

Issue: May 2020

FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

WRAP UP...

In This Edition:

Stats by Chas	Page 1
HG Community Garden	Page 2
FOGG	Page 3
HG Community Notice Board	
HG Botanical Garden	
HG CFA	Page 4
Church Services	
Bear's Adventures	Page 5
RF Doctor Service	Page 6
Local Covid-19 info	Page 7
BBNH	Page 8
HG Primary School	Page 9
WAMA	Pages 10-11
Parks Victoria	Pages 12-13
Weed of the Month	Page 14
HG Landcare	
BB Medical Centre	Page 15
Markets/Ads	Pages 16-17

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.

We hope that you will enjoy this edition of FTG. We have tried to provide information of where to go to get assist during the pandemic as well as some of our local good news stories.

Bear's adventures during this time has given us on Facebook great pleasure so we thought he deserved a page of his own.

Please spare a thought for our Halls Gap residents stuck overseas or interstate and similarly those who have to wait out the lockdown here in Halls Gap. I am sure they are missing their home, families and friends.

Finally it is great to see how everyone is looking out for one another during this time. Keep up the good work. Looking forward to catching up with you all in person as soon as it is safe to do so.

Margo, Alison & Lee-Anne

STATS BY CHAS...

April 2020 - Rainfall by Chas

95 mm for April bringing the progressive total for 2020 to 238.5 mm.

This compares to the same period last year of 14.5 mm for April with a progressive total of 66.5 mm.

As of the 29th of April Lake Bellfield is holding 47,050 ML or 60% full compared to the same period last year of 53,560 ML or 68% full.

The total system is holding 166,580 ML or 29.73 % full compared to the same period last year of 193,690 ML or 34.57 % full.

Mount William received 151.0 mm for April 2020.

The highest temperature of 17.1 C was recorded on the 14th of April and the lowest of 0.8 C was recorded on the 30th of April. The highest wind speed of 48 km/h was recorded on the 8th of April.



Anyone else missing their hair dresser.....

I think there will be some interesting hair styles during the lock down.

We would love some positive stories from you (for the next edition) during this time of social distancing. Please email them to
neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au





Halls Gap Community Garden

The Halls Gap Community Garden is going from Strength to Strength. Every gardener and visitor remarks on the neatness and productivity of the Garden. At this stage about 10 local residents are working in the Garden.

All residents and visitors are welcome to come down and take the produce. If socially minded please do a little weeding or watering for your food. If not, then please take the produce and do no work. My goal is to have enough food to supply vegetables and herbs to our local residents. I can assure you we are well on the way to achieving that goal.

As this Depression worsens there will be one place that people can go to in Halls Gap to obtain a free, healthy meal. I want you all to know that you are welcome. Please take what you need for a meal and shut the gate on the way out.

There are no private gardens in the Halls Gap Community Garden. People have bought seeds, planted them and nurtured them with the understanding that their produce is to be shared and used by people when required.

I have been watering every morning for the last 3 months and undertaking general maintenance of the Garden. Now with increased gardeners on board the Garden can only go from strength to strength.

All welcome. For more information please call me.

Tim Walsh,

Tim's Place, 53564288



Neil weeding in the garden



Tim and Frank painted the shed. Love the pink!

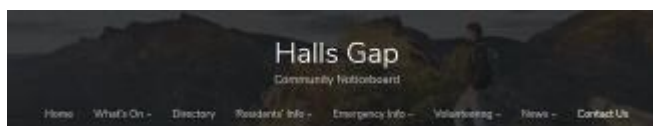


Gregor with a beautiful egg from our chooks so far.



STOP PRESS What's new in the Garden. The boys were busy on Sunday 26th building a lovely new home for our hens. They have already provided us with some eggs and so calming to watch. If you haven't been to the Garden lately why not visit when taking you exercise. ***They would love a visit from Bear.***

HALLS GAP COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



The Halls Gap Community Noticeboard website has a great deal of information about Halls Gap.

This community website is for you to explore, connect and stay in touch with each other and the various clubs and associations in your town. It has links for quickly and easily getting both emergency and community information.

I have been working hard on updating the site and I need your help. I have been busy contacting everyone to ensure information about their group or activity is correct. However there is probably more information to be added or some information that needs to be deleted on the website. Please explore it, and help keep it up to date and relevant. Any suggestions send to: hallsgapcommunity@gmail.com

Thanks

Alison B

FRIENDS OF GRAMPIANS GARIWERD



FOGGS (Friends of Grampians Gariwerd) has also of course had to stop our activities.

