

North West Grampians Newsletter

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October 2008

Congratulations to the members of the sporting clubs for a great season and to the teams who made the finals!

With the proposed hall renovations and plans for piping underway, there's a lot happening in the district.

It's a beautiful time of the year with the warmer weather, plenty to be done outside and the crops are looking good - it feels great to be alive! Let's hope for a successful harvest.

Liz Hopkins



Laharum Landcare Group recent planting

The annual 'Over 60s/Special Persons Luncheon' at Laharum Hall was held on Wednesday August 6. The Laharum Primary School students served a delicious hot meal to a crowd of over 60 people and then performed a concert while the crowd sat back and thoroughly enjoyed their wonderful educational show. It was really entertaining!

Everyone then had an opportunity to look over the school, and the students were very keen to show their grandparents and friends what they have been achieving. Now it's time for a well earned break for them and the teachers!



Prep to Grade 2 students



Grades 3-6 students



Wartook pottery
Spring Market Day
Sunday 28th Sept
Delightful Market Day with lots of family fun, giant bouncing castle, antiques, produce, crafts
10 am - 3 pm
Stall & Colder Welcome
For all enquiries please *Wendy McInnes*
Work 53 836 243 or Home 53 836 220
The Wander Inn, Valley Gift shop & Studio are open from 10am-5pm for your pleasure

Laharum Preschool



The end of the term is finally here and it's been a very busy one indeed. We've been lucky enough to avoid the dreaded colds and 'flu's and mostly our attendance has been full numbers.

Some of the things that we have been doing have included looking at Australian animals, pet safety, road safety as well as the seasons. The children have been playing with some fantastic creative play set-ups with lizards and snakes in sand, small cars on road maps with traffic signs, toy dogs and people. Our art activities have included making dog masks; blot painting, snow painting, vegetable printing and a number of colourings-in sheets with road safety and pet responsibility.

To highlight these topics we have had a visit from a number of government-funded programs. The first to visit us was Cecilia Myers and Wags the Beagle from the DPI's Responsible Pet Program. This was presented to teach the children how to be safe around dogs and what to do when confronted by dangerous dogs. The children loved patting Wags, but he was more interested in our resident mice!

Our next visitor was Thingle Toodle who is presented by the RTA's road safety program. Thingle came into kinder (a large man sized puppet) and danced and sang with the children while they showed him how to cross the road and what to do in the car and on bikes. All the children were then initiated into the Thingle Toodle club but this means they have to sit in the back seat at all times. This was interesting when some of the kids started to tell Thingle what they did on the farm utes - I think he froze in horror!



Preschool children with Thingle Toodle

We have seen some improvements to the kinder lately with replacing of the sand in our sandpit. Thanks to Deb Thomas for organising this and to all those hands who came in to help move the old sand and wheelbarrow the new sand in. Also I would like to thank Michael Bond for all his fantastic maintenance jobs that he is still doing for us at kinder.

We have a big fundraising event coming up this **Friday September 26** at Horsham Town Hall for the Senior Football & Netball Presentation Night. We would love a hand with this as we might be struggling to have enough help on the night. We will be catering for this

event so if you are able to hop on board please give Caroline Geue a call on 5383 6382.

Does anybody have any old tyres lying around on their property? I would love to have them for our obstacle course in the playground. Also if you could spare us some hay bales we would love to plant some vegies in them and freshen up the stinky canary cage. This would be greatly appreciated.

Next term will be another busy one with the school transition program as well as an excursion to the Wimmera Base Hospital. We will also be celebrating Christmas which will be here before we know it!

Thanks to everyone for supporting the kinder so far this year.

Jo Bone

Horsham South Garden Club



Thursday September 25 - Trip to Wickliffe. Meet at back of K-Mart car park, leaving at 9am. Please take your lunch.

Thursday October 23 - day with natives and June Rogers at 6 Landy Street,

1.30pm. Bring afternoon tea, bloom, brag, stall, chair and cup.

Thursday November 27 - Christmas breakup at Maimie Bull's home, 3 Selkirk Drive, 6pm - husbands welcome. Visitors \$6. Please bring salad and sweet also stall, chair, own plates and cutlery.

Lola Ervin

Parks Victoria



**Threatened Species Group
Calendar of Events**

Thursday 25 September - Small-leaf wax-flower survey (*Philotheca difformis subsp difformis*). Assist searching for this species that is endangered in Victoria. Meet at 10.15am at Mt Zero picnic area car park.

