

MAY 2020

Acheron Community Hall Newsletter

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President's Report - May 2020



Whilst we are all experiencing a challenging time our Hall is also on the receiving end of some unwanted restrictions. Social Distancing has meant that all uses of the hall have been curtailed and as a result income has been lost.

The committee is exploring how we can best remedy this situation.

Just prior to severe Social Distancing being imposed we had a working bee where toilets, grounds and gutters were cleaned and tidied after recent storm damage. Thermal insulation batts in the ceiling were installed along with in-ceiling fire extinguishers. This work was carried out by volunteers with professional trade supervision.

The Hall survived the storms from earlier in the year with only a couple of trees being damaged. The Committee is currently working on projects to up-grade the toilet block and to carry out repainting of the Hall. The limited amount of fundraising which can be carried out during these difficult times will determine how and when these projects can proceed.

Whilst all this news is a bit negative all of the Committee is looking forward to getting back to normal before too long.

Hoping that you are all well whilst Socially Distancing in our Paradise.

Cheers

John Thorp

President of Acheron Hall Committee.



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Email us if you have any news for the next newsletter on
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Acheron CFA had a busy summer

Whilst Acheron's immediate area had a relatively quiet fire season this past summer, the Acheron brigade was nevertheless very busy assisting with numerous fires in central and northern Victoria, and with members also volunteering at the fires in Queensland, NSW, Gippsland, Euroa, and Corryong.

On New Years eve the Acheron tanker and crew turned out for what they thought would be a day trip to Tallangatta. They had a very busy day and only made it home at 4am the next morning! The Acheron Tanker remained at the Corryong fire and saw heavy duty there over a period many weeks. In the meantime the Eildon 2 tanker was repositioned to the Acheron station and proved a worthy backup. We were very pleased to see the Acheron tanker back in station in mid-February after it had been extensively refurbished and re-equipped.



View from the Acheron tanker en route to the Corryong fire.

In all the Acheron brigade members spent a total of 53 days away on strike teams over the summer. What a great effort! Many thanks to all those who volunteered their time and their families who provided them with support to enable them to support the fire fighting effort.

During the Covid 19 pandemic, the tanker remains on call and available as usual, with some special arrangements to ensure safety of all concerned. The Biennial General meeting and Elections, which were scheduled for 17th May, have been postponed until a date to be advised.

Many thanks to everyone who has taken great care with their planned burns since the end of the fire season. With the recent rain our fire risk is now low and we expect will stay so until next spring.



Emergency feed supplies being marshalled near Tallangatta in readiness to enter the fire affected areas.



Acheron tanker refurbished as new upon its return in mid February.



Rainfall

April Showers

It may not come as a surprise to discover that April 2020 was the wettest month we have experienced at Acheron over the last thirty years. Rainfall was recorded at 234.5mm. This is comfortably the highest monthly rainfall since 1990 with the next highest being 212.5mm in 1993 and the only other time

when the monthly rainfall reached 200mm.

Rainfall at Acheron is 413mm for the months January to April 2020. Last year 49mm.

These rainfall figures are measured in the hills on the East side of the river.

If you received this newsletter by mail or hand and if you have access to the internet, please consider sharing your email address with the committee and it will save the environment as well as a lot of time, effort and cost. acheronhall@gmail.com