

Issue: August 2016

## FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association  
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

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### FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR

Larneuk—Season of nest-  
ing birds (Late July to Late  
August)

Changeable weather and  
birds begin to nest.

This is usually the wettest  
time of year being early  
spring.

Creeks and Rivers run  
high.

Quite often there can be  
six seasons in one day.

### A WET AND WILD WINTER

Well July was certainly a wet , windy  
and wild month. There was more snow  
on the hills and loads of visitors came  
to Halls Gap to experience it.

Reports are that this has been the busi-  
est July in many years.

Not sure if you have noticed but the  
days are getting longer...But don't get  
too excited just yet... Winter will stick  
around for a little longer yet.

Here's a few wintery jokes to get you  
through the next few weeks...

Q: What's an ig?

A: A snow house without a loo!

Q: What kind of math do Snowy Owls  
like?

A: Owlgebra.

Knock Knock!

Who's There?

Snow!

Snow who?

Snow laughing matter.

*Sorry I had to do it.....*

### LOOKING BACK...

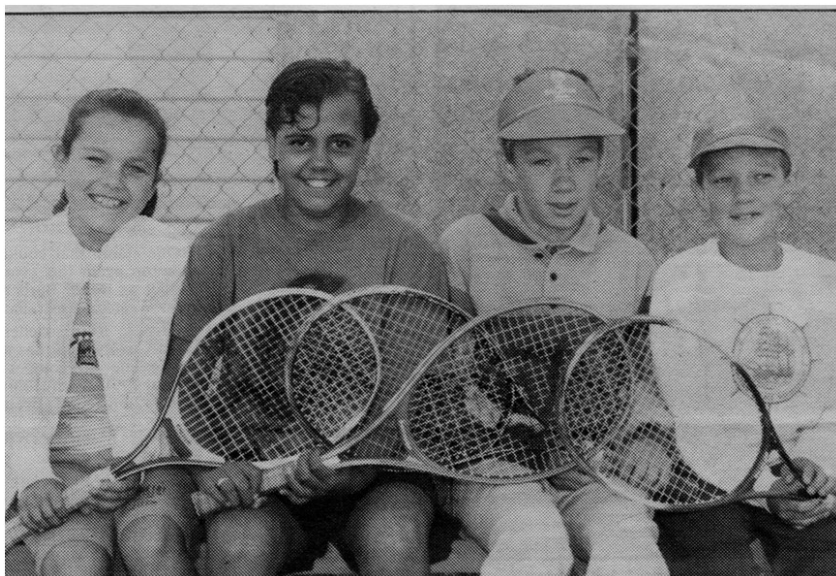
Recognise  
any of these  
young,

fresh  
faces???

### JULY 2016 - RAINFALL BY CHAS

A very good recording for the month of  
247.5mm bringing the progressive total  
for the year to 648.5mm. This compares  
to the same period last year of 144mm  
for the month with a progressive total  
for the year of 584mm. As of the 27th of July Lake Bellfield is  
holding 49,720ML or 63% full compared  
to the same period last year of  
52,981ML or 67% full. The total system  
is holding 162,860ML or 29.24% full  
compared to the same period last year  
of 168,631...ML or 30.28% full.

The Moora Moora Reservoir now has  
2,310ML or 37% full compared to last  
month of 910ML or 14% full. Mount William recorded 168.4mm for  
the month ( although this is not a true  
record as the station has not been re-  
cording since the 23rd of July) com-  
pared to the same period last year of  
143.6mm. The maximum temperature  
of 10.7 C was recorded on the 21st of  
July and the minimum of - 3.6 C was  
recorded on the 13th of July.



## FRIENDS OF GRAMPIANS GARIWERD

Our birdwatching excursion with the Birdlife Horscham branch on Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> started with a bleak weather outlook following rain and low lying clouds. Not something that is likely to make the birds put on an active show. However a large-turn out of bird observers often means many keen eyes to detect birdlife.

