

Issue: April 2018

# FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association  
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

## WRAP UP...

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Easter is here—wasn't it just Christmas only a few weeks ago???? Its been a busy period in the Grampians with visitation increasing on previous years. A few figures from Grampians Tourism:

Domestic Overnight visitors - 964,000 visitors (up 22%)

Domestic Total Nights - 2.48 million nights (up 30.4%)

Day Trips - 1.23 million visitors (up 13.5%) Total tourism expenditure \$479 million (up 55.4%)

International Overnight visitors - 53,000 visitors (up 3.5%) International Total Nights - 352,200 nights (up 22.9%).



Thanks to everyone for sending in your articles its a bumper edition! Happy Easter everyone!

## STATS FROM CHAS ...MARCH RAINFALL

Up to the 28th of March we have received 27mm bringing the progressive total for the year to 64mm. This compares to the same period last year of 17.5mm with a progressive total of 87.5mm.

As of the 21st March Lake Bellfield is holding 63,630 ML or 81% full compared to the same period last year of 66,620ML or 85% full. The total system is holding 275,130ML or 49.10% full compared to the same period last year of 307,871ML or 54.95% full.

As of the 28th of March Mount William has received 35.6cm of rain. The highest temperature of 28.8 C was recorded on the 9th of March and the lowest of 0.8 C was recorded on the 26th of March. The highest wind speed of 100 km/h was recorded on the 17th of March.

### FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



#### gwangal moronn

season of honey bees - autumn  
(late march to june)

#### Sunrises, Bees and Flocking Birds

Autumn (the season of native honey bees or gwangal moronn) is when the country starts to cool down after the summer heat.

### FROM THE HISTORY ROOM

Standing ( L-R) Thelma Clark,  
Nina Mangle.

Sitting (L-R) Marie Freeland,  
Bob Freeland, Max Clark



## HALLS GAP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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### WEBSITE TRAINING

Are you comfortable adding your events or information to our community website? [www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au](http://www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au) Do you use it to get information?

Monica and Margo from the team of local volunteers that looks after the website invite you to join us for a FREE 2 hour training session at Budja Budja Neighbourhood house on **Thursday April 19th at 2.30**. Bring your own laptop or use one of the Neighbourhood House ones. Come and try over tea and nibbles. Get better acquainted with the website and help us by pointing out errors and omissions.

It would be a help if you could register with Lee Anne on 53564752 but you can just turn up.

### FACEBOOK FOR THE FAINT HEARTED

**Tuesday April 24 at 1pm**

We've all seen those headlines, so we've invited Jenny Greenberger to come and help us with our privacy settings so less information about us is visible. So if you are already on facebook, and want to learn about what and what not to show, or if you are considering joining it but have cold feet and would like to see why some of us stick with it, you are welcome too. As with the web training, this is a free event as it is covered by the grant we received for building a resilient and cohesive community.

So bring your own phone or laptop. Again it would be a help if you could register with Lee Anne on 53564752 but you can just turn up.

### FRIENDS OF GRAMPIANS GARIWERD

By the time you read this we will have had our talk on Bunjil's cave which promises to be most interesting and we'll bring you a short report next time. Then we have a catch up on issues facing the park on April 13 at 5pm, and we'll be having a display at the Red Gum Festival at Cavendish on April 14. You can learn more about us on our Website:

<http://friendsofgrampiansgariwerd.org.au/>

## HALLS GAP WILDLFLOWER SHOW

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Our next planning meeting is on April 17 at 2,30. All welcome. Please remember that we have changed the date **to the last weekend in September** instead of the first weekend of October. Accommodation owners do please inform any guests booking at that time of the year

### BOTANIC GARDEN

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Have you seen our beautiful new nest? It is so good, and it has been a great experience for many of us watching textile artist Gwen create it with much help from locals and visitors. Thanks must go to the locals who donated old Tshirts, grape vine prunings, other vegetation from their gardens. Lots of us (including the school children) added material and bound it in with blanket stitch under Gwen's watchful eye. It was officially opened on Wednesday March 21. Do go down and have your photo taken sitting in it. We expect it to last about three years.

Many thanks to Gwen and also to Marion Matthews who came up with the idea.

So good to have that rain on Saturday! Before that the garden was looking surprisingly good despite the very dry weather, but we have lost some plants and hope to do more planting once the soil is damp. Grampians natives only, of course.

A big thank you to those who have given donations and thus have become "Friends of the Grampians Flora Botanic Garden". Much appreciated. We have quite a list of projects we want to see in the garden, as well as new plants. There's our planned revamped fountain, new display boards in the new shade shelter, new benches too. All require funding. It is not too late to join up. \$50 for families, \$100 for businesses. For this you will get a charming certificate for your fridge or your front desk. If you are interested please ring or email [margo@sietsma.com](mailto:margo@sietsma.com), 0429201 139.

Don't forget our working bees, second Wednesday of each month. Next one is April 11.

