

Issue: October 2020

FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

Articles for November FTG need to be received by the 25th of October 2020. See page 11 for details

In This Edition:

Stats by Chas	Page 1
HG Botanical Garden	Page 2
FOGG	
The Nook, Moyston	Pages 2-3
Wildlife talk with Neil	Page 4
Weeds	Page 5
Pomonal Men's shed	
Grampians Texture	Page 6
What I find here	
CFA	Page 7
HG Ratepayers Association	
BBNH	Page 8
BB Medical Centre	Page 9
Ads	Page 10-11

FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



petyan

season of wildflowers - late spring
(late august to mid november)

Wildlife and Wildflowers

In spring (season of wildflowers or petyan), the bush bursts into life. Nature's rock gardens amaze. The days are warmer, although the weather can still be tempestuous.

WRAP UP...

I thought we were in Spring!!!!



STATS BY CHAS...

September 2020 - Rainfall by Chas; 127.5mm for September bringing the progressive total to 781.5mm for 2020. This compares to the same period last year of 132mm for September with a progressive total of 658mm for 2019

As of the 30th of September Lake Bellfield is holding 52,100ML or 66% compared to the same period last year of 59,970ML or 76% full.

The total system is holding 200,240ML or 35.74% compared to the same period last year of 249,950ML or 44.61%

Mount William received 149.6mm for September 2020. The highest temperature of 17.8 C was recorded on the 18th of September and the lowest of -2.5 C was recorded on the 26th of September 2020

The highest wind speed of 107 km/h was recorded on the 8th of September 2020.

Clocks go forward this weekend, not sure how far forward but 4 months would be great.



Actually we do know 1 hour forward Sunday 4th October at 2am

DON'T FORGET
TO  SET
(LOCKS FORWARD!)



The garden is looking beautiful despite the weeds. Once again a big thank you to those of you who responded to my plea here and on facebook for help with the weeding. While the rain has been so good for the garden, the weeds have also loved it. So all help is appreciated. There's some information, a record sheet and some tools in the shade shelter. There's also a sample copy of the reprinted wildflower book for you to look at and use, but please don't take it home; and please supply your own gloves and keep a sensible distance from others.

At this stage there's still no news on our grant application.

Margo Sietsma



FOGG News

FOGGS (Friends of Grampians Gariwerd), like all volunteer organisations have had to put most activities on hold until

restrictions clear. However those restrictions are easing and so we can have activities if we keep them to less than 10 people. One of the first will be the provision of a seat at Fish Falls (downstream from McKenzie Falls). This seat was purchased with funds donated to FOGGS by Friends of Zumsteins when that group closed. Also, thanks to Hannah our hard working Community Engagement person at Parks, we are working on some volunteer help we can do online from home.

Margo Sietsma

THE NOOK



The Moyston Landcare group contracted Neil and Wendy Marriott of White Gums Australia, to undertake a Flora

Study of the Nook (northern side of Moyston west Road), Moyston Victoria.

The project was funded by the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (WCMA) under the Regional Communities Grants for 2017/18.

The Landcare group engaged Neil Macumber, noted birdwatcher and naturalist, (and APS member) to conduct a Bird Survey to gain a more comprehensive environmental snapshot of The Nook.

The Nook is an isolated reserve of crown land in the Mt William Creek catchment. With minimal gradient, little more than 20mtrs, it is a remnant displaying rich floral diversity, although surrounded by largely cleared farmland. It is famous for its orchids and important for its areas of native grassy woodland and heathy woodland, with an abundance of once common species and several more unusual species recorded for the site.

As the first edition of the book sold out quickly, Moyston Landcare have reprinted the publication and are making it available for \$22.00 at the Moyston General store.

Margo Sietsma



Neil Marriott with a copy of The Nook

THE NOOK RESERVE – 25TH SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP (BY FIONA LUCAS)

Pic 1 ?? not referenced. Maybe a weed



Pic 2 *Glossodia major*, Wax-lip Orchid ?



