

June 2011

Edition 154

Wimmera Catchment Management Authority has granted \$1,320 and Horsham Rural City Council will grant \$1,000 for the Newsletter. These funds make it possible for this Newsletter to continue for another year and I am very grateful.

*Liz Hopkins*

### Veggie Swap

Come along and share your produce! Bring along any vegies, fruit, herbs, seedlings, seeds, jams, pickles, eggs, plants - anything you can think of!



*Simply bring something to swap*

This is a non commercial event - no money changes hands!

Where: Shields big green shed -  
1982 Northern Grampians Road, Laharum

When: **Sunday June 5**, 10am-11am  
and 1st Sunday of every month thereafter

Enquiries contact Jo Shields on 5383 6302 or 0419.879447  
or Jo Gardner on 5383 6205

Anything left over will be donated to Laharum Primary School,  
Laharum Kinder or the Salvos



Starry starry night exhibition at Wartook Artist Studio  
- part of Art Is.. Under Our Sky' Festival in April

### Mobile Library



Mobile Library will be in Laharum on **Wednesday June 8 & 22 June**. On June 8 at 8.45am Andy Wright, professional storyteller will visit Laharum School to tell some of his very animated stories. This is a must-see for all ages. Everyone is welcome to come. See you all there.  
**Bryan Rohde**

### Brimpaen Craft Group



**Tuesday June 7** - trip to Little Desert Quilts near Kaniva. Meet at back of Plaza, 9.30am - BYO lunch.

**Tuesday July 5**, 10am-2.30pm - knitted rag bag, Brimpaen Hall. BYO 15mm needles and quantity of material strips - Catherine has pattern.

**Jill Sinclair**

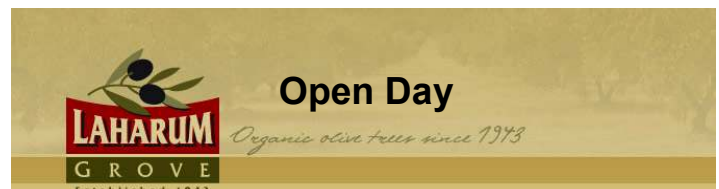
### Yoga at Laharum Hall



Yoga continues on Wednesday nights from 7.30pm in the heated Laharum Hall. It is very beneficial to all ages and we welcome anyone who has not done yoga before. It helps maintain a good level of fitness and keeps our bodies flexible and our 'bits moving'!

Come along and discover the benefits! Please contact me on 5383 6265 if you are interested in attending for the first time.

**Judy Berendsen**



### Open Day

We will be having an 'open day' at the Olive Grove on Sunday of the long weekend - **June 12** - from 11am-4pm. This is a chance to see the workings of the Grove and how the olives are harvested. We will then visit Toscana to see the pressing process.

In addition, we will be open over the long weekend for tastings and sales - Saturday - Monday 11am-4pm.

If there are groups interested in a 'pick and press', please contact Deirdre on 0429.136319.

### BATTERY COLLECTION

Please drop off any dead lead-acid car and tractor batteries to Pam & Des Geue's place, 1922 Northern Grampians Road on pallets just inside their gate. All proceeds go to Laharum Hall.



Heath MacInnes, President's Trophy; Damien Bunworth, B Grade Batting and Matt Farr, B Grade Bowling – Laharum Cricket Presentation Night

## 'Fit & Fab' Nights Starting Wednesday June 15 8 or 10 week program 6pm–7pm at Laharum Hall - before Yoga

Let's find a healthier way this winter to improve our health with support & encouragement from friends & neighbours in a relaxed atmosphere. Bring along your friends and family. Everyone over 16 years is welcome.

There will be a confidential weekly weigh-in with prizes. We welcome ideas and input from all those who wish to be involved. Please pay \$40 up front on the first night which will cover costs.

For any further information or to register your interest and input, call Wendy McInnes anytime on 5383 6220; [wartookg@bordnet.com.au](mailto:wartookg@bordnet.com.au) or Sue Winfield 5383 6201 AH; [winnelflora@bigpond.com](mailto:winnelflora@bigpond.com)

## Horsham South VFF

We are inviting all farmers and their partners to a barbecue dinner to precede our next branch meeting at Laharum Football Clubrooms on **Wednesday June 15**, funded by a farming community grant, starting with drinks at 6.30pm provided by Laharum Bulk Handling and WFIA.

There will be a speaker on Bio-security from DPI and Grains Group President Andrew Weidemann will also address the meeting. Everyone is welcome, not just members, and anyone with farming related issues is encouraged to bring them forward for VFF attention. Replies would be appreciated to assist with catering to our Secretary Jane Edwards or to Neville McIntyre on 5384 6217.

Your branch does not meet very often, but we are still active on issues as they arise, and you can thank the sub-committee on Council Rates for receiving a 10% farm discount (differential) on rates. We also negotiated a more equitable Water Rate to suit this southern area of the pipeline. These are just some of the issues we have represented you on, so please come along and join us for a meal and stay for the meeting to have your say, if you wish.

For those who don't know, there are flood reconstruction grants available administered through RFC - there will be application forms available on the night.

**Robert Hale**, President

## Laharum Landcare Group



Kate Morrison, Resources Investigation Officer from GWM Water attended our last Laharum Landcare meeting. She spoke about the Mt Zero bore fields and the Assessment Report dated 28.3.2011 prepared by consulting firm URS. This report recommended extended pumping tests to determine the limits of supply from the bore.

