

April 2021

Edition 213



A large gathering at the Platypus Breakfast on April 21 in Wartook

It was great we could enjoy Easter with family and friends this year without restrictions. Hopefully it's been suitable weather for planting crops.

There are many activities, events and groups in our wider community to be involved in – check this out!

Liz Hopkins

Yoga at Laharum Hall



Yoga is recommencing on Wednesday April 28, 7.30pm.

Join participants and experience the benefits of yoga. It keeps our bodies flexible; builds muscle tone; maintains a good level of fitness and is a great stress relief – particularly important as we get older! Come and give it a go with our friendly group of participants! Minimal charge towards hall hire.

Please contact me on 0417 056219 if you plan to attend for the first time.

Judy Berendsen

Brimpaen Craft Club



Tuesday May 4, 10am-2.30pm at Brimpaen Hall. Printing on wrapping paper. Jill will supply brown paper - bring paint & an object for stamping.

Tuesday June 1 – meet at Uptempo Café at 10am.

Tuesday July 6, 10am-2.30pm at Brimpaen Hall. Please bring your own craft.

Contact me on 5382 5559 for any queries.

Jill Sinclair, President



Platypus found in MacKenzie River during the survey

**ALWAYS DIAL TRIPLE ZERO
TO REPORT FIRE**

**NURSE ON CALL
1300 606 024**

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**Horsham Rural City
Council** urban rural balance

Stavely Block 10 Project Notice of Airborne Geophysical Survey



WIM Resource Pty Ltd (WIM), owner of several exploration projects in Victoria, was granted the right to explore Stavely Block 10 (Exploration Licence 6873) for copper, gold, and other prospective metals.

As a part of this exploration, WIM has commissioned an **airborne magnetics survey** over part of the licence area. Magnetic variations within different rock types are used to help map the underlying geology beneath the Earth's surface.

The survey is expected to commence on **Sunday April 25** and continue for approximately one week over the following areas – McKenzie Creek, Mockinya, Wonwondah, Wartook, Brimpaen and Laharum. Flying at a **very low height of 40m** above the ground with line **spacings of 50m** east-west - no photography or video will be conducted during this survey. If you believe your property is covered by this survey, it is important you contact WIM. See map page 11 showing survey (in pink). **David Jelley**, Stavely Block 10 Project Manager 0408 731338 or djelley@wimresource.com.au
Chris Guest, WIM Land Officer 0427 837518

Wonwondah Landcare Group



Wonwondah Landcare Group has now met almost one year on from the virus, causing disruption to everyone's activities last year.

The massive increase in snail population throughout the Wonwondah area has led to different treatments including rolling stubbles on hot days and heavy baiting.

Sam Kabe from Western Ag spoke reflecting on last year's season and new chemicals which have come onto the market to help control certain weeds.

The next meeting will be in approximately July after cropping has finished.

Chris Guest

Laharum-Wartook Produce & Vegetable swap

AUTUMN/ WINTER 2021 first Sunday each month at 10am sharp
Everyone is most welcome with or without produce.



- 2nd May** Pam & Des Geue's
1922 Nthn Grampians Rd, Laharum
- 6th June** Ross & Sue Floyed's
949 Smiths Rd, Wartook
- 4th July** The Wander Inn, Wartook
Buy your own Tea or Coffee, Scones
Jam & Cream provided by LLG

For further information please contact
Wendy McInnes on 0407 914 498



Mouse/Rat Bait Awareness



Have you been enjoying the night time 'mopoke' call of the Boobook owls in the area?

Boobooks are Australia's smallest owl and love to eat rats and mice. There are a few of these cute little owls in our area, but I am worried that their number is in decline.

Rat poison is the silent killer of our owls (and tawny frogmouths, hawks, kites, falcons, kookaburras, magpies, ravens, currawongs, eagles, and reptiles too).

The most common rat poisons which are purchased from supermarkets and hardware stores are anticoagulant rodenticides (ARs). These act as blood thinners and mice and rats will consume a lethal dose but not feel sick until later and die a few days after eating the bait.

Most people probably aren't aware that they are inadvertently killing our wildlife after they eat poisoned mice or rats.

Please check the active constituents and **avoid** 'second generation' anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) like brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, difethialone or flocoumafen. If you must use rat poison, choose **less harmful** 'first generation' anticoagulant rodenticides (FGARs) with active constituents such as warfarin or coumatetralyl.

The great news is that products used in broad-acre crops by farmers for mouse control contain zinc phosphide (ZP) which does not cause secondary poisoning in our wildlife. But don't be tempted to use ZP in your house, ceiling cavity or garden, as you and 'yours' can be poisoned by ZP if you inhale fumes given off by this mouse bait.

