

North West Grampians Newsletter

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April 2009

A grant of \$1,210 has been received from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority to help publicise natural resource management activities in the area. This is a wonderful contribution which will help me continue producing this newsletter.

Our other major sponsor is Horsham Rural City Council.

Sponsorship means this newsletter is free to all readers, and is also available on www.laharum.vic.au

Liz Hopkins



CFA champions! (see later article)

Laharum/Wartook Community Meeting

Regarding location of
Laharum Primary School
Wednesday 1 April, 7pm
Laharum Hall

The purpose of the meeting is to allow the school to provide an update on activities that have occurred since the initial community meeting in January and for representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to provide information in response to the questions/points that were raised at the January meeting.

A direction from the community on the location of Laharum Primary School will then be sought. The meeting will be chaired by Horsham Rural City Council.

For further information contact Melissa Morris, HRCC Community Facilitator on 0428.505 605; Debbie MacInnes, Laharum Community Links Facilitator on 0438.377 453 or Robyn Jones at Laharum Primary School on 5383 6202.

Mobile Library



The day visits to Laharum are: **April 1, 15 & 29 and May 13 & 27**. A reminder to everyone that we always visit Laharum during the school holidays.

Bryan Rohde



Brim Springs Heritage Day

'Celebration of Culture'

Sunday April 5, 10am

Horsham Historical Society,
Barengi Gadjin Land Council and Parks Victoria

Invite everyone to celebrate our rich
European and Aboriginal Culture

Location - Brim Springs Picnic Ground, Asses Ears Road

*Bring your friends & family
and listen to the many stories*

Call 13 19 63 or email prue.daley@parks.vic.gov.au

Feel free to bring along any memorabilia

Check out the websites
www.laharum.vic.au and
www.wartook.vic.au

Wartook Tea Party Exhibition

Organised by Wartook Artists Studio
Sat April 4 – Mon April 13, 10am–5pm daily
Admission free

Venue: Wartook Artists Studio, Wartook Pottery

An exhibition of textiles and ceramics by Wartook artists based on a 'tea party' theme



An eclectic mix of crochet, knitting, felt making, patchwork, embroidery, pottery and antiques

Join the artists at the official opening on Sunday April 5 at 4pm

Special afternoon tea available for sale at The Wander Inn

Contact Gill Venn on Ph/Fax 5383 6243 or AH 5383 6246 Email: gvenn@netconnect.com.au



Learning about Stephanie Alexander's kitchen/garden program

Photography by Kerry-Anne Chincarini

Brimpaen Fire Brigade



Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday April 8**, 8pm at Brimpaen Hall. All welcome.
Andrew Chincarini

Laharum Social Tennis



Social tennis will commence on **Tuesday April 7**, 2pm at Laharum courts. School children are welcome on that day.

Please contact me on 5383 8288 if you are interested in playing social tennis.

Judy Gardner

Brimpaen Craft Group



Tuesday April 7, 10am-2.30pm at Brimpaen Hall - making lavender bags with a ceramic doll embellished with beads and flowers. BYO lunch.

Tuesday May 5 – lunch at White Hart Hotel at 12 noon. In the afternoon we will visit the Makers Gallery and Horsham Art Gallery.

Tuesday June 2, 10am-2.30pm at Brimpaen Hall – beading ornaments. BYO lunch.

Jill Sinclair

Laharum Rural Fire Brigade



In this area we have been very fortunate not to have had any fires. A big thanks to all those who helped out in the Remlaw Fires.

Fire restrictions are still in force so permits are required - take care with any burn offs.

The Grampians Group has received a Forward Command vehicle just prior to the Remlaw fire; a Nissan Navara Twin Cab 4x4 which has already been put to good use. In mid March we had the official handover. Some members from Horsham Apex presented the group with a cheque for \$4,000 to help with purchasing the vehicle. This was a wonderful surprise to us all.

A big congratulation to Don & Jo on the arrival of their daughter, Matilda.

End of season meeting will be on **Monday April 6**, 7.30pm at Laharum Football Clubrooms.
Mark Francisco, Acting Captain

Laharum Landcare Group



Julia Holbery is the new Landcare Coordinator for this area. I would like to welcome Julia to the position. Julia is currently helping produce a weed pamphlet for our group.

We are in the process of producing a community information letter about our group so watch out for this soon.

There is no funding for rabbit ripping this year. We will apply for more funding next year if needed. The fox bounty is still available - \$5 per tail.

We do have some funds for weed control, so contact me 5383 8218 or Gil Hopkins 5383 8207 if you need help.

Some of the trees we planted for the Enviro Fund Project have survived this long hot summer and are doing quite well.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday April 7**, 8pm at Laharum Hall.

Mark Francisco, President

The Wander Inn/Wartook Pottery
Easter Saturday Market
Saturday April 11, 10am–3pm
Something for everyone!