Also at this meeting Laharum Landcare Group resolved to support a project for the development of a Gasifier Experimentation Kit to be adapted for use on agricultural equipment with a view to reducing the use of diesel fuel. The gasifier will burn biomass readily available in the area. More information on this technology is available on the internet at [www.gekgasifier.com/](http://www.gekgasifier.com/) or from Bill Gardner, project director.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday June 16** commencing at 7.30pm at Laharum Hall.  
**Rob Lucas**

## Horsham South Garden Club



**Thursday June 23**, 9.30am morning tea at CWA Hall - landscaping and water systems by Aquatrail. Bloom, brag and stall.

**Thursday July 28** – visit to Big Spring Mount at Laharum. Leave car park in Horsham at 10.30am – entrance \$6. Cuppa provided – BYO lunch. Visit Aussie Flower People at 2pm.

**Lola Ervin**

## Brimpaen Ladies Social Club



**Tuesday June 28**, 2pm – trivia and jokes with Carmen at Brimpaen Hall.

**Tuesday July 26**, 12 noon – Christmas in July with Carmen and Lorraine at Brimpaen Hall.

**Bonnie Gelman**

## Wartook Artist Studio

We are open Thursday to Sunday 10am -5pm or by appointment ring 5383 6243 or 5383 6246 AH and also open daily during the July school holidays.

**Gill Venn**



John & Jane Griffiths thanked & farewelled by Peter Levey at Laharum Cricket Club breakup at The Wander Inn

## Laharum Rural CFA



Any member with a heavy licence can take the trucks out for a run – please check your roster on Page 11. It would be ideal if the trucks are driven 30km a week. If there is a house fire or vehicle accident, trucks with flat batteries are no good and it could be your house on fire!

There will be a Minimum Skills Fire Fighter Course to be held over three Sundays – **June 5, 12 & 19** at Wimmera Field Training ground from 9am–4pm. Lunch will be provided on each day.

If you're interested in this course, please contact Andrew Bos on 5383 6208 AH.

**Mark Francisco**, Captain

## Free Health Check and survey

**Wednesday July 20**

9.30am-11.30am – Laharum Hall

Laharum Hall Committee is trying to establish regular health professional visits to our Hall.

Please come along and have a Health Check by a Community Health Nurse on July 20.

The nurse will also be conducting an important survey to find what our needs are in this community. If you can't attend, please indicate what health professional visits you would like to Gil on 5383 8207 or email.



## Local Vocals 🎵 🎵

Laharum Hall

**Leader – Merryn Eagle**

**THURSDAY JULY 21, 7.30PM**

Minimal charge

**Come along and join in some singing  
in a relaxed, warm & friendly atmosphere –  
singing ability not necessary**

## Wonwondah Landcare



Members were kept entertained at our last meeting with Barry Robinson explaining the BEST solution to soil additives and his trip to Canada researching the product.

Some members have shown interest and will be using it in this cropping season.

The snails are definitely on the march and have been sighted in many new areas, which is disappointing for the effort we have put in trying to stop their transition south.

Reports from a landholder that had rabbit ripping has shown a good result with a couple of follow up visits to ensure the warrens are destroyed. Information on new sites should be passed on to me for inclusion to be dealt with next year.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday July 26**, Guest's dairy at 7.30pm.

**Chris Guest**

## Laharum Hall Committee



The Monte Carlo night has been postponed until a later date due to a lack of community bookings.

A family dance with Peter & Denise

McGennisen is planned for **Saturday October 15**.

Children's acts will be welcome. Come and enjoy a great night of music.

Ararat Players return with a Musical Melodrama on **Saturday November 19** at Laharum Hall - please put both dates in your calendar!

We have recently had carpet installed in our new extension. This now completes our CBI project.

Thank you to all who attended the working bee to clean up at the rear of the hall.

**Judy Berendsen**

## Laharum Parent Club



Laharum Parent Club held their traditional Easter Market stall at Wartook Pottery and raised \$650.20 - a credit to the efforts of

Wendy McInnes and Jenny Carter and all helpers and contributors to the stall. Our next major activity is the Over 60's Luncheon which is fast approaching and will be held on **Friday June 3**. Deirdre will be cooking and preparing with the children in the week prior to the event. Parent Club will be holding a stall of fresh produce on the day such as eggs, tomato relish, homemade slices, herbs and flowers.

A School Cookbook is currently in progress and with our many vast and diversely talented cooks - from generational home cooking, to master chef followers, to qualified chefs and kitchen garden magicians - the book will be a great addition to the cookbook library.

A Pet Show has been held for the children by Parent Club and children were able to bring along their small pets to school. Many varied pets arrived and a fun morning was enjoyed by all.

As an extension to Parent Club, the Gardening Club has been quiet recently. With a tight school agenda, we are looking for community involvement to support the garden. Expertise in propagation or simple sewing of seed demonstrations would be fantastic. We have three new beds and are looking to get a winter crop of vegetables in to harvest for our Long Lunch in spring - garlic is one that's planned and it will also be offered for sale to the community. The usual beans, peas, carrots, onions etc will go in soon. If you would like to know more about this connection, please contact the school on 5383 6202 or me on 0447.336088.

**Jenny Gaulke**

## The Wander Inn



Our trading hours are Tuesday & Wednesday from 10am-5pm and Thursday to Sunday from 10am-8.30pm for meals – closed Mondays.

Fresh fish comes in on Fridays to 'eat in' or take-way; Sunday roasts are available during the cold weather and 'high tea' will be available in July – watch out for dates and more details! Bookings are essential please.

The new Provedore is now available at The Wander Inn with our own homemade goodies, essential oils, kitchen wares and much more.

**Jenny Wilson**



**GRAMPIANS BRUSHES**  
**10 – 15 Sept 2011**  
Halls Gap (Western Victoria)

**Don't miss this great opportunity to work with wonderful and inspiring tutors!**

Thirteen fantastic tutors are offering range of 2, 4 and 6 day workshops covering oils, watercolours, coloured pencils, drawing, lino cut, print making, life drawing, charcoal, landscape, still life, contemporary and traditional.

