

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



30th August 2026 | Volume 20 Issue 51

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Thank you to those readers who read the front page last week and have sent in smaller photos and .jpgs rather than .pdf fliers this week. Your thoughtfulness is most appreciated.

Also appreciated was Cookie's email informing me that one can change .pdfs - the format that The Granite News is sent in - into a smaller size format in Adobe Acrobat. Who knew? Obviously not this Editor..... Stay tuned while I investigate this alternative development further.

Has anyone been wondering about the future of some of those burnt trees on their properties? Find out more on p. 4. There's also a matrix that can assist in deciding the safety status of trees that will be in the next TGN.

Finally, a reminder that the Granite News has a traditional 'rest' over the term school holidays for 2 weeks. Due to extenuating circumstances this hasn't happened for the last two breaks however the Editor is intending to take both weeks off - 27th September and 4th October - this time around. That leaves just 3 more weeks to get any articles, ads, fliers etc into TGN before the hiatus so please plan ahead with your timelines and publicity.

Thanks again to Neil for enabling this TGN to be created on a new laptop.

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.



Onsite welding

- 250 Amp Lincoln welder
- Oxy heating and cutting
- Emergency call-outs

Jack McMaster
woolshedcreek@hotmail.com
0498-036-194
Yea and surrounds



NEW local business

Jack McMaster is a name that is probably familiar to Tableland residents and now he can assist with any welding that is required across the HCCC area. Why not give him a call?

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

"I just remember the lessons my family taught me - dream big dreams; learn everything you can learn; and care for all those who care for you. You do all these things and you can be anyone you want to be."

Dolly Parton (1946 -2026)

Philanthropist, legendary musician & songwriter



A gentle reminder to all...

Articles, ads and anything else need to be received by the Editor by Thursday evening to ensure inclusion in the next issue of TGN.

Please send items in the smallest, editable format possible and in either .jpg or .png format NOT .pdfs.

Thank you.

		What's On - August & September 2026
	Monday 31st Aug. @ 7.30pm	STRATHBOGIE RESPONSIBLE RENEWABLES COMMUNITY GROUP @ Terip Rec Annual General Meeting - all are welcome
Details? See p.8	Tuesday 1st September	MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT - Pre-booked interviews only. @ Highlands Hall
	Thursday 3rd Sept @ 6pm	TERIP COMMUNITY POT LUCK DINNER @ Terip Rec Reserve
	Sunday 6th Sept. 10 - 11.30am	RUFFY CFA - COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARENESS WORKSHOP @ Ruffy Fire Station Includes a pre-season review of personal response to fire & plans for summer.
	Monday 7th Sept. @ 1pm	CRAFTERNOON @ Ruffy Hall BYO craft projects & plate to share. Enquiries? Gabriele 0402 335 840
	Saturday 12th Sept. @ 5pm	RUFFARTZ - CON KALAMARAS - MUSIC & A GREEK FEAST @ Ruffy Hall
NB NEW Date	Sunday 13th Sept. @ 4.30pm	TERIP TERIP REC RESERVE AGM - Everyone is welcome. @ Terip Rec Reserve
Details? See p.8	Sunday 13th Sept. 10-2	UPTON HILL - LANDSCAPING FOR BUSHFIRES - Free Lunch @ Upton Hill CFA
Details? See p.8	Sunday 13th Sept. @ 8.30am	SUICIDE AWARENESS WALK Commencing @ Yea Railway Station
	Monday 14th Sept. @ 11am	HIGHLANDS-CAVEAT SPINNING GROUP @ 450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd Tea, coffee, hugs and friendship still available to all. Jan & Ruby 5790 4361
	Tuesdays 10.30 - 2	CAKE & CUPPA - all welcome every week @ Ruffy Hall
	Mondays @ 9.30 Thursdays @ 9	MAT PILATES with Mel @ Highlands Hall Bring your own mat/towel and water bottle. Cost \$20 Enquiries? Mel 0498 643 608
	Tuesdays @ 5.30pm	MAT PILATES with Anastasia @ Highlands Hall Bring your own mat/towel and water bottle. Cost \$15 Enquiries? Anastasia 0436 428065
	Sundays @ 11am	CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY GATHERING @ 44 Yorston Rd, Highlands This is a non-denominational meeting, Everyone is welcome to this calm, compassionate and open environment. Tea, coffee & lunch provided. Enquires? John - 0425 840999
	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 2nd, 16th & 30th Sept.



