

December 2018

Edition 199



Laharum Wartook Community Day with prospective new CFA members 'in training'!!



This community Newsletter is now on Horsham Rural City Council's website and can be viewed by going to <https://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/News-and-Media/Community-Newsletters> and click on North West Grampians Newsletter.

Wishing the community a happy and fun time with family and friends over Christmas; safe travelling and have an enjoyable and supportive year ahead.

Liz Hopkins

BRIMPAEN CHRISTMAS TREE

Saturday December 8, 6.30 pm
Brimpaen Hall

Please bring a salad and sweet
Meat supplied - BYO drinks
\$20 family; \$8 single

Carols with Peter & Denise McGennissen

Visit from Santa, gift up to \$15 - Raffle
For more details contact Sue Miller on 5383 9227



Laharum-Wartook Produce & Vegetable swap

SUMMER 2018 / 2019 2nd Sunday each month at 10am sharp



9th Dec Norm Booth's
2777 Nthn Grampians Rd Wartook
13th Jan Sue & Andrew Mathews
Olive Plantation Rd Laharum
10th Feb Gill Venn
Tatlocks Bridge Brimpaen/Laharum Rd

For further information contact
Wendy McInnes 53 836220
or 0407 914498



Mobile Library



Laharum Mobile Library dates are as follows –
Thursdays December 13; 2019 January 10 & 24; February 7 & 21, 9.30am at Laharum Primary School. Note only one visit in December.
Greg Maybery

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**

NURSE ON CALL 1300 606 024

GRASSES OF THE WIMMERA ID TRAINING DAY

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
and Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
are partnering to provide grass identification training

With Paul Foreman of Blue Devil Consulting

Wednesday December 12, 8.45am-4pm

Location Horsham and surrounds

Meet at Horsham DELWP office, 110 Natimuk Road

Featuring an indoor morning session and
site visits in the afternoon

BYO lunch, snacks and drinking water

For further information and confirm attendance
contact Annie Hobby annie.hobby@delwp.vic.gov.au
0436 641319 or Mirinda Thorpe
mirinda.thorpe@delwp.vic.gov.au



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning



**FREE
event!**



So excited to welcome the locals to
the reopening of The Wander Inn in
Wartook Valley!

We hope to recreate a meeting place
for all, showcasing the local wines
and produce from the region,

surrounded by tranquil gardens in this magnificent
architecturally-designed mudbrick building.

With a modern Australian menu available for
lunch and dinner, your host Vicki, who has recently
relocated from the Bellarine Peninsular, is looking forward
to meeting you all and hearing your stories of life, far from
the hustle and busyness of city living.

The spacious restaurant has a fabulous
atmosphere and can cater for weddings, parties,
corporate functions or just a get-together with friends.

OPENING Friday December 14 from 10am

Lunch 12 noon to 3pm

Dinner 6 to 8pm

We will be open Thursdays to Sundays for lunch
12 noon to 3pm and Fridays for dinner 6-8pm and
takeaways. Take away menu also available Friday
evenings.

Bookings for dinner would be appreciated –
via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheWanderInn/>
or call Vicki on 0490 136664.

Vicki Plunkett

End of Year School Celebration

Laharum Primary School

Would like to invite the community to attend
Year 6 Graduation and
Celebration of Learning for 2018

Laharum Hall

Thursday December 13, 7pm

Followed by supper

5383 6202; laharum.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST

Saturday January 26, 8am 2019

Brimpaen Hall



Free of charge

funded by Horsham Rural City Council

Guest speaker - Flag raising ceremony

All welcome

Enquiries please ring Sue Miller on 5383 9227

Local Vocals

Laharum Hall

Leader - Merryn Eagle



Thursday February 28, 7.30pm

Come join us for a happy and relaxing singing evening

Enjoy the friendship - it's lots of fun!

We love to see new faces - Minimal charge

Singing ability definitely not necessary



Veggie Swap at Laharum Wartook Community Day

Wonwondah News

Saturday December 15, 6.30pm – Christmas Tree

Saturday April 13, 2019 - Autumn Gathering/
Easter Egg Hunt

Jenny Ervin is Wonwondah Hall Booking Officer.
She can be contacted on 5384 6202 or 0409 175012.

Jill Warren

Wonwondah Landcare Group



Group members while preparing for the coming harvest, need to be vigilant for the increasing number of snails showing their presence on fence posts and trees already. Please report any new areas affected.

Our Christmas dinner will again be held at the Royal Hotel on **Friday December 21**, gathering at 6.30pm for an enjoyable evening of fellowship with friends and partners.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year for 2019.

Chris Guest



North West Grampians Branch of Horsham Lions Club

The centenary project has been completed and includes a new sign for Laharum Hall – photo page 11. President, Keith Fischer is to be congratulated on organising the signage and ensuring it was erected in time for Laharum Community Day held on November 11 at Laharum Hall.