**Tutors:**  
**Tim Jones, Jennifer Barnett, Robert Knight, Rodger Scott, Deborah Brearley, Ev Hales, Ross Paterson, Vida Pearson, Margaret Holloway, Paul McDonald Smith, Janet Matthews, Jenni Mitchell, Clive Sinclair,**

Halls Gap has a large range of accommodation to choose from. Book the style and level of accommodation you desire. You have the option to cater for yourself or join other students and tutors at the many evening activities and meals.

Traders selling specialist art supplies will be at Halls Gap Centennial Hall, open to the attendees and general public selling from 9 am - 5 pm daily.

[www.grampiansbrushes.com.au](http://www.grampiansbrushes.com.au)  
or call 0428 825 971



Laharum community hosted their 6<sup>th</sup> annual Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday May 26 which was another very successful day with about 50 in attendance. Everyone enjoyed chatting with friends during a scrumptious lunch of soup, savouries and slices.

Thank you to Libby Peucker who gave a brief informative and sensitive talk on the 'Look good, feel better' program which was formed to help women face cancer with confidence.

Following this we drew the winners of our fabulous donated gifts which were valued at over \$700. The successful winner then chose their own prize. Again our 'bring and buy' stall was stocked with homemade produce, vegetables, crafts, flowers, plants and much more.

We raised a wonderful \$1,700 on the day and the total amount raised over the last six years was \$6,331 – what a fantastic effort!

Thank you to so many people who made this event so successful – setting up the Hall and cleaning up afterwards; donations and preparation of food; serving the lunch; washing up throughout the day; donation of prizes; collection of money & serving on the stall, and to everyone who came along to help in supporting research into cancer.

**Liz Hopkins**

## Telstra Country Wide Update



It was a great pleasure to have the opportunity to come to Laharum on April 12 and spent time with the

local community discussing the need for improved mobile coverage.

As part of the discussion, I took the opportunity to provide the assembled audience with an overview of how mobile coverage is delivered and the way in which Telstra approaches the delivery of new mobile infrastructure. At the same time the community took the opportunity to provide me with details of the commercial activity that takes place in the area, the tourist traffic that travels through the area and the concerns they had in relation to safety and connectivity to the internet.

From the information gathered and that which has been provided subsequent to the meeting, I now have a clear picture of the importance of improved mobile coverage for the area. At this stage I have the Northern Grampians "highway" in need of improvements.

The process for providing new coverage is a long one and involves the allocation of capital from within the business and is based on commercial viability. It was therefore very important to gather all of the community's information regarding the activity that takes place in the area.

Unfortunately I can't provide the community with a timeline as to when improvements may be delivered, but importantly the need is known and in the longer term will be addressed.

**Bill Mundy**, Area General Manager South West Victoria  
Phone 5338 6041; 0429 966 848; Fax 5336 5500  
email: [bill.mundy@team.telstra.com](mailto:bill.mundy@team.telstra.com)

*Editor's note – also see 'Mobile Phone Coverage' article page 6*

**Tony and Karina Moore**  
on behalf of  
**Casterton & District Trail  
Riders Club Inc.**  
are introducing



## • The Gumboot Run •

The 'Gumboot Run' is a charity horse ride/harness drive. Participants are giving time and money to help Angel Flight Australia. We hope to inform as many people as we can of this worthwhile charity and get some awareness out there of what it is they do, while raising money to help their cause.

We will be touring around the Northern Grampians Region from Laharum to Brimpaen to Telangatuk East to Balmoral from **October 1-9** this year, enjoying all that this area has to offer - great local hospitality and excellent locations with views to die for!

We will have a welcoming meal and a final night dinner along with an auction, raffle and a bit of fun! The proceeds of the ride will support Angel Flight and local communities.

Anyone can join in the ride at any time. For more details please contact Karina and Tony Moore on 0407.271222 or 5527 1779 after 6pm; email: [devonhills1@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:devonhills1@aussiebb.com.au) or PO Box 304, Heywood 3304.



## Laharum Football & Netball Clubs



So far in the season Laharum Football Club is travelling well with good numbers to choose from in all grades. The seniors have been pushing the top sides in the last few weeks. If we can get more numbers at training, finals are not out of the equation for both sides.

The two junior teams have been performing very well, winning many games. Under 17's are sitting 3<sup>rd</sup> on the ladder and Under 14's are sitting 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We had the interleague matches and had many picked in junior and senior squads. Seniors had Ben Mahon picked as well as Under 17's Daniel Griffiths, Fred Harrison, Jack Shields and Sam Winfield. The Under 14's picked Nathan Griffiths, Angus Martin, Daniel Ervin, Jack French, Pat Easson, Ambrose Launder and Joe Harrison.

Western Vic. Hub in conjunction with AFL Victoria is holding a U/12 Junior Football Carnival on **Sunday June 5** at Coughlin Park and City Oval Horsham. Any queries please ring Pat Heron on 5384 4204.

Auskick has finished again for another year. There have been up to 40 kids attending over the past weeks. A very big thank you to everyone who helped organise it.

Also thank you to everyone who have helped work on fixing or upgrading the goal posts, light towers and the netball/tennis shelter that is going up very soon.

We have a couple of social events that are coming up in the next couple of months for the football and netball clubs: **Saturday June 4** - Cowboys and Indians; **Saturday June 18** - Footballers night; **Saturday June 25** - Miss Laharum Pageant; **Saturday July 9** - Goods & Services Auction and **Saturday July 23** - Talent Quest. Everyone is welcome to attend any of these events and also come along to watch the footy.