All in all, the group managed to sight 53 different bird species that day. A remarkably high number for these weather conditions. A few notable examples were close encounters with the Scarlet Robin, White-Throated and the Brown Tree Creepers, the Restless Flycatcher, Spotted and Striated Pardalotes, and several different Thornbills (Brown, Buff-rumped, Yellow and Yellow-rumped) with a final appearance of the Eastern Spinebill.

Our next activity is a Victoria Valley excursion on August 13. After such a horribly dry summer (a record dry for our Park, even drier than the years leading up to 2006!) we've had some lovely rain. We'll have a look at a waterfall, a swamp, and our own Red Gum walk, where we'll do some minor maintenance. For more information contact Margo 5356 4524 0429 201 139



*Spotted Pardalote*

## HALLS GAP'S CHRISTIAN GROUPS

Serving One Lord, having the One faith, expressing it differently. We all welcome new members and visitors.

St John's Anglican has services on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 8 a.m. Check the noticeboard outside the church. Contact Heather Scott 0433 477 365.

Tandara campsite hosts a service on the fourth Sunday of the month at 4pm, with a cuppa afterwards. Contact Cheryl Reif at 5356 4253.

Pomonal Community Uniting Church has several Halls Gap members, 10 am every Sunday, plus a social coffee morning 11 am at Brambuk coffee shop, recently changed to the first Tuesday of the month. All welcome. Contact Margo S on 5356 4524 or 0429 201 139.

A group of women from several denominations join in a weekly Bible Study in Halls Gap on Tuesday afternoons. Contact Dot on 5356 4529.

## BOTANIC GARDEN NEWS

This rain is so welcome, even though it did cause us to cancel our usual working bee on July 13. But some individuals have been working when the weather has been milder. We are trying again on July 20, which may be too late to report on in this newsletter. Our next working bee is scheduled for August 10. We would love some more helpers.



*Scarlet Robin*

## INDOOR BOWLING IN HALLS GAP

The ranks of indoor bowlers have been diminished by the passage of time to the point where the remaining few feel it is no longer worth continuing unless we can muster some new recruits.

For many years we have played carpet bowls in the Centenary Hall for a couple of hours or so one evening per week, except when the Hall has been needed for some larger function. At one time there used to be competitions but even with smaller numbers we have still benefited from enjoyable social evenings.

There is skill involved in the game but most people acquire sufficient skill quite quickly to make it rewarding, and nobody takes the business too seriously! So if

you have any interest please contact me and we can arrange an evening of bowls when you can explore that interest. David Witham.

## HALLS GAP POLICE

July has been another busy month for police with six search and rescue incidents already this month. Several involved serious leg injuries around the Pinnacle and others involved poor planning with the walkers trying to get to the Pinnacle and back at Dusk without suitable equipment (including a torch). As you can imagine, these incidents are frustrating for emergency services with the Stawell SES being called 22 times in one week this month!

Several serious car collisions this month saw one male driver taken to the Alfred Hospital by air ambulance with suspected spinal injuries. Wildlife seems to be the common theme in several of these collisions so pay particular attention to Kangaroos at dusk and dawn and slow down appropriately. We have had a couple of drug driving detections also this month so be warned – drugs are a huge factor in the road toll so we will be cracking down on drug driving. As I mentioned last month drugs are detectable in your system for days and weeks after use and any level of illicit drug in your system whilst driving is an offence.

Take care and remember...

**“THERE IS A ZERO TOLERANCE TO DRINK or DRUG DRIVING IN HALLS GAP”**

## HALLS GAP CFA

Even though it is winter and callouts are fewer, the Halls Gap brigade is still kept busy with members participating in training programs, completing regular maintenance and responding to a variety of incidents - the most recent of these being a car accident at Mafeking.