Julie-Anne McPherson was nominated for a Commonwealth Bank 'not-for-profit' organisation Annual Treasurer's Award. Julie-Anne's nomination reflects the appreciation and high esteem in which she is held within our organisation (North West Grampians Lions Branch of the Lions Club of Horsham). See photo page 11 showing President, Keith Fischer presenting Julie-Anne, branch Treasurer with the Certificate of Appreciation.

Our branch meetings are held 1st Tuesday of the month, 6.30 for 7pm at Laharum Hall. Everyone is welcome. Phone 0418 377621 if you are interested or would like more information.

Judith Bysouth

Our group has been extremely busy over the last two months. We had a very successful fundraiser during Senior's Week. The story of Ellen Kelly as told by Christine Middleton was enjoyed by over 200 people at Horsham Town Hall.

Our latest member, Leonie Lawson, was inducted at our October meeting and we are keen to welcome more new members to our branch. Residents may have noticed the new signage from Lions for Laharum Hall which also includes the Lions emblem.

We are currently working on the Driver Reviver Kiosk at Green Lake. The kiosk is having a fresh coat of paint and power upgrades as well as new cupboards and bench tops. We are interested to hear from any groups or service clubs that may be able to assist with the serving of free coffees during the long weekends and school holidays when the Driver Reviver Kiosk is open.

Laharum and Wartook Community Day on November 11 was a great success. The Lions information trailer was on display and we were pleased to utilise our barbecue trailer to cook lunch for the day, supplemented with salad.

Our Christmas break up was on December 4. A combined Christmas dinner with Horsham Lions is on **Saturday December 15** at their clubrooms. For bookings please ring Judith Bysouth on 0429 328600.

The Rock Fest competition was won by Beth McGennicken with 2nd to Chris Adams. Lions Christmas cakes are available from Keith Fischer on 0417 691 000.

We wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and look forward to 2019.

Beth McGennicken 0418 951903

Libby Peucker 5382 5221

LAHARUM-WARTOOK VEGIE SWAP

2nd Sunday of each month - 10am sharp

Everyone welcome to come along 'empty handed' or with goodies such as vegies, fruit, preserves, cooking, seeds, seedlings, second-hand magazines to swap!

Come and catch up with your neighbours!

BLACK SATURDAY 10TH ANNIVERSARY HAVEN MARKET FROM 9AM-1PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2019



Extra activities for the children
including jumping castle,
face painting



Bus tours of the regenerated fire ground including new homes, businesses and Horsham Golf Club

Unveiling of the new 'Love Lock' gates

Demonstrations by Haven's various user groups -
Taekwondo, Rock n Rollers, Wimmera Women's Circus

Before and after photo displays in the hall

Twilight entertainment and music to
finish off the day



Music and entertainment will finish around 10pm

Yoga at Laharum Hall



Yoga at Laharum Hall for over 17 years!

Yoga will resume next year on **Wednesday February 6**. Join the 'regular' participants at 7.30pm and experience the benefits of yoga.

Please contact me on 5383 6265 if you plan to attend for the first time.

Judy Berendsen

Laharum Hall Committee



I would like to thank the Hall Committee for their ongoing support for Gil and me. 2018 has been a great year at the Hall with projects like the new kitchen, indoor ambulant toilet and new septic system being completed.

Horsham Apex Club has granted us \$3,280 towards new floor coverings in the old kitchen and store room. We really do appreciate this generous offer of sponsorship. New flooring will replace very old vinyl.

We hope all the community can benefit from these improvements!

Wishing you all a safe and happy festive season.

Judy Berendsen, Secretary

Laharum Cricket Club



Cricket season is well under way with Laharum Cricket Club fielding teams in A & C Grades along with Under 14s.

The senior sides are wearing new coloured shirts in all matches this season and I have to say, they look pretty good. A massive thanks to our shirt sponsors who have made these new uniforms possible - Australian Wildflowers; Horsham Hydraulics; L&H; Horsham Family Healthcare; Cellarbrations; Royal Hotel and Best Hire.

A Grade got off to a great start with skipper Dan Griffiths leading the way with the bat, guiding the team to a couple of great wins. Recent weeks have seen A Grade miss a few players and drop games to fall back into the middle of the table.

New C Grade skipper, Jack Parfett Oliver has also had a good start with the boys winning 3 games so far, with contributions from young and old. Great to see a match-winning partnership between old gun, Anthony Crute and up and coming player Jim McInnes to see the boys over the line against Jung.

