

Issue: March 2020

FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

WRAP UP... SEE YOU AT THE HALLS GAP MARKET

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HALLS GAP
PRIMARY SCHOOL MARKETS
9 AM - 1 PM: SUNDAY
SUPPORTING LOCAL PRODUCE &
FUNDRAISING FOR THE SCHOOL

FROM THE GARIWERD



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.

SIX SEASONS CALENDAR

February 2020 - Rainfall by Chas;

STATS BY CHAS... 75 mm for February bringing the progressive total for 2020 to 111 mm. This compares to the same period last year of 36mm for February with a progressive total of 38 mm.

As of the 26th of February Lake Bellfield is holding 51,950ML or 66% full compared to the same period last year of 59,440ML or 76% full. The total system is holding 184,710ML or 32.97% full compared to the same period last year of 220,720ML or 39.39% full.

Mount William received 70.2 mm for February 2020 bringing the progressive total to 105.8 mm compared to the same period last year of 32.4 mm with a progressive total of 35 mm.

The highest temperature of 26.7 C was recorded on the 13th of February and the lowest of 2.2C was recorded on the 4th of February. The highest wind speed of 91 km/h was recorded on the 18th of February.

Hi ! can you download the posting on Facebook about the Community Book Swap Case on the Halls Gap Community Watch page

Cheers - Chas.



In February we launched our new website. Check it out at

<https://budjabudjaneighbourhoodhouse.org.au/>

Our Move it Move it program is going well with our Gentle Exercise on Tuesdays and Finska on Fridays being the most popular. We will be starting Yoga in the day time on 1 April .

Picture of some of our volunteers at the Grampians Music Festival putting up tepees. Thanks to all our helpers.

The needle weaving workshop was well received. Photos show us working hard with some fantastic results. More photos on the website. Look out for more textile workshops

March is a busy month....

We will be celebrating International Women's day on Thursday 12 March see poster on page 3.

Our School Holiday Program is on again.

Program will be out next week however this is a preview.

1/4/2020—Easter Sand Art

2/4/2020—Games Day

5/4/2020—Freeza Event

8/4/2020—Easter Craft

9/4/2020—Easter cooking

See you soon at the Budja Budja Neighbourhood House

Lee-Anne & Alison





International Women's Day

#EachforEqual
**An equal world is an
enabled world**

LUNCHEON
with guest speaker
Dr Amanda Gibbons
& music by Russ Kellett

Thursday 12 March 2020 | 11.30AM-2PM

Budja Budja Neighbourhood House

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

5356 4751 option 3

neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

Cost: \$10 per head

RSVP: 10th March 2020

When booking please advise any dietary requirements.



Numbers limited bookings essential

Book Exchange at Halls Gap

NEW FACILITY FOR HALLS GAP.....**congratulations** Builder Doug and Supervisor Janine in building this Community Book Swap Case at the Hub. Every one are most welcome to swap books and any spares can be left in the History Room to be put out later.



WAS THE 2019 WILDFLOWER SHOW THE LAST ONE?

It could well be. There are two reasons why the committee is considering cancelling the show, and they are connected.

Firstly, despite Halls Gap being full of tourists on the September long weekend our show was not crowded. Clearly, if we are going to attract people, teach them a bit about our wonderful plants, and enthuse them about the riches of our lovely Grampians Gariwerd area, we have to make some changes.

Secondly, to make those changes we have to revitalise our organising committee. Most of us are not young, some of us want to retire. We need new blood. Our appeal in February's Fill the Gap, and some personal contacts have resulted in a small number of people putting their hands up, but not quite enough. We get really good help the week of the show, but we need people with ideas for planning, for help with publicity, to learn about plant families and more. We need to spread the load around.

So we are making one last effort to achieve a 2020 Wildflower Show, starting on Friday September 25.



We are meeting at Budja Budja Neighbourhood House on Wednesday 11 March at 10.30 to 12.00. If we don't get new volunteers the show dies. If you are really serious about joining our committee but can't make it that day you can ring me on 0429 201 139.

If the show does die, we will continue to have some Botanic Garden walks, sell guides on where to see flowers etc, so we still will be seeking help from the community and new ideas on a show without a show.