We had a break due to interleague in which we saw junior players representing our club. Congratulations to Baylee Miller representing 13 & Under, Nikki Ervin, Maddi & Ema Iredell representing 17 & Under, Emma Griffiths who is emergency for 13's & Ellie Sanders emergency for 15's. Wonderful opportunity for these girls to not only represent the Laharum Netball Club, but to play with other girls from the other clubs in the district league and form great friendships and show what great skill and talent they have. They had a busy weekend playing in Horsham on Saturday, then Mildura on the Sunday. All the best to you all and enjoy the experience!

A few weeks ago, Bianca Mibus and Rachel McGennissen were tested for their C Grade Umpires badge. Both were successful in obtaining their badges and Laharum Netball Club congratulates them both on this wonderful achievement.

On the junior side of netball, it is such an honour to be told from opposition clubs that our girls show great attitude. The girls should be proud of this as well as the coaches, who each week continue to get the girls playing as a team, playing in positions they may not have experienced before and developing their skills and having a smile on their face. They are coming up against some strong opposition sides, but continue to play to the end. Numbers at training have been overwhelming with each wanting to be on that court each week. Well done, you should all be proud of yourselves.

At the end of Round 6, our 17 & Under girls remain undefeated and sitting in equal top position, but 2nd on the ladder by percentage.

On the senior side of netball, all teams started off well but they too have come up against some strong tough opposition. Although not sitting in the top five, all are still able to be contenders as they continue to train hard each week - they will be a force for the opposition.

Many thanks to Rhonda McNeil for coordinating the netballers tea night. A great range of casseroles & desserts were eaten; everyone had fun with the Dutch Auction and then a bit of music from local talent Peter & Denise McGennissen.

We would love to see more support from the local community. We need to get behind our players and committee and give them the encouragement they deserve. Many thanks to the many volunteers we need to find each week. The committee thank you for your continued support.

**Roxanne Smith**, Director of Administration, Netball  
**Cameron Mibus**, Chairman, Football Clubs

## OLD ROSEMONT QUILTS

I am open for business Thursday and Fridays 10am-4pm if anyone wants fabric or supplies. Please ring on 5383 6229 or email: [oldrosemont@skymesh.com.au](mailto:oldrosemont@skymesh.com.au).

To find me, turn into McTavish's Road (opposite Laharum Hall), take the first right turn at Rosemont then continue along the road until you get to Old Rosemont which is the last house, approx 2.5km from Northern Grampians Road.

**Isabelle Martin**

## Wartook Christian Home Meeting



Our group meets every Friday evening from 7pm – venues vary. Any resident of Laharum, Wartook or Brimpaen is welcome to join our meetings. Good supportive fellowship is assured. Please ring Garry on 5383 6368 or Peter on 5383 6334 for more information.

**Garry Newman**

## LAHARUM COMMUNITY LINKS OFFICE - LAHARUM HALL

The following services are available at Laharum Hall - Computer use; Internet access; Emailing; Printing; Photocopying; Faxing; Laminating.



Please contact Deb MacInnes on 5383 8203  
Mobile 0428.838203 or Loretta Emerson 5383 6233 if you wish to use these services or equipment

## FOR HIRE

Trestles and chairs are available for hire at reasonable rates from Laharum Hall

Contact Judy on 5383 6265



**Flood Recovery** - We are continuing to work on flood recovery and rehabilitation work with total estimates of work/damage across the municipality in excess of \$3m. Some work is still to be completed in the Wartook/Laharum area. However, our good news is that the initial restrictions on Council doing its own work have been relaxed and it will now be possible for Council staff to undertake work where we can fit it in. The availability of contractors have been limited and restricted our capability of completing the program.

Council Flood Recovery works have been coordinated over the past three months by Superintendent Kevin Johnson who unfortunately is retiring, effective from June 3. We wish Kevin well in his retirement. The flood works coordination role in future will be undertaken by a temporary staff member, Peter Cowie. Any questions on flood restoration work may be referred to him at Technical Services in the first instance.

**Community Assets Consultations** - In addition to recent Flood Recovery meetings, Council is currently undertaking a program of 16 Consultation meetings to get feedback from local communities on their expectations of how Council should manage their assets being roads and halls.

I thank those who have attended these meetings arranged by Melissa Morris for the input received and I encourage further participation where possible in following meetings. A full list of meeting dates and venues can be obtained from Melissa at Council office.

The outcome of information received will enable Council in the future to ensure that our asset maintenance programs are appropriate to expectation within budget limits. This is particularly relevant to roads where a review of our 'roads hierarchy' and corresponding level of service on the road category is intended to ensure our limited maintenance funds are spent on the most needed roads.

Council Budget for 2011/2012 is on public exhibition and in general maintains similar funding for relevant programs in our rural areas. One program that is provided is for rural hall flagpoles and national flag provision. Brimpaen have availed themselves of this program in the past and we would be happy to arrange for similar work at other public halls.

**David Eltringham**, General Manager Technical Services

## Welcome Pack for new residents

As part of the Community Action Plan, we are developing a Welcome Pack for new residents.

We would like to include a comprehensive list of businesses and community groups in this area. If you are in business or if you are involved in a community group and would like to connect with new residents, please forward your contact information such as - name of business, address, phone no, email address and a short description of your business to Liz Hopkins on 5383 8207 or [giliz@activ8.net.au](mailto:giliz@activ8.net.au).

