

Issue: July 2017

FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

WRAP UP...

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FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



Brrrrrrrr It's certainly time to don those winter woollies as these clear night skies means super frosty mornings... Here's a winter challenge for you....**Who can get the best picture of 'winter in the Grampians' and send it in for the August issue??**

While it may be cold that is no reason to *not* enjoy the Grampians: Out in the park the fungi is flourishing, the winter wildflowers are beginning to bloom and the early orchids are starting to emerge... And for residents and visitors, this issue shows there is plenty to do in Halls Gap over the coming month.

Just a reminder to get articles in prior to the end of the month to Leeane and thanks to everyone who has contributed this time round. There are some groups we haven't heard from in a while so please get in touch :) Our community newsletter is only as good as the information you send in so share what you know, share your events and share your pictures.

Thanks Eds.

STATS BY CHAS...

June 2017 - Rainfall by Chas: As you all know, a very dry month with only 12.5mm being recorded bringing the progressive total to 347.0mm. This is the lowest June recording since 1969 when 12.2mm was measured. This compares to the same period last year of 121.5mm with a progressive total of 401.0mm.

As of the 28th of June Lake Bellfield is holding 63,850 ML or 81% full compared to the same period last year of 43,030 ML or 55% full. The total system is holding 296,420 ML or 52.82% full compared to the same period last year of 131,020 ML or 23.35% full.

Mount William received 47.4mm for June compared to the same period last year of 164.8 mm. The highest temperature of 13.4 C was recorded on the 13th and the lowest of -1.0 C was recorded on the 30th.



Iconic shot ...but don't try this at home...

HALLS GAP CFA



HALLS GAP

How safe are you in your home?

On average, there are 3,000 house fires in Victoria. Most could be prevented by taking simple precautions. Heaters, chimneys, electric blankets and clothes dryers can become a fire risk, particularly if they have been sitting unused for a period of time.

To help minimise the risk of fire in your home

- Book a licensed gas-fitter to check your gas heater
- Check chimneys, flues and fire boxes for cracks, rust and debris
- Check electric blankets for kinks in the wiring
- Clean the lint filter in your dryer (and continue to do this after every use)
- Check appliances for visibly frayed or damaged wiring
- Complete the Home Fire Safety Checklist <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/home-fire-safety-checklist/> to see if you've done everything you can to protect you and your family.
- Launch the Hotspot House to see how to keep your home safe <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/kids-schools/hotspots-house/>

Taken from the CFA website.

If you interested in joining the Halls Gap brigade contact Brigade Captain Colin Andrews on 5356 4618 for further information.

Judy Hilbig

Halls Gap Brigade Community Safety Coordinator

CERT



The Community Emergency Response Team was called out an amazing (for Halls Gap) nineteen times in June with eight of the calls over the Queen's Birthday weekend. Sixteen of the calls were for tourists.

Only two calls were from people needing rescue while in the National Park but four other calls were from people needing medical help after returning from walks within the Park. There was one car accident when a driver lost control near Mirranatwa and hit a tree.

The SES had to cut him out and he was flown to hospital in the Air Ambulance helicopter. A lady had a serious facial burn when getting boiling soup from the microwave. Fortunately her eyes and breathing were not compromised. The remainder were the usual mix of chest pain and breathing difficulties.



A group of Interested Halls Gap residents recently looked into the benefits of having a Bendigo community bank in Halls Gap. Not only would this help out anyone looking to make 'the switch' but it could help the town raise much needed funds for significant community projects.

For anyone interested in learning about the ways a Bendigo Community bank could benefit Halls Gap, to join the committee or board please come along to a meeting **Tuesday 5th July 2017 2:30pm @ the hub meeting room.**

GRAMPIANS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Grampians Music Festival is running a very special Locals Only promotion!

If you live within the 3381 postcode, we want to offer you special access to a Bring a Buddy 2-4-1 three day ticket promotion!! This means for \$195 +GST and BF you'll get not one but TWO three-day tickets!!