However we are busy giving our members interesting things to read. We've sent out two research articles and our

regular newsletter will be coming out soon. You can join FOGGS via our website and help us in our support of our great National Park.

Margo Sietsma

HALLS GAP BOTANIC GARDEN NEWS



Another month of isolation is starting, but fortunately our garden is large enough that our

volunteers can work at a safe distance from each other, and actually quite a bit has been done over the last few weeks. Joy R has done her usual raking and mowing work and has also tidied up the area beside the shade shelter, Joy O'B has tidied up our plant names, David W has improved our fountain, and others have done some weeding. I have redone most of the signs for the kids' trail, and started to look at reorganising our plant family signs. We've had a most appreciated offer of help from another non-resident who works here quite often. We'd welcome more regular helpers from our own community.

There are more jobs to come in the next few weeks as the new seat beside the Sullivan memorial has been ordered and is due to arrive in the next couple of weeks. Also we have learnt that our grant application to the Shire has had some success. Not as much as asked for, but enough to put a set of glass fronted noticeboards inside the shade shelter. As soon as the money is in our bank account we'll go ahead and order them.

In less cheerful news, the report by the tree specialist auditor is in and quite a few more of our trees are unsafe, (have you seen the size of the interior decay in the one that had to be felled last month?).

So we will have to close the garden for a few days again when Spriggys arrives to do the most urgent work later this month or early next month. In the meantime, do visit our garden during your exercise walks and enjoy our plants and the views up to the cliffs above. Beautiful.

Margo Sietsma

Maybe Bear might like to visit the garden in May.

Q. Why do sea-gulls fly over the sea?



A. Because if they flew over the bay they would be bagels!

HALLS GAP CFA

NO CHARGE FOR BURN PERMITS 4 May to 17 May – APPLY NOW TO NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE.



The fire restriction period is over, so landholders and occupiers are encouraged to clean up and remove or burn excess leaves, bark, sticks and fallen timber to reduce the fire risk later in the year. Three important things to note if you are planning a burn:

1. You must have a permit if you are in a township or residential area of Northern Grampians Shire. See <https://www.ngshire.vic.gov.au/Council-Services/Community-safety/Open-air-permit>.
2. There is no charge for permits issued for the period 4 May to 17 May, so apply now because your site will need to be inspected by the Shire and this could require up to five working days.
3. Whether you need a permit or not, you must REGISTER YOUR BURN by calling 1800 668 511 so the fire brigade is not activated when a helpful citizen telephones the emergency call centre. See <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/contact/register-your-burn-off>. (While we are trying to remain isolated due to COVID-19, it is vital that volunteer firefighters are not engaged unnecessarily and brought into contact with others.)

Even though CFA volunteers continue to respond to emergencies as an essential service, due to the COVID-19 restrictions we have suspended all training and meetings and are applying an increased cleaning regime as well as the recommended distancing. Special procedures will be applied if we are called to incidents in medical or aged care facilities.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to commence our twice monthly training routine and our new members will have to wait for their initial Minimum Skills training, but Fire Equipment Maintenance (FEM) services are deemed essential so are continuing at this stage. Even though many businesses are closed, the twice-yearly inspections

and services should be undertaken so we will be contacting clients as their routine services fall due.

As always, even under the current conditions, anyone interested in volunteering as a firefighter or for other roles in the fire brigade should call or SMS Peter on 0437 524 716.

CHURCH SERVICES

Due to the present pandemic there are no local church services however Pomonal Community Uniting Church are holding Zoom services. Contact Margo on 0429 201 139 for more information.

WHAT ARE ZOOM SERVICES LIKE?

Are you like me suddenly learning to use technology you hadn't even heard of before this pandemic?

Pomonal Community Uniting Church used to meet every Sunday morning, with members coming from Pomonal, Halls Gap, near Lake Lonsdale and Stawell. And now we can't. And we miss it. What to do?

Thanks to Peter Greenberger, who set it up and taught us how to use it, we now meet by Zoom. Each of us in our own homes, looking respectable at least from the waist up, most of us with a cup of coffee in our hand, we can see each other, catch up with each other, share in the Bible readings and prayers, listen to a sermon, and sing – sort of. Singing is the one part that we don't cope well with; Peter has to mute us all otherwise we delay the video and the sync is terrible. We will have some embarrassing moments to look back on, particularly when a couple are sitting together and don't realise that asides they make to each other are heard by all of us, and we can see the faces they pull. I wish I had thought of taking photos of my screen.

