

Issue: September 2019

# FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association  
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

## WRAP UP...

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It must be spring with the longer hours and more blue skies. This is a bumper edition with lots of wonderful activities and events to celebrate where we live, work and play.

Grampians Wildflower Show is in need of some more volunteers. If you have any time to help set up or work on the weekend please give Margo a call. Details on page 2.

Happy reading....

## STATS BY CHAS...

August 2019 - Rainfall by Chas; 132mm for August bringing the progressive total for 2019 to 658mm. This compares to the same period last year of 184mm for August with a progressive total for 2018 of 696mm.

As of the 28th of August Lake Bellfield is holding 59,110ML or 75% full compared to the same period last year of 67,590ML or 86% full. The total system is holding 249,920ML or 43.35% full compared to

the same period last year of 293,800ML or 52.44% full.

Mount William received 124.8mm for August. The highest temperature of 9.6C was recorded on the 15th of August and the lowest of -2.6C was recorded on the 19th of August. The highest wind speed of 115 km/h was recorded on the 22nd of August.

## 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.

ST 19.3.99

 <b>TOM PARKES</b> 14yrs 60kg 179cm	 ● <b>Luke Schuyler</b> Rising star who is enjoying the challenge of A Grade. Could be a match	 ● <b>Conrad Harding</b> Experienced finals player who is playing top tennis.
 ● <b>Sarah McDonald</b> Youngster from Halls Gap with great shots. Forms a strong ladies combination that is hard to beat.	 ● <b>Jan McKenna</b> Newcomer to the club with solid shots. Strong on the net and combines well in the mixed.	 ● <b>Rosie Young</b> First year at club. Great enthusiasm and chases down everything. Would love to win this final.
 <b>LUKE DORELAT</b> 16yrs 79kg 180cm ST 4.9.98	 ● <b>Terry Elgood</b> Progressed enormously this year. In great form with great volleys and solid ground strokes.	 <b>SAM PARKES</b> 16yrs 70kg 186cm

Step back in time...

Sporting Stars of the 90's - From the History Room.



## WILDFLOWER SHOW SEPTEMBER 28,29.

The oldest activity in Halls Gap! This will be our 81st show. Please note that we have again brought the show a week forward from the first weekend in October to the last weekend in September, which is where it used to be.

These days a science research permit is needed for us to collect the flowers and it has just been renewed. This is your chance to learn about our local native plants and see their beauty and breathe in the lovely scents. There will be displays of labelled cut flowers and reference material etc in the hub building. Use our computer databases and books. Guided walks in our Grampians Flora Botanic Garden.

But that's not all. We are hosting a photography exhibition by Stawell Camera Club with talks by photographers such as John Tiddy, you can chat to our resident renowned textile artist Lynne Stone as she creates her exquisite 3-dimensional native flowers, have a go at dyeing with native vegetation with Rae Talbot or Marion Matthews. Posters with times of talks and walks will go up the week before the show and will be sent to accommodation providers. Detailed notes for self-guided walks and drives will be for sale.

Profits from the show go to our Botanic Garden.

**We would love to have help, either during the event, or when we are setting up on Thursday and Friday. Contact Margo on 0429 201 139**

## POMONAL NATIVE FLOWER SHOW

**Dates: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9am to 5pm**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 9am to 4pm**

**Entry Adults: \$5 Children : Free**

Grampians Wildflower Show Halls Gap

## Grampians Wildflower Show in Halls Gap

**Saturday 28th September 9.30 - 5.00**  
**Sunday 29th September 9.30 - 4.00**

**Wildflower display and tours**  
 leaving from  
**Halls Gap Hall**  
**Entry \$2.00**

**Guided walks in the Botanic Gardens**

**Self guided walks & drives available**

**Wildflower Tag a long tours**

This event has been supported by Wimmera CMA  
 through funding from the Victorian Landcare Program

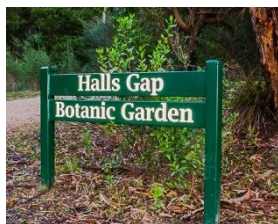


## BOTANIC GARDEN

The rain has been very good for our plants after that very dry autumn when we lost some. But it has delayed our repairs to the drip watering system and the weeds of course have loved it too!

Joy R has raised half what we need for a sturdy mulcher and has applied for a grant for the rest. Fingers crossed.

Many of our hard working volunteers have been away and while we are grateful for the rain, it does make weeding most unpleasant, so we hope for opportunity to get the garden looking good for the Wildflower Show guided walks there. We have a **working bee planned for Wednesday September 11** and would love some extra hands. We will probably have more each week leading up to the Wildflower Show on the last weekend of September.



Grampians Brushes offers quality art courses set in Halls Gap in the heart of the Grampians National Park, (Western Victoria).