**Martin Bride**

## WCMA Group Support Update



Wimmera Catchment Management Authority is pleased to announce the appointment of David Brennan as the organisation's new

Chief Executive Officer. David is well known in our region and the NRM industry. He brings strong skills and experience developed through a long career with DPI and DSE. David is currently Acting Director of Grains, Farm Services Victoria and has recently been Program Manager of Productivity & Sustainability with DPI. He will join Wimmera CMA on June 13. Interim CEO Don Forsyth will stay on until the end of June to help smooth the transition and the CMA would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Don for his contribution as Caretaker CEO in this challenging and exciting time for the Wimmera.

Wimmera CMA expects the next round of Victorian Landcare Grants funding to be available for release to groups in early July 2011. To avoid delays in the release of this funding, all groups and landholders are encouraged to contact Wimmera CMA by June to map proposed works and plan activities as part of the simple application process. Grants of up to \$20,000 per group will be available. There is no restriction on where projects can be located. Preference will however, be given to projects that deliver on-ground works linking local and regional NRM priorities, and to capacity-building activities for stewardship and on-farm change. Maintenance grants of up to \$500 per group will also be available.

For information and advice on 2011-12 Landcare Grants or assistance with project and group planning, contact me on 5382 1544.

Groups are reminded that works funded through 2010-11 grants should be completed by the end of June.

**Joel Boyd**

## Mobile Phone Coverage



Community members wishing to support the case for better mobile phone/wireless internet coverage should visit [www.laharum.vic.au](http://www.laharum.vic.au) or [www.wartook.vic.au](http://www.wartook.vic.au) and respond to the online surveys. I have received a number of responses following my email notice to people whose addresses I have, but only a small percentage of the community in total.

The survey is a convenient way to obtain community information and provides an analysis tool that tabulates the responses.

By participating in the survey you will contribute to building the case for Telstra to improve service to our area. Thank you.

**David Thompson**

**This newsletter is printed on  
100% recycled paper - helping towards  
reducing Australian landfill**

*This newsletter can be viewed at  
[www.laharum.vic.au](http://www.laharum.vic.au) and [www.wartook.vic.au](http://www.wartook.vic.au)*



**Mt Zero Trial** - GWMWater is preparing to conduct a pumping trial to gain a better understanding of the capacity of the Mt Zero Bore Field near Laharum.

The bore field is no longer supplying water to Horsham and groundwater levels remain stable - see graph below. All groundwater extracted during the trial will be directed to an old storage at the Mt Zero Water Treatment Plant and eventually discharge to Potters Creek.

GWMWater has been working closely with Wimmera CMA and the EPA to ascertain any requirements in relation to the creek discharge and will closely monitor water quality, including salinity and oxygen levels in the groundwater and creek throughout the trial. The trial will commence upon receipt of GWMWater's new groundwater extraction licence for the bore field from Department of Sustainability & Environment, which is expected in the near future.

GWMWater has met with locals to advise them of the trial and will keep the community informed as the results from the trial become available.

If you would like more information, please contact our Sustainability Department on 1300.659 961.



**Colleen Eagle**, Communications Officer

## CYDELIA NATURE RESERVE

### Contract Position Available

Cydelia is a 160ha Nature Reserve adjacent to the Grampians National Park in the Wartook Valley. The Management Committee is currently looking for someone who is interested and experienced in conservation work in the natural environment and would be interested in obtaining approximately 12 days work a year to help in the control of pest plants and animals on the reserve.

Their primary role will be to work to eliminate rabbits on the property through monitoring and fumigating of rabbit warrens. Where time permits they may also be involved in weed control or other activities negotiated with the Management Committee.

This is a contract position and applicants need an ABN, a driver's licence, a permit to use farm chemicals and appropriate insurance.

If interested please contact me on 5383 6263.

**John Fisher**



## CFA Firestar Rose Official Rose of CFA

Firestar Rose was created as a consequence of the events of Black Saturday 2009. The rose honours the lives lost, the many dedicated CFA members who were involved and celebrates the regeneration of new life - bred in remembrance

Type: Floribunda  
Colour: Orange, becoming raspberry-pink  
Scent: Light  
Flower: Double, about 30 petals in clusters



*Won national & international recognition*

When purchasing online at [www.firestarrose.com.au](http://www.firestarrose.com.au) your local CFA brigade receives about \$11 per rose

Order any time - bare rooted roses

## Riding for the Disabled



Term 2 is now well and truly underway, and rallies at Horsham RDA have settled into a steady routine. If ever there are lots of things happening to keep us all on our toes! Not only is there work towards rebuilding after the flood, but there are some developments with really vital resources; volunteers and horses.

Once a month we have the good fortune to have some extra help from the students doing VET Equine Studies at University of Ballarat. With the aid of these girls, we can easily cope with all the riders that come to our Wednesday rally on every second Wednesday, that is. By contrast, the alternate mid-week rally sees our regular, wonderful volunteers working very hard. There has been an increase in rider numbers on two Fridays per month, consequently Friday volunteers also have to work hard on these days. So we would really love to see some more volunteers prepared to help out once a fortnight on Wednesdays or Fridays.

On the equine front, we will soon be able to try out a couple of prospective new horses for our Centre. We have been offered a former stock horse from the Balmoral area and there is a horse from the northern suburbs of Melbourne which has lots of potential. Both show promise as weight-bearing mounts and, if they cope with the demands of our program, their inclusion in our team will allow a couple of our older horses to have lighter work or even retire.

Repairs to our buildings continue, with plans settled for the new kitchen/meeting room and important grant money now available. Our arena kick-board has been repainted and all of our paddocks have been re-fenced. The other equestrian groups using the Riverside ground have also begun planning for the new Riverside Hall; a toilet/shower facility and outside arena repairs.

For any more information about our rallies or RDA in general, you can contact Tina Pallot on 5382 2346 or our President Jan Hutton-Croser 0429.935382.

