Issue: September 2021

FILL THE GAP

Produced by the Community Association & Budja Budja Neighbourhood House.

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

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WRAP UP...

Welcome to Spring, Petyan the season of wildflowers. We are all looking forward to beautiful days and cold nights. Check out our fabulous orchids.

Not long before school holidays... ha ha

Where should we go??

Maybe have to holiday at home. Oh no School is home at the moment.

Go visit family oh no we are not allowed to have visitors.

On well holiday is 2 weeks away anything can happen before then.



Hope you enjoy this edition lots of helpful hints and upcoming events.

Hope to see you all soon.

STATS BY CHAS...

August 2021

88.0 mm for August bringing the progressive total for 2021 to 856.0 mm

This compares to the same period last year of 131.0 mm for August with a progressive total of 640.0 mm

As of the 25th of August Lake Bellfield is holding 57,920ML or 74% full compared to the same period last year of 50,320ML or 64% full.

The total system is holding 234,260ML or 41.81% full compared to the same period last year of 186,270ML or 33.24% full.

Mount William received 154.0 mm for August 2021. The highest temperature of 11.2 C was recorded on the 22nd of August and the lowest of -2.1 C was recorded on the 24th of August. The highest wind speed of 100 km/h was recorded on the 10th of August 2021.

FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



season of wildflowers - late spring (late august to mid november)

Wildlife and Wildflowers

In spring Iseason of wildflowers or petyanl, the bush bursts into life. Nature's rock gardens amaze. The days are warmer, although the weather can still be tempestuous.

Happy 80th Birthday to Janet Witham



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP - Landcare Update

Burgan

Project Platypus is planning its next round of Burgan (Kunzea leptospermoides) control works in Halls Gap for the 2021/2022 financial year. The next works will be focused on the Rosea Street and Mackey's Peak Road areas.

Project Platypus still has another two years of work to deliver under its current grant through the Ross Trust.

A good example of the completed Burgan clearing by the Ararat Landmate Crew can be



Yarra Burgan (Kunzea leptospermoides) (left) dominating house blocks along Scott road, Halls Gap (right)

What is it? Burgan (Kunzea leptospermoides) is a native shrub or small tree 2–5(–15) m high. Originally from eastern Victoria and NSW coastal hinterland, this widely planted garden ornamental has become a highly invasive species outside of its natural range.

What does it look like?

Bark on young stems fissured, peeling in long strips;

Leaves, alternate, narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblanceolate, spreading, 7–25 mm long, 1–2 mm wide, mid to dark green,

Flowers white, crowded in upper leaf axils or on leafy side branches, flowers Sep.-Dec.

seen along Silver Springs Road. If you think you have Burgan on your property and wish to investigate control measures, you may call Graham Parkes 0429 839179 or Project Platypus on 53584410.

South African Weed Orchid



Another emerging weed in Halls Gap is the South African Weed Orchid, Disa bracteata. Several of the plants recently removed from edge of High Road and more are expected to appear in the next few weeks.

The orchid can be identified by its leafy red and green rosette. The mature flower stem can develop around October/November and can produce thousands of seeds. The plant is easily removed with a garden trowel or fork, but it is essential that the two bulbs (last year and this year's bulbs) are connected.

Again, if you think you have South African Weed Orchid on your property and wish to investigate control measures, you may call Graham Parkes 0429 839179 or Project Platypus on 53584410.

Graham Parkes

WHO ARE WE?

Accessible Telecoms is a project that provides information on which phone, tablet, accessory or app will allow you to stay connected.

We can help you find the right information, equipment, or training service.

Accessible Telecoms is a free service that can be used by anyone including people with disability, their families and carers



Accessible Telecoms in an initiative of the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network ACCAN.

ACCESS OUR SERVICE



Visit accessibletelecoms.org.au



Call us for free on 1800 442 300



Send an SMS to **0438 454 413**



Fax (02) 6947 3723







A free information service for seniors and people with disability



a(can



LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?

