

THE GRANITE NEWS



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



9th August 2026 | Volume 20 Issue 48

Welcome, Wumindjika & G'day

Several years ago, I went to a children's literature conference at RMIT where one of the international speakers was prolific British author Dame Jacqueline Wilson, who started her literary life as a copy girl at a small Scottish magazine publishing house in Dundee. When she started to write actual articles for the magazine she discovered that deadlines were immovable and that there's no such thing as writer's block.

This is where I have found myself this week as I've been busily wrangling with consistently inconsistent technology in order to sign in and distribute Tuesday's Census forms by a deadline. With my second area's 321 forms delivered, along with an astute avoidance of rainfall drenching, I was suddenly faced with a writing blank and another deadline...now.

So, when Andrea sent me this photo of the new palings inserted into the decorative community fence at the Highlands Hall I initially thought that the fence had been damaged when unloading the pod at the front of the hall, as everything else was unmarked and still standing. But no, the culprit was the January dragon that impacted so many other structures, and it got me thinking about the what ifs? What if the flames had come just a little bit closer?



They did - they burnt a bearer under the back deck, the tennis court poles and the trees around the concrete tank, so the randomness of fire was definitely in play but what would the Highlands community have done over the last 6 months without its Hall - a beacon of hope, security and support for all those who needed assistance. A shelter in more ways than one. Not to mention the amazing locals who have kept the doors open, their arms welcoming and the professional carers attending during this time.

Of course, the same can be said about the Ruffy Hall and its dedicated community too. It is incredible that the only 2 public buildings still standing in each location are the community halls and the CFA fire stations and both have become vital lynchpins in their communities.

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.



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

"Two things are infinite - the universe and human stupidity and I'm not sure about the universe."

Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)
Theoretical physicist &
Nobel Prize winner for Physics 1921



THAT fence at the Highlands Hall

Newer residents of the HCCC area and/or readers of TGN may not be familiar with the origin of the artistic fence outside the Highlands Hall.

It was a community installation for the original HiArts festival a couple of decades ago and anyone who wanted to, contributed a paling to create this joyously happy and unique fence.

As is the norm with deadlines, palings appeared at the 11th hour on the morning of the festival and were rapidly nailed into place before the crowds arrived. Country ingenuity at its best!

		What's On - August 2026	
	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.3	Wednesday 12th Aug. @ 10am	GRAFTING, GOOD COMPANY & FREE TREES	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
Details? See p.15	Sunday 16th Aug. 12-3pm	COMEDY & CONVERSATIONS - Laugh, Listen & Connect	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
Details? See p.9	Wednesday 19th August @ 5pm	NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR HaDCRA COMMITTEE POSITIONS	
Details? See p.10	Friday 21st Aug. @ 5 for 5.30	BURNT CREEK LANDCARE - JUST A FARMER - FILM	@ Avenel Memorial Hall
Details? See p.15	Saturday 22nd Aug. 1-3.30pm	PAINTING by WONDERS - FREE WORKSHOP	@ Highlands Hall/Hub
Details? See p.11	Sunday 23rd Aug. from 9.30	SUNDAY SESSION with JAMES JENSEN	@ Terip Rec Reserve
	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. 11-12.30	HIGHLANDS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY RECOVERY ASSOC. AGM	@ Habbies Howe
	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 19th August and 2nd, 16th & 30th Sept.



Grafting, Good Company and Free Trees!

A friendly Q&A with Gippsland fruit tree guru Neil Barraclough from the Heritage & Rare Fruit Society

A laid-back drop-in where you can pick up hands-on skills, ask questions, and chat with fellow local gardeners.

Grafting Demos — Watch Neil work his magic step-by-step and learn how to graft your own trees.

Fruit Tree Tips — Rootstock, seed saving, winter care tips and more!

Q&A — Bring all your burning fruit tree questions.

Trees & Rootstock to Take Home: Free pre-grafted fruit trees and rootstock available for the community!

FREE for residents impacted by the fires.
\$12 each for everyone else (to help Neil cover his trip costs!).



Highlands Hall
Wednesday 12th August
From 10am



IMPORTANT HUB UPDATE

A Big Thank You & Looking Ahead

As our community continues to move forward, we are making a few adjustments to the Hub's opening hours. This Saturday will be our final open Saturday! We want to share a massive thank you to the incredible volunteers who gave up their weekends to keep the doors open and support everyone through this time. Your dedication has meant the world. Moving forward.....