Wednesday October 1 - Grampians Rice-flower survey (*Pimelea pagophila*). Assist searching for this Nationally Vulnerable plant across the Major Mitchell Plateau

Thursday October 2 - Ornate pink fingers survey (*Caladenia ornata*). Assist searching for this Nationally Vulnerable plant around the Golton Gorge area. Evening presentation 7.30-9pm Brambuk National Park and Cultural Centre, Halls Gap. Colin Bower, Principal Consultant Botanist, FloraSearch will talk about 'Pollinators of Sexually Deceptive Caladenia Species in SW Victoria.'

October 2-5 - Grampians threatened flora display Halls Gap Wildflower & Art Show Community Hall

Thursday October 30 - Grampians bitter-pea survey (*Daviesia laevis*). Assist searching for this Nationally Vulnerable plant off Redman's Road.

For more details and to confirm attendance of survey days, please contact me on 5361 4001.

Sylvia van der Peet

Laharum Parent Club News



We are holding a stall at the Wartook Pottery/The Wander Inn on their Market Day on **Sunday September 28**. Come along and buy some yummy homemade produce from our stall and support the school.

Parent Club is organising a Fun Run for the children at school on the **Friday October 17**. The kids will be looking for sponsors, so if you know a child at school it would be great if you could sponsor them. The children will be then putting money they raise towards something for the playground or sports equipment.

We are holding a school Disco/Dance and general get together for school children and we invite any local district children to come along. We will have a Jumping Castle and tea will also be served. After tea a DJ will supply music and games.

When: **Friday October 24**

Time: 5-9pm

Where: Laharum Hall

RSVP to Jenny Carter on 5383 6204 or Helen Francisco on 5383 8218 for catering purposes.

Helen Francisco

Laharum Social Tennis - Tuesdays



We continue to meet for a hit on Tuesdays at 1.30pm and on **Tuesday September 30** we have Sue Exell coaching us on serving technique. Ladies welcome - \$5 for non members.

During summer tennis season which starts in October, practice is held on Wednesday evening. Tuesday social will only continue if there is demand. Please let me know on 5383 8288.

Judy Gardner

Laharum Landcare Group



The Laharum Envirofund Revegetation Project has proceeded extremely well; seven sites have been completed with direct seeding and planting of tube stock. There is only one site left to complete the whole project as this site had been too wet. When finished the total area is about 46ha with 13,000 plants and about 21kg of seed directly drilled.

We've had working bees at Ellifson's and Lenehan's planting trees near waterways.

The fox bounty of \$5 a tail is still on offer for the Laharum area. So far 82 tails have been handed in. Rabbit ripping is still available if needed. Paterson's Curse and Bridal Creeper and Cape Tulip have been sprayed in some areas. Contact me or Gil 5383 8207 if you see more that need treatment.

Next meeting is our AGM on **Thursday October 2**, 7-30pm at Laharum Hall.

Plans for the Laharum Landcare Group bus trip to be held on **Sunday October 12** are in full swing. Featured will be a couple of properties at Great Western and a 'Pleasant Creek Walk' in Stawell with the Stawell Urban Landcare Group. For more details of the bus trip please contact John Fisher on 5383 6263.

Mark Francisco

Friends of Zumstein

Our AGM will be held at Wartook Gardens, 2.30pm on **Monday September 29**.

Royce Raleigh

Mobile Library



Mobile Library dates to Laharum are – **October Wednesday 1, 15, 29 and November 12, 26**, 9.30-11am.

The next visit will be during the school holidays, but I will still be at the Laharum site. So, please come and use the Library when it's there. I always enjoy seeing you.

You can use the Broadband Internet free of charge for members. Remember membership is FREE @ the library.

Bryan Rohde Mobile Library Manager

The **Wimmera Regional Library Corporation** is undertaking a project to examine the best methods of delivering library services to small towns and across the region. The six month project will focus on the mobile library service, small branches and the Birchip P-12 school library model.

The mobile library visits 17 locations across the Wimmera on a fortnightly rotation (1,200 km). The van visits Laharum every second Wednesday from 9.30–11am. Usage figures show that there is a capacity for much greater use of these services. The project will examine ways to get more people using outreach library services.

I will be surveying both users and non-users of the service to find out local preferences and to examine any barriers that may be preventing people from using the existing library service. To give your opinion please contact me on 0458.533 223.

Paula Clark

Laharum Playgroup



On **Thursday October 2**, 9.15-11am we will meet at Laharum Hall and if fine, travel to Zumstein for some outside fun. Families need to bring drinks and snacks for themselves.