Recent training has included several training days at the Country Fire Authority training site at Longerengong. Those that attended participated in a range of scenarios that the CFA might be called to attend – vehicle accidents, pole fires, gas bottle fires, switchboard fires, kitchen fires and correct procedures when live wires are present at the scene.

The brigade is currently working to tidy and make ready the station and grounds for the coming fire season. A BBQ lunch and working bee will be held on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July starting at 1.00pm. New members are always welcome. If you would like more information about joining the brigade please come down and see us or contact one of the brigade management team members listed below.

Following our recent biennial elections the brigade management team is as follows:

Brigade Captain – Colin Andrews

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant (operational preparedness) – Peter Hilbig

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant (training) – Roy Clapp

3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant (asset maintenance) – Will Hudson

Secretary/Treasurer – Marilyn Andrews

Communications Officer – Luke Parry

Health and Safety Officer – Darren Linke

Community Safety Coordinator – Judy Hilbig.

The CFA website <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au> is an online resource with numerous tools for use when establishing best practice in your home.

Judy Hilbig

Community Safety Coordinator, Halls Gap CFA



## PARKS VICTORIA UPDATE

There's been plenty of wild weather in the past month. String winds, heavy rains, muddy roads and loads of snow. During this time there is an increased risk of tree fall. Road and walking tracks closures are always a possibility and we ask that you report any issues and apply understanding as we clear them all up. We've also had a number of rescues recently so it is a timely reminder to ensure that all visitors are aware of the local conditions prior to setting out and the need to be prepared for the worst.

For all park updates please head to the 'Change of conditions page' found on our Grampians National Park webpage [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au) or at this link - [Parks Victoria - Grampians National Park](#)

### Volunteering

We quite often have a range of tasks that volunteers can assist with. Throughout winter and into spring we will be undertaking further plant outs at Stapylton Campground and other locations throughout the park. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Caity O'Reilly. Ph. – 0428 533 040

### Park Research

Deakin University Mammal research in the Victoria Valley area highlights that the long dry period has caused population totals to be lower than average recently. We eagerly await next seasons research after some decent winter and spring rain.

There's been some exciting research in the Ararat Hills recently with the discovery of Brush Tailed Phascogales. We will continue to monitor via remote cameras.



*Brush tailed Phascogale in Ararat Hills Regional Park*

### Northern Grampians Fire Recovery

Landscape design works have commenced recently for Mackenzie Falls with the intent to create a better entrance to the site, better car-parking and on-site flow. Watch this space for more detail as this project rolls out.

Over the coming weeks Stapylton Campground will have more furniture installed, revegetation works completed and a final site tidy up before an expected reopening in September. Thanks to the Ararat Secondary College Students that recently assisted with a *thryptomene* plant-out. These new revegetation zones will assist to shield the campsites and will provide a fantastic spray of colour when they flower.

Works are currently scheduled for the reseal of the reeds lookout carpark in October and November. There should also be some drainage and resurfacing works for the Balconies walking track as well.

### Sallow Wattle Action Plan Implementation

On ground mulching trials continue in the Roses gap area and planning has commenced for the detailed aerial extent mapping, which should greatly assist with future monitoring and eradication works.

## GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL

Works on the Piccaninny walking track are almost complete after a slight weather delay. Crews recently completed flying in materials to finish the remaining track upgrades and a reopening will occur in the coming weeks.

With warmer Spring weather around the corner you can expect to see more upgrades occurring to sections of existing track that will eventually form part of the overall Grampians Peaks Trail. The next lot of works are expected to be mesh boardwalks at Major Mitchell Plateau around September.

The project team are also busily working on Hikers Camp and Trail Head design options, taking in feedback from hikers, local communities and businesses.

## CERT CALLOUTS

In July your Community Emergency Response Team's callouts were spot on target with the usual 10 monthly callouts. The most calls we have had in a month is 14 and the least is 8 and at the end of the year for the last 10 years the total has been very close to 120 calls in the year. And there is no pattern to the time of day or the day of the week or even the number of tourists in town.

