

Issue: September 2023

FILL THE GAP

Produced by Halls Gap Community Association
& Halls Gap Neighbourhood House

Articles for October FTG need to be received by the 25th September 2023 See page 11 for details

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WRAP UP...

Spring brings beautiful weather, stunning wildflowers. It is great opportunity to enjoy, to meet people in our community or try something new.



Gatherings 2023 are looking for volunteers. Training provided.

Training sessions will run from 6pm-7.30pm in the meeting room Centenary Hall. Choose one of these dates 5th, 10 or 18th October 2023. More information on page 7 of this issue.

Ed.

STATS BY CHAS...

63.5 mm for August bringing the progressive total for 2023 to 699.0 mm.

This compares to the same period last year of 219.5 mm for August with a progressive total of 730.0 mm

As of the 30 of August 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 76,840 ML or 98% full compared to the same period last year of 56,670 ML or 72% full.

The total system is holding 425,770 ML or 75.99% full compared to the same period last year of 193,700 ML or 34.57 %.



FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



petyan

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

Wildlife and Wildflowers

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





On Saturday 26th August the local community of Halls Gap and surrounds and Reconciliation Victoria gathered. Co-Chairs Uncle Shane Charles and Professor Andrew Gunstone provided information on the upcoming referendum on The Voice.

Voice Community Gathering

Saturday 26 August, 10:00am – 12:00pm,
Halls Gap Recreation Reserve

There was robust discussion and mostly respectful discussion on the pros and cons of changes to our constitution.

After the speakers there were more discussions in smaller groups whilst enjoying a delicious lunch.

To finish the event Janet Witham read out Oodgeroo Noonuccal/Kath Walker's (1920-1993) poem written in the 1960 "A Song of Hope". Oodgeroo Noonuccal under her name Kath Walker was the first known published indigenous poet. This poem was published in a collection of her poems "We Are Going" in 1964. It's as relevant today as to when it was written in the 1960's.

More information on Reconciliation Victoria can be found at <http://>





A Song of Hope

Look up, my people,
 The dawn is breaking,
 The world is waking
 To a new bright day,
 When none defame us,
 No restriction tame us,
 Nor colour shame us,
 Nor sneer dismay.

Now brood no more
 On the years behind you,
 The hope assigned you
 Shall the past replace,
 When a juster justice
 Grown wise and stronger
 Points the bone no longer
 At a darker race.

So long we waited
 Bound and frustrated,
 Till hate be hated
 And caste deposed;
 Now light shall guide us,
 No goal denied us,
 And all doors open
 That long were closed.

See plain the promise,
 Dark freedom-lover!
 Night's nearly over,
 And though long the climb,
 New rights will greet us,

New mateship meet us,
 And joy complete us
 In our new Dream Time.

To our fathers' fathers
 The pain, the sorrow;
 To our children's children
 The glad tomorrow.



What's on in September at your Neighbourhood House

We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3.15pm

- **Monday 11th** 11am-1pm Writers Group
- **Mondays** 7.00pm Meditation
- **Tuesdays** 1.30-2pm Gentle Exercise
- **Wednesdays** 10am-12noon Craft & Chat Come along and share your skills or learn a new one.
- **Thursday 21st** 6pm HG Book Club
- **Thursdays** - Run around Crazy for under 5yrs.
- **Fridays** 10am-10.30am Qi Gong
- **Fridays** 10.30-1130am Bird Walk
- **Fridays** 1.30-3pm Friday Fun - Indoor Bowls
- **Friday 29th** - Closed for AFL Public Holiday

Tuesday to Friday 9am-3.15pm

- Computer access
- Printing
- Internet access
- Come in for a cuppa and yarn

117-119 Grampians Rd., HALLS GAP VIC 3381
 m: 0417 883 445
 e: info@hallsgapnh.org.au

**HALLS GAP
 NEIGHBOURHOOD
 HOUSE**



As Grampians Brushes will be held from 8th September to 14th September 2023 Our Programs will have a change of venue.