So it is very good for those of us who can join this way, but hard on those without good internet reception, or not owners of computers. Their Sundays are very different to ours. They do get something from our minister later in the week, but it's not the same.

Margo Siestma

BEAR'S ADVENTURES

For those of you who do not do Facebook here are some highlights of Bears adventurer during April

Bear putting in his order to the Halls Gap Bakery guys, 2 meat pies, 2 meat pasties & some Honey Jumbles.



Poor Bear, he hasn't pulled up to well from his entry in the "Bear Gift". For the 2020 records Winnie-the-Pooh came first followed by Paddington Bear followed by Humphrey B Bear and in fourth place our own locally



Bear is doing somersaults, he is so excited, honey jumbles at the bakery..thank you, thank you..will be down as soon as possible

Bear is so happy, he finished his first jigsaw puzzle last night.



Bear feeling a bit lonely. Waiting at the bus stop for everyone to come back.



Naughty Bear, he broke in to the Brewery and overindulged. Look out or Senior Constable Kelly will put him behind bars...



ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE VIC

Free telephone and video counselling available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Halls Gap during COVID-19

Royal Flying Doctor Service Victoria (RFDS) is providing mental health and wellbeing appointments to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members in Halls Gap during COVID-19. Free appointments are available over the phone and via video.

Book an appointment if you are feeling:



Tess Howells, Mental Health and Wellbeing

- * Sad inside and have no interest in doing things
- * Wanting to be alone
- * Feeling tired all the time
- * Feeling nervous or jumpy
- * Having trouble sleeping
- * Feeling guilt or shame
- * Being so sad that nothing can cheer you up
- * Being quick to get angry
- * Having bad thoughts or memories

If you are going through a tough time and have any of these feelings, there is support available. In Halls Gap, Tess Howells can support you via telephone or video. Face to face appointments with Tess will start again after COVID-19. Tess said,

"No matter how many times I drive the road to Halls Gap, the scenery - especially those magnificent mountains of the Gariwerds takes my breath away. I hope to get back again soon."

Please contact the Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative directly to make an appointment on (03) 5356 4751.

Get reliable and current information
from the Department of Health Australia
www.health.org.au | www.dhhs.vic.gov.au
Hotline 1800 675 398

About **home isolation** and **COVID-19** go directly to reliable sources

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-isolation-guidance>

Victorian State Government Information with Department of Health and Human Services **Daily Update**

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

What is the Northern Grampians Shire Council doing in response to COVID-19?



Northern Grampians Shire Council has partnered with local community leaders and service providers to provide you with the most up-to-date *local* information about how COVID-19 is affecting our community. We are in constant contact with healthcare and education providers, emergency services, tourism bodies, business support networks, and more to make sure you know exactly what's going on in our community.

There is quite a bit of information for community and businesses on the NGSC website. <https://www.ngshire.vic.gov.au/Emergency-Management/Coronavirus-in-the-Northern-Grampians>

If you do not have access to the internet and/or need to get in touch with the NGSC ring them on **5358 8700** during business hours **8.30am to 4.45pm, Monday to Friday**.

If you suspect you may have the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), call the Stawell Regional Health Respiratory Assessment Clinic on 03 5358 8630 between 8:30am and 5pm - Monday to Friday or the dedicated Victorian Department Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398



For the latest from the State Government, please refer to the Department of Health and Human Services. <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

For information in languages other than English, call 131 450

Home isolating? **You're not alone.**

If you or someone in your house is self-isolating you might need some help to continue to do this.

At Grampians Community Health **we have set up a local Home Isolation Support Service**. This service is available to support you in what you need in your day to day life to stay safe and well.

Please phone Grampians Community Health on 5358 7400

How to get this service?

Contacting the Home Isolation Support Service is through telephone and email only.

Call: Grampians Community Health on **5358 7400**, or

Email: home.isolation@gch.org.au

Availability: From Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm.

For more information

GCH established a Home Isolation Support Services (HISS) based in Stawell to support **all communities in the Northern Grampians Shire**.

This is available as a central contact point for people who have been mandated to or advised to remain in home isolation and a way that we can support you to stay in your home **with material aid, advice, and support around your physical and mental health and wellbeing**.



BUDJA BUDJA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

April has been a busy month learning new skills such as meetings and gatherings on line.

Lee-Anne and Alison have been busy making calls and ensuring everyone is updated on what's happening at the house.

