



March Veggie Swap at Laharum Hall after our roadside clean up

It was a great 'turn up' for our community's Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday March 6. Rubbish collected on the roadside totalled 3 full Council recycling and 1 full Council rubbish bin! Before the clean-up, everyone enjoyed a free pancake breakfast at Laharum Hall, prepared and cooked by Wendy McInnes. Thanks Wendy!

We then had our Veggie Swap at 10am after the clean-up.

Liz Hopkins



Our thoughts are with community members who are unwell or recovering from surgery. We wish you well.

SEEKING PHOTOS

Anyone who took photos of people working on **Laharum Hall Murals in 2001** at The Pottery (now The Wander Inn), please contact Gil on 0490 830769.

Mabel Windred-Wornes,
 Jack Carty,
 Ivy Windred-Wornes,
 Denise & Peter,
 Judy, Gil &
 Andrew Kelso –
 Festival of Small Halls
 Saturday March 19





Thursday May 26
Laharum Hall

10.30am for morning tea

Our 17th Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser
Please bring a plate of food to share

Guest speaker -

Lea Crammond, Publicity Officer
Wimmera Hospice Care Auxiliary

Come and catch up with friends and help support the Cancer Council

Entrance fee by donation

Great prizes - Tickets \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5

Bring along something to sell and take home something different at our 'bring and buy' stall

Entrance fees will help Cancer Council save lives through the prevention, early detection and treatment of cancer

Stall money will go towards ongoing patient care improvement for Wimmera Cancer Centre

Invite your partner, friend, family and neighbour

RSVP Liz on 0427 838207 or
giliz@activ8.net.au by May 23

RAISE YOUR CUP & MAKE EVERY DROP COUNT FOR CANCER RESEARCH



Lining up for a barbecue tea served by Horsham South Lions Club members Libby & Pam at Laharum Hall prior to the Festival of Halls event



Laharum B Special trophy winners at Central Wimmera Tennis Association presentation afternoon - Lauren Sykes, most games; Tony Sykes, runner up men's competition & Vanessa Lenehan, runner up

Laharum Tennis Club



Congratulations to our B Special team on winning the Grand Final.

Deb Bunworth, Caroline Geue, Vanessa Lenehan, Max Lenehan, Maurice Dumesny, Shannon Emmerton, Lauren Sykes, Tony Sykes, Herb Hallam, Reuben Launder & Charlie Launder.

A very big thank you to those who came and supported our team on Saturday March 26. It was very much appreciated.

I would personally like to thank the Laharum Tennis Club for my Life Membership - a very special moment for me. 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆

Deb Bunworth

Deb Bunworth holding her tennis Life Membership Certificate



Gariwerd Artists

This is a new collective of local artists meeting twice a month at Laharum Hall. The main objective at the moment is to stage an exhibition at Laharum Hall for the Art is...Festival.

Upcoming dates:

Thursday April 7 & Saturday April 23

Thursday May 5 & Saturday May 28

Exhibition: Earthly Elements

Fri-Sun July 1-3, Laharum Hall

Workdays held from 10am-4pm. Please bring a project of your own or participate in a group project. Come for a full day or just an hour or two.

BYO food. Tea and coffee supplied.

Gill Venn 0408 837530

Brimpaen Craft Group



Tuesday May 3, 10am Brimpaen Hall we will be printing on brown paper. You will need to bring paint and object for stamping.

Tuesday June 7 – meet at Up Tempo Café at 10am.

Jill Sinclair 0438 992779

Laharum-Wartook Produce & Vegetable swap.

First Sunday of the month at 10am sharp



Sunday May 1

Judy & Barry Berendsen's,
1266 Staehrs Road, Laharum

Sunday June 5

Liz & Gil Hopkins
267 Pohlner's Road, Laharum

Covid safe practices will apply.

Contact Wendy McInnes on 0407 914498

Yoga at Laharum Hall



Yoga will return on **Wednesday April 27**, 7.30pm at Laharum Hall after the Easter break. It keeps our bodies flexible; builds muscle tone; maintains a good level of fitness and is a great stress relief. Minimal charge towards hall hire.

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

Judy Berendsen

Wimmera Hospice Care Auxiliary

Selling Chrysanthemums

\$10 a bunch for Mother's Day

Horsham Plaza from April 28-May 7.

