

Issue: October 2023

FILL THE GAP

Produced by Halls Gap Community Association & Halls Gap Neighbourhood House

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

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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.

WRAP UP...

So much is happening in our area. Check out information on Gatherings 2023 "The Moth Trail" on Saturday 21st October. If you would like to volunteer contact Blanch—see details on page 5.

9th October—Writers group HGNH

11th October How's it Going new men's group in Stawell

14th October FOGG Wildflower walk at Heatherlie Quarry

17th Scam Preparedness session

1st & 3rd Thursday afternoons History Room

19th HG Book Club

25th October Grampians Film Society

Check out the regular events at your Halls Gap Neighbourhood House and Pomonal Men's Shed.

STATS BY CHAS...

September 2023 - Rainfall by Chas: 48 mm for September bringing the progressive total for 2023 to 747 mm. This compares to the same period last year of 155.5 mm for September with a progressive total of 885.5 mm.

As of the 27 of September 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 77,180 ML or 98% full compared to the same period last year of 65,100 ML or 83% full. The total system is holding 427,390 ML or 76.28% full compared to the same period last year of 266,200 ML or 47.51 %.

Mount William received 67.4 mm for September 2023. The highest temperature of 19.2 C was recorded on the 29th of September and the lowest of -1.6 C was recorded on the 9th of September. The highest wind speed of 122 km/h was recorded on the 7th of September 2023.

Free Event

Scam Preparedness Digital Education Information Sessions

Scams target everyone, so you need to know the key things you can do to protect yourself. We would like to arm our Community with this knowledge.

Hear from nbn® Community Ambassador Janeen Stewart who will share up-to-date information and tips on how to be prepared for scams in this one-hour workshop, followed by one-on-one sessions to have your questions answered.

This one-hour workshop is an opportunity to learn about:

- scam trends in Australia
- common types of scams and how to detect common scams
- what to do if you think you've been scammed
- top tips to stay safe, including securing your personal devices and keeping your financial information safe.

Event Details

Date & Time: Tuesday 17 October 2023 at 10am

Venue: Meeting Room, Halls Gap Centenary Hall, 117-119 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

Cost: Free - light refreshments provided

RSVP: To assist with catering please call Alison on 0417 883445 to book your place.

Could it be a scam what do I do next?

How do I keep myself and my data safe?



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP

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

All locals are welcome.

HALLS GAP RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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

All Residents and Ratepayers are invited to attend.

Kelly Pearce died peacefully 3rd October 2023 in Adelaide. Our thoughts are with Andrew, Narelle and the family.

If you would like to send a card to Andrew & Narelle contact Alison at the Halls Gap Neighbourhood House for the contact details.

HISTORY ROOM

We are still working on cataloguing photographs. If you would like to help we meet 1st Thursday and 3rd Thursday of the month from 2pm-4:30pm.

INTRODUCING...

HOW'S IT GOING?

THIS IS A GROUP FOR MEN WHO WOULD LIKE A GET TOGETHER AND A CHAT!

**WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER
2-3PM
AT STAWELL LIBRARY**

COME ALONG!

Call 03 5358 1274 for more information.



Situated in Halls Gap near the start of the walk to Venus Baths, this small but picturesque garden displays our local plants. It is a community garden, with no paid staff. It is wheelchair and child friendly. It is totally funded and maintained by volunteers. **There are different ways you can help:**

- * Join in our working bees on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 9.30am, contact Margo for more details
- * Adopt a bed and look after it at a time that suits you
- * Donate in cash or in kind
- * Like our Facebook page Or just visit and enjoy

HALLS GAP LANDCARE

Should visitors or residents be concerned about any pest issues, our group would be pleased to hear from you. And we are always keen for others to join our group.

Further information about our group can be found at the Community Association of Halls Gap website: <https://hallsgapcommunity.org.au/directory/halls-gap-landcare-group/>



Friends of Grampians-Gariwerd (FOGG) have the following activities scheduled for the remainder of 2023.

Saturday 14th October – Wildflower Walk - You can register for this event on ParkConnect at <https://www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au/> Meet at Heatherlie Quarry car park at 10 am. Do a walk around the walking track and back to the cars, before moving on to Plantation campground for lunch as there are toilets at the campground. Bring along guidebooks and an inquisitive mind.

Saturday 11th November – Reptile Walk – You can register for this event on ParkConnect.

Discover the world of reptiles in the Grampians/Gariwerd. Meet at 10am at the Staplyton Camping Ground. David Steane will provide us with wonderful insights in the reptiles of this area. We will walk along Staplyton track.

Monday 13th November – Search for Grampians Globe-pea - *Sphaerolobium acanthos*

For those who are interested in participating in searches for the species in the Grampians there is a search for *Sphaerolobium acanthos*. Further searches may take place next year. If you are interested contact Noushka directly by email noushka.reiter@rbg.vic.gov.au or Alex on alex.mclachlan@rbg.vic.gov.au

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th November 2023 – Grampians Rice Flower (*Pimelia pagophyla*) Surveys – can register for this event on ParkConnect.

Noushka Rieter will be leading this survey for Grampians Rice Flower, to determine numbers still present. This information will be used in order to later tag plants, undertake genetic and pollination studies and to establish ex-situ breeding populations. Meet at Brambuk 9:15am. These are all day events.

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 >



GATHERINGS 2023 MOTH TRAIL

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

NEW website: <https://grampiansgatherings.com/>



Moonlight

Wednesday 25th October 2023

Centenary Hall, 117 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

2016 US Drama – Chiron, a young African-American boy, finds guidance in Juan, a drug dealer, who teaches him to carve his own path. As he grows up in Miami, Juan's advice leaves a lasting impression on him.

