

Issue: June 2024

FILL THE GAP

Produced by Halls Gap Community Association & Halls Gap Neighbourhood House

Articles for July FTG need to be received by the 25th June 2023
See page 17 for details

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WRAP UP...

Another big issue of our community newsletter.

It may be getting colder and we like to sit by our fires however there are still lots of fun local activities. So get involved. Check out page 3.



If you or someone you know needs some help in putting food on the table refer to pages 13 & 14 for the local agencies in our region. They are there for you.

We are **still looking for volunteers** to help with the producing this publication. Training is provided. Please contact Alison on 0417 883 445 if you are interested.



STATS BY CHAS...

May 2024 Rainfall by Chas: 22 mm for May 2024 bringing the progressive total to 187.5 mm. This compares to the same period last year of 72.5 mm with a progressive total of 250 mm.

As of the 29th of May 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 67,820ML or 86% full compared to the same period last year of 68,620 ML or 87% full. The total system is holding 309,290 ML or 55.20% full compared to the same period last year of 359,720 ML or 64.20% full.

Mount William received 43.8 mm for May 2024. The highest temperature of 14.9 C was recorded on the 4th May and the lowest temperature of -0.4 was recorded on the 18th of May 2024.

The highest wind speed of 122 km/h was recorded on the 30th May 2024.

FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



chinnup

season of cockatoos - winter
(june to late july)

Cold, Cockatoos and Early Wildflowers

Morning frosts, bleak mists and freezing winds make winter (season of cockatoos or chinnup) the coldest time of year.



Next Market:
Sunday 9th June 2024
10am - 2pm
Halls Gap Rec Reserve
hallsgapmarkets.com.au

HALLS GAP & GRAMPIANS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Working bees are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. If you are interested in joining our dedicated workers pop into the History rooms between 2:30-4pm on one of these days.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP

Meeting held Monday 4th March, 3rd June, 2nd September and 2nd December 2024 at 4.30pm in the supper room at the Halls Gap Centenary Hall.

All locals are welcome.



The weather might be cooling down but Halls GP community events are heating up!

The Snappy Gappians are hosting a program of events over the next few months and everyone is invited!

- * Community Lunch
- * Dancing in the dark
- * Kids movie night
- * Springtime BBQ
- * And more!

Stay turned for dates and details to come.

Interested to find out more in the meantime or help out with these events?

Contact the Snappy Gappians on snappygappians@gmail.com

With thanks to Northern Grampians Shire council for supporting these events via the community grants program.



Their Wonderful World
A discussion group for carers of neurodivergent children

Are you a **parent or carer** of a **neurodivergent child** and live in the **Grampians?**

Join our online **discussion group** and in person **education sessions** and **catch ups**, sharing with others who have lived experience.



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/theirwonderfulworld>

Neurodivergence includes but is not limited to:

- ADHD
- Tourette Syndrome
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Autism
- Down syndrome
- Intellectual disabilities
- Dyslexia
- Dysgraphia
- Sensory processing disorder

HALLS GAP RESIDENCES & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

We are a group of residents or ratepayers who meet four times a year to discuss and raise issues that directly impact our town, whether they be big or small. We are fortunate to have our local councilor, Cr Trevor Gready, attend each meeting and provide a direct liaison with the Northern Grampians Shire council. You are welcome to come along to any meeting.

Members pay the nominal fee of \$10 per annum and receive an emailed copy of the minutes from each meeting.

Meetings will be held on Wednesday 6th March, 5th June, 4th September and 4th December 2024 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room at Centenary Hall, Halls Gap.

