



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK, BELLFIELD FIRE UPDATE

TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2024

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY WELLBEING SESSIONS AT POMONAL HALL

Pomonal Community Resilience Group has organised two bushfire recovery sessions to be held on Wednesday 9 October at Pomonal Hall. Both sessions' speakers will present the same information.

"This is a good time to check how the recovery is progressing for individual households and the community," says the Group.

Each session will feature two speakers: Dr Rob Gordon and Michael Gordon. Rob is a clinical psychologist who specialises in disaster recovery and has supported many communities recover from bushfires and other major events (including Pomonal after the 2006 bushfire). Michael has worked closely with several communities who experienced natural disasters, and will facilitate the session.

Topics covered will include:

- insights from the experiences of other communities who have experienced bushfires and floods - with details of what has helped and hindered their recovery
- how to reduce distress during recovery with effective planning and preparation
- preparing for key milestones which may trigger further distress – such as the approaching fire season, elevated fire danger days during the summer, and the 12-month anniversary of the fire next year – and how to harness them to help recovery
- how to help young people process what they're experienced
- ways to take care of yourself, your family, and your community.

There will be time for questions in the last half hour of the session. RSVPs preferred; please text Glenn Holland on 0407 742 135.

Afternoon tea and supper provided.

DATE: Wednesday 9 October 2024

TIMES: Session 1 @ 2pm - 4pm

Session 2 @ 5.30pm - 7.30pm

LOCATION: Pomonal Community Hall

POMONAL RECOVERY CENTRE HOURS UPDATE

The Council Recovery Centre at the Pomonal Hall will be **closed on Thursday 17 October 2024** and will **reopen on Tuesday 22 October 2024**.

It will also be **closed on Thursday 31 October 2024** and will **reopen on Saturday 2 November 2024**.

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.

INTERESTED IN AFFECTING CHANGE? CONSIDER JOINING THE PPA

The Pomonal Progress Association is looking for new community members to join its ranks, and the upcoming Annual General Meeting is the perfect time for potential new members to see the Association in action.

"If you would like to learn about the role of PPA in our community, and be involved in decisions affecting Pomonal's future, come [along] and think about joining this vibrant group," the PPA says.

All Pomonal residents are encouraged to attend the AGM, scheduled for the evening of Tuesday 22 October and followed immediately afterwards by the ordinary PPA meeting.

DATE: Tuesday 22 October

TIME: AGM and supper - 5.30pm - 6pm

Ordinary PPA meeting - 6pm - 7.30pm

LOCATION: Pomonal Community Hall



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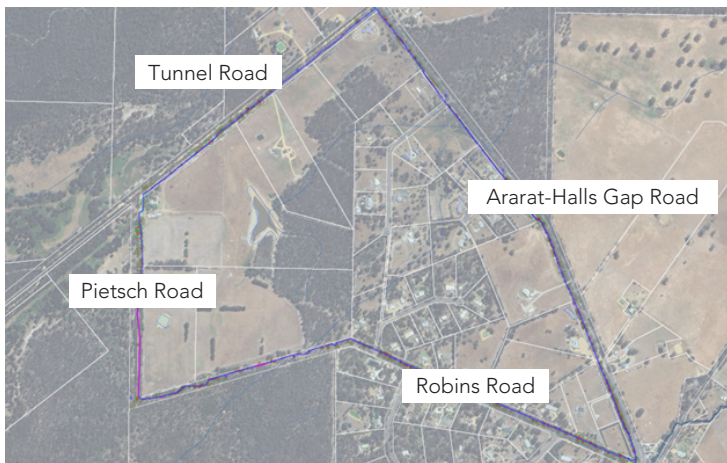
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WORKS UNDERWAY ON TUNNEL TRACK LOOP WALK

Construction work for the Tunnel Track Loop Walk is well underway. 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.

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

POMONAL RELIEF HUB

Opening Hours

MONDAY: 9am - 4pm

WEDNESDAY: 9am - 4pm

SATURDAY: 10.30am - 1pm



GET BUSHFIRE PREPPED AT CFA OPEN DAY

The upcoming Pomonal CFA Information Open Day will be "an important event that will help us all be ready," says Pomonal Brigade Community Safety Officer, Andrew Cross.

In attendance at the event will be the Brigade Captain, the CFA District Commander, and representatives from both Forest Fire Management Victoria and Ararat Rural City Council.

Light lunch will be provided.

DATE: Saturday 26 October

TIME: 11am

LOCATION: Pomonal Community Hall

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.