Wednesdays: We remain open every Wednesday to host visiting services, agencies, and support teams.

Saturdays: The Hub will now be open by appointment, or you can drop in and catch our team when events are taking place at the Hall.

Frozen Meals: For anyone relying on meal support, we are currently setting up a dedicated freezer in the Hall foyer so meals will be accessible 24/7. Watch this space for details soon!

For any enquiries, please call the Hub phone on 0491 941 005

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK AT THE HUB

MONDAY 10th August

9:30 AM: Mat Pilates with Mel

Details: Open to all experience levels. Bring a yoga mat and water bottle (\$20/session).

Bookings: Text or call Mel on 0498 643 608

TUESDAY 11th August

5:30 PM: Weekly Mat Pilates with Anastasia

Details: Suitable for all levels. Bring a mat or towel and a water bottle (\$15/session).

Enquiries: Call Anastasia on 0436 428 065

WEDNESDAY 12th August

9:00 AM onwards: Firewood Working Bee (Tallaroak)

Details: Join Sam and the crew to chop and stack firewood supplies. Need wood for home? Drop by to collect or arrange community delivery. Extra hands are always welcome.

Contact: Call or text Sam on 0439 695 632

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM: PCC Emergency Recovery & GV FamilyCare

Details: Drop-in support for grant applications, insurance claims, paperwork, legal/financial hardship, and family services.

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM: Rural Outreach Support with Ivan Lister

Details: Confidential support and advice for individuals or concerned loved ones. Pull up a chair for a cuppa and a yarn. Anonymous check-ins available.

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM: Fruit Tree Grafting Workshop & Giveaways

Details: Run by Neil from the Heritage & Rare Fruit Society. Learn grafting techniques, rootstock selection, and winter orchard care. Includes live demos, Q&A, and free plant giveaways for fire impacted residents (\$12 for other residents to cover travel costs)

***** Printed copies of TGN are now available from the box beside the notice board outside the hub *****

Contact: Andrea Bauer 0417 369 225



The Hub @ the Highlands Hall is open!

Wednesday 10am to 2pm

thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com
1603 Ghin Ghin Road, Highlands
0491 941 005

HIGHLANDS HUB HAPPENINGS...continued

THURSDAY 13th August

9:00 AM: Mat Pilates with Mel

Details: Open to all experience levels. Bring a mat and drink bottle (\$20/session).

Bookings: Text or call Mel on 0498 643 608

SATURDAY 15th August

Firewood Working Bee (Tallarook)

Details: Weekend firewood prep with Sam and the team. Lend a hand for a couple of hours or load up timber for your own woodshed.

Contact: Call or text Sam on 0439 695 632

SUNDAY 16th August

Comedy & Conversations: Laugh. Listen. Connect.

Location: Habbies Howe Shearing Shed (Highlands)

Time: 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Doors open 11:30 AM)

Lineup: Stand-up comedy from Dave O'Neil and Des Dowling, plus conversation with Warren Davies (The Unbreakable Farmer).

Details: An afternoon to bring the community together and support mental health. Bring family and mates along for a laugh and a catch-up.

Extras: Light meal supplied. The Murrindindi Mobile Health Van will be on site from 11:00 AM.

SATURDAY 22nd August

"Paint by Wonders" Highlands Hall @ 1:00- 3:30pm FREE.

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.

SUNDAY 23rd August

SUNDAY SESSION WITH JAMES JENSEN

Terip, Highlands, and Ruffy are coming together for a combined community morning!

Drop by for a cuppa, a bite to eat, and a catch-up with your mates from next door. Former SAS Patrol Commander James Jensen will be joining us for a down-to-earth chat on resilience, leadership, and getting through life's tougher times.

When: Sunday 23rd August (Morning tea from 9:30 AM, chat starts at 11:00 AM)

Where: Terip Terip Recreation Reserve (8 Springs Rd)

RSVP for catering is a MUST:

 teripterip3719@gmail.com

 0418 886 915

IMPORTANT PROGRAM DEADLINE

Free State-Funded Clean-Up Program Closing Soon

Deadline: Monday, 31 August 2026 at 5:00 PM

Coverage: Free demolition and debris removal for eligible structures damaged in the January 2026 bushfires (including uninsured or partially insured properties).