COMMUNITY REMINDER

24/7 Frozen Meals: A gentle reminder that frozen meals are located in the foyer of the hall and are available 24/7 for your convenience. Please help yourself!



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK AT THE HUB



N.B The Hub and the associated activities will continue as usual.

Here is your snapshot of what's happening around the Hub this week!

MONDAY (31st Aug.)

9:30 AM: Mat Pilates with Mel (\$20) | All levels. Bring mat & water.

Book: Mel 0498 643 608

TUESDAY (1st Sept.)

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM: Organic Compost Collection | \$30 per load (limit 1 per person).
Located at the end of Yorston Rd, next to the cattle yards. Loaded on-site by a digger, access is strictly for single axle trailers and utes only.
If extra stock remains, an additional collection date will be announced.
Bank: Highlands Relief Hub BSB:633 000 A/C:241 020 197

MP Helen Haines Listening Posts - Independent MP Helen Haines is visiting the area to hear your feedback on fire recovery, infrastructure, and support gaps:

Yea Post Office: 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM

Ruffy Hall: 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM

(Other sessions: Alexandra RSL on Tues 2:30 PM, Fawcett Hall on Wed 9:00 AM)

WEDNESDAY (2nd Sept.)

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM: Recovery Support (PCC & GV FamilyCare) | Drop-in help with grants, paperwork, insurance, and family support.

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM: Rural Outreach with Ivan Lister - Drop in for a cuppa and a chat. Anonymous check-in referrals welcome.

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM: Murrindindi Mobile Library

5:30 PM: Mat Pilates with Anastasia @ Highlands Hall (\$15) | Bring mat/towel & water.

Enquiries: Anastasia 0436 428 065

THURSDAY (3rd Sept.)

9:00 AM: Mat Pilates with Mel (\$20) | All levels. Bring mat & water.

Book: Mel 0498 643 608

Tallarook Firewood Working Bee Update

Need firewood or have a couple of hours to lend a hand? Join Sam and the team in Tallarook!
(Schedule depends on numbers; call Sam directly if you need wood). Contact: Sam 0439 695 632

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

Paint by Wonders

I wonder what this will look out? I wonder where I will go? I wonder if there will be surprises? I wonder what happens if I do this?

8 people, including Mary our creative facilitator, enjoyed a very relaxing afternoon of painting in the Highlands Hall last weekend. We all thoroughly enjoyed it and took our projects home for completion. Gentle discussion, stories shared amidst long moments of silent immersion. We were accompanied by Darryl King from Yea Rotary who filled the hall with delicious aromas as he prepared dinner for the Working Bee Crew from New Community Church Ringwood.



Andrea Bauer - Highlands

DANGEROUS TREES and what to do about them.

The Highlands and District Community Recovery Association formed a working group around Dangerous trees. They have found that a much more expedient response is obtained by logging the concerns through the **Snap, Send, Solve** App where you can record the exact location and include photos and a description.

If you have any trees you are concerned about please use the App or you can let Alex Bauer know by phoning **0432 809 263** . Please note: the App can be used for other hazards such as potholes, animals on the road, dumped rubbish, graffiti, roadside blackberries, etc.



Congratulations to our New HaDCRA Committee!

The inaugural HaDCRA AGM was held on Saturday Aug 29th at Habbies Howe. Thank you to all that attended. It was a significant moment in the history of the Longwood fire recovery. Key stakeholders were present - Murrindindi and Mitchell Shires, Emergency Management Victoria, and District Lions members along with many from the community. Great music was provided by Freddie Gibson Music who shared the limelight with a lively, peeing possum as we enjoyed lunch together.

We are thrilled to formally announce that 6 positions on the HaDCRA committee have been filled! Due to the number of nominations received, formal voting was not required at the AGM or on line.

A huge thank you & congratulations to our new committee members -

Lillian De Maria

David Gay

Jackie Gilbee

Lyndall McLean

Samantha Parsons



Note: Alphabetically listed. Office bearers to be decided.

