



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

POMONAL & YARRAM GAP FIRE UPDATE

FRIDAY 31 JANUARY 2025

UPCOMING PASTURE RECOVERY WORKSHOP

A free workshop on pasture recovery is scheduled to take place at Raglan Hall on the afternoon of 12 February, with interested farmers asked to RSVP (for catering purposes) by Friday next week.

Leading the seminar will be Lisa Warn, an experienced Agricultural Consultant with a long history working in the grazing industries. She is skilled in pasture agronomy, farm management economics, sustainable farming systems, and sheep and cattle management.

See the flyer below for all details.

Pasture Recovery Workshop
"For farmers impacted by flood, fire and drought"

PPS

Speaker
Lisa Warn
Agriculture Consultant

TOPICS

- The current situation.
- What condition is my pasture in
- Assessing the damage.
- Should I destock.
- When and what to invest in to recover or develop my pasture.
- Learnings from past experience.
- Donated hay. Nutritional value and risk of weed seeds

Wed 12 Feb
2:00 PM
Free BBQ Dinner Provided

RAGLAN HALL

FOR CATERING
RSVP: FRI 7 FEB

Pyrenees
Shire Council

ESSENTIAL WATER REPLACEMENT

Landholders whose water supply has been affected by CFA/FFM use are encouraged to fill out an Essential Water Replacement form and submit to DEECA's Emergency Recovery team. A copy of the form is attached to this newsletter, and details of how to submit are included in the document.

GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK RECLOSED

The State Control Centre has declared Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park must close after a series of new bushfires began in unburnt areas of the park on Monday following dry lightning strikes.

The park closure will be enforced for visitor and community safety, and will help emergency services to act quickly.

Members of the public are reminded they may encounter fire crews and heavy machinery on roads and tracks. Please take care and drive safely.

COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY RECOVERY HELPLINE

Council's Community Recovery Helpline is available on **(03) 5355 0980** for all your queries on disaster relief and recovery. The line operates from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week.



AGVIC + ANIMAL WELFARE

Landholders impacted by the fires are asked to report any urgent animal welfare needs by phoning the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

For technical information about fire recovery including advice about stock water quality or animal health and nutrition, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/bushfires or email recovery@agriculture.vic.gov.au.

WILLAURA BLAZE AID BASECAMP ESTABLISHED

Volunteer-based organisation BlazeAid have set up a basecamp at the Willaura Recreation Reserve (Delacombe Way, Willaura).

Their crews can assist rural property owners with clearing debris and rebuilding fences and other structures damaged or destroyed by recent bushfire events.

Community members are encouraged to register their interest in BlazeAid assistance by calling Council's Community Recovery Helpline on (03) 5355 0980.



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FORAGE + FEAST IN POMONAL

Forage and Feast Festival is underway, and On Sunday February 9, Pomonal Estate will host a brunch event at which you'll get to sample the region's finest produce. From 9am to 11am, join the celebration of locally-sourced flavours on Pomonal Estate's curated menu, which features ingredients from valued local producers such as Blue Wren Bakery, Lakeview Organics, Bellellen Grampians Organics, Kerries Kreations, and Five Ducks Farm.

The following week will see Black & Ginger wines team up with Barney's Bar & Bistro, the home of their new cellar door, for a relaxed and fun evening featuring matched wines paired with a delicious menu crafted by guest chef, Fushy from Hamilton.

For all event info, head to centralhighlandsgrowers.com.au/forageandfeast.

MARCH WORKSHOPS ON WATER + LIVESTOCK

AgVic have announced two workshops for March, each designed to assist landowners with essential water and livestock health plans.

The Water Workshop, a 2-day seminar slated for 18 March and 25 March, runs 10am - 3pm both days and will cover calculating your water needs, planning your pipeline, fittings and pumps, and more. It will be held at Moyston Recreation Reserve.

For more info, email: clem.sturmfels@agriculture.vic.gov.au

The Looking After Your Livestock, Looking After You workshop will be held 31 March in Stawell, and will cover minimising livestock stress, disease prevention, practical strategies to improve your mental health and more.

For more info, email: felicity.pritchard@agriculture.vic.gov.au

DISASTER RECOVERY SCAM AWARENESS

Always verify the legitimacy of any organisation seeking donations or offering assistance during disaster recovery. For assistance, contact Council's Community Recovery Helpline on (03) 5355 0980.



EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOPS BEGIN

The first of five Community Emergency Management Planning Workshops hosted by The Six C's will take place on Tuesday next week.

Coordinated by Ararat Rural City Council with support from Emergency Recovery Victoria, the workshops are designed to develop tailored strategies to address unique local vulnerabilities. They'll 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.

The workshops will be held at:

- Moyston Recreation Reserve on Tue 4 Feb, 6pm - 9pm.
- Wickliffe Recreation Reserve on Mon 10 Feb, 6pm - 9pm.
- Willaura Memorial Hall on Wed 19 Feb, 6pm - 9pm.
- Streatham Memorial Hall on Thur 6 Mar, 6pm - 9pm.
- Lake Bolac Golf Club on Fri 14 Mar, 6pm - 9pm.

To find out more and to register, please call our Community Recovery Helpline on (03) 5355 0980, or register via the QR code below.