Six of the 10 callouts were outdoors during what was often cold and wet weather. Two men, each in a 1 man kayak, were on Lake Bellfield when one rolled, tipping him into the freezing water and he had to be brought to shore clinging to his friend's kayak. He had fairly severe hypothermia. The next 2 callouts were for 20 year old ladies who slipped on walks to the Pinnacle and injured an ankle. Then a 50 year old lady walking on the Burma track in the Borough Huts/Mt Rosea area found that a previous knee injury was worse than she thought at the start of her walk. These last 3 involved a cold weather carry out in the dark for the SES, Police and Ambulance Victoria.

Anyone doing a walk later in the day at present should be prepared for cold weather and carry at least a teeny-weeny key-ring torch.

Then there were 2 car accidents. A 34 year old man driving near Jimmy Creek hit a kangaroo and his car went off the bitumen into a ditch and hit a tree. Because he hit his head and his back was hurt the SES had to cut him out of the car to prevent stressing his back further. The Stawell Ambulance then drove him to the helicopter at the Halls Gap oval. And finally there was a single car accident when a station wagon lost control between Moyston and Pomonal. The driver and a 2 year old girl went off to hospital for treatment and observation.

Lastly a big thankyou to Tandara Camp Management and guests who often organise a group of young people to clean up the grounds of the Halls Gap Fire and Ambulance Station.

## HALLS GAP JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL

**21/22/23 October 2016**

After many successful years, the Jazz Festival is continuing in the lovely valley of Halls Gap. Moreover, it has changed in name and fixture dates to the above.

Weather at this new time of the year is beautiful & no other events clash with these dates.

A small extra flavour of Blues has been added to all existing genres of jazz.

Planning is progressing well. Support from musicians and followers is overwhelming. To ensure the viability of this community owned event, we need volunteers to help with the many & varied tasks leading up to & during the event. Please contact us (below) in offering your help.

At present, venues will be: Hall, Hub, Pinnacle, Mountain Grand, Comfort Inn, Spirit of Punjab, Kookaburra Hotel. If numbers are great, then a main Marquee will be considered.

So there will be room on the program for about 90-100 bands.

Accommodation Operators please contact & invite your regular music loving Festival guests.

Contact details are:

Post: HALLS GAP JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL, PO Box 72, Halls Gap, Victoria, 3381.

Email: [festival@hallsgapjazzblues.com](mailto:festival@hallsgapjazzblues.com)

Web: [www.hallsgapjazzblues.com](http://www.hallsgapjazzblues.com)



## BUDJA BUDJA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



Budja Budja Neighbourhood House is situated at the back of Budja Budja Medical Centre (red Building), before or after Doctors appointment come down and check House out,

have a cuppa, use computers / internet, printer or just come in for a chat.

Neighbourhood Houses are not for profit, volunteer-driven organisations that deliver opportunities for individuals of all ages and backgrounds to access social, community and economic participation. Communities are strengthened as programs and activities are based on the needs of local communities.

So Halls Gap Community what do we want for OUR Neighbourhood House? Does anyone do something they can offer to run an activity? Some examples and Thanks to the following so far:

Tim	– Tai Chi
Joyce	– Yoga
Cass	– exercise classes
Linda	– Swimming Meetings here
Dot	– Book club
Margo, Tammy & Jenny	- Fill the Gap
Angeline	- idea for Biggest Morning Tea
Abbie	- Storytime

Are just some of the activities and Thanks to a lot more people who have helped during our first year. We did a survey last year which I am updating to get some feedback.