Available also 68 Natimuk Road

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TO REPORT FIRE**

NURSE ON CALL 1300 606 024

Laharum Hall Committee



The Festival of Small Halls event was a huge success. It was great to see a full hall and everyone enjoying a night out.

Our artists, Jack Carty and 'Charm of Finches' were outstanding. To hear the audience completely quiet and mesmerized was an indication of the standard of the acts. A big thank you to Peter McGennissen for starting our show. Great job Pete - the crowd loved you! See photos on pages 1 & 12.

It would be great to have another visit from the Festival! Without the support of a Regional Development Victoria events activation grant and Horsham Rural City Council, this event would not have been possible.

Thank you to our sponsors that provided raffle prizes for the evening. Sponsors were— Happy Wanderer Log Cabins donated 2 nights X 6 people 'Goanna Cabin' valued at \$400; Emmett's Farm Machinery Horsham donated a tool box valued at \$100; Elders Rural donated an Esky valued at \$100; Grampians Olives donated a collection of oils valued at \$60; Wimmera Outdoors Horsham donated a Head lamp valued at \$50; The Wander Inn Restaurant donated a meal voucher valued at \$50; GMW Water donated an acrylic picture; Trudi & Jo at Laharum Wildflowers donated posies valued at \$50; Mt Stapylton Wines Staehr family donated a bottle of wine valued at \$25.

A big thank you to North West Grampians Lions Club for the barbecue tea which was provided before the show. It was good they were so well supported by so many people.

We have grant applications submitted for internal painting and a water filter at present.

On a rather disappointing note, we found recently that our 10,000 litre rainwater tank was empty when activities began at the hall. The cost of a 2,000 litre load of rainwater is \$295 to us as ratepayers. On top of this, many volunteers have been involved with giving their time. Measures have been taken to deter people from taking our water.

However, if you see this happening at the hall, please contact Horsham Rural City Council on 5382 9777 or myself on 0417 056219.

Judy Berendsen, Secretary

Wimmera Emergency Management Team Drop-in Session

On Friday March 25, John Hutchins and Sue Frankham from Wimmera Emergency Management Team hosted an informal drop-in session at The Wander Inn to seek feedback on the draft Wartook Fire Ready Guide. Jenny McGennissen and Luke Dumesny from the CFA were also in attendance.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along. We appreciated the opportunity to meet local residents and hear their stories.

The Wartook Fire Ready Guide will now be finalised and circulated throughout the Wartook region during the coming weeks.

Sue Frankham, Wimmera Emergency Management Project Officer

Laharum Cricket Club



Well, another season has come and passed us by far too quickly. B Graders have a long offseason to wonder "what if"?

A fantastic effort to make the grand final in B Grade after finishing the season in third spot on the ladder. The grand final was a great game of cricket where we unfortunately fell just short of St Micks total in the final game. A couple of highlights for the season include Jim McInnes taking his first 5 wickets in an innings and the President making 61.

C Grade had a tougher season in terms of results, winning 3 of their 12 games to finish 8th on the ladder at the end of the season. Participation was key with over 30 players used for the season. It was great to see the balance of experience and youth on a weekly basis. A couple of highlights for the year included 5 wickets to Matt Wheelan (Wheels) during the year and he also made a half century in the final game of the season.

The Under 16s had a great season making the semi-finals but unfortunately that's where their journey ended. The team played well all season with improvements each week, and different players stepping up. The most exciting part was the number of juniors stepping up to senior cricket this year and having an impact.

We hope to be able to continue this program and potentially expand back into Under 14s and Under 12s and maybe even a girls' team!

The Blast Program was a lot of fun with plenty of kids from 4-9 years of age taking part throughout the summer. The program runs for one hour/week and introduces kids to all the skills as well as playing a small game each week. The program finished up on March 6 with a barbecue at Laharum.

The end of season presentation for senior grades is yet to be finalised. Please follow the Facebook page for updates.

Thank you to everyone who 'suited up' for Laharum Cricket Club this season. A special thank you to our hardworking volunteers and to our sponsors for their valued support.

If anyone wants to get their kids involved in cricket, please get in contact with the club - Ben on 0408 011319 or myself on 0427 748943. Yours in Cricket.

Josh Mahoney, Secretary

KnitKnaX & KnitWitz

Our group will start meeting again after Easter - every Monday from 3-5pm at Redrock Bookshop.

