

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



2nd August 2026 | Volume 20 Issue 47

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

A wee reminder that **Tuesday 11th August** is Census night and as you only get a chance to be counted every 5 years (and the last one was 2021 when everyone was thinking Covid, not forward planning for the future of our country) this one is a biggy. Future decisions for schools, transport, health care and infrastructure are all based upon Census statistics.

So, if you live in a rural or regional area then paper Census forms will be delivered to each dwelling and you have a choice to either fill that booklet in and send it back to the ABS, via the free return envelope that comes with it, or complete the form online.

However, for those readers who live in big urban areas, you will be able to complete the Census online - www.census.abs.gov.au - as it is assumed there will be better connectivity in the urban areas. But if you would like to be old school and use a paper form then ring **1800 181 227** (24 hour automated request service) ASAP to request a booklet.

You can actually complete both paper and online forms in advance of 11/8 providing you know how many people are going to be residing at your residence on Tuesday 11th August. If you are using the online option I'd definitely aim for prior rather than on the night, just in case the system has a wobbly, as it did in 2021. Whichever way you choose - be counted!

If you know of someone who needs to be kept in the loop but isn't a TGN reader please tell them to sign up at pdphroberts@gmail.com
The editor@tgn.org.au email is still dysfunctional.

Kia kara,
Pauline.



** CONGRATULATIONS **

to Laura & Peter Humphreys
on the safe arrival of their much loved daughter

Matilda

born 28th July 2026 in Surrey, UK

Best wishes also to the first-time
grandparents
Chris & Susan Bennett of Caveat.



Feedback?

pdphroberts@gmail.com 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

"Wagner needed a good editor."

Gough Whitlam
(1916 - 2014)
21st Prime Minister of Australia



Month	Highlands
July	120 mm
2026 Total	573.1 mm
Rainy Days	21 days

		What's On - August 2026	
	Monday 3rd Aug. @ 1pm	CRAFTERNOON is back to stay!	@ the MASH tent, Ruffy Hall
Details? pp.11	Monday 3rd Aug. 6-8.30pm	SUPPORTING the PHOENIX - Bushfire Home Protection	@ Ruffy Hall
	Thursday 6th Aug. @ 6pm	TERIP COMMUNITY POT LUCK DINNER	@ Terip Rec Reserve
	Monday 10th Aug. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT SPINNING GROUP Tea, coffee, hugs and friendship still available to all.	@ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
Details? See p.11	Sunday 16th Aug. 12-3pm	COMEDY & CONVERSATIONS - Laugh, Listen & Connect	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
	Wednesday 19th Aug. @ 7pm	HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING	@ Highlands Hall
Details? See p.7	Saturday 22nd Aug. 1-3.30pm	PAINTING by WONDERS - FREE WORKSHOP	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
	Sunday 23rd Aug. @ 7.30pm	TERIP TERIP TENNIS CLUB AGM	@ Terip Clubhouse
	Monday 24th Aug. @ 1pm	RUFFY VEGE GROWERS' GATHERING	@ 124 Boat Hole Rd, Ruffy
	Thursday 27th Aug. @ 5.30pm	SECRET MENS' BUSINESS All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards BBQ. BYO & chat.	@ Michael K's 890 Caveat-Dropmore Rd
	Saturday 29th Aug. @ 6.30pm	HIGHLANDS BOOK CLUB	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
	Mondays @ 9.30 Thursdays @ 9	MAT PILATES with Mel Bring your own mat/towel and water bottle. Cost \$20	@ Highlands Hall Enquiries? Mel 0498 643 608
	Tuesdays @ 5.30pm	MAT PILATES with Anastasia Bring your own mat/towel and water bottle. Cost \$15	@ Highlands Hall Enquiries? Anastasia 0436 428065
	Sundays @ 11am	CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY GATHERING This is a non-denominational meeting, Everyone is welcome to this calm, compassionate and open environment. Tea, coffee & lunch provided.	@ 44 Yorston Rd, Highlands Enquires? John - 0425 840999
	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 5th & 19th August and 2nd, 16th & 30th Sept.