More details to follow in The Granite News and on [www. highlands-hub.org.au](http://www.highlands-hub.org.au)

We deeply appreciate your willingness to step up, dedicate your time, and support our local community. Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM and continues to support the ongoing work of HADCRA. Please join us in giving our new team a warm welcome!

RUFFY HALL WEEKLY UPDATE

This update is also available at ruffy.com.au click on Ruffy Mechanics Hall.
Don't forget to **BOOK YOUR EVENT** booking details below

NEW EVENTS

Helen Haines MP Visit

Federal Member for Indi, Helen Haines, will be back visiting Ruffy on Tuesday 1 September at the Hall at 12 noon and is keen to hear from our community and listen to our experiences in the recovery from the January Bushfire. Helen has released a bushfire policy which is being pursued and is keen to speak with locals.

<https://www.helenhaines.org/issues/bushfire-recovery/>

COFFEE CART IN RUFFY!

Yippee, come along and enjoy a freshly made coffee with an egg and bacon roll, delicious!

To celebrate the newly formed Ruffy Community Recovery Committee (CRC), we're planning a casual community morning tea to give locals the opportunity to meet the committee, put faces to names, and open the door for community feedback and conversation. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, 20th September, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

SLEEP WORKSHOP AT THE HALL - wear your pyjamas (just kidding!)

Come along and find out why we are all awake at 3am and what we can do about it!

FREE workshop followed by PIZZA Night, yum, yum.

Friday 9th October 4.30pm-8.30pm ALL WELCOME



REGULAR EVENTS

QIGONG (Chee-gong) with INGRID

Ingrid is offering another **FREE** Qigong session on **Tuesday 1st September 2pm in the Hall.**

We had a marvellous session last week. 6 of us enjoyed beautifully guided movement, music & breath. No room in our heads for anything else, a lovely antidote to recent events..

Everyone welcome, come and join us, wear loose clothes. **Contact Ingrid 0456 720498**

TUESDAY CUPPA AND CAKE

Every Tuesday there's a delicious morning tea and lots of chat. Join us for a cosy chat by the fire. Everyone welcome. **Agencies and services also visit 10am - 2pm**

FRIDAY DINNERS

Currently dinners are being coordinated by **Brad Moody (0439 364 993)**

Brad is very happy for other groups or services to step up and offer a dinner, please give him one week's notice if you would like to organise something.

No dinner on Friday 11th September. Greek Feast instead with live Greek Music on Saturday 12th. Yummy!

HALL BOOKINGS TO DATE

SEPTEMBER

Every Tuesday	Cuppa, Cake & Chat plus Services	10.30am-2pm
Tuesday 1	Meet Helen Haines MP in Ruffy	12 pm
Tuesday 1	Qigong with Ingrid	2 pm -2.45
Friday 4	Community Dinner - Pot Luck	6 pm
Monday 7	TCC Crafternoon, Cosy by the Fire	1 pm
Tuesday 8	Community Recovery Committee	6 pm
Thursday 10	TCC meeting	
Saturday 12	RuffArtZ Greek Feast with live Greek music	5 pm
Sunday 13	CFA Research Interviews	10am - 8pm
Monday 14	CFA Research Interviews	10am - 8pm
Tuesday 15	CFA Research Interviews	10am - 8pm
Friday 18	Community Dinner Pot Luck	6 pm
Sunday 20	Coffee Cart, Egg & Bacon Rolls meet CRC	9.30am-12
Friday 25	AFL Grand Final Community Dinner	6 pm



OCTOBER

Every Tuesday	Cuppa, Cake & Chat plus Services	10.30am-2pm
Friday 2	Pot Luck	6 pm
Monday 5	Crafternoon by the Fire	1pm
Friday 9	Sleep Workshop	4.30pm
Friday 9	Pizza Night	6pm
Saturday 31	TCC Stella Day Out Writers Festival	All Day

BOOKINGS: Bill Eddy 0428 326 567 or Judy Eddy 0459 291 946 email j.eddy29@bigpond.com
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS SO THAT YOUR BOOKING CAN BE CONFIRMED

SUMMER PREPARATION FOR TABLELANDS COMMUNITIES
Community Workshop
Sunday 6 September; 10.00 am – 11.30 am
Ruffy Fire Station



As we approach another fire season, CFA invites our community to come together to listen, reflect and learn from each other's experiences.