Please bring along a project you are currently working on or start a new one! Suitable for beginners. Enquiries on 0408 837530.

Gill Venn

Wonwondah Landcare Group



The group had its first meeting after a long time and we welcomed a visit from Annie Hobby, Landcare Coordinator for HRCC. Annie explained her role and offered her assistance which will be utilised by our group in the future.

Normal topics were discussed including rabbit ripping and snail baiting for this season. Our guest speaker was an agronomist highlighting just how expensive the cropping program will be this year and introduced new chemicals available and the shortage of their supply. Next meeting is in July.

Chris Guest

Collection Lockers & Returns Bin at Laharum Hall

Wimmera Libraries in conjunction with HRCC and Laharum community, is returning limited library services back to the Laharum community.

Collection Lockers and a Returns Bin are installed at Laharum Hall.

Wimmera Library patrons can now place 'holds' on items and choose Laharum as their pickup location. Requested items will be checked out to the patron and placed into a locker. Patrons will receive a notification with a unique code to access the locker. Patrons can also ring their local library branch to organise items to be sent out to Laharum.

All Wimmera Library items can be returned into the Returns Bin, even if it was borrowed at another Wimmera Library branch.

Access to the lockers and Returns Bin are 24/7.

Jenelle Patterson, Support Services WRLC

North West Grampians Branch of Horsham Lions Club



We are very pleased to be back having meetings and supporting community activities again. Thank you for your support at our barbecue tea held at Laharum Hall for the Festival of Small Halls which was held on Saturday March 19. It was a very successful evening and was so good to be out enjoying ourselves again!

We will be operating 'Driver Reviver' at Green Lake over the school holiday weekends and during Easter break with shorter operating times - 10am until 2.30pm.

Our April meeting was held at Horsham Sports & Community Club on Tuesday the 5th.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our Lions Group. President Keith Fischer 0417 691000.

Libby Peucker

Laharum Hall subs now due –

\$10 per adult

Direct deposit BSB 063514 Account No. 10076686
Commonwealth Bank Horsham

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.

Education News



"All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination"
Earl Nightingale.

The Halogen Young Leaders Conference was held at the Convention Centre, Melbourne on Wednesday March 23. The speakers at the event provided key messages to the young leaders attending the day. The stories shared from the four speakers - Cate Campbell, Lachie Smart, Guy Esmond and Damien Fleming highlighted the message in the quote in various forms.

The Year 6 students have written a summary 'student voice article' about the day and their 'take-away' thoughts.

Troy - *I took a lot of notes from the speakers and learnt about being resilient and brave in events that you don't know how they're going to end. What I see and hear in school I basically saw it in real life from people.*

Key messages – **"Chase your dream"** (Damien Fleming), **"Keep on trying even if you fall down"** (Lachie Smart), **"Work hard for what you want in your life"** (Cate Campbell) and **"Failure isn't bad"** because you learn from it (Guy Esmond).

Jayden - *At the Convention Centre we had four speakers - the first speaker was Lachie Smart. He was talking about his trip around the world in a plane solo when he was only 18. "What I learnt was that you should never give up and failure is not a bad thing".*

The second speaker was Guy Esmond - a writer, actor, director and some other things. "He told us that failure is rad and rad means resilience, acceptance, and determination".

Cate Campbell talked about her Olympic career. She shared with us – "that if you want to be good at something you have to put a lot of effort in".

Damien Fleming was the last speaker - he talked about his cricket career. Damien's words for us were "Chase your dreams".

On the day, I think the most important thing was, take away a thought and keep that thought with you and try to work with that thought, your whole life.

The day was amazing, and the speakers made it real, so I know that they were resilient and not just saying it, that's what helped me. I think that other schools should go because it was very good at teaching us life skills.

The Year 6 lads have given a great account of the day and it is rewarding that some key messages about navigating life have been the product of the excursion.

Term 1 has been a busy term with extra-curricular activities enriching our Victorian Curriculum. A field trip to Cape Nelson and Cape Bridgewater supported our biology marine study and history/design work through visiting the Cape Nelson Lighthouse for a tour and viewing the seal colony and rock pools at Cape Bridgewater. See photos on page 11.

The integration of subjects and experiences always provides meaning to student learning and makes for an engaging education. We also participated in Clean Up Australia. Less rubbish was gathered between the school and Cameron Oval – a positive outcome!