Beth McGennissen, Veterinarian



Wednesday Walkers after their road-side collection

North West Grampians Branch of Horsham Lions Club



It's great to be back having our meetings and serving the community where possible. Our Driver Reviver operated for the first time in 2021 on Easter Saturday & Monday; also Sundays April 11 & 18 and it will also operate on **Anzac day April 25**.

On Good Friday TAC had a coffee van, gazebos and lots of giveaways at Green Lake. Five sites across Victoria were chosen by TAC and Green Lake (Bungalally) was one; so we must be in the right place!

We had a BBQ meeting at Green Lake Gazebo on Tuesday March 9. We welcome new members to join our small group. Please phone Keith Fischer on 0417 691000.

On Saturday April 17 we manned the first football netball gates at Laharum since 2019. Great to be back at Laharum where a big crowd attended; one of the busiest days for years.

Our next meeting will now be held on **Tuesday April 27** at 6.30pm at Sports & Community Club Horsham. Please note the change of date. Meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of the month at Laharum Hall.

Libby Peucker 5382 5221

Grampians Wildlife
Carers' Fund Inc.



Grampians Wildlife Carers Fund Inc

We are selling cosy warm colourful slippers for \$8 pair, made by Christine Osuchowski.

This money helps support wildlife carers with the cost of food and other supplies used while caring for injured animals and birds.

We are also raising money towards a

new shed at Hamilton Community Parklands Bandicoot Enclosure for the endangered Eastern Barred Bandicoot.

If you would like to purchase slippers, please contact Alison on 0413 458056 or wildlife75@activ8.net.au



Laharum Hall Committee



Recently grant applications for improved communications have been applied for at the hall. For the wellbeing and health of our community, hopefully we can be successful in achieving improved internet access. This will allow QR coding to happen as part of our Covid safe plan.

Laharum Hall is also our recovery centre for the area, so long term it will be important for disasters which may occur. Trestles and chairs available for hire.

Laharum History books are \$10.

Judy Berendsen, Secretary



Horsham Rural City Council
urban rural balance



Horsham Talks- Our Future - We have started a conversation about the future of the Horsham region - our towns, our communities and our people. Everyone can get involved!

Thank you to residents who have registered to be a part of the 40-person Community Panel which will guide the development of the 20-year Community Vision for our municipality. Panel members will represent the broad demographics of the community. They will participate in three workshops to be held in May and June.

The Community Panel is just one way Council is inviting participation in the Horsham Talks project. We're hoping that people and groups from across the municipality will host a conversation to capture their community's vision for our future. We'll give you all the tools and support you need to host a conversation at home, at school, down the pub, at work or at your next meeting.

We want to hear from as many people as possible from Natimuk, Laharum and Pimpinio to Wartook and Jung. People can also provide their input by completing a short a questionnaire available

<https://oursay.org/horshamruralcitycouncil/horsham-talks>
Faith Hardman Faith.Hardman@hrcc.vic.gov.au

New gravel road sealer put to test – HRCC is hoping a new gravel sealing product being trialled at Lower Norton could lead to significant improvements in the condition of rural roads.

Relatively unknown in Australia, 'Otta' seals are a cost-efficient road treatment best suited for rural roads where traffic volumes are less than 200 vehicles per day. Put simply, graded gravel/crushed rock is placed on a relatively thick film of soft bitumen, and then rolled.

Initially, the surface does not look dissimilar to a typical gravel road, but over time, the bitumen works its way upwards through the aggregate and turns into a smooth, interlocked bituminous premix.

Now 'Otta' seals, re-adapted for Australian conditions, are being put to the test south of Horsham at Plush Hannans Road.

Saleyards re-open to public - Horsham Regional Livestock Exchange has reopened its saleyards to the public. The exchange had been restricted to buyers and agents due to Covid protocols since restrictions were enforced 12 months ago. Now the general public can attend on market days, provided they sign in on arrival.

Please maintain 1.5m distance and avoid shaking hands. QR codes will be offered for people to sign in on their mobile devices. Paper copy sign-in forms will also be available.

Susan Surridge, Co-ordinator Community Relations & Advocacy

Wimmera Regional Library



Books and DVDS are available and can be arranged with Library staff by ringing on 5382 1777 or going online at www.wrlc.org.au.

You can check out the catalogue then put items 'on hold'.

Ann Twyford, CEO



Batteries

Used vehicle batteries can be left at Pam & Des Geue's property at 1922 Northern Grampians Road to help to raise funds for Laharum Hall

Laharum Football Netball Club



Wow - such a long time since we have seen all players back out on the football grounds and netball courts, but what a sight it is to see!



2019 seems such a distant memory and I know it will be hard for some players to get back into it, but I think everyone is just as excited as I am! Being able to see the juniors training and preparing for Saturdays again is such a great thing to see.

