

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



12th October 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 34

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Thank you to all TGN readers for your patience last week with the technological glitches that occurred whilst trying to dispatch that issue. I am pleased that a left-field work around was finally found but life was a bit stressful at this end of keyboard as a result.

Even though I have retyped and re formatted the front page of Kevin's article about Yirrkala, which is well worth reading, there still appear to be gremlins at work with that article - along with another flier looking for Greater Gliders, so these will need to wait for next week's issue in order to get TGN #34 out in a timely manner.

However, for those readers who are interested in finding out more about the Methodist mission at Yirrkala, avid TGN reader Suzie offers this link <https://tinyurl.com/3jkhtcc9>

Last Thursday night the local state member for Euroa, Annabelle Cleeland MLA, attended the HCCC's monthly meeting. Those who attended, either in person or on-line, discovered that she is very passionate about Landcare's values and, as a primary producer, appreciates how those values translate into sustainability and an enhancement of the land whenever they are employed.

She also reminded attendees that the Department of Agriculture has drought funding still available for those landholders who fit the criteria. Click on the link below to find out more.

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/farm-drought-support-grants>

AND feel free to contact Annabelle's office if any speedhumps are encountered in the process.

Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline
And Kenny? Was hoping that Koala Cherries might find some beds.

WANTED

Corks - wine or champagne for a creative fly screen - 3000+

Happy to collect or drop them off at
2470 Highlands Rd

Thanks - Russell **0410 504 404**



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

"Every stamp in your passport isn't just a trip. It's proof that you were willing to be changed, to let the world humble you, stretch you and teach you who you are beyond your own backyard."

Michelle Baumgard
American author & keynote speaker

The true size of Australia 



DON'T FORGET !

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

Ring Cheryl - 0409 019763



		What's On - October & November 2025
	Sat. 25th Oct. @ 7pm	HIGHLANDS BOOK GROUP New summer time start! @ Highlands Community Hall
	Sunday 26th Oct @ 10am	HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS WALK meet @ Highlands Community Hall Everyone is welcome to come and explore our stunning local area. Supported by HCCC Enquiries? Andrew 0437 249038 or Robyn 0409 528235
Details? See p.7	Monday 27 th Oct. @	RUFFY VEGE GROWERS CLUB @ 134 Weibye Track New members are welcome to attend. Enquiries? Cheryl 0409 019763
	Tues. 28 th Oct. @ 4pm	RUFFY ADULT RIDING CLUB AGM @ 9 Binney St, Euroa Enquiries? Robyn 0407 358191
	Thurs. 30 th Oct @ 5.30pm	SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat.
Details? See p. 6	Sunday 2 nd Nov. 9-1	RUFFY COMMUNITY MARKET - FREE ENTRY @ Ruffy Community Hall Enquiries? sharronbatt@gmail.com
	Monday 3 rd Nov. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT SPINNING CLUB @ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Tea, coffee, friendship and laughs will be in plenty. Enquiries? Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	Monday 3 rd Nov. @ 1pm	CRAFTERNOON @ Tablelands Community Centre Come enjoy some creative company and craft the afternoon away. Gabrielle 0402 335840
	Friday 7 th Nov. from 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
	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 15th & 29th October and 12th & 26th November.
	Thursdays @ 6pm	MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA Note NEW Day @ 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 Dates for October - 21 st and November 4th & 18th. 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



An excellent date for your diary!



New updates from iNaturalist Australia

Great Southern Bioblitz 2025

Molesworth Spotlighting Walk

When: Friday 24th October

Times: 7:15 for a 7:30 pm start, finish approx. 9:00pm

Location: Molesworth Nature Conservation Reserve. Meet at the Goulburn River boat access (drive through the caravan park, go slow over the speed humps!)

Map link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1HnWwLseor1MWtLD8>

Tony Fitzgerald from Taungurung Land and Waters Council will lead the walk.

Why? Very few records exist of much nocturnal survey work being done at Molesworth. In particular, listening and looking ...



Are you interested in adding to the
iNaturalist'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.

FIRE SAFETY COMMUNITY MEETING

HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT



**FIRE
SAFETY**
Essentials



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



d12commed@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...



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

Letter to the Editor

As you may be aware, VicGrid has released the draft 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan (<https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/vicgrid/the-victorian-transmission-plan>), and the Strathbogie Ranges, Yea and districts are NOT included in the draft Renewable Energy Zones. While this does not prevent a developer from making a proposal in this area, it does add conditions that make it much harder to proceed.