All Residents and Ratepayers are invited to attend.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY THIS JUNE

MONDAYS

03 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP MEETING @ 4.30PM, MEETING, HALL
 03, 10, 17 & 24 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 03, 10, 17 & 24 POMONAL MEN'S SHED SOCIAL MORNINGS FROM 9.30AM

TUESDAYS

04, 11, 18 & 25 - GENTLE EXERCISE AT 1.30PM, HALLS GAP NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
 04, 11, 18 & 25 - PETANQUE IN THE PARK @ 4PM
 04 & 18 POMONAL MEN'S SHED INCLUSIVE TUESDAY EVENING 7PM – 9PM

WEDNESDAYS

05 HALLS GAP RESIDENCES & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION @ 7.30PM IN THE MEETING ROOM AT THE CENTENARY HALL
 05, 12, 19 & 26 CRAFT AND CHAT @ HALLS GAP NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE, 10AM-12NOON
 05, 12, 19 & 26 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 26 GRAMPIANS FILM SOCIETY DOORS OPEN 7PM @ CENTENARY HALL

THURSDAYS

06, 13, 20 & 27 FINSKA FUN @ 1.30PM HALLS GAP NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
 06, 13, 20 & 27 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 20 HALLS GAP BOOK CLUB @ 6PM, MEETING ROOM, CENTENARY HALL
 06 & 20 HALLS GAP & GRAMPIANS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL BETWEEN 2.30-4PM
 06, 13, 20 & 27 POMONAL MEN'S SHED PROJECT MORNINGS FROM 9.30AM

FRIDAYS

07, 14, 21, 28 TAI CHI/QI GONG @ 10AM HALLS GAP NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
 07, 14, 21, 28 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 14 & 28 GARIWERD GRAMPIANS BOTANIC GARDEN WORKING BEES 9AM-11AM

SATURDAYS

08, 15, 22, 29 PETANQUE IN THE PARK @ 1PM
 08, 15, 22, 29 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 15 AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY GRAMPIANS GROUP WORKING BEE FROM 12-2PM 2PM
 MARILYN SPRAGUE "NATIVE CUT FLOWERS"

SUNDAYS

02, 09, 16, 23 & 30 THE HISTORY ROOM, CENTENARY HALL FROM 2.00PM – 4:.30PM
 02 STAWELL SHOW MARKET @ LAIDLAW PARK STAWELL, 9AM-1PM
 09 HALLS GAP MARKET KINGS BIRTHDAY @ THE RECREATION RESERVE 9AM – 1PM
 30 POMONAL VILLAGE MARKET @ POMONAL COMMUNITY HALL 9AM-1PM



IF YOU HAVE A EVENT TO ADVERTISE
 EMAIL HALLSGAPCOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM

We thank all our volunteers in and around Halls Gap. As usual we have our working bees on 2nd & 4th Fridays 9am-11 am or any time on these days. NGSC held another play group session in the gardens. Grampians Bushwalking Club had a public walk starting and returning to our gardens. It's still a very dry Autumn but the gardens are looking good. The wall Mural should have approval next month with completion by year's end. If you cannot help in the gardens, perhaps consider a donation towards purchasing plants which would be very welcome. **Warren**



WAMA's Open Garden Day

WAMA opened their garden gates for Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand's (BGANZ) National Botanic Gardens Day celebration on Sunday May 26th. The event attracted an impressive crowd with lots of local faces.



Botanic Gardens Day aims to highlight the role of plants in our lives and the important work botanic gardens and arboreta undertake every day to conserve them for future generations.

Established in 2022 WAMA's Grampians (Gariwerd) Endemic Botanic Gardens is one Victoria's newly established gardens. Showcasing over 70 native species only found growing within the Grampians region. The plant collection displays many rare and endangered plants that are often located in remote areas that are

difficult to access. The garden gives visitors the opportunity to view the plants in the one captured location without having to trek far and wide through the national park.

This is the first time WAMA opened its gardens to the public and were impressed with the amount of people who came through the gate. Throughout the day, guided tours of gardens took place plus displayed information on the gardens, plants and the WAMA development where visitors could also see the construction of the impressive gallery building in full view.

We extend our gratitude to all those who attended, as well as the dedicated local volunteers and staff who contributed to the success of this event.