Get renewed inspiration from the beauty and tranquillity of this Australian bush environment to practice and develop drawing and painting skills under the instruction of professional artists in various medium and techniques, from traditional to modern. It is a learning vacation and a great way to experience extending your creativity.

Learn and explore in a fun, comfortable and inspirational setting with renowned instructors. Workshops are designed to offer instruction in a variety of genre and medium, studio and plein air, with various needs in mind for every level of artist. The focus is on providing workshop participants with the finest, widely known instructors designed to enhance participant experiences and satisfaction. Being in intimate contact with a vibrant artistic community for two, four or six creativity-filled days this is a chance to inspire and nurture your artistic self. The Workshops offered at Grampians Brushes are Weekend (2 day) and Monday –Thursday (4 day) and are all located in Halls Gap.

Grampians Brushes is the destination for turning inspiration into fine art, and students into artists. Fostering the talents and skills of each student - from novice to experienced, the artists express their love for teaching and encourage each student to discover their unique artistic voice.

Lunch and morning tea are provided at all workshops. Upon enrolment a class requirements list will be forwarded to participants, most workshops will have a small materials charge to cover consumables provided by the tutor. Class run 9 am - 4 pm each day.

A range of after class activities are conducted for participants, family and friends to enjoy. Special exhibitions and several dinners are all opportunities to make and renew friendships with art enthusiasts during the forum. The full program of evening activities will be forwarded to enrolled participants in late July.

At Halls Gap Community Hub Senior Art Supplies will set up shop, other traders will be Redrock books with an inspiring range of art books and Fibreworks with beautiful hand dyed yarns and fibres.

Grampians Brushes is a project of GrampianArts, a not for profit organization that strives to provide opportunities for artists to extend their skills and showcase their work. It is supported by Halls Gap Tourism and Northern Grampians Shire.

**Would you like to help? Grampians Brushes is supported by a small group of volunteers. If you are interested in assisting in any small way please contact us.**



## HALLS GAP POLICE

G'day everyone,

We're currently investigating a couple of recent incidents in town and are seeking your assistance with any information please.

Between the 16<sup>th</sup> of July and 13<sup>th</sup> of August, 2019 an unknown person has used a blue paint pen to mark graffiti on 3 bins near the playground in Halls Gap. The tag used on the bin appears to spell the word "TRIPZ". There have been 4 other incidents of graffiti with this tag being used in the Stawell area over the last month.



Overnight on the 13th of August, 2019 an unknown person has used a screwdriver or similar tool to force open the cashbox attached to 4 separate public BBQ's in the Halls Gap playground area. The person has stolen the coins from inside and caused a significant amount of damage to the doors and locking mechanisms on the front of the BBQ's.

If anyone has any information regarding these two incidents could you please contact Sgt Karen BAIN or Leading Senior Constable Kellie HARRIS at the Halls Gap Police station on ph. 53 56 4411.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2019 Victoria Police officially launched the Police Assistance Line and Online Reporting model (PAL/OLR) with our slogan "**When you need us, but not the sirens**". It's a 24hour/7 days a week assistance line (ph. 131 444) you can call to report specific **non-urgent crimes and events** to police. This initiative aims to strengthen our connections with communities and assist police officers to focus on urgent policing matters. **Please remember to always call 000 if you require urgent police assistance.** We have further information regarding PAL/OLR along with fridge magnets with the new ph.131 444 number on it at the Halls Gap Police Station. Please feel free to come in and get one and ask us any questions you may have regarding this.



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



Call 131 444 or visit [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)

## RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS

A reminder that our third meeting for the year will be held on **Wednesday September 4 in the Supper Room of the HG Hall at 7.30pm**. We welcome you to come along, whether you are a resident or a ratepayer or both! Our local councillor, Cr Jason Hosemans, is always in attendance and keeps us updated with the works being undertaken in HG.





## BIN STRAPS TO HELP REDUCE LITTER IN HALLS GAP

Published on NGSC website on 20-08-2019

Litter in Halls Gap caused by wildlife getting into bins that have been put out for collection will be reduced, after council made bin straps available to residents of the town.

Every household or business within Halls Gap that has a council owned bin will be welcome to two complementary bin straps, which will prevent wildlife in the area from accessing the contents of their waste and recycling bins.

The straps are now available from council's Stawell customer service desk.

The initiative comes after residents raised concerns over the increase of litter being spread from the bins into the environment, possibly due to an increase in waste creation and wildlife activity with the tourism boom that the area is currently experiencing.

The bin straps, produced by SafeWaste, are easy to install and clip onto the bin keeping the lid closed, even when the bin is knocked over.

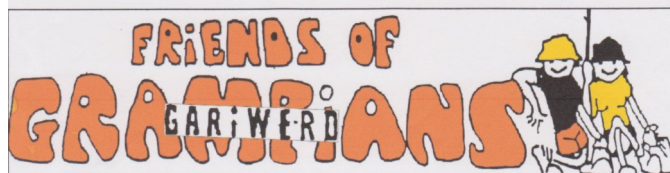
The straps also have an auto-release when being emptied, with the straps holding the bin lid closed until the tipper is in position over the truck's waste chute, preventing early opening and lost litter.