## CFA

With the summer over we return to routine training, so residents and visitors might have seen crews on both tankers practising with hoses and sprays around Lake Bellfield a few of weeks ago. Our next training session at Halls Gap is scheduled for Wednesday 18 April. As well as local training, the Stawell Group and CFA Region 16 arrange opportunities for participation of local brigades. A minimum skills training opportunity will be available before next fire season for new firefighters, so now is a great time to join the brigade in time to commence the course. Anyone interested should contact Peter Hilbig on 0437 524 716. Not all CFA volunteers need to be firefighters, so people interested in communications, education, maintenance and/or administration are also welcome.

Fire restrictions continue in the Wimmera and South West Fire Districts. Details about the restrictions and the strict rules on days of Total Fire Ban are outlined in the CFA brochure 'Can I or Can't I', see [https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/documents/20143/80821/Can\\_I\\_or\\_Can't\\_I\\_brochure\\_nov\\_2016.pdf/5e14373f-e64d-3676-bb7b-2685a831a5f8](https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/documents/20143/80821/Can_I_or_Can't_I_brochure_nov_2016.pdf/5e14373f-e64d-3676-bb7b-2685a831a5f8). It is important that everyone checks the details before they consider lighting anything, as a sighting or report of any smoke or fire automatically triggers an emergency call to the fire brigade and there can be consequences for offenders if the rules have been broken. Please share this information with visitors and guests to minimise the fire risk and reduce the potential for unnecessary call outs.

Every two years each CFA brigade elects a new leadership team. Halls Gap members are advised the Annual General Meeting for this purpose will be held at the Fire Station at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 13 June with the new team to take up their roles on 1 July.

Did you replace your smoke alarm batteries when daylight saving finished at the end of March?

Judy Hilbig.

## RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOC'N

The Halls Gap CPRRC have responded to residents concerns of some pot holes in our road. These will be repaired in the next couple of weeks as other works are undertaken. The HG CPRRC encourage all residents to contact them directly so that concerns can be addressed in a timely manner. All concerns should be conveyed to: Robert Irvine 0439 969 406 or Ian Leithhead 0408 501 414

Interest in a Skate Park or 'Bump' Park in Halls Gap continue to float around our community. There will be a meeting held to discuss its feasibility and to determine if there are sufficient volunteers who are willing to propel this idea forward: Tuesday May, 7.30pm in the Supper Room of the HG Hall.

As noted in the March issue of FTG, some residents are trialling rubber bin clips as a deterrent to the bin loving cockatoos! These are available in several different tension strengths.

Paul Turner has a sample of the strongest latching strength clip if you are interested in viewing it. Paul Turner 0418 992 510

## NEW ARRIVALS

For those who know and remember Adam...Here's a story of his new arrival...

Little Baby Alexandra was delivered by Adam at home as she was in a real hurry to get out into this world - so with a drive of over 20 minutes to the hospital in Sydney traffic in the middle of the day this was not on. Adam called 000 and the paramedics were dispersed, so he was on the phone/earplugs getting instructions whilst waiting for them to arrive, which ended up being too late as Ally was already born when they rushed in to their house. So for someone who always got both car & air sick and couldn't have a blood test without fainting, he has come a long way, and this will go down as one of his greatest achievements in life.





Halls Gap area residents and visitors with a disability or mobility issues will now have better access to public transport.

From Saturday 17 March 2018, Sandlant Bus Company has started running a low floor bus between Stawell and Halls Gap.

It is the normal Saturday Service but using a low floor that allows people in wheelchairs or with disabilities, elderly people and passengers with prams to have easier access on and off the bus.

Every Saturday and Sunday between 12pm and 2.35pm the V/Line bus runs up and down the Halls Gap valley floor three times each way between the Ararat Road and Brambuk Cultural Centre.

Tim's place accommodation proprietor Tim Wise said it was a welcome move towards more accessible transport in the area.

"This service will be a big step towards the ultimate goal of three services each and every day of the year between Stawell and Halls Gap," he said.

"If the community could utilise this service then it would send a strong message to local and state government on improved transport."

*Article courtesy of the Stawell Times News March 13, 2018.*



*It really made Ken and Margo Woodcock's day! The first time Margo had seen her home in 4 years*

**PHONE 1800 800 007**

### **Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass**

#### **Benefits**

If you hold a Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass, you can travel for **free** on:

- Melbourne metropolitan trains, trams and buses
- V/Line services
- Regional town buses
- Regional services that have a contract or service agreement with Public Transport Victoria.

#### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass you must:

- have a permanent and severe disability
- depend on a scooter or wheelchair for mobility outside the home
- be a Victorian resident.

If you're a scooter or wheelchair user, you must have your dependence on a scooter or wheelchair certified by a general practitioner or specialist. They must declare that due to the permanent and severe disability (being for the term of your life and not expected to improve), you depend on the scooter for mobility outside the home.