NATURE PLAY DAY

As part of the Botanic Gardens Day celebrations WAMA also ran a special Nature Play Day themed on native plants and gardening.



One of the highlights was the popular activity of planting cuttings and decorating pots. Other activities included face painting, a clay table, sand and water play, and the ever-enjoyable experience of toasting marshmallows on the campfire.

It was a wonderful opportunity for children to get out in nature, discover adventure and unleash their creativity. Keep a look out in the newsletter for the next Nature Play Day.



Improving Public Transport options for Halls Gap & Pomonal

I have been a Public Transport advocate for the Grampians region for over 20 years. My next initiative is to change the current route of the Stawell - Halls Gap bus to include Lake Fyans, Pomonal, WAMA and the Halls Gap Zoo and to extend the service from Lake Bellfield to Borough Huts campground or even Sheep Hills carpark at the base of Mt William. Below is the email sent to the Premier and Minister for Public Transport. **Tim Walsh**

"I would like to bring to your attention the Stawell to Halls Gap Bus service. This V Line service was instigated in 2018 by the then Minister for Transport the Honourable Jacinta Allan. This service emboldened and empowered our community and we are very grateful for the support of Jacinta Allan. The twice daily bus service from Stawell to Halls Gap and return to Stawell has made a remarkable improvement to the lives of residents and visitors alike.

After this service was announced in 2018 I realised that for little effort and little extra cost the service could run from Stawell to Halls Gap via the Stawell Race course, Lake Fyans and Pomonal. This would service the Stawell Racing Club, Lake Fyans Caravan Park (1000 residents during peak holiday periods), Pomonal with 2 restaurant / bars, a cafe/ general store and numerous accommodation venues and small businesses, Halls Gap Zoo and WAMA (Wildlife and Art Museum of Australia which is currently being built and will be a big tourist drawcard to the region).

The difference in distance between the current route and the proposed route is 6km which can easily fit into the current timetable and service potentially an extra 1500 residents and holiday makers along the route, not to mention visitors who may wish to visit daily to any of the above attractions.

In 2018 I was able to receive written support for this route from -

1. Eastern Grampians Tourism Association
2. Pomonal Progress Association
3. Ararat Rural City Council
4. Grampians Tourism (now Grampians Wimmera Mallee Tourism).
5. Community Association of Halls Gap
6. Halls Gap Residents and Ratepayers Association
7. Wimmera Mallee Tourism (now incorporated into GWMT).
8. Wimmera Development Association
9. Halls Gap Zoo
10. WAMA
11. Lake Fyans Holiday Park
12. Stawell Racing Club (In informal discussions with the SRC Secretary much support was given).

After the bushfire that burnt through Pomonal in February 2024 it is very important to give this community a regular daily bus service. It is well noted that 44 houses were destroyed plus many other buildings, gardens and valuable assets.

I am hoping that a V Line service would service the above communities and then be extended from Lake Bellfield to Borough Huts which is 10 km from Halls Gap or Sheep hills carpark which is at the base of Mt William and 12km from Halls Gap along Grampians Road. This would provide an excellent service for walkers and campers who wish to utilise the Grampians Peak Trail hiking track which is becoming very popular.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. I will await your reply.

Yours Faithfully,

Tim Walsh



Expressions of Interest Membership to Halls Gap Caravan Park and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Incorporated

Nominations are invited from interested and skilled members of the community wishing to be considered for membership to the **Halls Gap Caravan Park and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Incorporated**. This volunteer committee is responsible for the day-to-day management, care and development of the reserves under their control. A key task for the committee is to continue with the preparation of a master plan to guide the future use and development of the reserves to meet community aspirations and provide a basis for sustainable management. The term of appointment is three years to **2 July 2027**.

