

# THE GRANITE NEWS



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



26th July 2025 | Volume 19 Issue 25

## Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Did you know that Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July is National Tree Day? No? Well read on. Planet Ark's National Tree Day started in 1996 and has grown into Australia's largest community tree planting and nature care event.

It's a call to action for all Australians to get their hands dirty and give back to the community.

While every day can be Tree Day, the dedicated celebration of Schools Tree Day and National Tree Day has been held on the last Friday and Sunday in July for the last 30 years! Why not plant a tree or several this weekend? Here are a few excellent ideas as to why...

- Trees act as the lungs of the planet through photosynthesis - the conversion of carbon dioxide to oxygen. In fact, it's estimated that Australian forests store 22 billion tonnes of carbon within their trunks, roots and the surrounding soil. Just four trees can store the equivalent carbon as a car produces in an entire year.
- As well as producing the oxygen we breathe, trees also help to purify our air by removing fine particles and pollutants.
- Ever wonder why the air can get so misty over forests? Trees form an important part of the weather cycle. It's estimated that 40% of rainfall over land happens because of water vapour that is released back into the atmosphere by trees.
- As they grow, trees also drive their roots deep into the ground, helping to stabilise the dirt around them, stopping soil erosion and reducing the impacts of landslides and flooding.
- As well as providing us with shelter and shade and growing many of the foods and medicines we need to live, trees have also been found to purify our water and protect us from heat and infectious diseases.
- They are also proven to be good for our mental health. Spending time among trees and nature has been proven to help boost our mood and reduce depression and anxiety.
- Many of our iconic animals, like koalas, possums, fruit bats and birds, eat different parts of trees as part of their diets. They also use trees and forests for shelter by building their homes in branches and tree hollows.
- It's estimated that over 700 threatened animal species across Australia depend in some way on forests.

(WWF - Why Trees are important)



Please read on for another interesting issue, Pauline And Kenny? Was in plain view next to the Watsonia - aahh editing.

Feedback? [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au)  
or to subscribe on-line go to  
[www.hccclandcare.net.au](http://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

"Three out of 4 voices in my head want to sleep. The other one wants to know if penguins have knees."

Anon

## Just bought a log cabin from Ikea












## Did you know?

**SOFTWOOD** comes from non-flowering trees known as Gymnosperms including evergreen conifers like radiata, cypress, hoop and pencil pine.

Softwood has a lower density and is used for things like packaging, newspapers, window frames and doors.



		What's On - July & August 2025
	<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July @ 10am</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS RAMBLERS WALK</b> meet @ Highlands Community Hall Everyone is welcome to come and explore our stunning local area. <b>Supported by HCCC</b> Enquiries? Andrew 0437 249038 or Robyn 0409 528235
	<b>Monday 28th July @ 1.30</b>	<b>RUFFY VEGE CLUB GATHERING</b> @ 152 Maggies Lane, Ruffy
	<b>Thurs.31st July @ 5.30pm</b>	<b>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</b> @ Caveat Church All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ, BYO & chat.
	<b>Friday 1st Aug. 6pm &gt;&gt;</b>	<b>FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH</b> @ Tablelands Community Centre It's time to put the fun back into Friday nights! Enquiries? 0427 690970 or tccruffy@gmail.com
	<b>Sat 2nd August @ 6pm</b>	<b>HIGHLANDS BOOK GROUP</b> @ Highlands Community Hall
	<b>Sat. 2nd Aug. @ 7 pm</b>	<b>EUCHRE CARDS NIGHT</b> Due to numerous requests - it's BACK! @ Terip Rec Reserve
	<b>Monday 4th Aug. @ 1pm</b>	<b>CRAFTERNOON @ RUFFY</b> @ Tablelands Community Centre Come enjoy some creative company and craft the afternoon away. Gabriele 0402 335840
	<b>Fri. 8th Aug. @ 6.30pm</b>	<b>DRINKS on the DECK</b> @ 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
	<b>Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> Aug. @ 4.30pm</b>	<b>LONGWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AGM</b> @ TCC Ruffy Everyone is welcome. Enquiries? robjamo54@gmail.com
	<b>Every Second Wednesday 10-30-12.30</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</b> @ Highlands Community Hall The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in? Forthcoming dates are 7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> August.
	<b>Every Monday @ 6pm</b>	<b>MAT PILATES with ANASTASIA</b> @ Highlands Community Hall BYO own mat and water bottle - Cost \$15 cash Enquiries? 0436 428065
	<b>1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays 1-3</b>	<b>DIGITAL &amp; ON-LINE LEARNING</b> @ TCC, 27 Nolans Rd, Ruffy Just resting until September Enquiries? Bob - 0480 348788
	<b>2nd &amp; 4th Sundays</b>	<b>ST DAVID'S UNITING CHURCH - TERIP RUFFY</b> 2nd Sunday 11.15am Pastor Scott Leslie / 4th Sunday 11am Morning tea & Study group
	<b>Mon 8.45-9.45am</b>	<b>CUSTOM YOGA is BACK with Ingrid</b> at the Tablelands Community Centre \$25 per hour long class BYO mat and blanket Enquiries? Ingrid ingstar.7@gmail.com