What is still happening but in a different way:

Move It Move It - Gentle Exercise: Jo Brown has provided us with two exercise programs so far. Send Alison your email and she can send you a set of exercises.

Move It Move It - Walking Group: Alison has obtained the pedometers for participants of the program. These will be delivered. It is hoped that participants will be able to record their steps. We are trying to see how far we can go virtually as a community. A report on how far we have travelled will be in the next FTG. If you already record your steps and would like to join in on the fun please contact Alison or Lee-Anne.

Move It Move It - Finska: We used an app on our phones where participants played in their own backyard. At first it was tricky but we got the hang of it. Planning to have a few more sessions via our phones until we can meet again at the house.

Tai Chi: Our Tai Chi group is still able to practice their Tai Chi at home due to the fabulous videos of our teacher Tim. If you would like to get a copy please contact Alison or Lee-Anne.

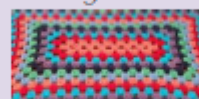
Yarn Group: We are still continuing via telephone and emails at this stage. Alison has devised a crochet program for the term. Contact her if you would like a copy of the program and patterns We are hoping to meet in the virtual realm soon.

Halls Gap Book Club: We are still able to get the books for members to read. This month's book is Landscape of Farewell by Australian author Alex Miller.

If you are interested in participating in any or all of the above contact Alison or Lee-Anne either by phone 5356 4754 or email neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au.

Crochet Granny Rectangle Afghan Part 1

This is a "The Crochet Crowd" pattern with a youtube tutorial



Crochet Granny Rectangle Afghan Part 2

Crochet Granny Ripple/Chevron Part 1



Crochet Granny Ripple/Chevron Part 2

Retro Vibe Square



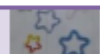
Comer to Comer (C2C) Part 1

Comer to Comer (C2C) Part 2



Ivy League

Stars Part



How to put our Granny Squares together



Borders and blocking



Our condolences go out to Robert and Alison Irvine and their family on the passing of their daughter, Lara who died on Friday 24th April and Alison's mother who died on Saturday 25th April after being diagnosed with cancer recently.

Lara had been ill for many years and was in hospital in Melbourne recently and seemed on the mend and her passing was a shock to the family. Lara's funeral will be on Tuesday at 2.00pm. The service is being live streamed please contact Monica Coleman to obtain the link.

HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL



FROM THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS OF HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

Well, the times are certainly very interesting for education and schooling at the moment. We are all staying at home to slow (and hopefully stop) the spread of COVID-19. Impressively, every one of our 47 students is learning from home. Their teachers are contacting them and their families via video conferencing, phone calls, emails, text messages and our online program called SeeSaw. Every week our

families also call into the school and pick up their learning packs, which are full of goodies that the teachers have put together. It has been very challenging, changing our teaching and learning practises so drastically in such a short period, but all of the families and students have been wonderful and supportive. It also helps that we have the most amazing teaching staff to get this into action as well. They have been superb.

They have also been very creative in some of the activities that our students have been doing. Apart from our usual literacy and numeracy sessions we are providing PE, Chinese, Virtual Library sessions, Performing Arts and Visual Arts. It's all happening! Our students have completed



a couple of very special art projects this week. The first one is the Hands of Hope project. Hands of Hope was created by a young Ararat girl who made drawings of her hands and then displayed them for others to see. This was her way of sharing hope with everyone. We decided to do the same. Scarlett's are very sparkly.

The brief for our next art project this week has been very straight forward. Find a picture of a famous piece of art and recreate it using only items from around your house. We have seen some amazing pictures (some of them are very clever and some of them are hysterical) We do hope to have a display of all of the art that our students have been creating for the Halls Gap community to enjoy when we are all allowed out of our houses again. Here's Bonnie's recreation of Frederick Pierre Tschaggeny's 'Young Woman With a Parrot'

Take care Halls Gap community



Fantastic work everyone (ie: teachers, students, parents, brothers & sisters, grandparents, aunts & uncles cousins) looking forward to seeing more of your art work. Missing the Crafty Tuesdays Afternoons at Budja Budja Neighbourhood House. This will resume once it is safe to do so... **Alison B**

WILDLIFE ART MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA



The Biggest Science Experiment – Being a science savvy community

Looking for a new project to do while stuck at home?

Get involved in WAMA's The Biggest Science Experiment, an initiative designed to engage us to be a more science savvy community.

The Biggest Science Experiment has been created to get the community thinking, talking and involved in science, the world around us and ourselves. While many of us are stuck at home, this is the perfect time to explore new things and ask some questions.