Friday 8th September - 10am Qi Gong Botanic Gardens

Friday 8th September - 1.30pm Finska in the Pop up Park

Monday 11th Writers Group 11am-1pm

Monday 11th Meditation 7pm - HGNH office

Tuesday 12th Gentle Exercise 1.30pm - Botanic Gardens

Wednesday 13th Craft n Chat-10am-12noon - HGNH office

Thursday 14th Run Around Crazy—will not be going ahead.

Halls Gap Neighbourhood House Spring School Holiday Program 2023

Tuesday 19th September
 10am-12noon

Plaster Animals



Thursday 21st September
 10am-12noon

Scratch Art



Tuesday 26th September
 10am-12noon

Print Making



Wednesday 27th September
 1pm - 3pm

**Botanic Garden
 Quest**

Thursday 28th September
 10am-12noon

Sand Art



117-119 Grampians Rd., HALLS GAP VIC 3381
 m: 0417 883 445
 e: info@hallsgapnh.org.au

Gold Coin Donation
 Activities suitable for 5-13+ years

**HALLS GAP
 NEIGHBOURHOOD
 HOUSE**



Unfortunately we were not successful with the grant to put a mural by local artists on the outside wall of our shelter but we will be applying soon to the

shire who are seeking more public art displayed in the shire.

The very popular Pomonal show of native plants will be on the first weekend of October. This year the theme is eucalypts so we are going to have our eucalypts in the garden labelled and will design a walk to enjoy them, and publish it to be available at their show.

As you know, now that we no longer have a wildflower show in Halls Gap we have a large table at their show where we can display Grampians flowers, and I hope we can sell wildflower walk notes with profits going to the HG Botanic Garden.

Because we expect more visitors to the garden, and because many of our volunteers have been away, we will be having working bees every Friday this month, plus some Mondays and Tuesdays.

Can you put these dates in your diaries please:

Friday 8 September, Tuesday 12 September, Friday 15 September, Monday 18 September, Friday 22 September, Monday 25 September, Friday 29 September. We start about 9.30 and finish at lunchtime. If you want to help but these dates don't suit please contact me on 0429201139.

HALLS GAP RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Meetings will be held on Wednesday 6 September and 6 December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room at Centenary Hall, Halls Gap.

All Residents and Ratepayers are invited to attend.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP

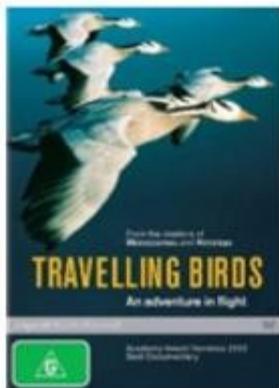
Meetings held Monday 4th September and 4th December 2023 at 4.30pm in the supper room at the Halls Gap Centenary Hall.

All locals are welcome.

Feral Sighting

Wednesday 30th August 2023 40+ deer mothers and juveniles sighted lower paddock opposite NRMA caravan park near Delleys Bridge.

Its getting beyond a joke. ParksVic needs to take action to restrict the damage these ferals do to our National Park.



Travelling Birds

Wednesday 27th September 2023

Centenary Hall, 177 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

2003 Documentary - Presents an epic portrait of winter bird migration. Filmed on all seven continents over four years

Check The Grampians Film Society website on membership details and full program.
<https://grampians.filmsociety.org.au/>





2024 PREP ENROLMENT

Halls Gap Primary School is a unique educational setting for children to learn and grow. With small class sizes and close working relationships with families, the staff at Halls Gap focus on individual student needs.

We invite you to book an individual school tour or contact us to discuss the 2024 school year for your child.

ENROL NOW



5356 4235 / 0409 4370 555



halls.gap.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Resilience



Excellence



Compassion





Northern Grampians Shire Council have received funding for the return of Gatherings for 2023 in Halls Gap and St Arnaud.