Specific interest or skills in one of the following areas would be highly regarded:

- Community connection and interest in seeking a position on the CoM
- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Governance
- Volunteer management
- Financial and business management
- Working on other committees/working in teams
- Strategic planning

All registrations of interest for the voluntary role will be considered.

Expressions of Interest are to be on the formal nomination form available from Danielle Fowler by emailing publicland.grampians@delwp.vic.gov.au or phoning 0439 029 909.

Women, First Nation people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are actively encouraged to apply to ensure that the committee's membership reflects the composition of the community it serves.

Expressions of Interest close 14 June 2024

Regards,

Danielle Fowler

Senior Program Officer | Land and Built Environment | Grampians | Regions, Environment, Climate Action and First Peoples

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Sending to you from Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Country

M: 0439 029 909 | **E:** danielle.fowler@delwp.vic.gov.au or publicland.grampians@delwp.vic.gov.au



Halls Gap Landcare June update

Halls Gap Landcare Group has been busy over the autumn months, making use of the fine weather to tackle a number of weed species within the valley. Our main activity, the Power Hour, has been strongly supported and is popular.

The Power Hour involves our members meeting for a short working bee focussed on one or two problem weed species in one location. We are flexible about when we meet, usually early morning in the warmer months and probably later as the days get shorter.

More participants would be very welcome. Please contact landcare@hallsgapcommunity.org.au if you would like to be involved. And we still have copies available of our weed brochure, *Six Ways You Can Help Halls Gap*, should you like information about which weeds are a problem for Halls Gap.

Our main focus is the protection of our remarkable environment and the surrounding national park and over the next year we want to look at other ways that we can enhance the habitat for our native wildlife. One project we are planning is the provision of nesting boxes in Halls Gap for birds and arboreal mammals that rely on nesting hollows.

Lately we have been seeing a few bird species in the valley that are not often sighted here. A family of White-winged Choughs are currently feeding between Tandara Road Brambuk. The antics of these comical, social birds are great to watch as they scruff and play with each other. Their nests, shaped like a large bowl and made of mud, can take the family months to build. The Australian National University has an excellent article on Choughs:

<https://science.anu.edu.au/news-events/news/chough-love-whats-behind-strange-antics-white-winged-chough>

Another special sighting by one of our members has been the Buff-banded Rail, a secretive bird that dashes for cover when disturbed. Its preferred habitat is in grasses and reeds not far from wetlands. Here is an insightful article from the Birds in Backyards organisation:

<https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Gallirallus-philippensis>

If you have any wildlife sightings that you would like to share, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Graham Parkes

landcare@hallsgapcommunity.org.au



You can pick up a copy of the weed brochure, *Six Ways You Can Help Halls Gap* from your Halls Gap Neighbourhood House on 0417 883 445 Tuesday-Friday 9am-3:15pm



Fallen Leaves
Wednesday 26th June 2024



Fallen Leaves is written and directed by Aki Kaurismäki. Two lonely souls in search of love meet by chance in a karaoke bar. However, their path to happiness is beset by obstacles.

Doors open 7pm
Film Screening 7.30pm

Centenary Hall, 117 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

Check The Grampians Film Society website on membership details and full program.
<https://grampians.filmsociety.org.au/>

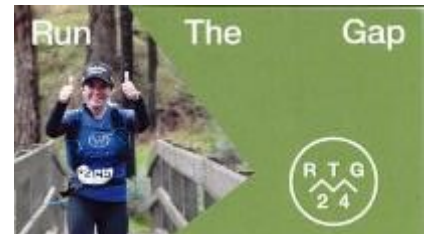
ARCAD-I-CON
POP CULTURE EVENT
THURSDAY JULY 11
10-3:30

STAWELL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

COSPLAY **LEVEL UP?** **VR GAMES**
FREE FOOD **PC GAMES**
SPRAY PAINTING **CONSOLE GAMES**
FREE MOVIE **BOARD GAMES**
4-6

CHICKEN RUN

THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY, SMOKING, VAPING, ALCOHOL AND DRUG-FREE EVENT.