2019 ended in a great way for our basketball A Graders. After 64 long years, our girls were able to pull off a thrilling win in the Grand Final against a well-drilled and talented Natimuk United. I would have to say, it was the best game of netball I have ever watched!

Our 17s football also made it to the big dance, but unfortunately couldn't get over the line against a firing Harrow-Balmoral. We all strive to make it to the final day in September, even though not coming out on top. It's a huge achievement - one that all Laharum Demon supporters are proud of.

2021 will be such an unknown and challenging year for all of us, but I thank every single member who has come back and supported the club. It was always going to be hard with no momentum from 2020.

Our club wouldn't be anywhere without our volunteers and sponsors. These guys are the backbone of all clubs, and no amount of thanks would ever show the appreciation we have for every single person who helps out in anyway. We plan on hosting a Sponsors Day/Life Members Day later on in the year with a special guest to say thank you to these people.

A special thanks to Tim Nagorcka for the last two years of his service as President. We appreciate him and everything he and his family have done over the last few years.

The grounds look fabulous - thank you to Brian Bourke, Pat Herson, Cam Mibus and all other members who have helped keep the grounds looking pristine.

The netball has a new Electronic Score Board which looks amazing! Thank you to the local sponsors who have generously donated so we can use and enjoy this - Bell Family, MG Field & Engineering Services and the Mibus Family. Thank you to the group who also organised and installed the scoreboard - great work!

We thank all returning and new players back to our Club for this season. Our club wouldn't be what it is without our loyal members.

This year is exciting to be able to get back out at Cameron Oval, not only to play a game of footy or netball but to enjoy everyone's company which we all very much missed in 2020.

We welcome all local community members to come and enjoy Thursday nights and Home Games out at Cameron Oval, along with Saturday nights for home games. We appreciate each and every person who comes and supports our local club. The past year has been difficult with no functions. The club is up and running, and any support or attendance is welcomed.

This year is an important one for the club. We want to keep us up and running as a safe, successful club for future generations. This can't be done without our loyal community members!

Thanks to all involved for the hard work which was put in prior to the season - it definitely hasn't gone through unnoticed!

Bianca Mibus, President



2021 Census Opportunities

Adecco Recruitment has partnered with the Australian Bureau of Statistics to recruit 38,000 temporary employees in areas across the country. These employees will play an important role in helping people to lodge their Census forms for the Australian National Census 2021.

The Census provides valuable insights into the make-up of Australian society and is often the only source of data on small population groups and small geographic areas, which is why it is vital that we achieve the highest level of engagement and participation possible within your area.

The ABS is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for its workers and to make every effort where reasonably practicable, to eliminate or minimise risks associated with ABS operations including risks relating to Covid-19. This commitment includes Field Staff engaged for the Census who will have face-to-face interactions with the public as part of their role. The ABS will continue to monitor the rapidly changing Covid-19 environment and will adjust our operations as needed to ensure the safety of the community and our staff.

We strongly encourage potential candidates to consider the job description and the inherent duties of the role and whether they may suit their individual circumstances and health when deciding to apply for Field Staff roles.

To view our current vacancies and for more details, please visit:

<https://censusjobs.adecco.com.au/applications>

Adecco Census Recruitment Team

Phone 1300 233 445

Email enquiries@censusjobs.adecco.com.au

Website www.censusjobs.adecco.com.au



Art is...Unexpected Walkabout Watch Artists Make Art

Visit local regional artists in their studios or collective venues and watch them create art.

Saturday/Sunday May 29 & 30 from 10am-4pm

Laharum Hall and Old Rosemont Quilts

Artists: Ray Colvin, Jenny McInnes, Wendy McInnes, Isabelle Martin, Pam May & Gill Venn.

Saturday May 29 at Nhili

Saturday/Sunday June 5 & 6 at Murtoa

More details on Festival website: www.artiswimmera.com

Police Assistance Line

131 444

Call us any time to report
non-urgent crimes and events



Laharum Rural CFA



Over the last couple of months Laharum Brigade has responded to 4 call-outs. Most notable was to support Toolondo to a fire and we've also supported Brimpaen to a couple of others.

During March we held our end-of-season meeting and election of officer bearers. The positions are as follows:

Captain: Luke Dumesny
1st Lieut: Francoise Thornton-Smith
2nd Lieut: Angus Martin
3rd Lieut: Mal Griffiths
4th Lieut: Rob Launder
Secretary/Treasurer: Marieke Dam
Training Officer: Francoise Thornton Smith
Comm's Officer: Helen Francisco
OH&S: Bruce McInnes
VFBV Rep: Maurice Dumesny

Quick Fill Trailer - The new trailer should be completed within the next couple of weeks. Watch out for advertising the old trailer if you're keen to purchase it.

