

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



19th October 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 35

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

This week sees the start of the annual Water Week awareness campaign, with activities to enjoy and to heighten one's knowledge of just how important water is to all living things - not just the human ones.

Random WATER facts - Did you know?

- Only 3% of all the water on Earth is fresh water
- Most of that fresh water is locked up in glaciers and ice caps
- Only 1% of all water is potable
- 70% of the world is water
- TGN readers have 2 sources of water supply depending on where they live - reticulated water or rainwater tanks
- Water is a basic Human Right - essential to human health, dignity and the realisation of all other human rights
- 2.2 billion people do not have access to safely managed water
- Every day over 1,000 children under 5 die from diseases linked to unsafe water sanitation and hygiene
- Rising sea levels have been found to turn previously fresh water sources salty
- Climate change intensifies the risks and impact of water scarcity
- Only 1% of all water used in Victoria is for domestic drinking
- BUT - every year Australians spend more than \$736 million on bottled water, and almost 375 million of our bottles end up in landfill and waterways, impacting the environment and marine life which is tragic as Australia's tap water is amongst the best in the world
- Plants are about 85-90% water and need water to ensure photosynthesis occurs, for cooling and to transport nutrients and minerals from the soil and into the plant.

The most important resource we have on our precious Blue Planet is not gold, or oil or even Bitcoin but WATER, beautiful life-giving water.

So please treat it with the respect it deserves and appreciate its unique quality to sustain all living things on Earth - including us.



Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline
And Kenny? Was going to the Ruffy Community Market - are you?

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

"If you want to honour her, go outside. Listen to the wind. Care for something wild."

Dame Jane Goodall's final wish as expressed by her son

Hugo van Larwick Jr.



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. @ 1.30pm	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. @ 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
	Monday 10 th Nov. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT SPINNING CLUB @ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Tea, coffee, friendship and laughs will be in plenty. Enquiries? Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	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 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.

Upgrade for Highlands Community Hall

The Highlands Community Hall is pleased to present our, 'New Look,' security screen doors.

These have been added to the front entry and rear doors.

This will enhance comfort for our Hall users on hot summer days and help with the Hall's security.

The Hall Committee would like to thank the Victorian Government for the Tiny Town Fund Grant which covered this upgrade.



cfa.vic.gov.au

Fire Safety Planning

FREE 3 hour session to help you learn:

- about your local fire risk
- how best to plan and prepare for fire
- what actions you can take
- how to make a realistic and adaptable fire plan

Tablelands Community Centre

27 Nolans Road, Ruffy Sunday 26 October 2025, 9.45am for 10.00am start.

RSVP essential For RSVP/queries, contact emily.birch@cfa.vic.gov.au or 0447 415 849

Planning for bushfire is easier than you think!



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
✉ d12commmed@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

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**

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.

Phone Sue - 0411 010379

STOP PRESS - PRICE REDUCTION
down to

\$52,000 = Bargain!!



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



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

WANTED

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



Call 0439 904254



WEBINAR
**Managing Rabbits
as a Pest in Victoria**
Thursday, 30 October
5:30pm - 7pm





Managing Rabbits as a Pest in Victoria

Go to the Landcare website to
register and find out more

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/7abvrb40?origin=sp-link>



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




uppergoulburn
landcarenetwork
linkingcommunities

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



**STRATHBOGIE RANGES
CONSERVATION**
MANAGEMENT NETWORK

The Southern Greater Glider

PRESENTED BY

BERTRAM LOBERT

Yea RSL Club

26 Snodgrass Street, YEA

FRIDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2025

7.30 pm supper; 8.00 pm presentation

Landcare members \$5; Non-Landcare \$10; kids free (CASH only)

RSVP JUDY BROOKES juncball@icloud.com

Image: Helen Rapacholl



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 tickslife@bigpond.com
Maps and garden descriptions will be available
on the website in October

10AM
to 5PM



Rotary
Club of Yea



GERMAN INGENUITY

In Germany, engineers have developed a suitcase-sized micro-hydro unit that taps into the gentle flow of small streams to generate electricity — enough to power around 12 homes. Compact, portable, and quietly efficient, this mini turbine is designed to operate virtually maintenance-free for up to five years. It represents a powerful shift toward hyper-localized, low-impact renewable energy sources that can serve off-grid communities or supplement power in rural areas.

The device works by channeling stream water through a miniature turbine, converting kinetic energy into electricity without the need for dams, large infrastructure, or significant alterations to the waterway. Its unobtrusive design allows it to sit directly in a stream, harnessing natural flow without harming fish or disrupting the ecosystem. One of the most innovative aspects is its plug-and-play nature. The unit can be carried in the back of a car, installed in just a few hours, and begins producing power immediately — no construction crew or high-tech expertise required. It's a viable solution for mountainous regions, nature reserves, or remote villages where grid expansion is impractical.

This German innovation reflects a growing trend toward decentralized clean energy systems. Unlike solar or wind, it works 24/7, regardless of weather or daylight. By turning even the smallest streams into clean energy sources, this micro-hydro technology empowers communities to generate their own electricity in harmony with nature.



OPEN COMMUNITY MEETING IN KINGLAKE WEST

Wednesday 29 October 2025



Would you like to speak to Council about topics or issues that affect you and your community?

We are hosting an Open Community Meeting in Kinglake West from 5.00 - 7.00 pm on Wednesday 29 October 2025 at the Kinglake West Mechanic's Institute, 1055 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake West.

You will have five minutes allocated to talk directly with Murrindindi Shire Councillors about issues or ideas that are important to you and your community, and you may be speaking in front of members of the public, as well as Council officers.

If you, or your community group, would like to speak to Council, you are invited to attend the meeting. Prior registration is not required, we'll greet you and collect your details on the evening.

For more information, email governance@murrindindi.vic.gov.au or call Council on (03) 5772 0333.



<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 0427 690970</p>	<p>KCK David & John Korpsoy KORPSOY 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, grant applications, project management.</p> <p>Call Sue 0411 010 379 Neil 0417 503 472 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.