If anyone has any ideas or are interested in finding out more, please call Rhonda on 5383 8243.

Rhonda McNeil



Ella and Emily explaining their work to David & Judith at Laharum School

Yoga at Laharum Hall



Yoga will resume on **Wednesday October 1**, 7.30pm at Laharum Hall and conclude this year on **Wednesday November 19**.

Please ring me on 5383 6265 if you'd like more information on the benefits of yoga and what you need to bring to the sessions.

Judy Berendsen

Laharum Tennis Club



We are so close to the beginning of yet another tennis season. This year the Laharum Tennis Club has an oasis for home courts. How exciting it is to look forward to playing tennis on our impressive

new courts!

This year we have entered four senior teams and a junior team into the Central Wimmera Tennis Association - A Grade; B Special; B Grade Navy; B Grade Red, and Under 14 Boys team. This is something new in itself; we normally would only enter the three senior teams. So to see increasing numbers supporting Laharum is fantastic!

The first round is on **Saturday October 4**. The official draw is yet to be released. Our first tennis practice night will be **Wednesday September 24** at 5.45pm; new and current players are encouraged to please come along.

Office bearers this year see Liv Miller as President; Deb MacInnes as Vice President; Alison White as Secretary and Judy Gardner as Treasurer.
Liv Miller

Wonwondah Landcare



Members have now completed the whole farm planning course put together by Ray Zippel and Allan Hewitt of the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority. All participants gained new computer skills and opened avenues of thought for future improvements and the general monitoring of their farming activities.

Other presenters from DPI also provided valuable input and ideas for everybody to think on. While there has been no meeting during the course, our next gathering is planned for **Tuesday October 7** at Guest's dairy, 7.30pm.

Chris Guest

Brimpaen Craft Group



Tuesday October 7, 10am-2.30pm – tassels using fringes or beads for Christmas style at Brimpaen Hall.

Tuesday November 4 – Melbourne Cup

Day – venue to be decided.

Tuesday December 2 – Christmas luncheon, venue to be decided. Bring either salad or sweet – meat provided. Exchange Christmas gift. For more details contact me on 5382 5559.

Jill Sinclair

Horsham Spring Garden Festival

This Festival will be held on **Fri/Sat/Sun October 10, 11 & 12** at Horsham Botanic Gardens. Please mark these dates in your diary now for a weekend no gardener, landscaper, home-owner, insect lover, food and wine connoisseur should miss!

With new exhibitors expressing their interest in attending and your favourite ones returning, the 21st birthday of this annual event will be a great event!

Watch the local paper for exciting updates of guest speakers attending and new activities. I encourage you all to enter your gardens in the garden competition to show the city people just what green fingers we have out here in the country.

Sue Winfield

Grampians Wartook Promotion Group

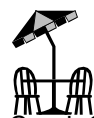
The annual general meeting will be held on **Thursday October 16** at 7.30pm at The Wander Inn. As Public Officer and Acting Secretary I am calling this meeting to decide the future of the GWPG.

The only agenda items for the meeting will be the future of the group and if it is decided to continue operating, the election of office bearers. Any other business will be discussed at the next general meeting.

Jenny and Tony will be available to provide meals from 6pm but please phone 5383 6377 to book prior to the night - apologies to Gill on 5383 6246.

Gill Venn

Brimpaen Ladies Social Club



Tuesday September 30, 2pm at Brimpaen Hall – Trivia day and meeting. Stall and afternoon tea.

Tuesday October 28, 2pm – visit Burnt Creek Collectables followed by afternoon tea in Horsham.

Tuesday November 25 – Christmas luncheon at The Wander Inn, 12 noon. Exchange gifts of \$5. Please contact me on 5383 9250 for any information.

Margo Hamilton

Laharum Rural Fire Brigade



Our pre-season meeting will be held on **Monday November 3**, 8pm at the football clubrooms. Everyone is welcome to attend. It seems a bit early at this stage, but please start thinking about your property protection plan for summer. Remember that the Landcare Group and Fire Brigade jointly own a small ute-mounted spray unit that you can borrow to do your fence lines or other small spraying jobs. This is located at Don Sudholz's workshop and available upon request.

If you think you need assistance in carrying out burning-off work prior to summer, please contact me as we are happy to help and it is good practice for our volunteers.

Please remember to take the truck out for a run if you are rostered.