South West Ward Councillor, Cr Jason Hosemans said, "This is a positive step by council to help try and deal with the litter problems that have been caused by the wildlife in Halls Gap."

"It's worth mentioning that within this financial year we'll also have compactor bins coming to Halls Gap which will further prevent the spread of litter into the environment."

While distributing the bin straps, council is also welcoming community input and feedback about its current waste service as it forms its draft waste strategy.

For any enquiries regarding bin strap collection, please contact council on (03) 5358 8700.



### Walker Swamp

**When : Saturday 14th September 2019**

**Where : Meet at Dunkeld Tourist Information at 9.30am**

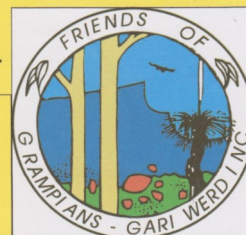
**Time : 9.30am to 3pm Bring own lunch and chair.**

**RSVP [secretary@friendsofgrampiansgariwerd.org.au](mailto:secretary@friendsofgrampiansgariwerd.org.au) or 0428399441**

**We meet Ecologist Greg Kerr from Nature Glenelg Trust for a guided walk around Walker Swamp to see this wetland restoration project.**

Walker Swamp, is part of the flood plain of the Wannon river and near the township of Dunkeld.

Nature  
Glenelg  
Trust



## WALKING AND DRAWING IN THE GRAMPIANS WITH MASON

Love to drawing the outdoors? What better inspiration than the Grampians.



**Join local artist Mason to explore and capture the beauty of the Grampians.**

**Only \$10 per session**

**Meet at Budja Budja Neighbourhood House  
1-3pm Every Tuesday from  
16 July to 17 September 2019**

20-22 Grampians Rd., HALLS GAP VIC 3381  
p: 03 53564751, option 2  
m: 0491 090 456  
[neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au)





## BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381

**PH: 03 53564751**

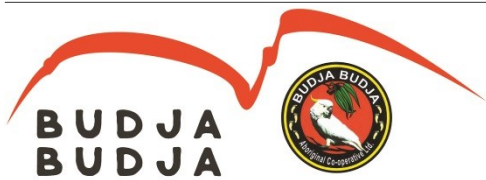
[www.budjabudjacoop.org.au](http://www.budjabudjacoop.org.au)

SEPTEMBER 2019	OCTOBER 2019
<p><u>Dr Carol Head</u></p> <p>3,4,5,6 10,11,12,13 17,18,19,20 24,25,26,27</p>	<p><u>Dr Carol Head</u></p> <p>1,2,3,4 8,9,10,11 15,16,17,18 22,23,24,25 29,30,31</p>



**Quit Smoking event:  
Take the Big Challenge:  
what are some of the  
Challenges to Quit  
smoking? How can we  
Beat them? Call Budja  
Budja Quit Nurses—  
take the challenge to  
Quit on 17th September  
2019 or call the  
Quit line today.**





# BUDJA BUDJA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

## YOGA WITH NICOLE

6.30PM - FOR ALL LEVELS

This class is perfect for those who are new to yoga or experienced students looking to refine their practice and technique. Discover the foundations of vinyasa flow in this alignment focused class. The class will be based around a theme, posture or set of postures – something different to explore each week.

When: Wednesday starting from 4 September 2019  
Time: 6:30 - 7:30pm  
Where: Budja Budja Neighbourhood House  
20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap  
Cost: \$10 per session  
NOTE: Mats, Straps & Blocks provided



20-22 Grampians Rd., HALLS GAP VIC 3381  
p: 03 53564751, option 2  
m: 0491 090 456  
neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au



August at the BBNH was a busy one.

Highlights include the RUOK Community Lunch with members of the community coming together, the yarn group has been a firm favourite this winter and the after school knitting club learning lots of new skills, some of their work will be on display soon.

Lee-Anne & Alison have attended regional meetings that help us to meet up with other Coordinators and see what is happening at other houses. Always a great inspiration.

For all those who have been missing their yoga Nicole is back with a new time. Starting from Wednesday 4th September from 6.30-7.30pm.

We are getting ready for the Spring School Holidays (program out 6/9/19) which will include a recycling theme. We are very fortunate to have Nicola Clarke, upcycling artist from Horsham who will run workshops to make some of her amazing sculptures for the Grampians Wildflower Show. BBNH will be supporting this activity so we want as many as possible to attend the workshops, see below for dates. If you can't make it to the workshops come along to the Grampians Wildflower show on 28th & 29th September we will be finishing off our sculptures during the show.