With small numbers at Laharum, the School Council and families have discussed options of enabling socialisation for our students. Horsham West and Haven Primary Schools have provided the opportunity for our students to attend classes and commence a pathway of

transitioning into a larger setting. The program has provided curriculum expertise in Performing Arts and LOTE which ensures a quality provision in curriculum.

In Term 2 students will have a dual enrolment enabling attendance for two days at Haven and three at Laharum.

The Laharum Lorikeet Playtime Transitional Pathway Program unfortunately has stopped. It was wonderful to have young families attending the Lorikeet morning facilitated by Carissa, and funded by School Council. The numbers attending the sessions were dwindling and became too small to make the program viable with the view of securing future enrolments. A huge thank you to Carissa and the families who attended the Lorikeet Playtime. We are sorry that we could not maintain the sessions.

Students trained for the Athletic Sports which were held in Horsham last week of Term 1. Training with Natimuk and Haven has ensured our rural team have a chance to mingle before the main event!

School Council will be discussing the Time Capsule at our meeting in May. We are seeking information about the time capsule – if you know any dates, who, when and why it was created please contact the school and share your knowledge. We would be most grateful.

The school has been operating 135 years this year. It could be a great time to open the capsule with a community gathering. We look forward to working with the community and celebrating the milestone at some stage this year.

Best Wishes to all for a safe Easter break. May we enjoy the weather we are fortunate to have and hope the rain stops in the north.

Jane McLean, Principal

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Laharum History books are available for \$10
Contact Judy Berendsen on 0417 056219

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It has been a busy start to autumn for FFMVic crews, having conducted two extremely important planned burns in the Grampians National Park (Gariwerd) landscape – one at Stony Creek Road and the other at Cranages Road.

With a notoriously small window of opportunity when conditions are suitable for burning at this site, and following a previous attempt in 2020, ignition commenced at Stony Creek Road on Friday March 25. It was successfully completed after a couple of days with crews remaining in the area patrolling and making the area safe for visitors and the public in the days following the burn.

Cranages Road was then ignited on Tuesday March 29. Both burns required the closure of key visitor sites within the park to ensure public safety and as such, FFMVic and Parks Victoria staff were situated at key closure points and in the centre of Halls Gap. This provided park advice and assisted with any enquiries around the closures and detours during ignition.

All closures associated with these planned burns are now re-opened. Please refer to *Grampians National Park – Parks Victoria website* under 'Change of conditions' for detailed information about closures and re-openings of roads, tracks or key sites regarding any planned burns within the park.

FFMVic would sincerely like to thank the local community for their patience and understanding while we carried out these important works.

FFMVic's planned burning program will continue throughout the park (and district) including in the Northern Grampians over the coming months. Should weather conditions remain favourable, burns planned in the north of the park for this year include - Briggs Track, Oslers Track and Pohlner's Road.

Pohlner's Road will be the second of a number of ongoing treatments along the North West boundary of the National Park - a continuation of the landscape burn which began last year. Where last year's burning occurred at the north of the larger unit between Pohlner's Road, Olive Plantation Road and Winfields Road; the focus this year will be in treating the southern end of the planned area – between Pohlner's Road, Link Track and bordering on the current strategic fuel break along Smiths Road.

Employing both burning and non-burning fuel treatments in this area, depending on which is most appropriate, the aim is to provide the highest level of bushfire protection to communities within Wartook, Laharum and Brimpaen and effectively manage regrowth several years on from the Northern Grampians Complex fire.

Finding out about a burn near me - To stay informed about when burns may occur please - Register for Planned Burns Victoria at www.vic.gov.au/plannedburns for the most up-to-date automated notifications about upcoming planned burns on public land. There is no charge to register or to receive messages.

-Visit <https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/places-to-see/parks/grampians-national-park> under 'Change of conditions' for information regarding any road & track closures which may be necessary to ensure people's safety during burns.

- Call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226**
- Download the **VicEmergency App**
- Click [here](#) to opt-in for additional email updates from the FFMVic Horsham team (or email a request to wimmera.fuelmanagement@delwp.vic.gov.au to receive weekly updates about planned burns in the Grampians National Park (Gariwerd) and across the district).