Another successful RTG done and dusted. A great job by the organisers and fabulous volunteers.

Pomonal Progress Association would like to thank Run The Gap for their generous donation of \$20,000 to support our ongoing fire recovery activities.



Need transport to get to Acad-I-con event call Alison at HGNH



May has been a busy month. Not only have we run our usual program we have been busy planning and collaborating with local groups to run community events in the region.

Grampians Community Health (GCH) and Halls Gap Neighbourhood House (HGNH) was successful in getting a grant from the Ararat Rural City Council to obtain

compost for the fire affected residents of Pomonal. The first load arrived Monday 3rd June and will be distributed this week. Contact the Pomonal Recovery Hub to get your name down to receive some wonderful compost from Camperdown compost. The compost has been donated by Camperdown Compost with the grant money to cover transport costs. We are planning two more deliveries in July and August. Thanks to Ant and Michael for volunteering to deliver the compost to the homes of Pomonal residents.



HGNH will be working with the Snappy Gappians who have received a grant from Northern Grampians Shire Council to run community events in Halls Gap.

Advance notice of activities during the winter school holidays. A family film night on the 3rd July in Halls Gap (as Snappy event) and the ever popular Arcad-i-con (See page 9 for more details) to be held in Stawell on Thursday 11th July 2024. If you would like your children to attend but need transport contact HGNH as we are at options to assist with transporting as many Halls Gap and Pomonal kids to these events.



Something for the crafty among us. Stawell Neighbourhood House and Halls Gap Neighbourhood house will be taking a trip to the Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show on Saturday 20th July 2024. If you are interested please register with Alison 0417 883 445

THE ANNUAL
Australian
SHEEP & WOOL
SHOW

What's on in June at your Neighbourhood House

We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3.15pm

- **Tuesdays** 1.30-2pm Gentle Exercise
- **Tuesdays** 2pm to 3pm Coffee Catch up
- **Wednesdays** 10am-12noon Craft & Chat Come along and share your skills or learn a new one.
- **Thursday 20th** 6pm Halls Gap Book Club
- **Thursdays** 1.30-3pm Indoor Bowls
- **Fridays** 10am-10.30am Qi Gong
- **Fridays** 10.30am-11.30am Coffee Catch up

Tuesday to Friday 9am-3.15pm

- Computer access
- Printing
- Internet access
- Come in for a cuppa and yarn

T17-T19 Grampians Rd., HALLS GAP VIC 3381
m: 0417 883 445
e: info@hallsgapnh.org.au





Please book by phoning
0417 883 445
during opening hours or email
info@hallsgapnh.org.au

We've hosted
~~We're hosting a~~
Biggest Morning Tea
Please support us!



We had a great time with fun tea-rivia, eating lots of yumming goodies and catching up with new and old friends. We raised over \$200 on the day.



The inaugural winners of our baking competitions included:

Renata, Sarah and Di

Thanks to our judges Neil & John (Who took their job very seriously!)

If you missed our Biggest Morning Tea and would like to donate, it is not too late. Just check out the website

<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/hallsgapneighbourhoodhouse>



Lots of prizes to win



Neil meeting our youngest member of HGNH—Isla



Catching up with friends

Thanks to Lee-Anne and all the volunteers on the day who helped set up and pack up. Thanks to the Halls Gap Caravan Park and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management for the use of the Recreation Reserve Pavilion and to Alison Irvine for donating so many amazing prizes. Lee-Anne & I will be doing it all again in 2025 so start practicing your baking skills and join us for a great day out. If you would like to be one of our baking competition judges in 2025 please submit your resume outlining your qualifications to info@hallsgapnh.org.au. **Alison**



Halls Gap Primary School

Resilience  Excellence  Compassion



Students are abuzz with activities as we make it past the halfway mark of Term 2. They have participated in a multitude of special events including Scholastic Book Fair, National Simultaneous Storytime, 5/6 Discovery Day at Horsham College and Winter Sports at North Park (grade 4-6 students). Congratulations to the students who attended, joining Great Western and Concongella Primary schools to make a mixed, and an all boy soccer team. Competing extremely well against other schools from our region, the boys team came runner up to St Mary's of Ararat.



