

Ararat Incident Control Centre Community Newsletter **YALLA-Y-POORA RD STREATHAM FIRE**

Monday 12th January 2026

Overview

On Friday, 9th January – a day of catastrophic fire weather; a grassfire started 5km North of Streatham between Yalla-Y-Poora Road and Eurambeen-Streatham Road at approximately 1:30pm.

This fast-moving grassfire travelled in an easterly direction under westerly winds exceeding 80kmh, through Carranballac along the Glenelg Highway and impacted south of the township of Skipton.

The forecast wind change at 3.00pm on Friday, did not eventuate until later in the afternoon, resulting in unexpected fire behaviour and extremely challenging conditions for firefighters.

Private vehicles from CFA Westmere Group were on scene very quickly, who were then supported by local brigades and Strike teams from other areas.



Current Situation

This 19,300 Hectare grassfire is now contained, however, it is **Not Safe to Return to Carranballac, Stoneleigh and the rural area of Skipton.**

Hazardous trees and fallen powerlines, pose a significant risk to residents attempting to return home.

Please be assured that facilitating safe property access to residents in the fire affected area is a high priority and significant efforts are being focused to ensure this is done as soon as possible.

A hazardous tree assessment team continue work to re-open roads.

Powercor are on scene assessing and repairing critical infrastructure with significant progress made over the last few days. Crews will now commence connections to properties.

Fire crews will remain on the fireground for several days completing work to consolidate control lines, ensuring that the area is safe for our communities.

You can expect to see emergency vehicles moving around the area and smoke in the area.

Road closures- current as at 8.00pm 12th January 2026

The Glenelg Highway is closed between: Eurambeen-Streatham Road, Streatham and Skipton-Geelong Rd, Skipton. Access to residents only via Skipton-Geelong Rd Traffic Management point.

Eurambeen-Streatham Road at Richies Road

Intersection of Mt William Road and Beaufort-Carranballac Road to Carngham-Streatham Rd.

Lismore-Skipton Road at Leydens Lane

Vite-Vite Skipton Road at Walkers Road

4km South of Darlington-Carranballac Road

Situation may change: Continue to check the VicTraffic website (traffic.transport.vic.gov.au) or call 13 11 70 for road closures.

Community Meetings:

Community meetings will be held on **Tuesday, 13 January 2026** at the below locations:

- 12pm at Beaufort Community Bank Complex (39 Park Rd, Beaufort)
- 2pm at Streatham Memorial Hall (30 Campbell Street, Streatham)
- 4pm at Skipton Mechanics Hall (5 Anderson Street, Skipton).

Powercor Mobile Emergency Response Vehicle

Representatives will be at Skipton Mechanics Hall on Tuesday 13th January 2026 from 10am with the Mobile Emergency Response Vehicle.

This is an opportunity for the community to talk to Powercor about power supply and it has capacity to charge up to 20 mobile devices.



Recovery Information:

A recovery hub is open at the Skipton Mechanics Hall, 5 Anderson Street, Skipton from 10am to 4pm.

Please note that the Beaufort Recovery Centre is now closed. Pyrenees Shire representatives will be in attendance at the Skipton Recovery Hub.

Useful Contacts:

Pyrenees Shire Residents:

For general enquiries, contact Pyrenees Shire Customer Service Team on PH: 5349 1100

Corangamite Shire

For general enquiries, contact Corangamite Shire Customer Service Team on PH: 5593 7100
Email: shire@corangamite.vic.gov.au

Skipton Fire Recovery Resources and Information:
<https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Property/Emergency>

Ararat Rural City

For general enquiries, contact Ararat Rural City Customer Service Team on PH: 5355 0200

Email: council@ararat.vic.gov.au

Ararat Rural City Fire Recovery
<https://www.ararat.vic.gov.au/fire-recovery-ararat-rural-city>

Urgent Animal Welfare

Contact Agriculture Victoria on 1800 226 226

Links to important information

Vic Government Website
<https://www.vic.gov.au/january-2026-victorian-bushfires>

Emergency Recovery Victoria
<https://www.vic.gov.au/emergency-recovery-victoria>

Agriculture Vic <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/emergency-management/bushfires>

Betterhealth Channel
<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/bushfire-preparation-advice>

Protect your health

If you need medical advice or someone you know is unwell, call Nurse-on-Call on 1300 60 60 24 for 24-hour health advice, see your doctor or contact Virtual Emergency Care – for non-life-threatening emergencies. In an emergency, always call Triple Zero 000.

The Better Health Channel has information that will help you clean up at home or return home safely. Information such as clean drinking water information.
<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/bushfires-and-water-tanks#bhc-content>

Water tanks should be disconnected and roofs washed of ash and embers.

Smoke in the air can trigger asthma and worsen heart disease and other lung conditions.

For the short-term, your eyes, nose and throat maybe irritated, you might cough, sneeze or be congested. In healthy adults, once the smoke leaves, these symptoms should go away.

Keep an eye on the air quality. (epa.vic.gov.au/check-air-and-water-quality.) Close your windows and doors until the air outside improves. If the air quality is good, open the windows and doors.

If it is smoky outdoors, stay indoors and close windows – put a wet towel along the edges to cover gaps – until the air clears

Switch air-conditioners off if they can't recirculate or re-use air.

Use a P2, KN95 or N95 mask when needed.

Mental health

It is normal to have strong emotional or physical reactions following a distressing event. There is always help available through:

- Your doctor
- Local mental health professionals

[Lifeline](#) - 131 114

[Beyond Blue](#) - 1300 224 636

[MensLine](#) - 1300 789 978

[Kid's Help Line](#) - 1800 55 1800

[Parent Line](#) - 13 22 89

Family Violence

There is an increased risk of family violence after an emergency. Help is available. Visit www.vic.gov.au/familyviolence or call 1800 737 732 (1800RESPECT).

Useful information

Contact VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226) to speak to someone about recovering. They can connect you with people who can help.

Stay informed

- www.emergency.vic.gov.au.
- VicEmergency Hotline - freecall 1800 226 226.
- VicEmergency app.
- Facebook or Twitter (#vicHAZARD).
- Local radio ABC 774

To access this information in other languages call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 (freecall) and ask them to call VicEmergency Hotline.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment contact National Relay Service on 1800 555 677 and ask them to call the VicEmergency Hotline.