Stallholders most welcome, cost \$15
Limited trestles available on request

Please phone Wendy on
BH 5383 6243 or AH 5383 6220

Grampians Wartook Promotion Group (GWPG)

All members are invited to contribute to a cake stall and silent auction to be held on **Easter Saturday April 11** as part of our fundraising.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday April 21**, 7pm at The Wander Inn.
Jenny Hill 5383 6242

Landcare on Show at the Expo



Landcare will showcase its success and achievement of the past 20 years at the Victorian 'Landcare Is For Everyone' Expo on **Saturday**

April 18 in Melbourne

Landcare groups and partners are invited to participate and display their projects and achievement at the Expo to be held at the Caulfield Racecourse from 9am-3pm.

Wimmera Landcare groups and projects including Grampians to Little Desert Biolink, Sustainable Agriculture projects and Yarrilinks will be on show when we take Landcare to the city to spread the message that rural Victoria is a leader in land and water conservation.

Local Landcarers will also make the trip to provide a firsthand account of the many well credentialed Wimmera Landcare outcomes and the opportunities for urban communities to become involved in rural Landcare activities.

Anyone interested in attending the Expo or entering a project or group display should contact Max Skeen, Regional Landcare Manager, Wimmera CMA on 53821544.

Yoga at Laharum Hall



After the school holidays and Easter break, yoga will resume on **Wednesday April 22**. 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.

We welcome new members!

Judy Berendsen

Horsham South Garden Club



Thursday April 23, 1.30pm – speakers Margaret & Bob Blake on grafting eremophilas at the CWA Hall. Bloom, brag and stall.

Thursday May 28 – yesteryear at Longerenong Homestead - 27th birthday afternoon tea. Leave car park at 1pm. Bring chair, cup, afternoon tea, thermos of hot water and wear something old fashioned if possible.

Lola Ervin

"You can't do anything about the length of your life, but you can do something about its width and depth".
Shira Tehrani

Petanque/Boule

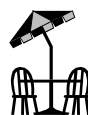
Friday April 24, 6pm

Laharum Football Ground

BYO casserole tea to share, bar operating
Enquiries Deb MacInnes 5383 8203

All Welcome

Brimpaen Ladies Social Club



Tuesday April 28 – try bowling at Sunnyside Bowling Club. Send kitty down at 10am.

Lunch venue to be decided.

Tuesday May 26, 2pm at Brimpaen Hall.

Fundraiser stall for cancer research - wear something pink. Afternoon tea and raffle.

Margo Hamilton

Play with clay Wearable Art Workshop

Wendy will teach us how to make a piece of jewellery from clay

\$5 each - please ring to register 5383 6243

Friday May 1, 1.30-3.30pm

Wartook Pottery Artists Studio

Laharum Neighbourhood Watch



Rural

Our next meeting is on **Monday May 11**, 8pm at Laharum Hall.

If you see any suspicious sightings or know of any theft, please report this to your zone representative. Our group has engravers available to mark your valuable items.

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 McGennisken; P. McGennisken; L. Storey

Judy Gardner



Family movie

Friday May 29, 6pm

Meal provided at minimal cost
Movie screens at 7pm

Laharum Hall

Proceeds to Laharum Preschool
Free movie & popcorn

Victoria
Law Foundation

Law Talks
Regional
Victoria

Horsham's Wesley Performing Arts Centre will play host to a day-long program of free legal talks presented by the Victoria Law Foundation, an organisation whose regional 'Law Talks'

program is the first of its kind in Victoria.

Legal topics such as wills, power of attorney issues and questions of guardianship, as well as the very popular 'Finances, the Law and You' session will be discussed by local and Melbourne-based experts.

The Law Talks program has been planned in consultation with local community groups and government organisations as part of the annual Law Week program.

All sessions are free and will be held during the day on **Wednesday May 13** in the Wesley Performing Arts Centre in Horsham. Question and Answer sessions will run after each presentation, and refreshments are provided. Booking is recommended.

For more information, call 9604 8100 or visit www.victorialawfoundation.org.au

Lorin Clarke

CFA Training



Luke Dumesny

Please contact me if you need to do any training. Dates for future training will be listed in the next newsletter.

Wonwondah Landcare Group



The recent grant from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority has seen the arrival of the group's new Roto-Wiper for the selective control of weeds in this area. Delivered after the Wimmera Field Days, there are numerous projects planned for this unit throughout the coming year. It can be towed with a ute or 4 wheeler to get into difficult sites.

Snail problem is evident again and attempts will continue to prevent the spreading of this nuisance pest from its journey southward. Any landholders that have new sightings should make that aware to members for inclusion into the treatment program. Machinery, especially secondhand, should be thoroughly checked before bringing it back to this area.

