



Ararat Rural City

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

POMONAL & YARRAM GAP FIRE UPDATE

FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2025

THE TOWN CRIERS PODCAST TO SPOTLIGHT WILLAURA + MOYSTON

Acclaimed comedy podcasters Damian Callinan and Kirsten Diprose will visit Willaura and Moyston to record a live episode of their show *The Town Criers*, at a free event which will include a fundraising raffle for BlazeAid.

The Town Criers focuses on the unique stories of rural Australian towns, giving a fresh perspective on our smaller communities.

Damian Callinan is an accomplished comedian, actor, and writer with three nominations for Best Show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, also known for his roles in *Skithouse*, *Spicks & Specks*, and *The Merger*. Kirsten Diprose is an award-winning journalist, farmer and communications specialist based in south-west Victoria, who founded Rural Podcasting Co. and co-hosts the popular *Ducks on the Pond* podcast for rural women.

The two met at the ABC, and their joint podcasting venture was "driven by a passion to 'stick it' to the larger towns and regional centres."

DATE: Tuesday 18 March 2025

TIME: 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start

LOCATION: Willaura Hall

RSVP: Willaura Bakery or Moyston Store; BYO drinks + snacks.



LAKE BOLAC COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP NEXT WEEK

The last in the most recent series of Community Emergency Management Planning workshops will be held in Lake Bolac next week, with follow-up workshops in each participating township will continue over the coming months (see bulletin below).

The workshops are designed to develop tailored strategies to address unique local vulnerabilities in our townships' emergency preparedness, response and recovery capabilities.

To register for the upcoming Lake Bolac workshop, scan the QR code.

DATE: Friday 14 March 2025

TIME: 6.00pm - 9.00pm

LOCATION: Lake Bolac Golf Club



THE SIX C'S FOLLOW-UP WORKSHOPS

The follow-up Community Emergency Planning Workshops for Wickliffe and Moyston, coordinated by Council with support for Emergency Management Victoria and facilitated by The Six C's, have been scheduled for this month.

Wickliffe will meet on 24 March, and Moyston on 27 March.

For more information, scan the QR code above or call Council's Customer Service team on (03) 5355 0200.

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.

STAY INFORMED: Visit [ararat.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery](https://www.ararat.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery) and follow us on social media:





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AUTUMN FIREWOOD COLLECTION SEASON BEGINS

Firewood for personal use can now 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>.



PITCH MUSIC FESTIVAL ON THIS WEEKEND

The Pitch Music Festival is scheduled to be held in Moyton this weekend, from Friday, 11 March, through to Monday, 14 March 2025.

Local residents should be aware that this event will bring a considerable influx of visitors to the region, and as a result, increased traffic congestion, particularly on roads leading to and from the festival site, is expected.

Please allow extra travel time and be mindful of pedestrians.

REGISTER FOR FREE AGVIC 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 & Tuesday 25 March
TIME: 10.00am - 3.00pm (both days)

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

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



STABILISATION WORKS NOW IN PROGRESS

With the Grampians bushfires now contained, stabilisation efforts, including removing grader lines, are now underway.

We encourage community members to contact Council on (03) 5355 0200 with any questions or concerns.

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