## GET ONE BEFORE THEY ALL GO!!

The Tablelands Community Centre, with generous support from Strathbogie Shire Council's Circular Economy Organics Fund delivered by Sustainability Victoria, has created a Community Garden Perpetual Calendar.

The Calendar is designed as a desk calendar for gardeners to create an ongoing record of outcomes in their patch throughout the seasons. The Calendar features artwork by Janet Hagen as well as planting information and tasks for each month compiled by local Ruffy gardeners.

These would make a great gift for those developing their growing skills and experienced gardeners alike.

The **Calendar is on sale for just \$10.00** with all proceeds assisting the Tablelands Community Centre and can be purchased by either popping into the **TCC to see Fiona on a Tuesday or contacting Cheryl on 0409 01973.**

What a GREAT Christmas present, it's never too soon to start shopping. I got one! **Ed.**



## ♦ EUCHRE ♠ CARDS NIGHT



**TERIP TERIP REC RESERVE  
SATURDAY NIGHTS • 7PM START**

**STARTS 19TH JULY – 4 WEEK SEASON  
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED – COME FOR FUN!  
TEA, COFFEE & GOOD COMPANY PROVIDED**

**BRING A FRIEND OR COME SOLO –  
EVERYONE'S WELCOME!**



### Ruffy Vege Club

The next Veggie club gathering is scheduled for

**Monday 28th of July**  
at Barb and Andrew's garden

**152 Maggie's Lane Ruffy at 1:30 pm.**

Please bring something to share for afternoon tea.  
New Members welcome.

**Enquires Cheryl 0409 019763.**







**Book tickets now for \$10**

[www.events.humanitix.com/home-energy-expo](http://www.events.humanitix.com/home-energy-expo)

or Contact Jim Billings  
0433 270 101

**Proudly presented by Renewable Avenel Energy (RAE)**

With special guest speakers:

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, Matthew Charles-Jones, Russell Klose, John Warnock and Geoff Lodge

Explore the trade display, with local businesses, government agencies and service providers sharing the latest in smart home tech, renewable energy options, and practical info on rebates and funding support.

There'll be lunch, afternoon tea, sausage sizzle, door prizes and more.