### Dates to remember

Storytime has been changed to Mondays (not to clash with playgroup)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August 9.15 start

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August start 9.30

Provide First Aid – HLTAID003 CPR – HLTAID001

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 6 – 10pm  
RSA – Responsible serving of Alcohol

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 10am – 2pm  
RSA – Responsible serving of Alcohol

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 6 – 10pm  
RSG – Provide Responsible Gambling Services

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 10- 3pm  
Food Safety

These courses will only run if we get enough people enrolled, so if you are or know someone who is interested contact me with your expression of interest. Lee-Anne

E mail – [leeannel@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:leeannel@budjabudjacoop.org.au)

Phone – 5356 4751 press 2 Mobile – 0490 253 012

## Budja Budja Neighbourhood House

20-22 Grampians Road, PO Box 66

Halls Gap Victoria 3380

Phone (03) 53564751 or 0490 253012

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

**Emma Kealy (Member for Lowan), is coming to visit Halls Gap on Monday August 22nd.**

**Feel free to come and discuss issues or opportunities for our town.**

**For Further Details please contact :**

**Suzanne Bysouth | Electorate Officer to Emma Kealy MP**

**Horsham Office 03 5382 0097 | Hamilton 03 5571**

**9800 | Email: [suz-](mailto:suzanne.bysouth@parliament.vic.gov.au)**

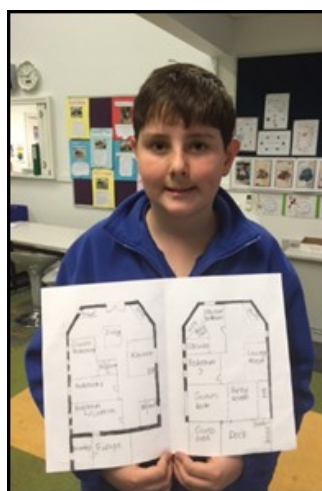
**[anne.bysouth@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:anne.bysouth@parliament.vic.gov.au)**

## FROM THE CLASSROOMS OF HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

During June three students (Archie, Isobel and Paddy) went to Victoria Park reserve in Warrnambool for Regional Cross Country. Gee, did their legs hurt after that? It was the longest, hardest and toughest 3km they have ever done in their lives (until next time.) They thought it would be up and down but there was no end to going up and the green, long and thick grass didn't help. Their results were great as they finished around the middle of the pack. The most important thing was that they tried hard and had a fun day.

In English we read a book called the eleventh hour and after reading we had a challenge to find who ate the feast, as it was a mystery book by Grahame Base. We used the computer to look at the pictures that Mrs. Trimble had scanned and put on there for us. We worked as a team to find who ate the feast. That took about two weeks!!! It was really involved. We won't tell you the answer though, as you may want to read it and solve the mystery. It was fun finding who ate the feast and helping everyone.

Our fantastic JSC group organised a Dr. Seuss dress up day. They organised some really fun activities and everyone got very involved with dressing up. We think the "Cat In The Hat" and her sidekick (aka Mrs. Trimble and Miss Wilkinson) got up to mischief during the day when our bags all disappeared but we'll never really know for sure.....



One of our projects during term 2 in maths was making floor plans for the house of our dreams – some of us have very big and expensive dreams!! The floor plans taught us heaps about measurement and financial money for our Grades 4-6 students. There were five different stages to the project - rough draft, working out the area and

perimeter, doing the good copy, budgeting and 3D designing on the computer. Everyone really enjoyed it and thought the final products were impressive.

We have recently held our very own mini Euro-vision Song and Dance Competition as part of our German studies with Frau Stoffel. The teams were Ireland, Russia, United Kingdom, Belgium and Bulgaria. We trained for lots of hard weeks and couldn't wait for the final performance. We all tried our very hardest and danced and sang our hearts out. Ireland ended up victors and their team won a massive lollypop each. We all had an absolutely wonderful day and hope to do it next year.



Term 3 is the Dinosaur term. We are learning so much about dinosaurs and our junior students have even hatched their very own dinosaur, Spike!! Rex the lizard has not really taken to Spike but we are sure they will learn to get along.