We will also have Paul Lehmann from Grampians Central West Waste & Resource Recovery Group on Tuesday 24th September from 12-30-3pm.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BBNH IN SEPTEMBER

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY  
PROGRAM OUT 6/9/19

### Monday

2nd, 9th & 16th Getting to know your iPad 1-3pm  
23rd Grampians Wildflower Workshop 5-18yrs with Nicola Clarke, Wimmera's upcycling artist

### Tuesday

3rd, 10th & 17th Walking & Drawing in the Grampians 1-3pm  
3rd, 10th & 17th Dancing in the Dark 7pm-8pm  
10th Up-cycling Sewing 10-12noon  
24th Wastewise 12.30-3pm

### Thursday

5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th Tai Chi 10-11am  
5th, 12th & 19th Yarn Group 1.30-3.30pm  
5th, 12th & 19th After School Knitting Club (10-18yrs) 3.30-5pm  
19th Book Club 7.30-9pm

### Wednesday

4th Nuno Felted Scarf Workshop 9.30-1.30pm  
4th, 11th & 18th Card Club 12.30-2.30pm  
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th Yoga for all 6.30-7.30pm

### Friday

13th Grampians Wildflower workshop Adults  
6th, 13th & 20th Gentle Walking  
6th & 20th Pomonal & Halls Gap Playgroup

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neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au





HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Halls Gap Primary School - August

The Grade 4/5/6 classes went on camp to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. Students went to the old blacksmith place with Nick and made nails. We made rope with Paul and churned butter with Pam.

In the bakery we made lamingtons with Regan, and they tasted delicious. Students also experienced pioneer school and wrote the alphabet using old fancy pens. The teacher said if you were left handed you would get the cane on your left hand so much that you couldn't write with it. We enjoyed old horse and cart rides. A highlight was the 'The Heartbeat of the Murray' laser



show and it looked amazing.

We visited Lake Boga with cake and fruit, a boy came riding along and tried to eat some of their cake. When he tried to grab a second piece, they told him to head off. We travelled along the Murray River on a paddle-steamer.

Recently, we also had the Adelaide Crows Football Club come to our school with their 'Growing with Gratitude' program. We learnt about being resilient and appreciating what we have in our lives.

By Scarlett Ralph and Brady McMahon



## GRAMPIANS FILM SOCIETY

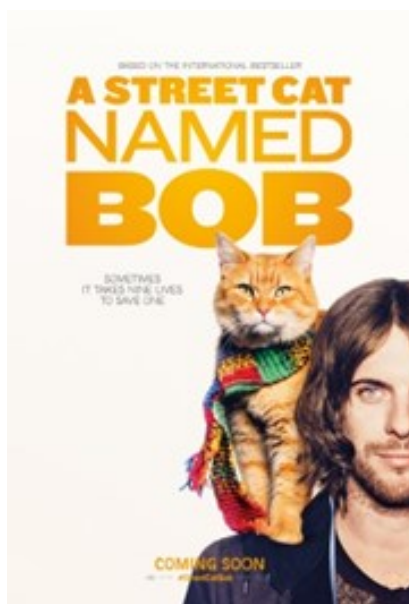


The Grampians Film Society evenings are held from January to November. The doors open at

7pm and screenings commence at 7.30pm. Drinks and nibbles are served prior to the film and a light supper is served afterwards.

Membership is only \$45 annually, \$25 half-year or \$15 for three consecutive months. Contact Janet Witham 03 5356 4300 or Alison Bainbridge 0417 883 445 for more information.

Come along and enjoy viewing, being entertained and discussing the merits of films we screen. We endeavour to cater for a variety of tastes as well as have a fun social night.



**Screening: Wed. 25 September 2019 at 7.30pm**

**Venue:** Stawell Neighbourhood House, 42 Sloane Street, Stawell

**Film: A Street Cat Named Bob, 2016 UK**

Based on the true life story and international bestselling book, A Street Cat Named Bob is a moving and uplifting film that will touch the heart of everyone. When London busker and recovering drug addict James Bowen (Luke Treadaway) finds injured ginger street cat Bob in his sheltered accommodation, he has no idea just how much his life is about to change.

## RSA (SITHFAB002)



**Date:** Friday 18 October 2019

**Time:** 6pm -10pm

**Venue:** Budja Budja Neighbourhood House, 20-22 Grampians Rd, HALLS GAP

**Cost:** \$105



## Food Hygiene (SITXFSA001)

**Date:** Saturday 19 October 2019

**Time:** 10am -3pm

**Venue:** Budja Budja Neighbourhood House, 20-22 Grampians Rd, HALLS GAP

**Cost:** \$105

Enrol before 24th September 2019 by calling Lee-Anne or Alison on 5356 4751 or email; [neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au)



## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP

**CAHG**—are looking for new members and especially someone you would be willing to be Treasurer. If you are interested please contact

**Next Meeting:** 4.30pm 2 December 2019

## Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group report to CAHG 2/9/19

The Golton Gorge project has not made any physical progress over the winter, although Parks Victoria have cleared and mulched quite a large patch of sallow wattle which has improved the appearance of the entrance area.

