



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

POMONAL & YARRAM GAP FIRE UPDATE

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2025

WILLAURA MARKET THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday Willaura Recreation Reserve will host the Willaura Outdoor Market, a boutique market and charity event run by the Willaura Health Care Auxiliary with funds raised going towards improving the lives of residents and patients at Willaura Health Care (East Grampians Health Service).

Vendors offering their wares at the market include **Fragrant N Flavour** (soaps, herbs, spices and seasonings), **DimpleDot Designs** (wheat bags, neck wraps, sensory pocket fidgets, iPad bean bags), **Casey&Co Designs** (polymer and resin jewellery), **Pomonal Orchard** and **Possum Gully Farm** (fresh produce), **PJ Creative** (framed and mounted photographic prints), **Grove Cottage Gourmet** (jams, preserves, sauces), **Metamorphic Designs** (sculptured pieces made from timber), and **Five Ducks Farm** (artisanal produce).

Ready-made food vendors include Ozy's Kebab Van, the Ciao Bella Coffee Caravan, Blue Wren Bakery, The Dumpling Man, and Timboon Fine Ice Cream.

In addition to stalls and refreshments, the market will offer live music, children's activities and a raffle.

For more information, visit the market's facebook page ("2025 Willaura Health Care Outdoor Market") or willauramarket.com.

DATE: Sunday 2 March 2025

LOCATION: Willaura Recreation Reserve, Delacombe Way

TIME: 10am - 2pm



VISIT THE SMALL BUSINESS BUS TODAY

The Small Business Bus - a free mobile business advice service from Business Victoria - arrives in Pomonal this morning, and Ararat later this afternoon.

The Small Business Bus comes equipped with expert advisors on board to provide one-on-one, tailored guidance to help you start, build, or transform your small business.

Book a session by emailing business@ararat.vic.gov.au. Sessions are 20 minutes, confidential, and free of charge.

Pomonal Hall (3360 Ararat-Halls Gap Rd, Pomonal)
10am - 12.20pm

Ararat Town Hall (Cnr Barkly & Vincent Streets Ararat)
1.40pm - 3.40pm

DISASTER RECOVERY SCAM AWARENESS



Always verify the legitimacy of any organisation seeking donations or offering assistance during disaster recovery. For assistance, contact Council's Customer Service team on (03) 5355 0200.

LAST DAY TO CLAIM VICC OFFER

Ararat Rural City Council and The Greater Ararat Business Network have worked closely with industry partners to support our local businesses across the fire recovery period, and the VCCI have shown their support by offering a 12-month, fully paid membership for just \$1 (T&C's apply).

Membership offers many services, including HR and workplace relations advice, networking opportunities, training resources and a grant finder.

The offer ends today, Friday 28 February.

Claiming the offer is easy; simply log into their website and use the code below:

Website: <https://www.victorianchamber.com.au/membership-product/employer>

Offer Code: ARARAT1





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AUTUMN FIREWOOD COLLECTION SEASON BEGINS

Firewood for personal use can be collected from designated collection areas in State forests during autumn and spring. The autumn collection season begins on March 1 and ends on 30 June, 2025.

People who rely on firewood as their sole source of heating and cooking are strongly encouraged to plan their firewood needs early, ensure they are using firewood in the most efficient way possible, and explore all energy options.

There are serious penalties for failing to follow firewood collection rules.

Find the rules, as well as information about areas from which you can collect, at <https://www.vic.gov.au/collecting-firewood>.



REGISTER FOR FREE MARCH WATER WORKSHOP

AgVic are hosting a comprehensive, two-day workshop in March hosted by farmer Anthony Pola and Agriculture Victoria officer Clem Sturmfels.

Topics will include preparing a water plan, calculating your water needs, planning your pipeline, farm dams, pipeline hydraulics and design, fittings and pumps, and pipeline installation and construction.

DATES: Tuesday 18 Mar + Tuesday 25 Mar

TIME: 10am - 3pm (both days)

Register (to assist with catering) by scanning the QR code above.

For more info, email:

clem.sturmfels@agriculture.vic.gov.au



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

Register now for one of the remaining Community Emergency Management Planning workshops, designed to develop tailored strategies to address unique local vulnerabilities.

The workshops will also enhance local capacity and capabilities to manage emergencies, identify community strengths and assets, and strengthen a community's preparation, response, and recovery capabilities for disasters.



To find out more or register for one of the below remaining dates, scan the QR code.

- Streatham Memorial Hall on Thur 6 Mar, 6pm - 9pm
- Lake Bolac Golf Club on Fri 14 Mar, 6pm - 9pm

For more information on follow-up workshop dates, call Council's Customer Service Team on (03) 5355 0200.