Developers wishing to develop renewable energy projects outside a REZ must apply to VicGrid for access to connect to the transmission infrastructure (the grid). Conditions for granting grid access include demonstrating that 1) the project will not curtail current or future projects within REZs accessing transmission infrastructure; AND 2) that the developer meets government expectations including community and Traditional Owners engagement and provides meaningful social value and economic benefits.

VicGrid is currently calling for submissions (**closing date 5 November 2025**) to provide feedback on its Draft Community Engagement and Social Value Guidelines for Renewable Energy and Transmission Projects. This is part of a broader consultation process for community and industry into VicGrid's Victorian Access Regime (**see more information and consultation documents here - <https://engage.vic.gov.au/victorian-access-regime>**).

We encourage as many people as possible to make a submission. SRRCG is currently preparing a submission to VicGrid and an important piece of evidence we wish to include is data on the impacted community's perceptions of FERA's community engagement to date. To this end, we would be grateful if you could complete the survey found here:

[Community Engagement Survey - FERA windfarm proposal](#)

Closing date for this survey is **Friday October 24**. The survey will only take about 4 minutes of your time and can be done on any device. The short timeline is necessary to ensure that we can use the data from this survey for our submission to VicGrid.

Thank you very much

Darryl Otzen

Secretary srrcg.com

Strathbogie Responsible Renewables Community Group

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**.

Meeting notification

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

Enquiries 0407 358191 Robyn



FOR SALE

**2021/22 Toyota Kluger hybrid 7 seater
10,5000 km**

Very good car, one owner, full service history, comfortable leather heated and cooled seats, new tyres, rego til April 2026.

\$53,500 ONO

Phone Sue - 0411 010379



Wilderhoods in Urban Areas
In Mitchell Shire

7pm – 8.30pm Thursday 16 October

Teams webinar. Register via QR code to receive link

Mitchell Shire Council proudly present Dr Cassia Read: Co-founder and Director of the Castlemaine Institute. Cassia is an ecologist, educator and garden designer with interests spanning landscape ecology, climate adaption, urban greening, wildlife gardening and community engagement.

Join us to learn about what are wilderhoods and how this could work in Mitchell Shire in your neighbourhood. Cassia Read will discuss:

- Create networks of urban habitat across existing public and private greenspaces
- What can I do on my property and with neighbours to make a difference?
- Share expert knowledge on how urban habitat creation is a core part of wilderhoods

RSVP by Friday 10 October via bookable QR code to receive Teams Link or email environment@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au

(03) 5734 6200

mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/events



2025 Soil Testing – Expression of Interest



The Goulburn Broken CMA is offering primary producers in the catchment, free 0-10cm soil, chemical tests through the Nature Services for Ag project.

The project is funded by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program.

To register your interest, fill out an expression of interest form through the following link or QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/r/7aburbo407orain-lprlink>



Or contact:
Jon Longden, Land Health Officer, GB CMA
0477 455 335
Jonathan.Longden@gbcm.vic.gov.au

Healthy, resilient and increasingly
productive landscapes supporting vibrant communities.

Soil chemical testing is a fundamental step in understanding the fertility and potential of your soil.

Soil chemical tests measure pH, soil organic carbon (SOC), cation exchange capacity (CEC), macronutrient levels, electrical conductivity and soil texture.

Express interest for the following:

- 1-3 comprehensive soil tests for your farm. The number depends on farm size. Numbers are limited; first in best dressed for those who meet criteria (e.g. location, primary producer, land size)
- Soil analysis conducted by Nutrient Advantage, Werribee.
- A GB CMA project officer will arrange a time to collect your sample/s with you. Soil test results will be emailed to you.



The data acquired from these soil tests is used in various ways:

- To provide farmers with information on the health of their farms soils, so they can make informed management decisions.
- To provide GB CMA a view of the health of the soils within the region. This enables us to seek funding and direct resources to improve the land health of the region.
- To demonstrate the effort that farmers in the region are making to improve the health of their soils.
- To design follow-up soil test interpretation workshops.

For more information contact

GB CMA on:
Tel: (03) 5422 7700
www.gbcm.vic.gov.au

You can also follow us on:



Australian Government
This project is supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program.