Are you looking for a phone that is easy to use?

Looking for a device to work with your braille display?

Need a keyboard app that will help you communicate over the phone?

Want to know which emergency pendant or phone alert system is right for you?

ACCESSIBLE TELECOMS CAN HELP

- Find out about the accessibility features of different phones.
- Learn more about which mobile device allows for sign language or works with your hearing aid.
- Locate communication training sessions near you.
- Discover new equipment like proximity switches, eye gaze accessories and more to help you get connected.

If you can't find it on our website, contact us; we are here to help you!



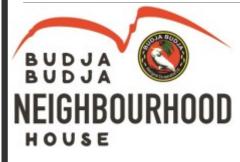


Accessible Telecoms can help you make the most of the NRS

If you have difficulty making and receiving calls because you are Deaf, hard of hearing and/or have a speech impairment, the National Relay Service (NRS) can help you.

Visit Accessible Telecoms for more information on using the NRS.

National Relay
Service





BBNH receives food from Foodbank once a month. If you or someone you know is in need of

some vegies and fruit contact Lee-Anne or Alison on 5356 4751 and press option 3.



Another month, another lockdown. The house may not be open to the general public however Lee-Anne and I have been working hard planning for the rest of the year, training and having zoom sessions when we cannot meet in person.

We are working on getting the Pomonal/Halls Gap Playgroup up and running. Thanks to Marita for helping us with this.

We have rescheduled our (booked out)August First aid twice. We are hoping to run it in September. We are still planning on running another two sessions this year on the 4th October and 6th December 2021. Please call on 5356 4751 option 3 or email neighbourhood.house@budjaudjacoop.org.au to book your place.

Tues 1.30pm—Gentle Exercise—Either via Zoom or at the Halls Gap Centenary Hall

Thurs 10am—Tai Chi— Either via Zoom or community Room BBNH
Thurs 1pm—Meet and Make—either via Zoom or Art and Craft Room
Friday 1pm—Indoor Bowls—Halls Gap Centenary Hall—if restrictions
allow.

Check out the school holiday program on page 5. If we are unable to run in person due to restrictions Alison has a couple of zoom activities up her sleeve. Looking forward to catching up with everyone soon.

Lee-Anne & Alison



Budja Budja Neighbourhood House (BBNH) will be wearing our footy colours to raise money to help children with cancer.

Fight Cancer Foundation's **Footy Colours Day** is a national community fundraising event that helps kids with cancer keep up with school. We would love community members and businesses to join in and wear their footy teams colours on Friday 24th September. We will be running some fun School Holiday activities from 10-12noon. Come along an join in the fun.

To help us get to our target donate go at: https://footy-colours-day-2021.raisely.com/budjabudjaneighbourhoodhouse

Or leave your donation at BBNH.

We would love to see your footy colours photos. Send them to neighbourhood.house@budjabujdacoop.org.au



Check these activities for September

BUDJA BUDJA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Aurridges Literited SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2021



WEDNESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 10AM-12NOON

CHALK ART

WEDNESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 10AM-12NOON

GIANT GAMES



FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 10AM-12NOON

FOOTY COLOURS DAY

AFL GRAND FINAL EVE - LOTS OF FOOTY FUN WEAR YOUR FOOTY TEAM COLOURS AND HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR KIDS WITH CANCER





20-22 Grampians Rd, HALLS GAP VIC 3381 p: 03 53564751 option 3 m: 0491 050 456

e: neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au

GOLD COIN DONATION
ACTIVITIES SUITABLE FOR 5-12 YEARS

HALLS GAP BOTANIC GARDEN

Our new plants, grass trees, *Bauer*a and *Thryptomene* are growing well. They all seem to be loving this damp weather, as do the weeds unfortunately. If we are not in lockdown we have working bees on the second and fourth Fridays each month. Start at 9.30ish, come when you wish, leave when you have had enough. Anyone welcome. But while we are in lockdown they are not legal, even wearing masks and keeping distant. But some of us will be there on any sunny days so you can give me a call if you feel like coming down to help. 0429 201 139. Or if you want to just pull up some of the rampant clover we have left some trowels near the shed for you to use, but you will need to supply your own gloves.