Permits to Burn Off - We'd like to thank all farmers who adhered to the permit conditions when burning off - no breaches were reported. Also thanks to everyone's patience with the new permit application system. It exposed a couple of teething problems which the CFA are aware of. A key point is to apply early, even if you don't intend to burn off until a few weeks' time.

Even though the fire danger period has finished and no permits are required now, please continue to register any burn off's to the Burn Off Notification number on 1800 668511 to prevent any call-outs by brigades.

Training - Our Training Officer, Francoise Thornton-Smith has set up a training schedule for all members who would like to attend.

Laharum CFA brigade suggested training and drill schedule for the period up to fire season 2021/2022:

Mon May 10: Radio communication exercises
Mon June 7: Familiarity with tanker exercises
Mon July 5: Map-reading exercise
Mon Aug 9: Pole fire exercise
Mon Sept 6: Draughting and refilling from a hydrant
Mon Oct 4: New quick fill/generator setup
Tanker 1 shed at 18.30 hours, unless otherwise arranged.

Entrapment Drill can be organised at any time during the year. Make sure your skills are up to date! Call Françoise on 0484 909150 for further information or questions.

CFA has also updated online courses via the CFA member's page. Contact Françoise or myself if you'd like to participate in the online courses.

Supplementary Alerting Service (SAS) app - I've touched on this in previous newsletters, but this app is available for all members to download to their phones to alert members to incidents as well as for other pager messages. The brigade's Management Team have passwords for those members who haven't downloaded the app yet to speed up the process. We'd really encourage everyone to get the app to help the brigade to alert everyone to respond to incidents.

If anyone has any brigade queries, please feel free to contact myself on 0428 838242 or Francoise Thornton-Smith on 0484 909150.

Luke Dumesny, Captain

CFA District 17



CFA District 17 office hours are currently 10am-2pm Monday to Friday, unless closed due to operational response or unforeseen circumstances. Other hours by appointment.

Please call 5362 1700 or direct mobile number for the staff member you wish to see.

Turnout SMS to mobile phones & SAS app for paging - Brigades are advised that the service which sends turnout pager messages by SMS to volunteer mobile phones will cease around the end of May. The SAS (Supplementary Alerting System) app is intended to replace this service.

The app can be downloaded from your phone's app store, and you should use your normal CFA Online login to access the app. If you don't have a login, you can apply for one via the app, or please contact me to set up or reset your password if you've forgotten. Once logged in for the first time, you'll be asked to put in the number located on the back of the pager which begins with ASN. For assistance with a login, please call or text me on 0438 673144.

If you have logged in, but aren't receiving messages, it may be that you haven't put in a pager number. Please let me know so I can manually hook you up to the brigade and then the messages should start coming through. If you don't have adequate mobile phone internet service, the SAS app may not work and you will be reliant on your pager.

Please note, the Conference Call service which supports paging will continue to operate. Likewise, this shut down does not affect bulk messages sent directly from the district for training and administrative purposes.

Fire Restrictions have now been lifted for the whole of District 17 as of April 12.

Louise McGillivray, Brigade Administrative Support Officer



Cancer Council
Australia's Biggest
Morning Tea

Although we will not host **Laharum's Biggest Morning Tea** luncheon in May as we have done

previously, the fundraiser will still continue. The opportunity to make a donation can be done with any of the three options as follows -

- **Direct Deposit** – Account name Laharum biggest morning tea
Commonwealth Bank Horsham
BSB 063 514 Account No 1059 7035. **Please type in your name, and also email your details to giliz@activ8.net.au.** This way we can send a receipt if requested.
- **Cheque** payable to – ABMT Cancer Council Victoria
Post to – c/- Liz Hopkins, 267 Pohlner Road, Laharum 3401 **or**
Cheque payable to – Wimmera Cancer Centre
Post to – c/- Liz Hopkins, 267 Pohlner Road, Laharum 3401
- **Cash** – I can meet to receive a donation if this is preferred
Mobile 0427 838207 or email giliz@activ8.net.au
Could you please make your donation by **Monday May 31**, thank you.

We really value your donations for this all-important fundraiser.
Liz Hopkins, Facilitator

Horsham Rural City Landcare Facilitator



An application for a future Victorian Landcare Facilitator has been submitted by HRCC rather than Laharum Landcare this time. If the application is successful, it will enable a new facilitator to be employed for the next 3 years by HRCC. I also assisted Laharum Landcare Group with a Biodiversity grant for 'Future Climate Living Seed Bank' - big thanks to Gil Hopkins for his motivation and effort!