Gatherings 2023 Moth Trail Halls Gap: Snappy Gappians and ACT Natimuk have joined forces with the support of Halls Gap Neighbourhood House and the broader Halls Gap community to deliver a return of the hugely successful Moth Trail for Gatherings 2023.

Despite the original Moth Trail 2022 being a Winter event, it attracted many visitors and generated much excitement. In 2023, we build on the energies and success of the Gatherings 2022 to re-activate the public spaces of Halls Gap in a Moth Trail of spectacular community generated and participatory projection and light artworks.

When Saturday Oct 21st 2023 7 – 10.30 pm (Wet weather contingency Sun Oct 22nd)

Where Gather from 7 pm at the Pop Up park for AR activated mural and music.

Lights on for the Moth Trail from 8.30 and follow the trail past the swimming pool, into the Botanical Gardens and Primary School.

Want to get involved and learn some new skills in projection?

ACT Natimuk will run a projector skills workshop to skill up a crew of volunteers to do a 1 hour shift each on supporting a projection/light artwork on the night.

Also seeking volunteers to be part of a team that help set up on the 20th and 21st Oct.

For local information or to get involved please contact:

Blanche Leithead: Snappy Gappians

Gatherings 2023 Local Producer

0448 480 102

snappygappians@gmail.com

BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC



20-22 Grampians Road
Halls Gap 3381
PH: 03 5356 4751

SEPTEMBER 2023	OCTOBER 2023
4 th – 8 th Dr Gregory Stewart	2 ND – 6 TH – Dr Gregory Malcher
5 th – 8 th Dr Beth Quin	9 th – 13 th – Dr Timothy Lowe
11 th – 15 th Dr Beth Quin	16 th – 20 th – Dr Christine Harvey
18 th – 22 nd Dr Gregory Malcher	23 rd – 27 th – Dr Christine Harvey
18 th – 22 nd – Dr Tristan Barnes	
25 th – 29 th Dr Gregory Malcher	

Tulku Wan - SEWB CENTRE

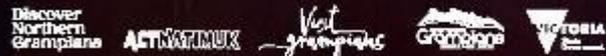
Budja Budja are excited to announce that the new Tulku Wan - Social Emotional and Wellbeing (SEWB) Centre has recently opened (at the back of the Medical Clinic). The Tulku Wan SEWB Centre offers a range of interventions and programs to support our community’s overall wellbeing. These include access to a psychologist, social worker and counsellors for those referred on mental health care plans, youth support and programs (for 5-25 year olds), cultural support and connection, drug and alcohol counselling, and health promotion events. Keep an eye out for upcoming programs and events for mob.

A celebration of **ARTS, CULTURE** and **COMMUNITY**:
GATHERINGS returns!

GATHERINGS 2023

A magical journey of projections, light, sound and imagery created by St Arnaud and Halls Gap artists and community groups. Interact with the light and projections and discover the hidden artwork of the murals.

Visit grampiansgatherings.com.au for more details and to sign up for event updates.



14 & 21 OCTOBER

BE PREPARED FOR THE AUGMENTED REALITY EXPERIENCE AND DOWNLOAD the eyejack app from the App Store on your smart device now. <https://www.eyejack.io/>

Gatherings 2023
ST ARNAUD



"Night Blooms" St Arnaud is set in the iconic Queen Mary Gardens and will feature 'The Hothouse', an illuminated pop up conservatory. The interactive nighttime digital animations will show the beauty, growth and decay of nature, set to an original soundtrack. A fully immersive evening of projection art and light created in collaboration with the St Arnaud community.

WHERE Queen Mary Gardens
DATE Saturday 14th October 2023
WHEN 7.30-10pm • AR trail throughout the day

Gatherings 2023
HALLS GAP



"The Moth Trail" RETURNS! An outdoor light and projection trail developed with Artists and the Halls Gap community groups.