We welcome insights from those reconsidering their fire plans, property preparation or decision-making following the January fires.

Together we'll explore:
What have we learnt?
What might we do differently?
Will you change your fire plan?
Will you prepare your property differently?
What can we learn from each other?

Come along to listen, contribute or share your experience. There is no expectation that anyone has to speak.

Supported by CFA Wellbeing staff.

To provide us an indication of attendance numbers, please RSVP via the link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/DPBAM>



Further information, please contact Emily Birch, emily.birch@cfa.vic.gov.au, 0447 415 843



RuffArtZ


presents



Con Kalamaras

Musical performance and
Magnificent Greek Feast

 \$10 per Adult. Children Free

 5:00pm

 Saturday 12 Sep

 Ruffy Hall - Nolans Rd.

 BYO Drinks as usual.



For bookings and catering purposes please email
Ruffartzsecretary@gmail.com
or
SMS Kym on 0409 172 595



Letter to the Editor

We would like to share this special envelope we received containing a donation for the TCC.

The stickers and encouraging words were such a joy to receive we thought it should be shared-enjoy.

Cheryl Kearney
Ruffy Vege Growers

SAVE THE DATE

Coffee Cart on site Ruffy Hall

9.30am - 12 Sunday 20th September at Ruffy Hall.

Enjoy fresh coffee with an egg and bacon roll. Bring your neighbour.
Meet your new Recovery Committee Team members. **FREE EVENT**

Mental Health SUPPORT



Our team will be at
HIGHLANDS HALL



**THURSDAY
AUGUST 27TH**



**TUESDAY
1ST SEPTEMBER**

Pre-booked appointments only

Please note: Staff will only be attending onsite if there are pre-booked appointments.

To book an appointment, please contact:



5736 0448



intake@ydmh.org.au

Alternative options available:



Telehealth
Appointments available via telehealth (You can use your mobile or laptop)



Home Visits
Home visits can be arranged where appropriate



We're here to support your mental health.



**Yea & District
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

Terip Terip

**TERIP TERIP
RECREATION RESERVE**
INCORPORATING TENNIS CLUB, CFA
AND COMMUNITY HALL
CONTACT PERSON SEE NOTICE AT HALL

Annual General Meeting



DATE:
Sunday,
13th September, 2026



4.30pm
for a cuppa



TIME:
Meeting starts
5pm



ADDRESS:
8 Springs Road,
Terip Terip VIC

We invite you to join us for the
Annual General Meeting of the
Terip Terip Recreation Reserve Inc.

Let's celebrate our community and
plan for the coming year.



Apologies and committee nominations
can be emailed to
terip3719@gmail.com

Free Landscaping for Bushfire Session

UPTON HILL CFA
Sunday 13 September, 2026
10am -2pm

Join special guest speaker Owen Gooding for an interactive session on Landscaping for Bushfire. Recently retired, Owen has over 18 years experience with the CFA working on land use planning, planned burning, and the management of biodiversity and cultural heritage values in bushfire mitigation work. Owen was also a member of the national Task Force investigating house loss in the 2009 Victorian bushfires. Owen will talk about what we know about bushfire losses and the role of vegetation in contributing to or mitigating bushfire risk. Topics covered will include plant flammability, plant responses to fire, cultural fire use, fire ecology, climate change, and the use of vegetation plantings and soil moisture conservation to reduce fire intensity and protect assets. The session will include a property walk, so please wear comfortable clothes.



~Free lunch will be provided~

Numbers are limited: register by 6.9.26 via Trybooking link or QR code below to secure your place:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DOTNE>

Queries - Emily Birch

0447 415 849 emily.birch@cfa.vic.gov.au



**HELD ON 2ND
SUNDAY IN
SEPTEMBER**

GOULBURN VALLEY SUICIDE AWARENESS WALK

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Registration: 8.30 am | Event start: 9 am

Rail Trail loop: Yea Train Station to Two Bridges



Join us for a walk dedicated to honouring the memory of those we have lost, raising awareness, reducing stigma, and supporting families and friends affected by suicide. Whether you have been personally impacted or wish to help increase awareness about suicide, we invite you to join us in this meaningful event.