How to Apply: Register via the Victorian Government Relief & Recovery Portal at

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

HIGHLANDS HUB HAPPENINGS...continued

SATURDAY 29th August - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All HaDCRA members are encouraged to attend to elect our new Management Committee and help guide our future priorities.

Date: Saturday, 29th August

Time: 11:00 AM - 12:30PM

Location: Habbies Howe Shearing Shed

All HaDCRA members are encouraged to attend to elect our new Management Committee and help guide our future priorities. If you haven't nominated (or been nominated) for the committee, please do so now on through the Management Committee page - <https://highlands-hub.org.au/committee>.

Mitchell & Murrindindi Community lunch will follow at 1pm.

SATURDAY 29th August - COMMUNITY LUNCH

Come along to our monthly Mitchell and Murrindindi community lunch. Enjoy a free meal, live entertainment and an opportunity to connect with your friends, neighbours and community.

Saturday 29 August, 1pm - 3.30pm

Habbies Howe Shearing Shed, 11 Dropmore Road

Letter to the Editor

The Upper Goulburn Landcare Network are seeking volunteers to assist landowners impacted by the 2026 Longwood Fires in the Murrindindi and Mansfield Shires.

UGLN are calling for skilled and unskilled volunteers to assist us with our Fire Recovery fencing project - Fencers Without Boundaries.

Experience in fencing would be helpful but it is not essential.

We work every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Morning tea and lunch is provided for all volunteers and all the safety equipment, PPE and tools that are needed.

For more information or to volunteer contact Chris Cobern on 0413 855 490 or by email ugln.projects@ugln.net

NB: this letter is of relevance for those TGN readers who were not impacted by the January fires directly and would like to assist with the recovery.

**** Please note ****

The August HCCC meeting has been cancelled and the next one will be held on **Wednesday 16th September @ 7pm** @ the Highlands Hall. Everyone is welcome.





HIGHLANDS & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY RECOVERY
• GROUNDED IN COMMUNITY. RISING TOGETHER •

HIGHLANDS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY RECOVERY ASSOCIATION INC (HADRCRA)

Your Community. Your Voice. Your Recovery.

HaDRCA is a community-led organisation working to support recovery, resilience, wellbeing, and connection across our district.



AS A MEMBER YOU WILL:

- Have a direct say in shaping community recovery priorities, drive local actions and support projects that make a real difference.
- Strengthen the collective voice of community to ensure it is heard by decisions makers, Council and recovery agencies.
- Connect with others who care deeply about resilience and wellbeing of our community.
- Build resilience for future challenges by working together to prepare for future emergencies and build a stronger, more resilient community.

JOIN TODAY!

Scan the QR code to access the membership form and more information.



or email us on:
thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com



WHAT HADCRA DOES:



Relief, Recovery & Temporary Housing

Supporting individuals and families with practical recovery needs and access to temporary housing and recovery services.



Property Safety & Dangerous Trees

Working with agencies and landowners to improve safety by addressing hazardous trees and other recovery-related risks.



Community Communication & Advocacy

Keeping the community informed, listening to local needs, and advocating for better outcomes and support.



Community Events & Wellbeing

Creating opportunities for people to connect, support one another, and strengthen community wellbeing through local events and activities.



Capacity Building & Emergency Preparedness

Building local skills, partnerships and preparedness to help our community respond to and recover from future emergencies.



MEMBERSHIP IS FREE!

The more members we have, the stronger our community voice. A strong, active base helps us to:

REPRESENT

the entire community effectively

ADVOCATE

for critical local needs and priorities with decision-makers.

STRENGTHEN

applications for essential grant funding.

BUILD STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

with government bodies and service providers.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Saturday 29 August 2026



11.00AM - 12.30PM



Habbies Howe Shearing Shed
110 Dropmore Road, Highlands

Come along, elect the committee and help shape the future of our community.

Join the Conversation.
Help Shape the Future.



thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com



0478 221 311



<https://highlands-hub.org.au/>

Find out
more!



WHAT SKILLS WILL BE NEEDED TO HELP SHAPE RECOVERY

The Highlands & District Community Recovery Association is seeking people with a range of skills, experience and local knowledge to help shape the future of our community.



Collaboration & Coordination

Working together, bringing people together, building partnerships and coordinating community projects and activities.

Strategic Thinking

Seeing the bigger picture, identifying priorities and helping guide long-term recovery and resilience initiatives.