Documentation of the work to be done on the entry track and the parking and picnic areas should soon be complete and when this is approved I can then go ahead and get quotes from the preferred contractors. In the meantime I am setting about obtaining steel frames for two picnic tables and the timber for their tops and for a number of bollards. I shall organise more volunteer working bees to install this furniture as soon as possible. Warrnambool Bushwalkers had a working bee with Graham at the chimney Posts on 24 August 2019. David W

## PARKS VICTORIA NEWS UPDATE

<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park>



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People®

# Have your say on the future of the Grampians

The Grampians landscape is a haven for wildlife and native plants of incredible diversity, an ancient land of irreplaceable cultural heritage places. It is also one of Victorian most popular destinations.

In partnership with Traditional Owners, Parks Victoria is preparing a new management plan for the Grampians landscape, an area that covers the Grampians National Park and adjacent parks and reserves.

The new management plan will underpin strategic planning for the Grampians landscape over the next 15 years to ensure that precious environmental and cultural values of this iconic landscape are preserved for future generations to enjoy.

All those interested in the Grampians landscape are invited to take part in community workshops for the Grampians Landscape Management Plan. Times and locations are:

Halls Gap workshop, Thursday, 5 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm  
Laharum workshop, Tuesday 10 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm  
North Melbourne workshop, Thursday 12 September 2019, 6.00-8.00pm  
Halls Gap drop-in, Tuesday 17 September 2019, 12.00-3.00pm  
Dunkeld workshop, Tuesday 17 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm  
North Melbourne workshop, Thursday 19 September 2019, 6.00-8.00pm

At the two-hour workshops you will:

learn about the Grampians Landscape Management Plan process  
explore the challenges for managing this highly valued landscape for the next 15 years  
share your knowledge of using, living near, managing or connecting with this landscape  
provide your input on key decisions.

Venue sizes are limited so it is essential you RSVP to attend a workshop. You can RSVP online at [www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan) or by calling 131963.

If you cannot attend a workshop you may attend a listening post in your local area

### Listening Posts

Listening post times and locations are:

Moyston General Store, Fri 6 September 2019, 8.30am-10.30am  
The Giant Koala Dadswell Bridge, Wed 11 September 2019, 8.30-10.30am  
The Dunkeld General Store, Wed 11 September 2019, 8.30-10.30am  
The Bridge Café Cavendish, Wed 18 September 2019, 12.30-2.30pm  
Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre, Sun 22 September 2019, 10am-12pm

You do not need to RSVP for a Listening Post.

For more information or to participate online please visit on line [www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan)



# Grampians National Park Access Update

September 2019

Throughout the year Grampians National Park may have closures in place from natural events (storms, floods and bushfires), park operations and projects. **Before visiting the park always check for closures on the list below.**

**Please adhere to signs and notifications, and do not enter closed areas.**

## Closed Day Visitor Sites

- **Golton Gorge Picnic Area and Walking Track** – Realignment works are in progress.
- **Buandik Picnic Area** – closed until late September due to road works on access roads.

## Closed Roads and Tracks

- **Coppermine Track** is closed to allow for the construction of two campsites.
- **Harrop Track** is closed until November to replace bridges and causeways.
- **Red Rock Road** is closed until late September to replace bridges and causeways.

All seasonal roads are now closed.

See the **Grampians National Park Road Report** on [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au) for more information on individual road conditions.

**Remember to consider the suitability of your vehicle for the parks roads:**

*Sealed Roads:* All vehicles

*Unsealed Roads:* All vehicles, 2WD use caution

*Vehicle Tracks:* 4WD vehicles only

## Closed Walking Tracks

- **Golton Gorge Walking Track** – redevelopment works underway with a reopening date TBC.
- **Longpoint East Hiker Camp to Boroka Lookout Walking Track** – pending Grampians Peaks Trail works.
- **Ngamadjidj Shelter** – Opening soon!

**Walking tracks closed due to roadworks on Harrop Track until further notice:**

- Manja Shelter
- Hut Creek Walking Track
- Fortress Walking Track – only accessible from the Eastern end as a return walk. No access onto Harrop Track.
- Victoria Range Overnight Walk
- Billimina Shelter

## Closed Campgrounds

- **Buandik Campground** – Closed until late September due to works on access roads.
- **Coppermine Campground** – opening soon!
- **Coppermine Group Camping Area** – Development underway.
- **Troopers Creek Campground** – opening soon!
- **Briggs Bluff (GR294055) & Mount Difficult Hiker Camps (GR284030)** are permanently closed.

## Rock Climbing Access

Rock climbing access has changed in Grampians National Park. For more information please refer to the Grampians National Park page at [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au).

## GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

For the latest Grampians Peaks Trail information please visit: [parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park/plans-and-projects/grampians-peak-trail](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park/plans-and-projects/grampians-peak-trail)

## Further Information

For the latest information about the park, please visit Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre 2.5km south of Halls Gap, visit a local Accredited Visitor Information Centre or call the Parks Victoria information centre on 13 1963.

# Grampians National Park Newsletter

Late July to Late August 2019



In Aboriginal culture, the Grampians National Park and the surrounding landscape is known as Gariwerd. Within this landscape, six distinct weather periods are recognised. These are known as the Gariwerd Six Seasons.

This is the Larneuk (Nesting Birds) issue. Powerful Owl and Wedge-tailed Eagle fledglings emerge during this period. Rivers run high and this is usually the wettest time of the year.

More information on the six seasons can be found at [brambuk.com.au/gariwerdsixseasons.htm](http://brambuk.com.au/gariwerdsixseasons.htm)

## Be prepared for six seasons in one day

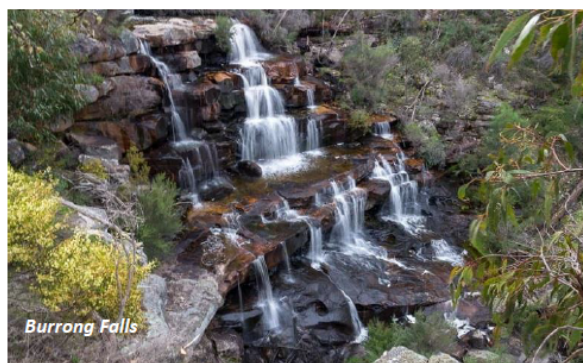
Larneuk is often described as the most dynamic and changeable season. With variable and unpredictable weather patterns it is not uncommon to feel as though you have experienced all six seasons in one day!

During this season the days begin to lengthen and the wattles burst into colour. Winding in amongst this patchwork of yellows and greens, the lively rivers and creeks travel through the landscape rejuvenating the environment. Be sure to make visiting waterfalls your top priority during the season of Larneuk. Immerse yourself in nature by enjoying the misty sprays and rumbles of waterfalls as rivers run at their highest.

If you're looking for a short and gentle walk to see some waterfalls, Silverband Falls is a great option. This short, gently undulating track travels through a deep gorge to eventually reveal a narrow, terraced waterfall. It is generally suitable for wheelchairs and prams but does involve some gentle inclines. For those interested in exploring a little further afield, Burrong Falls and Kalymna Falls are two lesser known waterfalls worth visiting. Access is best by four-wheel drive as roads can be rough and corrugated. Use Roses Creek Road to reach Burrong Falls and Mount William Picnic Ground Road for access to Kalymna Falls.

Due to the nature of this season it is imperative you're prepared when exploring the park's many tracks and trails. What starts as a nice sunny day may end in cold wet weather so ensure you are well prepared with the right

clothes, sturdy footwear, maps and sufficient food and water.



## Indigenous practices during Larneuk

The season of Larneuk traditionally marks the beginning of the murrnong harvest. Murrnong, also known as a Yam Daisy, is a plant that develops an edible tuber throughout autumn and early winter. Traditionally, Aboriginal women used long pointed sticks and baskets to collect these tuberous roots. Murrnong was then cooked in underground ovens but they can also be consumed raw. Murrnong has a unique grassy, 'coconutty' flavour and can be best compared with potatoes. It is no wonder this amazing plant formed a staple part of Indigenous peoples' diet as it's believed to be eight times more nutritious than potatoes. Once a common species, murrnong is now considered rare as it was virtually lost from the ecosystem with the introduction of sheep during the 1840s.

## Park news and updates

### Road maintenance underway

Mount Zero Road is in the process of being graded. A long, dry summer followed by winter rains has led to lots of potholes and corrugation. Be cautious when travelling this road as operations to repair the surface continue. Follow road signs and drive to conditions.

### Annual goat monitoring

Rangers have been working hard conducting feral goat monitoring to gain a better understanding of their population size in the Grampians National Park. Feral



goats cause significant harm to environmental and cultural values in the park. Impacts include compaction and erosion from their hard hooves. Their browsing techniques are also damaging to the native flora and they compete with native fauna for resources. Once analysed, the monitoring data will be vital to ongoing and future management of this invasive species.

If you are interested in helping land managers the app FeralScan is a citizen science initiative that enables people to record sightings of several different feral species. Visit the website or download the app to get involved.

[feralscan.org.au/](http://feralscan.org.au/)

### Winter ecological burning

Ecological burns recently took place in the heathlands around Lynches and Syphon Track in Southern Grampians. Occurring in winter, these burns are low intensity meaning they trickle through this highly flammable vegetation type leaving behind a patchwork of burnt and unburnt vegetation.



Low intensity burns of this kind are an important tool for creating diversity in both the vegetation type and age, which in turn supports a greater diversity in fauna species. It is hoped that species such as Potoroos, Bandicoots and Heath mice will particularly benefit from this method of land management. These winter ecological burns also proved to be a great training opportunity for South West fire crews.