Meanwhile the spending of our grant proceeds. We have been given a building permit for the new shed, and the shire have waived the fee, for which we are very grateful. So building it should start quite soon. (It's already in Stawell).

New signage on indigenous use of plants is currently under review by the local indigenous groups, but no start has yet been made on upgrading the watering system.

The new Grampians Peaks Trail comes through the garden, entering through the gate on the North side behind the school and leaving over the bridge on the South side. Work is currently under way on improving the surface of the track.

We have quite a bit in flower at the moment so do come down and have a look. And check out our facebook page. **Margo S.**

HALLS GAP RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Nothing to report from HGRRA at the moment. Our Mayor Cr Murray Emerson was scheduled to be at our next meeting on September 1st, but we have had to postpone it until the lockdown is lifted.

Hope he can make the next meeting when we have a date. **Paul Turner**



POMONAL UNITING CHURCH

If lockdowns continue you are very welcome to join the Pomonal congregation's zoom service at 10 am each locked down Sunday. Contact Peter Greenberger on 0400 164 062 for the link. All denominations welcome.

Margo S





A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

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 screet We endeavour to cater for a variety of tastes as well as have a fun social night.





Centenary Hall, 117 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

In 1946 a London-based writer begins exchanging letters with residents on the island of Guernsey, which was German-occupied during WWII. Feeling compelled to visit the island, she starts to get a picture of what it was like during the occupation.



NGS COVID-19 VACCINE E-NEWLETTER

- Everyone aged 16-39 is now eligible to have a COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer or AstraZeneca) at state run vaccination centres <u>read more</u>. This means that all Victorians aged 16 and over are now eligible to have the COVID-19 vaccination. 16-39 year olds (and older) can now access COVID-19 vaccination in NGS at Stawell Regional Health (SRH), Patrick St Family Practice, and East Wimmera Health Service (contact details and pop up clinics listed below in Monday's email). SRH has the following messages in relation to the change:
- You can now make a vaccine appointment at SRH by calling by calling 5358 6550 between 8.30am-5pm Monday to Friday or get, fill out and submit your consent form ar various locations in Halls Gap and Stawell (read more and instructions here).
- Every Victorian aged 16 years and over will be eligible to access a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine at Stawell Regional Health
- People who are under the age of 60 will be given a choice between Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccine – with people aged 16 to 17 able to receive the Pfizer vaccine
- People who are aged 60 and over will continue to receive AstraZeneca
- The SRH COVID Vaccination clinic is open on a number of days – an appointment will be scheduled with you
- Appointments are made in order of priority you will be given an appointment as soon as it is available
- The vaccines are provided free of charge
- You can also book an appointment at state run vaccination centres in Horsham or Ararat by using the online booking system or calling the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398.
- All public sector employees (eg/ Government school teachers, police and emergency services, Government workers, etc) can now access up to half a day's paid time off to get each dose of the vaccine. Read more.
- This week there is a priority access vaccination blitz for all aged and disability workers (any age can get Pfizer). <u>Read more</u>
- You can find instructions <u>here</u> on how to get proof of your COVID-19 vaccination, including how to get your record mailed to you if you don't use a computer.

Note this link will always show the most up to date version of the newsletter (updated weekly)
Use or print the below QR code (links to the online URL above)



By Five is hosting a webinar on **Thursday**, **September 2 at 7pm** to help with the challenges of parenting during lockdown.

It's designed to provide practical support and ideas for parents during this challenging time and will talk about the importance of reducing pressure on adults and children, signs children might be struggling, how to respond and where to get help if things are becoming overwhelming. A recording will be available.