In class, students and teachers are busily completing assessment and reporting, whilst delighting in the Autumn sunshine as we prepare for Jump Rope for Heart. A huge thank you to our wonderful Halls Gap PS families who assisted in our Working Bee. It is truly amazing how much can be achieved in two and half hours. Mulch was spread, trees were cut down, drains cleared, bricks and paths cleaned, garden edging created and rocks moved, and shelves and paper towel dispensers were installed. With a sausage sizzle to end the mornings work, there was a definite feeling of achievement. Thanks to everyone who came along and pitched in.



Seeking Success Stories from Former Halls Gap P.S Students

From the 29th of July to the 2nd of August, the Department of Education will be showcasing and celebrating excellence in the South Western Victoria Region government schools to highlight the amazing work of our students, teachers and leaders. We want people across the state to hear about the achievements and positive stories of our students, schools and system.



We would like to welcome back success stories/stories of excellence' - former students to share their post education journey/achievements. The goal with this event is to showcase and celebrate the positive impact of attending government schools, and to share these stories with communities in newsletters and social media sites throughout the week.

It would be great to highlight some of the awesome Halls Gap PS kids across the region!

PREP ENROLMENTS 2025

We invite all parents of prospective Prep students to contact us for an individual school tour or to discuss your child's educational journey.

Halls Gap Primary School is a unique educational setting for children to learn and grow. With small class sizes and close working relationships with families, the staff at Halls Gap focus on individual student needs.



5356 4235 / 0409 4370 555



halls.gap.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Activities Update

31st May 2024

The month of May has been yet another busy month for our shed with us continuing the task of collecting tools and equipment for bushfire victims and sorting them out as we pass them on to folk. We have now started a tool library for local residents to be able to borrow tools for use in the cleaning up and rebuilding process, consisting of wheel barrows, rakes, shovels, saws, chainsaws and other items coming in all the time. We been spending a lot of time getting the shed organised now as we have our new storage shed to set up and this has given us plenty of various build jobs. We have seen our membership numbers increasing as both men and women are joining to take part in all the activities of the shed. The atmosphere of the shed in general is running very well high with level of comradery being enjoyed throughout the various activities.

Monday's from 9-30am we meet for our weekly social session where we usually solve a variety of the worlds problems over a hot cuppa and snack. Every Monday morning, we are running a woodwork session with students from Pomonal Primary school, which is a great time for the students and our members alike.

Thursday's from 9-30am we have had busy Project sessions with lots of different projects on the go in the workshop. We are slowly producing some items for sale at the monthly markets. We also have a BBQ lunch at least one of these sessions per month.

Wednesday's from 1pm in the meeting room we have had our Patchwork session with our female members doing a variety of patchwork and sewing projects enjoying some time together over a hot cuppa and good humour.

The all inclusive sessions to include our female members every 2nd Tuesday evening form 7pm – 9pm are running very well with good attendances and an influx of new members. We have also seen members making extra time for more nightly sessions as required with the shed being used a lot more.

We are pleased that the Mixed bunch Art Group are enjoying using our meeting room for their some of there sessions.

The last Sunday of each month we run our (now quite famous) sausage sizzle at the Pomonal market. This helps us raise some much-needed funds as well as being a great social time for all involved. It is also a great way of showing potential new members through the shed and explaining some of our various activities.

The shed is very welcoming to new members, or anyone interested, feel free to drop in and have a look at what we are up to or for any information contact **Russ Kellett on 0438 024 929.**

Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group

We had two working bees on the tracks scheduled for May but only one materialised as the bushwalking club that was to do the second could not muster the volunteers. This is symptomatic of more than one club as its members are getting older and fewer younger people are becoming involved – in the walking, never mind working for a day on tracks.