The fencing trailer continues to be of great assistance to members and landholders affected by the recent fires surrounding Horsham. All contact for its use must be through Chris Guest or Greg Speirs.

Our group has again applied for funding through the Wimmera CMA to continue the rabbit ripping and warren destruction program. Finally we have seen good results in the sites that have been treated. A contractor in the Mallee has now gained certification to treat and dispense rabbit bait, carrots, etc with 1080. Should members desire to take advantage of this facility, a contact number is available.

Our last meeting was held at the end of March.

Chris Guest

Friends of Grampians Gariwerd

Sunday April 5 - Park Heritage Day at Brim Springs. See information on page 1.

Saturday May 9 - Red Gum Walk working bee. Please contact Margo Sietsma for more information and requirements for the day on 5356 4524.

You may still have a chance to witness the rare and beautiful display of the Incense Plant (*Calomeria amaranthoides*) that is located in the Boggy Creek Gully crossing on the Asses Ears Road.

Stan Parfett

Local Vocals

Tuneful tantalising tonsil tickling!!

Laharum Hall

Leader – Merryn Eagle

THURSDAY MAY 21, 7.30PM



Supper included – no cost
Singing ability not necessary

*Are you a Wartook Warbler or
a Laharum Lullabier?*

**Come along and join in the singing
in a relaxed atmosphere**



Biggest Morning Tea

Thursday May 28

11.30 am for lunch

Donation \$10

Laharum Hall

'Bring and buy stall'

A chance to catch up with friends!

Let's get together for a cancer-free future

RSVP May 25 for catering purposes

☎ Liz 5383 8207 or

☎ Judy 5383 8288

Supporting research into the causes of cancer

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Users of the recycle bins at Laharum Hall please make sure all materials are put in the bins.

***Anything left on the ground
will not be collected!***

Parent Club Laharum Primary School



It is always a very full year for the Parent Club and this one is no exception!

We had our AGM for the year earlier this month and welcome the new committee members: Jenny Carter, President; Jenny Gaulke, Vice President; Noreen Abel, Treasurer and Deirdre Baum, Secretary.

This year we are having a stall at the Easter Market at The Wander Inn/Wartook Pottery. This is always a good market for the school, and we look forward to seeing everyone there on the day. We will have a selection of local produce, preserves, cakes, biscuits, bread and the like.

Next term we will have our cookbook ready. Unfortunately we lost a lot of our work on the computer just prior to printing, but we are now back on track, so it is not far away.

A little later in the year, the children at school and parent club will be having a 'long lunch' for everyone. We think this will be a lot of fun and also delicious. We hope to get some great photos of a very, very long table of happy lunchers!

This brings me on to another event we are planning for the spring. We will be having a photography exhibition which will be open to everyone. Closer to the time, we will let everybody know what the categories will be.

Stephanie Alexander came to the Olive Grove on Saturday March 28 to join the children in cooking pizzas - we were very lucky to have her visit. We had a great day and the children enjoyed preparing lunch.



Children making pizzas

Photography by Kerry-Anne Chincarini

We have two fundraisers finishing at the end of term - 'hugie' sinks and children's sunglasses. There is still time to order these if you would like. Please contact either Laharum PS on 5383 6202 or me on 0429.136319 for orders. We thank all those who have supported our fundraisers.

Deirdre Baum



Thank you to everyone who helped collect rubbish on '**Clean Up Australia Day**' and particularly those who regularly and actively clean up their district throughout the year.



Birds and Bushfires -

Last month's devastating bush fires and the Grampians fires of 2006 can lead one to ask what happens to birds during a bushfire.

I heard with some sadness that the family of Bush Stone-curlews at the Horsham golf course perished in the fire there. They were not burnt but must have been overcome by the heat and/or smoke. There have been some interesting published accounts of birds and bushfires. During a big fire in Victoria in 1851, birds were reported 'dropping from the trees', with another account of birds 'flying desperately out to sea'. After the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires, over 2,000 birds of 66 species were found washed up on beaches.

It is thought that few birds actually burn to death in a bushfire (except perhaps emus). Most birds would fly away from a fire, but in doing so could fly into heated air. Flying would add metabolic heat to a bird's already heat-stressed body. Radiant heat and smoke would also affect birds near the fire. Without somewhere to land, birds flying out to sea, already in a stressed state, could get disorientated, overcome with fatigue and drown.

Bird's population can decline following bushfires, but this could be attributed to local and regional dispersals rather than just fire mortality. But birds are resilient and will return. Bird surveys at three Grampians sites post-fire are showing increases in diversity and abundance as the trees re-sprout and the understory vegetation returns.

Jonathan Starks, WCMA Bird Monitoring Coordinator

Laharum Tennis Club



The tennis season has flown by this year and was marred by many weeks being missed due to washouts, extreme heat and the occasional forfeit. Congratulations to all teams especially the Under 14 boys,

A Grade and B Grade Navy who all played in the grand final on Saturday March 28.