If you're not eligible for the Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass, you may be eligible for:

- Companion Card
- Access Travel Pass
- Multi-Purpose Taxi Program

#### **Conditions of travel**

If you're travelling with a scooter or wheelchair on a V/Line service, you need to book 24 hours in advance as space may be limited.

For more information or to make a V/Line booking, visit the V/Line website or call 1800 800 007.

Download the Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass application form:

[Scooter and Wheelchair Travel Pass Application Form](#) (PDF) 342kB

The accessible version will be available soon call [1800 800 007](tel:1800800007) or visit [PTV Hub](#) if you require assistance.



## HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS FROM GRADES 1,2 & 3 STUDENTS

The whole school went to visit Brumbuk for the day. We had a great day at Brumbuk. We were divided into groups and we had a turn at all different activities.. Each group got to watch a movie that was about a humungous Emu that destroyed the Earth. It was spectacular! Blake showed us around Brumbuk and then let us taste some bush food. We also did some Aboriginal art and games.



We all huffed and puffed our way through the cross country this week. Concongella, Pomonal and Great Western schools all came to Halls Gap and we ran a track around our school and through the Botanical Gardens. Everyone tried really hard and there was some really impressive results yesterday. Especially When the preps chased our teacher, Mr. Edge. They nearly caught him too!



Each term we have at least one or two cluster days. Cluster days are very important because we get to meet new people and make new friends. Sometimes we dress up for cluster days. All of the small schools around Stawell come such as Concongella, Pomonal and Great Western. We do lots of fun activities and we try and mix with everyone. We really look forward to cluster days.



## HALLS GAP MARKET AND EASTER RAFFLE

On the first week of the school holidays, on Easter Sunday Halls Gap Primary School will have its big market and our JSC will be selling raffle tickets to their amazing raffle! The market is held at the school from 9am to 1pm and the raffle tickets will be sold from 9.30am to 12pm. The lucky winners will be drawn on the day. Some prizes in the Easter raffle will be 2 family packages from Grampians Grape escape and a joy flight from Grampians Helicopters as well as lots of chocolatey goodies. Wow!!!

Come along and buy a yummy snag or egg and bacon roll from our parents and then call past and buy a raffle ticket from our students for \$2 each or 3 for \$5. We use the money we raise for lots of amazing things like iPads, laptops, books, play equipment and even seating. Last year we even bought the meerkats at the Halls Gap Zoo a ball pit. Check out the video online, it's so funny!



## HALLS GAP POLICE



### Driving and Wildlife facts:

One in seven crashes on country roads involves animals. Animals can be natives or domestic.

Kangaroos are the most frequent animals hit on our roads. Kangaroos like to travel with mates, if you see one there will be more. Dusk and dawn are common times to encounter wildlife.

Throwing food scraps from the car can encourage animals onto the roadside to eat. Carrion birds will feed on road kill and can cause a secondary hazard.

### What can I do to make driving safer?

- Slow down.
- Look for reflecting eyes.
- Brake safely where possible.
- NEVER swerve! It is safer to hit an animal than to swerve and lose control of your vehicle.
- Be aware that animals are unpredictable and may change direction at the last moment.
- Obey warning signs.

### FARMERS OFTEN MOVE STOCK FROM ONE Paddock TO ANOTHER...

If you see a sign telling you to give way to stock, slow down. Farmers place these signs only when they are moving stock and the road may be blocked by a herd of cows or flock of sheep. Livestock can sometimes get out of the paddock and graze on the road side causing a hazard.

### *I've hit an animal...what do I do now?*

Call 000 if someone is injured.

- Stop and check the animal only if it is safe to do so.
- Remember that injured animals can be dangerous.
- Call the local wild life service for advice.
- If you cannot speak to a wild life service then call 000.
- If the animal is badly injured and still alive then it may need to be humanely put down.
- If you have hit livestock or a domestic animal, the owner must be informed. Call 000 to advise police.

**REMEMBER; SLOW DOWN WHEN DRIVING ON COUNTRY ROADS.**

**Animals can appear suddenly, especially at dusk and dawn.**

**NEVER swerve. Most country roads have gravel verge and you may lose control of your vehicle.**

**Stay alert, take rest breaks.**

### Helpful contacts:

**Police, Fire , Ambulance: 000**

**Australian Wildlife Emergency Response: 1300 094 535**

**Wildlife Rescue: (03) 8400 7300**

**VicRoads: 131170**

**Parks Victoria: 13 1963**

**SES: 132500**



# 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**



VICTORIA POLICE



## NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

The Halls Gap community will have its say on a number of projects and initiatives aimed at harnessing projected increases in visitation and expansion over the next few years.

Council is currently preparing to launch into the second phase of consultation on the Halls Gap Village Centre Action Plan. The consultation is set to showcase priority projects and other initiatives identified in the Halls Gap Master Plan for Commercial Investment and Public Land Development (Master Plan), endorsed by Council in 2016, alongside earlier strategic plans undertaken in Halls Gap including the Halls Gap Urban Design Framework, 2001 and the Halls Gap Community Plan, 2011.