The special Bring a Buddy, locals only ticket will go on sale on Monday 10 July for three weeks and we have only 100 two-for-one tickets available. To access the link and code to purchase these tickets, please use the link at the bottom of this post to join the special secret Facebook group. Please note that moderators will be checking that members reside in the 3381 postcode.

Please feel free to invite other locals (3381) that you think would like to take advantage of this special offer!

Grampians Music Festival will run from Friday 2 - Sunday 4 February 2018, when we'll be bringing up and coming Australian artists to Halls Gap. Bringing a mix of indie rock, indie pop, folk and blues, we've been keeping an eye on who's been shining brightest to bring you great talent and great sounds for great dancing.

For more details about the festival itself, make sure you Like the Grampians Music Festival FB page - <https://www.facebook.com/grampiansmusicfestival/>

** Please note - this group is secret and only admins will be able to approve requests to join. **
https://www.facebook.com/groups/GMFLocalsTix/?ref=group_cover

Want free tickets?? Put your name down to volunteer by emailing
info@grampiansmusicfestival.com



DATES FROM HISTORY—YEAR 2000

16/02/2000 Halls Gap Rocks To Sound Of Jazz.

24/05/2000 Are We There Yet? 300 Koalas Released In Grampians National Park.

02/06/2000 Upgraded Loop Walk To Venus Baths Opening In 4 Weeks.

02/06/2000 Rare Treat As Heavy Snowfalls On Mt William.

15/08/2000 Community Celebrates Official Opening Of Centennial Hall.

29/08/2000 Pair Fined For Illegal Hunting.

24/10/2000 Rehabilitation Work At Mt Difficult After 1999 Fire.

20/10/2000 Janet Witham A Life Governor Of Stawell District Hospital.

17/11/2000 Chopper Helps Build Lookout At Pinnacle.

17/11/2000 Marwood Wins Business Honor.

21/11/2000 Two Die In Stolen Halls Gap Taxi.

21/11/2000 Near Drowning At MacKenzie Falls.

24/11/2000 Mark de Clifford Receives Michael Ronaldson Award.

29/11/2000 Sighting Fuels Puma Intrigue.

05/12/2000 Community Excited About New Health Centre For Halls Gap.

08/12/2000 Brambuk Development On Show At Australian Tour Exchange.

29/12/2000 New Land Release "Wirilda Estate".

For anyone who knows, dates, parents, works with,
lives with or is a country or suburban footballer.

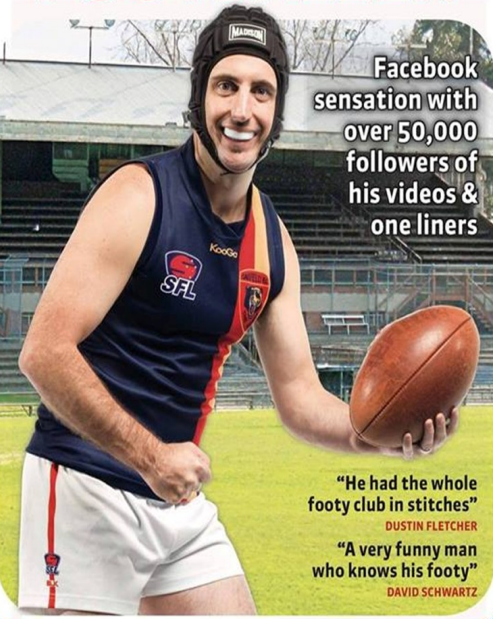
THE SUBURBAN FOOTBALLER

STAND UP COMEDY TOM SIEGERT

Facebook sensation with over 50,000 followers of his videos & one liners

"He had the whole footy club in stitches"
DUSTIN FLETCHER

"A very funny man who knows his footy"
DAVID SCHWARTZ



23rd July 2017 @Halls Gap Hotel. Tickets on sale now direct from the hotel or online hallsgaphotel.oztix.com.au