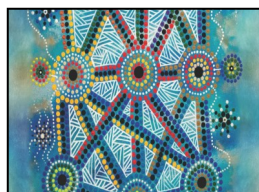
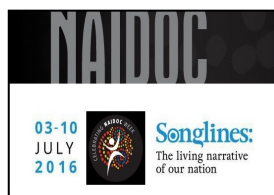


## BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC

**20-22 GRAMPIANS ROAD, HALLS GAP PH: 53 564751**

### GP DATES

AUGUST 2016	SEPTEMBER 2016	OCTOBER 2016
Dr Malinda Leary 2, 3, 4	Dr Susan Lewis 1	Dr Sue Watson 4,5,6
Dr Susan Lewis 9, 10, 11	Dr Diana Jefferies 6,7,8,9	Dr Sue Watson 11,12,13
Dr Susan Lewis 16, 17, 18	Dr Diana Jefferies 13,14,15,16	Dr Susan Lewis 18,19,20
Dr Susan Lewis 23, 24, 25	Dr Diana Jefferies 20,21,22,23	Dr Siobhan Reddel 25,26,27
Dr Susan Lewis 30, 31	TBA 27,28,29	



NAIDOC celebrations at Budja were successful and thank you to all those who supported this day.

A big thank you to Mitchell and Kelanee for Acknowledgement to Country and raising the flag, great job!

### BUDJA VISITING OUTREACH SERVICES



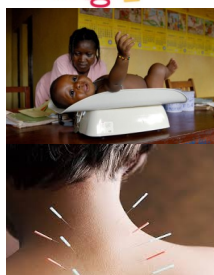
PODIATRY



DIETITIAN



DIABETES EDUCATOR



MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH NURSE



ACUPUNCTURE



Australian Government  
Department of Health



My Health Record

Over 2.6 million Australians already have a  
My Health Record!

Our friendly staff and doctors at the Budja Medical Clinic  
can help you register and upload your My Health Record  
ASK TODAY.



## FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Margo, Jenny and  
Tammy

Please email your articles and  
photos to us by the 20th 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



Vikasa classes are about a lot more than just 'working out'. Each class is packed full of practical functional movement that will help you in your everyday life. Classes are filled with laughter and smiles. Dancing is almost essential.

We have new class blocks starting soon, be quick as places are limited and will fill quickly.

**Boxing : Monday nights, 6 week block, starting August 29th.**

**Circuit : Wednesday nights, 12 week block, starting July 20th.**

**Bootcamp : 6 week block, starting July 21st.**

For further information you can contact us via Facebook, email or phone.

Hope to see you moving soon!

| [cass@vikasa.com.au](mailto:cass@vikasa.com.au) | FB: Vikasa Health, Fitness & Wellbeing  
| Instagram: vikasa\_health.fitness |

## NEW BEGINNINGS - A WOMEN'S JOURNEY

- Are you looking for a change in direction in your life?
- Do you want to improve your skills and explore your potential?
- Do you want more self confidence to explore your goals in your life?
- Do you need a supportive environment in which to learn?
- 

### Course outcomes:

In a positive, safe and nurturing learning environment participants will be able to be supported by like-minded women, gain confidence in setting life goals and ambitions, enhance their interpersonal skills and develop effective communication. They will identify personal strengths and develop a positive self-image.

### The course covers five topics:

1. Personal effectiveness
2. Becoming a lifelong learner
3. Pathways to work
4. Women's issues

### Dates and times:

19 August until 16 December (Fridays 9.30 am - 3.00 pm)

### Resources

All resources are supplied.

There is no cost to students eligible for a Victorian government subsidy of fees.

### Entry requirements

This course is for women only.

### Venue and workshop times

St Arnaud Community Resource Centre  
85 Napier St, St Arnaud VIC 3478

### Enrol now

Address: 39 Urquhart St, Horsham 3400  
Telephone: 5381 6701

Email: [info@hub.edu.au](mailto:info@hub.edu.au)

Internet: [www.hub.edu.au](http://www.hub.edu.au)