

Issue: June 2021

# FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association  
& Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

Articles for July FTG need to be received by the 25th June 2021. See page 15 for details

## In This Edition:

Stats by Chas	Page 1
CFA	Page 2
HG R'payers Ass.	
Grampians Film Society	
BBNH	Page 3
Covid Vac. locations	Page 4
BBMC	Page 5
Breast screening	Page 6
Art & Photo comp.	Page 7
HGPS	Page 8—9
Winter Woolies	Page 10
Gramp. Peak trail	Page 11
Sallow Wattle	Page 12
Events	Page 13
Markets/Ads	Page 14—15

## 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.

## WRAP UP...

Winter is here. Hope everyone is keeping nice and warm.



Enjoy having a read of our June edition of FTG. In this edition the HGPS has shared some great photos of their event at the community garden pages 8 & 9. If you have a passion in art and photography there is a completion that you may be interested in entering. Have a look on page 7.

## STATS BY CHAS...

May 2021 - Rainfall by Chas:

82 mm for May bringing the progressive total to 360 mm for 2021. This compares to the same period last year of 111.5 mm with a progressive total of 350 mm.

As of the 26th of May 2021 Lake Bellfield is holding 44,210ML or 56% full compared to the same period last year of 46,980ML or 60% full. The total system is holding 160,560ML or 28.66% full compared to the same period last year of 165,960ML or 29.62% full.

Mount William received 136.4 mm for May. The highest temperature of 17.6 C was recorded 6th of May and the lowest of -0.6 C was recorded on the 15th of May 2021. The highest wind speed of 119 km/h was recorded on the 25th May 2021.



## HALLS GAP CFA

As with previous lockdowns due to COVID-19, the CFA will continue to respond to emergencies as an essential service. Like everyone else however, we will not be gathering for training or meetings until restrictions are lifted, although equipment will be tested and maintained as usual.



Scheduled for June is our annual "Section 29". This refers to the process of checking that equipment, training and capacity are up to the required standard to maintain an active and effective brigade. Response rates and times are also evaluated to ensure we are meeting expectations. A community the size of Halls Gap should have at least 25 active firefighters. We have this many on our list, but availability of individual members due to work and other commitments means we could benefit from a few more volunteers. We have managed to turn out a team to every fire callout over the past year, but sometimes we have two or three when four or five would be better.

Also during June (COVID permitting) two of our Lieutenants will undertake training in the removal of electrical supply fuses to isolate properties in emergencies. We require four members trained for this role so these two will bring us to the minimum.

With Autumn over but relatively dry conditions continuing, now is a great time to clear fire hazards from around your home or property. Within the Halls Gap township you need a permit from Northern Grampians Shire all year round. In rural zones a permit is required only during the fire restriction period, which has now finished for this season. Whether you need a permit or not, every burn must be registered by telephoning 1800 668 511, or online at <https://firepermits.vic.gov.au/>. Unregistered burns often result in a false alarm call which requires an unnecessary brigade callout. This could delay a response to a real emergency and is an avoidable inconvenience to volunteers and CFA staff. Registered burns are advised to ESTA (the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority) so they know not to page the brigade to a controlled fire.

We are always recruiting new brigade members, and welcome potential firefighter as well as other supporters for logistics, maintenance and communications. Please call Peter if interested on 0437 524 716.

## HALLS GAP RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Not sure if this has been reported, but the Centenary Hall has had an internal face lift i.e. a total re paint, new heaters and a general clean outside. Julie at VIC is doing a great job in assisting with this, apart from her full time job at the VIC.

The Council has graciously dry cleaned the block-out curtains and it is all looking very "schmick".

The next Ratepayers meeting has been put back until Wednesday 16th of June due to the Covid lockdown.

Paul Turner

President



We had the Film Society movie last Wednesday and it was a good night – a reminder the Film Society is open to anyone who wishes to join so come along to the next one for free and see if you like it.

Paul Turner

President





# BUDJA BUDJA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



During May we were able to run our popular **Biggest Morning Tea** where we raised over \$130 for cancer research. This was a smaller turn out than in past events however we made up for it with our noisy banter. We enjoyed delicious morning tea and good conversation.