**Tina Pallot**

## Laharum Wartook Community Action Plan

The review of the Laharum Wartook Community Action Plan has now been completed. Some of the actions are carried over from the previous plan and may require new volunteers, but all of the new actions require community members to make them happen. It is my role to facilitate the implementation of the plan and so if you want to see these things happen, then call me if you wish to volunteer on 5382 9759 or 0409.209235 or email [martin.bride@hrcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:martin.bride@hrcc.vic.gov.au).

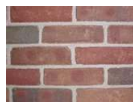
The priorities that have been identified are:

- Develop an overall plan for Cameron Oval and seek funding for initiatives identified in the plan
- Investigate business needs of the community and see what opportunity there is for this to be met locally including looking at the feasibility of establishing a community enterprise
- Update and publish Local Skills Inventory on web
- Establish the sale/trading of local goods
- Support Classics in the Grampians program
- Encourage continuing operation and development of the school and kindergarten
- Improve communication services
- Improve transport options for residents
- Laharum Hall Community Links Centre
  - Complete hall development
  - Increase use of hall facilities
  - Establish information bay at hall
  - Provide Community Links Coordinator - keep possibilities for a community enterprise under review to fund coordinator
  - Life-long learning- provide learning and training courses
  - Provide activities for children and youth
  - Provide a parenting program, playgroup, after school care and toy library
- Improve safety of intersection of Northern Grampians Road and Mt Zero/Dadswells Bridge Road
- Research and advocate for rate rebates to reward conservation and ensure that the Planning Scheme review contains environmental development guidelines
- Improve walking and cycling trails
- Encourage artistic and cottage industries
- Create a Welcome Pack for new residents
- Ensure a secure water supply for the Laharum-Wartook area
- Ensure that connections and activity created by the Community Building Initiative continues within the community
- Investigate possibility of local lawn bowls and croquet facilities

**Martin Bride**

### Johno's Bricklaying

Bricklaying, rendering, concreting,  
tiling, paving, small building jobs,  
bobcat - post holes, small tip truck



Phone Johno on 0419.116 711 or  
AH 5383 6285

## Laharum Kindergarten



We would like to welcome three new enrolments this term. The Heard twins have joined us in the 3 year old group – welcome to Prue and Lexi. It will take us the rest of the year to tell them apart! We welcome Isabelle Uebergang also in the 3 year old group, attending one day at this stage. Sadly we say goodbye to Thomas and Jessie McIvor.

Some of our topics of interest have been looking at season changes, snakes and reptiles, families, Easter and Mothers Day. To finish off Term 1, we enjoyed an Easter egg treasure hunt wearing our Easter bonnets that we made during the day. The children were very excited to find the Easter eggs around the playground and had a great time. We have been doing some Easter egg colouring in and playing with small chicks and eggs. We have also been looking at snakes as Sam bought in a giant snake skin. I have created a snake play area to follow up on this. We have also enjoyed activities of threading, blowing paint through straws, clay and hammering just to name a few. Outdoors it has been great to see the children working together in a group and building with blocks. They have been making some fantastic structures.

I am in the process with Tori and Katie to purchase new equipment from the Government's \$4,000 equipment allowance. I have compiled a list but as it is over the limit, we now have to remove some items! I will leave some left over for future ideas as they pop up.

Thanks heaps to Amanda McInnes, Babs Winfield and Rachael Adams for cleaning the kinder during the working bee. We will have another go in the next few weeks so your help will be greatly appreciated!

We enjoyed a recent father's night with a total of five dads. It was great to see them here and watch them spend some time at kinder with their child. It was also a great opportunity for the dads to get together and talk 'dad talk'! Thanks dads for coming.

Remember kinder parents, could you please bring in a photo of your family for us to have on the board. We would love to look at each other's families.

Casuarina Kinder invited us to their performance of the flying bookworm and it was a great opportunity to see some performers act out children's stories. Thanks to Georgie and Casuarina Kinder for the invitation.

We will be hosting grandparents and special friends on Friday June 3. Grandparents will then be joining the school lunch at Laharum Hall. We hope to see all our grandparents there.

**Jo Bone**, Director

### Aussie Flower People

1943 Northern Grampians Road  
Laharum

Due to change of circumstance, we are now open only by appointment. Phone 5383 6201 or 0427 836201 to arrange a suitable time.

Orders are now being taken for plants delivered in winter 2012, so please get your orders in early!



## WEATHER COOLS DOWN BUT HEAT IS ON FOR HOUSE FIRES



As the weather cools down, the risk for house fires increases significantly. Many Victorians use wood fires and gas and electrical heating appliances.

Recently, two houses in outer eastern Melbourne were totally destroyed by fire, with both incidents caused by heaters. These incidents are an example of how quickly a fire could take hold in the home if a heater was faulty, not properly maintained or was too close to flammable materials.

Usually we would expect to see an increase in heater fires during winter months but since February, we have seen some cool temperatures meaning the heaters are being switched on early. Some of these heating appliances wouldn't have been turned on since last winter, which is why it is so important to check that they are working properly, particularly older heaters.

If you are in any doubt about your heating appliance, throw it out or get it checked by a professional because taking that simple step can avoid a fire in the home which, as we saw recently, can cause significant amounts of damage and loss.

In 2010, CFA responded to 37 more electrical-related fires than the previous year, with a increase in all fires where the cause was from a heater. This included fires caused by dryers, central and portable heating, electric blankets and water heaters.

Heaters and fireplaces were the second most common cause of house fires during the winter months, responsible for 14.2% of all household fires during winter last year. During winter last year the MFB attended 78 residential property fires caused by a heating system.

It is also important to ensure that portable heaters in particular, are not left unsupervised. If you leave the room, or go to bed, make sure you turn off the heater.

