



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK, BELLFIELD FIRE UPDATE

TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

POMONAL NATIVE FLOWER SHOW OPEN THIS WEEKEND

ABC's *Gardening Australia* television crew will capture all the action at Pomonal Native Flower Show this weekend, marking the event's 40th anniversary edition.

Edible natives are the 2024 Show's focus, with an array of market stalls, refreshments, expert advice and plant and book sales also planned.

Attendees will be treated to two keynote speeches (one on each day of the Show) from Bundjalung Nation (NSW north coast) educator, musician, dancer and *Gardening Australia* presenter Clarence Slockee (above).

The speaker timetable also includes conservationist and horticulturalist Neil Marriott speaking on WAMA and plants endemic to the Grampians area, and Julie Weatherhead of Peppermint Ridge Farm and the Australian Plant Society giving an explainer on methods of cooking Australian native foods.

Running concurrently with the Show, Pomonal Market will hold a two-day trade on the adjacent oval.

DATE: Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 Sep, 2024

TIME: 9am - 4pm daily

LOCATION: Pomonal Hall, 3360 Ararat-Halls Gap Rd, Pomonal Vic 3381

TICKETS: \$5 entry at the gate, children free



Above: A previous feature display at Pomonal Native Flower Show



3-PHASE POWER COMING TO POMONAL HALL

Council have informed the Pomonal Community Assets Committee that the very first stages of arranging 3-Phase power for the Hall are underway. The Hall is currently run on 2-Phase, which is insufficient for certain events (such as Pomonal Market and Men's Shed activities).

The upgrade is still 4 - 6 months away, but Hall users can look forward to the new system's higher load capacity and stable, continuous power supply.

POMONAL RECOVERY CENTRE HOURS

The Council Recovery Centre at Pomonal Hall will be **closed on Thursday 26 September 2024** and will **reopen on Tuesday 1 October 2024**. From this date, the Recovery team will resume their usual hours:

Monday: 9am - 4pm
Tuesday: 9am - 4pm
Wednesday: 9am - 4pm
Thursday: 9am - 6pm
Friday: CLOSED
Saturday: 9am - 1pm
Sunday: CLOSED

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

The Pomonal Relief Hub

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to help the Relief Hub for the Flower Show Market days: Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 of September

If you think you can donate a couple of hours of your time on one or both of these days, please call the Hub on 0403 183921

YOU





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APPLICATIONS FOR EAST GRAMPIANS BUSINESS AWARDS CLOSE THIS SUNDAY

The submission date for local business wishing to apply for the 2024 East Grampians Business Awards has been extended by one week, to **Sunday 22 September 2024**.

Entries are 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.

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.

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.

TENNIS COURTS RESEALED; PLAYERS WANTED

The courts at Pomonal Tennis Club were freshly resealed this week, and now the Club is looking for new competition players for the Minniera and District Association.

Playing against the local teams of Skipton, Willaura and Tatyoon, games are held on Saturdays at 1pm during October and November, with a break for Harvest and Christmas and then recommencing in February.

Men, women, and all levels of skill welcome!

Interested players can contact Pomonal Tennis Club at pomonaltennisclub@gmail.com or on 0407 823 874.

POMONAL RELIEF HUB

Opening Hours

MONDAY: 9am - 4pm

WEDNESDAY: 9am - 4pm

SATURDAY: 10.30am - 1pm



POMONAL COMMUNITY NURSERY

Volunteer gardening enthusiasts meet at the Community Nursery in Wildflower Drive every Wednesday from 10am until 12pm.

To get involved, simply turn up on a Wednesday or reach out to one of the below contacts.

Jill Miller at Jallukar Landcare:
jillmichael@internode.on.net

Margot Galletly at Australian Plant Society
Grampians Group:
grampians@apsvic.org.au



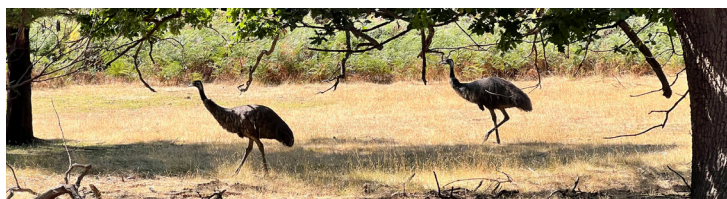
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TUNNEL TRACK LOOP WALK WORKS TO COMMENCE THIS MONTH