On the 21st May we held a joint event with the Halls Gap Primary School showcasing the **Halls Gap Community Garden** and the exciting plans for its future. Kelanee welcomed us with an Acknowledgement to Country and Tya Lovett conducted a smoking ceremony. The children were given a tour of the garden by Tim Walsh. They cooked damper and marshmallows. See Halls Gap Primary School article for photos.

As part of our Meet and Make sessions on Thursday afternoon from 1.30pm we have been running a **Beginners Crochet** course. Alison has enjoyed sharing her passion for this craft.

**Gentle Exercise** has returned to Centenary Hall. Present restrictions do not allow us to have indoor recreation. As soon as these restrictions are lifted we will resume classes.

**Tai Chi** on Thursdays can only be outside with the present restrictions so it is weather dependant.

**Indoor Bowls** on Friday from 1.30-3pm will commence once the present restrictions are lifted.

We had hoped to run some craft sessions on Saturdays during 2021 but this has proven more difficult than expected. Planning to have **International Knit in Public Day** on Saturday 19th June from 12.30 to 4pm. Will be inviting people to come along to knit, crochet, embroider etc with other crafters. This will be subject to covid restrictions at the time. Here's hoping.



## As a resident of Northern Grampians Shire where can I get the COVID-19 vaccination?

Over 50 years old:

- Your GP
- Stawell Regional Health **5358 6550**
- East Wimmera Health Service pop up clinics **5477 2100**
- Eastern Grampians Health Service Pyrenees House in Ararat **5352 9363**



40 - 49 years old:

- Eastern Grampians Health Service Pyrenees House in Ararat **5352 9363**
- East Wimmera Health Service pop up clinics **5477 2100**

Aboriginal and over 18 years old:

- Call Budja Budja Medical Centre **53564751**

Call the Victorian vaccination hotline for more information on **1800 675 398**

Updated 1st June 2021

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381 PH: 03 53564751

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










JUNE 2021	JULY 2021
<p><u>Dr Margaret Gusah</u> 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>DR Lori Cameron</u> 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>Dr Rachelle Bassett</u> 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>Dr Christine Harvey</u> 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>Dr Ian Jones</u> 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>Closed</u> Monday June 14<sup>th</sup> Public Holiday</p>	<p><u>Dr Ian Jones</u> 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup></p> <p><u>Dr Ruth Sutherland</u> 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup></p> <p>26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> TBA</p>

**DO NOT ATTEND** if you have recently been overseas, come from a recognised Hot spot, been in contact with a known case of COVID-19 or experiencing any cold, fever or respiratory infection symptoms even if mild. Call for reception 53564751 for a Telehealth appointment.



**GET TESTED IF YOU'VE GOT THESE SYMPTOMS**

 Fever
  Runny nose
  Sore throat
  Cough

 Chills or sweats
  Shortness of breath
  Loss of sense of smell or taste

**STAYING APART KEEPS US TOGETHER**

Find out where to get tested, visit [vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](http://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

**VICTORIA**  
State Government



# FREE BREAST SCREENING

*Indigenous women will receive a FREE beautiful shawl to use while you are screened and keep afterwards \*limited number available*

Want to keep yourself healthy and strong? Come and get your breasts screened and protect yourself against breast cancer



Free



Takes 10 minutes



No doctor's referral  
or Medicare card



For those with  
no symptoms



With a female  
radiographer

Visit BreastScreen Victoria's mobile screening van:

**Tuesday 15 – Friday 18 June 2021**

**20-22 Grampians Rd, Halls Gap VIC 3381**

Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative 03 5356 4751



TTY  
13 36 77



Interpreters  
available  
13 14 50



# Art and Photo Competition

## Draw or take a photo of a “Behind the Scenes”

situation

Physical or Digital entry no larger than A2

Entries displayed at

# Arcade – i – con

a pop culture event on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2021

## PRIZES

Competition opens on the 1st of May

Closes on 21st of June



SCAN ME

For prize and entry  
details see Grampians  
Youth Events





## Education Week – Building Connections at the Community Gardens

What a fantastic celebration for education week we had on Friday the 21st May, to finish off the week with our community. Acknowledgement to Country by Kelanee, a Smoking Ceremony to cleanse us by Tya, damper we had made ourselves, marshmallows and gardening in the community garden. Very big thank you to all involved we had a lovely afternoon.