"We really want to get people thinking about science and how it is involved in our everyday lives" says Anthea Nicholls WAMA Education Lead and BigSciExp Project Manager.

"This is an ideal project for kids and families who may find themselves having to stay at home. The current situation also raises lots of interesting science questions for us to research and talk about."

The project commenced at the beginning of March with plans for an Expo to be held in Stawell Town Hall. Since then the Expo has changed its format, with plans to conduct an on-line virtual Expo with participants having the opportunity to present and share their project or experiment on-line. We also have a number of guest speakers to be announced who will be giving virtual presentations as part of the Expo. Dates to be announced soon!

Your project or experiment doesn't have to be complex or science-y. Its as easy as observing, collecting and recording your findings. Its that simple!

We have included an experiment at the bottom of this article to give you some inspiration, or simply visit our website for more details at www.bigsciexp.com.au. You can also follow us on our social media pages @bigsciexp. Register your experiment or project idea now!



Experimenting with Plants



Experimenting with plants is fun. You just have to be a bit patient as you will set up your experiment and keep it going for a few weeks, or even months. Many important science experiments have taken time, even years!

You will need about six small seedlings (all the same size) or you can start with seeds.

You can use potting tubes for seedlings or saucers with soil or cotton wool for seeds.

You can experiment with all of the things plants need.

- **SOIL:** Try different types from sand to clay. Make sure they all get the same amount of water.
- **WATER:** Vary the amount of water they get from none, to one teaspoon a day, two teaspoons, and so on right up to what you expect will be too much daily water.
- **FERTILISER:** You can choose a fertilizer and vary the amount your plants get from none through the recommended amount up to many times that amount. Make sure you start with soil or potting mix that has no fertilizer added. The capsicum seedlings in the photo were given different amounts of fertilizer over 8 weeks.
- **SUNLIGHT:** Start with three seedlings the same size then put one in full sun, one in shade and one in darkness. Make sure they all have enough water to stay moist.

Remember to take regular photos of your plants!



bigsciexp.com.au



wama.net.au

PARKS VICTORIA UPDATE

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



GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK CLOSURE

The whole of the Grampians National Park is closed to all people, including not being available for locals to undertake exercise within. These closures are very different to anything we have had in place before as they are under the public health act which is administered by Victoria Police not by my staff. The confusion I understand as there were a number of stages to this full closures with us first closing campgrounds, then a week later closing picnic tables & BBQ's and then a week later full closure.

We did have discussions regarding a potential part closure of the park eg allowing locals to exercise but with park with 55 entrances and numerous communities who believe that the Grampians is their back yard including Ararat, Stawell, Horsham, Hamilton it was deemed as too difficult to enforce and be fair. Also the aim of the closure was to reinforce that staying at home is what we have to do and taking a drive to go for a hike is not what is considered exercise.

We know that is a very challenging time and hope that people can understand that the decision was not made lightly and was taken to protect the whole of the community.

We do not know when this closure will be lifted as it will be determined by the chief health officer. We are required to undertake a full patrol of the park daily and report our findings and I know that Victoria Police are also doing regular patrols and providing information. At this stage our patrols are indicating a high level of compliance however this week we have had a number of incidents of our signage being removed that we have to replace.

If there is any silver lining to this tough time is that we are still able to work in the park and with this closure in place we are taking the opportunity to do as much maintenance work as possible in high visitor sites in particular hazardous tree work in our campgrounds and a full walking track maintenance program at MacKenzie Falls and Balconies as examples. We were also all out yesterday trying to get the burn preparation work completed on the burn between Boroka Lookout and Halls Gap which

is such an important strategic burn that we hope to get completed whilst the park is closed having significantly less impact than it would if the park is open.

Our new District Manager Jamey Staples has started and I have had him out into the park a number of times already showing him the range of amazing things that this park encompasses. I will start to brief him on our challenges over the next few weeks.

Hope you are all doing ok and looking after yourself and we can all get back out and enjoy the park soon.