Community Leadership

Motivating others, encouraging participation and helping build a connected, resilient and inclusive community.

Local Knowledge & Diverse Perspectives

Understanding our community, its history, strengths and challenges, while welcoming fresh ideas and different lived experiences.

Navigating Systems & Resources

Experience working with government, community organisations, funding programs or support services to connect people with the help they need.

Emergency Management & Preparedness

Helping strengthen community resilience through planning, preparedness and recovery for future emergencies.

Problem Solving & Innovation

Finding practical solutions, thinking creatively and identifying opportunities to improve recovery outcomes.

Community Engagement

Building relationships, encouraging participation and ensuring all voices are heard in community decision-making.

Wellbeing & Inclusion

Supporting the health, wellbeing and inclusion of individuals and ensuring everyone feels welcome and connected.

Communication

Sharing information clearly, engaging with community members, listening to feedback and helping keep everyone informed.

Grant Writing & Resource Development

Identifying funding opportunities, writing grant applications and helping secure resources for community projects.

**** Annual General Meeting ****

Saturday 29th August @ 11am - 12.30pm

Where: - Habbies Howe Shearing Shed 110 Dropmore Rd, Highlands

Come along, elect the committee and help shape the future of our community.



HADCRA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

The Highlands & District Community Recovery Association (HADCRA) is entering an exciting new chapter, and nominations are now OPEN for our inaugural Management Committee. This is an opportunity to help shape the future of our community and ensure HADCRA continues to support recovery, resilience and connection across the Highlands and surrounds.

Our founding team has dedicated an enormous amount of time, energy and heart to establishing the Association and guiding our community through the initial recovery phase. As the Association moves into its next stage, they are ready to step back for a well-deserved breather and welcome new people to continue building on this strong foundation.

If you care about our community, have a few practical ideas and can spare just 1–2 hours per week, we'd love to hear from you. You don't need previous committee or governance experience, just a willingness to contribute and work with others.

Nominate today and become part of the next chapter of community recovery, resilience and connection!

Management Committee Nomination Form

<https://highlands-hub.org.au/committee>

Important information:

- **Nominations are now open.**
- **Nominations close 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 19 August 2026.**
- You must be a registered HADCRA member before submitting a nomination. If you are not already a member, [sign up now!](https://highlands-hub.org.au/membership)- <https://highlands-hub.org.au/membership>

The Management Committee will consist of between five and seven elected members, who will be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday 29 August. We encourage all HADCRA members to attend, have their say and help shape the future of our Association.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to reach out on
0491 941 005 or thehighlandshub2026@gmail.com.

FREE COMMUNITY SCREENING

Just a Farmer

Friday 21 August

Avenel Memorial Hall, 15 Queen Street

Presented by Burnt Creek Landcare Group

This film is a powerful reflection of rural life, mental health, and the strength of our farming communities.

**Doors open 5.00pm
5.30pm screening.
Light supper and
beverages to follow**

**Bookings are essential by
Aug 18th** by scanning the
QR code below.



Any queries please contact
Susie Bate 0409 174 041 or
benacre49@gmail.com



Burnt Creek
Landcare
Group



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





You're Invited to a
**SUNDAY
SESSION**
with
JAMES JENSEN

MORNING TEA • CONVERSATION • COMMUNITY

*An honest, down-to-earth conversation about
leadership, resilience, purpose and finding strength
through life's toughest challenges.*



**FORMER SAS PATROL COMMANDER
• FOUNDER OF K6 CONSULTING**

Over more than 20 years leading teams in some of the world's most demanding environments, James discovered that true leadership isn't about rank or recognition.

It's about creating calm in chaos, earning trust and helping people find the confidence to keep moving forward when life is at its hardest.



Drawing on his experience in the SAS and his work developing leaders across Australia, James will share practical insights that are relevant to all of us—whether we're leading a business, a family, a farm or simply navigating life's challenges.

JAMES JENSEN IS PASSIONATE ABOUT:

- Building strong, values-based leaders
- Creating high-performing teams
- Resilience, wellbeing and mental toughness
- Leading with purpose and integrity
- Helping individuals and communities thrive

“The best leaders weren't always the loudest or the most decorated. They were the ones who could create calm in chaos, make others feel seen, and lead with conviction, not ego.”