### A spiny surprise...

During Parks Victoria's ongoing monitoring of our Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby colony one of nature's bizarre and comical phenomenon was captured. Up on a rock ledge, surrounded by steep drops and sheer rock walls, three echidnas were spotted in the midst of a rarely seen courtship behaviour. During the months of July and August echidnas will pause their solitary lifestyle and join an echidna train. Led by a female, anywhere from 1 to 10 males will trail her every move for weeks at a time. The male that shows the greatest fitness by following her every move will be chosen as her mate.



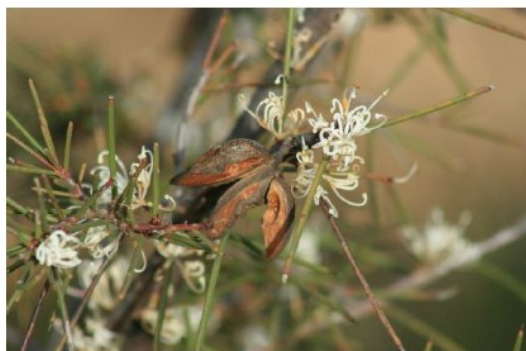
Female echidnas lay one leathery egg four weeks after breeding. The egg is incubated in her pouch until it is the size of a jellybean after which it hatches a puggle. Puggles remain in the pouch for three months before they leave to grow spines however they continue to suckle for a further three months.



## Seasonal Flora Species

### Bushy Needlewood (*Hakea sericea*)

The Bushy Needlewood is well known for its nasty needle-like leaves that gloves are no match for. From May to September this hardy species reveals its more delicate side; tubular white and pink flowers open-up. Be sure to stop and smell these beautiful flowers but careful of the spiky leaves!



The Bushy Needlewood belongs to the Hakea species. Like many other Australian plants, they are well adapted to fire. A key distinguishing feature is the large woody seed structure. This structure cracks open following fire, stimulated by the hot dry conditions, to release large, winged seeds. It is not uncommon to see an abundance of Hakeas clustered in an area following fire.

All Hakeas belong to the Proteaceae family. This family is an ancient group of plants that has no close relationships with other plant families present today. Although very iconic to Australia, these plants are also well represented in South Africa. Other genera in this family include Grevilleas and Banksias.

## Seasonal Fauna Species

### Glenelg Spiny Freshwater Crayfish (*Euastacus bispinosus*)

The Grampians National Park is home to the most diverse group of freshwater crayfish in the world. Many of the species found in the Grampians live at higher elevations than swamp and river dwelling species by burrowing into the ground. The Glenelg Spiny Freshwater Crayfish is just one of these impressive species. These long-lived species

are olive-green to brown in colour with some red colouration on the joints. This large species can weigh up to 1.1kg! Distinguishing features include large robust claws and a spiny body from which they are named. The species is listed as Endangered and faces threats including clearing vegetation around waterways, wetland drainage and channel modification.

**Do you want help identifying species in the field?**

Download Museums Victoria Field Guide App:

[museums victoria.com.au/apps/field-guide-app-to-victorian-fauna/](https://museums victoria.com.au/apps/field-guide-app-to-victorian-fauna/)



## GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

### Grampians Peaks Trail – July update (Grampians Tourism)

Track clearing and construction is progressing in sections in the north and south. In the south there are some areas of particularly challenging terrain where we will have steel stairs to allow safe hiking; these are currently being designed.

Finalising the key design elements and preparation for constructing the hiker camps is in full swing. Designed to



respond to each site's individual landscape, a light touch will be applied to construction with minimal vegetation clearance and disturbance to the environment. Materials in the area will be used where possible to build seating and other camp elements, ensuring harm and introduced assets are kept to a minimum.

Tent pads and boardwalks will be in place to protect the flora and fauna underneath, and each camp is orientated to take best advantage of the view over Gariwerd, and using the natural peaks to provide protection from the elements.

Come autumn 2020, you can walk along precipices, wind through creek beds, climb hand-carved stone steps and be dwarfed by the grandeur of rock formations and the ancient landscape. You'll be able to choose from two new multi-day walks, a two-night / three-day section in the north, or a two-day/two-night section in the south, either as an independent walker, or as part of a signature experience offer.

Check [grampianspeakstrail.com.au](http://grampianspeakstrail.com.au) for trail details and [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au) for Grampians National Park access updates.

## Upcoming Events and Activities

For upcoming events and activities in the park please see the *What's On* section on the Grampians National Park page at [parks.vic.gov.au](http://parks.vic.gov.au)

The upcoming September school holiday program will feature an exciting range of Junior Ranger activities such as a Bicycle Scavenger Hunt, Compass Challenge, All Fired Up and Minibeast Discovery. Two Ranger Guided walks will also take place featuring waterfalls, historic sites and prominent features.