**** CONGRATULATIONS ****

North-east Vic family wins Elders Southern Supreme Clip award

NORTH-WEST Victorian wool growers, the Hayes family, have won the Elders Southern Supreme Clip of the Year for 2025/26 with a well-prepared WoolClip documented clip.

The family of Robert and Jan Hayes, and their son Tim and daughter-in-law Cindy Hayes run a 2500 self-replacing Merino ewe flock alongside their Tarcombe Hereford stud near Ruffy in the Highlands Valley area.

At the awards presentation at Elders Ravenhall Centre last week, Elders wool technical officer Brianna Spratling said the family's 136-bale clip was presented to an exceptional standard, with no discrepancies and excellent preparation documented through Wool Clip.

Robert Hayes told Sheep Central it was "unbelievable" to win the award. "It just blew us away."

The December 2024-shorn clip sold in July last year was classed by Bridgette McMullan with a fleece component of 77 percent, averaging 18.7 micron, with an outstanding yield of 73.6pc and just 0.7pc vegetable matter.

"Combined with excellent brightness and style, the clip stood out in a highly competitive field," Ms Spratling said.



Elders clip award winners Robert and Jan Hayes with Elders district wool manager Rex Bennett

"Since this clip was produced, the family has faced the devastating impacts of the Longwood bushfire, suffering significant losses to livestock, fencing and infrastructure."

Ms Spratling said the Hayes' commitment to sheep breeding and the wool industry has long been recognized. In 2016, they were awarded the McLennan-McColl Victorian Flock of the Year in 2016 and over the past decade, they have continued to invest in their enterprise with a purpose-built raised-board woolshed and undercover sheep yards.

Elders district wool manager Rex Bennett said the family runs the Merino flock with a balanced approach to structure, wool production and fertility.

"It was a well-prepared clip and just a credit to how they do things, present their stock. They are very good custodians and very humble people to deal with; they just get the fundamentals right year-in year-out. They class their ewes themselves and join the main replacements to Borambil stud rams with a percentage of cast for age ewes to Border Leister rams, and when the season allows join a percentage of their Merino ewe lambs.

This year they have endured the toughest of periods in their lives, with the Longwood bushfire tearing through their properties and leaving them with unimaginable losses to animals, infrastructure and fencing," he said. "In true Hayes character, they have stayed humble, and got on with the task to rebuild."

Robert Hayes said they lost 650 sheep out of the 4500 on the property at the time of the fires, but managed to save their houses.

"We were fortunate; it has impacted us, but nowhere near as bad as a lot of others."

With thanks to Sheep Central July 27, 2026



Mission 1000 Nestboxes – not impossible!

The catastrophic bushfires that swept through the Longwood Plains, Ruffy Tablelands and Strathbogie Ranges during January 2026 have caused devastating damage to the natural habitat which provided shelter for protection and breeding places for native wildlife, including causing the loss of 90% of the hollow bearing trees in the area.

It is our mission to build 1000 nestboxes to replace some of the lost tree hollows, so that our local wildlife have somewhere to shelter and to breed, to ensure their survival into the future.

Which animals have been affected?

Everything from brushtail possums to phascogales, cockatoos to kookaburras, gliders to galahs, threatened and common species alike.

What are the specs for the nestboxes?

To cater for such a diverse range of species and make our process as easy and streamlined as possible, our wildlife expert Bert Lobert has designed a one size fits most box, that can be used by a large range of arboreal mammal species, which we will put different sized entrance holes in to suit different sized animals.

We've received some very generous donations from our community, which we have used to purchase top notch 18mm thick marine plywood to make our nestboxes out of, to give the wildlife the best chance of having a more temperature stable home throughout all seasons. We're also painting all our boxes in very light grey shades to best reflect heat and reduce chances of them overheating in summer.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it:

You can choose your own adventure! Here are your options:

- If you have the equipment required – help us to get our marine plywood cut up according to the box design, which you can either assemble yourself or we can pass them on to groups who aren't able to do it themselves.
- Obtain some pre cut kits for nestboxes from us to put together with your school or community group.
- Attend one of our community nestbox building workshops – email us to be added to our email list to hear about these workshops. You don't need any specific woodworking skills as we'll have people on hand who can help guide you.
- Request some already built boxes for your group to paint.