Under 14s have been struggling for numbers but by all reports are having a great time learning the game on Friday nights. Good to see the future of the club out there having a crack! If there are any kids aged 8-14 out there who are interested in having a go at cricket, please get in touch with Jeck 0448 528 897. Training is Wednesday night after school at Laharum and games are 5pm Fridays. The more the merrier!

Coming up we have the Laharum Christmas Party. This is on **Saturday December 15** at 6pm at Laharum Oval following the A Grade match vs Homers. Dinner will be \$10 for adults, entertainment provided by Colin 'Funky' Williams along with a visit from Santa!!! Hope to see you all there.

If there is anyone out there young or old, who would like to give cricket a go, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. Senior training is Wednesdays at 6pm at Laharum Oval. For further information, contact myself on 0408 011 319 or Josh Mahoney 0458 646 001 or jump onto our club Facebook page. We are always looking for new players. Yours in cricket!

Ben Peucker, President

Brimpaen Tennis Club



It's hard to believe we are almost at the Christmas break already. We have had mixed results at Brimpaen for the first half of the season.

Our A Special team is going really well so far, not dropping a match to this point. On the other hand our A Grade is having a bit of a battle. We have been short of players most weeks which makes finding a team a bit of a nightmare for our selectors. Fortunately we have a number of juniors who have stepped up and are doing a great job. We have had a couple of good wins and a few bad losses.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to everyone.

Courtney Dunn

CFA PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

This is a program for CFA members (career and volunteer) and their families who are under significant stress. It is part of the CFA's organisational Wellbeing Department which has a network of peer support volunteers who are available to provide support to CFA people and their families, if and when they are needed.

Support covers a wide spectrum of accidents and incidents, eg motor vehicle accidents where a brigade attends; to relationship issues; financial stress and illness; mental health and depression.

We can provide one-on-one support or for brigades. If you need peer support you can contact –

- District 17 Peer Coordinator - Max Maher 0427 596272; Home 5382 2851
- District 17 Deputy Coordinator - Maggie Bridgewater 0427 891370
- State Wellbeing Support Line 1800 959232
- Chaplaincy Program 1800 337668
- Local Chaplain - Simon Risson 0417 376312
- Peers in Training - Judy Berendsen 0417 056219, Jenny Taylor 5359 6231

Judy Berendsen

Laharum Sports Incorporated

Thanks to everyone who has helped raise funds over the last couple of years to help make our change rooms a reality. The result is very pleasing and we are extremely blessed to have these facilities to use.

We are awaiting a Federal grant outcome which may see us construct a new social pavilion at Cameron Oval. If we are successful, this will again involve a lot of fundraising and effort over the coming year or two. I will advise of the outcome via our club Facebook pages as soon as I know.

We also have a major expense on our hands - in association with the member clubs - in re-surfacing the netball/tennis courts which is well overdue. We will need to secure funding partners to complete these works and we hope that this can be completed before the 2019 netball season.

In association with the summer clubs, we look forward to the community Christmas party to be held at Cameron Oval on **Saturday December 15**. There will be a barbecue, live music and a visit from Santa. Drinks will be at bar prices per normal with a portion of profit going toward LSI and LFNC to assist with fundraising major projects upcoming. It will be great to see a big turnout and celebrate a massive year for our community. Thank you.

Ben Peucker, Secretary



Batteries

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

Laharum Landcare Group



For our final meeting for the year we chatted over a great meal that everyone contributed, remembered some of our activities and thought ahead to what we could do next year.

Summer weeds are back again and the few drops of rain have sparked them up. St John's Wort will be showing up with bright yellow flowers and Paterson's Curse looks great in mauve/purple! Leaving them means another seven years bad luck – the seeds can take that long to germinate! Please contact me for help with a program; for the spray trailer or for chemicals and advice at giliz@activ8.net.au or my mobile 0490 830769.

Bathurst burr can be a problem if it occurs. We also may find a relatively new weed African Weed Orchid which produces millions of spores and is spreading with the wind, and maybe birds. For all of the weeds – if you can't kill them, at least mow them hard regularly before they produce seeds!

Next year we will participate with other groups and the community in a major planting event on the first weekend in June, called Heartland Horsham. Everyone will be welcome!

Our bi-monthly meetings will probably be at Laharum Hall on **Tuesdays February 12, April 9, and June 11**. Other meetings will follow!

Stavelly Arc Mineral Exploration - I have emailed WIM Resource P/L asking for more information about their exploration for metals in our area. Their website says "WIM's stakeholder liaison officer and project manager will engage directly with any affected landholders, should works need to be undertaken on their properties or nearby", and "Exploration will be low impact, particularly for geophysical surveys which typically do not lead to ground disturbance". They also promise to liaise with community groups, have a newsletter and displays, and a 'community feedback mechanism'. Some landholders may be concerned about mining, but this is **exploration** and mining will probably be years away, and first enough mineral has to be found. Laharum Landcare expects to be part of any 'Advisory' group that may be set up.