SUNDAY 23 AUGUST



MORNING TEA

from 9.30am



CONVERSATION BEGINS

11.00am



**TERIP TERIP
RECREATION RESERVE**

8 Springs Road, Terip Terip

TERIP HIGHLANDS AND RUFFY

A combined community event –
great to catch up with your
mates from next door!

RSVP

terip3719@gmail.com

0418 886 915



**LOOK OVER THE
FARM GATE**
Community Grants Program



**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
FARMER
HEALTH**

Free firewood for bushfire-impacted residents

Strathbogie Shire Council is offering free bushfire firewood to support fire-affected households.



CEO Rachelle Quattrocchi said the firewood recovery program is designed to provide practical support to residents affected by the January bushfire while helping reduce fuel loads across the shire.

Roadside tree debris salvaged since January is being processed at Nagambie Transfer Station, with public collections open from **12 August**.

A steady supply of split firewood is expected through August and September, depending on weather and mill operations.

CEO Rachelle Quattrocchi said the program would help residents replenish firewood stocks while supporting the roadside clean-up. "The program prioritises fire-affected residents and property owners across Strathbogie Shire," she said.

Eligible residents can receive two cubic metres of free bushfire firewood this year and must be prepared to load it by hand or nominate someone to collect it on their behalf.

The salvaged firewood is not seasoned and will need to dry for at least 12 months before use. Residents should continue using local commercial suppliers for ready-to-burn firewood this winter.

Following the initial collection phase, Council plans to introduce additional distribution options to improve accessibility for residents who may be unable to collect firewood themselves.

Ms Quattrocchi said that once the bulk of trailer loads of bushfire firewood were collected from Nagambie Transfer Station, a supplementary firewood bag system would roll out directly to local fire-impacted communities.

"This will help keep loads at a manageable size and weight so free firewood is still accessible to fire-affected residents who cannot load it themselves," she said.

Ms Quattrocchi said Council would continue to monitor demand, supply and program costs, with a review scheduled for September to determine future opportunities for the initiative.

"We are committed to delivering a recovery program that is safe, practical and focused on the needs of our community. We will keep residents informed as the program progresses."

Book for firewood

An online firewood booking system will open on **5 August** and advance bookings will be mandatory to collect free firewood.

Residents unable to complete an online form can seek assistance from Council's Customer Service Officers or visit the Recovery Hub in Euroa.

For more information on collections dates and available booking timeslots, visit Council's recovery webpage on [2026 Bushfires - Strathbogie Shire](#).



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**



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

The Strathbogies Responsible Renewables Community Group (SRRCG)

will hold their **Annual General Meeting** on
Monday 31st August, 7:30pm, at the Terip Terip Recreation Reserve

If you would like to comment on the performance of the committee, suggest future activities, or make a contribution by joining the committee, please come along and have your say.

All are welcome.

Darryl Otzen
Secretary srrcg.com



SAVE THE DATE



100 years of tennis at Terip Terip

Celebration afternoon/evening on October 24th 2026

More details coming soon...



Exact location in Alexandra will be confirmed closer to the dates.

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.**



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



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	HIGHLANDS	TERIP TERIP
Sunday 9 August	Sunday 16 August	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



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 baring 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.**



Euroa Garden Club

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.

Tea for TAMPA



**It's 25 years since the Tampa Affair
Why does it still matter?**

Welcome drinks, music by Harpist, Christine Tate

Special Guest Speaker

Gillian Triggs AC

Former Assist. Sec-Gen. UNHCR and
Aust. Human Rights Commissioner

Q&A and Afternoon Tea



Source: Refugee Council of Australia

Sat 22nd Aug, 2-4pm

Bookings essential via Robyn Walsh 0467 413 767

Tickets \$25 / Concession \$20

Cash or card on the day



St. John's Anglican Church Hall - 39 Downey St, Alexandra



Draft Library Strategy and Action Plan 2027-2030

Help write the next chapter of your library

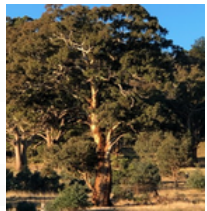
Libraries are changing to support learning, wellbeing, connection and access to information in new ways.

Council is developing its next Library Strategy and Action Plan. Whether you visit the library regularly, occasionally or have never used the service, your feedback will help shape future programs, spaces and services.

To take part and provide feedback by 28 August:

- call 5772 0333
- email mls@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
- via form at
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/draftlsap
- scan the QR code



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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 
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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.