



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK, BELLFIELD FIRE UPDATE

TUESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2024

SIX MONTHS ON: RESIDENTS' STRENGTH APPLAUDED BY MAYOR BOB SANDERS

In a feature interview with *The Weekly Advertiser* as well as an interview live on-air with ABC Ballarat's Steve Martin, Mayor Bob Sanders has praised the Pomonal community for its innovative, tireless and ongoing support of one another.

"I don't think I've ever seen a group of people be able to stick together for a common cause like the Pomonal people have," he said. "They're just so close.

"As a council we've certainly done a lot; we've still got our recovery officer out there, just making sure things are getting done."

Cr Sanders also pointed to the incredible efforts of the volunteer-run Pomonal Relief Hub and the Pomonal Resilience Committee.

"It's been easy for council to work with them for great outcomes," he said. "If we could actually take that idea and get it into other communities, I think we'd all be a lot more prepared for disasters."

The *Weekly Advertiser* article, titled *Pomonal Resilience Personified*, is available to read for free at theweeklyadvertiser.com.au.



The Pomonal Village Market is on **this Sunday!**

Head to Pomonal Community Hall between 9am and 1pm for locally-made and -sourced produce, crafts, apparel and more.

RECOVERY CENTRE HOURS REDUCED; RELIEF HUB HOURS REMAIN

Please note that while Council's Pomonal Recovery Centre hours for the period of Thursday 15 August to Thursday 22 August 2024 inclusive have reduced (see bulletin on following page), the Pomonal Relief Hub run by the community will be operating its normal hours (see bulletin to the right).

POMONAL LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN EXPO SECURES SPEAKERS



POMONAL LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN EXPO

Due to be held at the very end of this month, the Pomonal Landscape and Garden Expo has announced its program of speakers, as well as other community partners joining the event.

Slated to appear are Dominique Sparks from WA's Balancing Rock Farm; artist, ecologist and scientific communicator Elia Pirtle (Landcare); Community Safety Engagement Officer and Captain with the CFA, Nicole McGrath; renown local grower and member of the Australian Plant Society, Phil Williams; and Landscape Planner (currently designing the WAMA garden) Jill Burness, formerly of the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria.

Also attending will be the Grampians Community Health team and the Ararat Library outreach bus, while Jacque Ridler will be conducting kids activities and face-painting.

DATE: Saturday 31 August, 2024

TIME: 11am - 3pm

LOCATION: Pomonal Hall

POMONAL RELIEF HUB

Opening Hours

MONDAY: 9am - 4pm

WEDNESDAY: 9am - 4pm

SATURDAY: 10.30am - 1pm





Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK, BELLFIELD FIRE UPDATE

TUESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2024

EAST GRAMPIANS BUSINESS AWARDS OPEN FOR ENTRIES

Ararat Rural City businesses are invited to submit their applications for the 2024 East Grampians Business Awards.

Now in its seventh year, the EGBAs celebrate local business talent and recognise the role businesses play in supporting the community and boosting the region's economy.

Entries are now open for seven award categories, including three new additions: Trades and Construction, Professional Services, and Young Person of the Year.

All businesses located or operating in Ararat Rural City are eligible to apply, and businesses are welcome to enter more than one category. Applications close on **Sunday 15 September 2024**.

The winners will be announced at a prestigious gala held at Ararat Town Hall on Thursday 7 November 2024.

To apply or to find more about the award categories, entry guidelines and application process, please visit Council's website: <https://www.ararat.vic.gov.au/awards2024>

POMONAL TRANSFER STATION

Pomonal Transfer Station has resumed normal operating hours, and fees and charges are still being waived for Pomonal residents until further notice.

Opening hours are:

Wednesdays: 1pm - 4pm

Saturdays: 1pm - 4pm

Scrap metal is now being taken at Pomonal Transfer Station, but is limited to a maximum of three cubic metres.

To dispose of larger amounts of scrap metal, please call Manhari Metals on (03) 5352 3866.

Cleanaway Stawell is no longer taking waste free of charge, and any waste arriving at the site must be via a commercial operator or truck.

These changes are in line with State Government guidance on Disaster Waste Disposal.

NEW DONATIONS GROUP SEEK POMONAL RESIDENTS' INPUT

The newly-formed Pomonal Bushfire Recovery Donations Group are seeking Pomonal residents' suggestions on the distribution of funds collected for bushfire recovery.

Residents can access the form online through the Facebook post on the Pomonal Community Connections page, or complete a hard copy form available from Pomonal Store.

Hard copy forms can be submitted by placing in the designated box at Pomonal Store, emailing to pomonalprogress@outlook.com, or posting to:

Pomonal Bushfire Recovery Donations Group, Grampians Store Pomonal, 3408 Ararat-Halls Gap Rd, Pomonal VIC 3381.

POMONAL RECOVERY CENTRE HOURS UPDATE

For the period Thursday 15 August 2024 to Thursday 22 August 2024 inclusive, the Pomonal Recovery Centre hours will be as follows:

Thursday 15 August: 8.30am - 3pm

Wednesday 21 August: 8.30am - 3pm

During this time, the Manager of Planning & Building will be attending Pomonal Hall on these days only.

From Saturday 24 August, Council recovery staff will resume their regular hours at the Hall:

Monday: 9am - 4pm

Tuesday: 9am - 4pm

Wednesday: 9am - 4pm

Thursday: 9am - 6pm

Friday: CLOSED

Saturday: 9am - 1pm

The Manager of Planning & Building will also resume his regular hours after 24 August:

Wednesdays: 8:30am - 3pm

The Council recovery team are available via phone any time during business hours on 5355 0200.