Gil Hopkins, Vice President



Volunteers Wanted

What: Sport outdoor event consisting of running, mountain biking and paddling – photos page 11

When: **Sunday March 24**, 2019 from 7am till 4pm

Where: Wartook Valley, HQ -Zumsteins picnic ground

Who: Race officials, course marshals, general HQ helpers

Details: grampianschallenge.com.au

The race brings participants and their support crews to Wartook and promote destination for future tourists as well. The event will not be possible without volunteers. Please help!

Please contact us before February 1, 2019 via email info@adventurejunkie.com.au or 0466 968184

Horsham Rural City Landcare Facilitator



October and November have been particularly busy months within Wimmera Landcare Network. With the build up to the grand opening of 'The Patch' at the Salvos, directing so many volunteers in the lead up was hectic but also very productive! Work for the Dole participants and a corrections team for a day really did move the project along.

Horsham Rural City Council has also been very supportive of the community project over the last few years. The opening attracted around 100 visitors and feeding on from that, we have a list of volunteers and groups wanting to be involved. Horsham Early Learning Centre has developed a roster to bring their pre-school students for three mornings a week for various garden activities running up until the end of this year. The Kalkee Road Children's HUB food scraps get fed into our in-ground worm buckets on a regular basis.

Laharum Landcare Group held their Christmas breakup which was a very relaxing enjoyable evening - well done to the cooks resulting in a very tasty meal! Laharum Landcare Group is interested in running a frog information evening next winter. I will start working on that event idea!

Currently I'm in the process of getting Horsham East Landcare and Ag group registered as an official incorporated group enabling them to then be able to source funding for their various Natural Resource Management programs. Great work Ray Zippel & Heather Drendel for encouraging the group to take this step!

Laharum Landcare Group ran a nest box decorating workshop at Laharum Wartook Community Day on November 11 and was very well received. Children stencilled gum leaves on their nest box which they took home to install on their property. Overall a terrific event, partnering with Laharum Fire Brigade and North West Grampians Branch of the Lions Club who ran a well organised barbecue. We have had really good feedback with some locals suggesting this should become an annual event. It was great getting the locals showing and selling their products and meeting all the new and enthusiastic residents to our area. Praise needs to also go to all those who contributed to such a colourful abundant vegetable swap. Jess Bettess and all the other volunteers are to be congratulated!

I wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas. Hope to see you on **Sunday December 9** at Norm Booth's for the final Vegie Swap for 2018.

Wendy McInnes, Landcare Facilitator

More yabby nets arrive for free swap

Recreational anglers are being encouraged to swap their opera house yabby nets for free wildlife friendly open-top lift nets.

Opera house nets are associated with drowning wildlife such as platypus, turtles and native water rats, which can be avoided entirely if open-top nets are used instead. Unlike opera house nets, open-top nets feature a gap at their top, which enables air-breathing animals such as turtles to escape. Learn more, including where to find participating tackle stores at - www.vfa.vic.gov.au/yabbynetswap or phone VFA 136 186

Laharum Rural CFA



Since the last newsletter, Laharum Fire Brigade has responded to two incidents supporting Wonwondah and Green Lake Brigades. One at a grass fire on Exells Road plus an unattended campfire in the 1,000 acre block.

Illegal Campfires - Visitors to the National Park have been setting up camps outside designated campsites and in restricted areas throughout the 1,000 acre block; in the old gravel pit at the southern base of Flat Rock as well as the south western base of Mt Zero and lighting campfires even with 'No Fires' signage. The Brigade has raised this issue with Parks Victoria, yet visitors still ignite campfires where they shouldn't. So hopefully something is done before anything serious happens. So I encourage any locals to report any of these still hot, unattended camp fires by ringing 000.

Fire Prevention - The Brigade has completed its annual fire prevention works. Many thanks to those who attended and carried out these works. It was also great to see not just only the locals but visitors to the area slowing down to 40km/h when they saw the red and blue flashing lights and adhering to the signage and speed restrictions.

Tanker 2 - At our pre-season meeting it was voted that the Brigade apply for a grant next year to replace the current community-owned tanker, Laharum Tanker 2. We will apply for a similar size tanker but it will be a 1700lt dual-cab tanker (the same as the Toolondo Tanker 2 based at Nurrabel which the Wonwondah Brigade has a share in). To simplify the process, the Laharum Brigade would have to raise about \$30,000. In that figure would be the sale of the current tanker. Our Brigade hasn't asked the community for any donations since we raised money for the current tanker back in the early 2000's. So later next year or when we're successful with the grant, the Brigade will be sending out information and asking for a small donation from all property owners within our area.