NOTE: this webinar is fully subscribed.

Go to: FREE Webinar: Supporting children during lockdown six

Then click to register to access the recording.



More support for families

Our teenagers have been doing it hard in the pandemic. Leading adolescent psychologist Andrew Fuller offers them some advice and

tips on how to get through it.

Check out: This totally sucks!' Teens, COVID and the Lockdown Lifestyle – tips from Andrew Fuller

https://theparentswebsite.com.au/this-totally-sucksteens-covid-and-the-lockdown-lifestyle-tips-from-andrew -fuller/?fbclid=IwAR17yUsrUoHsRKx6QC7onOjhZY-099LwnXmFFnxDZI_7nSiLNhREnfHMTMk

Want to get NGS COVID-19 Weekly Vaccination

Use the link https://tinyurl.com/ngscovid19vaccination

Note this link will always show the most up to date version of the newsletter (updated weekly)

Use or print the below QR code (links to the online URL above)





HALLS GAP COMMUNITY GARDEN

So have you heard the community garden is going through a refresh! The garden has partnered with the Halls Gap Primary School and Budja Budja Neighbourhood House and has been successful in obtaining a \$5000 grant from the Northern Grampians Shire to make the garden more of a social hub and user friendly by adding a contingent of wicking beds with incorporated seating, worm farm, potting

bench, outdoor classroom/meeting/workshop space, more fruit trees and more.



Materials for the construction of the wicking beds has arrived, we have been delayed now by hello, lockdowns, but will be in need of some Volunteers very soon.

There will be some up and coming workshops with Bunn

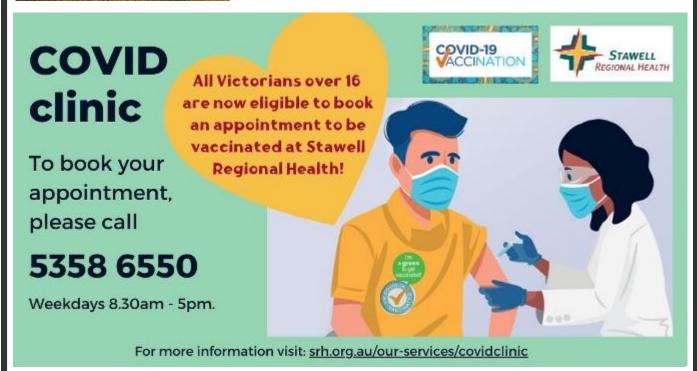
in need of some Materials for wicking beds volunteers very soon.

There will be some up and coming workshops with Bunnings like how to build a worm farm. Please register your interest with Alison at Budia Budia

and coming workshops with Bunnings like how to build a worm farm. Please register your interest with Alison at Budja Budja Neighbourhood House on 53564751 option 3 or email neighbourhood.house@budjabudjacoop.org.au



Garden before renovations





BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC

20-22 Grampians Road, Halls Gap 3381

PH: 03 53 564751 WEBSITE: www.budjabudjacoop.org.au



BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC
WILL BE RECEIVING A <u>LIMITED</u> AMOUNT OF
PFIZER VACCINES IN THE NEXT WEEK.
WE ARE WANTING TO KEEP AS MANY PEOPLE
IN OUR COMMUNITY SAFE SO OFFERING TO
ANYONE WHO HAS NOT HAD ONE YET
BETWEEN THE AGE OF 16-59.
PLEASE CONSIDER AND PHONE US FOR AN
APPOINTMENT 53 564751