Like moths in the night, Drawn to the light... Around the art, We gather.
 Gather at the Pop up Park for live music and Augmented Reality magic; then follow the light trail of wondrous projections through the Gardens and School.

WHERE Halls Gap Pop up Park, then follow the Moth Trail lights to the Botanic Gardens and Primary School
DATE Saturday 21st October 2023
WHEN 7pm Halls Gap Pop up Park. 8.30pm onwards Moth Trail lights on

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians on all the lands we live, work and recreate. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

more info >



GRAMPIANS BRUSHES 2023

9-14 SEPTEMBER | THE GRAMPIANS VIC



Grampians Brushes is an annual workshop program for painters and print makers and provides an opportunity for participation in two, four or six day workshops with some of Australia's best artists and tutors for introduction level to experienced artists.



Everyone welcome!

Makers Market + Program Opening

4:00 – 6:30pm Friday 8 September

Grampians Brushes will be officially opened at 6pm by the Mayor, Cr Kevin Erwin.
A smoking ceremony and welcome to country by Paul Kelly.

The market will be held at the GrampianArts Market Place at the Halls Gap HUB.

There will be a wide range of quality hand craft, made by the tutors and students participating in Grampians Brushes. Expect to find art supplies from Senior Art, clothing, jewellery, paper, books and more handmade and hand created, recycled and upcycled!!!

Market Place 9 – 14 September

Call into the Halls Gap HUB to buy at GrampianArts Market Place 8am–5pm.

Expect to find a variety of products for all your creative needs :
fibre, yarns, books, hand-made papers and a huge range of art supplies.

Not all traders/sellers will be there for the whole time, but all will be there for the weekend
and until Wednesday mid-morning.

Workshop Show & Tell

4pm SHARP!

Sunday 10 September

All two day workshops will display their
artworks at the Halls Gap HUB for 30 minutes

3:30pm SHARP!

Thursday 14 September

All four and six day workshops will display their
artworks at the Halls Gap HUB for 30 minutes

Grampians Brushes is a project of GrampianArts, a not-for-profit organisation that strives to provide opportunities for artists to extend their skills and showcase their work.
Grampians Brushes is supported by the Northern Grampians Shire Council.

W | www.grampianarts.com.au E | brushes@grampianarts.com.au P | 0493 430 312

GrampianArts

For more information on all three programs or booking enquiries
www.grampianarts.com.au

Grampians Brushes 9–14 September 2023

A series of workshops for visual artists: drawing, painting – oil, watercolour, acrylic, pastel, mixed media and printmaking.

2 Day, 4 Day & 6 Day Workshops
The Grampians VIC

P. 0493 430 312 E. brushes@grampianarts.com.au

Workshops available:

RYAN BREARLEY – introduction

JULIAN CORNISH – Sumi-e painting

WENDI LEIGH – acrylics

AMANDA MCLEAN – pastel

SUE WOOD – mixed media

Summer Brushes 15–19 January 2024

A series of workshops for visual artists: drawing, painting – oil, watercolour, acrylic, pastel, mixed media and printmaking.

5 Day Workshop Program
Longerenong College Horsham VIC

P. 0493 430 312

E. summer@grampianarts.com.au

Workshops:

TANYA BAILY – watercolour

JAN CLARK – colour pencil

KATHERINE COOPER – wildlife

LANA DAUBERMANN – oils

CHAN DISSANAYAKE – watercolour

BASIL HALL – collagraphs

CATHERINE HAMILTON
– acrylics /mixed media

NICOLE KELLY – acrylic/oil

JOHN KLEIN – animal portraits

GAYE NIEUWENHOF
– print/mixed media

JULIE PAYNE – botanical

CRAIG PENNY – acrylic

TODD WHISSON – oils

TRICIA TAYLOR – pastel

Grampians Texture 16–21 March 2024

A series of workshops for textile artists: felting, embroidery – hand and machine, jewellery, mixed media and weaving, clothing, soft sculpture, dyeing.