Fire Danger Period - As of Monday November 29 fire restrictions were introduced to the remainder of the Horsham Rural City Council. Thanks to all residents who carried out burn offs to help protect their own properties, and notified the burn off hotline – the Brigade didn't receive any unnecessary call outs.

Laharum Community Day - A big thanks to all those who attended the Laharum Community Day. We had over 60 residents attend the fire information session which was great to see. We had quite a few people wanting information about joining the Brigade. The kids had a great time being 'honorary' members for the day using the fire-fighting equipment. See photos front page & page 12.

A big thanks also needs to go to our Brigade Community Safety Coordinator, Jess Bettess for the huge amount of time organising the day from the CFA point of view. Also, thanks to Jenny McGennissen from the District 17 office for coming out and providing information on the CFA stand.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Many thanks to all our members for their time in responding to call outs throughout the year. Your community thanks you for that! Hopefully your summer holidays are safe and fire-free with fun times.

Luke Dumesny, Captain

I'd also like to thank everyone who attended our Community Day on Sunday November 11. It was great to see so many people and to meet some new residents to the area.

In the Laharum Brigade community information meeting on the day, we spoke about some ways everyone can be prepared during the fire season which included -

- Looking to see what the Fire Danger Rating is each day during summer, and what each rating means. A certain rating may trigger part of your fire plan to leave or for you to put things in place for that day to be prepared to defend your home
- Having the **VicEmergency** app on your smart phone so you are notified if there is a fire in the area. You will then usually receive fire information at the same time as the brigade is paged, giving you time to start making decisions and enacting your fire plan before help arrives

If anyone would like any further information; such as help setting up their fire plan or would like to be participate in CFA's Community Fireguard Program, go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/community-fireguard - please contact me at

jessica.bettess@members.cfa.vic.gov.au

Jessica Bettess, Community Safety Coordinator



New energy grants for agriculture

Tier Two and Tier Three

on-farm energy grants are now open as part of Agriculture Victoria's Agriculture Energy Investment Plan. The grants program, which forms a key part of the \$30 million Plan, will help farmers better manage energy costs by improving energy efficiency, boosting their own generation and investing in new technology.

Grants are available to eligible farm businesses for projects that achieve energy efficiency or provide the business with energy productivity improvements to support longer-term sustainability.

Tier One on-farm energy grants opened on August 17 this year and address the immediate needs of farmers seeking to make simple investment decisions on-farm with funding of up to \$50,000 available for eligible farmers and relevant projects.

Tier Two on-farm energy grants of \$50,000 to \$250,000 (excluding GST) will provide support for energy improvements across farm systems that implement recommendations from farmers' Type Two energy assessment.

Tier Three on-farm energy grants of \$250,000 to \$1 million (excluding GST) are available for strategic projects that benefit multiple farm businesses and make a positive contribution to the region. Departmental spokesperson, Megan Higson said she encouraged farmers to undertake a free on-farm energy assessment. "An assessment provides recommendations on how farmers can improve the energy efficiency and productivity of their farm business," she said. "An on-farm energy assessment is required to be eligible for an on-farm energy grant." All grant streams are now open.

Apply for an on-farm energy assessment or an on-farm energy grant online at - agriculture.vic.gov.au/agenenergy

CFA District 17



Night Fire Bombing Capability - This year fire services will have Night Bombing Aircraft capability in Victoria. There will be two aircraft in the state available, with one based in Ballarat and the other in the Far East. This aircraft will be able to operate at night for a maximum of four hours of operations, and it MUST arrive during daylight for a recce before it can operate at night. It cannot be called after dark for initial attack. So please keep these limitations in mind. The same aircraft is available for daytime operations but it has a night crew so it can work day and night. Photo page 11.

Preventing haystack fires: Key things to remember -

- Ensure hay is fully cured before baling. It should pass the 'hammer test' ie squashing the node between two metal surfaces and looking for any moisture from the crushed node. If **ANY** moisture appears, this hay is not ready for baling.
- Hay should not be baled or stored if moisture levels are greater than 15%.
- Regularly monitor stored hay for signs of heating. If you detect any slight caramel odour, strong musty smell, strong burning odour, or visual vapours, take immediate appropriate action.
- Know the history of hay that you purchase, particularly its moisture content.
- Protect hay from rain, leaking roofs and spouts and runoff.
- Store hay in a number of different locations around your farm, away from key assets. Limit the size of stacks to reduce the risk of losing all of your hay.
- Do not store vehicles, machinery and equipment in your hayshed.
- Be careful when operating vehicles, machinery and equipment near your haystacks.
- Create and maintain fuel breaks around your haystacks.
- It only takes one heating hay bale to ignite a whole haystack.
- Have your local CFA Fire Brigade in attendance if you have to pull a hot haystack apart.