CFA also can't stress enough the importance of having a working smoke alarm in your home. If a fire breaks out while you are asleep, a smoke alarm can save your life.

For more information on home fire safety visit [www.homefiresafety.com.au](http://www.homefiresafety.com.au)

### Area of Origin

The area within a property where the fire originated

Area of Origin	2010 Total fires	2010 %	2009 %	2008 %
Kitchen, cooking area	*725	34.36	28.4	29.0
Sleeping room for under 5 persons	159	7.54	10.0	11.0
Lounge area	*277	13.13	10.0	11.0
Ceiling & roof assembly concealed floor/ceiling space	*125	5.92	5.8	5.0
Laundry	66	3.13	4.0	4.0
Exterior balcony, open porch or verandah	39	1.85	2.5	3.9
Garage, carport, vehicle storage area	*162	7.68	2.9	3.0
Dining area, lunch room, Cafeteria	36	1.71	2.3	2.1
Chimney flue	*63	2.99	0.7	0.01

Brooke O'Connor, Brigade Admin Support Officer

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

### Daniel Berendsen Auto Electrical

ABN 77698617692

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### VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE

1800 240 667

Keep this number handy for information on:  
Total Fire Bans – Fire Restrictions -  
Bushfire Planning – Major Fires

### 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.

## North West Grampians Newsletter

### Community Calendar of Events 2011

<b>June</b>			
Friday	3	11.45am	Over 60's Special Persons luncheon – Laharum Hall
Saturday	4	evening	Cowboys & Indians – Laharum Football/Netball Clubs
Sunday	5	9am-4pm	Minimum Skills Course – Wimmera Field Training ground
"	5	10-11am	Vegie Swap – Shields big green shed
Tuesday	7	9.30am	Brimpaen Craft Group – Excursion
Wednesday	8	8.45am	Mobile Library with Andy Wright, Laharum PS
Sunday	12	9am-4pm	Minimum Skills Course – Wimmera Field Training ground
"	12	11am-4pm	Laharum Grove – Open Day
Wednesday	15	6-7pm	'Fit & Fab' Night first session – Laharum Hall
Wednesday	15	6.30pm	Farmers Night – Laharum Football Clubrooms
Thursday	16	7.30pm	Laharum Landcare – Laharum Hall
Saturday	18	evening	Footballers night
Sunday	19	9am-4pm	Minimum Skills Course – Wimmera Field Training ground
Wednesday	22	9.30am	Mobile Library –Laharum Primary School
Thursday	23	9.30am	Horsham South Garden Club – CWA Hall
Saturday	25	evening	Laharum Football/Netball Clubs – Miss Pageant
Tuesday	28	2pm	Brimpaen Ladies Social Club – Brimpaen Hall

<b>July</b>			
Tuesday	5	10am-2.30pm	Brimpaen Craft Group – Brimpaen Hall
Saturday	9	daytime	Goods and Services Auction
Wednesday	20	9.30-11.30am	Health Check – Laharum Hall
Thursday	21	7.30pm	Local Vocals – Laharum Hall
Saturday	23	evening	Laharum Football/Netball Clubs - Talent Quest
Tuesday	26	12noon	Brimpaen Ladies Social Club – Brimpaen Hall
Tuesday	26	7.30pm	Wonwondah Landcare Group – Guest's dairy
Thursday	28	10.30am	Horsham South Garden Club - excursion

<b>October</b>			
Saturday	15	evening	Family Dance with Peter & Denise McGennissen - Hall

<b>November</b>			
Saturday	19	evening	Musical Melodrama with Ararat Players – Laharum Hall

**Yoga** - Wednesdays from 7.30pm – Laharum Hall

**Wartook Christian Home Meeting** – Fridays from 7pm - venues vary

**'Fit & Fab'** – Wednesdays 6-7pm – Laharum Hall (8-10 week program)

**Grampians Brushes** – September 10-15 – Halls Gap

**Angel Flight 'The Gumboot Run'** – October 1 - 9

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#### **LAHARUM HALL**

Box 621, Horsham.3402  
June 1, 2011

Dear Householder

I am writing to you as a reminder that your Laharum Hall subscriptions are now due. During the past year numerous small items have been purchased to assist all Hall users.

We have recently had carpet installed in our extension with the achievement of a McPherson Smith grant. Our HRCC Community grant application to improve the outside toilets was declined. Community support to enable us to achieve all our improvements has been tremendous.

Subscriptions are \$10 per adult. These subs are very important for the upkeep of our community Hall.

Thank you all for your help.

Judith Berendsen – Secretary

#### **LAHARUM HALL SUBSCRIPTIONS - \$10 PER ADULT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

If making payment by direct deposit, please include your name. Banking details are: **Laharum Hall Building Fund**  
**BSB No. 063-514 Account No. 1007 6686**



## LAHARUM FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER

June - August 2011

The trucks need to be driven 30km a week

WEEK START	LAHARUM TANKER		TANKER A	
	DRIVER	CREW	DRIVER	CREW
05/06/11	Chris Vincent	Barry Berendsen	Mal Griffiths	Tim Martin
12/06/11	Ed Johnson	Bruce McInnes	Bill Gardner	Judy Gardner
19/06/11	Bruce Winfield	Colin Flack	Luke Dumesny	Jenny Dumesny
26/06/11	Leigh Mibus	Paul Young	Gary Staehr	Gil Hopkins
03/07/11	Brad Geue	Adam Shields	Graeme Wood	Damien Knight
10/07/11	Hugh Russell	Howard Black	Rob Launder	Andy Crawford
17/07/11	Alison White	Vikki Stevens	Robert Jess	John McIntyre
24/07/11	Alan Arnott	Norm Booth	Trevor Winfield	Ray Zippel
31/07/11	Will Pyke	Francoise van der Plank	Mark Francisco	Campbell Trewin
07/08/11	Jim Carter	Rob McInnes	Maurie Dumesny	Neil Seymour
14/08/11	Andrew Bos	Steve Suter	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn
21/08/11	Don Sudholz	Judy Johnson	Cam Ellifson	Alex Ellifson
28/08/11	John Fisher	Roger MacInnes	Mal Griffiths	Tim Martin

Anyone with a heavy rigid licence can take the trucks for a run – please mark your turn on your calendar. If a date on the roster does not suit for any reason, feel free to do a mutual swap with anyone else! If you notice a fault with the truck during the run, please notify Mark Francisco immediately on 5383 8218 and always complete the log book at the end of your run. Thanks!