### Self-Guided Activities

- Venus Baths Climate Watch Trail. Visit [climatewatch.org.au/trails/grampians-national-park-venus-baths](http://climatewatch.org.au/trails/grampians-national-park-venus-baths) for more information.
- Keep an eye on details for the September School holiday program and Junior ranger activities. Visit [juniorrangers.com.au/](http://juniorrangers.com.au/) for up to date information and bookings.

- Junior Ranger activity sheets are available from the Junior Range Stand at Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre.

## Volunteering

Volunteering with Parks Victoria is a great way to contribute to conserving Victoria's special places and help others do the same. To find out more visit:

[parkweb.vic.gov.au/get-involved/volunteer](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/get-involved/volunteer)

### Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- Become a Campground Host during the Christmas and New Year period.
- Volunteer as a Walking Track Ranger over the Cup Weekend or Christmas holiday period.
- Become a trained Sherpa and join the Sherpa Volunteer Program.

## Further Information

To stay up to date with the latest park information:



Call 13 1963



Visit Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre, 2.5km south of Halls Gap. Ph: 03 8427 2258.



Go online at [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au). Be sure to check the weekly road report and monthly park access update on the Grampians page.

Organised by  
Grampians Youth Events

# Heroes And Villains



**Friday September 6**

**7-10pm**

**Stawell Entertainment Centre**



**Tickets Online— <https://www.trybooking.com/BEZZM>**

**Cash Sales at the Stawell Neighbourhood House  
and at the Door**

**Disco Entry—\$5 / Bus+Entry—\$10**

**Bus Pick Ups from Ararat—Great Western—Halls Gap—Pomonal**

**Bus Tickets limited—Must be pre-purchased**

- **Ages 12—25**
- **Drug and Alcohol Free**
- **Security**
- **No Pass Outs**
- **Drinks n Snacks for Sale**
- **Prizes**
- **Optional Dress Up as a Hero or Villain**

**freeze VICTORIA**  
State Government  
[www.freeze.vic.gov.au](http://www.freeze.vic.gov.au)

**Grampians**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

**Stawell Neighbourhood House Inc.**

**SPAC**  
STAWELL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

**GRAMPYANS COMMUNITY HEALTH**





# STAWELL

## PERFORMING ARTS FEST

### September 2019

LOCAL PEOPLE - LOCAL TALENT  
 WORKSHOPS  
 PERFORMANCES  
 THREE GREAT DAYS OF MUSIC

#### Friday 6th

Modern Music  
 Youth Focus

#### Saturday 7th

Ukulele and Singing  
 Workshops and  
 Community Performance

#### Sunday 8th

SPACi  
 Best of the Worst  
 Concert

#### GET INVOLVED

**Audition to Perform—Volunteer to Support—Join the Organising Team**

**Contact Tracey Erkelens on 0431070207**

**Message Stawell Performing Arts Company through Facebook**

## 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 2019 are:

Melbourne Cup Weekend – 3rd November (Halls Gap School)

### The Market Dates for 2020 are:

Labour Day – 8th March (Halls Gap School)

Easter Sunday – 12th April (Halls Gap School)

Queen's Birthday – 7th June (Halls Gap School)

Melbourne Cup Weekend – 1st November (Halls Gap School)

**Halls Gap Village Market**  
November 17th 2019  
8:30am - 1pm  
Halls Gap Hall

Come along & enjoy a great day out in the beautiful Grampians.

We offer you a great range of handmade crafts, treats for the home, plants health & wellbeing, treasures, books & lots lots more.

New stallholders very welcome to join us.

For more details see our group on Facebook Halls Gap Village Market & follow us.

Looking forward to seeing you.

## POMONAL VILLAGE MARKET

**Pomonal Village Market** on the last Sunday or every month from 10am—2pm 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 2019

25th August, 29th September, Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th October (Pomonal Native Flower Show), 27th October, 24th November and 29th December.

## 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



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 bicycles, property, 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](http://police.vic.gov.au)



## FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Margo, Alison , Jenny and Tammy

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

[neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au)

Upload your community events details to  
the Community Association webpage:

[www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au](http://www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au)

Like our Halls Gap Community Association  
Facebook Page

Like our Halls Gap Community Watch and  
Events Facebook Page



## 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




**Q. What is the best way to catch a Squirrel?**

**A. Climb a tree and act nuts!!!**

**Cheers Lucy J, Grampians YHA Eco Lodge**



## Regular Events

- Chas Mangle Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the History Room at the Centennial Hall most days except Tuesdays from 1pm - 5 pm. Ph. 0439 837 052
- Budja Budja Neighbourhood House - check the program at the house and online
- Check Social Coffee catch-ups at Brambuk 11am on the first Tuesday of the month.
- Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details



The Halls Gap History Room in the Centennial Hall is open most days except Tuesday from 1PM - 5PM. Locals and visitors are most welcome and there is no entry fee.