The photos on page 11 are from a haystack fire in Rupanyup, November 2018. The stack was closely monitored and the beginnings of spontaneous combustion were caught just in time. Of 1,000 bales removed, 25 were charred. This was a great save in what could have potentially been a massive loss and considerable time occupied by volunteers in dealing with a large haystack fire. Photos courtesy of Rupanyup Fire Brigade.

Louise McGillivray, Brigade Admin Support Officer

Grampians Olive Co

Open 11am to 4pm every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day



Organic olive oils, olives, infused oils, honey, vinegars, dukkah etc. Gift packs available

Now micro-roasting coffee on site and serving the finest espresso coffees

Lunch platters, press tours, free tastings

Greg Mathews 5383 8299

Laharum Football Netball Club



Welcome to LFNC season 2019! The Fixture has just been released and we are looking forward to a massive year.



We invite anyone in the community to join in the fun with us.

We offer a sporting venue for pretty much all ages including mini's football and NetSetGo catering for youngsters from approximately 5 years, teaching them valuable skills on and off the field/court.

Our AGM was held on October 30 and was very well attended with about 35 community/club members in attendance. We have some new faces in key roles for the upcoming season and we are very thankful to those who have given so much to get us where we are today.

Thank you to Nadine Miller for the last 5 seasons as President and countless more volunteering and Board positions prior to that. Thank you to Deb Bunworth for the last 5 seasons of catering. Thank you to Sue Miller for the last approximate 7 seasons as Director of junior football, and thank you to Brian Burke who has spent numerous years in key roles. He will now balance his time between mowing our oval through the week and his grandfatherly duties in Horsham on a Thursday night and on Saturdays.

Preseason training for the footballers is kicking off on **Friday December 7**, 6:30pm at the senior coach's residence, 256 Grahams Bridge Road with a bit of running, followed by a barbecue and catchup. There are several other sessions planned following this kick start and these will be shared on the night. If you can't make it, get in contact with Robbie on 0438 937571 or perhaps jump on the 'Laharum FNC' Facebook page for the latest updates.

Netball training will start late January. We are still looking for an Under 17 netball coach whilst all other coaches are secured and ready to go for 2019. If anyone is keen to play netball next season, they can contact Brooke MacInnes or Bianca Mibus.

Thank you to the returning Board members and a big welcome to the new Board members joining us for 2019. There are still a few positions to fill on the LFNC Board for season 2019 - Director of Public Relations & Grants; Director of Catering and Director of Junior Football. Please get in contact with myself or another Board member if you are interested.

We have had a big couple of years with improvements onsite and these have come at a significant cost. We will be looking to raise some much needed funds in the coming months by way of a grain drive and various working bees. Into the future, we expect a large expense to resurface our netball courts which is desperately needed and if major grants are available. And we look forward to replacing our social facilities! Thank you.

Tim Nagorcka, Chairman 0412 784365

**ALWAYS DIAL TRIPLE ZERO
TO REPORT FIRE**

DOB IN A LITTERER

1300 372 81300 372 842 or 1300 EPA VIC

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

Education News



Warm greetings to all. I feel very privileged to be provided with a second opportunity to work at Laharum Primary School and am delighted to work with the students again. Thank you to Craig Amos for the tireless work in attending to the building works preparation and compliance review work at the school. We wish Craig all the best for his new adventures at Horsham West and Haven and thank him for his work at Laharum. My work in the Region and Barwon area has provided me with knowledge, skills and networks which I can draw upon to enhance the Laharum school curriculum and support student learning.

As always, the door is open and I am always able to make a time to meet and discuss any concerns, ideas or information to support the school. Volunteers are encouraged and I look forward to working with Laharum Landcare, Laharum Sports Inc and Laharum Hall folk in the time ahead. The focus is on the students at all times, to support their learning experiences and learning environment. We are in a period of time where enrolments for the future are vital for the school. School Council and staff welcome and encourage anyone in the community with children who are due to come to school in the next couple of years to call in or phone to make a time to view the school and discuss the curriculum and extra-curricular activities Laharum Primary School provides.

Playgroup – if we can secure enough children, a playgroup could be located at the school. Please chat with the school community about your interest or contact the school to let us know if you are interested.

Throughout Term 4 students have been involved in a myriad of activities. October was 'Walk to School' with daily walking and a final walk from Cameron Oval to the school along the fire track with Janine Harfield from Wimmera Health. The Year 3 to 6 students had the opportunity to attend T20 Cricket clinics with Daniel from Laharum Cricket Club and Tony from Cricket Victoria; Year 5 & 6 to join in with Natimuk Primary School students for rock climbing; students from the school attended the Armistice Centenary Exhibition at the Horsham RSL (a most worthwhile event); a visit to Horsham Rural City Council for a mock meeting as part of our Civics and Citizenship study. Thank you to David Grimbles for his coordination in making the activity possible. See photos page 11.

