

Issue: February 2024

# FILL THE GAP

Produced by Halls Gap Community Association  
& Halls Gap Neighbourhood House

Articles for May FTG need to be received by the 25th February 2024 See page 11 for details

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## FROM THE GARIWERD SIX SEASONS CALENDAR



### kooyang

season of eels - late summer  
(late january to late march)

#### A Parched Landscape

Late summer (season of eels or kooyang) is the hottest and driest time of the year.

The risk of bushfire (Piikorda) is high.  
Streams dry up.

**WRAP UP... SORRY FOR THE DELAY IN FTG—NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PUT THE NEWSLETTER TOGETHER. CONTACT ALISON AT HALLS GAP NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE ON 0417 883 445 IF YOU CAN HELP**

## STATS BY CHAS...

**October 2023** - Rainfall by Chas: 53 mm for October bringing the progressive total for 2023 to 800 mm.

This compares to the same period last year of 342.5 mm for October with a progressive total of 1228 mm. As of the 1st of November 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 76,040 ML or 97% full compared to the same period last year of 79,090 ML or 101% full. The total system is holding 411,690 ML or 73.48% full compared to the same period last year of 362,380 ML or 64.67% full. Mount William received 89.8 mm for October 2023. The highest temperature of 21.9 C was recorded on the 20th of October and the lowest of -1.2 C was recorded on the 26th of October. The highest wind speed of 115 km/h was recorded on the 24th of October 2023.

**November 2023** - Rainfall by Chas: 73.5 mm for November 2023 bringing the progressive total for 2023 to 873.5 mm. This compares to the same period last year of 155.5 mm for November with a progressive total of 1385.5 mm. As of the 29th of November 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 74,590 ML or 95% full compared to the same period last year of 79,140 ML or 101% full. The total system is holding 397,990 ML or 71.03% full compared to the same period last year of 441,870 ML or 78.86% full. Mount William received 56 mm for November 2023. The highest temperature of 26 C. was recorded on the 10th of November and the lowest of 0.7 C was recorded on the 4th of November 2023. The highest wind speed of 98 km/h was recorded on the 11th of November 2023.

**December 2023**—90 mm for December bringing the progressive total for 2023 to 963.5 mm. This compares to the same period last year of 38.5 mm for December with a progressive total of 1424.0 mm. Previous years are: 2022 - 1424.0 mm, 2021 - 1096.5 mm, 2020 - 989.0 mm, 2019 - 840.5 mm, 2018 - 942.5 mm, 2017 - 985.5 mm, 2016- 1272.00 mm, 2015 - 740.5 mm. As of the 20th December 2023 Lake Bellfield is holding 73,750 ML or 94 % full compared to the same period last year of 77,890 ML or 99 % full. The total system is holding 386.320 ML or 68.95 % compared to the same Period last year of 425,750 ML or 75.98 % full. Mount William received 183.0 mm for December 2023. The highest temperature of 28.8 C. was recorded on the 12th of December and the lowest of 1.7 C was recorded on the 20th December 2023. The highest wind speed of 104 km/h was recorded on the 8th December 2023.

**January 2023**—A good January 2024 with 102.5 mm this compares to the same period last year of 10.5 mm. As of Jan 31st 2024 Lake Bellfield is holding 74,170 ML or 94% compared to the same period last year of 76,600 or 98% full. The total system is holding 372,890 ML or 66.55% full compared to 407,050 ML or 72.65% full. Mount William received 128.6 mm. The highest temperature of 27.1 C was recorded on the 12th January 2024 and the lowest of 3.9 C was recorded on the 22nd January 2024. The highest wind speed of 70 km/h was recorded on the 16th Jan 2024.



## Presentation by ParksVic

Area Chief Ranger, Charlie Richardson will  
update on activities and plans for  
Grampians/Gariwerd

**Date:** Thursday 8th February 2024

**Time:** 5.00pm

**Where:** Mural Room, Parks Victoria Offices, Halls Gap

**RSVP:** Thursday 1st February 2024 via Secretary 0417 883 455

GRAMPIANS

TEXTURE 2024

16-21 MARCH

THE GRAMPIANS VIC

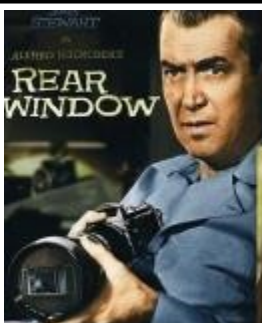


### Calling for stall holders at the Grampians Texture Twilight Makers Market

5:00 – 7:00pm Saturday 17 March

The market will be held at the GrampianArts Market Place at the Halls Gap HUB. We'll have a wide range of quality hand craft, made by participants and tutors from Grampians Texture including clothing, jewellery, paper, books and more all handmade and hand created, recycled and upcycled. We'd like to invite artisan's, makers and local produce to have a sellers table at the Twilight Makers Market. You can book here <https://www.trybooking.com/events/1095152/sessions/4065628/sections/2040495/tickets> – scroll all the way to the bottom of the booking page to select a sellers table.