Don Sudholz Captain 5383 6205



Leadership in a Changing Climate - breakfast

When: **Friday October 31**, 7.30am-8.45am - 7am registration

Where: Horsham Golf Club

Speaker Prof Tim Flannery will discuss how business and community leaders can demonstrate leadership and influence change in their communities to improve the environment

Cost: \$25 per person

Farming for the Future – Living in a Changing Climate Forum

When: **Friday October 31**, 9.30am-5.30pm

Where: Longerenong College

Registrations: Wimmera CMA 5382 1544 or website

www.wcma.vic.gov.au

Keynote speakers including Prof Tim Flannery who will focus his presentation on some of the global contributions and factors affecting our climate and the bearing this may have on food producers and agricultural industries

Cost: \$25 per person

Sustainable Land and Living Expo

Where: Longerenong College

When: **Saturday November 1**, 10am-4pm

Cost: Adults \$7, school-aged children free

Laharum Hall Committee



The Ararat Theatre Group will be returning to perform another play 'Caravans' at the Laharum Hall on **Saturday November 8**, 7pm meal

included. This will be another fun-filled family night of entertainment. BYO nibbles, drinks and glasses.

This event is supported by Horsham Rural City Council and funds raised on the night will go towards new equipment for the hall. Please ring me on 5383 6265 to book a table.

Organise your friends to come along and share some laughs together and join in the fun!

Laharum Hall Committee would like to thank Terry Williams for generously donating his time by installing the electric stove at the hall. This is very much appreciated Terry!

Judy Berendsen

Laharum Neighbourhood Watch Rural



As a result of our AGM the following are your new contacts for any concerns and/or reports.

Area coordinator M. Dumesny;

Ass. coordinator L. Mibus; Secretary J. Gardner; Treasurer S. Parfett

Zone Representatives:

#1 M. Dumesny; G. Staehr; J. Gardner

#2 L. Mibus; D. Sudholz; E. Johnson

#3 H. Russell; J. Bennett; T. Pleasance

#4 M. McGennicken; P. McGennicken; L. Storey

Farm security: M. Dumesny; M. McGennicken; L. Mibus

A vote of thanks was extended to Kevin Dunn as our retiring area coordinator. Supper was served and the group took part in a refresher exercise in the four Steps CPR instructional video.

Next meeting is to be held on **Friday November 14**, 6pm with a meal at the Wartook Pottery/The Wander Inn. A tour beforehand of Big Spring Mount wildflower processing plant will take place at 5pm. \$4 entry.

Judy Gardner

Parks Victoria



Funding has been finalised for remaining Fire Recovery works. This financial year Parks Victoria will be undertaking works on the Pinnacle to Halls Gap, Mackenzie Falls

to Fish Falls and Red Gum Walking Tracks. These tracks have been closed since the 2006 fire and significant works are required to reopen them.

Plans for camp ground improvements are progressing well and this year improvement works are planned to be carried out at Jimmy Creek, Plantation and Smiths Mill Campgrounds.

Tammy Schoo

The Wander Inn

at Wartook Valley

MELBOURNE CUP DECORATED HAT DAY



Tuesday November 4, 12.30pm
Chicken and champagne lunch

Cost \$15 per head
Bookings essential 5383 6377

Brimpaen Tennis Club



Tennis season is almost here again and the Brimpaen players are keen to go. We entered an A Special team and a B Special team this year. Hopefully we can have a good year in both grades to follow up our A special grand final appearance last year.

Any new players are welcome to come along for a hit. Please contact me on 5383 9203.

Courtney Winfield

Photos and articles for this newsletter are much appreciated

Waterwatch Launches 'Finding Frogs'



Researchers have identified 13 species of frogs in the Wimmera. However, there is limited information about their distribution across the catchment. The Wimmera is home to the Growling Grass Frog, listed as Endangered in Victoria. Bibron's Toadlet and the Southern Toadlet are also known to inhabit the Wimmera and are listed as Vulnerable under the 'Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999'.

In order to protect frogs, we need to know more about them – particularly, their distribution and habitat requirements. To help fill this need, Waterwatch has embarked on a new volunteer monitoring program. The program involves three census weeks per year, run in March, August and November to target a variety of frogs found in the Wimmera. During census week, volunteers visit their monitoring site (dam, waterway, or wetland) during the first two hours after dark and simply take a short recording of frogs calling. This recording is then given to the WCMA for verification and collation. The results of each census are then made public, and are available for use by a number of organisations.

Our first census took place during National Science Week (16th-23rd). Results are still trickling in, but so far, five species have been detected - Brown Tree Frog, Common Eastern Froglet, Plains Froglet and Spotted Marsh Frog, with the greatest diversity at one site so far being four species.