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



HALLS GAP CFA

With Temperatures warming up, now is a good time to get outside and start your preparations for the fire season. Cleaning gutters, removing vegetation, debris and any fine fuels that may have gathered around the home such as leaves bark and fallen branches.

If your burning off ensure you are complying with local regulations, notify neighbours, check weather forecast, ensure you have a fire break no less than 3 metres, monitor your burn off and register your burn on 1800668511.

CFA is training fortnightly on Wednesday at 6pm. All are welcome to attend and speak with us about joining, supporting the brigade or if you wish to ask advice about preparations to your property for the fire season.

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property>

Rob BARTORELLI
Community Safety Officer
Halls GAP CFA.

www.facebook.com/HallsGapCFA/

BUDJA BUDJA MEDICAL CLINIC



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



OCTOBER 2023	
	2ND – 6TH – Dr Gregory Malcher
	9th – 13th – Dr Timothy Lowe
	16th – 20th – Dr Christine Harvey
	23rd – 27th – Dr Christine Harvey



CAN YOU HELP?

CWA Stawell Branch are seeking help from the Community to contribute granny squares for a Granny Square Christmas Tree to be featured at this years CWA Christmas Tree Festival.

Granny squares can be plain, colourful, basic or elaborate. The only requirement is that each granny square is to measure 15cm (6 inches).

Collection points will be at the Stawell Library, Stawell Neighbourhood House & Stawell Town Hall until 31st October 2023.

After the tree has been created and displayed all contributed granny squares will be turned into blankets and donated to local welfare.

If you cant get your squares into Stawell dropped them off at the Halls Gap Neighbourhood House and Alison will take them into Stawell.



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.

"A society grows great when people plant trees whose shade they know they will never sit in."

Based on a Greek Proverb, Anonymous



What's on in October at your Neighbourhood House

We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3.15pm

- **Monday 9th** 11am-1pm Writers Group
- **Tuesdays** 1.30-2pm Gentle Exercise
- **Tuesday 17th** - 10am-11am Scam Preparedness - **SPECIAL EVENT**
- **Wednesdays** 10am-12noon Craft & Chat Come along and share your skills or learn a new one.
- **Thursday 19th** 6pm HG Book Club
- **Thursdays** - Any time from 9am-3pm- Run around Crazy for under 5yrs.
- **Thursdays** - 7.00pm Meditation - **NEW DAY**
- **Fridays** 10am-10.30am Qi Gong
- **Fridays** 1.30-3pm Friday Fun - Indoor Bowls/Finska
- **Saturday 21st** Gatherings 2023 - Moth Trail from 7pm -10pm **SPECIAL EVENT**

Tuesday to Friday 9am-3.15pm

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



HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL - CHECK OUT THE HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE



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



CHANGE OF LOCATION HALLS GAP BUSHFIRE PLACE OF LAST RESORT



WHY THE CHANGE?



The change of site is in response to community concerns over the inadequacy of the existing site (Visitor Information Centre Surrounds, corner Grampians Rd and Heath St) to support large numbers during peak visitation periods.



WHERE IS THE NEW SITE?

The new site is located at the Halls Gap Picnic Reserve, Grampians Rd. 

Council received approval to designate the new site from both the landowner Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action (DEECA) and land manager Halls Gap Caravan Park & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. 

You will see new signage at the site soon.

Designated Bushfire Place of Last Resort area



**Bushfire
Place of Last
Resort**

Neighbourhood Safer Place

WHAT IS A BUSHFIRE PLACE OF LAST RESORT?

A Bushfire Place of Last Resort (Neighbourhood Safer Place) is a location that may provide some protection from direct flame and heat from a fire, but does not guarantee safety. These places:

- Should only be used if your Bushfire Survival Plan fails and you have nowhere else to go.
- Is NOT a Relief Centre - limited facilities, and no support services.
- Is NOT a place to relocate to when leaving early.
- May not provide shelter from smoke and embers.

For more information go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au

CHECKLIST

Leading up to Bad Fire Days

Don't leave things until the last minute. If you know a hot, dry, windy day is coming, start getting your property ready:

- Remove doormats from around the house
- Move combustible outdoor furniture and other items from decks, up against, or under the home
- Move pot plants a few metres from the home
- Double check that gas bottles are anchored securely with the relief valves pointing away from any flammable materials
- Mow your lawns. On bigger properties, a clearing of about 10 metres of well-mown grass around your home is advisable
- Walk around your home and remove piles of fine fuels such as leaves. It will probably be where embers will land
- Check your gutters to make sure leaves haven't built up
- Make sure you remove any fuels from around your windows and doors. These are the most vulnerable parts of your home
- Make sure trees on your property are healthy with no dead limbs and no vegetation underneath them
- Ensure your insurance is sufficient and current.

For more information go to:

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property>

On Bad Fire Days

Last things to do before you leave:

- Fire risk days are usually hot, dry and windy. This could mean you lose power. Consider moving cars out of garages with electric doors or outside of electric gates the night before.
- Check you have removed anything that could burn easily from around your house, on decks, verandahs and pergola areas. This includes mats, outdoor furniture and wood piles.
- Turn off the gas supply.
- If you have time, block your downpipes and partially fill your gutters with water.
- Close and lock all windows and doors.
- Leave your front or access gate open – unless this will mean large animals or livestock will be released on to roads.





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:

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

AFL Grand Final Weekend - Sunday TBC

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

131444

POLICE VICTORIA



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—