The grand final was a day of high drama and mixed emotions as B Grade suffered a heart-wrenching loss and A Grade celebrated a nail-biting win. The boys in the morning unfortunately did not bring home the shield this year, but look out next year because we have plenty of talent there! A special mention to Jack Shields who played both in the juniors and in B Grade in the afternoon!

A great effort for our club - it must have been the new courts! There were enthusiastic celebrations at the clubrooms on the Saturday night and the team song on the new courts was a definite highlight.

Presentation Day was held the day after the finals in conjunction with the cricketers and it was also a good day.

Trophy winners were - Most Games

A. Grade: Gus McNeil, Deb MacInnes
 B. Special: Rhys Mikkelson, Noela Sherratt
 B. Red: Herb Hallam, Bianca Mibus
 B Navy: J. Chaplin, J. Apostolopolous
 Under 14B: Jack Shields

Deb MacInnes

Brimpaen Tennis Club



The tennis season has come to an end and Brimpaen has had a very good year.

A Special was able to bring home the premiership defeating Central Park Green 9 sets to 5. As expected the men had a tough day, but we were able to get over the line with a great team effort winning all the ladies sets and pinching both mixed. Well done to all players.

B Special also had a good year but after going into the grand final as favourites, couldn't quite get over the line, going down to Lawn-Riverside 4 sets to 8. Well done on getting there and let's go one better next year! We celebrated into the night with a few beers and some presentations!

Most sets winners this year were:

A Special: Luke and Courtney.

B Special: Brenton and Christine.

Congratulations to Laharum on having two teams in the grand final. Both teams went in as underdogs, so to come home with one win and a very close loss was a great effort.

Looking forward to next season already - go Brimpaen!!

Courtney Dunn

Laharum Football Club



The upcoming season promises to be a good one for the Laharum Football and Netball Club. The Senior Football side this year is under the guidance of new coach Damien Bunworth who we

welcome back to the club. He is ably assisted by Brenton Askew and Steven Both.

A handful of new recruits join with a number of exciting young graduates from our Junior ranks and the nucleus of last year's side to form a very capable team.

Our Under 17 side with Brian Burke at the helm look to continue and improve on their performance of the last few seasons.

Brendon Stemp and Jason Pymmer are again coaching the Under 14's and Pat Herson and his band of helpers will be running an Auskick program on Friday nights (see detailed information in this newsletter).

After having four teams in the finals last year, we look forward to going one better and bringing home a flag or two this year.

There have also been changes on the netball court with new A Grade coach Carmen Driden taking charge this year. Melissa Mills is the coach of B and C grades.

In Junior ranks Maddy McGennicken and Natalie Bourke are coaching the 17 & Unders; Chris O'Connell is the coach of the bulk of last year's 13 & Under premiership side who have graduated to 15 & Under, and Maureen Ervin is at the helm of the 13 & Unders. Karen Griffiths will have the little 'Modified' girls under her guidance.

Hoping to see you all during the season - go Demons!!!

Keith Haeusler

Chairman - Laharum Football and Netball Club

Laharum Preschool



Not sure where this term has gone, but in all it's been very busy. Our enrolments stand at 11 in total with 2 in the 4 year old group, 6 in the 3's and 3 in the 2's.

Our topics have been focusing on families, field days, babies, Easter and colours. We have been doing activities such as making pastings for dads, singing dad's songs, making Easter eggs, loads of painting and pasting. Also lots of construction play with blocks, doll house, tractors, washing babies and duplo.

Speaking of washing babies, we were very fortunate to have Lisa Barton volunteer to wash her son Gus at kinder. This was very exciting, mostly for the girls and we were able to talk about how to hold the baby, why we need to be gentle and most importantly, where do babies come from. Thank you so much to Lisa and Gus for this wonderful experience.

This has led us onto the topic of families with the invitation to bring in a family photo. We also had a dad's night as part of our families theme. This was a wonderful night with most dads attending kinder. They enjoyed the activities that we have at kinder and were able to show dads exactly what we do. Some dads got up to mischief, particularly when one dad tried to slide down the slide and got stuck! We had some songs and dancing to finish the night and enjoyed a lovely supper. Thanks to all those who brought in a plate.

We congratulate Don Sudholz and Jo Gardner on the safe arrival of Matilda Margo last Monday.

We now move onto Easter activities with the making of Easter things and some Easter songs. We will also have a mock Easter treasure hunt.

Last Wednesday I attended a professional development session with the Beyond Blue association. This was an interesting night. If you feel you need to talk to me about any concerns you have in relation to your child, please don't hesitate to do so.