Our next census takes place during the first week of November. Training and support is provided by Waterwatch Coordinators. Please contact Waterwatch Coordinator Bronwyn Bant on 5382 1544 or bantb@wcma.vic.gov.au to register or for more information.



GWMWater

Preparation for construction of Supply System 6 (our area) of the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline is on target for construction to start in early 2009.

A team of land liaison officers are working their way through land access agreements, construction line lists and identifying meter locations with the 1,000 plus landowners within the Supply System 6 area.

Extensive environmental and cultural heritage assessment data has been collected along the proposed pipeline routes. Soil testing at specific sites has provided valuable construction information.

Following completion of the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline, annual water usage to service towns and farms across the entire pipeline area is estimated at approximately 20,000ML.

For further information please contact Jo Bourke on 1300.659 961.

Laharum Cricket Club



Well it won't be long before the cricket season commences, October 11 actually and Laharum will be once again be fielding two very strong senior teams in B and C Grades. Unfortunately, due to lack of numbers, our U/16 team has gone into

recess for the year. Our U/14 side has very good numbers and hopefully the U/16's will be back on the field in the future as these boys get older. John Griffiths is in charge of the U/14 team so any prospective players can get in touch with him or me.

At our well attended AGM, Peter Levey was re-elected President and Ash Marra and Rob McInnes were elected as Secretary/Treasurer and Assistant.

Thanks must be afforded to Daryl Scollary for his terrific service as Secretary/Treasurer over the past years.

We will again be training both at Sunnyside on Mondays and Laharum on Wednesdays. Any newcomers wanting a game of cricket in a very friendly and social atmosphere and at the premiere ground in the region along with one of the most scenic venues in the State, are very welcome to join us. With the Tennis Club also playing at the Sports Complex we will certainly have an even greater social atmosphere at the club.

Peter Levey



Horsham Rural City Council
urban rural balance

Floral Emblem - Horsham Rural City Council in conjunction with the Department of Sustainability and Environment would like your help in nominating a native indigenous plant to be the floral emblem of the Council. This plant must occur in the Horsham Rural City Council area and can be either 'common' or 'rare.'

This nomination will then be used to develop a 'shortlist' of species and will then be voted on by the general public during October. The winning species will be announced by the Mayor and through the media in early November.

To start the ball rolling, here are some suggestions:

- Wimmera Rice Flower (*Pimela spinescens* subsp. *pubiflora*)
- Buloke (*Allocasuarina luehmannii*)
- Wimmera Bottlebrush (*Callistemon wimmerensis*)
- Blue Devil (*Erynigium ovinum*)

Please forward your nomination to melissa.douglas@hrcc.vic.gov.au; phone 5382 9774 or 0427.514502.

Please remember that this process is to get a shortlist, not for voting just yet!

Melissa Douglas Landcare Officer

Wimmera Rural Skills Connect



This is a State wide skills initiative launched by the State Government in May and Tim Martin has been appointed as Project Manager for the Wimmera. Tim Martin will assist farming families and agribusiness employees to develop skills and access employment opportunities across the region.

Tim said "we're not aiming to encourage farmers off the land, rather to help them gain formal qualifications so they have the option to work part-time or occasionally away from their farm, helping boost the family budget".

"While farming families are often keen to work off-farm, the cost of training is prohibitive in terms of dollars so hopefully this project can help".

Tim encourages anyone interested in the project to contact him on 0429.957 643 or email timmartin@westwimmera.vic.gov.au



Further works are to be undertaken on the Wonwondah-Dadswells Bridge Road for widening and this will commence at Northern Grampians Road and proceed in an easterly direction. The work will commence on or about November 24 and will be undertaken through to the Christmas break by Council.

Fire prevention program - works have commenced in the northern part of the municipality together with our spraying of road shoulders and road reserves as appropriate, and these works will continue on over the next 2-3 months as part of Council's Strategic Fire Break Protection Plan. It should be noted that some works on this plan will be varied and these issues are being forwarded through the Fire Prevention Committee.

There has been some discussion on Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan which is currently being presented as a final draft. Any issues relating to that plan for concerns should be brought to the attention of me and/or Patrick Barrett at Council as soon as possible.

Council is most impressed at the works that have been undertaken at Cameron Oval and the benefit to the Sporting Community of the new netball and tennis courts. The use of these courts as part of the final series was most impressive to all who attended. Council is working with the former Tennis Club and Cameron Oval Committees to arrange for the transfer of the old tennis court fencing from Laharum to the Cameron Oval for use to that facility.