Northern Grampians Shire Councillor Jason Hosemans, whose South West Ward incorporates Halls Gap, said the action plan proposes a vision statement, framework plan and priority actions for the Halls Gap Village Centre, including the optimal location for the Grampians Peaks Trail head and the 'departure experience' route.

"This plan aims to provide an overall picture for how all the pieces of the Halls Gap village centre fit together and an action plan for what projects are needed to improve pedestrian safety and amenity," Cr Hosemans said. "Specifically, the Development Plan will steer future access and car parking infrastructure, landscaping, built form and urban design and signage design guidelines for the Halls Gap Village centre, while the action planning process will identify exactly how we achieve the community aspirations identified in the 2016 Halls Gap Master Plan around improving pedestrian connectivity, amenity and the intensification of commercial land in the Halls Gap Village."

Council will be presenting the Action Plan, including the proposed Vision Statement, framework and priority projects to the community and visitors and asking for feedback on what considerations Council should take as part of the detailed design phase.

The plan will go on public exhibition from April 16-27, 2018 while the Consultation Draft of the Action Plan will be available via Council's website along with an



A drop-in session session will be delivered in Halls Gap during the first week of exhibition and will mark the launch phase two of the consultation for the Halls Gap Action Plan. Details will be released via Council's website, social media channels and brochures distributed locally. The project team, including representatives from consultants, the Hansen Partnership and Northern Grampians Shire Council's Manager Economic Growth, Justine Kingan will be available to discuss priority actions and future initiatives. Stawell and Halls Gap business owners have had their say on a prospective parking plan for the Northern Grampians Shire's major trading zones.

Members of Council's Local Laws team recently visited a number of businesses within Stawell and Halls Gap's CBDs in order to seek their input on a draft parking plan, with survey feedback gathered as part of the process set to play a major part in the development of the parking policy.





## GRAMPIANS MARKET IN THE HALL

We have super busy with the Market over the last 3 months this is the 1<sup>st</sup> chance we have had to stop & give you an update on GMITH - Halls Gap Hall Market.



To answer a few questions that people have raised about the Market now the V.I.C has moved.

### **Are you still having the Market?**

**YES! In the hall 3rd Sunday each month (subject to bookings)** We must not block access to the V.I.C or obstruct any doors.

### **Do we have the courtyard?**

**NO**

At this stage we are saying NO but this may change down the track...

### **Will I need my own table?**

**YES**

Unless arrangements have been made with Manager before the Market for the hire of a table.

### **Do I need my own insurance?**

**YES**

This is a must

**I have Food (homegrown or made) do I need a Street trader?**

**YES**

This is a must

### **Are you opening Saturday for Setup?**

**NO**

We will be at the hall from 7:30am on Market Day for setup.

### **Is the Cafe still open?**

**YES**

Cafe GMITH will still be trading on Market Days between 8:30am - 1:30pm

To apply to be a stallholder please email [info@gmithonline.com](mailto:info@gmithonline.com) or call 0490823237

## **Our Forward Dates:**

Our dates looking forward are:

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am -2pm

May 20<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm

June 17<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm

July 22<sup>nd</sup> (our birthday Market) 10am -2pm

August 19<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm

September 23<sup>rd</sup> 10am – 2pm

October 21<sup>st</sup> 10am – 2pm

November 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30am – 2pm

December 16<sup>th</sup> 9:30am – 2pm

On behalf of the team at GMITH, we would like to thank you all for your support.

It has been a trying time to get a brand-new market up & running, but also a lot of fun.

We would like to shout out to our Management Team & Kitchen Staff Clive (Cliff) & Lillian.

You both have done an amazing job to get the market up & running & to keep everything running as well as you have.

We would also like to thank, Jacki Wilson & The Halls Gap Bakery for the help given to us for the Market Kitchen & Café GMITH.

The Market will be held 12 months of the year at the Halls Gap Hall. 10am -2pm for the winter & 9:30 – 2pm for the summer (Subject to fire danger ratings, if it's extreme or code red we will NOT be open)

Our new Cafe GMITH will be open for breakfast from 8am, with lunch menu from 10:30am - 2pm We look forward to your continued support & look forward to seeing you all soon.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook (gmithonline) or Instagram & check out our Online Marketplace gminthonline.com

Looking forward to seeing you all April 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am - 2pm

Cher, Del, Marc, Clive (Cliff) & Lillian

## PARKS VICTORIA UPDATE



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People

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

A relatively quiet summer fire season this year has allowed staff to focus on the delivery of visitor services in what has been a super busy summer holiday period, and now the lead in to Easter. Campgrounds have been consistently booked out and popular visitor sites have seen a boost in visitation.