The swimming program has been held at Horsham Aquatic Centre and concludes with the 'Flipper' event involving all students from their respective wellbeing team; ResourceSmart – 7 students are planning an Environmental Project for 2019 and will attend an event at Longerenong with other ResourceSmart school students. We are fortunate to have Wendy McInnes join us for the event. Each year students spend time cooking a morning tea to show our gratitude to the volunteers who generously provide time, expertise and support to the school. Students have cooked up a storm for the volunteers' morning tea. We hope the invitations reached all the intended destinations!!

Students are preparing for the End of Year Celebration to be held at Laharum Hall on **Thursday December 13**, commencing at 7pm and followed by supper. We welcome the community to our night to celebrate student achievements for the 2018 school year

and to say thank you and farewell to students and families moving on to the next stage of their schooling.

The term has also been busy for our Parent and Friend Group with numerous fundraising events. The Spring Garden Festival catering; the Trivia and Silent Auction Night and the End of Year Celebration night hampers raised funds which will be supportive to students attending a special event in 2019. The school community has been most generous with their time and donation of goods both at school and at fundraising events. Thank you to anyone in the broader community who has supported the school.

We have a building upgrade happening at the school - we hope it is near completion for the 2019 school year. A veranda is being constructed to join the buildings and an internal upgrade including new doors, plaster, kitchen, floor covering and sick bay is underway. It will be a wonderful facility when complete.

Please contact the school if you have any concerns, ideas or wish to chat about programs or community events. My door is always open.

Jane McLean, Principal



Another great annual Grampians Fire Conference was held on November 24 at Mooralla this year. The event is in its 29th year and is seen across the district as a good day for agencies to catch up and prepare for the coming season. Nearly 100 representatives from CFA, Victoria Police, FFMVic, local government and other emergency management partners attended to build and share collective expertise and knowledge around bushfire management and local community values. A highlight this year was the presentation by the Dundas CFA Group on the Mooralla fire in December 2017 and a field trip to the fire site. In addition, the group travelled to a recent cross-tenure planned burn at Mt Bepcha to discuss the results, including an unexpected increase in post-fire fauna returning to the site. Fire Operations Plans and maps are available on www.ffm.viv.gov.au/fop.

The Emergency and Preparedness team has had a very busy lead up to the summer season this year with 46 Project Fire Fighters starting across the district at Halls Gap, Cavendish, Wail, Edenhope and Horsham. The training started with the week-long General Fire Fighters camp in Horsham on October 23 where we saw 23 new recruits complete their nationally accredited training. Added to this, another five weeks of fitness testing, medicals, first aid, safe driving of G-wagon and Unimogs, white card, asbestos awareness training, fire weather and the mandatory department induction including workplace behaviour and online training.

Since June FFMVic, including Parks Victoria has had the opportunity to complete some winter burning in the Grampians NP (Syphon Road) as well as in Jilpanger NCR (Bow Lake Rd). Spring has seen burning at Wail SF (Ironbark Track), Stawell SF (Brook Farm Road) and at the Little Desert NP (Western Block Northern Break).

On behalf of Forest Fire Management Victoria in the Wimmera District, we wish everyone a happy and safe festive season.

Danielle Leehane Senior Community Partnerships Officer
Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning



A Junkie Adventure Cup will be carried out in April 2019 in Horsham area, and maybe 2020, 2021.

It is expected that 120 competitors and officials/staff and additionally their accompanying partners will attend the event from throughout the state and likely South Australia and New South Wales over 1 or 2 days of competition. The one-day event will be conducted in Wartook area. Details to come later.

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Contact Rod

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bikechef@activ8.net.au

KnitKnaX & KnitWitZ

Our knitting and crocheting group will resume in February 2019. We meet Mondays from 4-6pm at Red Rock Books & Gallery. Enquiries 5381 0866 or email info@fibreworks.net.au.

Gill Venn

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.

FABRIC SALE OLD ROSEMONT QUILTS

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Email: oldrosemont@skymesh.com.au

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LAHARUM FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER

December 2018 – February 2019 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.