Margo Sietsma



Apologies that we have had to close the garden for safety reasons. We are hoping to get an expert in to assess the broken branches that are still dangling. And the one that fell last week would probably killed anyone underneath it. If for some reason you want to go into the safe area of the garden we can unlock the gate for you. (I will send a couple of photos separately) On a more positive note we are delighted that the group "Outbeyond" who came and worked in the garden in November have given us some gardening tools and first aid kits. We hope we will make good use of the first while never needing the second. They plan to return to help us again. You may have read in the Stawell paper about WAMA getting funding to help create a Botanic Garden of local plants. We are working closely with them as our gardens will complement not compete. They will be able to plant things that enjoy the flat plain and sunshine, while we have the forest and valley ones. In the meantime we too are chasing grants, and will keep the community informed. Don't forget you can help us financially be becoming a donor. It helps enormously as many grants require us to put in an equivalent sum to what we are asking for. On our wish list are new noticeboards, electricity

Margo Sietsma



I hope many of you joined in Clean Up Australia on Sunday. Our next activity is on Saturday April 18 when Ben Gunn will take us to an Aboriginal Rock Art site to help educate us on Cultural heritage. Please register on Park Victoria's Parkconnect page or contact Ben at gunnb@activ8.net.au.

Margo Sietsma

Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group

Work on the new Golton Gorge track and reinstatement of the entry road and picnic area was finished by mid December but extremely hot weather and fire danger forced us to postpone the opening.

The official opening has now been scheduled for Friday, 3rd April, with the hope of more favourable weather. We shall have a final working bee on Friday, 27th March, which will ensure that everything is ready for the opening.

The Support Group express their gratitude to the local staff of Parks Victoria for their continual assistance in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

David Witham

Specs to a good cause:

Thankyou everyone that have dropped off their old glasses to the Community House last month. I now have 10 specs to give to Specsavers which is wonderful!



I have heard there may be a couple still out there, yet to be dropped off, so don't worry if you think you've missed the date. I'll give it a couple more weeks before I do the drop off, so feel free to leave them with Alison or Lee-Ann in the meantime.

Thanks once again. Your effort is very much appreciated by me and ultimately by whoever will end up wearing your glasses all the best

Rowena

HALLS GAP CFA



We have had several new volunteers join the brigade recently so the CFA District will be running a Wildfire Firefighter course at the Halls Gap Fire Station during March and April. If you have been thinking about joining, now would be a great time to sign up as we might be able to enrol you into this program. It is a great opportunity to train locally, rather than travel to Stawell or Beaufort for this course, which is a minimum requirement for all volunteer firefighters.

At our recent Brigade Management Team meeting we also decided to run two regular training sessions each month, so as well as the first Wednesday of each month, we will add the third Tuesday of March, April and May. The additional time will build our familiarity with equipment and procedures and build the skills and team work needed when responding to emergencies. Firefighters can also gain additional skills through specialist CFA training, so we will soon have another tanker driver as one of our volunteers gains his heavy vehicle drivers' endorsement.

It may seem cooler and safer, but the risk of fire remains and the fire restriction period for Northern Grampians Shire continues until 1 May 2020. This was announced back in November last year and means all forms of burning and potential fire, such as welding, chain sawing and mowing are subject to very strict rules and in many cases require a permit. Police are routinely called to fires which fall outside the regulations and several local people have been charged for lighting illegal fires. Anyone thinking about lighting a fire should check CFA's CAN I OR CAN'T I flyer on the CFA website, or contact the Shire to find out the rules before lighting up. If a fire is reported, the CFA is mobilised and must ensure not only that the fire is safe, but that all the requirements are met.

The brigade continues to provide Fire Equipment Maintenance services carried out by qualified volunteers for local fundraising. We have also been encouraged by donations received at the community information day, contributions from local residents and fundraising activities at Parkgate Resort. Thank you for your support!

Anyone interested in volunteering as a firefighter or in any other capacity, please call or SMS Peter Hilbig on 0437 524 716.



The Grampians Film Society evenings are held from January to November in either Halls Gap, Pomonal or Stawell.

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 or \$25 half-year.

For more information

Contact Janet Witham 03 5356 4300 or Alison Bainbridge 0417 883 445

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.

Wednesday 25 March 2020

Centenary Hall, 117 Grampians Road, Halls Gap



Three brilliant African-American women at NASA -- Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe) -- serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn (Glen Powell) into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world.