Best day ever!



# Stawell



## Winter Woollies Indoor Handmade Market

Entry by Gold Coin donation

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021**

**Friday 12.00 midday – 7.00 pm**

**Saturday 9.00 am – 2.00 pm**

### Powerhouse

### 42 Sloane Street Stawell

Subject to Covid-19 restrictions

**Handmade articles for sale,**

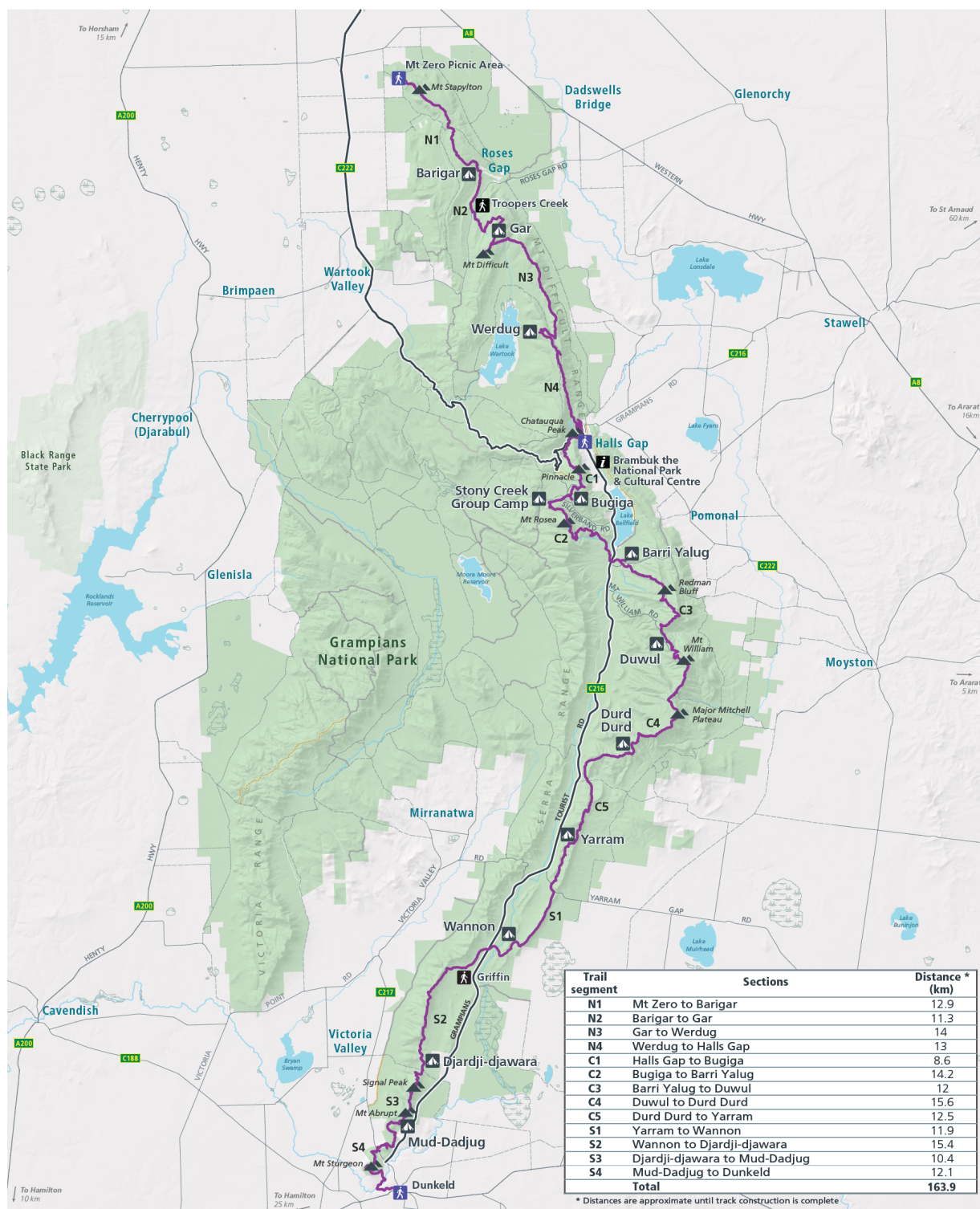
**including blankets,  
gloves, beanies, hats, clothing, toys,  
hand spun, hand dyed wool.**