Booking enquiries to [textures@grampianarts.com.au](mailto:textures@grampianarts.com.au)



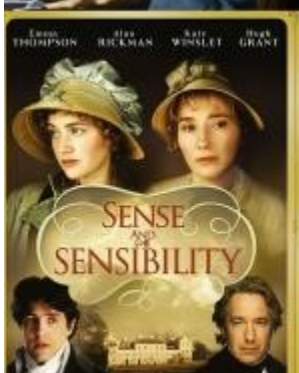
Rear Window

Wednesday 24th January 2024



The Quiet Girl

Wednesday 28th February 2024



Sense & Sensibility

Wednesday 27th March 2024



Doors open 7pm

Film Screening 7.30pm

Centenary Hall, 117 Grampians Road, Halls Gap

Check The Grampians Film Society website  
on membership details and full program.

<https://grampians.filmsociety.org.au/>



## THANK YOU Halls Gap!!!

On behalf of Northern Grampians Shire Council, ACT Natimuk and the Snappy Gappians, we would like to thank the Halls Gap community and your visitors for either participating or attending the Halls Gap Gatherings Moth Trail event on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023. The evening was a wonderful success albeit somewhat windy!!

**Thanks to our Creative Team:** Gariwerd Garden, Light Drawing and Face Off - Dave Jones, Lantunda-Mary French, Art of Laurie Evans photographed by Marty Schoo, VR Light Sculpting Beau Ladlow and Peter Ladlow, Shadow dancers- Paul Kelly and the Eastern Maar Dancers, 'Welcome to Country' - Tya Lovett, Performers - Vanuatu Stawell Community Choir, Beatroute and the Nang Nangs and Joy Robson, Mushroom Light Garden and Gariwerd Garden - Students and Teachers of Halls Gap Primary School, Local Producer - Blanche Leithhead, Creative Producer - Jillian Perkins, and Lighting/Sound crew from Outlook Communications.

**Thanks to our Volunteers:** Alison Bainbridge, Blanche Leithhead, Luke Baker, Sally Goldstraw, Rowena Witham, Junior Issachar, Chris Callaghan Pam Richardson, Alison Irvine, Robert Irvine, Staff at Halls Gap Primary School - Nichola Peters, Grace and Mandy, Paula Dent, Alecia Hall, Margo Sietsma, Janet Witham, Natimuk Crowd - Martin Perkins, Isabelle Hoskins, Mary French, Jacinda O'Sullivan, Tracey Skinner and Paul Hoskins.

**Thanks to Community:** Halls Gap Neighbourhood House and Snappy Gappian members, Halls Gap Historical Society, Vanuatu Choir Stawell, Awonga Cottages, Grampians Adventure Golf, Ampol Halls Gap, Halls Gap Bakery, Black Panther Café, Halls Gap General Store, Halls Gap Recreation Reserve Committee, Swimming Pool, Grampians Flora Botanical Garden, Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre, Staff at Northern Grampians Shire Council.

## What was your experience?

If you attended the Moth Trail Event - We invite you to tell us of your experience through completing this 5 minute [Attendee Survey](#) which will help shape future events. QR Code Thanks in advance.



*Produced by ACT Natimuk, Snappy Gappians and Halls Gap Neighbourhood House with the local support of:*

Supported by: Discover Northern Grampians

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VICTORIA

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Website design by Studio 8 Design.

more info >



## 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.



**Halls Gap  
is a Cat  
Free Zone**

## Are You Stuck in the Bush?

Call Glenn on 0419 802 846

Or 0424 619 355...Leave a message if no answer.

**Grampians  
Community Health**



How can we support young people to cease vaping in our community?

There is some good information out there.

QUIT Victoria – [talking to young people about smoking and vaping](#).

And our young people are trying to come up with solutions.

Stawell's own [Stawell West State Primary School](#) came up with "Respect your brain" and "You are not alone, talk to someone you know" as part of their [DASH program](#)

Ballarat Community Health and Mt Clear College put together some videos about [vaping by young people for young people](#)

These good messages are drowned out by [corporations](#) driven by profit and not ethics.

[7News Spotlight on vaping](#) exposes big companies and their role in shamelessly addicting our young people. New research exposes the [manipulative tricks](#) the e-cigarette industry uses.

**By educating ourselves, together as a community we will be able to support our young people to say no to the lies told by these big corporations.**





## VICTORIAN POLICE

"Halls Gap Police were lucky enough to receive two new bicycles through a sponsorship deal with a local business.

Bike patrols will form an integral part of our summer operations, ensuring local youth and community engagement within the five caravan parks in the town, our main street and keeping an eye on the ever-growing line of people wanting an ice-cream!

This is the first of many projects being undertaken at Halls Gap focussed on improving and uplifting service delivery."

Chris Russo | Sergeant 31237

Station Commander

Halls Gap Police Station | D4 | Western Region | Victoria Police



Sergeant Chris RUSSO, Leading Senior Constables Kellie HARRIS and Sarah McLeod.