2 Day, 4 Day & 6 Day Workshops
The Grampians VIC

P. 0493 430 312

E. textures@grampianarts.com.au

Workshops:

SARAH AMOS – print/stitch

TARA AXFORD – mixed

JACK BUCKLEY – hand embroidery

JAN CLARK
– mixed media/machine embroidery

FIONA DUTHIE – felt

PENNY JEWELL – eco dye

NICOLE KEMP – hand embroidery

CASSIE LEATHAM – basket making

VICKI MASON – jewellery

AVRIL MAKULA – books

CATHERINE O'LEARY – felt

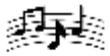
SHARON PEOPLES – design

HILARY PETERSON
– lino/print/stitch

LEIKO UCHI – felt

CINDY WATKINS
– machine embroidery

ILKA WHITE – woven form



Community Singing

10th September, 12.00-3.00pm

If you like singing and would like to take part in a fun community event, join the group who will be singing *Giant of the Forest*, to be recorded on the 10th, and played in a surprise venue on 30th September.

The recording will take place in the welcome acoustics of our local community church. Singers will meet at 12.00 to learn and practise the song, and then be recorded.

You can also go to songlibrary.net for the music and practise beforehand.

For more info, contact Dee on 0407 407 185 or deeannkelly@icloud.com

Giant Of The Forest

Words and Music by Glyn Lehmann

I fell to the earth
A tiny seed
Five hundred years ago
Struggling and striving to grow straight and strong
Here in my mountain forest home

I am Centurion

I have seen fires raging over ridges
Skeletons left in their wake
I have heard the steel blades
Tearing through the tall trees
The crack and the crash as they fall

Still...

I am Centurion
Giant of the forest

And when my life ends
A seed will fall
Onto the earth below
Struggling and striving to grow straight and strong
Here in my mountain forest home

Rising up
Striving for life-giving light
Down, down, down
Delving down deep
Into Earth's damp fertile soil

Australian Plants Society Grampians Group

POMONAL NATIVE FLOWER SHOW

Pomonal Community Hall

Saturday 30th September & Sunday 1st October 2023

9.00am to 4.00pm

Admission \$5.00, children free

Cut Flower Displays
Named specimens
Book Sales
Speakers

Refreshments
Plant Sales
Activities
Village Market

Special Feature: Eucalypts
Special Guest: Dean Nicolle



Halls Gap Landcare Update September 2023

Around Halls Gap and along the roadsides we are seeing an extraordinary flowering of various wattles. Most wattles are important plants in our natural environment, adding nitrogen to the soil and providing food for small arboreal mammals, such as Sugar Gliders.

Two species found in Halls Gap have been planted here and are outside their natural range. The Sallow Wattle and the Cootamundra Wattle, both magnificent when in flower, grow too well in our area, spread easily and can dominate local vegetation.

Sallow Wattle - *Acacia longifolia*

Sallow Wattle invades woodlands and will take over large areas if not controlled. Flowers in August and September and produces large numbers of seeds spread by ants and birds. Many species of *Acacia* which belong in the Grampians are a much better option for planting, such as Golden Wattle - *Acacia pycnantha*.



Sallow Wattle

Cootamundra Wattle - *Acacia baileyana*

A native plant from New South Wales, this wattle has become invasive outside its natural range, spreading from seed drop and by birds. Its gray-green foliage and clusters of bright yellow flowers in late winter and Spring make them tempting to plant.



Cootamundra Wattle

If you would like to learn more about our Landcare Group and how we can assist, our website information can be found at:

<https://hallsgapcommunity.org.au/directory/halls-gap-landcare-group/>

Graham Parkes





Activities Update – 31st August 2023

August has been another busy month again down at the shed with our members involved in various activities. On Thursday 7th September from 12pm we are having a BBQ lunch to celebrate 30 years of men's sheds in Australia. We would like to invite the community to attend and help us celebrate this milestone.