I'd like to thank Katrina Knight donating some resources for me. All children will benefit from these. Also thanks to Jo Gardner and Bea Sykes for the plastic tables and to Lisa Barton for all her odds and ends which saves me buying new equipment. If you have any things that you think the kinder would benefit from, please feel free to bring them in.

I have purchased a gazebo from Les Keyte from Natimuk and it should be here soon.

Thanks also to Caroline Geue for the nametags and essential notices on the board which the CSA will be inspecting when we have our annual inspection.

Next term will be a busy one with plans for an excursion for the Wednesday group. This might be to the hospital or police station.

Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated and Tracey and I thank you very much.

Jo Bone

Photos and articles for this newsletter are always appreciated

Laharum Primary School



'Art Is... Tasty' - Laharum PS travelled into Horsham on February 24 on an 'Art Is...' Excursion. What a wonderful day all students and staff had in Horsham. Students worked in their classroom groups where they visited the Italian Club for the 'Art Is...' activities. They also visited the Art Gallery for a further special program. All students enjoyed the creative painting and printing activities. Our students' work is on display in Horsham during the 'Art Is...' Festival at May Park and at Gallery Prints, Wilson Street window.



'Art Is... Tasty' excursion

This activity was the first of our extra-curricular activities for the students. Community Learning Days allow students to experience learning in real-life situation beyond the walls of the classroom. Being involved in their local community helps students to develop self-confidence and independence, whilst gaining a better understanding of the opportunities available to them in their local area.

What a great day was had by all creating giant fruit for the 'Art Is...Tasty' Festival. Our visit to the Horsham Art Gallery enthused our budding artists!

Stephanie Alexander - What a wonderful opportunity we had at Laharum with the visit of Stephanie Alexander last Saturday March 28. Over the coming weeks, students will learn more about Stephanie's wonderful school kitchen/garden program and how this might impact upon our new vegetable garden. Some of the food for the lunch was prepared at school leading up to this. A big thank you to Deirdre and her hard working team of helpers.



Pizzas – yum!

Photography by Kerry-Anne Chincarini

Stephanie came to the Baum's Olive Grove to mingle with the children and their families of our school community to have a picnic and make some wood fired pizzas. What a fantastic day was had by everyone!

Monday Munch - We are very fortunate to have received a grant for a 'Free Fruit' program which started recently. Funding allows us to purchase fruit each Monday from Peach's Fruit Mart. The Year 6 students then make 3 platters for the whole school to share at morning recess. Everyone is really enjoying tasting different fruits and eating healthy. They all think it is just simply 'yummy'.

Robyn Jones, Principal



Monday Munch fruit day – delicious!

The Wander Inn

We now have fresh seafood on Fridays. Starting in May we will be having roast Sunday lunch for the cooler weather by the relaxing open fire.

We are now fully licensed and are taking bookings for weddings, functions and group get-togethers. Please ring Jenny on 5383 6377 for more information.



Waiting to bid at the auction!

We had a very successful auction for the bushfire appeal on Sunday May 1 and approximately \$7,000 was raised – a great effort!

Jenny Wilson

Please note our new email address

giliz@laharum.vic.au

You can change your email address as well!

Community Links is working out how.

Send us an email if you want to change to a laharum.vic.au or wartook.vic.au address.

Wimmera Rural Skills Connect



Tim Martin is Project Manager of Rural Skills Connect for the Wimmera. He assists farming families and agribusiness employees to develop skills, and access employment opportunities in the region.

This scheme helps farmers gain formal qualifications so they have the option to work part-time or occasionally away from the farm, helping to boost the family budget.

Anyone interested in this project should contact Tim on 0429.957 643 or email timmartin@westwimmera.vic.gov.au.

Laharum Cricket Club



The cricket season is over with a somewhat disappointing finish. After being in the top 4 all season, a much improved C Grade lost their finals spot being beaten in the last game.

However, B Grade team had a glorious outright victory to finish in 3rd spot and a finals appearance. Alas, after shooting Rup. out for a meagre 129, our boys could only manage 86. Rob McInnes put in a magnificent effort with the ball claiming 5/29 off about 20 overs including 8 maidens.

A big positive for the season was the success of our youngsters - we had six players in the final under the age of 18, and the team was very well led by Robbie Miller, one of those young players. If we can keep our team together, then next season will be something to look forward to.

Another big plus was the good numbers and fantastic keenness of our U/14 team, very ably coached by John Griffiths. A big *thankyou* to John, Jane and all the parents involved with the juniors for their support and transport, some having to drive considerable distances for training and matches.

The season concluded with a presentation day last Sunday.

The trophy winners were as follows:

C Grade: Batting - Kane Parish; Bowling - Matt Gannon; Catches - Zane Mitton; Most Improved - Sam Taberner; Captain's Trophy - Darcy Wills.