Budja Budja
Neighbourhood
House



CPR & 1st Aid Course

Tuesday 18th August 2017

Starting at 9.30am-3.15pm

Costs CPR \$75

First Aid \$170

If interested in course please contact

Lee-Anne ASAP to confirm numbers,

Need to have numbers by 11th August 2017

for course to go ahead



20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap
(behind the Medical Clinic)
5356 4751 option 2



leeannel@budjabudjacoop.org.au
www.facebook.com

Dirty Girls Film Tour



Our aim at the Dirty Girls Adventure Film Tour is to connect like-minded women and build a community of supportive adventurous women. By showcasing and celebrating the female adventurous spirit we hope to make women in the outdoors more visible.

In 2017 the Dirty Girls Film Adventure Tour will screen 2 hours of the most inspirational, heart warming and entertaining films celebrating women in adventure from independent film makers around the globe.

The Dirty Girls Adventure Film Tour includes a unique selection of films of varying lengths and styles covering topics relevant to women in the outdoors who aren't afraid to get dirty in their pursuit of adventure.

The 2017 tour will screen over 10 times around Australia and beyond. Tickets are \$25 on the night, and we would advise booking due to the limited number of seats.

All ticket revenue will be donated to an Ararat College program later this year when 8 students will travel to Nepal with their teacher Kris Ellis, to complete a water project in a Tibetan refugee primary school.

FOGGS

Clam shrimps Day June 18

In June 2016 a new species of Clam Shrimp was found in a rock pool at Flat Rock, in the Northern Grampians. and Professor Brian Timms who studies invertebrate biodiversity in a variety of temporary waters across the inland was interested in investigating further. FOGGs decided to assist this June.

In the morning, armed with instructions from Bill Gardner and Professor Timms, volunteers went to several different high up areas across the park to collect samples of water and inhabitants. Then we met up at Laharum for Brian to check what was found and to tell us more about these surprising creatures.



1. Lots were found on Flat Rock, Hollow Mountain and Mt Stapylton...including another new species... limited to that area? None found at Mt William or Lost Lake or track from Beehive falls to Briggs bluff. However the museum has recorded species from Mt Difficult in the past.

2. One person brought in a sample from Arapiles which was actually a different species (pea shrimp... more rounded clam shape...widespread species)... Arapiles people are going to look harder in that area

3. FOGG will monitor the Flat Rock pools at monthly intervals until they disappear and let Brian know how the population proceeds over time.

Brian is an emeritus professor and is volunteer funding this research largely personally, so FOGG can be very helpful in taking this work in the Grampians forward. So, if you are interested, ring Bill on 0438 838 286 or email:

wvicagserv3@gmail.com

Our next FOGG meeting will be on July 22 in the Mural Room at Parks where we will be learning more about deer and other feral animals in the Grampians. 11 am start.

Words that Work" workshop Halls Gap June 25

The Grampians Gariwerd branch of Rural Australians for Refugees organised a workshop to assist people wishing to advocate for refugees in how better to get their message across to others in our community. What sort of language helps, how to avoid using words that detract from what you want to say, useful starting points, and much more.

Forty three people turned up in Halls Gap on Saturday and learnt so much. Halls Gap, Pomonal, Stawell, Ararat, Dunkeld, Hamilton, Horsham, Landsborough all were represented. More information available via Margo S on 0429 201 139.



PARKS VICTORIA UPDATE

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



Healthy Parks
Healthy People

The visitors & Community team have put the finishing touches on the soon to be published and re-released *All Abilities Accessible Walking Track Guide* for the Grampians National Park which incorporates new features like Trailrider information and improved maps.

The year has been very successful for Volunteer engagement and contribution. Caitlyn O'Reilly our PV/CVA Volunteer Coordinator has worked with a diverse range of volunteers achieving over 5500hrs of effort across the entire park area. Caitlyn's role unfortunately finished on the 30th June as it was funded through Northern Grampians Fire Recovery funding, but we are looking at ways to support a Parks Volunteer Coordinator position into the future.