Every little bit of help is greatly appreciated!

For more information or to get involved, contact:

Allison Trethowan

Biodiversity Recovery Alliance Facilitator

Email: info@biodiversityrecoveryalliance.com

Phone: 0409 404258

Website: www.biodiversityrecoveryalliance.com

NB: After the 2019-20 fires devastated 50% of Kangaroo Island the locals were concerned that their beautiful Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (Glossies) a sub species of the mainland birds would become extinct due to the fact that their casuarina habitat had been comprehensively destroyed. The island community rallied - nesting boxes were made in their hundreds and casuarina trees planted en masse.

**Result - the Glossies are there to stay!
Ed.**



**** HIGHLANDS ****

The Hub @ the Highlands Hall is open
Wednesday 10am to 2pm & Saturday 9am to noon
1603 Ghin Ghin Road, HIGHLANDS VIC 3660
Email: thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com



The Hub has a NEW phone number - 0491 941005 - new messages will come from this number

Please note NEW opening times for the Hub
NEW TIMES Wednesday 10-2 and Saturday 9-12 NEW TIMES

HUB HAPPENINGS

Pop in for a workout, grab a cuppa, get help with fire recovery paperwork, or lend a hand with our firewood crew! Here's everything happening at the Hub this coming week:

MONDAY August 3rd

9am – Mat Pilates with Mel

Details: Kick off your week with a great session! \$20 per session, suitable for all experience levels. Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and a sense of humour.

Bookings: Call or text Mel on 0498 643 608.

TUESDAY August 4th

5:30pm – Weekly Mat Pilates with Anastasia

Where: Highlands Hall

Details: Bring along your own mat or towel and a water bottle. \$15 per session.

Enquiries: Call Anastasia on 0436 428 065.

WEDNESDAY August 5th

9am onwards – Firewood Working Bee in Tallarook

Details: Sam and the crew are back at it in Tallarook! It's a great day out and they'd love extra hands on deck to keep the supply flowing. Need firewood for your own place? Come down and grab some for your woodshed, or request a delivery - no one is going to be left in the cold this winter!

Contact/Location Details: Call or text Sam on 0439 695 632.

10am – 2pm– PCC Emergency Recovery Team & GV FamilyCare

Details: Drop in to simplify your recovery process with both PCC and GV FamilyCare on site. They're here to do the heavy lifting with paperwork, grant applications, family support services, and navigating financial or legal options (including insurance & hardship).

10am – 2pm – Rural Outreach Support with Ivan Lister

Details: Ivan has over 15 years of trauma-informed experience. Pull up a chair for a cuppa, a yarn, or advice about a loved one you might be worried about. Anonymous referrals are welcome if you'd like Ivan to gently check in on someone.

10:30am – 12:30pm – Murrindindi Mobile Library

Details: Restock your bedside table or grab some fresh reads for the kids while the mobile library is parked right at the Hub!

Continued next page.....

***** Printed copies of TGN are now available from the box beside the notice board outside the hub *****
Contact: Andrea Bauer 0417 369 225



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Email: thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com



HUB HAPPENINGS - Continued....

THURSDAY August 6th

9am – Mat Pilates with Mel

Details: \$20 per session, built for all experience levels. Bring a yoga mat, drink bottle, and a smile!

Bookings: Call or text Mel on 0498 643 608.

FRIDAY August 8th

11:30am onwards – Winter Warmers Soup & Lunch

Details: The Hall Committee is running Winter Warmers again! Come down from 11:30am for a bowl of delicious, home-cooked soup (yum!), a warm fire, and great company.

SATURDAY August 9th

Firewood Working Bee in Tallarook

Details: Continuing the great work from Wednesday! If you can spare a couple of hours or need to load up some firewood for yourself, head on down to Tallarook and join Sam and the team. Extra muscle is always appreciated!