LLG will be running 'Propagating Natives at Home' workshop on **Sunday May 23**, morning and afternoon with Neil & Wendy Marriott at Laharum Hall. 10am-12 noon - Seed collection storage & propagation. Lunch provided. 1-3pm - Propagating from cuttings & division. Fee \$20 non-members; \$10 members.

There will be a follow up 'Growing Natives' workshop in spring with Jeanne & Royce Raleigh at their amazing property Wartook Gardens. They have so much experience with native plants that even the most experienced horticulturalist will enjoy the morning!

We are also planning a bus tour on **Saturday June 26** to Hamilton Institute for Rural Learning Farmers Market. This will include a guided tour of the amazing mudbrick complex including the 'Sue McInnes Hall' with its special bandicoot parquet floor; the Edible Native Garden & Anushka's Children's 'Walk Through' Garden and the Eastern Barred Bandicoot enclosure located there. More details will be announced. It should be an enjoyable outing with possibly a visit to Dunkeld for lunch.

Next Laharum Landcare community plant-out is being arranged for **Sunday June 6** at Ann Sprague's property, Bungallally from 9am-12.30pm followed by a free BBQ lunch. Volunteers will be most welcome and you can get in touch with me closer to the day. On **Saturday June 19** we will be running a smaller plant-out in Laharum.

It is disappointing to find 'Pepsi Max' (red and black) and the odd Diet Coke cans still being thrown out along Northern Grampians Road. This has been an issue for well over 3 years now in Wartook! Finding out that the Wartook Walkers collected a majority of these cans when they did a wonderful roadside clean up near the Laharum Hall, makes me think it hasn't stopped - just moved up the road! See photo page 2. So I decided it's worth mentioning it here. I'm not sure how anyone thinks it's ok to have others bending over picking up rubbish which has been thrown out the car window without a second thought!!

Thank you Beth McGennissen for raising awareness about some types of mouse/rat baits causing secondary poisoning/death in the wildlife which prey on them like owls, hawks, eagles, kites and reptiles. See article on page 2. This information is timely and we need to be informed to make the best choices. Residents around Wartook/Brimpaen/Laharum have been reporting record numbers of rats - it's feeling like they are getting to plague proportions! Living in the area for 25 years I'm noticing a massive increase in their numbers. If anyone else is experiencing this increasing problem please ring me on 0407 914498.

I can only imagine the damage they will be doing in the environment eating baby birds and every other small living thing. There isn't much a rat won't eat if it can

kill it. To think we may be inadvertently poisoning our natural pest control with owls, makes it even worse.

2021 National Landcare Conference Landcarers from across the country will gather this August to share knowledge, ideas and plan for the future as part of the 2021 National Landcare Conference on **Wed-Fri August 4-6** at the International Convention Centre in Sydney. Early Bird delegate registrations close **Saturday May 1**.

Wendy McInnes, Landcare Facilitator 0428 840662

Laharum Landcare Group



Laharum Landcare Group members met Tuesday April 13. We have applied for funding with Horsham Council for a Landcare Facilitator for the whole Council area.

LLG has also applied for funding for setting up climate-adapted 'Living Seed Banks' to be planted within present revegetation areas. Other grant funds will soon be available for Landcare works, so if you have native vegetation or biodiversity to protect or enhance, or pest plant and animal issues, please tell us so we can include these in our application.

DELWP, together with landholders and interested people, have produced a draft 'Grampians Region Climate Adaptation Plan' which will guide DELWP funding for the next 5 years. You can have a look at this draft on the 'Adapt Grampians' website and please comment on it.

Wimmera CMA has a draft Strategy out for public comment by **Monday May 3**, so please check that on their website.

Native plant propagation workshops will be held on **Sunday May 23** and later in spring. Please read Wendy's article on this page.

There is a plant-out planned for **Sunday June 6**. Contact Wendy on 0428 840662 if you're interested.

Remember that Laharum Landcare Group membership is only \$10. This membership gives you access to grants for planting and fencing projects or pest plant and animal control, equipment and some chemical, and a lot of experience and knowledge! Contact our Secretary by email laharumlandcare@gmail.com

Next meeting is on **Tuesday June 8**, 7.30pm. Meetings are generally on the 2nd Tuesday each two months.

Gil Hopkins, Vice President 0490 830769

Wonwondah Hall Committee

Wonwondah Hall had their AGM on 19 April. New appointed members are -

President - Andrew Bell
Vice-Pres Sue Ahern
Treasurer - Rebecca Heard
Secretary - Sue Ahern
Bookings - Jenny Ervin

The following events were organised for this year.

Saturday July 17 - Casserole tea and chocolate bingo.

Check time on our facebook page closer to the date.

Sunday October 24 - Fleece & Flower Show.

Saturday December 11 - Christmas Tree.