The Environment & Heritage team have recently welcomed back Mike Stevens to the role of Team Leader. The team has been actively working on key landscape projects including Grampians Ark (Fox Control), Sallow Wattle Containment, Herbivore control (Deer & Goat), broader reserve management and fire ecology. Of note is the recent project around using Volunteers from the Sporting Shooters Association and Australian Deer Association to undertake Targeted Deer and Goat control in sensitive ecosystems. This effort, complimented by our staff and contractor programs will grow the program whereby we can become more effective in our introduced herbivore program.

The team successfully completed another round of Rock Art conservation works in May, which focused on sites in the Black Range SP

The Assets and Services team have recently completed an upgrade to the Pinnacle lookout platform with new timber treads. This compliments works completed at Boroka lookout and improvement works at Reeds lookout/Balconies walking track. The team have also taken carriage of a new Grader which will greatly assist the team in delivering its annual road management program.

The Fire & Emergency Team has had a quiet Fire Season (thankfully), but have been very active in Fuel Reduction burning, planning and delivery. The Park is implementing its winter burning regime through our heathlands with good results. This type of small mosaic type burning is growing in its importance and is perhaps a window into how the landscape was managed 160 years ago.

Key strategic township burns around Ararat, Stawell, Halls Gap and Dunkeld will be a key focus in the next 6-12 months.



Park Planning works

Cultural Heritage Management Plan field work has been occurring since late May 2017, which will provide management advice around sites of Aboriginal significance including:

- The Grampians Peaks Trail Walking track alignment
- The GPT hiker camp locations

- A new campground at Dead Bullock Creek
- The formalisation of campgrounds at Coppermine Tk, Long Point West, Long Point East
- Walking track realignments at Briggs Bluff, Ngamadjudj Art shelter and Golton Gorge
- Carparks/Trailheads for the GPT, Dead Bullock Creek and Ngamadjudj.

This planning work will be finalised and approvals are scheduled by the end of September which will mean works associated with Fire Recovery can commence and the GPT development is a step closer to construction on the new stages.

Fire/Flood Recovery

There is steady progress occurring at Zumsteins: A request for quotation was sent out to Heritage Building companies to repair, refurbish and conserve the Blue Cottage and preserve and protect the Orange in line with the Heritage Victoria Permit. A Contractor has been selected and will commence works of the repairs in Early August 2017. This will include replacement of all fire damaged and termite damaged timbers, Rood repairs, Pise wall repairs, and resurfacing of the internal floors.

A tender process was run for the interpretation of the site; to capture the stories and use static and innovating technologies to inform visitors to the area the history and value of the site. This successful company will commence works in Mid August 2017.

GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

Construction works continue on the Major Mitchell Plateau and the local team has been busy walking the GPT alignment with Traditional owners to undertake cultural heritage assessments. Detailed planning continues in the background.



In other Park News

Seasonal Road closures are in place and we ask everyone to observe any closed gates particularly after heavy rain. Visit <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/safety/fire,-flood-and-other-closures/seasonal-road-closures2> for details or you can see them marked on our park notes.

There are also a few remaining road closures for flood repair. These can be found on our 'road report' available on our website:

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

For all other park information, topographic maps and general park enquiries call into Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre in Halls Gap Phone 5361 4000

Halls Gap Community Market

Sunday July 23rd 10am -2pm

Halls Gap Hall

Our 1st market for our community will be a
suitcase style market.

Fit your “stuff” into up to 3 suitcases and bring it along to
The Hall and turn it into cash

Bring a rug for the floor & your \$8 for the community project
of your choice.

Stall holders can arrive from 8am for setup.

Light Refreshments Provided

Stall Bookings

Clive 0400 745 261

hallsgapmarket@outlook.com.au

or check out our Facebook page

Halls Gap Community Market



Grampians Tourism

Grampians Tourism is now encouraging all applications from commercial, community and nonprofit groups for casual use of the Halls Gap Hub.