October	November
Dr Tim Lowe	<u>Dr Sophia Samuel</u>
4 th - 8 th	1 st - 5 th
<u>Dr Clare Roczniok</u>	<u>Dr Clare Roczniok</u>
11 th - 22 nd	8 th – 19 th
<u>Dr Sophia Samuel</u>	<u>Dr Susan Watson</u>
25 th – 29 th	22 nd - 30 th
<u>Dr Lori Cameron</u>	<u>Dr Lori Cameron</u>
27 th - 28 th	24 th – 25 th
	Dr Tim Lowe 4 th - 8 th Dr Clare Roczniok 11 th - 22 nd Dr Sophia Samuel 25 th - 29 th Dr Lori Cameron

Australian Plants Society Grampians Group

POMONAL NATIVE FLOWER SHOW

Pomonal Community Hall
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd October 2021 9.00am to 4.00pm
Admission \$5.00, children free

Cut Flower Displays Named specimens Book Sales Plant Sales Refreshments Guest Speaker
Jane Edmanson from
'Gardening Australia'

For updated information call 0414 933 603

or scan QR



This year Halls Gap and Pomonal are combining to put on a Native flower show at the Pomonal Hall on the 2nd and 3rd of October with Margo Sietsma providing a display of Grampians endemic species as well as highlighting various native flower walks around Halls Gap. There will be the usual beautiful display of native flowers as well as some excellent speakers including Jane Edmanson. Lynne Stone who has been at the Halls Gap show before and was on Gardening Australia earlier this year will have a display of her beautiful native flower embroidery.



Special Feature: Grampians Indigenous Species

The APS Grampians group are keeping their green thumbs crossed that restrictions permitting the show might still be able to go ahead. If only Melbourne is in lockdown and not regional Victoria it is hoped that it can be held.

There will be refreshments available both days and the Pomonal Village Market, plant and book sales will all be there.

Please follow the QR code or ring the number on the poster for up to date information about the show nearer the date.





We finally got an opportunity during June and July to do some training between COVID lockdowns! Several fire fighters joined other volunteers in Stawell to undertake training using a CFA training pod. The portable pod is a model of a family home including furniture and appliances. Gas burners are used to simulate a house fire so volunteer firefighters can learn and practise techniques to safely control and extinguish fires. Volunteers trained in using breathing apparatus had an opportunity to use review the equipment and revise their skills in a simulated fire emergency. Our brigade has also been pleased to receive additional breathing apparatus cylinders

which will enable longer periods of use and more efficient replacement processes.

During September, long standing volunteer First Lieutenant Darren Linke will be moving away from Halls Gap to pursue a new role. Darren has been a valuable member and leader of the brigade who is trained in a range of specialist skills and has provided valuable input to management and maintenance of buildings, vehicles and equipment. We are very grateful for Darren's involvement and we will miss his input. We wish him and his family all the very best in their new location

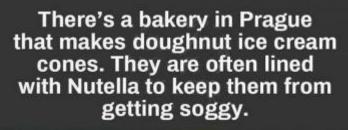
From mid September, 2nd Lt Justin Cozens and 3rd Lt Hayden Kozchitzke will take on First Lieutenant duties in conjunction with their current leadership roles, and will also step up to Acting Captain when required. We will formally review our Brigade Management Team when we are able to conduct a meeting.

September is a great time of the year to clear up ahead of summer. Mowing, slashing, pruning and clearing debris all help to reduce the fire risk. Within the Halls Gap township you need a permit to burn at any time of year from Northern Grampians Shire. In rural zones a permit is required only during the fire restriction period, which is not in effect now. 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/.

The expected minimum number of firefighters for Halls Gap is 25. While we have that number on our list, there are often times when some volunteers cannot respond due to work commitments or they are away from the area. We are always recruiting new brigade members, and welcome potential firefighters as well as other supporters for logistics, maintenance and communications.

Please call Peter if interested - 0437 524 716.







Found this on line. Looks Yum. An idea for our bakery and ice creameries ????? Ed.

HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

Halls Gap Primary School staff, students, parents and community welcome our new Acting Principal Nickie Peters. Nickie commenced at the start of Term 3 and will be with us for 12 months.