To cater for those that enjoy a little luxury, Parks Victoria is excited to be offering a trial 'Glamping' offer at Mt Buffalo, Lake Eildon and the Grampians National Park this spring. Expressions of interest are now open for glamping (or glamorous camping) operators to undertake the 12-week camping trial with the hope it will also provide opportunities to showcase local businesses including produce. The trial will assess the suitability, popularity and viability of glamping options in National Parks. Expressions of interest are open on the Parks Victoria website until April 13 at [www.parks.vic.gov.au/eoi](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au/eoi)

In very positive news, Parks will be working with Telstra in the coming months to trial phone equipment at Mackenzie Falls. Options being tested include a mobile phone repeater and an emergency land line phone. It is hoped, once tested, the best option will be installed permanently, offering improved communication and safety at the site.

### Fire Team: Autumn Planned Burning

Forest Fire Management Vic have initiated the Wimmera District Autumn Planned burning program with a few burns in the little desert this week. The Grampians National Park and surrounding reserves have a number of burns planned to be delivered this Autumn. Burns will be undertaken when all of the required weather conditions are appropriate, avoiding where possible peak visitation periods.

### Stay informed

**Visit:** [www.delwp.vic.gov.au/plannedburn](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/plannedburn)

**Register:** [www.delwp.vic.gov.au/pbns](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/pbns)

**Call:** Victorian Bushfire Information Line

1800-240-667 (Free Call)

1800-555-677 (National Relay Service)

**Download:** VicEmergency App

Or sign up to the Planned burn notification system

### Flood recovery

Parks Victoria is working with Accuraco and insurance providers to finalise delivery of a number of road repairs in the park throughout the coming months.

### Fire Recovery

A number of fire recovery works packages are scheduled get underway in the next few months and after winter pending approval of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan and winter weather. These include:

- Ngamadjidj Art shelter carpark and walking track redevelopment
- Coppermine 4WD and Hiker Camp re-establishment
- Longpoint West Hiker camp re-establishment
- Mackenzie Falls risk signage and site upgrades
- Continuation of Pise Restoration works at Zumsteins cottages. The interpretation signage project for the site is nearing production stage.
- Dead Bullock Creek campsite (relocation of Troopers creek campground)
- Sallow wattle monitoring and control
- Pest Animal programs
- Rock Art Cataloguing
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge Project

### Environment and Heritage Team

Along with delivery of a number of Fire recovery projects, the team is working through the final planning for the Grampians Conservation Action Plan (CAP). This is a vital planning tool for the development of long term conservation outcomes to protect, enhance, preserve and manage the biodiversity of the Grampians landscape.

## PARKS VICTORIA UPDATE

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



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People

### Visitors and Community team

A great deal of work has gone into planning for the rollout of emergency markers throughout the Grampians NP. Over the coming months these will be installed at a number of track intersections and visitor sites to assist emergency services attend incidents more quickly. Stay tuned for updates.

Active April is almost here and getting out in nature is good for body mind and soul. Parks Victoria, along with the Northern Grampians Shire and other community service providers are offering a range of activities to get you out and about and 'active' in nature.

Join our Park Rangers on a guided walk, do a yoga session in the forest, or come and try the all abilities all terrain TrailRider. For the kids, how about a bike scavenger hunt, a bush detectives activity or a bush survival class?

We also have a range of Junior Ranger Activities planned throughout the Easter Holidays.

Don't forget for those kids that love a bit of technology, we have the Venus Baths Climate trail right in Halls Gap. Become a citizen scientist and record the special plants and animals that you see along your walk.

Simply download the ClimateWatch app on [iTunes](#) or [GooglePlay](#), and you can record observations directly into your smartphone. Over time these regular observations collected under ClimateWatch will contribute to tracking trends and changes. This information will assist scientists and land managers in developing climate change adaptation plans to respond to climate change impacts.



### GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

Parks Victoria is excited to announce that Grampians Peaks Trail upgrade works have been completed between Stockyard Saddle and Jimmy Creek Campground on the Major Mitchell Plateau Walking Track. This section of the walking track is now open to bushwalkers.

While the entire plateau walking track is now open, over the coming months track workers will continue to complete stonework linking sections of steel mesh panels. Please be mindful of these works and follow any short track detours or instructions from track workers.

This is also a reminder that bookings are required for any overnight stays at First Wannon Hiker Camp on the Major Mitchell Plateau. For further information on this hiker camp please visit <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park/things-to-do/camping/first-wannon-remote-campground2>.

Dirt Art has recently completed track upgrades on Chatauqua Peak. Old timber stairs have been replaced with stone and areas of the track that were hard to maintain have been replaced with steps or landing platforms.

During the coming months, upgrades will commence along the Mt Abrupt and Mt Staplyton walking tracks as well as the sections between Mt Difficult summit and the proposed 'Barigar' hiker camp. Works will include new drainage, improved surfacing, retaining walls and the addition of new hand-built rock steps and flagstone paving.