Contact/Location Details: Call or text Sam on 0439 695 632.

IMPORTANT PROGRAM DEADLINE

Free State Clean-Up Program Closing Soon!

Registrations for the free state-funded clean-up program for the January 2026 bushfires close on

Monday, 31st August 2026 at 5pm

What it covers: Free demolition and debris removal for eligible structures damaged in the fires, including uninsured or partially insured properties.

How to apply: Sign up directly via the Victorian Government Relief and Recovery Portal here:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/clean-support-january-2026-bushfires>

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday Aug 22nd Highlands Hall @ 1- 3:30pm FREE.

"Paint by Wonders" with Mary White.

Max 20 people please book with Andrea 0417 369 225

A fun, relaxing "paint by numbers" session. No previous experience required. A selection of pictures of various details will be available for you to choose from. I am sure there will be lots of laughter and hugs. No need to bring anything but your beautiful self. Afternoon tea provided.

A Note of Thanks to Our Community

It was fantastic to hit 600 followers on our Facebook page recently. It is a lovely reminder of just how connected and supportive our community really is, whether you follow along online, share our posts, or drop by in person.

Having such strong support across the district is wonderful, and the natural next step for our area is turning that support into real backing on paper.

That is why we are inviting local residents to sign up as official members of our new association,

HaDCRA (Highlands and District Community Recovery Association).

Why not grab a form from the Hub and sign up NOW!



PAINT BY *Wonders*

FREE WORKSHOP

Saturday 22nd August, 2026
1pm to 3.30pm

Come as you are, no skills required,
Chat and enjoy the wonder of immersing yourself in colour and shape.

All materials provided PLUS Yummy afternoon tea!

EVENT FUNDED BY SISTERS OF MERCY PARRAMATTA
FACILITATED BY MARY WHITE ART AND FAMILY THERAPIST

Numbers are limited to 20 maximum.

Bookings Essential:

TO REGISTER CALL or TEXT ANDREA BAUER on 0417369225

Where: Highlands Hub
1603 Ghin Ghin Road, Highlands VIC





Craft Afternoons

1st Monday of the Month

All Welcome

from 1pm

at the Ruffy Hall

Nolans Road Ruffy

contact Gabriele 0402 335 840

Crafts - Bring your projects
Learn new crafts - Explore ideas
BYO plate to share if you can
Tea/coffee supplied

tccruffy@gmail.com



RUFFY VEGE GROWERS' GATHERING

The next meeting is on **Monday 24th August at 1pm at Don and Flic's place 124 Boat Hole Rd Ruffy**. A planting and working in the garden session to keep us warm is scheduled. As usual bring something yummy to share and some extra spades would be really helpful. New members always welcome.



Queries please contact **Cheryl on 0409 019763**

*** With over 260 pages and 17MB in the cloud the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee's Inquiry into the **2026 Summer fires across Victoria** might offer some interesting insights and hopefully some ideas and/or solutions to assist with any future firestorms. But in the meantime this recommendation hits home and has never been more relevant or important. ***

RECOMMENDATION 77: That the Victorian Government prioritise environmental recovery in bushfire affected regions (such as the Strathbogie Ranges) including rehabilitation of native vegetation, erosion control, pest and weed management, biodiversity restoration and catchment recovery.



SAVE THE DATE



100 years of tennis at Terip Terip

Celebration afternoon/evening on October 24th 2026

More details coming soon...

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Tech & Digital Help at the Highlands Hub

We're thinking about running a casual, hands-on Tech Help Session at the Hub, and we'd love to see if it's something you'd find useful!

If you've ever felt frustrated with a phone, tablet, or computer, or just want to feel more confident online, you are definitely not alone.

The idea is a relaxed, drop-in style session at your own pace to help with things like:

- Setting up online grocery or package orders
- Sorting out passwords, logins, and tricky SMS security codes
- Spotting online scams, fake emails, and fishy text messages
- Managing photos, clearing up storage, and adjusting device settings
- Any general tech questions on your mind!