B Grade: Batting - Robbie Miller; Bowling - Rob Reynolds; Fielding - Ben Peucker with a terrific 8 stumpings and 16 catches.

Club Trophies: Frank Clarke Bowling Trophy (Most wickets for season) - Rob McInnes with 23.

Bill Diston Trophy: (All-Rounder Cricketer of the season) - Ben Peucker with 382 points; Runner-up - Matt Gannon with 275.

Encouragement Award: Daniel Griffiths.

President's Trophy: Heath MacInnes.

All of the U/14 players were presented with a Laharum Demons Cap in appreciation of their participation over the season.

Finally, I would like to thank the trophy donors this year - Trev Winfield, Peter Levey, MacInnes Family, Tony & Robyn Dunn, Big Spring Mount P/L, Rob McInnes, Sue Winfield & family and Miller family. See you all next season.

Peter Levey, President

Solar electricity and hot water

The solar program is continuing and it's getting closer – believe it or not! I have been in touch with other group schemes and they are also having delays in actually getting the solar systems fitted. The problem is that so many want to join in, as well as delays in shipping.

Our provider has been installing in Ballarat and Ararat and is getting closer. We will have a meeting when he is here for anyone that hasn't had their house inspected and wants to join in, so ring me 5383 8207 or email to giliz@laharum.vic.au with your details please.

In the meantime there are solar hot water suppliers and solar electricity suppliers in Horsham.

Gil Hopkins

Fire Brigade Championships

On Sunday March 22, the Inter Region 4 & 17 Fire Brigade Championships were held at Pigeon Ponds. Green Lake, Laharum and Lubeck were represented from Region 17. Laharum fielded two senior and three junior teams.

We had good success winning the Region 17 Aggregate Seniors Cup - this has been in Lubeck's hands for many years!

The Juniors won the Best on Day (11-13), Junior Encouragement Award, and Aggregate Cup (11-13). The 11-13 team also set a new record time in the Low Down Pump and Ladder Event with a time of 23.16 seconds, beating the previous record set by Brimpaen in 2004 of 24.55 seconds.

Everyone had an excellent day and competition will be fierce in 2010 when we will be defending our prizes. This will be held either at Laharum or Dock Lake.

Thanks to Maurie Dumesny for training the teams and making it all happen. Amazing how much fun can be had from some hoses, pumps, ladders and water!

Bill Gardner



Rob, Tim and Angus with the winning trophies

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.

GMMWater



Testing the Laharum Bore Field –
GMMWater has been operating the Laharum Bore Field for approximately two years to supplement Horsham's Water Supply by approximately 30% by mixing the traditional supply from Lake Wartook with water from the bore.

It has developed a valuable body of knowledge concerning the security and productivity of the bore field and GMMWater wants to establish whether or not the bore field can totally sustain Horsham's water supply needs in the event of an emergency situation.

To achieve this, GMMWater has commenced a six to ten week trial to investigate the impacts of increased groundwater extraction from the Laharum bore field.

It has commenced operating production Bores 1 and 2 for 24 hours a day, supplying around 4ML per day to the Mt Zero water storage. Production Bore 3 will be used to regulate flows into the Mt Zero storage and can contribute an additional 2ML per day if required.

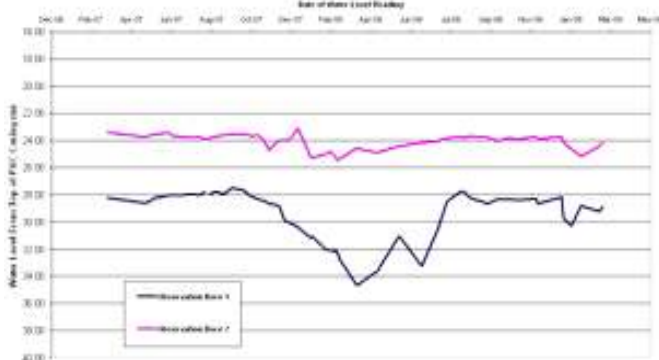
All observation bores in the Laharum bore field area will be closely monitored during the trial.

Once sufficient data on groundwater yield and levels has been gathered, supply arrangements will be reversed with all supply to the Mt Zero Treatment Plant coming solely from Wartook. During this time the recovery rate of the groundwater supply source will be closely monitored.

The information gathered from the trial will be important in determining future contingency plans for supply to Horsham.

For further information please contact Andrew Rose or Helen Friend on 5381 9802.

The graph shows levels in Observation bores 2 (top) and 1(below) from the period Feb 07 to March 09.



Roses Gap Road Petition for bitumen sealing

Both Councils have responded with 'tongue in cheek' response due to the estimated cost of \$600,000.00.

I have spoken to Wimmera Development Association to press the issue through their Board. Any comments from anyone to pass on a further comment to the Councils would be appreciated.

