am to 6pm.**

TCC - The TCC committee will also have a sausage / hamburger/ cake stall to entice you to come in person to vote!

Editor's note: An excellent book by Judith Brett - **From Secret Ballot to Democracy Sausage** - offers an illuminating and fascinating account of how Australia's democratic processes came to be and how they are the envy of so many other nations. Reserve a copy at your library.



2030 YEA

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: Sunday May 4
Time: 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/>

SAVE the DATE

Saturday, 24th May at 6pm
Terip Terip Fire Brigade - Bonfire Night

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



Faunascaping Your Garden

by Ron Litjens



Saturday 10 May 2025, 10:30 - 11:30 am
Alexandra Library
Morning Tea Provided

Supported by the Alexandra Library &
UT Creek Leckie Park Landcare



Meet Piers...one of Murrindindi Library's Mobile Library Officers

He is waiting to greet you
every second Wednesday at
the Highlands Community
Hall from 10.30-12.30

BUT

just as importantly does
anyone have the knitting
pattern for B1 that they could
share?

Apparently it's from a
Women's Weekly magazine
from quite a few years ago...

Please email the editor if you
can assist

editor@tgn.org.au

and in the meantime pop in to
see Piers **THIS** Wednesday.

Planning ahead for the Summer... Reducing bushfire risk through innovation

Cutting-edge technology to prevent bushfires

AusNet has installed bushfire mitigation technology in 22 high bushfire-risk areas across its electricity network to help protect communities. This technology, known as a Rapid Earth Fault Current Limiter (REFCL), is part of the Victorian Government's Powerline Bushfire Safety Program, which also includes:

- undergrounding, or covering of, powerlines in very high-fire risk areas
- more frequent inspections and maintenance of powerlines
- increased vegetation management and clearing programs.

What is a REFCL and how does it work?

REFCLs act like a giant safety switch by limiting the energy released when an earth fault occurs on a powerline. An earth fault occurs when a powerline falls to the ground, tree branches touch the powerline and/or wildlife comes into contact with the powerline.

When a REFCL detects a fault, it reduces the power to that line within a tenth of a second and at the same time, increases the voltage on the remaining two lines. This means power can keep flowing to surrounding homes and businesses.

After a few minutes, the REFCL checks whether the fault is still there. If the fault has cleared (such as a tree branch falling on the line but then falling away), power will be restored, and in many cases, customers won't notice any power disruptions.

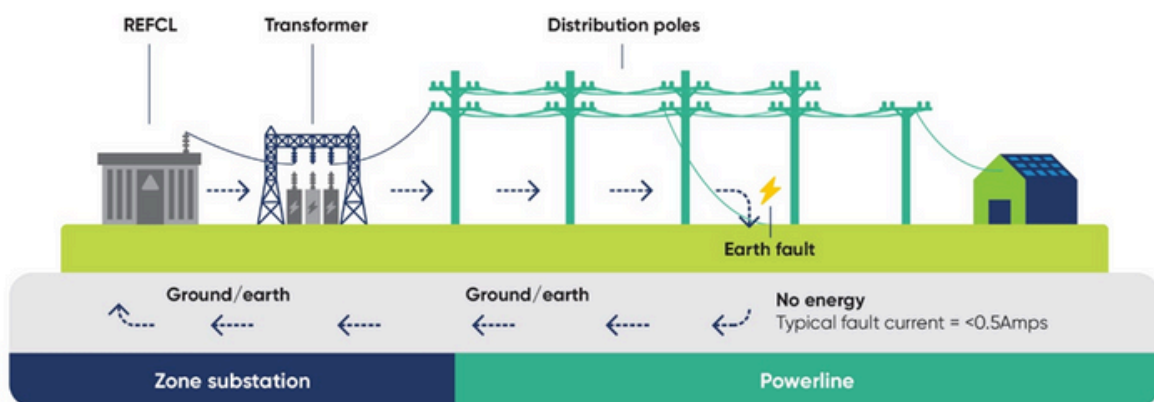
If the fault is still there (such as a tree falling across the powerlines) the REFCL will cut power to all three lines, so crews can safely assess and repair the line. Since installation, AusNet's REFCLs have operated thousands of times.

Total Fire Ban (TFB) days

During TFB days, AusNet's REFCLs are set to their highest, most sensitive setting. On these days, at this high setting, a REFCL is more likely to cut power if it detects the smallest fault. When a fault is detected on a REFCL line on a TFB day, AusNet's crews must physically patrol the entire line to confirm it's safe to turn the power back on. This on-the-ground protocol can increase the potential for prolonged outages.

In 2024, AusNet installed new technology on the Benalla-Euroa powerline. At more than 1,200 kms, this line is the longest in their electricity distribution network. To reduce the time it takes to physically patrol the whole line before they can turn the power back on, this new technology works with the REFCL system to help them quickly find where a fault is. This allows their control room to send crews directly to the specific fault area, rather than having to patrol the entire 1,200 kms. This makes fault detection and repair much faster and more efficient.

If you have any questions, please call **1300 360 795** or email customersupport@ausnetservices.com.au
For tips on being power-prepared visit ausnet.com.au/outagetips and ausnet.com.au/powerprepared



<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>This space needs a sponsor...</p> <p>Is it YOU?</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>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 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> 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 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 Kobysoyn KOBYSOYN CONTRACTING & KILPIES SINCE 2025</p> <p>For all your livestock needs (sheep, cattle, spot spraying)</p> <p>No job too 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.</p> <p>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> Strathbogie Granite Project</p> <p>neil.phillips@bigpond.com</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.