-Smoke and Your Health
<https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/smoke>

For more information about these burns or regarding our Joint Fuel Management Program, please contact the Planned Burn Team in Horsham on 5362 0720 or email wimmera.fuelmanagement@delwp.vic.gov.au

Holly Robson, Community Partnerships | Wimmera Fire District

Horsham Rural City Landcare Facilitator



Landcare Groups in the area have had a busy start to the year with quite a few events restarted.

In Laharum, Veggie Swaps and Clean Up Australia Day events all had great attendance.

Wonwondah Landcare had their first meeting for the year and is starting to plan works to spend funding received for rabbit control.

Natimuk Urban Landcare ran a successful Clean Up Australia Day event at Mount Arapiles and have been having regular meetings with a Veggie Swap.

Horsham Urban Landcare has restarted monthly produce Swaps and also had a Passata workshop.

The Patch Community Garden, Horsham is preparing for the winter growing season with beds available for hire.

Boomerang Bags is back with a working bee the third Wednesday of every month at Senior Citizens Hall.

For more information about any of the groups or to find out more, please contact me on 0407 914498 or annie.hobby@hrcc.vic.gov.au.

Annie Hobby, Landcare Facilitator



Happy Wanderer Holiday Resort

Accommodation, Fuel, General store & Bottle shop. Open 7 days 9am-6pm.

Upcoming Kids Club Activities – open to guests & local community, and held in the Recreation Room.

Activities focus on collecting natural material & learning about plants & animals in the Grampians.

- Saturday April 16

10.30-11.30am: Nature Scavenger Hunt

12.30-1.30pm: Nature Craft Activity

- Friday April 22

10.30-11.30am: Animal Tracks & Trail

12.30-1.30pm: Nature Craft Activity

Activities per child priced at \$8 per activity or \$14 for both. Please book on 5383 6210.

Jillian & Phill Goulet



Call for Older Persons Advisory Committee members

- Horsham Rural City Council (HRCC) is seeking interest from seniors to participate in the Older Persons Advisory Committee. The Committee will advise Council on issues affecting seniors living in our community and will also share perspectives and preferences of all seniors. Committee members must be over 55 years old and reside in Horsham Rural City Council area. To be considered as a member, apply by Friday April 22 by completing an online form at hrcc.vic.gov.au; via email: council@hrcc.vic.gov.au or on paper delivered to Council.

Applications should include your name, age and answer:

- Why you want to be a member?
- What is an important aspect of community life?
- What is a challenge that seniors face?
- Have you read the Older Persons Advisory Committee Terms of Reference?

Free health and wellbeing sessions every Saturday -

Horsham Rural City Council is partnering with local fitness and wellbeing providers to deliver free sessions at Sawyer Park on Saturday mornings. All residents can take part in the ACTIVE Horsham Health and Wellbeing sessions from 9am with registration not required.

The program will run every week until November. Instructors from YMCA will lead the inaugural session and Lisa Cosson from Planet Feelgood the remaining three dates in April. See photos page 12

There will be a diversity of sessions provided across the year which will cater for all abilities and ages. The opportunity is available for everyone to try different classes free of charge. Different themes will be rotated, for example dance clubs and martial arts groups will run sessions. The program will be funded from the Victorian Government's Covid Safe Outdoor Activation Fund.

The best way to help a lost animal - Contacting HRCC remains the best way to have lost pets safely returned to their owners. People who find a dog or cat out wandering should contact Council on 5382 9777. If pets have no immediate identification, a ranger can check it for a microchip and can then make contact with the owner. By registering pets, Council can easily identify the owner and return their pet. Jason Brady is the Community Safety Unit Coordinator.

Robert Somers Media & Communications Officer HRCC



TO GIVE AWAY

4 Young Roosters
Contact Ray Zippel
on 5383 6339 or
0427 316990



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



Well, season 2022 has rolled around quicker than I think we all anticipated!



Starting back up again after last season. Things came to a quick end due to the pandemic, almost feels surreal! So many people were left disappointed - these included our Under 14s, 15 & Unders, C Grade and A Graders.

We welcome back Glenn Doyle to lead the Mountain Men. He is a huge character that brings leadership, laughter and creates a buzz around the club. The football department has worked tirelessly in recruiting and we welcome back some old faces along with a fair few new ones. I can't wait to see what this year brings with having Doyley back.

With Jason Przibilla at the helm with our huge tribe of Aus Kickers, the future looks bright for our future Mountain Men. It's great to see the little Dees' faces full of excitement in being able to run around on the oval again. Big thanks to Matt Arnel and Dale Dridan for all their work over many years in setting up a very successful junior program!

