



Walhalla & Mountain
Rivers Tourism Association

MEDIA ALERT

Thursday, 14 December, 2006 – for immediate release

Walhalla “Fire Break” Bake-off

Walhalla Historic Township, a tiny mountain hamlet on the southern edge of the Victorian Alps is all too aware of the danger of bushfire. The fires which are devastating the Alpine & Gippsland regions of Victoria are close...but currently do not present a direct threat to Walhalla. The village is on full bushfire alert and is well prepared to fight should the fires jump control lines and head further south.

While Walhalla is open for business and unaffected, the Walhalla community (population 12) is fully aware of the effect that fires have on the lives and business of those locations under fire attack. In January 2006, Walhalla was cut off for 10 days by the Moondarra fire...it has taken months for Walhalla to recover.

As a sign of goodwill, and to extend the hand of friendship and hope across the Victorian Alps, Walhalla will be conducting the **“Walhalla Fire Break Bake-Off”** on Tuesday, 19 December, 2006.

Our aim is to bake 5,000 **“Fire Break”** biscuits in Walhalla and then distribute them to fire fighters, volunteers and support staff in the North-East and Gippsland....all on Tuesday 19 December.

The kitchens of the Walhalla General Store, Walhalla Lodge Hotel, Walhalla’s Star Hotel & Long Tunnel Cafe will start baking at 12.01am on Tuesday and will continue until we’re done. A packing and distribution centre will be set up in the Walhalla Mechanics Institute. The **“Walhalla Fire Break Bake-Off”** is a totally community driven effort with the whole town joining in to contribute...we hope that our **“Fire Break”** biscuits will provide a welcome break to those fighting the fires and will perhaps protect Walhalla from these dreadful fires.

We want to lift people’s spirits with a small gift from the “Valley of the Gods”. Perhaps the spirits of Walhalla will bring some divine intervention in the form of rain too!

Please mark in your diaries; TUESDAY 19 December, 2006 - **“Fire Break”** biscuit baking starts at 12.01am!

Any assistance you can give Walhalla is spreading the word about this event would be greatly appreciated.

For further information, please contact
Michael Leaney 5165 6262 or 0403 233 806

(Please call both numbers as mobile service is not too good in this region)

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