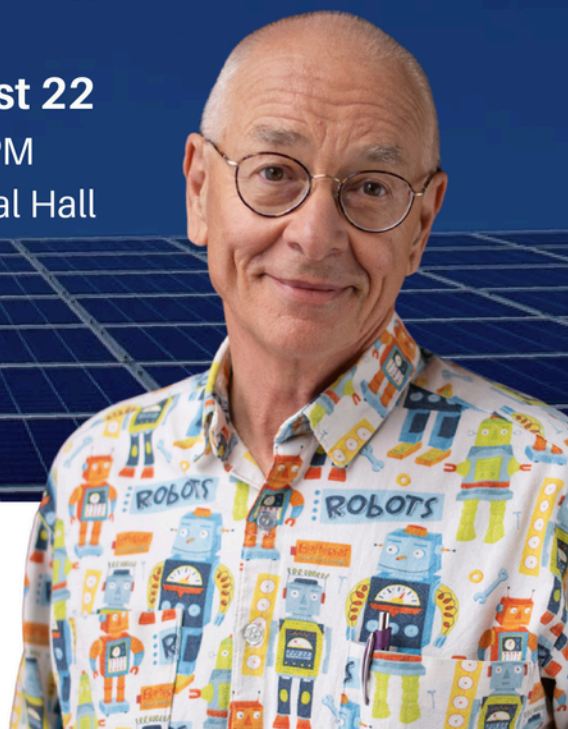
# HOME ENERGY EXPO

Take the heat out of climate change with home-based solutions  
and renewable energy

**Friday August 22**

12.30-6.30PM

Avenel Memorial Hall



*Strathbogie*  
SHIRE COUNCIL

**AusNet**

## Have YOU been to a Crafternoon yet?

The Ruffy craft afternoon is a wonderful edition to the Tablelands Community Centre offerings. They have been meeting on the first Monday of each month at 1pm and are enjoying learning all sorts of new skills with lively conversation and many a good laugh throughout the afternoon.

It has been really inspiring to see the projects others undertake and how readily they share their knowledge and skills. New members are always welcome.

**Next session is on the 4th of August from 1pm -at the TCC 27 Nolan's Road Ruffy.**

☎ phone 0402 335840 for more information



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## ENCOURAGING POLLINATORS ON YOUR PROPERTY - Part #3

### Reduce Chemical Use

Insecticides, fungicides and herbicides all affect the health of bees, bee colonies and native pollinators. Herbicides can impact pollinators by reducing the availability and diversity of flora and removing vegetation that helps support insect life. Some herbicides can also harm the beneficial microbes in the insect gut. In many circumstances beneficial insects will, in healthy numbers, help control pest insects - ultimately reducing the need for insecticide use.

When chemical pest control is unavoidable, select products that are least harmful for pollinators and apply insecticides in the evening or at night when pollinators are not active.

Always use according to directions, especially for withholding periods and notify beekeepers a few days before spraying chemicals so that beehives can be safely relocated away from harm.

### Safeguard the BEES!

The best way to 'save the bees' and protect our pollinators is to create an abundance of diverse habitat - from the ground up! There is much interest in keeping a beehive to promote pollinators, but there are serious legal and biosecurity responsibilities that must be considered, and that the introduction of a beehive does not displace existing native pollinators and insects. Be a friend of pollinators and say it with flowers!



Are you interested in adding to the

iNaturaliste'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.

## ADVANCE NOTICE - DATE for YOUR DIARY

Creighton's Creek, Ruffy, Terip Terip, Longwood East Neighbourhood Watch Group

will be holding its AGM on  
Monday 11th August at 4.30pm at the TCC in Ruffy

### Rabbit Control Information Session

When: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Time: 7PM to 9PM

Where: Taggerty Hall - 5 Taggerty-Thornton Rd, Taggerty  
Supper provided

Join Landcare and the Victorian Rabbit Action Network (VRAN) presenter, Neil Devanney for an information session on how to manage rabbits on your property.



Did you know that it only takes one year for a pair of rabbits to produce up to 184 rabbits in a good year?

The feral rabbit has had a devastating effect on our native biodiversity and agricultural productivity.

Rabbits are invasive pests and cause damage to gardens, bushland and agricultural areas.

In this session, we will:

Create awareness about how to eradicate rabbits with integrated pest management control methods.

Look at the various control techniques that can be applied on your property.

The technical side of effective rabbit control including:

- 'how big is the problem?' importance of monitoring
- how to knock down numbers effectively
- warren and harbour destruction
- the importance of follow up control
- and the strategic application of these components of control

RSVP to Cathedral Landcare Group - [cathedralandcare@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralandcare@gmail.com) or phone 0418 579 220.

Funded by the Victorian State Government.