The annual Grampians Texture is about to start. If you are interested in textiles and art there are many things to see. There is a small number of workshop vacancies still available, check our website out for more information: www.grampianarts.com.au

Grampians Texture Twilight Makers Market

5 - 7 pm —Saturday 14 March

Halls Gap Community Centre

Buy direct from the artist., this is where students and tutors participating in Grampians Texture sell their wares. Expect to find quality unique hand craft.



GrampianArts Market Place:

8 am—5 pm Sat 14—Thur 19 March

Halls Gap Community Centre

A large number of specialty art and textile supplies: expect to find books, threads, fibres, vintage buttons, designer fabrics, yarns, supplies for felt making, supplies for dyeing, silk scarves, hand dyed threads and fibres, vintage kimonos and much more. And a fantastic knife and scissor sharpener! Not all sellers are there every day.

Special Exhibitions in Halls Gap for Grampians Texture

Kookaburra Hotel: 125—127 Grampians Rd, Halls Gap. Open daily except Monday. 13 March - 30 April

SCRATCHING THE SURFACE: artist **Julie Ann McEwen** Mixed media and textile collage techniques. Julie has a very tactile quality in her art, with many layers of painted, dyed and printed cloth and paper, to reveal a visual story.

MOCO Gallery: 475-481 Grampians Rd, Halls Gap. Open daily 10-5. 13 March - 30 April

FUNK UP THE JUNK: Artist — **Nicki Clarke** Sculptor with recycled materials. The sculptures are triffid like creatures from the future, plants crossed with creatures.

Artist in residence: Come and see a master basket maker at work!! **Lee Cole** from Tasmania works with hullo, pull up a chair and start making. He will be in the GrampianArts Market Place area throughout Grampians Texture

For more information: textures@grampianarts.com.au / 0428825971

www.grampianarts.com.au



HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

FROM THE CLASSROOMS OF HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

Everyone at Halls Gap Primary School hopes you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year! It can be a wonderful opportunity to meet up with family and friends. Our students had great stories about their holidays from travelling to reading good books. We have 47 students and our teaching staff are Karina Henderson, Sam Stoffel, Cheryl Grambau and Ja-San Trimble. If you feel inclined to join us in a voluntary capacity at any stage don't be afraid to drop in. We are always looking for people to listen to reading or even to come in and share a special skill, story or experience. All you need is some time and a current Working With Children card.

As always, our year started with the swimming program. What school wouldn't want to go and spend 32 degree temperature days in the beautiful Halls Gap pool. Our swimming instructors, Ange and Tracey, once again provided us with a high quality program. They also put on perfect weather for most of the two weeks which was really great of them!



We have had our Junior School Council elections this year. Our student leaders are provided with many opportunities to learn about leadership and to develop their unique leadership styles. They are mentored and supported at the beginning of the year to run their meetings and conduct their fundraising and community activities. We use the gradual release model. By the end of the year they will be working independently. Congratulations to our 2020 JSC team: President – Danikah, Vice President – Barney, Secretary – Flynn, Treasurer – Euan, Class representatives – Felix, Bonnie and Bailey.

It was terrific to head out and do our bit to clean up the main road of Halls Gap as part of Clean Up Australia Day. Every year we put on our gloves and our high viz vests. We feel really good about it but we would feel even better if people didn't leave their litter behind. Thank you to Hannah from Parks Victoria for helping us out this year.

We hope to see lots of locals and visitors at our 4 markets over the year. Fundraising is hugely important to our school. We are working and saving very hard to try and renovate our gym into a classroom. With our growing numbers we are hoping to have our own Art Space. We would even love to offer the community the chance to use it when it is done. Fingers crossed we can start it this year! In the meantime we have loved the opportunity to use the Community Hall for our Performing Arts program. It's an amazing space.





BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381

PH: 03 53564751

www.budjabudjacoop.org.au

MARCH 2020	APRIL 2020	May 2020
<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 2,3,4,5,6 10,11,12,13 16,17,18,19,20 24,25,26,27 30,31 <u>DR Partridge</u> 18,19,20 23,24,25 <u>Closed</u> 9 public holiday	<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1,2,3 6,7,8,9 14,15,16,17 21,22,23,24 27,28,29,30 <u>Dr Paula Ferguson</u> 15,16,17 20,21,22 <u>Closed</u> 10,13 public holiday	<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1 5,6,7,8 11,12,13,14,15 18,19,20,21,22 25,26,27,28,29 <u>DR Gregory Malcher</u> 13,14,15 18,19,20

Immunisation is important



Immunisation is one of the best ways you can protect yourself, your children and future generations from infectious diseases. Vaccinating helps wipe out disease that could spread now and into the future.