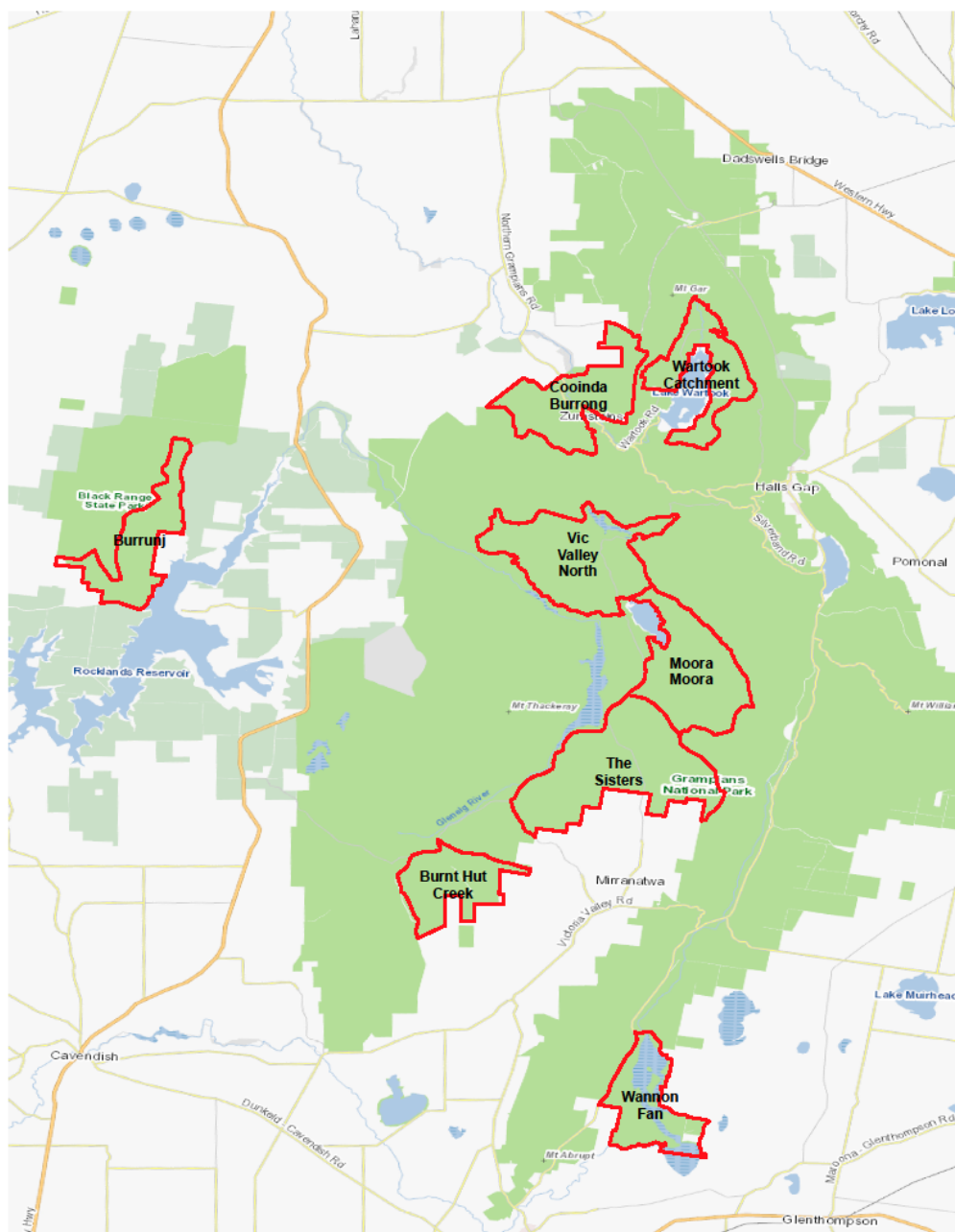
Rhonda McNeil
Area Chief Ranger Grampians

BIODIVERSITY RESPONSE PLANNING

Here is an update regarding Biodiversity Response Planning (BRP).

- * In the past 12 months the team has removed 188 red deer and 254 goats. The program is heading into Autumn deer control with ground shooting crews and aerial shooting planned to occur in late-April to Mid-May.
- * Sallow wattle mulching has been completed, however we still need to calculate the number of hectares treated.
- * Planning is full steam ahead for feral cat trapping and baiting hopefully kicking off in late July.
- * Grampians Ark
 - Fox baiting and fox leg-hold trapping is currently occurring.
 - Since two male Brush-tailed Rock Wallabies were released in spring our cameras have detected 1200 images of wallabies interacting and mating. Hopefully we see some pouch young soon!

Matt White
Ranger



Deer Control Sectors

30/10/2019
Coordinate System: GCS GDA 1994



Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information.
Data source acknowledgements: State Digital Mapbase, The State of Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Legend

Deer Sectors

This is the Parks Victoria's Pest animal management program which will be undertaken in the Grampians National Park between Tuesday April 28th and Sunday May 13th 2020.