Where possible, upgrades to other sections of the Grampians Peaks Trail will be rolled out as part of a staged approach in order to provide continued access to popular visitor areas during peak periods. Check the Parks Victoria website for the latest conditions in the Grampians National Park [www.parks.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/grampians-national-park) and look for 'Change of conditions.'



# Junior Rangers

April School Holiday  
Kids Activities (Under 12)

## Grampians National Park



| When  | Details   |
|---|---|
| 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Brambuk The National Park and Cultural Centre               | <b>Bush Skills</b><br><i>Join a Ranger to learn basic bush survival skills that could help you when you're adventuring in the outdoors</i>  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Albion Bushland Reserve<br>Stawell                           | <b>Bush Navigator</b><br><i>Join a Ranger and learn how to navigate out in the bush using a compass and what to do if you don't have a compass...</i>   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Halls Gap Park – across from the Visitor Information Centre | <b>Bicycle Scavenger Hunt</b><br><i>Head off with a Ranger along the Halls Gap bike path to uncover different clues about The Grampians National Park. Bring your own bike or head down to Absolute Outdoors – main street of Halls Gap, to hire a bike for the adventure</i>           |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Brambuk The National Park and Cultural Centre               | <b>All Fired Up</b><br><i>Join Rangers and Fire Crew members to learn about fire safety and how to prepare during bushfire season in and around National Parks</i>  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Brambuk The National Park and Cultural Centre               | <b>Nature Play Week - Bush Detective</b><br><i>Become a bush detective as you discover the fascinating features of Grampians National Park. Park rangers will assist you to learn what to look for then you'll head off on your own self-guided adventure to see what you can find.</i> |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10am – 12pm<br><br>Venus Baths   | <b>ClimateWatch Trail Walk</b><br><i>Join a Ranger to discover the hidden plants and animals of the Grampians National Park and become a Citizen Scientist! Download the ClimateWatch app to record what you find.</i>  |

Free - Limit of 15 Junior Rangers per program, please sign up on the Junior Ranger website by following the QR code or this website  
<http://juniorrangers.com.au/whats-on/>



Parks Victoria

Phone 13 1963  
[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People®



# Active April Activities



## Grampians National Park

| When   | Details  |
|--|--|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>8:00am – 9:30am<br><br>Halls Gap Oval  | <b>Yoga in the Park</b><br>Join Nicole for one of the first Active April activities and start your day with a relaxing yoga session surrounded by the beautiful landscape of the Grampians. Please provide your own yoga mat and water bottle and arrive five minutes prior to the session. The activity will be cancelled during extreme weather events.<br><br><i>Activity by gold coin donation towards the Grampians Walking Track Support Group</i>   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>8:00am – 9:30am<br><br>Halls Gap Oval  | <b>Yoga in the Park 2.0</b><br>Continue from the previous Active April yoga session and start your day with another relaxing morning stretch. Please provide your own yoga mat and water bottle and arrive five minutes prior to the session. The activity will be cancelled during extreme weather events.<br><br><i>Activity by gold coin donation towards the Grampians Walking Track Support Group</i>   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2018<br>10:00am – 12:00am<br><br>Halls Gap Hub<br>(Outside the Visitor Information Centre) | <b>Trail Rider Come and Try Day</b><br>Active April is for all abilities and we are encouraging local and surrounding community members to come and try the Trail Rider. Chat to Rangers about the All-Abilities walking tracks in The Grampians and how you can experience them. We welcome new users and those who would like to become volunteer Sherpas.<br><br><i>FREE – Drop by the Visitor and Information Centre on the day and have a chat</i>  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2018<br>9:30am – 11:30am<br><br>Meet at the Halls Gap Oval                                | <b>Chatauqua Peak Ranger Walk and Talk</b><br>Join a Ranger and walk the newly opened Chatauqua Peak trail after completed works for The Grampians Peak Trail. Sturdy footwear (not thongs!), drinking water and appropriate clothing are essential. Continue being active throughout April!<br><br><i>FREE – Sign up by following the link to the Eventbrite website below (limited to 25 walkers) <a href="http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/chatauqua-peak-ranger-walk-and-talk-tickets-44353646952">www.eventbrite.com.au/e/chatauqua-peak-ranger-walk-and-talk-tickets-44353646952</a></i> |

For more information please visit the Northern Grampians Website for Active April: [www.ngshire.vic.gov.au/Events/Events-Listing-Page](http://www.ngshire.vic.gov.au/Events/Events-Listing-Page)