GVSAG Walk 2026 Schedule

Guest Speaker this Year

Come and listen to the inspiring stories, before your walk this year, featuring Kendall Whyte of the Blue Tree Project.

Cindy McLeish MP will read our Honour List.

Listen to acoustic music performed by the band 'Stoked' whilst enjoying your coffee from Cruisin' Coffee Co.

Once back from your picturesque Rail Trail walk from Yea Railway Station to the Blue Tree and back, enjoy your free sausage sizzle from Yea Rotary Club.

To register, volunteer, and more info, visit gvsag.org.au

facebook.com/gvsaginc

Cindy McLEISH MLA

MEMBER FOR BILDON

Alexandra
Rotary
Club



Proudly printed by Cindy McLeish MP

Rotary
Club of Yea



ORGANIC COMPOST COLLECTION

Tuesday 1st Sept
9-12pm collection

\$30 per load — limit 1 per person

-  **Single axle trailers and utes only due to access**
-  **Loaded by a digger**
-  **End of Yorston Rd next to the cattle yards**
-  **If there is any left, another collection day will be announced.**

Direct Deposit
 Account name: Highlands Relief Hub
 BSB: 633 000
 Account number: 241 020 197
 Payment reference: Compost Donation

Letter to the Editor

Dear Pauline,

I just wanted to say a big thank you for including the date and information about our Landscaping for Bushfire event in Merton in a previous edition of the Granite News.

The event on Sunday 23rd August was a great success and very well attended. Owen Gooding provided us with a wealth of practical information and ideas about how we can better prepare our gardens and properties for bushfire. The Merton community found the presentation both informative and enjoyable and it was also a wonderful opportunity for people to come together, share experiences and learn from one another.

I see that Upton Hill CFA is hosting Owen for another Landscaping for Bushfire presentation on Sunday 13th September. I would strongly encourage people to attend if they can. We learned so much from Owen and found the day to be a terrific community gathering as well as a really valuable source of information and practical resources.

And thank you, Pauline, for all the work you put into editing the Granite News and keeping local communities informed about the help, services, events and resources available to them. It is such a valuable community resource and very much appreciated.

Warm regards,

Margaret FitzGerald

Merton CFA Community Safety



COMEDY & CONVERSATIONS

Laugh. Listen. Connect.

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

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



An impressive Paint by Wonders effort

SPRING IS SPRUNG THE GRASS IS RIZ - IT'S TIME TO ENJOY SOME GARDENING BIZ.

The Rotary Club of Yea is again hosting a **Garden Expo on Sat/Sun 19th -20th September, 9am – 3pm.** The Expo is an opportunity to view a host of garden related products in a relaxed atmosphere at the Yea Saleyards (Flat Lead Road), just off the Yea Whittlesea Rd on a flat, sealed, dog friendly and easily accessible site for everyone.

Entry fee is just \$12 (Concession \$10) with free parking (children under 16 free) and there will be a plentiful supply of food and drink vendors on site. All vendor spots are filled and will be providing all things to do with gardening with exhibits ranging from bulbs, seeds, seedlings, flowering plants and trees, garden tools, equipment, art and ornaments, compost, fertilisers and more.

A daily speaker program will cover a range of topics sure to please all gardeners and with plenty of opportunities to ask questions and have your garden issues solved! Speakers will cover bee keeping, landscape design, gardens for attracting native fauna and the popular Craig Castree on his regenEdible – how to grow real food.

New this year there will be two spring gardens to view, both in Yea for just \$10 (includes both gardens). They are sure to provide a riot of spring colour for your enjoyment. Also, free face painting again just on Saturday, so be sure to bring the kids – U/16 is free entry!

Details at website www.yearotary.org.au or keep up to date via Facebook.
Pay at the gate or book online (for both events) at www.trybooking.com/DLLKQ

ONLY 116 MORE SLEEPS TO GO.....

For the past three years St Luke's in Yea, have prepared a hot lunch on Christmas Day for anyone in the area who would like to come.