With options from small meeting rooms, to the contemporary open design of the Hub to the large traditional community hall the Halls Gap Hub precinct can comfortably cater to a multitude of uses for the Halls Gap community.

Possible use of the site includes popup commercial space for local producers, exhibition and performance space for local art groups, musicians and schools as well as high traffic outdoor areas for fundraising and performance activities.

Applications from buskers and other performance artists are encouraged.



Community groups and non-profit organisations are able to use the Halls Gap Hub free of charge.
















Please contact Jason Meehan at the Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre on 5361 4404 or hallsgap@visitgrampians.com.au for more in-



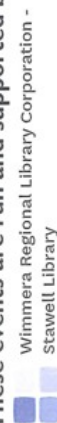


Winter School Holidays

CONTACT INFORMATION
42 Spaine St, Stawell, 3380
Phone: 5358 3500
Email: office@srhlc.com.au
ABN: 19 171 923 631

3/07/2017		4/07/2017		5/07/2017		6/07/2017		7/07/2017
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday
Stawell NH		Stawell NH		Stawell NH		Stawell NH	Budja Budja NH	Stawell NH
 HIP HOP With Connor TBC 10am-12noon 5 - 11yrs 1pm-3pm 12 - 18yrs	Fun with Wool with Alison 10am-12noon 5 - 18yrs 	Stawell NH Fun with Wool with Alison 10am-12noon 5 - 18yrs 	Cooking for Fun With Maya 10am-12noon 12 - 18yrs 	Budja Budja NH  Fun with Wool with Alison 10am-12noon 5 - 18yrs	Stawell NH  WINTER WOOLLIES FESTIVAL 2017 Set Up	Budja Budja NH Cooking for Fun With Alison 10am-12noon 5 - 18yrs 		WINTER WOOLLIES FESTIVAL 2017 4pm to 6pm 
 WINTER WOOLLIES FESTIVAL 2017 WHEN: 7th, 8th, & 9th of July, 2017 TIMES: Friday 4pm—6pm; Saturday 10am—5pm; Sunday 10am—4pm								
 MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION 8th & 9th JULY 2017								
Fun Activities at the Stawell Library - check out the poster at the Library for dates and times								
10/07/2017	11/07/2017	12/07/2017	13/07/2017	14/07/2017				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday				
Stawell NH	Stawell NH	Stawell NH	Budja Budja NH	Stawell NH				
 Cardboard Construction with Bev 10am - 12 noon 5 - 18yrs	Design your own T Shirt With Sarah (BYO T Shirt) 10am - 12 noon 11 - 18yrs	 Winter Wetlands With Jeanie 1pm-3pm 5 - 18yrs	No Session	 Cooking for Fun With Alison 10am-12noon 5 - 11yrs	Budja Budja NH Cardboard Construction with Bev 10am - 12 noon 5 - 18yrs 	 Chill Out! Old Skool 10am - 12 noon 5 - 18yrs		

These events are run and supported by the following organisations:



Numbers Limited - Bookings Essential

FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Margo, Jenny and
Tammy

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

leeannel@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

Like our Halls Gap Community
Watch and Events Facebook Page

Q: What do you
get from sitting on
the ice too long?



A: Polaroids!

SHANKS & SHIRAZ

Halls Gap Hotel

\$25pp



Every Thursday from 6pm

Come along and enjoy a delicious slow cooked Lamb Shank with root
vegetable gravy, potato mash and steamed greens.
Including a glass of beautiful Grampians wine, Bests Bin 1 Shiraz

2262 GRAMPIANS RD HALLS GAP

PH: 53564566

BOOKINGS RECOMMENDED LIMITED SEATING
AVAILABLE IN THE BAR

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
- Social Coffee catch-ups at Brambuk cafe 11am Tuesdays.
- Grampians Film Society
- 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.