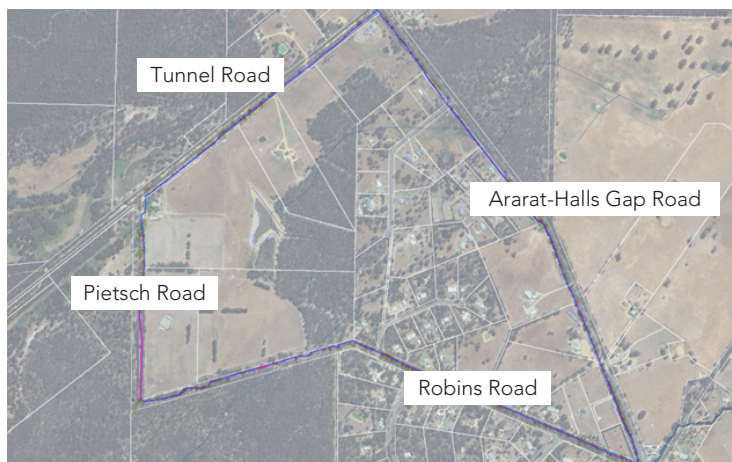


Construction work for the Tunnel Track Loop Walk is due to begin this month, in the week beginning September 23. The project - part of Planning Permit PA3093 - aims to enhance the community's recreational offerings with a new and improved walking track.

The initial phase of the project will involve track-clearing works. To ensure the safety and clarity of the project, alignment and protection flagging will be marked out over the next few weeks. This will help to delineate the track's route and safeguard any environmentally sensitive areas during construction.

"We understand that construction activities can be disruptive, and we appreciate your patience and cooperation as we work to bring this exciting new asset to our community," Council CEO Dr Tim Harrison said in a letter to residents.

Any questions or concerns regarding the project can be directed to Council's Economic Development Lead, Tim McDougall, on 0448 848 527.



Above: The Tunnel Track Loop Walk route, which follows (Clockwise from top left) Tunnel Rd, Ararat-Halls Gap Rd, Robins Rd, and Pietsch Rd.

EMERGENCY SPORTING EQUIPMENT GRANT OPEN

Sport and Recreation Victoria has announced its Emergency Sporting Equipment pool of funding, which grants eligible clubs up to \$1,000 each. It's designed to help grassroots organisations replace or repair essential sport or first aid equipment that has been lost or destroyed because of unpreventable incidents, including bushfire and flood.

Affected organisations are encourage to apply at <https://sport.vic.gov.au/funding/emergency-sporting-equipment-grant-program>.

Applications close on 31 May 2025, or when the funding is exhausted.

CFA SHARE FIRE DANGER PERIOD PREP INFO

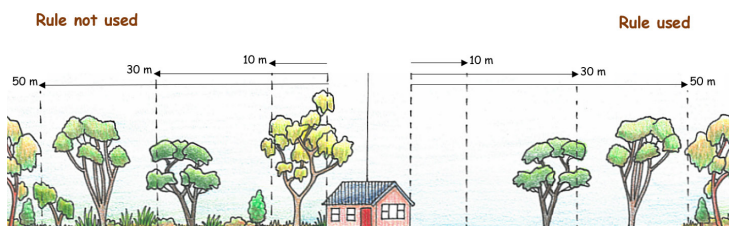
Pomonal CFA are urging residents to check the rules and recommendations around vegetation removal in preparation for the upcoming Fire Danger Period.

While some kinds of vegetation removal require a planning permit, there are exemptions which allow clearing hazards to create a defensible space for bushfire protection without a permit.

A 'defensible space' is an area of land around a building where vegetation is modified to reduce the amount of fuel available to burn during a bushfire, and separates the fuel from the building.

Before you clear vegetation you should check if the rules apply to your property.

Head to planning.vic.gov.au and search for 'Vegetation removal for bushfire protection' to read about the '10/30' and '10/50' rules, the rules for clearing along fencelines, how to manage the risk of erosion when clearing vegetation, and more.



Above: An infographic from planning.vic.gov.au displaying the '10/30' and '10/50' rules; visit the Planning website for more information.