Over at the netball courts, Hayley Crute is busy with our Net Set Go group - I can't wait to see them improve each week and to be running around on the court again. Our junior Netballers have grown taller again since last season! Also great to see some new faces out there in the junior ranks.

Seniors Netball have had a great pre-season with solid numbers each week. It's great for the coaches to be able to work with such big numbers. We welcome back Caitlin Story and Erin Mellington at the helm of A Grade. I know the girls are hungry and eager to continue what they started last year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors - returning and new. We couldn't do what we do without their continual support.

I am proud of this club and what we stand for. We are in a great spot and need to continue to build for our future generations. Season 2023 will be huge for our club as we will celebrate 100 years. I'm excited for what is to come. Go Dees!

Bianca Mibus, Chairperson



We are open Friday & Saturday nights for dinner and also Saturdays & Sundays for lunch and afternoon tea. We're not open Good Friday or Easter Monday but open Saturday & Sunday over Easter.

Take away fish & chips and pizza are available Friday, Saturday & Sunday also.

Bookings are essential due to limited numbers. Ring 5383 6388 or via Facebook on <https://www.facebook.com/TheWanderInn/>
Dianna

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**



Farming is a pretty tough job and one thing that never goes astray is advice to help keep costs down

and production up. That's where Farmers Business Network™ can lend a hand.

Farmers Business Network™ (FBN™) is dedicated to helping farmers out when it comes to sourcing crop protection inputs for their farms. But it is so much more than that. *FBN.com* brings price transparency to Agriculture - farmers can see the prices of chemical inputs, which can be ordered online anytime or in person, and are delivered to the farm free of charge.

Farmers can become *FBN* members for free and then have access to insight tools to help make on-farm decisions. Membership also unlocks access to pricing specials and member-only promotions.

Building trust - For Aaron Bailey, the best part of his job is getting to know farmers and lending a hand. Mr Bailey who is the *FBN* Account Executive for Victoria, loves helping farmers to source crop inputs for their farms, as well as providing updates on chemical pricing, market trends and possible global supply issues.

With a background in stock feed sales, Aaron Bailey is looking forward to helping farmers with a broader range of enterprises. He said the ease of purchasing online and the transparency in pricing was a huge benefit for farmers, as well as the free on-farm delivery. Contact Aaron Bailey, Account Executive on 0450 745078.

Sarah Woolford

Laharum Landcare Group



Laharum Landcare Group members and locals had an enjoyable and productive morning sharing a pancake breakfast then a roadside rubbish collection south of Laharum Hall.

Thank you to all those who assisted. Many hands that *did* make light work! It is always disappointing that this has to be done by those who don't contribute to the littering. Together we collected a bin of rubbish and three large Council wheelie bins of recycling, with a majority of alcohol cans and bottles. A terrific job done!

Laharum Landcare Group now has a full committee and meets every second month with the next meetings on **Tuesday April 12**, 7.30pm and **Tuesday June 14** at Laharum Hall.

If you are interested in weed or rabbit control, protecting native plants or replanting them on your property, please tell us so we can apply for funding. Last year's successful grant application will allow us to complete some small works this year, but we missed out on large grants.

Wendy McInnes, President 0428 840662



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Dropping rubbish, taking water and being a community

Laharum Landcare Group and community members had a very successful clean-up Australia event from Laharum Hall to Knonagels/Smith Road on Sunday March 6.

But when we met early for the Pancake Breakfast we found we had no tank water at the Hall. Fortunately we had 20L drums on the benches because the tank water had been getting discoloured. So we got the plumbers and Council out to check all the roof gutters, downpipes, pumps and connections and the only reasonable explanation is that someone has taken the water. The plumbing and taps have now been changed and some potable water purchased. All at considerable cost!

Please take care to cover your rubbish on Utes or trailers when taking it to Transfer Stations.

Our Laharum-Wartook community had a fantastic night at Laharum Hall with the folk singers at the Small Halls Festival on March 19. We were VERY lucky to have found that water problem earlier or the 70+ audience would have been VERY irate about the lack of water!

Our community has a long record of caring for each other. We have many clubs and groups that depend on goodwill. During our own 40+ years in the community, we have been through 5 major bushfires; 3 of them impacting close to our home. Wartook area suffered major flooding during 2010/11 heavy rainfall and Mt Victory Road to Halls Gap was closed for over a year.