**Demonstrations  
and light refreshments**



**Please be aware that some stall holders will only accept cash**

**Grampians Peaks Trail:** Opening up of new/revamped walks in May. One local has done the 3 Water falls walk from Troopers Creek. Even though there as no water the walk was beautiful and well worth giving a go. There is a new brochure at the Visitor Information Centre and Parks Offices that outline the new walks in the north of the park.



## Grampians Peaks Trail - Project Overview (As at July 2020)



www.parks.vic.gov.au  
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.  
Cartography by Parks Victoria April 2020.



**GRAMPIANS PEAKS TRAIL**  
Walk Victoria's Icons



# Sallow Wattle - The Golden Invader

## May 2021 Update

Sallow Wattle (*Acacia longifolia*) is native to New South Wales however has been found to be invasive in some parts of Victoria. Unfortunately, northern sections of Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park are highly infested with over seven thousand hectares at risk. Control efforts are being made by Parks Victoria and Volunteers to control this invasive plant which will avoid further dispersion into the greater landscape.

Currently, Sallow Wattle control within the Grampians Landscape is funded by the Victorian Government's Biodiversity Response Planning program which is helping to ensure that Victoria's natural environment is healthy, valued and actively cared for. The aim of the control program is to reduce Sallow Wattle density below 30% cover to promote regeneration of native vegetation. Grampians National Park is home to one third of Victoria's floral diversity with over 75 orchid species. Sallow Wattle has formed dense woodlands suppressing the growth of these local floral species by out-competing them, threatening the incredible diversity within the park. Sallow Wattle reaches maturity at 18 months and can produce up to 11,500 seeds. The problem intensifies as fires, floods and other major disturbances to soil lead to mass germination.

### How you can help

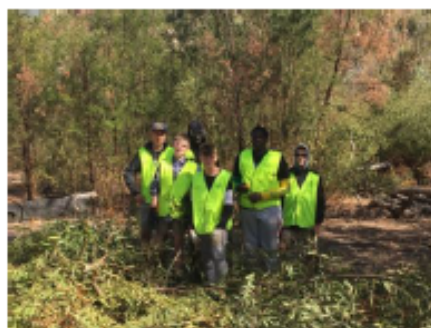
It is important that surrounding neighbours of the national park can recognise this invasive plant to assist land managers avoid it spreading on their property. Sallow Wattle is recognised as a dense shrub that can grow into a three to ten-meter-high small tree but can also reach up to a ten-meter-wide tree. Its flowers are yellow, cylindrical and spike in late winter and spring. Its leaves are, unlike most other wattles, bright green, straight and point upwards, they are hardy and waxy to touch. It has two to three prominent, elongated parallel veins. Simple control methods include pulling seedlings out by hand and making sure the root system is also removed. Larger plant trunks need to be cut at ground level, ensuring to cut below the lowest active bud especially on juvenile plants, otherwise there could be a risk of reshooting.



Parks Victoria organise volunteer activities to help reduce the impact of this invasive plant and to provide opportunities for community members to connect with the local landscape. Two-hour long Volunteer sessions are delivered regularly with visiting school groups contributing over 1,000 hours each year. Parks Victoria encourage school groups (Primary through to University) to contact the below staff members if they would like to be involved in the Sallow Wattle Control program. Several information sessions about how to be involved for the public will be delivered online and face to face in the coming months. Information about these sessions will be distributed through newsletters and the Parks Victoria website.



