



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## POMONAL & YARRAM GAP FIRE UPDATE

FRIDAY 4 JULY 2025

### MOBILE BLOOD BANK BUS TO VISIT ARARAT

Got a bit of time this July? 1 in 3 people in Ararat will need blood, and they need people like you to give it. The Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Blood Bank Bus will be rolling into Ararat from Tuesday 8 - Saturday 12 July 2025. Spaces are limited, book your donation online now at: [www.lifeblood.com.au/donor-centre/vic/ararat-mobile-donor-centre](http://www.lifeblood.com.au/donor-centre/vic/ararat-mobile-donor-centre) or phone 13 14 95.

**Location:** Ararat RSL/Ararat Library Car Park, 74-76 High Street, Ararat VIC 3377

### ONLINE WHOLE FARMING PLANNING COURSE

AgVic and the Glenelg Hopkins CMA invite farmers and their families to participate in an online 6-week whole farm planning course this August & September. Topics include farm design and layout, soils and land classing, pasture and grazing management, farm water supply, farm business planning, tree growing and biodiversity, adapting to a changing climate.

Property Identification Code (PIC) needed prior to registering. Scan the QR code to register.



### FARM BUSINESS TECHNICAL AND DECISION-MAKING

Farm business technical and decision-making support is being delivered by the State Government to support farmers to manage the impacts of increasingly difficult conditions.

Farmers can also register for a one-on-one farm advisory consultation to take stock and discuss the best way forward for their business. The consultation includes a session of up to 3 hours (face to face on farm or online) and follow-up call, to develop and implement a drought management action plan. For more information [agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought) or phone 136 186.

### LOOK OVER THE FARM GATE PROGRAM

The Look Over The Farm Gate program provides an opportunity to bring communities together to support farmers and their families under stress.

Managed by the National Centre for Farmer Health on behalf of the Victorian Government, the program offers grants of up to \$5,000 for community-led events that promote social connection and mental health awareness.

Find out more at: [farmerhealth.org.au](http://farmerhealth.org.au)

To view the full range of support available visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought) or phone 136 186

### ON-FARM DROUGHT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

The On-Farm Drought Infrastructure Grant program offers eligible farmers from across the state access to grants of up to \$5,000 (ex-GST) to support on-farm drought management and be better prepared for future droughts.

For eligible farmers in south west Victoria, an additional \$5,000 (ex-GST) top-up is available, taking the total grant on offer up to \$10,000 (ex-GST).

Eligible activities under the grant program have been expanded to cover activities including water carting and pasture re-establishment in recognition of the broad pressures farmers are managing. Also, for testing (such as soil, water or feed testing) to support drought management decisions.

For more information, and to apply, please visit: [www.ruralfinance.com.au/grants](http://www.ruralfinance.com.au/grants)

Sign up to Ararat Rural City Council's official e-newsletter to receive important info about our community, including infrastructure updates, upcoming events, and the latest Council news stories. Visit [engageararat.vic.gov.au](http://engageararat.vic.gov.au) to sign-up!