Our community depends on each other. Our Fire Brigade is minutes away, Laharum Sports and the Hall Committee help with social events, Landcare helps us plan and protect our land, Lions Club provide welfare, Laharum School provides education and social inclusion, and there are many clubs and groups where people work together.

Covid has separated people. Let's all start working together again for our own mutual benefit.

It's about US!

Gil Hopkins

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Contactless Local Delivery

Laharum Rural CFA



Laharum Fire Brigade has had 4 call-outs since the previous newsletter, supporting Green Lake, Wonwondah & Brimpaen with grass fires. Big thanks to everyone who continues to respond to the call-outs.

Tanker 2 latest information - the new Tanker 2 will arrive in June. Covid has held up many aspects of it. The back is made up - the cab-chassis has been the hold up.
Training/Recruitment - The brigade has had a couple of new members signed up recently. Those members will complete a General Fire Fighters Course in the coming months to be operational fire fighters. If anyone else is keen to join the brigade, please contact myself or our Training Officer Francoise Thornton Smith.

Burn Offs/Permits/Fire Restrictions - As of April 4, the Fire Danger Period was lifted across the whole of District 17. This will also mean no permits are required to burn off. However, we still encourage property owners to take similar precautions to having a permit when burning. Generally April does have a few 'blow-up' days which can cause issues with burn-offs getting away. Please be careful as areas are still on the drier side of things, especially around trees etc.

Thanks to everyone for their notifications who burnt off during the permit period and in most instances following the permit conditions. Across the group there were two breaches during this time.

End of Season Meeting - In the coming weeks, (date still to be advised) the brigade will hold its end of season meeting. This meeting is also a Bi-Annual Meeting with the election of office bearers. All members of the brigade and community members are invited to attend. Date and time of the meeting will be advertised via pager message, text message as well as the Wartook Laharum Facebook page.

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



Fire restrictions have now been lifted!

All brigades in the Grampians Group must hold elections by June 30 this year, but holding them earlier is advised so that election forms can be returned in time for the contact book to be printed. As we haven't had a contact book for a couple of years, this print will be very important. All new positions commence from July 1, 2022. Please remember that the Grampians Group has only one Community Safety Coordinator for the whole group, so brigades do not need to elect anyone for this position. If you require replacement election forms (pink and green) please let me know.

CFA workwear rollout has begun. For those who couldn't make a fitting session, a fitting kit will be kept at the District 17 office in McLachlan Street and you are welcome to call in to try on and select your item and sizes. Nominations for funded sets of workwear closed March 31. Orders can be placed after then, but they will most likely come at a cost to the brigade as the funded sets will have been issued. After fitting, individuals will receive their workwear in the mail.

The SAS app has recently been updated. Most phones should have auto-updated but if you are still experiencing logout issues, it is recommended to reinstall the app. Some people have been experiencing #1000 errors in the last week. This can be fixed by clearing the app data. Go into settings, apps & clear the data for the SAS app.

A reminder that all CFA members must be triple vaccinated to attend all CFA sites or drive/ride in CFA vehicles. Please record your vaccination status or exemption using the members.cfa.vic.gov.au website.

All firefighters need to have current Entrapment Drill and Hazardous Trees training. Entrapment Drill must be done every year and Hazardous trees expires after three years. Most of our members will need to update for Hazardous Trees this year. We recommend you complete this online any time and it is great to do over winter so you will be qualified during the fire danger period. If you need assistance logging in, please give me a call on 0438 673144 or send a text message.

Cheers and Happy Easter.

Louise McGillivray, Brigade Admin Support Officer



The Grampians Walking Track Support Group and Parks Victoria have 'finally' celebrated the long awaited re-opening of the Golton Gorge picnic area and walking track in Grampians National Park (Gariwerd) on Friday April 1, after heatwaves and Covid impacts cancelled multiple celebration dates throughout the past two years.

Golton Gorge is an impressive seasonal waterfall 28km north of Halls Gap on the Mt Difficult Range. An old walking track used to pass up the northern side of the gorge and return on the south, crossing the creek in a number of places and climbing through the gorge to the top of the range. Sadly, the walking track and picnic area were badly damaged in the 2014 Northern Grampians bushfire and was closed shortly after. Challenges with the reinstatement of the northern alignment through the steep sections of the gorge and the need to protect newly discovered cultural heritage, meant a new alignment.