The one that did go ahead was quite successful in fixing a bad spot on the Boroka Track where walkers were habitually going astray when coming downhill. It needed some rock work to build up a few metres of track and this was expertly led by an ex member of the local PV staff who was with us for the first time. Thanks a lot Geoff!!

During our annual March working bee with Grampians Bushwalkers we discovered that the two picnic tables that we had built and installed at the Golton Gorge picnic area HAVE BEEN STOLEN!!

Parks staff have replaced one of them but this theft leaves a very bad taste in the mouth and is a real disincentive to all who work to make our National Park a great place to visit.

Next Spring we are looking to install, in conjunction with Parks staff, a set of expanded mesh panels over a seasonally wet area on the Stapylton Loop track, not far from the Stapylton campground. The Support Group will pay for all the materials. **David Witham**



Food relief in Ararat Rural City and Northern Grampians Shire

Times are tough, and with the ever-increasing cost of groceries, rent and mortgages; a lot of people are struggling to put food on the table, and pay the bills.

You are not alone, and there is help available.

Ararat Neighbourhood House

56 Campbell St, Ararat

Ararat Neighbourhood House provide food relief Tuesday – Friday each week.

Individuals are able to access ANH Food Hub by contacting Ararat Neighbourhood House on (03) 5352 1551.

All welcome!



Ararat Emergency Relief

Ararat Emergency Relief runs on a rotating roster by 5 Ararat church groups.

Food relief, vouchers, personal items, counselling and crisis accommodation are available between 1pm and 2pm,

All welcome!

Date	Church	Location	Phone No.
June 3rd – 7th	Life Links	86 High St, Ararat	5352 2435
June 10 th – 14th	St Vincent de Paul	264 Barkly St, Ararat	5352 5560
June 17 th – 21st	Uniting Church	Cnr King and Barkly St, Ararat	5352 5580
June 24 th – 28th	Anglican Church	49 High St, Ararat	0407 857 378
July 1 st – 5th	Salvation Army	Shop Corner Vincent and High St, Ararat	5352 2720

Stawell Neighbourhood House
42 Sloane St, Stawell Ph. 5358 3500

Food Connect is open Monday to Friday 10:00am – 3:00pm.
Please bring a bag.

All welcome



The Cottage
20 Sloane St, Stawell Ph. 0408 038 949

The Cottage provides food relief, vouchers, and groceries. If you need support please drop in on Mondays, Wednesdays or Friday's 10:30am – 12:30pm.

Donations welcome – please contact The Cottage to find out what's needed most.

All welcome



St. Arnaud Community Resource Centre
85 Napier St, St Arnaud. Ph. (03) 5495 1997

St. Arnaud Food Share is available Monday to Friday 9:00am – 2:00pm. Health care card/pension required. Access available twice per month.

Please bring a bag.



If you are in Halls Gap, Pomonal or surrounds and need help accessing these services please contact Alison at the Halls Gap Neighbourhood House on 0417 883 445

Tuesday-Friday 9am-3:15pm



There are more ways to contact police with the new Police Assistance Line and Online Reporting platform.



You can report non-urgent crimes and events anytime, anywhere



Report stolen vehicles, property from your car or other items. Report personal property lost in Victoria. Report damage to your property, including graffiti. Register your party. Inform police when you are away from your home.

Call 131 444 or visit police.vic.gov.au



Halls Gap is a Cat Free Zone

Are You Stuck in the Bush?

Call Glenn on 0419 802 846

Or 0424 619 355...Leave a message if no answer.

Take a photo of this flyer.