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

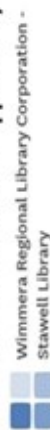
## Easter School Holidays

| 2/04/2018  | 3/04/2018  | 4/04/2018  | 5/04/2018   | 6/04/2018  |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   |
| <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Easter Monday</b><br><br><b>Public Holiday</b> | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><br><b>Make your own Kite - Alison</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2 per child   | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Cooking for Fun</b><br>- Andrea & Amanda<br>10am - 12noon<br>12-18years<br>Cost: \$2 per child<br> | <b>Budja Budja NH</b><br><b>Making Pom Pom Animals</b><br>- Annie<br>10am - 12noon<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>  | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Cooking for Fun</b><br>- Andrea & Alison<br>10am - 12noon<br>5-11 years<br>Cost: \$2 per child<br> |
|  | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Animation Part 1</b><br><b>Pre-Production</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>12-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>                                      | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Animation Part 2</b><br><b>Pre-Production</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>12-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>      | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Animation Part 3</b><br><b>Production</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>12-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br> | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Animation Part 4</b><br><b>Post-Production</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>12-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>     |
|  | <b>Budja Budja NH</b><br><b>Card Making</b><br>- Leeanne<br>10am - 12noon<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>  | <b>Budja Budja NH</b><br><b>Easter Plaster Fun</b><br>- Jenny<br>1pm - 3pm<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>                   | <b>Budja Budja NH</b><br><b>Art with Bev</b><br>10am - 12noon<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2<br>                       | <b>Budja Budja NH</b><br><b>Hand Weaving Loom</b><br>- Alison<br>10am - 12noon<br>5-18years<br>Cost: \$2 per child<br>     |
|  | <b>Stawell NH</b><br><b>Chill Out</b><br>10am - 12noon<br><b>Free Event</b><br>5-18years<br>Youth Film Festival<br><b>Free BBQ 6pm</b><br>Screening 7.30pm |  |   |  |

Fun Activities at the Stawell Library - check out the poster at the Library for dates and times



These events are run and supported by the following organisations:



**Numbers Limited - Bookings Essential**





## BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381

**PH: 03 53564751**

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

# OPEN 4 DAYS NOW!

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday-Friday 9.00am—4.00pm

| MARCH 2018                     | APRIL 2018                     | MAY 2018                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dr Megan Helper<br>27,28,1,2   | Dr Siobhan Reddel<br>3,4,5,6   | Dr Susan Watson<br>1,2,3,4        |
| Dr Megan Helper<br>6,7,8       | Dr Susan Watson<br>10,11,12,13 | Dr Susan Watson<br>8,9,10,11      |
| Dr Susan Lewis<br>13,14,15,16  | Dr Susan Watson<br>17,18,19,20 | Dr Diana Jefferies<br>15,16,17,18 |
| Dr Megan Helper<br>20,21,22,23 | Dr John Hough<br>24,26,27      | Dr Diana Jefferies<br>22,23,24,25 |
| Dr Quentin Miles<br>27,28,29   |                                | Dr Diana Jefferies<br>29,30,31,1  |

**GET THE FLU SHOT  
BEFORE THE FLU GETS YOU**

**Flu shot COMING SOON BOOK NOW!**



Don't forget our visiting *OUTREACH SERVICES* at Budja:

\* **PODIATRY**

\* **ACUPUNCTURE**

\* **DIABETES EDUCATION NURSE**

\* **MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH NURSE**

## WHATS ON AROUND THE GRAMPAINS IN APRIL

30 Mar 1 April 3:00pm OZACTS 'The Tempest' at Heatherlie Quarry Ph 0419 330 516

April 7th 3:00pm OZACTS 'The Tempest' at Heatherlie Quarry Ph 0419 330 516

01 Apr 9:00 am- 2:00 pm Halls Gap School Craft Markets - Easter Sunday

03 Apr 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Social Morning Tea Brambuk Cafe 277 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

11 Apr 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Botanic Garden Working Bee Gap Botanic Garden School Rd, Halls Gap

12 Apr 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Live Music at Livefast Cafe - Josh Rawiri 5/97 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

15 Apr 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Halls Gap Hall Community Market in the Hall - April 2018

19 Apr 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Book Club Budja budja Neighbourhood House Grampians Rd, Halls Gap

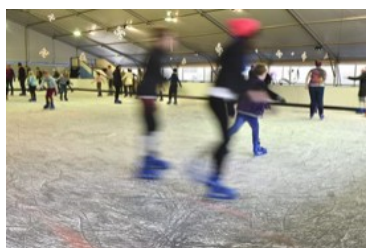
24 Apr 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Grampians Film Society Halls Gap Hall 115 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

29 Apr 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Stawell Farmers Market April Stawell Showgrounds Patrick Street, Stawell

29 Apr 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Pomonal Village Markets Pomonal Hall Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

### ICE SKATING IN STAWELL!!!!

The ice skating rink located in the Main Street will be on offer to prospective skaters



of all ages, with sessions operating on the hour every hour between 10 am and 4 pm, while it will also be open between 7 pm and 8 pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from March 31 until April 16,

To book, visit the rink 15 minutes ahead of time, call 0421788605 or email

[manager@wintermagiciceskating.com.au](mailto:manager@wintermagiciceskating.com.au)

### LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES OVER EASTER

Good Friday: 9 30 am at Pomonal Community Uniting Church



Easter Sunday: 8 am at St John's Anglican in Halls Gap, 10 am at Pomonal

There's also a joint ecumenical service on Big Hill in Stawell at 6.30 am as the sun rises. Easy as daylight saving ends that day!