Please be aware that this program has a number of sectors that will be targeted over the coming weeks and will involve a rolling program of on-ground operations at night, involving firearms.

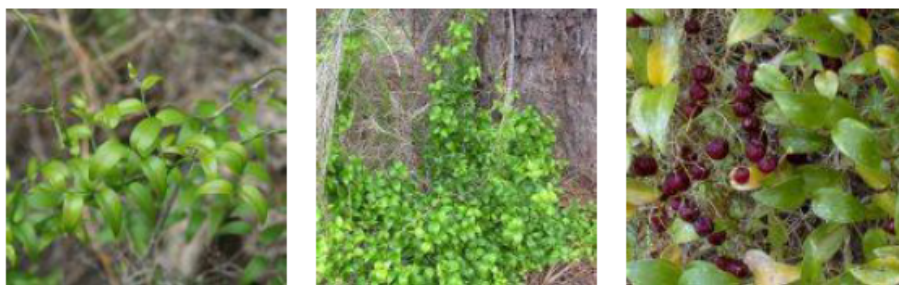
Closure signage will be in place, however community members are asked to remain out of the Grampians National Park, both for these operations and for COVID-19 restrictions. Please call the Parks Victoria Information Line on 13 1963 for further information.

Tammy Schoo
Team Leader Visitors and Community

WEED OF THE MONTH

If you want more information about weeds, check out the Halls Gap Community Noticeboard—Do the Right Thing with Plants and Animals. Here is the link <https://hallsgapcommunity.org.au/residents-info/cat-free-zone/>

Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*)



Wimmera CMA status: Restricted

Glenelg-Hopkins CMA status: Restricted

Distribution notes: Found right across the upper Wimmera, Bridal Creeper was once planted in gardens for its attractive foliage. A real problem environmental weed able to invade areas of native vegetation without the need of soil disturbance (fire or machinery baring the soil) for it to become established. Birds carry the seeds after eating the fruit and excrete them out in their droppings, plants are usually found under trees or a fence line where birds have perched. Underground rhizomes (bulbs) make it difficult to kill with herbicide often requiring a number of years of sequential control.

Seed viability in soil: < 10 years / rhizomes < 5 years

Time to reproductive maturity: 3 + years

Control options: Isolated plants can be dug up and the rhizomes left on the soil surface to dry out in warmer weather. The foliage dies off in early summer, reshooting in May – June with the autumn rain. Plants can therefore be difficult to locate once the foliage has died off. Metsulfuron Methyl 600g/kg at a rate of 15g + penetrant (Consume, Pulse etc) + dye per 100 litres of spray mix has proven to be very effective over many years of control work by Project Platypus. Glyphosate can also be used but does not seem to be as effective at killing the rhizomes under the ground. Repeat spraying may be necessary in subsequent years as some rhizomes lay dormant each year and produce foliage a year or two later.

HALLS GAP LANDCARE – A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP ACTIVITY



Our community plays an active role in controlling pest plants within our town and preventing their spread into the national park. Partnering with Project Platypus, we are targeting a number of plants that could threaten our superb local natural environment.

Our major effort at present is the control of an invasive shrub, *Kunzea leptospermoides*, which is prevalent around the town entrance and between Hill Street and Pinnacle Road. Extensive removal works have recently been carried out along Silversprings Road by

the Ararat Landmate Crew, supervised by Project Platypus.

Other efforts have been focussed on Blackberry, *Watsonia* and Arum Lily.

We are keen for the assistance of locals in identifying pest plant problems around the town and supporting control projects. Volunteer contributions can be in a number of ways – observations of pest plant issues, technical advice or on ground works.

If you would like to be involved, please contact Graham on 0429 839 179.

Graham Parkes



20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381

PH: 03 53564751

www.budjabudjacoop.org.au

May 2020	June 2020	July 2020
<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1 st 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th 11 th , 12 th , 13 th , 14 th , 15 th 19 th , 20 th , 21 st , 22 nd 25 th , 26 th , 27 th , 28 th , 29 th <u>Closed</u> Monday 18 th	<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 2, 3, 4 th , 5 th 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th 16 th , 17 th , 18 th , 19 th 22 nd , 23 rd , 24 th , 25 th , 26 th 30 th <u>Dr Gregory Malcher</u> 10 th , 11 th , 12 th 15 th , 16 th , 17 th <u>Closed</u> Monday 1 st Monday 8 th (Queen's Birthday) Monday 29 th	<u>Dr Amanda Gibbons</u> 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd 6 th , 7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th 14 th , 15 th , 16 th , 17 th 20 th , 21 st , 22 nd , 23 rd , 24 th <u>Dr Carol Head</u> 8 th , 9 th , 10 th 13 th , 14 th , 15 th <u>TBA</u> 27 th , 28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st (TBA)



Your Health is Important to US

Budja Budja Medical Clinic is here for you we have moved to ESSENTIAL Telehealth Appointments during this COVID-19 pandemic.