RAIL TRAIL-BIRD COUNT



Join the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network for a walk along the rail trail. The event is part of the 2025 Murrindindi Bioblitz and we will record all bird species and numbers observed.

When: Friday 24th October

Time: 9.00am – 11.00am

Where: Great Victorian Rail Trail – Kanumbra.
Meet about 500m from the start of Mcguigans Road in Kanumbra.

- Wear suitable clothing and sturdy footwear.
- Bring a water bottle.
- Followed by a light lunch.

To register contact Landcare Facilitator Chris Coburn on
0413 855 490 or email ugln.projects@ugln.net



COVIDSafe rules: Do not attend the activity if you have Covid19 or are unwell with cold/flu symptoms.



Got a Spare Room, Caravan, or Bunkhouse? Help House Our Staff! 🍒

As we gear up for the 2025-26 Cherry Harvest, Koala Cherries is looking for local accommodation options to support our amazing harvest crew.

If you have a spare room, caravan, bunkhouse, or other temporary accommodation available from mid-November to mid-January, we'd love to hear from you!

Accommodation should have cooking and bathroom facilities; simple arrangements are fine if they are clean and safe.

How it works:

We will include basic details of what you can offer along with your contact details on our **Accommodation Listing**, which is shared with our harvest workers. You'll liaise directly with the employee to finalise arrangements.

To express your interest please email your details to jobs@koalacherries.com.au or alternately, call us on: (03) 5773 4250.

Thank you for supporting our Harvest Season!



WANTED

**Gardener or learner
gardener for one day per
week, or more if possible.
Plant knowledge not
necessary.**

Call 0439 904254





Managing Rabbits as a Pest in Victoria

Go to the Landcare website to register and find out more

Rabbits remain one of the most damaging invasive pests in Victoria, impacting biodiversity, agriculture, and community efforts to restore the land. This webinar brings together leading experts and practical case studies to share strategies, tools, and lessons for effective rabbit management. Speakers include:

Heidi Kleinert, National Feral Rabbit Management Coordinator, Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, with the latest national insights.

CSIRO researchers, explaining how to optimise biological control tools and clarifying the difference between biological controls and biocides.

Agriculture Victoria representatives, providing practical guidance on integrated management, compliance, and support available for landholders

Case studies from Landcare members, showcasing real-world techniques and community-led successes that others can learn from.

Designed for Landcare groups, volunteers, and land managers, this session will provide practical knowledge, proven approaches, and inspiration to strengthen rabbit control efforts across Victoria.



Water Week has something for everyone



Whether you're a green-thumbed gardener, a curious student, a busy tradie, or someone who just loves a long shower – Goulburn Valley Water wants you to know that National Water Week has something for you. Running from October 20-26, this year is packed with events that are fun, thought-provoking and designed to get us all thinking about how we use water – and how we can use it better.

"Water Week is a powerful reminder of how essential water is to our daily lives, and how easy it is to take it for granted," said Goulburn Valley Water Managing Director Dr Steve Capewell. "We've created a program that offers something for everyone – whether you're six or ninety-six – and we hope people take the opportunity to get involved, learn something new, and make water saving habits stick. "Everyone can do something to conserve water, from something as simple as limiting showers to four minutes, to choosing the right plants for your garden, it can all make a difference".

Kicking off Water Week in the Goulburn Valley is the free **Let's Grow Waterwise Gardens** event **Wednesday, October 22**. If you love your garden but hate a high-water bill, this one's for you. It will be held at **Riverlinks Eastbank, Shepparton, at 7pm** – an evening of inspiration and practical advice. Landscape architect Louise Costa, and Cathy Olive, Euroa Arboretum Development Manager, will share tips on creating beautiful, resilient gardens that thrive with less water. Even if you can't make it in person, the event will be **livestreamed at gvwater.vic.gov.au/community/water-week/lets-grow**

Water Night is Thursday, October 23, when participating households will be asked to make a **five hour commitment, from 5pm to 10pm**, to turn off all non-essential taps. The theme this year is "From Habit to Hero" – because real change happens when good intentions become everyday actions. There are great prizes up for grabs – both nationally and locally – for those who register. Schools, sporting clubs, families and community groups are all encouraged to take part. People can sign up to both Water Night at - **gvwater.vic.gov.au/community/national-water-week**



<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 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 Korpsohn</p> <p>KORPSOHN 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 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.