Sue Ahern 0438 304948



smalltalk
GIVING YOUR KIDS A GREAT START
**LAHARUM
SUPPORTED
PLAYGROUP**



A place for families to grow and learn

Come along each week for –

- Fun activities for you and your child
- Opportunities to meet other families
- Tips on your child's development
- Strategies for self-care
- Ideas for things to try at home

Our playgroups are run by trained facilitators who are there to support you and your family.

Free to attend - morning tea is provided.

Where – Laharum Primary School

When – During school terms on
Wednesdays 10-11.30am

Contact -

5382 9532 or 0427 532856

E: supported.playgroup@hrcc.vic.gov.au

Facebook HRCC Playgroups

@hrccplaygroups

Bookings essential

hrcc-pg-wednesday.event-brite.com.au

or via facebook HRCC Playgroups



Grampians Olive Co

Farm shop open Monday to Friday
11am-4pm.

Closed weekends and public holidays.

*Organic olive oils, olives, infused oils, honey, vinegars,
dunkah, etc.*

Gift packs available.

Serving platters and freshly roasted coffee.

After hours pick-up available and free delivery for orders
over \$100 - www.grampiansoliveco.com.au

Greg Mathews 5383 8299



**Forest Fire Management Victoria
(FFMVic)**

**Reducing the risk of bushfire in the Northern
Grampians**

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) have resumed planned burning operations in the northern reaches of the Grampians National Park following discernible regrowth 7 years on from the Northern Grampians Complex fire.

Planned burns on Friedman's Road and the first of two operations at Pines Road were successfully completed. Further planned burning is to occur at Pohlner's Road, targeting a 546ha block when conditions are suitable. This is part of FFMVic's wider planned burning program which extends throughout the Grampians National Park and across the state.

By strategically reducing the flammable vegetation, fuel management is one of the most effective ways to protect communities and the environment from the impact of bushfire and encompasses works such as planned burning, slashing and constructing fire breaks.

Verge mulching of key access tracks in the Park are ongoing particularly around Asses Ears and more will happen in the next few months on boundary tracks at Mt Zero, Wartook-Roses Gap Road and continued work at Smiths Road to manage the regrowth from the Northern Grampians Complex fire.

FFMVic work proudly alongside our CFA colleagues to carry out a Joint Fuel Management Program (JFMP) in Victoria's public parks and forests and on private land, in order to reduce the risk of bushfire to people, property and the environment.

To stay informed about when burns may occur, you can Visit & Register for notice of Planned Burns Victoria at www.vic.gov.au/plannedburns for most up-to-date automated notifications. Or call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226**. Or download the **VicEmergency App**.

For information regarding any **road & track closures** that may be necessary to ensure people's safety during burns, visit:

<https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/grampians-national-park> under 'Change of conditions -Notices affecting multiple sites'.

For further information, please contact the **FFMVic office in Horsham** on **5362 0720**.

Holly Robson, Senior Community Partnerships Officer / Wimmera Fire District

KnitKnaX & KnitWitz

Our group meets every Monday from
4-6pm at Redrock Books & Gallery.
All welcome - suitable for beginners.

Monthly Sunday at The Wander Inn
on the last Monday of each month from 11.30am.
Sundays May 30, June 27 & July 25.
More details contact Gill on 0408 837530.

Education News



The first school term concluded with a hive of activity and some good news. Notification came through that we have been **successful** in being awarded another **Sporting Schools grant** in Term 2. The application was for **Ten Pin Bowling** for five weeks in Horsham. We shall commence our bowling on **Monday April 26**. Mr Bruce will be the teacher for the Sporting Schools Program. We have been very fortunate to date with our applications and are grateful for the extra financial support enabling opportunities for our students to experience some different sports.

Our school families have been very proactive in organising signage to **promote the Laharum Primary School and Playgroup**. We have had a great response to date with a couple of future enrolments and good attendance at the weekly playgroup. Please do not hesitate to have a chat about the offerings at the school and to see the excellent results our students achieve.

During the holidays a visitor came to the school – a staff member from a school who had not been here for over 15 years. She could not believe how beautiful our school was and the great space the students had for their education. It was very positive feedback from someone who works outside the area now and has a wealth of experience in various settings.

Term 1 concluded with the **'student organised'** Pet Show (this event created great enthusiasm!); Athletic Sports and a special Easter activity day on Thursday to finish the term. Our students competed confidently at the sports in Horsham as part of the Rural Team with Natimuk and Haven.

Term 2 will start with a **diverse range of programs** for students to develop their skills. ANZAC Day will be observed on **Friday April 23** with a service at the school.