If you need to be seen in the Clinic, Social Distancing measures have been put in place to keep you safe

Appointments can still be made by phoning reception during opening hours, TUE-FRI 9.00-5.00 and every second MON.

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 - Cancelled

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

Please note that there will not be markets in April and May depending upon the changing government guidelines in response to COVID-19.

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.



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:

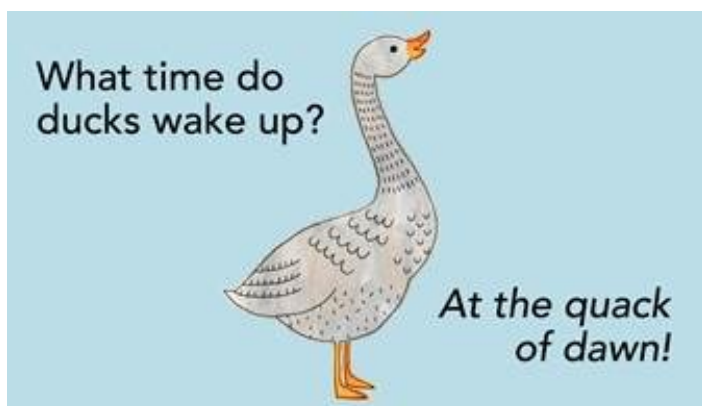
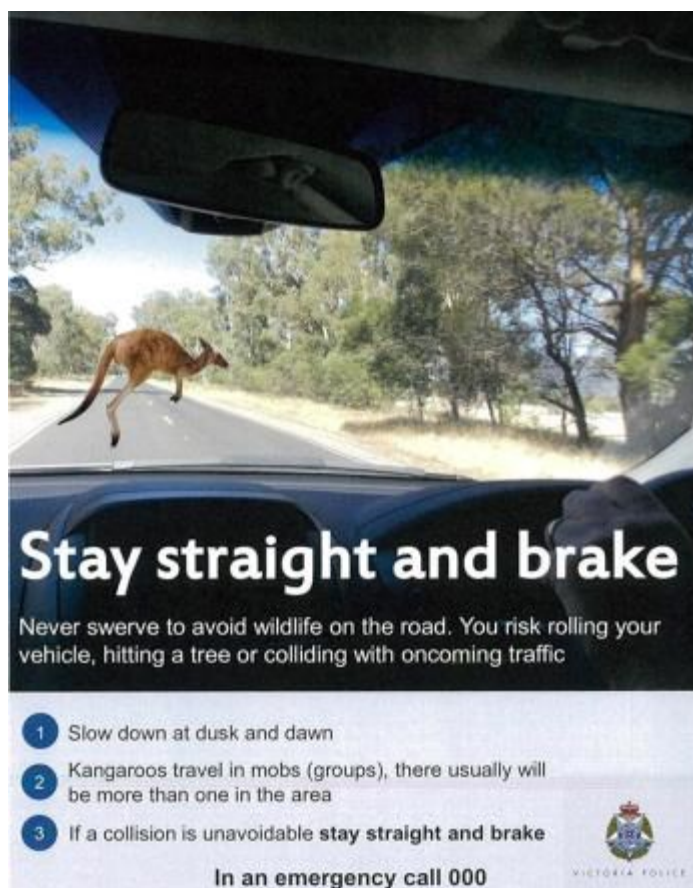
neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

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



Even Bear has to do
his housework on a
Monday morning. Oh
hum!



Regular Events

- Chas Mangle Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the Halls Gap Newsagency from 7am - 10am daily except Tuesdays Ph. 0439 837 052
- Peter Hilbig is also a Justice of the Peace and can undertake JP responsibilities by appointment. Email peter@hilbig.id.au or telephone 0437 524 716.
- Due to the Current coronavirus situation the History Room will be closed until further notice. Check out Chas's postings on Facebook
- Budja Budja Neighbourhood House - check the program at the house and online
- Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details