Monday's from 9-30am we meet for our weekly social session where we usually solve a variety of the worlds problems over a hot cuppa and snack. Every Monday morning we are running a woodwork session with students from Pomonal Primary school, which is a great time for the students and our members alike.

Thursday's from 9-30am we have had busy Project sessions with lots of different projects on the go in the workshop. We also have a BBQ lunch at one of these sessions per month.

Wednesday from 1pm in the meeting room we have had our Patchwork session with members doing a variety of patchwork and sewing projects.

Second Tuesday of the month from 10am we had our computer Smart phone session with Moya and also had a lunch together. Some members are becoming so computer literate that it's scary.

We are pleased that the Mixed bunch Art Group are enjoying using our meeting room for their sessions.

The last Sunday of each month we run our (now quite famous) sausage sizzle at the Pomonal market. This helps us raise some much-needed funds as well as being a great social time for all involved. It is also a great way of showing potential new members through the shed and explaining some of our various activities.

We are very pleased that the social side of the shed is running very well. Comradery is very high within the members and our support networks are meeting a variety of personal and mental health needs.

The shed is very welcoming to new members, or anyone interested, feel free to drop in and have a look at what we are up to or for any information contact Russ Kellett on 0438 024 929.

Wildlife with Neil Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo – *Calptorhynchus funereus*

Keep a lookout for this beautiful large black cockatoo that will be back in our area in the next few weeks. Look for them feeding in paddocks in the Pomonal area. It is a large, slender, dark cockatoo with pale yellow cheek patches and tail panels and a distinctive wailing call.

Description: - 58-65cm

Adult Male – plumage dull black, except for pale yellow 'ear' patch and pale yellow tail panels variably vermiculated with brown-black. Body feathers narrowly fringed pale yellow. A short crest curves forwards over top of bill forming a distinct 'bob' over forehead. The bill darkens with age dark grey, skin around eye purplish pink.



♂



Adult Female – similar but has larger and brighter yellow ear patches, more heavily vermiculated tail panels, dark grey skin around the eye and an off white bill.

♀

Juv. – best distinguished by continuous rasping begging calls.

Flight: - pattern and silhouette distinctive, buoyant and majestic, with slow, leisurely wingbeats, the long tail and wings imparting a slender, elongated appearance.

Voice: - Frequently heard before seen. Contact call is distinctive, a loud, sad, wailing *whee-la* frequently given in flight and upon alighting. Alarm call is a harsh screech similar to Sulphur-crested Cockatoos.

Notes:- Mostly a bird of eucalypt forests, from the coast to subalpine. Breeds in the ranges and after breeding aggregates in (large) roving flocks and disperses to coastal banksia woodlands, heath, pine plantations and city parks. Eats seeds of Eucalyptus, Banksia, Hakea, Grevillea; and exotic pines. Also extracts plump, wood-boring larvae of cossid moths and beetles from trees by gouging wood to a depth of many cm with its powerful bill.

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park Information and Access Update

25 August 2023

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park may have closures in place due to natural events (storms, floods, and bushfires), park operations, or planned works. Before visiting the park, check for closures below or on the change of conditions page on our website. Please follow signs and notifications and do not enter closed areas.



Information Updates

Events

The WONDERLAND RUN 2023 is a weekend trail running event being held in the Halls Gap/Wonderland area of the Park on August 26-27, 2023. It is organised by Adelaide Trail Runners/Detour Sports. The timing of the trail running program is outlined below.

Saturday 26/8	Sunday 27/8
1pm - 2km	7:00am - 50km
2pm - 8km	7:30am - 20km
	8:00am - 36km

The Start/Finish at for all runs is Halls Gap.

The trail running courses will be held on a number of walking tracks, with several marshalled road crossings and event stations in place at several visitor sites.