In 2026 this invitation is being extended to those living above the "fog line" in fire-affected areas.

Please feel free to come and join us. There is no charge but it is useful to know how many we are catering for in advance.

Menu and contact details to follow shortly but in the meantime please consider coming.



Rotary
Club of Yea



YEA



GARDEN EXPO

19 & 20 SEP 2026

9AM - 3PM

Location: Yea Saleyards

Flat Lead Road, Yea (see website for directions)

Only an hour from Melbourne!



Native & flowering plants
Garden sculptures
Food and drink available
Garden tools & Vegetable bins
Seedlings
Mulch, fertilisers & compost
Ride-on & push mowers
Nurseries
Small chainsaws
Roses
Deciduous & Ornamental trees
Plant Creche
Speakers Program
And much more.....

**NEW IN 2026,
TWO SPRING
GARDENS
FOR VIEWING
\$10 INCLUDES
BOTH GARDENS**

- Entry \$12 at the gate (\$10 booked online)
- Concession \$10
- Kids U/16 FREE



Pay at the gate or book online via www.trybooking.com:
www.trybooking.com/DLLKQ (Bookings open August 1st)

Spring Garden tickets \$10 includes both gardens

www.yearotary.org.au



FREE COMMUNITY BUS TRIP
FOR FIRE AFFECTED TABLELANDS

ALOWYN GARDENS
AND NURSERY



Come along for a relaxing day
surrounded by beautiful gardens,
good company and fresh Spring air

Talk on Arrival, Morning Tea &
Garden Entry Provided Free
Lunch available for purchase at the cafe

16 September 2026



bus departs at 9 am
Tablelands Community Centre
27 Nolans Road Ruffy

Bookings Limited & Essential
Contact Cheryl 0409 019 763



This event is supported by a Look Over the Farm Gate grant
provided by Agriculture Victoria under the Victorian Government's
2025 Drought Support Package. #LookOverTheFarmGate



TIME TO WANDER RELAX AND ENJOY THE BLOOMS

Gardening with Friends

Launch into spring with plants for your garden!

The Euroa Garden Club 'Garden Recovery Project' invites anyone affected by the 2026 fires to come fill a box or two with plants for the garden and join us for a scrumptious morning tea and garden chat.

**Friday, 11 September 2026
10:00am – 12:00pm**

The Third Age Hall - Kirkland Avenue Euroa

Also register for a **FREE Fruit Tree** of your choice, proudly supported by the Euroa Uniting Church.

All free but **RSVP** text or call to 0417 807 196 would help with catering.

**THE GREAT
GARDEN
GIVEBACK
WEEKEND
SEPT 12 & 13**

*Celebrating recovery,
gardens and community spirit.*

**FREE GARDEN GOODIES FOR FIRE IMPACTED
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

EMBASSY OF IDEAS, 3 BAYLEY ST, ALEXANDRA

**10AM - 3PM
EACH DAY**

FREE GARDEN GIVEAWAYS
FERTILIZERS,
POTTING MIX, SEEDS,
SEEDLINGS, PLANTS,
GARDEN ART & MORE!

**COFFEE, CAKE
& SAUSAGE
SIZZLE**

**KIDS
ACTIVITIES**

SUPPORTED BY:

- Rotary Club
- Alexandra Rotary Club
- Buxton Primary School
- Menzies Support Services
- Mozzie Mosaics
- sisterhood women's travel



Additional recovery funding welcome, but recovery challenge remains

Murrindindi Shire Council has welcomed additional Australian and Victorian Government funding to support bushfire recovery, while warning that significant recovery needs remain across the Shire seven months after the January 2026 fires.

The Australian and Victorian Governments have announced additional funding to support Community Recovery Officer and Recovery Hub programs through to June 2028. Murrindindi Shire Council will receive an additional \$920,000.

Mayor Cr Damien Gallagher said the funding was important recognition that recovery remains an ongoing challenge for many communities.

"This funding is welcome and will help ensure recovery support continues in our communities for longer," Cr Gallagher said "Many residents, farmers, businesses and community groups are still dealing with the consequences of the January fires, and recovery will continue for years, not months."

The additional funding will support Council's Community Recovery Officer and Recovery Hub programs, helping maintain local recovery services and coordination for impacted communities.