Pic 3 / *Cyanicula caerulea* – Blue Fairy



Spotted around the track

Pic 4 / *Diuris pardina*, leopard Orchid ?



Only saw the one on east side

Pic 5 / *Goodenia geniculate*, Bent Goodenia ?



Pic 7 / *Chamaescilla corymbosa*, Blue Squill



Around the track.

Pic 6 / *Leptospermum* Heath tree



On west side

WILDLIFE TALK WITH NEIL - YELLOW-TAILED BLACK-COCKATOO

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo [*Calyptrorhynchus funereus* ssp. *xanthanotis*]

Size: - 60-69cm

Description: - This is a large black cockatoo with a slight crest and a yellow 'ear' patch, it also has yellow in the tail with vermiculations [little dark streaks at about 45° to vertical that resemble worm trails] The male has pink bare skin around the eye and a black bill. The female has dark grey skin around the eye, whitish bill, a brighter and slightly larger yellow 'ear' patch and slightly darker vermiculations in the tail.

Voice: - Their voice is a long, sad wailing 'whee la' call that is frequently given in flight and often heard before the birds are seen.

Flight: - These magnificent cockatoos have a distinctive pattern and silhouette in flight that is buoyant and majestic with slow, leisurely wingbeats. When flying they appear slender with an elongated appearance.

Food: - Eats seeds of Eucalyptus trees, also those of Grevilleas, Hakeas and Banksias [Proteaceae] and exotic pinecones of *Pinus radiata*. They also extract wood-boring larvae of beetles and cossid moths by gouging deep holes in trees to a depth of many centimetres with their powerful bill.

Nesting: - The nest is usually built high in a Eucalyptus tree hollow, where 1 -2 eggs are laid.

These beautiful birds have only returned to the Grampians region in the last weeks after spending the Autumn-Winter months away from the area. They can be either resident or wandering nomad and occur from the Eyre Peninsula SA, Tasmania, through most of Victoria up through NSW to about Rockhampton QLD. Look for them feeding in large congregations on the ground in paddocks of the surrounding area.

Male Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo



Female Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo



It is very important to preserve our large trees with hollows in them for these Cockatoos and other wildlife for nesting and roosting.

Neil Macumber

Have you seen the South African Weed Orchid, *Disa bracteata* on your property?

Now is the time to act to remove this invasive pest!



Disa bracteata or the South African Weed Orchid like all terrestrial orchids has a bulb that lies dormant under the ground for much of the year. The plant produces secondary or daughter bulbs each year as a means of reproduction, so in order to get rid of

the plant you have to remove the parent bulb and the daughter bulb.

This means the best way of getting rid of it **is to dig it up**, the bulb will only be about 5 cm below the surface. It also produces up to a million seeds in each flower head which **will ripen around mid-November** so any control works have to be completed by then.



Plants should be incinerated or sealed in a black plastic garbage bag and left in the sun to cook otherwise because of the energy stored in the bulb they can continue to ripen if left on the ground. If you don't have the capacity to dig up all of the plants then at least mow off the flower heads by about mid-October so that the seed cannot ripen.

Pomonal Men's Shed

Pomonal Men's Shed are hoping to begin our outdoor activities again in October with our first activity on October 1st to be planning for the 'monster' raffle. Many local companies have kindly donated goods or services to the men's shed for raffle prizes with the raffle scheduled to run for about 2 months with the draw just prior to Christmas. Prizes will make great Christmas presents for anyone who has everything!

Construction of our new shed has unfortunately been delayed once again, this time due to the impact of COVID restrictions on our Melbourne supplier. Delivery of our shed is due late October and we are hoping to commence earthworks before the end of November.

One of our main projects in 2020 has been fabrication of 25 nest boxes for a property adjacent to Little Desert National Park. It is pleasing to say that we have now completed the delivery of these boxes and are looking forward to hearing that they have begun to be occupied. Hopefully we can bring you some pictures in the coming months.

Our fundraising efforts to cover the cost of the shed have been given a boost with our application to Ararat Community Enterprise being approved. While we are still awaiting the result of other grant applications we would like to thank ACE for their generous sponsorship of the Pomonal Men's Shed.