With regard to water supplies in the summer period, Council again reminds any ratepayers that anyone needing water from the Arnott's Road bore that permits for access to this supply can be obtained by contacting Andy Van on 5382 9708.

David Eltringham

Petition for Improved Roads

This petition which was prepared during the 2006 bushfires has been located thanks to those people that made contact since the last article.

A submission is being prepared for presentation to both the Northern Grampians Shire Council and the Horsham Rural City Council requesting improvements to the Glenorchy Road (extension of Roses Gap Road to the Western Highway) and the Bolte Highway from Mt Zero to Halls Gap.

The Councils' responses will be presented in a future newsletter.

Garry Newman 5383 6368

Wartook Christian Home Meeting

Our group meets every Friday evenings from 7pm and everyone is welcome for friendly supportive activities - venues vary.

Please ring Garry on 5383 6368 or Peter on 5383 6334 for more information.

Garry Newman

GRAMPIANS TEXTURE WORKSHOP

**An exciting concept in contemporary textile forums
Saturday February 21 - Thursday February 26, 2009**

Two (weekend) or four day Monday-Thursday workshops being offered in Halls Gap. Daily from 9.30am-4pm with lunch provided. Early bird bookings by 1.12.08!

Grampians Texture will give artists the opportunity to develop their artistic practices in one of Australia's most beautiful settings, under inspiring tuition from textile tutors from across Australia, West Timor and New Zealand.

Two or four day textile workshops cover quilting making, felting, embroidery, silk painting, stitching, jewellery, shadow puppets, leather shoe, dyeing, printing, fabric manipulation, knitting, shibori, sculptured dolls, journaling for artists, bag making and much more.

Other activities include exhibitions and traders market - India Flint, Jude Skeers, Wendy Lugg, Colleen Weste, Ruth Hadlow, Jane Siddall, Keith Lo Bue, Yvonne Twining, Rose Kingsmill, Mary French, Liz Evans, Susan Matthews, Jan Irvine-Nealie and Ilka White.

Bookings, workshop details, enrolment form and further information from Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre on 5356 4616, grampianstexture@gmail.com or www.visithallsgap.com.au/grampianstexture

Aussie Flower People

Orders are now being taken for 2009 deliveries of saltbush and tree lucerne. We will only propagate to orders, so please phone during the evenings on 5383 6201 to ensure your supply.

Sue & Bruce Winfield

Soaring into Cyber Space



At a recent meeting of the Community Building Initiative Steering Committee it was decided to establish internet websites for our communities.

I have received advice that the domain names **laharum.vic.au** and **wartook.vic.au** have been granted and we can now start to build web pages for the localities. Having websites provides exciting possibilities for our community in the fundamental areas of information and communication.

The presence of a site based on our locality names gives easy internet access to World Wide Web options and remote contact for people to news and events in Laharum and Wartook. The names are only available to groups that can justify a community base that satisfies participation criteria.

The following list indicates facilities that the sites might provide:

- High prominence in search engine results for Laharum and Wartook
- Comprehensive reference information on the locality
- News and events
- Community groups and club pages
- Feedback opportunities for residents and visitors
- Tourist Information
- Business and enterprise links
- Sports results
- Community forum pages
- Web mail for personal communication eg joe.blow@laharum.vic.au
- Ready reference for community services
- Emergency information and links to agency sites
- Survey and opinion opportunities
- Community Newsletter on line
- Connection for those that have left the area or are travelling
- Gallery of local images. etc

But most of all it enhances our sense of connection, understanding and appreciation of our community.

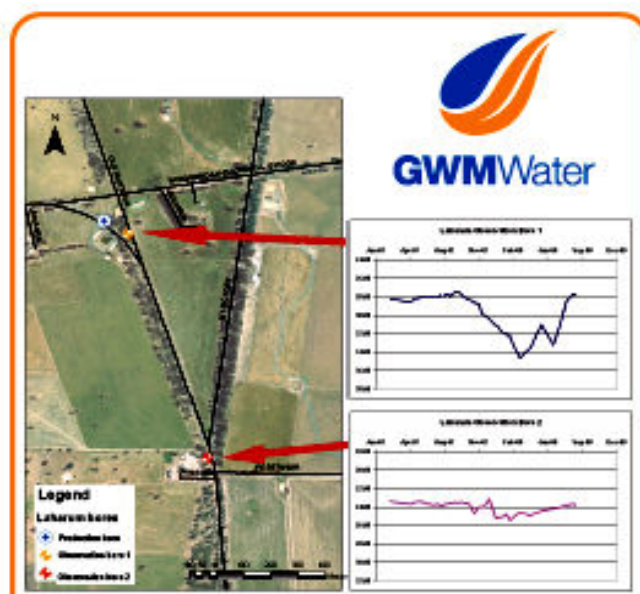
To see more of the possibilities on-line go to <http://www.aucd.org.au/resources/communitywebsites> and open some of the community websites.