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

	LAHARUM TANKER 1		LAHARUM TANKER 2	
WEEK START	DRIVER	CREW	DRIVER	CREW
03/12/18	Jim Carter	Graeme Wood	Gil Hopkins	Eh Doh Jah
10/12/18	Bruce McInnes	Jessica Bettess	Mark Francisco	Dane Francisco
17/12/18	Jamie Parfett	Adam Shields	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn
24/12/18	Rob Jess	Daniel Doherty	Will Pyke	Htoo Kaw Jah
31/12/18	Tim Martin	Angus Martin	Francoise van der Plank	Vicky Stevens
07/01/19	Roger MacInnes	Deb MacInnes	Mal Griffiths	Ray Zippel
14/01/19	Gary Staehr	Robert Staehr	Rob McInnes	Leigh Mibus
21/01/19	Mark Uebergang	Jenny Uebergang	Brad Geue	Steve Suter
28/01/19	Bill Gardner	Stuart Gardner	Ed Johnson	Jim Johnson
04/02/19	Gil Hopkins	Eh Doh Jah	Jim Carter	Graeme Wood
11/02/19	Mark Francisco	Dane Francisco	Bruce McInnes	Jessica Bettess
18/02/19	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn	Jamie Parfett	Adam Shields

BRIMPAEN FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER

Date	Tanker 1 Brimpaen		Tanker 3 Brimpaen		Tanker 2 Glenisla	
08/12/18	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Des Roberts	Chris Roberts	Brian Campbell	
15/12/18	Ron Winfield	Courtney Dunn	Andrew Bell		Ken French	Teresa & Hettie French
22/12/18	Andrew Chincarini	Kerry Anne & Tristan Chincarini	Dean Winfield	Maggie Winfield Bailey Pilgrim	Rod Miller	Sue, Alana & Will Miller
29/12/18	Cameron McDonald	David Schmidt	Steve Price	Gerard Matthews	Luke Barber	Laura Anderson
05/01/19	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Des Roberts	Chris Roberts	Brian Campbell	
12/01/19	Peter McGennissen	Ra McGennissen	Anthony Smith	Ben Starick	Robert Barber	Will Barber
19/01/19	Ron Winfield	Courtney Dunn	Andrew Bell		Ken French	Teresa & Hettie French
26/01/19	Andrew Chincarini	Kerry Anne & Tristan Chincarini	Dean Winfield	Maggie Winfield Bailey Pilgrim	Rod Miller	Sue, Alan & Will Miller
02/02/19	Cameron McDonald	David Schmidt	Steve Price	Gerard Matthews	Luke Barber	Laura Anderson
09/02/19	Brenton Roberts	Amanda Britten	Des Roberts	Chris Roberts	Brian Campbell	
16/02/19	Peter McGennissen	Ra McGennissen	Anthony Smith	Ben Starick	Robert Barber	Will Barber

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 and SKY News TV

Community Calendar of Events - December 2018 - February 2019

December

Saturday	8	6.30pm	Brimpaen Christmas Tree – Brimpaen Hall
Sunday	9	10-11am	Laharum Wartook Vegie Swap, 2777 Northern Grampians Road, Wartook
Wednesday	12	8.45am-4pm	Grasses of the Wimmera ID Training Day, DEWLP Horsham
Thursday	13	7pm	Laharum Primary School Year 6 Graduation & Celebration of Learning 2018
Friday	14	10am →	Re-opening of The Wander Inn, Wartook
Saturday	15	6pm	Laharum Community Christmas Party – Laharum Oval
"	15	6.30pm	Wonwondah Christmas Tree – Wonwondah Hall
Friday	21	6.30pm	Wonwondah Landcare Group - Royal Hotel

January

Sunday	13	10-11am	Laharum Wartook Vegie Swap – Olive Plantation Road, Laharum
Saturday	26	8am	Australia Day Breakfast – Brimpaen Hall

February

Saturday	2	9am →	Black Saturday 10 th Anniversary/Haven Market
Wednesday	6	7.30pm	Yoga commences – Laharum Hall
Sunday	10	10-11am	Laharum Wartook Vegie Swap – Tatlocks Bridge, Brimpaen Laharum Road
Thursday	28	7.30pm	Local Vocals – Laharum Hall

Mobile Library – Thursday December 13; 2019 January 10 & 24; February 7 & 21, 9.30am – Laharum Primary School

Laharum Landcare meetings 2019 – Tuesdays February 12, April 9, June 11

Autumn Gathering/Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday April 13, 2019



Simon with Horsham Rural City Council bell



Ava as Council Mayor



Jayden preparing for volunteers morning tea



Enid, James and Jade participating in the cricket clinic



Keith Fischer presenting Julie-Anne McPherson with Award



Grampians Challenge activities for 2019



New sign in front of Laharum Hall



Haystack fire in Rupanyup - beginnings of spontaneous combustion



Night bombing aircraft

Snapshots of Laharum Wartook Community Day on November 11



Jess with Captain Koala



Jess and Luke 'showing off' the new Tanker 1 fire truck to 'honorary' members



Children stencilling gum leaves on their bird boxes



Time to choose some local produce and preserves – what a selection! ➔



Attendees at the CFA information session on November 11