As always we are happy to accept new members or talk to anyone wanting more information. Please call Peter on 0447 466 435 or email to pomonalmensshed@gmail.com to have a chat. We normally get together at 10am every Thursday at the rear of the Pomonal Hall and you are welcome to simply turn up on the day.

Peter Shelley





Our dates for 2021 are: Grampians Textures 13th – 18th March and Grampians Brushes 11th – 16th September

We are looking for several more classroom in Halls Gap for us to run our workshops from. We are looking for large rooms, these might be large lounge/living room rooms in a holiday house, a play room or recreation room. We will need to have exclusive use of the space for the duration of the workshop ie students need to be able to safely leave their workshop space set up overnight. Use of a toilet and somewhere to make tea and coffee. We take great care of the spaces we use and make sure that we don't have anything that might be messy in private house etc. We run lots of different workshop such as embroidery, knitting, weaving, illustration, botanical drawing that are very tidy sort of workshops.

If you think that you might be able to assist and would like more information please contact 0428825971 / textures@grampianarts.com.au

Marion Matthews, Coordinator



What I Find Here - School Holiday and Lockdown Creative workshop for primary aged kids

<https://flaginc.space/workshops>

Flag Inc. is a not-for-profit, artist-driven Melbourne based collective making connections between humans through community projects, creative workshops and performances.

Our work aims to reach the following social and education goals:

- * Increase accessibility and active participation in the arts
- * Create positive social, environmental and learning outcomes
- * Engage, empower and inspire people of all ages
- * Forge community connections

For this school holidays we're offering a FREE creative workshop for primary school kids: There are 10 creative tasks which can be split up over the holidays or done all in one day! They invite kids to find ways to be creative around the house and in their neighbourhood. No additional materials required. Young people



can use these tasks as a creative springboard and meet them at their own level. They can be simplified for lower primary or extended for upper primary. Young people can email through images of their creative responses to flag.it@live.com.au with their first name and age to be posted on our socials. This workshop has been created for Flag Inc. by artist and educator Amelia Ducker.

HALLS GAP CFA



We are hoping for action to clear fuel loads along Grampians Road from the Fyans Creek Road intersection through to Bellfield, in preparation for the coming fire season. Some areas have been slashed and cleaned up, but lots of debris and unmanaged growth remain along and beside the road reserve. Discussions are in progress with VicRoads, DELWP, Parks Vic, Northern Grampians Shire and the CFA to identify which groups or agencies should be taking action to ensure the corridor is maintained as a "priority access and egress road" and "strategic firebreak" as identified in the Northern Grampians Shire Municipal Fire Management Plan. CFA is also working with DELWP and the Halls Gap Golf Club to undertake a controlled burn along the golf course boundary.

The Municipal Fire Management Plan also requires landholders to manage fire risk on their properties, so everyone should be working to reduce the accumulation of grass, leaves, sticks and wood by clearing, slashing, removing or burning. The Northern Grampians Shire will waive burn permit fees for the period 3 to 18 October for those in the township and residential areas, but residents must still obtain a permit. Apply now to allow time for the required site inspection. And remember, whether you need a permit or not, you must register every burn with ESTA (Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority) by calling 1800 668 511. Registration with ESTA enables the operators to distinguish between planned burns and unexpected fires so they can avoid unnecessary fire brigade call outs.

Peter Hilbig
Captain, Halls Gap Fire Brigade

Please **email** your FTG articles and photos to us by the **25th of each month** to:
neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

HALLS GAP RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Nothing much at this end as the Community Association will not be meeting until December.

There has been community concerns (received by me) about the lack of seating and shelter at the new bus stops in Halls Gap. I have taken these concerns to Sandlants who are aware of the issue and are currently trying to expand the bus service and the matter of seating and shelter. – work in progress. Having said that, the work being done by Sandlants (Graeme Sandlant) and Tim Walsh to improve the regularity of the bus service and in achieving the service we have, has been great and well appreciated by all.