If you are visiting the area on these dates and require more detailed information, visit Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre at 277 Grampians Rd, Halls Gap. Open 9am to 5pm, 7 days a week. Contact Brambuk at (03) 8427 2258 or brambuk@parks.vic.gov.au



Roads and 4WD Tracks

Multiple roads/tracks are temporarily closed due to storm damage, high creek crossings or water over roads. Please visit our website for the latest update. Visitors are asked to drive to conditions and not enter closed areas.

Seasonal Road Closures apply to areas within and tracks bordering the National Park. See [MapshareVic](#) for locations of the closures. Please visit the [seasonal road closures](#) page for more information.

The **recent reopening** of Red Rock Road and Lodge Road provides improved access to the western areas of the park.



Day Walking and Visitor Sites

Late winter weather conditions may impact on your walking experience. Stay safe and get the most out of your visit by preparing for natural hazards and other outdoor risks in Victoria's parks. You are responsible for your own safety and the safety of those in your care. www.parks.vic.gov.au/get-into-nature/safety-in-nature/visitor-safety-tips-in-parks

Mackenzie Falls

In the interest of visitor safety, access to the rock shelf opposite the waterfalls remains closed and the rock stepping stones over the river have been removed to help to manage the risk under the falls.

Grand Canyon

The steel staircase at the south-eastern exit of the canyon is closed due to an engineering issue. The Grand Canyon remains partially open as a return walk from Wonderland Carpark. The Pinnacle Walk remains open via the Grand Canyon bypass walking track.

Silverband Falls walking track

Please note that the track has temporarily changed from a walking Grade 2 to Grade 3 in difficulty, impacting accessibility. Grade 3 includes short steep sections, rough surface areas and occasional steps. The change is temporary, and Silverband Falls track will be returned to a Grade 2 track via future flood recovery works.



Campgrounds

Kalymna Campground is temporarily closed due to minor flood damage and water over access roads.



Overnight Hiking

Fortress Overnight Hike

While Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners determine a longer-term management response to rediscoveries of

cultural heritage in Oasis and Fortress hike in camps, and out of respect for this significant cultural landscape, visitors are requested not to camp in this area. Instead, we request you set up camp 150m outside of the Fortress Hiker camp, towards Mt. Thackeray and away from the cliffs and shelter areas.



Rock Climbing

Rock climbing access has changed in Grampians National Park. The Greater Gariwerd Landscape Management Plan was released in 2021 to ensure that rock climbing can continue in Gariwerd in a sustainable way. We know there have been significant changes to rock climbing in Gariwerd and Parks Victoria will continue to work with climbers to achieve a balance between conservation and recreation.

For updates on rock climbing in the Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park visit:

www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/grampians-national-park/rock-climbing-in-gariwerd

▲ Grampians Peaks Trail

Upcoming changes to the GPT booking system

We are currently improving the Grampians Peaks Trail booking system to make it easier to book and provide more flexibility in how you plan your hike.

The improvements, which are expected to be complete by end-September 2023, will give hikers the ability to:

- Skip a hike-in campground to hike longer distances in a single day
- Hike in either direction - north-to-south (recommended) or south-to-north
- Start at more points along the GPT to enable more single-night hikes
- Add extra rest day(s) in Halls Gap (if hiking through)
- Book easily using an interactive map (rather than by set itineraries)

GPT Access Points

Road access (Griffin Track) to the **Griffin Trailhead** for the Grampians Peaks Trail is currently closed to vehicles due to poor road condition. Walkers can access the GPT on foot via the Griffin Track from the Grampians Tourist Road.

Redman Road Trailhead carpark is currently closed. The nearest site for parking is at Borough Huts Campground.

Securing your food storage

Food scraps and unsecured food can attract animals along the Grampians Peaks Trail, specifically at hike-in campgrounds. It is important that your food is stored securely and that you do not leave food unattended.