Angus from Stawell Gold Mine

Wes Pyke from Pykes Cycles.



# GYE MOVIE NIGHT

HOSTED BY  
GRAMPIANS, YOUTH EVENTS

DATE

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM FOR A 6:10 START

16 FEBRUARY 2024

LOCATION

AT THE POWERHOUSE STAWELL

MOVIE

SUPER MARIO

MORE INFO

VAPE DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT  
FAMILY FRIENDLY





## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HALLS GAP

Meeting held Monday 4th March, 3rd June, 2nd September and 2nd December 2024 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 March, 5 June, 4th September and 4th December 2024 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room at Centenary Hall, Halls Gap.

All Residents and Ratepayers are invited to attend.

## 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.



Every Saturday afternoon at 2pm (1pm start during winter) and every Tuesday from 5pm. Travellers and local residents are welcome at our Boule-o-Drome, located at the Halls Gap oval reserve, for a friendly game of pétanque (boules) in the magnificent Grampians National Park. Enjoy a memorable afternoon playing pétanque under the watchful eyes of our resident kangaroos and on a piste that is recognised as the most picturesque in Australia. Beginners are most welcome, boules are provided and tea or coffee is available - or if you prefer, BYO drinks.

Can't make it on Saturday? You are welcome to play at the Moyston Piste located at the Moyston Recreation Reserve on Friday afternoons (3:00pm till late) and Sunday afternoons (2:30pm - 6:00).

## Sullivan's Seat—A piece from David Witham

In case you are not aware of it, Sullivan's Seat is a memorial to Daniel Sullivan, the early Grampians Botanist. It is situated on the west side of School Road in the bank below one of the caravan park cabins and is accessed by steps from the recently enlarged parking area on School Road. A few years ago the Historical Society asked the Caravan Park Management Committee if they could remove the memorial plaque, have it refurbished and then installed in the Botanic Garden, where it would be seen more readily. This was done, but the condition that the original stone seat would be reconstituted was not fulfilled for some time, partly because of covid. Around four months ago this was put to right and the stonework is again complete, with the aluminium information plaque that used to stand beside the seat now in the centre where the original one was removed. It's worth a look, if only to find out where those steps lead to!!



## Botanical Garden News

1. The Northern Grampians shire has given us a grant for a mural to be painted on the rear wall of our shelter shed, thus facing the Grampians Peaks Trail. That is such good news. The artists are both locals, Barb Venn and Stacey Rees. You probably won't see them often in action as they are both busy, but they do prefer to work on site. They won't be painting on the corrugated iron but on wood or metal sheets which are screwed on to the wall. They have a full year to do it.
2. We are going to introduce a Monday working bee once a month. We have some folk who work on Fridays which is our usual time, but who are keen to help us. So put 10 a.m. on the first Monday of the month on your calendar, starting March 4.
3. If you can't make either of these times, but would like to help, you can adopt a bed and work there. Several of us are doing that.



## HALLS GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Welcome back** to school to all the students, teachers, staff, parents and volunteers to the new school year. We look forward to seeing lots of your photos and stories of your school adventures in 2024



**Invites you to our very first**



**Date:** Friday 23rd February 2024

**Time:** 10am

**Venue:** Meeting Room, Halls Gap Centenary Hall

**RSVP:** Tuesday 20th February 2024 ring/text 0417 883 445

## What's on in February at your Neighbourhood House

**We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3.15pm**

- **Tuesdays** 1.30-2pm Gentle Exercise
- **Wednesdays** 10am-12noon Craft & Chat Come along and share your skills or learn a new one.
- **Thursday 22nd** 6pm HG Book Club
- **Thursdays** 1.30-3pm Friday Fun - Finska
- **Fridays** 10am-10.30am Qi Gong
- **Friday 23rd** 10am HGNH AGM - **SPECIAL EVENT**
- **27th-29th - Work on Fill the Gap - Looking for new volunteers**

**Tuesday to Friday 9am-3.15pm**

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

**Have a skill to share, would like to start a new group? Give Alison a call and see what we can do.**

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







## Pomonal Village Market

### 2024 Market Calendar

28th January

25th February

No Market in March

28th April

26th May

30th June

28th July

25th August

21st & 22nd Sept

29th September

27th October

24th November

29th December

Last Sunday every month

9am - 1pm

Pomonal Community Hall  
Ararat-Halls Gap Road, Pomonal

## Local Markets



## Halls Gap Market dates



Sunday 10th March

Sunday 31st March

Sunday 9th June

Sunday 29th September

Sunday 3rd Nov

Mark the dates in your calendar. The only market which supports the small school of Halls Gap and it vital to their fundraising. Over 70 stalls - Local Products - Local Produce - Food & drinks - Crafts & Giftwares - Homewares & clothing - Music & more  
[www.hallsgapmarkets.com.au](http://www.hallsgapmarkets.com.au)





## FILL THE GAP COMMITTEE

David, Margo and Alison

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

[hallsgapcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:hallsgapcommunity@gmail.com)

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 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](mailto: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—