

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY

Redesdale Fire Community Recovery Update No 19

Thursday 2nd July 2009

Business Renewal Forum: Friday 10th July, at the Redesdale Hall, from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. **Let's hear from you about what your business needs so that it can recover and thrive after the fires.** Local business owners and the Community Recovery Committee are organising a fire-recovery forum, with dinner provided.

Bookings essential - Sandra Aitkin on 54 234 225.

VBRRA at Community Recovery Meeting: please come along – Barfold Hall, Wednesday 8th July at 5pm. Refreshments are available from 4.30pm. Greg Ireton and Louise Evans from the Bush-fire Recovery Authority (VBRRA) will talk about the role of VBRRA and answer questions at this meeting.

The Community Recovery Committee is the place that decisions are made about the way that money and resources are used, and also hears reports from the Fencing, Well-being and Economic Working Groups. If you want to raise an issue but can't attend, please contact Ian Lillington – contact details at the end of this newsletter.

Back copies of these newsletters are now available on the following web-pages:

http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Page/page.asp?Page_Id=754&h=0 and

http://www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au/Page/page.asp?Page_Id=1961&h=0

Re-Fencing: Win TV and 'Bendigo Weekly' and 'Bendigo Advertiser' journalists attended at Barfold Hall preceding the Fencing Group Meeting on 30th June. Cheques were presented from Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's Community Enterprise Foundation. The Redesdale share of this money is around \$140,000 and will assist Conservation Volunteers Australia to carry out fencing around the affected area.

Fencing Working Group: there is no meeting on 7th July. The next meeting Tuesday 14th July at 12.30 at Barfold Hall – all welcome. A tractor and post driver from Department of Primary Industry will be delivered this week. If you need **help with fencing**, please call Karl Metcalf on 54 234 132 or 0437 27 40 50.

The MID WINTER get-together last Saturday was enjoyed by close to 200 people on a calm and moonlit night. There was lots of good food, conversation and songs from choirs *The Chat-warblers* and the *Acafellas*, plus local band "Cross-Winds", and Lavender Princess Fairy Rose the face-painter. **Thanks** to all the volunteers, the CFA brigades, the Castlemaine Lions and soup-makers, the Redesdale Fires Community Well Being Group, Mclvor Neighbourhood House, & Regional Development Victoria.

INFORMATION for communities of Barfold, Baynton, Glenhope, Redesdale and Sidonia



Youth Week activities at Our Place, Eaglehawk are open to participants from the Redesdale Fire areas. Contact 5446 2527, ourplace@impulse.net.au

The DROUGHT BUS will be here on **Thursday, 16th July** at Baynton Hall, 10.30am to 2.00pm, and **Monday, 20th July** at Redesdale Hall, 9.30am to 3.30pm. The bus is a fully operational mobile office with Centrelink staff who can talk to you about professional advice and planning assistance or exceptional circumstances payments.

Free Massage Day for Fire-Affected Households: Wednesday 22nd July between 12 and 7pm in Redesdale. A 30-minute massage by Masseur, Di Hall, followed by coffee & cake. Contact Lisa Stables - 5425 3207 or 0409 231 662. This service is provided with the complements of Zonta Kyneton.

Please write for the Rural Women's Network magazine: **Deadline extended to 15th July**
The next edition will focus on *Beyond the Bushfires* and the magazine is looking for inspiring, empowering and informative articles that tell the story of beyond the bushfires from a woman's perspective. As this is truly a women's community publication, writers with all levels of skills and experience are encouraged to send their submissions. The Autumn 2009 edition is available at Barfold Hall.

ASSISTANCE and INFORMATION:

Case Managers/Key Contact Workers are available at Barfold Hall on Thursdays, from 10am – 12 noon; including a JP if you need documents to be signed by a JP.

Salvation Army support: The Salvation Army are available at Barfold Hall on Thursday 9th July, from 10am – 12 noon; with a range of vouchers and assistance available. The same service is available at the Salvos in Castlemaine on Fridays from 9am – 12 noon.

Australian Taxation Office assistance line: As the end of the tax year approaches, the ATO has a support information line to assist clients affected by the bushfires: 1300 304 975

Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund have announced a new *Transitional Support for Homeowners payment*. Grants of up to \$15,000 will be paid to people who lost their homes to help them with the transition from temporary accommodation into their new homes. More details from the hotline on 1800 180 213, or visit www.dhs.vic.gov.au/bushfireappeal and in this newsletter next week, or from your **Case Manager/Key Contact Worker at the Community Health Services in Castlemaine [5479 1000] and Kyneton [5421 1666]**.

Planning approvals contacts:

- Mount Alexander: Ray Christy - Tel. 5471 1762 / 0428 129 697, fax: 5471 1749;
- City of Greater Bendigo: Peter Hargreaves - 5434 6441; Jim Banfield - 5434 6344;
- Mitchell Shire: 5734 6200 - ask for any planning or building staff;
- Macedon Ranges Shire: 5422 0333 - ask for any planning or building staff.

Contributions to this newsletter can be sent to Ian Lillington, Recovery Officer, before 12 noon on Wednesdays - i.lillington@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au or call 5422 0337. Ian is away on leave on 6 and 7 July and 13-19 July. There will be no newsletter on 15th July.