Cr Gallagher said the announcement was a positive step, but it did not change the scale of the recovery task facing Murrindindi.

"We appreciate this additional investment, but it does not close the gap between the scale of the disaster and the recovery funding received. Murrindindi experienced around 48 per cent of Victoria's structural losses from the January bushfires. Even with this latest grant, our share of recovery funding allocated to Councils for the January fires increases from around 8.3 per cent to 10.6 per cent. This is progress, but it highlights that there is still a long way to go before our recovery funding more closely reflects the impact experienced by our community."

Cr Gallagher said Council would continue advocating for long-term recovery funding commensurate with the scale and complexity of the recovery effort in Murrindindi.

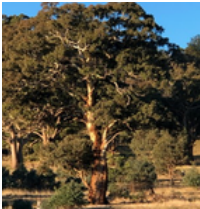
Council has previously advocated for \$6 million to support the operation of recovery hubs and locally led recovery over the next couple of years. Even with this latest funding, more than \$3 million is still required to meet that identified need.

"Our recovery hubs and officers working directly with affected communities are not a short-term response. They need to be there as people rebuild their homes and businesses, restore their farms and work through the social and economic impacts of this disaster," Cr Gallagher said.

"We are grateful for this funding and for the support provided by both levels of government. However, the reality is that hundreds of residents are still rebuilding, businesses continue to face challenges, community recovery remains an active task, and Council is managing the long-term impacts of one of the most significant disasters in our Shire's history. Recovery is far from over, and Council will continue to seek the government funding needed to help our communities rebuild and recover."

"I have invited Premier Carroll to visit Murrindindi Shire to experience firsthand the impact of the Longwood fire, the stoicism and resolve of our community to rebuild and support one another, but also the scale of the challenge that remains.

"Council will continue working with the Australian and Victorian Governments and recovery partners to support Murrindindi communities through the years ahead."

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)
RURAL FENCING SERVICES JARRAD ☎ 0409 082 257	"A new name but the same friendly staff at Seymour" Join our Loyalty card program & save. IF YOU WANT IT - WE'VE GOT IT • 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 Glenn: 0439 990 480 Store: 03 5792 1088 Email: seymour@wbhunter.com.au HUNTERS TRADE • RURAL • HARDWARE	Brought to you by a little antechinus living in a hollow near you. 	BenCo PLUMBING SERVICES Ben Laycock 0438 512299 Licence no. 105134 ben@bencoplumbingservices.com.au bencoplumbingservices.com
DINDI ELECTRICAL SERVICES DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS Get in touch for all your electrical needs Coen Bird 0433 885 441 coenbird@dindielectrical.com.au	KOPANICA PASTORAL EXCAVATIONS & CARTAGE  DAMS EARTHWORKS STOCK+WATER CARTAGE & MORE 0429 804 235 MICHAEL.KOPANICA@GMAIL.COM		 Strathbogie Granite Project neil.phillips@bigpond.com
Murrindindi Shire Council Cr Paul Hildebrand Koriella Ward phildebrand@murrindindi.vic.gov.au 0428 758 617	Bushfire Casualty	KCK David & John (partners) KOSBYOVN CONTRACTING & KELPIES SINCE 2025 For all your livestock needs (sheep, cattle, spot spraying) No job to big or small. Competitive pricing. Please contact David on 0417 150113	Donated by supporters of our local koala population 
Donation from supporters of our local Platypus 	Bushfire Casualty	HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL Meeting Room and/or Hall available for hire MEETINGS FUNCTIONS WORKSHOPS PARTIES WEDDINGS Reasonable Rates Contact Paula Lade 0419 551 882	Donated by friends of the Long Leafed Box Trees 
Echidnas take care of their habitat 	Granite Hills Community Nursery  www.granitehillsnursery.com.au	Need a website? bluetopbiz.com.au Affordable web design & maintenance. Presentations, marketing copy, Grant applications, project management. Call Sue 0411 010 379 Neil 0417 503 472 Email: sue@bluetopbiz.com.au	ROGAINING • 50th Anniversary •  Tallarook 2026



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. May the current generations of Taungurung, HCCC residents & landowners continue this important custodianship into the future.