Call Budja Budja Medical Clinic 53564751 to make an appointment to discuss your vaccinations.

By making sure you and your family are fully vaccinated you are not only looking after your own family but also protecting vulnerable people in your community

HALLS GAP MARKET



The **Halls Gap Market** was established in 1997 and is proudly brought to you by the Halls Gap Primary School. Located at the base of the Wonderland Range (Grampians) in the magical Halls Gap Primary School

grounds, this truly unique market is a must.

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

The Market Dates for 2020 are:

Labour Day – 8th March

Easter Sunday – 12th April

Queen's Birthday – 7th June

Melbourne Cup Weekend – 1st November



Halls Gap is a Cat Free Zone



POMONAL VILLAGE MARKET

Pomonal Village Market

on the last Sunday or every month from 9am—1pm at the Pomonal Community Hall. Run by



volunteers of the Pomonal Progress Association to raise money for the community of Pomonal. Site enquiries: call the Market Coordinator on 0417 883 445.

Market Dates for 2020

29th March, 26th April, 31st May, 28th June, 26th July, 30th August, 27th September, 3rd & 4th October, 25th October, 29th November, 27th 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	Hi-Lift Jack
Snatch Straps	Tree Trunk Protectors
Winch Extension Straps	Bow Shackles
Snatch Blocks	Soft Shackles
Shovel	Rated Recovery Points
Air Compressor	Chainsaw
UHF Radio Ch 20	GPS Assistance
Fridge	Local Knowledge

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



VICTORIA POLICE

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



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

FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Margo and Alison

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

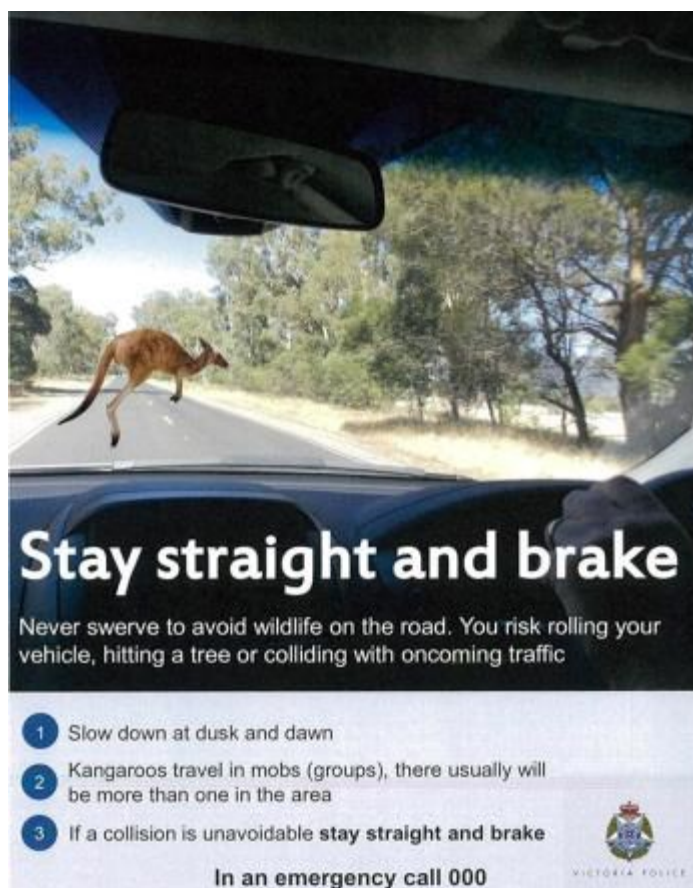
neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

Upload your community events details to
the Community Association webpage:

www.hallsgapcommunity.org.au

Like our Halls Gap Community Association
Facebook Page

Like our Halls Gap Community Watch and
Events Facebook Page



"Doctor, I keep seeing an insect buzzing around me."

"Don't worry; that's just a bug that's going around."



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.