With already 3 lockdowns for this term, we have still managed to squeeze in a few activities. Fortunately, Years 4-6 had a two-day camp at Sovereign Hill. They dressed up in period costume and 'attended school'. They were well looked after at the Mercure Motel, complete with a movie night and popcorn. By all accounts they had a wonderful time and the Sovereign Hill Iollie shop was a hit!

The Year 2's and 3's were all geared up to attend Camp Norval in Halls Gap on Monday 23rd for 3 days of outdoor activities and team work skills. Unfortunately lockdown put a stop to that. Hopefully this can be rescheduled for later in the year.



The whole school participated in a Golf Clinic with Tony Collier. Each class had 2 sessions over 2 weeks, where they were taught golf safety, swing technique and keeping their eyes on the ball.

There was plenty of activities in the classrooms as well with year 5-6 making pizza fractions. This assisted their understanding of fractions and they of course, had a great lunch!





In Mr J's class the children created their family trees.

Outside the children have been getting very creative. They built their own villages and fairy gardens with water courses, waterfalls and all.



Enrolments for Prep 2022 are now being taken. If you have Kinder aged child or you know of a family who does and may be interested in them attending Halls Gap Primary, please contact the school either on 5356 4235 or email halls.gap.ps@education.vic.gov.au for an information booklet and enrolment form.

Stay safe. From Students and Staff, Halls Gap Primary School



Please help our Primary School by donating coloured and/or pattered crockery. Cups, plates, vases, old tiles anything that can be broken into pieces to use as mosaics for an UPCOMING Art project. The items can be dropped off outside the office.



b_{omonal} Men's Shed Inc

Would Like to invite:

Date:

30th of September 2021

Time:

1130 am

Agenda		
Time	_	
11:30	Welcome	Pomonal Men's Shed President Barry Collier
11:35	Welcome to country	
11:45	Councils' role in Men's Sheds and Community Health and Wellbeing	Dr. Tim Harrison CEO Ararat Rural Council
12:00	Shed opening	Hon Luke Donnellan Minister for Child Protection, Disability, Aging and Carers
12:15	Dedication to Peter Shelly (unveiling of the plaque)	Derek O'Leary and David Gething
12:30	Tour of the shed and light lunch	A11
13:30	Close	

Honoured Guests;

Cr Jo Armstrong Mayor Ararat Rural City Council

Hon Luke Donnellan

Member for Narre Warren North and Minister for Child Protection, Disability,

Aging and Carers

David Gething: Captain of Pomonal CFA
Dr. Tim Harrison CEO Ararat Rural City Council
Robyn Henly: Ararat Rural City Council

Hon Emma Kealy: Member for Lowan and Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Women and Pre-

vention of Family Violence

Derek O'Leary CEO VMSA

Hon Dan Tehan Member for Wannon and Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment



Grampians Brushes 2021 has been cancelled. We wish Marion and the committee the best and look forward to catching up with them at the Grampians Textures 2022 in March.

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:

Melbourne Cup Weekend - Sunday 31st October

Market Dates for 2022:

Labour Day Weekend- Sunday 13th March Easter Sunday - 17th April Queen's Birthday Weekend - Sunday 12th June

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 Snatch Straps Winch Extension Straps Snatch Blocks Shovel Air Compressor UHF Radio Ch 20 Fridge Hi-Lift Jack
Tree Trunk Protectors
Bow Shackles
Soft Shackles
Rated Recovery Points
Chainsaw
GPS Assistance
Local Knowledge





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





Halls Gap is a Cat Free Zone













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

Upload your community events details to the Community Association webpage:

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.









Regular Events

- * Chas Mangle Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the Halls Gap Newsagency from 8am 10am daily except Wednesday 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.
- History Room is open 2pm-4.30pm on MOST days. CLOSED Wednesday not during lockdowns
- * Budja Budja Neighbourhood House check the program at the house and online
- * Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details