Garry Newman

Thank you Don Sudholz - Mechanic's workshop

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped us during Don's recent illness.

Thank you to all those who called and visited Don while he was in hospital. In particular we would like to thank Mark Francisco for covering all the fires; Will & Proo Pyke for building the extension; Bruce McInnes and Barry Berendsen for helping with the house; Julian & Jan Stoller; Adam & Jo Shields; Bill & Judy Gardner and everybody else who was there to support us during this difficult time.

Don will re-open the workshop in a limited capacity in April for car servicing, chainsaw repairs and all other mechanical work.

We can't express enough how grateful we are to everybody who have supported us during this time. Thanks again.

Jo and Don Sudholz

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

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

Need printing?

Why pay more than necessary?

Sometimes smaller is better



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Vickers Printing, 7 Olga Ave. Horsham Tel 5382 3110



September 4th - 6th 2009

Wartook Valley will host the inaugural
Grampians ~ Classics in Wartook Valley festival

Centrally located at *The Wander Inn* precinct, this festival is designed to celebrate the beautiful area and community we live in and draw tourists from outside the region to experience Wartook Valley under a new light and new 'hot spot' Grampians region to explore.

The Festival features

Classic Themes: from the traditional welcome to country and smoking ceremony by Aboriginal elders from the area, to classic Australian films on show, classic and vintage cars and motorcycles, restored carts, to internationally renowned Melbourne string trio and quartet '*Accord*' and recital featuring *Classic FM Radio* breakfast presenter *Emma Ayres*, and classic Irish music.

Local Produce & Artists: will feature throughout the festival with a black tie gala dinner prepared with local food and wine, native and local wildflowers as table centre pieces, gourmet picnic hampers, wine tasting, finger food, and tapas. A temporary art gallery will be established with working artists including limestone sculptor *Kevin Free*, and *Wartook Artists Studio*, artworks from budding artists and the community, open gardens and displays throughout the region.

Community: groups and businesses will contribute to the weekend-long event promoting the region through information stands, food stalls. A market extravaganza will take over on Sunday as a family-fun day-out for all including kids' entertainment, joy rides, art exhibition, stall, local produce, food and wine tasting, music, a Father's Day Luncheon and more.

So, if you're interested in being involved in the festival, have any ideas, questions and or would like to express your interest please do not hesitate to contact us!

Melissa Russell

Festival Director

5382 9779 or 0409.179 612

Email melissa.russell@hrcc.vic.gov.au

WATCH THIS SPACE - WEBSITE COMING SOON -
WWW.CLASSICSINWARTOOK.COM.AU

Community Building Initiative

Community Grants

The following are some community grants that are open at the moment:

Horsham Sports and Community Club Grants

These grants are available for sporting and community clubs in the Wimmera to support various projects and initiatives. For further details contact the Horsham Sports and Community Club on 5382 6262 or pick up the forms from the Club at 177-179 Baillie Street in Horsham.

Woolworths Fresh Food Kids Grants

These grants are open to not for profit groups that provide a community or sporting activity that supports the health and wellbeing of primary school aged children. Grants close on April 6, 2009 and information can be found at www.freshfoodkids.com.au/community/community-grants

Wimmera Volunteers Small Grants Program

Small groups and organisations contribute an enormous amount to communities within our Region. In recognition of and to support these groups Wimmera Volunteers are making available \$10,000 to small groups to assist with some of the operating costs. Amounts of up to \$500 are available. Application forms are available from Wimmera Volunteers, 20 Firebrace Street, Horsham or www.wimvol.com.au. Applications close April 30, 2009.

Woolworths and Country Women's Association Community Recovery Grants

This program provides community organisations funding of up to \$3,000 for initiatives that strengthen community bonds and have a long-term benefit to the community in areas affected by dryness.

The following activities will be eligible for funding:

- Upgrades to community social infrastructure.
- Equipment for upgrades of sporting clubs and volunteer services.
- Financial support to pay subscription fees for local sporting teams.

Further information is on the CWA website www.cwaofvic.asn.au . Grants are open until April 30, 2009.

Melissa Morris Community Building Initiative Facilitator 0428.505 605, melissa.morris@hrcc.vic.gov.au

Laharum/Wartook Community Links News

Plans for Laharum Hall refurbishment have now finally gone out to tender. Tenders close on April 1, so hopefully it will not be long before we decide on the builder and we begin seeing some action at the Hall site.

In the next 3 months we will also be making purchases of furniture, storage and communication equipment for the refurbishment that is budgeted for in our Federal Government Grant which must be spent and finalised before June 30, 2009.

A community meeting will be held at the Hall on Wednesday April 1. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the school to provide an update on activities that have occurred since the initial community meeting in January and for representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to provide information in response to the questions/points that were raised at the January meeting.