The cost of maintaining registration of the sites is currently \$65/pa. This expense could be covered by fundraising, charging for email addresses, advertising fees etc.

The value of the facility will be determined by its currency and relevance which will depend on local involvement and support. It must be kept vital and appealing to the community if it is to achieve its potential. In keeping with the motivation for establishing the sites I am seeking advice on what you would like to have included on the site. The great thing about the technology is its editable and adaptive qualities. If you have suggestions please advise me for I am about to start the design of the sites with a program provided by

the domain name provider. During this process we will use the facility to help develop a policy for content, access and use.

David Thompson 5383 6247 or
dinkumfare@gmail.org.au



GWMWater has been extracting groundwater from the Laharum bore field at the reduced rate of 0.8ML per day since early July 2008.

The above graphs indicate that water levels have recovered fully to the levels observed at this time last year. This shows that the aquifer is being effectively recharged, even though there has been little surface runoff.

The irregular levels occurring at Observation Bore 1 in July 2008 have been investigated by **GWMWater**. It was found that construction faults were preventing the bore from recovering at expected rates, resulting in inaccurate water level readings at the bore on occasions.

It is planned to install a new observation bore at the same site in October 2008. This will ensure that we can continue to provide accurate information about water levels in the Laharum area.

GWMWater has eight observation bores in the vicinity, with only Observation Bore 1 demonstrating the irregular levels shown in the graph. For example, Observation Bore 2 has shown a modest decline then a steady recovery as the pumping rate was reduced during 2008. Other bores are showing trends similar to this bore.

GWMWater will continue to provide regular updates on bore levels in the Laharum area.

If you require more information, please contact our Sustainable Resources Division on 1300.659 961.

*Laharum Hall subscriptions \$10 per adult are due now!
Send to Judy Berendsen, PO Box 621, Horsham. 3402*

Solar Power – Grid-connected, stand alone, and hot water

The solar program is still operating. Because so many people have expressed interest in solar electricity and solar hot water not everyone has been inspected yet. If you have replied you are on the list! If you are interested and haven't replied you should do so soon. Other communities are setting up programs so all the providers are overwhelmed. We started first so if you want to be involved please contact me on 5383 8207.

We applied for rebates months ago and haven't heard yet so the Federal Government response has slowed right down. No money up front! Inspection and quote, then applications for funding – so it takes time.

Gil Hopkins

Laharum Netball Club



The Laharum Netball Club players had a good season with A & B Grades finishing up sixth on the ladder. C Grade and U15s reached the elimination finals and congratulations go to the U13s for winning their premiership. This is the third time a Laharum netball team has won since the association began in 1965!

Results of the club's vote count are as follows:

A Grade Best & Fairest - Jess Lovel;

Runners up - Kate Janetzki

B Grade Best & Fairest - Michele Mibus; Runners up – Shannon Winfield

C Grade Best & Fairest – Karen Griffiths

It was great to be able to play on the new netball courts and we thank the coaches for their dedicated work and commitment.

Nadine Miller

The opinions expressed in the articles appearing in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor. For further information or discussion please contact the author of the article.

Laharum Football Club



Congratulations to the Laharum Seniors and U17 finishing as Runners-up in their premiership – a good effort! The club's vote counts are as follows:
Best & Fairest: Seniors – Phil Butsch;

Reserves – Aaron Cramer; U17 – Pat Purcell; U14 – Daniel Griffiths.

Congratulations again go to Pat Purcell (U17) and Daniel Griffiths (U14) for Best & Fairest in the Horsham District & Football League – well done!

The Seniors Football & Netball Trophy Presentation night will be held on **Friday September 26**, 6.30pm including a two course meal and band at the Horsham Town Hall. Please book your tickets with Liv Miller on 0438.377453.