### EASTER TRADING HOURS

Quarry restaurant will be open Good Friday evening and for lunch and dinner Saturday, Sunday and Monday. lunch 12 -3 pm and evening from 6 pm.

Kookaburra Bar Bistro Open Friday from 4pm, Sat and Sunday Lunch 12-3pm Dinner 6pm Bar open all day, Monday Bar open from 4pm Dinner from 6pm.

Halls Gap Hotel open every day from 12pm

Views Restaurant at Grampians Motel opened for Breakfast everyday as well as Dinner. Please book ahead.

Red rock olives cafe open 10 to 5 everyday. Byo license. Fire buckets will be lit.

Livefast Cafe Fri - 7am—4pm, Sat 7am—5pm, Sun 7am—5pm, Mon 7am—4pm.

Adventure Golf 10am—8pm Fri and Saturday, 10—6pm Sunday, 10—5 Monday. Thai Food Dinner from 5pm Friday and Sat night. Lunch Sunday from 12 noon.

Harvest Cafe Closed Friday, Open 8-4pm Sat—Mon



## EASTER IN HALLS GAP



29TH

### THURS: TRIPLE TREAT WINE TOUR - 12 NOON

3 x vineyards, underground tour & tasting platter plus wine tasting. \$110pp. Departs Halls Gap 12 noon - 5pm

30TH

### FRI: WINE TASTING & HELI FLIGHTS

Wine tasting - 12-4pm in front of Livefast Cafe  
Heli Flights - From Stawell airport, just 20 min from Halls Gap

31ST

### SAT: SPINS OVER THE VINES - BEST'S WINES

Join Grampians Helicopters at Best's Wines 12noon - 5pm for spins over the vines. \$60pp (min 2) Music, food, wine - great afternoon.

1ST

### SUN: HALLS GAP MARKET - WINE TASTING 9-1PM

Join Grampians Wine Tours & Montara Wines for wine tasting and sales of locally produced beautiful wines at Halls Gap Primary School.

1ST

### SUN: BEER & WINE BLAST - 3PM

Visit 2 x vineyards, 1 x olive farm and 1 x pub, includes beer & wine. \$75pp departing Halls Gap. Book fast to secure your seat.



## GRAMPIANS WINE TOURS & GRAMPIANS HELICOPTERS

PHONE: 0438 981 438 OR 0414 336 774

[grampianswinetours.com.au](http://grampianswinetours.com.au) / [grampianshelicopters.com.au](http://grampianshelicopters.com.au)



### Melanie Robinson Integrated Star Therapies

Empath~Author~Energy Healer~Emmett  
Therapist~ Remedial Massage therapist

Local Integrative therapist, Melanie Robinson, is coming to  
Pomonal Hall

**SUNDAY APRIL 8th**

**10am-3pm**

Melanie will be available for full therapy sessions but booking  
is essential as places are limited.

#### Available treatments:

Energy Healing- 30 minutes \$45, 45min-60min \$80

Children's integrative session- 20minutes \$20

Emmett Therapy- 15-30 minutes \$50

#### Massage- Relaxation or Remedial

30 minutes- \$40

45minutes- \$60

1hr- \$80

1.5hrs- (full body) \$120

Please note, all massages are integrated with Emmett and energy  
therapies.

To book please contact Melanie directly- 0400161227

For more information on these therapies please check out the website-  
[www.integratedstartherapies.com](http://www.integratedstartherapies.com)

## GRAMPIANS HEALINGHANDS Massage Therapy



Set in the quiet surrounds of Halls Gap in the Grampians  
National Park, Grampians Healing Hands Massage  
is the place to come to Relax & Unwind.

REBECCA WADGE  
Remedial Massage Therapist  
0429 174 178

Cert. IV Relaxation Massage

Dip. Remedial Massage

Cert. Pregnancy Massage

Member AAMT 15193

Registered Health Care Provider

[www.grampianshealinghands.com.au](http://www.grampianshealinghands.com.au)



HAYLEY DAWSON - NATUROPATHY

## NATUROPATH APPOINTMENTS

### NOW AVAILABLE IN HALLS GAP

Conditions that I can help you with  
- Women's Health - Digestive complaints - Detox  
and weight loss - Tiredness and fatigue -  
Migraines - Skin conditions - Allergies - Stress  
management - Cardiovascular health and many  
more...

I also offer food intolerance testing and other  
functional pathology testing

For more information please call Hayley on  
0455 892 129





**FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE**

Tammy, Lee-Anne, Margo, Jenni

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

[leeannel@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:leeannel@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

**WHAT DAY DOES AN EASTER EGG HATE THE MOST?**

**FRY-DAYS**

**HALLS GAP WILDLIFE RESCUE**

**IAN IVEY—0413 921 171**

**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
- 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.