Water provisions on Grampians Peaks Trail

Water may be available at hike-in campground water tanks, depending on seasonal rainfall. Parks Victoria regularly services the following water tanks along the Grampians Peaks Trail:

Section	Location
N1	Mt Zero Picnic Area
N1	Coppermine Track Crossing
N2	Gar Trailhead (Roses Gap Road)
N4	Mt Difficult Road Crossing
C1	Sundial Carpark
C2	Bugiga Hike-in Campsite
C3	Redman Road Crossing
C3	Mt William Road 2
C4	Mt William Summit (Helipad)
C5	Jimmy Creek Road Crossing
S1	Yarram Gap Road Crossing
S2	Wannon Hike-Campground
S2	Griffin Trailhead
S3	Djardji- djawara Hike-in Campground
S4	Dunkeld Reservoir Road Crossing
S4	Mt Sturgeon MVO road crossing

For more information on preparing for the Grampians Peaks Trail or other overnight hiking options refer to the 'Plan and Prepare Guide' on the Grampians Peaks Trail webpage before setting off on your hike.

www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/grampians-national-park/things-to-do/grampians-peaks-trail

Further Park Information

Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre

While the Aboriginal cultural centre building is closed for refurbishment, the information centre building is open along with the café and gift shop. Take a stroll around the native gardens and wetlands, or view kangaroos and emus and a range of birds in the rear boomerang paddock, Fyans Creek Loop walk.

Park Information services are available to visitors at Brambuk the National Park and Cultural Centre. Open 9am to 5pm, 7 days a week. Contact Brambuk at (03) 8427 2258 or brambuk@parks.vic.gov.au, or contact Parks Victoria by calling 13 1963 or visiting

www.parks.vic.gov.au



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) on the Halls

Gap Recreation Oval, Grampians Road, 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 families volunteer to run the website, booking system, set-up and general organisation of the day. The students make and sell products, learning customer service, organisation and marketing skills along the way. There is also a fantastic raffle each market with great prizes. All proceeds go to the Halls Gap Primary School to purchase resources and engage relevant programs.

Please check the website for information on becoming a stall holder:

<https://www.hallsgapmarkets.com.au/>

Market Dates for 2023:

AFL Grand Final Weekend - Sunday 1st October

Melbourne Cup Weekend - Sunday 5th November

Future Dates for 2024:

Labour Day Weekend—Sunday 11th March

Easter - Sunday 31st March

King’s Birthday Weekend - Sunday 10th June

Pomonal Village Market

Last Sunday every month - 9am - 1pm
Pomonal Community Hall
Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

2023 Market Calendar

1st January	30th July
29th January	28th August
26th February	24th September
26th March	30th Sept/1st Oct
30th April	29th October
28th May	26th November
25th June	31st December

All site enquiries:
Alison Bainbridge
Market Coordinator
M: 0417 883 445

All proceeds to Pomonal Community

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 |

WHEN YOU NEED US, BUT NOT THE SIRENS

POLICE VICTORIA
131444



Halls Gap is a Cat Free Zone

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

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

FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

David, Pam, Margo and Alison

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

hallsgapcommunity@gmail.com

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

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

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

We acknowledge the diversity of Indigenous Australia.

We respectfully recognise Elders past, present and emerging.

This newsletter was produced on Djab Wurrung country.



Wildlife Rescue

- [Wildwood Wildlife Shelter – Gariwerd](#)
- Close to Halls Gap call Ian on 0413 921 171
- Wildlife Victoria: **03 8400 7300**
- Help for Wildlife: 5356 4749
- WRIN: 0419 356 433
- BADGAR: 1300 223 427

Regular Events

- * **Chas Mangle** Justice of the Peace is available for witnessing documents in the Halls Gap Newsagency from 8am - 10am daily except Tuesday 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 Tuesday**
- * **Halls Gap Neighbourhood House** - check the program at the house and online <https://hallsgapnhe.org.au/>
- * Various sport/fitness groups. Check the community website for details—