### Letter to the Editor

Strangely enough the Spirit Level shown on the front page of the newsletter proves that the Earth is spherical not flat.

Because of the Earth's spherical shape, all parts of a spirit level's glass need to be equidistant in relation to the earth's gravitational centre. If the glass tube did not have the slightest curve introduced during manufacture

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spirit\\_level](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spirit_level) then the bubble would travel to the end of the cylinder rather than the centre,

#### Evidence the earth is flat



Thus if you need to prove that the world is a sphere then hold a spirit level upside down and try to keep the bubble in the centre.

Regards  
Cookie

Who knew? Not me. Ed.

## Farm Plastic Waste Recycling - a LEAP forward for Sustainability

Tonnes of plastic farm waste is being turned into new products with the development of recycling techniques by the agricultural industry and engineering researchers. Each year, Australian farms go through an estimated 110,000 tonnes of plastic waste, but recycling options for soft plastics and twine in particular are limited.

Key players in Australia's grain industry unveiled a plan earlier this year to stop 45,000 tonnes of agricultural bags from going to landfill or being illegally incinerated. Researchers at a regional Victorian university have also helped to develop a machine to melt down synthetic hay binding twine and repurpose it into building products and furniture.

An industry-led, not-for-profit program to collect and recycle plastic agricultural bags is underway in Victoria with plans to expand it in the coming years. The bagMUSTER scheme is similar to the program used for chemical drums, allowing farmers to return their used soft plastic bags to stores for recycling.

CropLife Australia chief executive Matthew Cossey helped develop the program and said the bags used for fertilisers, seeds, grain, stock feed, and pet food are turned into new agricultural products.

"It's a huge leap forward for farm recycling," he said, "when a farmer buys a product in the bagMUSTER program, they'll be able to return it to the retailer, and then it will be collected and fully recycled. It's as simple as that. It's critical for farming sustainability, for protecting our environment, improving recycling and it absolutely makes economic sense."

Article by Jane McNaughton - ABC Rural - on-line - 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025 ... to be continued next issue.





Scan to register



## CALLING ALL GUITARISTS – HIGH VOLTAGE IS COMING!

This is your chance to be part of something big, loud and community-powered. Join celebrated Australian performer Joseph O'Farrell (JOF) for an unforgettable mash-up of music, dance and performance featuring everyday guitarists like YOU.

**Main Event: High Voltage Concert – Sunday 7 September, 4.00pm at Yea Shire Hall and it's totally FREE to take part!**

**How to get involved: Register your spot and you're in!**  
**To prep for the show, we are running workshops in Yea, Alexandra and Kinglake.**

**High Voltage project is led by Yea Arts and proudly supported by Murrindindi Shire Council to make it a Shire-wide celebration — bringing local talent together for one HIGH-VOLTAGE concert to remember.**

**If you have any questions, please email us: [eventsyeaarts@gmail.com](mailto:eventsyeaarts@gmail.com) or call on 0403 831 520  
Visit the website: [www.yeaartsinc.org/high-voltage](http://www.yeaartsinc.org/high-voltage)**

Murrindindi Shire Council is pleased to advise that funding for these sessions is made possible by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)



Australian Government



Murrindindi  
Shire Council



**JOF**



### Get ready for Landcare Week 2025!

Landcare Week 2025 is just around the corner – it runs from **Monday, 4th August to Sunday, 10th August**. It's a great opportunity to raise awareness about the environmental, community, and wellbeing benefits of caring for our land and waterways.

#### How to get involved?

This year, we'll be sharing inspiring local stories and celebrating the people behind Landcare. There are plenty of ways to get involved, including submitting a photo for Landcare Australia's [Landcare Through the Lens](#) campaign. By submitting a photo, you will go in the draw to win a Milwaukee Dual Battery Chainsaw!

Branded resources for landcare groups and community organisations to promote the L.I.F.E. (Landcare Is For Everyone) Landcare Week campaign (like the banner image used in this email!) are available on the [Landcare Australia website](#).