The singing group lead by Merryn Eagle has proved very popular and they have decided to meet each month apart from April. Watch the activity program for the dates.

I hope the activity program for this term has something that may interest you.

If anyone has any suggestions for activities or adult education courses for next term please let me know.

Deb MacInnes

Laharum Community Links facilitator

Phone. 5383 8203 Work 0438.377453 Email: debbie.macinnes@hrcc.vic.gov.au

LAHARUM / WARTOOK ACTIVITIES PROGRAM TERM 2, APRIL/MAY, 2009

Date & Time	Venue	Activity
Friday 24th April 6pm	Laharum Football Ground	Petanque/Boule - Football Bar will be operating. BYO Casserole Tea to share All Welcome
Friday 1 st May 1.30-3.30pm	Wartook Pottery Art Studio	Play with clay. Wearable Art Workshop. Wendy will teach us how to make a piece of jewellery from clay. \$5 each. Please ring to register
Thursday 21st May 7.30pm	Laharum Hall	Singing Group - community sing-along just for fun. Local Vocals! Supper provided. Join the group, even if you haven't been before!
Friday 29th May 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 & popcorn.



LAHARUM AUSKICK IS ON AGAIN!

Join up and learn new skills, meet new friends and have loads of fun!

Who can be involved? **Any primary school age student**

Where is it? **Cameron Oval - Laharum**

When is it? **Friday nights 5-6pm**

Friday April 24	Session 1
Friday May 1	Session 2
Friday May 8	Session 3
Friday May 15	Session 4
Friday May 22	Session 5
Friday May 28	Session 6
Friday June 5	Bye – Queen's Birthday long weekend
Friday June 12	Session 7
Friday June 19	Session 8 - Fun Night/Presentations

BBQ tea and refreshments available each night

How to get involved!

This year all participants need to register on-line - www.afauskick.com.au

Everyone who registers on-line receives a FREE BONUS of:
2 adult and 2 children's tickets to any AFL match (not finals)

If you need help with the on-line registration, please contact one of the following people who will be more than happy to assist you.

Robyn Jones 5383 6202 - Laharum Primary School
Pat Hernon 0428.844 204
Brian Burke 0417.539 723



North West Grampians Newsletter - Community Calendar of Events

Activities and meetings in the district 2009

April

Wednesday	1	7pm	Laharum/Wartook Community Meeting
Sunday	5	10am	Brim Springs Heritage Day – Brim Springs Picnic Ground
"	5	4pm	Opening Wartook Tea Party Exhibition - Wartook Artists Studio
Monday	6	7.30pm	Laharum Fire Brigade meeting – Laharum Football Oval
Tuesday	7	10am-2.30pm	Brimpaen Craft Group – Brimpaen Hall
"	7	8pm	Laharum Landcare Group – Laharum Hall
Wednesday	8	8pm	Brimpaen Fire Brigade – Brimpaen Hall
Saturday	11	10am-3pm	Easter Market – The Wander Inn/Wartook Pottery
Saturday	18	All day	Landcare Is For Everyone Expo - Melbourne
Tuesday	21	7pm	Grampians Wartook Promotion Group meeting – The Wander Inn
Thursday	23	1.30pm	Horsham South Garden Club – CWA Hall, Horsham
Friday	24	6pm	Petanque/Boule – Laharum Football Ground

May

Friday	1	1.30-3.30pm	Play with clay – Wartook Pottery Art Studio
Tuesday	5	12 noon	Brimpaen Craft Group, White Hart Hotel
Saturday	9	All day	Friends of Grampians Gariwerd
Monday	11	8pm	Neighbourhood Watch Rural – Laharum Hall
Wednesday	13	All day	Victoria Law Foundation – Wesley Performing Arts Centre
Thursday	21	7.30pm	Singing Group 'Local Vocals' – Laharum Hall
Thursday	28	11.30am	Biggest Morning Tea (lunch) – Laharum Hall
"	28	1pm	Horsham South Garden Club – leave for Longerenong
Friday	29	6pm	Meal 6pm; Movie 7pm – Laharum Hall

June

Tuesday	2	10am-2.30pm	Brimpaen Craft Group – Brimpaen Hall
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September

Fri-Sun	4-6	All day	Grampians-Classics in Wartook Valley Festival – The Wander Inn
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Laharum Social Tennis – Tuesdays 2pm – Laharum courts

Yoga – Wednesdays 7.30-9.15pm – Laharum Hall (not during school holidays)

Wartook Christian Home Meeting – Fridays from 7pm, venues vary

Mobile Library – Apr 1, 15 & 29; May 13 & 27 – Laharum Primary School

Wartook Tea Party Exhibition – Sat April 4–Mon April 13

Laharum Auskick – Friday nights 5-6pm commencing April 24 – Cameron Oval

Room below to add your notes!