Interested? Pop us a message, or let us know next time you're at the Hub so we can gauge numbers! Questions or need a hand? Drop a comment in our email - thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com or pop into the Hub for a kettle-boiled cuppa!

NB: Even though this is being offered at the Highlands Hub, there is no invisible demarcation line between the Hub and the rest of the Tablelands area - if this is something that would be of assistance - be there! **Ed.**

Letter to the Editor

Response to the Strathbogrie Ranges Wind Farm Newsletter – June 2026

Introduction

Following the release of Fera Australia's June 2026 Strathbogrie Ranges Wind Farm Newsletter the Strathbogrie Responsible Renewable Community Group (SRRCG) felt it was important to provide our own update and observations. Our aim is not to oppose renewable energy, but to ensure that any proposal affecting our community is subjected to proper scrutiny, transparent consultation and robust environmental assessment. Like many local residents, our focus for much of 2026 has been recovery from the devastating bushfires that affected communities throughout the district.

What did we learn from the Newsletter?

The newsletter contains considerable information about renewable energy, community attitudes, sponsorships and potential future benefits. However, it provides very little new information about the actual status of the proposed wind farm. Questions regarding transmission routes, timelines, environmental studies and community consultation remain largely unanswered.

Renewable Energy Support is NOT the same as Project Support

SRRCG supports responsible renewable energy development. However, support for renewable energy in general should not be confused with support for the Strathbogrie Ranges Wind Farm Project. The newsletter relies heavily on broader polling data but provides little evidence of support from communities most directly affected by the proposal. In fact, our polling demonstrates the exact opposite!

Community Engagement Remains a Concern

While the newsletter references various forums and events, there has been no direct engagement within the communities most affected by the proposal. We believe meaningful consultation should involve regular public meetings, transparent reporting and direct engagement with affected landholders. FERA has not held any public meetings to update and inform the affected communities since July 2024 and their previous newsletter update was in August 2023.

Transmission Line questions remain unanswered

The newsletter states that transmission alignment options have been narrowed to a preferred route, however little detail is provided regarding route selection, landholder support, or the status of negotiations. These remain critical unanswered questions for the community.

Environmental studies after bushfire

SRRCG is concerned about proposals to commence environmental surveys before the area has adequately recovered from the January bushfires. Wildlife populations, habitat use and ecological conditions remain in a period of recovery. We believe environmental assessments should properly reflect long-term ecological values rather than exceptional post-fire conditions.

What happens next?

SRRCG intends to continue monitoring project developments, seek clarification on key issues, advocate for appropriate environmental assessment standards, and provide factual updates to the community. An Annual General Meeting will be held later this year, and community members are encouraged to become involved.

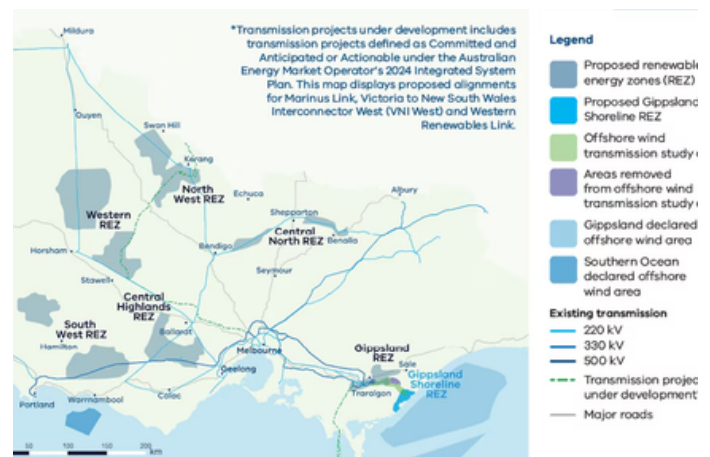
Stay Involved

The past year has been challenging for many families across the district. We encourage residents to stay informed, participate in future discussions and share concerns or questions with SRRCG. Local voices remain important in discussions about the future of the Strathbogrie Ranges Wind Farm.