**BIG SALE!**

**TREE Tube**

**Stock**

**\$3 EACH**

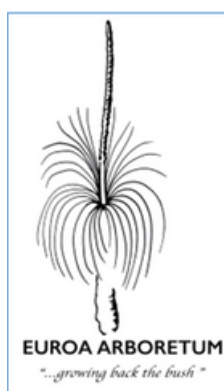
\*Excluding advanced potted stock

SPECIES INCLUDE: Red Gums, Blue Gums, Drooping She-oaks, Broadleaf Peppermint, Swamp Gums, Red Stringybarks, Red Box, White Box, Yellow Box, Candlebarks and Manna Gums

**WE'RE OPEN**

**12PM TO 4PM**

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS



You can still order plants now for the 2025 season

[euroaarboretum.com.au/plant-order-form](https://euroaarboretum.com.au/plant-order-form)

The order form is updated to show what is available now. You must have Excel to complete the form or contact us

[nursery@euroaarboretum.com.au](mailto:nursery@euroaarboretum.com.au)





<p><b>HABBIES HOWE BEEF</b></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><b>DE MARIA &amp; ASSOCIATES</b> Barristers &amp; Solicitors</p> <p>Family Law Conveyancing Power of Attorney &amp; 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 &amp; save</p> <p><b>IF YOU WANT IT - WE'VE GOT IT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Animal Nutrition, Health &amp; Feed Supplies</li> <li>- Pasture, Seeds, Weed/Pest Control &amp; Fertiliser</li> <li>- Feed Testing</li> <li>- Pet Food &amp; Accessories</li> <li>- Equine Supplies</li> <li>- Water Troughs, Poly Pipe &amp; Fittings</li> <li>- Fencing &amp; Livestock Handling</li> </ul> <p>Glenn: 0439 990 480 Store: 03 5792 1088 Email: seymour@wbhunter.com.au</p> <p><b>HUNTERS</b> TRADE • RURAL • HARDWARE</p>	<p>Little Antechinus living in a hollow near you</p> 	<p><b>BenCo</b></p> <p><b>PLUMBING SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>Ben Laycock</b></p> <p><b>0438 512299</b> Licence no. 105134</p> <p><a href="mailto:ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au">ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au</a> <a href="http://bencoplumbingservices.com">bencoplumbingservices.com</a></p>
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<p> <b>Murrindindi</b> Shire Council</p> <p><b>Cr Paul Hildebrand</b></p> <p>Koriella Ward <a href="mailto:phildebrand@murrindindi.vic.gov.au">phildebrand@murrindindi.vic.gov.au</a> <b>0428 758 617</b></p>	<p><b>Tablelands Community Centre</b></p> <p>Upgraded facilities &amp; playground</p> <p>Ideal for private or community gatherings, meetings, workshops</p> <p>Very Reasonable rates</p> <p>Hosts 1<sup>st</sup> Friday BBQs</p> <p>Contact <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>0427 690970</b></p>	<p> <b>KCK</b> David &amp; John Kobysoyn KOBYSOYN CONTRACTING &amp; 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><b>HIGHLANDS GROVE</b></p> <p>Australian, locally produced premium extra virgin olive oil.</p> <p>Farm gate pick up or delivery available.</p> <p><b>0417 018 070</b> <a href="mailto:enquiries@highlandsgrove.com.au">enquiries@highlandsgrove.com.au</a> <a href="http://highlandsgrove.com.au">highlandsgrove.com.au</a></p>	<p> <b>HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL</b></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><b>Echidnas</b> take care of their habitat</p> 	<p><b>Granite Hills Community Nursery</b></p>  <p><a href="http://www.granitehillsnursery.com.au">www.granitehillsnursery.com.au</a></p>	<p>Need a website? <a href="http://bluetopbiz.com.au">bluetopbiz.com.au</a></p> <p>Affordable web design &amp; 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: <a href="mailto:sue@bluetopbiz.com.au">sue@bluetopbiz.com.au</a></p>	<p> <b>Strathbogie Granite Project</b></p> <p><a href="mailto:neil.phillips@bigpond.com">neil.phillips@bigpond.com</a></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.