Community members from both sides of the Grampians ranges rallied together to ensure the popular visitor site was not closed permanently. Passionate locals worked closely with Parks Victoria to design a return walk on the southern side of the gorge.

A proposal was readily accepted by Parks Victoria in late 2016 and planning and approvals sought. The Walking Track Support Group attracted the interest of locals and a few bushwalkers from elsewhere, and the project began in June 2018.

After 18 months and 21 working bees of enthusiastic 'pick and shovel' work, the task was finished. A contractor remodelled the entrance road and car park, and Parks Victoria put fencing and signage.

Members of the Grampians Walking Track Support Group, local bushwalking clubs and Parks Victoria Celebrated on Friday April 1 with a barbecue lunch, ribbon cutting, plaque unveiling and cake. See photos page 11.

This walk is an attractive addition to the many great experiences to be had in our National Park at any time of year, but especially so when there is a good flow of water over the falls.

Tammy Schoo, Ranger Team Leader



FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTERS

April – June 2022 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	
START	DRIVER	CREW	DRIVER	CREW
04/04/2022	Francoise van der Plank	Jenny Gaulke	Stuart Gardner	Gary Hallam
11/04/2022	David Pratt	Adam Shields	Francoise van der Plank	Marieka Dam
18/04/2022	Rob Jess	Daniel Doherty	Ed Johnson	Paul Johnson
25/04/2022	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn	Andrew Crawford	Daniel Berendsen
02/05/2022	Paul van der Plank	Stuart Combe	Rob Launder	Charlotte/Ambrose/R euben
09/05/2022	Will Pyke	Htoo Kaw Jah	Damien Knight	Jack Shields
16/05/2022	Francoise van der Plank	Vicky Stevens	Jo Gardner	Jenny McInnes
23/05/2022	Mal Griffiths	Ray Zippel	Allan Parfett	Mark Minter
30/05/2022	Rob McInnes	Leigh Mibus	Brad Geue	Caroline Geue
06/06/2022	Mark Uebergang	Jenny Uebergang	Gary Staehr	Rob Staehr

BRIMPAEN

Date	Tanker 1 Brimpaen		Tanker 3 Brimpaen		Tanker 2 Glenisla	
04/04/2022	Jamie Parfett	Caroline Price	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French
11/04/2022	Luke Dunn & Josh Dunn	Rod Miller	Des Roberts	Christine Roberts	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana, Will & Harry Miller
18/04/2022	Steve Jager	Ben Starick	Anthony Smith	Mick Purcell	Luke Barber	Jack French
25/04/2022	Peter McGennissen	Rachel McGennissen	Andrew Bell	Hamish Bell	Matt Barber	Jo Barber
02/05/2022	Courtney Dunn	Shannon Arnott	Gerard Matthews	Steve Price	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French
09/05/2022	Andrew Chincarini	Kerryanne & Tristan Chincarini	Jamie Parfett	Caroline Price	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana, Will & Harry Miller
16/05/2022	Cameron McDonald	David Schmidt	Luke Dunn & Josh Dunn	Rod Miller	Luke Barber	Jack French
23/05/2022	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Steve Jager	Ben Starick	Matt Barber	Jo Barber
30/05/2022	Des Roberts	Christine Roberts	Peter McGennissen	Rachel McGennissen	Ken French	Theresa & Hettie French
06/06/2022	Anthony Smith	Mick Purcell	Courtney Dunn	Shannon Arnott	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana, Will & Harry Miller

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 cfa.vic.gov.au/wellbeing

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

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Laharum B Special tennis team won the grand final!



Troy & Hayden at the lighthouse



Eden and garden vegetables ↑



Seal colony tour ↑



Graham Parkes, David Witham & Kyle Hewitt ↑

Celebration cake for Official Opening →



Graham Parkes & David Witham uncovering the Grampians Walking Tracks Support Group plaque at the official opening →





← Peter McGennissen

Jack Carty →

Festival of Small Halls -
Such a great night!



Ivy & Mabel Windred-Wornes ↑



Malcolm Griffiths & Robert Jess cooking the bbq ↑



← Andrew Kelso, MC for the evening



Used to be a great stop for a view!! ↑



Free Health & Wellbeing sessions at Sawyer Park Saturdays 9am