On-Board Recovery Equipment

- Winches – Front and Rear
- Snatch Straps
- Winch Extension Straps
- Snatch Blocks
- Shovel
- Air Compressor
- UHF Radio Ch 20
- Fridge
- Hi-Lift Jack
- Tree Trunk Protectors
- Bow Shackles
- Soft Shackles
- Rated Recovery Points
- Chainsaw
- GPS Assistance
- Local Knowledge



Spend some time in the Halls Gap Community Garden. You will find it at the Halls Gap Recreation oval, next door to Tim’s Apartments. There is always something yummy to find and always plenty of weeding. Check out what our chickens are up to.

REVEL IN THE GAP

MARKETS, FOOD, MUSIC

Join us for artisan stallholders who make, grow or create, delicious food vans and live music on special Daylight Savings Saturday nights for a festive night out!

5pm - 8pm 27 January	5pm - 8pm 9 March	4pm - 7pm 30 March
4pm - 7pm 13 April	4pm - 7pm 5 October	4pm - 7pm 2 November
	5pm - 8pm 7 December	

f @REVELINTHEGAP ✉ HGTWILIGHTMARKET@GMAIL.COM
CNR HEATH ST AND GRAMPAINS RD, HALLS GAP VIC 3381



Pomonal Village Market
2024 Market Calendar

28th January
 25th February
 No Market in March
 28th April
 26th May
 30th June
 28th July
 25th August
 21st & 22nd Sept
 29th September
 27th October
 24th November
 29th December

Last Sunday every month
 9am - 1pm
 Pomonal Community Hall
 Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

Local Markets

Stawell Market
 1st Sunday of the Month
 Stawell Harness Race
 Track
 78 Patrick Street Stawell
 3380



Halls Gap Market dates



Sunday 10th March
 Sunday 31st March
 Sunday 9th June
 Sunday 3rd Nov

Mark the dates in your calendar. **The only market which supports the small school of Halls Gap and it vital to their fundraising.** Over 70 stalls - Local Products - Local Produce - Food & drinks - Crafts & Giftwares - Homewares & clothing - Music & more

www.hallsgapmarkets.com.au



FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

David, Pam, Margo and Alison

Please email your articles and photos to us
by the 25th of each month to:

hallsgapcommunity@gmail.com

Upload your community events details to
the Community Association webpage:

www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au

Like our **Halls Gap Community Association**
Facebook Page and/or **Halls Gap Community**
Watch and Events Facebook Pages.



To keep up to date with what is happening in
Pomonal like **Pomonal Community Connections**
Facebook page and/or **Pomonal info &**
resources sharing Facebook Pages



Stay straight and brake

Never swerve to avoid wildlife on the road. You risk rolling your vehicle, hitting a tree or colliding with oncoming traffic

- 1 Slow down at dusk and dawn
- 2 Kangaroos travel in mobs (groups), there usually will be more than one in the area
- 3 If a collision is unavoidable **stay straight and brake**

In an emergency call 000



Fill The Gap newsletter acknowledges Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the first
Australians.

We acknowledge the diversity of Indigenous
Australia.

We respectfully recognise Elders past, present
and emerging.

This newsletter was produced on Djab Wurrung
country.



Wildlife Rescue

- [Wildwood Wildlife Shelter – Gariwerd](#)
- Close to Halls Gap call Ian on 0413 921 171
- Wildlife Victoria: **03 8400 7300**
- Help for Wildlife: 5356 4749
- WRIN: 0419 356 433
- BADGAR: 1300 223 427

Regular Events

- * **Chas Mangle** Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the Halls Gap Newsagency from 8am - 10am daily except Tuesday Ph. 0439 837 052
- * **Peter Hilbig** is also a Justice of the Peace and can undertake JP responsibilities by appointment. Email peter@hilbig.id.au or telephone 0437 524 716.
- * **History Room** is open 2pm-4.30pm on **MOST** days. **CLOSED Tuesday**
- * **Halls Gap Neighbourhood House** - check the program at the house and online <https://hallsgapnhe.org.au/>
- * Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details—
www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au