Darryl Otzen

Secretary srrcg.com

Strathbogrie Responsible Renewables Community Group



Map indicates VicGrid's designated REZ areas (REZ = Renewable Energy Zones)

COMMUNITY EVENT - RUFFY, VIC

SUPPORTING THE PHOENIX

A free community information evening on bushfire home protection

After the January 2026 bushfires devastated Ruffy and the surrounding district, many residents are rebuilding - and asking: **how do we protect ourselves if there's a next time?**

Join us for a free community evening bringing together fire scientists, industry experts and local voices to share practical, proven solutions for protecting your home and property from potential future bushfires.

WHAT'S ON

- Expert presentations on bushfire home protection
- Live fire demonstration using protective coatings
- Open Q&A - ask the experts your questions
- Catering provided - come, eat and connect

DATE
Monday, 3 Aug 2026

TIME
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Catering provided

VENUE
Tablelands Fire Recovery Hub
& Ruffy Hall
3 Nolan's Rd, Ruffy VIC 3666

EVENT
FREE

LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING

To help us with catering, please RSVP by scanning the QR code.

HEAR FROM OUTSTANDING REBUILDING & FIRE PROTECTION PARTNERS

For more information on who is coming and their expertise, please read the next page.

SUPPORTED BY

FIRECOAT
sto

FSCI

Risk-e

ignis

UNSW

ENQUIRES:
Coll Furlanetto
P. 0427 920 245

FREE EVENT CATERED

SUPPORTING THE PHOENIX

A free community information evening on bushfire home protection

MONDAY, 3 AUG 2026
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Tablelands Fire Recovery Hub

FIRE PROTECTION PARTNERS

Dave Owens
Master of Ceremonies. Dave is the Founder and Managing Director of Risk-e Business Consultants and a former Deputy Commissioner of the NSW Police Force. A recognized leader in risk, emergency management, and crisis response, he brings extensive experience advising government and industry on resilience, security, and business continuity.

Dr. Matthew Robards
is the Co-Founder and CEO of FISCI, an AI company focused on bushfire risk and mitigation. A machine learning expert, entrepreneur, and volunteer firefighter, he combines advanced technology with frontline experience to help organizations make smarter, data-driven decisions that strengthen wildfire resilience and community preparedness.

Kishen Khosa
is the Managing Director of Sto Australia, a leading provider of façade systems and sustainable building solutions. He is passionate about advancing innovation, sustainability, and diversity in construction, helping shape healthier, more resilient communities through responsible building practices and high-performance construction technologies.

Ben Hughes-Brown
is a Fire Safety Engineer and Managing Director of Ignis Labs, a leading Australian fire testing and research facility. With more than 20 years of experience, he is a recognised expert in fire engineering, building material compliance, and construction safety, helping shape industry standards and improve fire resilience across the built environment.

Trent Dunn
is an experienced industry executive and workplace relations specialist with more than 25 years of leadership experience across construction and related industries. He is an advocate for workforce development, industry collaboration, and organisational excellence, helping businesses build strong, resilient, and future-ready workforces.

Tony Overstead
is Co-Founder and CEO of Flame Security International (FSI), the company behind FIRECOAT, an award-winning fire protection technology developed to improve resilience against bushfires and urban fires. A technology entrepreneur and business leader, he specialises in commercialising innovative solutions that deliver real-world safety outcomes.

Dr. Cheng Wang
is a Lecturer at UNSW and Chief Operating Officer of the ARC Research Hub for Fire Resilience Infrastructure, Assets and Safety Advancements (FRIASA). His expertise spans fire safety engineering, flame-retardant materials, fire risk management, and infrastructure resilience. Dr Wang works with industry, government, and academia to develop innovative solutions that enhance fire safety and strengthen resilience across Australia's built environment and critical infrastructure sectors.

Terip Community

POT LUCK DINNER

TERIP REC RESERVE

Bring a dish or dessert to share with your fellow community

6:00 pm **FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

TERIP REC RESERVE

All Welcome • BYO Beverages!