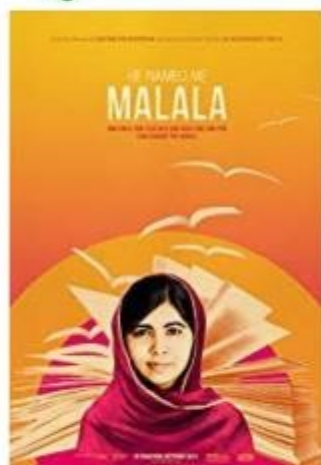
(These images were taken pre COVID-19)



Enquires about the information sessions and volunteer activities please contact: [hannah.auld@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:hannah.auld@parks.vic.gov.au)

Enquires about the Sallow Wattle control program please contact: [marlenne.rodriguez@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:marlenne.rodriguez@parks.vic.gov.au)

For further information about Grampians National Park please visit: [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)



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 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 23 June 2021**

Pomonal Community Hall, Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

After the Taliban tries to kill her for speaking out on behalf of girls' education, Pakistani teenager Malala Yousafzai emerges as a leading advocate for children's rights and the youngest-ever Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.



eART<sup>h</sup>

Ceramics from Central and Regional Victoria

June 12 to August 23 2021

Launch Saturday, June 12, 2pm

(Queens Avenue, St Arnaud Victoria. Located directly behind Riddleys Barastoc 7-19 McMahon Street)

View Friday to Monday (11am to 4pm)

St Arnaud Railway Station Gallery

Featured Artists. Trina Ambrose, Minna Graham, Judy Hilbig, Amelia Kingston,  
Desiree Radi Mansbridge, Ruby Pilven, Marina Pribaz, Petrus Spronk, Sarah Taylor.

*Presented by Rallery Hub Incorporated*

This looks like a great exhibition with our very own Judy Hilbig on show.

We hope you sell loads Judy. Ed.

## 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>

### Market Dates for 2021:

Queen's Birthday Weekend - Sunday 13th June

Melbourne Cup Weekend - Sunday 31st October

### Market Dates for 2022:

Labour Day Weekend- Sunday 13th March

Easter Sunday - 17th April

## 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       |

## POMONAL VILLAGE MARKET

The Pomonal Village Markets are normally held on the Last Sunday of every month (see below for other dates) from 9am til 1pm at the Pomonal Community Hall  
Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

---

### 2021

3rd January	25th July
31st January	29th August
28th February	26th September
28th March	2nd & 3rd October
18th April	31st October
30th May	28th November
27th June	19th December

---

All site enquiries: Alison Bainbridge  
Market Coordinator on 0417 883 445  
All proceeds to Pomonal Community



Halls Gap is a Cat Free Zone

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

Report stolen bicycles, property from your car or other items

Report personal property lost in Victoria

Report damage to your property, including graffiti

Register your party

Inform police when you are away from your home

Call 131 444 or visit [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au)

## FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

Lee-Anne, Margo, Abbie and Alison

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

[neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au](mailto:neighbourhood.house@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 and/or **Halls Gap Community**  
**Watch and Events** Facebook Pages.



To keep up to date with what is happening in  
Pomonal like **Pomonal Community Connections**  
Facebook page and/or **Pomonal info &**  
**resources sharing** Facebook Pages

Fill The Gap newsletter acknowledges Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the first  
Australians.

We acknowledges the diversity of Indigenous  
Australia.

We respectfully recognise Elders past, present  
and emerging.

This newsletter was produced on Djab Wurrung  
country.



### 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

### Let's work together to keep everyone safe

We are implementing the following measures and providing hand sanitiser for all of our health and safety, because we are all in this together.

- Maintain good hygiene
- Increasing cleaning in high traffic areas
- Keeping records (where essential)
- Encouraging employees to stay home if sick
- Maintaining physical distancing measures
- Complying to maximum occupancy directions

in it together

### Let's mask up together

For yours and our safety

in it together

## 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](mailto: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