### FOR FIRE WARNINGS AND UPDATES

- Tune into your emergency broadcasters: ABC and Commercial radio stations and SKY News TV
- Check CFA's website on [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)
- Call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 (TTY 1800 122 969)

### Wimmera Total Fire Ban District includes –

Hindmarsh Shire; Horsham Rural City Council; Northern Grampians Shire; West Wimmera Shire; Yarriambiack Shire (south of the netting fence).



'Bring and buy' stall at the Biggest Morning Tea, Laharum Hall – May 26



Catching up with friends at the Biggest Morning Tea



Setting up the telescope at the astronomy night at Laharum Hall in April



Daniel Chaplin, Cricketer of the Year and C Grade Most Wickets



Bill Mundy talking at the Mobile Phone Coverage meeting in April

## Laharum Primary School 2805



Welcome back everyone to Term 2.

Let's get the bad news out of the way first. For those not yet aware, the funding for

our new school is a State Government matter. To continue with our building process, we needed to be named in the State Budget - unfortunately we weren't. In fact, 'education' in general, fared very badly. Great news to hear that Horsham Special School received its funding, but no other school in the Wimmera received any new funding.

Where does that leave us now? At this time I cannot answer that, but I'm sure over the coming months School Council will certainly be following up this issue and will keep everyone informed. My best suggestion at the moment is for everyone to remain positive that our new school will happen, keep focussing on all the great things that are happening in our school and keep working on ways to promote Laharum so that we continue to build our enrolments.

Speaking of promoting the school, we recently had a film crew here filming a TV commercial for the area, which was recently aired. It was on our school photo day, so everyone looked their best for their second shoot of the day!

What a fantastic camp we had to Echuca. We were just so lucky with the beautiful weather and the activities were just so enjoyable (even the mossies were few and far between). A huge thank you to Stuart Combe for giving up his time and spending the week with 'all the girls'! It was a mighty commitment and we certainly appreciated it Stuart. Thank you also to everyone for your donations of food for the camp - it is a good system to reduce the overall costs and to have good food for the students to eat throughout the day. Thank you to the staff for all your work on the camp and for also giving up time with your families. We are continuing to work on a few final activities based around our camp. These will be on display at the Over 60's Luncheon on **Friday June 3**.

This term we have welcomed William Griffiths to Year 4. Will is certainly well known amongst the students and has settled in smoothly. We also welcome William's family to our school community - Karen, Alistair, Emma and Katie.

The Active After School program continues this term with cycling as our activity. We have achieved funding to continue the program in Terms 3 and 4 which is fantastic news. Thank you Sally and Murray McKenzie for conducting this wonderful program!

The week May 9-13 was a big week for Years 3 & 5 students who completed their NAPLAN assessments for both Literacy and Numeracy. The following week saw all students complete their On-demand Testing again for both Literacy and Numeracy. This testing was done on-line with each student using their own computer (hardly seemed like a test at all!). Well done to all our wonderful students! We have had some wonderful student achievements already this term:

To Cameron, Zane, Charlotte L, Hannah, Jared and Lauren for competing in the Horsham Schools' Cross Country - a great effort by everyone!

To the Year 5 & 6 students for competing in the Maths Olympics at Horsham College - a fun day was had by all!

To all students, kinder kids and parents- for Safely Walking To School on May 19. It was a lovely, safe walk! Next year we could go even further!

Congratulations to our elected Helping Hands Committee members:  
President - Cameron Sykes; Secretary - Josephine Bond; Assistant Secretary - Sophie Spillman; Treasurer - Charlotte Launder; Assistant Treasurer - Zane Sherratt. Best wishes to our new Student Leaders.

Finally, students have completed and sent their invitations to the Over 60's/Special Persons Luncheon to be held on **Friday June 3**. We again look forward to this wonderful community/family event.

**Robyn Jones**



Laharum PS on camp in Echuca from April 4-8

## Laharum Cricket Club



Presentation Night at The Wander Inn was a great success with the help of hosts Jenny & Tony supplying an array of tasty home-style meals and usual terrific service and ambiance.

An excellent crowd in attendance saw the club present trophies to the players as well as farewelling John & Jane Griffiths who have been so important in the development of junior cricket in the district over the past years. John has taken up an appointment at Moyne Shire and is based at Mortlake. Thank you to Griffo's - we will really miss you all.

This season's Bill Distin 'Cricketer of the Year' Award went to Daniel Chaplin of C Grade. Daniel took 32 wickets, made 83 runs and 5 catches. Next came Darcy Wills with 19 wickets, 191 runs and then Ben Peucker with 269 runs, 14 catches and 8 stumpings.

The prized Frank Clarke Memorial Trophy, donated by Sue Winfield and family for most senior grade wickets went to Matt Farr with 32 wickets, which included 2 five-wicket hauls.

**Peter Levey, President**



U/16 Cricket Trophy Winners - Brandon Campbell; Dan Griffiths; Ryan Arthur and Nathan Griffiths