"Let's come together & share a meal as we continue to strengthen the Terip spirit."

COMEDY & CONVERSATIONS

Laugh. Listen. Connect.

An afternoon of laughter, storytelling and meaningful conversation to strengthen our rural communities and support mental health.

Dave O'Neil Comedian

Des Dowling Comedian

Warren Davies The Unbreakable Farmer

MOLESWORTH
Sunday 9 August

HIGHLANDS
Sunday 16 August

TERIP TERIP
Sunday 20 September

12:00PM - 3:00PM

DOORS OPEN 11:30AM

MURRINDINDI MOBILE HEALTH VAN ON SITE FROM 11:00AM

A LIGHT MEAL WILL BE SUPPLIED

Whether you're doing it tough, supporting someone who is, or simply looking to reconnect with your community, this event offers a welcoming space to laugh, share stories, and strengthen connections.

Bring your mates. Bring your family.

LET'S RECONNECT, LAUGH AND HEAL TOGETHER.

More dates to be announced

Alexandra Events Corporation Ltd

August 2026

Final Rates Reminders Issued

Final rates reminder notices have now been issued to customers with overdue rates. If you receive a notice, we encourage you to review it and take action as needed.

We understand this may be a difficult time for some in our community. If you're experiencing financial hardship or need support, please complete a Rates Payment Plan or Financial Hardship Application form, or contact us to discuss the options available. Our team is here to work with you confidentially and respectfully.

For details, call Council on 5772 0333 or visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/rates

Pet registration checks underway

Community Safety Officers are visiting towns across the Shire to follow up on pet registrations and promote responsible pet ownership. Residents may notice Council vehicles and signs advising that Council officers are in their area.

Pet registration is a legal requirement and helps us reunite lost pets with owners, respond to animal-related concerns and support responsible pet ownership across the Shire.

For details, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/petrego

Recovery must follow impact: Parliament's Inquiry

Murrindindi Shire Council has welcomed the release of the Victorian Parliament's Inquiry into the 2026 Summer Fires. The report recognises many of the issues raised by our community and provides a foundation for improving disaster recovery. Council will continue advocating to ensure the recommendations lead to meaningful action.

Read more at
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/callforaction

Advocacy efforts at National General Assembly

Council has returned from the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2026 having delivered one of its most significant advocacy programs in recent years, taking the experiences, challenges and aspirations of Murrindindi communities directly to national decision-makers and helping shape the national conversation on disaster recovery and resilience.

For details, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/nga

Funding to support children and families

Council has secured \$500,000 in funding from VicHealth through the Partners in Place program to support the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families over the next five years.

For details, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pip

Movies, Meals and Meaningful Connections

Share a meal, enjoy a film and connect with others at a series of free community movie showings across Murrindindi.

Supported through Look Over the Farm Gate and inspired by R U OK?, these welcoming events encourage connection, conversation and positive wellbeing, while celebrating the importance of looking out for one another.

For details on movies and to register visit
theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/RUOK-26

Get in touch

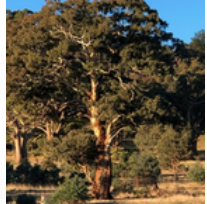
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HABBIES HOWE BEEF Mature, Well Hung and Available from: Victory Meats, Seymour Victory Meats, Broadford Scotch and Fillet, St Helena Scotch and Fillet, Mentone	 Donated by supporters of the magnificent King Parrots.	DE MARIA & ASSOCIATES <i>Barristers & Solicitors</i> Family Law Conveyancing Power of Attorney & Wills Estate Disputes Deceased Estates ☎ 03 9717 5277 Level 1, Suite 111 95 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen Vic 3754 Justice@demariaandassociates.com.au	 Donated by Friends of Yellow Box (Eucalyptus Meliodora)
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We thank the Taungurung ancestors and elders who, for millennia, have cared for this country on which we now live, work & play. May the current generations of Taungurung, HCCC residents & landowners continue this important custodianship into the future.