Keith Haeusler Chairman – Laharum Football/Netball Club



Laharum Under 17s Preliminary Final

WARTOOK VALLEY 'ELECTRICAL'

Terry Williams 'A' Class 'Sparks'
and Satellite Broadband installs
via Skybridge

"No job too small" ☎ 0416.203401

Community Building Initiative Update

At the last CBI steering committee meeting held on August 26, the following actions were discussed:

- Seek information from HRCC on the status of the Council's Rural Review of zoning and emphasise the need for community input into this
- Approach GWMWater for an update on progress with the pipeline and seek a community meeting on this
- Register the domain names www.wartook.vic.au and www.laharum.vic.au. David Thompson has arranged for this to happen – keep your eye out for more information
- Discussed the possible redevelopment of the School and implications for the Laharum Community Links Project. The Steering Committee discussed the importance of community input into this discussion, and the need for groups such as the Community Links project team, the School, Kinder, Hall Committee and Laharum Sports to work together to facilitate this discussion. As mentioned in Debbie's update we are still waiting to hear whether the School is included in the Rural Replacement Program before commencing these discussions.
- Possibility of a singing group starting in the area – see Debbie's update for more information

For any further information, please contact myself melissa.morris@hrcc.vic.gov.au or 0428.505 605 or

CBI Steering Committee members Gil Hopkins, David Thompson, Michael Bond, Debbie MacInnes or Steve Price.

Melissa Morris, CBI Facilitator

Laharum/Wartook Community Links News

The Hall redevelopment has been put on hold awaiting the Education Department's anticipated announcement that the Laharum Primary School will be receiving a brand new school. This would create the opportunity for the school to rebuild on the same site or move closer to other community facilities at Cameron Oval. Also we must consider how this will affect the planned Hall refurbishment project, and any Kinder proposals.

Any decisions regarding this will result from consultation with the community as a whole including School Council, the community and sporting groups. We are planning to hold some community consultation days to ensure that everyone obtains the correct information and has the opportunity to have their questions answered directly from the relevant departments. We can then discuss all the options available to us. Everyone will have the chance to put forward their opinion for this very exciting time for Laharum that will affect the future of our community. Dates and times for these sessions will be advised. While this means that the Hall refurbishment could be put on hold and ensuring there is adequate time for discussion in the community, we are keen to ensure that this discussion happens within a reasonable timeframe so a decision can be made one way or another in relation to the Hall.

This term we have a very interesting program lined up with some adult learning opportunities including computer courses at the school, a Basic First Aid session and scrapbooking craft sessions. Please ring or email to register for these classes. Other activities include a fun tennis tournament, a movie, a production by the Ararat Theatre Group and a 'Vocal nosh' at The Wander Inn which sounds like a lot of fun.

Deb MacInnes

Laharum Community Links facilitator AH 5383 8203 BH 0438.377453 Email: debbie.macinnes@hrcc.vic.gov.au

LAHARUM / WARTOOK ACTIVITIES PROGRAM TERM 4, 2008 - OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

Date and Time	Venue	Activity
Tuesday 11 th , 18 th , 25 th November 7.30-9.30pm	Laharum Primary School	Getting to know your computer. Tutor: Helen Mills Beginners course on how to use a computer Includes introduction to word processing and spreadsheets Subsidised Cost: \$30. Please ring or email to register
Friday 17 th October 5pm	Griffiths Complex	Fun Tennis Tournament. Draw for partners. All ages. All standards BBQ to follow at minimal cost. Please bring a salad
Sunday 19 th October 10am-12pm	Laharum Hall	First Aid Course for all the family - Tutor from St John Ambulance Australia. Learn the Basic First Aid skills that everyone needs to know Topics include: CPR, bleeds & burns, heart attacks, asthma and allergies. Cost: \$10 each or \$20 family Followed by BBQ lunch. Please ring or email to register
Saturday 8 th November	Laharum Hall	Ararat Theatre Group Production 'Caravans' - Back by popular demand. A great night out for everyone. Come and enjoy a meal and be entertained. Drought funding attained for this so costs will be subsidised
Friday 14 th November 6pm	Laharum Hall	Movie Night - family movie to be decided. Movie screens at 7pm Meal provided at minimal cost. Proceeds to Laharum Preschool Free movie and popcorn
Friday 28 th November & 5 th December 1.30pm	Laharum Hall	Scrapbooking/Card making. Tutor: Libby Peucker Making gift cards and Christmas cards. All materials supplied Cost: \$5 per session. Please ring or email to register
Friday 12 th December 6.30pm	The Wander Inn	'Vocal Nosh' at The Wander Inn. Come and enjoy a meal and a community sing-along. Fun for all the family. Singing ability not necessary. No solos. Singing session lead by Fay White Bookings for meal to The Wander Inn on 5383 6377. Cost for meal only. BYO alcohol