Paul Turner
President HGRR

FREE GREEN WASTE TRIAL

Free green waste disposal is on offer for Northern Grampians Shire residents for waste from residential properties. Proof of shire residency will be required prior to entry to transfer station.

Green waste contaminated with other material will not be accepted.

Normal green waste fees still apply for businesses.

Call 03 5358 8700
 for more
 information



It is a very slow opening for the House however we were able to run a School Holiday Program at the Halls Gap Botanical Gardens. We had fun making God's eyes and spoons for our Budja Budja's Spoonville.

Tai Chi has recommenced on Thursday's outside from 10am-11am if the numbers increase we will then offer Tai Chi on two mornings ie Tuesday and Thursday.

Bookclub has continue even though we are unable to gather BBNH has still been able to provide the books and the group are emailing/phoning each other.

With the slight easing to restrictions we are open from 9am-3.15pm Tuesday to Friday. Group activities can only be done outside at the moment. If you need assistance please ring in advance to make a time.



20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381 PH: 03 53564751

www.budjabudjacoop.org.au



October 2020	November 2020	December 2020
<p><u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1st, 2nd 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th</p> <p><u>Dr Susan Watson</u> 14th, 15th, 16th 19th, 20th, 21st</p> <p><u>Nurse Clinic</u> Monday 5th</p>	<p><u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 4th, 5th, 6th 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th</p> <p><u>Nurse Clinic</u> Monday 2nd Monday 30th</p> <p><u>Public Holiday</u> Tuesday 3rd closed</p>	<p><u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th</p> <p><u>Dr Susan Watson</u> 9th, 10th, 11th 14th, 15th, 16th</p>



Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia.

Its incidence is increasing – with **1 in 7 Australian women** and **1 in 675 Australian men** expected to be diagnosed in their lifetime.

This is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease.

Join in the cause to help women in need, donate today.

www.nationalbreastcancer.org

BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC STILL HAS RESTRICTIONS AT THE MOMENT ON PATIENTS REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS:

if you have recently been overseas, been to, or had contact with a person from a recognised Hot spot or a known case of COVID -19. Experiencing any cold , fever or respiratory infection symptoms even if mild. Please phone reception to be triaged by our nurse and a Telehealth appointment may still be able to be made.

HALLS GAP MARKET



The **Halls Gap Market** was established in 1997 and is proudly brought to you by the Halls Gap Primary School. Located at the base of the Wonderland Range (Grampians) in the magical Halls Gap Primary School grounds, this truly unique market is a must.

The **Halls Gap Market** is an outdoor market and boasts a range of high quality stalls offering arts, crafts, fresh produce, plants, fine food, coffee and more. School parents serve hot and cold refreshments along with a barbecue featuring delicious egg and bacon rolls. All proceeds go to the Halls Gap Primary School. Check the website for information on becoming a stall holder: - <http://www.hgps.vic.edu.au/craft.html>

The Market Dates for 2020 are:

Melbourne Cup Weekend – 1st November - **TBC**

POMONAL VILLAGE MARKET

Pomonal Village Market

on the last Sunday or every month from 9am—1pm at the Pomonal Community Hall. Run by volunteers of the Pomonal Progress Association to raise money for the community of Pomonal. Site enquiries: call the Market Coordinator on 0417 883 445.



Market Dates for 2020

The committee is working with ARCC to recommence our market as soon as possible.

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

PRUNING



Roses, fruit trees etc

Hourly rates

Removal extra

30 years experience

D Elgood

5356 4353



Halls Gap is a
Cat Free Zone



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



VICTORIA POLICE

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



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

FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Abbie, Margo and Alison

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

neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

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



A face covering means a face mask that covers the nose and mouth. Face shields on their own do not meet these requirements. There will be a two-week grace period in enforcement from 28 September 2020.



Regular Events

- * **Chas Mangle** Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the Halls Gap Newsagency from 7am - 10am daily except Tuesdays 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.
- * Due to the Current coronavirus situation the History Room will be closed until further notice. Check out Chas's postings on Facebook
- * Budja Budja Neighbourhood House - check the program at the house and online
- * Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details