We have a rural cluster health program being delivered for Years 5 & 6 students from Natimuk, Laharum and Haven; the rural school cross-country; student leadership day with inspirational speaker Lorin Nicholson; a field trip to Lake Condah Mission to conclude our unit around indigenous displacement and our Sporting Schools program for five weeks. In the latter part of the term we have NAPLAN, school camp, Education Week with a VIP morning tea and a Transition Event – the Maths Olympics.

Our individual tutoring program, sustainability vegetable garden cooking, LOTE, Science, Art, Respectful Relationships and Literacy and Numeracy programs continue to provide our students with the fundamentals for future learning. We continue to deliver on a slogan we had a couple of years ago – **'Small in Size but Big in Opportunities'**. See photos page 12.

Thank you to our school community for ensuring we were able to fulfil School Council vacancies in March. Katrina Knight continues as our School Council President supported by Rachel Harrison as Vice President, Mark Uebergang who heads Building & Grounds and Carissa De Pietro as Treasurer. Thanks to our outgoing council members and to Rob McInnes for his service as a community member over the last couple of years. This year we welcome back Flip Stein as a community member on School Council. We also acknowledge the retirement of Frank from driving the school bus. Frank gave notice at

the end of Term 1. **We thank Frank** for all the extra things he has done for the school and wish him well in his retirement.

Jane McLean, Principal



Weekly Meditation Tuesday night

Find peace in your mind and connection to your Soul.

Dinner, introduction, chat and questions and answers with David & Rajni and the Kailash family.

6.30pm Communal dinner in the lodge

7.30pm Chat/Questions in the Yurt

8.30pm Meditation

9pm Close

Feel free to join for all or part.

Cost - Dinner is \$10 and chat/meditation is free.

We are also running very accessible and fun monthly meditation retreats on the first weekend of each month (**Fri/Sat/Sun May 7-9** and **Fri/Sat/Sun June 4-6**).

Please browse www.kailash.co for more information and to RSVP, please contact me on 0415 703324.

David Wegman



Studio open when the board is out, most weekends or by appointment.

Marion Matthews 0428 825971

marionmatthews75@gmail.com

43 Regent St, Port Fairy. 3284

www.marionmatthews.com.au

INSTA: [stitchedtextilestudio](https://www.instagram.com/stitchedtextilestudio)



Fridays 5.30-9pm for dinner – eat-in and take-away.

Saturdays 11am-9pm – lunch & dinner.

Sundays 11am-4pm.

Take away fish & chips and pizza available - please ring to order. Bookings for meals are essential by ringing on 5383 6388 or via Facebook on <https://www.facebook.com/TheWanderInn/>.

Dianna



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1300 372 842 (1300 EPA VIC)

Report pollution of the environment
to the 24 hour EPA pollution hotline

Telstra Priority Assistance

For people with life-threatening medical conditions, Telstra will provide an 'immediate response' to telephone connection if your landline breaks down – phone **132 200**

The editor reserves the right to reduce the size of articles so the Newsletter fits 12 pages. Opinions expressed in any articles are not necessarily those of the editor. Please contact the author of the article for further discussion.



FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTERS

April - June IN CASE OF FIRE DIAL 000



The trucks need to be driven at least 30km a week, and water pumped for at least 5 minutes. Fuel, tyres, lights checked. Refuel if less than ¾ full. Fill in the log book.

Immediately report any problems to the Captain.

*Captains are: Laharum - **Luke Dumesny 0438 838242**; Brimpaen - **Ken French 5380 1500**.*

Truck radio will be on Vicfire Channel 517 for emergency callout (VHF Channel 10 for Grampians Group)

Call Grampians Remote 275# before taking the truck on a run. When returning change back to 517#

LAHARUM

	LAHARUM TANKER 1		LAHARUM TANKER 2	
WEEK START	DRIVER	CREW	DRIVER	CREW
19/04/21	Luke Dumesny	Beth McGennissen	Bill Gardner	Gavan McGennissen
26/04/21	Tim Martin	Angus Martin	Gil Hopkins	Eh Doh Jah
03/05/21	Paul van der Plank	Flip Stein	Jim Carter	Graeme Wood
10/05/21	Mark Francisco	Dane Francisco	Bruce McInnes	David Wegman
17/05/21	Campbell Ellifson	Alex Ellifson	Francoise van der Plank	Jenny Gaulke
24/05/21	Stuart Gardner	Gary Hallam	David Pratt	Adam Shields
31/05/21	Francoise van der Plank	Marieka Dam	Rob Jess	Daniel Doherty
07/06/21	Ed Johnson	Paul Johnson	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn
14/06/21	Andrew Crawford	Daniel Berendsen	Paul van der Plank	Stuart Combe
21/06/21	Rob Launder	Charlotte/Ambrose/ Reuben Launder	Will Pyke	Htoo Kaw Jah
28/06/21	Damien Knight	Jack Shields	Francoise van der Plank	Vicky Stevens

BRIMPAEN

Date	Tanker 1 Brimpaen		Tanker 3 Brimpaen		Tanker 2 Glenisla	
19/04/2021	Andrew Bell	Hamish Bell	Andrew Chincarini	Kerryanne & Tristan Chincarini	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French
26/04/2021	Gerard Matthews	Steve Price	Cameron McDonald	David Schmidt	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana, Will & Harry Miller
03/05/21	Jamie Parfett	Caroline Price	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Luke Barber	Jack French
10/05/21	Luke Dunn & Josh Dunn	Rod Miller	Des Roberts	Christine Roberts	Matt Barber	Jo Barber
17/05/21	Steve Jager	Ben Starick	Anthony Smith	Mick Purcell	Robert Barber	Will Barber
24/05/21	Peter McGennissen	Rachel McGennissen	Andrew Bell	Hamish Bell	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French
31/05/21	Courtney Dunn	Shannon Arnott	Gerard Matthews	Steve Price	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana, Will & Harry Miller
07/06/21	Andrew Chincarini	Kerryanne & Tristan Chincarini	Jamie Parfett	Caroline Price	Luke Barber	Jack French
14/06/21	Cameron McDonald	David Schmidt	Luke Dunn & Josh Dunn	Rod Miller	Matt Barber	Jo Barber
21/06/21	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Steve Jager	Ben Starick	Robert Barber	Will Barber
28/06/21	Des Roberts	Christine Roberts	Peter McGennissen	Rachel McGennissen	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE 1800 240 667

Total Fire Bans – Fire Restrictions - Bushfire Planning – Major Fires

Fire warnings and updates: Emergency broadcasters: ABC and Commercial radio stations & SKY News TV

CFA WELLBEING SUPPORT LINE

1800 959 232

Providing CFA members and their immediate family access to 24 hour support 7 days a week

cfa.vic.gov.au/wellbeing



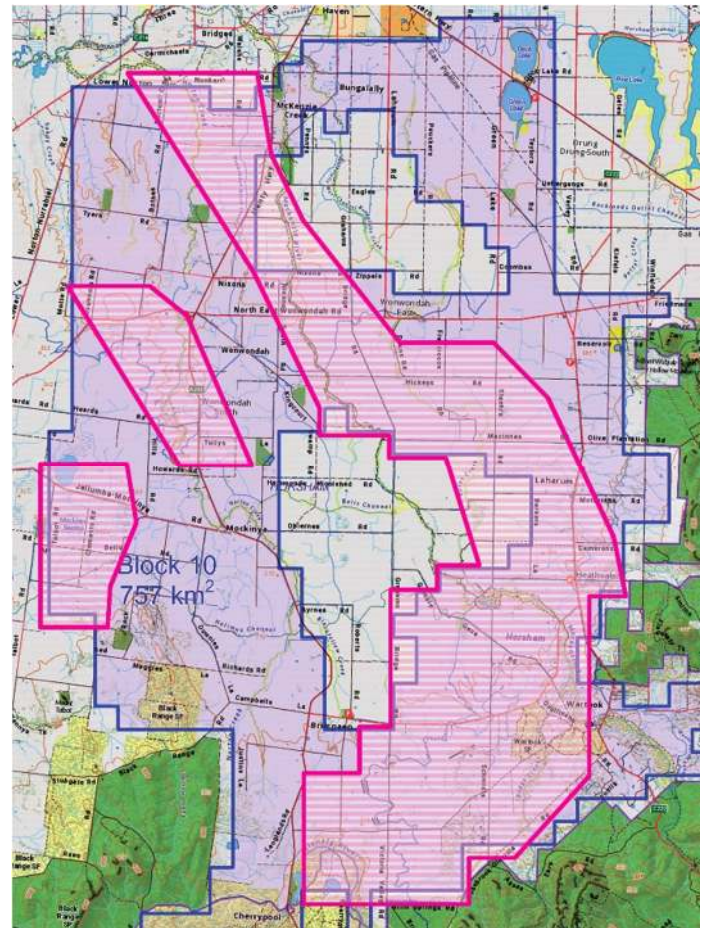
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Pink lines show predicted aerial fly-overs – see article on page 2



Time to pick lemons!



Many gathered on Easter Sunday at Wendy's veggie swap ↑ ↓





e-Learning chat about staying safe online with Leading Senior Constables Linda McLennan and Clyde Lourensz from Horsham Police Station



Laharum Primary School students Jayden, Enid, Jade, Troy & Vivie with their Vegetable Market Cart



Students busy preparing their meal ↑ ↓



Archer, Evie & Amethyst at Wendy's vegie swap

