

# Community Recovery News for the Redesdale Area Fires

Number 34 – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

## SUPPORT AND PLANNING FOR 2010:

**Castlemaine Football Club** have confirmed that they will give one day of labour on odd jobs that people need doing around their yards – eg mulching, small scale rubbish removal. YaY! Kirra will organise this for sometime in late January [she's back at work on 11<sup>th</sup> Jan.] Please let her know about specific jobs that you need help with – details at end of newsletter.

**New Grant Funding:** the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund [VBAF] has announced a grant of \$55,000 to the Redesdale Community Recovery Committee for a wide range of events and activities through 2010. There is also a Community Summer Events fund of up to \$10,000 for bushfire-affected community activities throughout the summer months, similar to the Winter Events Grant program that funded the Elmore Field Day and Luna Park trips.

These grants will fund some parts of the Community Recovery Plan that was put together in August 09. Detailed discussion about these grants will take place at the Well-being Working Group meetings on Thursdays, 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm at Barfold Hall and the next CRC meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. Please come to those meetings if you can, or contact Ian or Kirra [details at end of newsletter], if you want to have a say but can't get to those meetings.

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010:** the Well-being Working Group met on 17<sup>th</sup> December and discussed plans for the anniversary of Black Saturday [7<sup>th</sup> Feb is a Sunday next year] and agreed to hold a breakfast at Metcalfe Hall from 8am-9.30am. [Metcalfe was the "Recovery Centre" after the fires in February 2009.] This leaves plenty of time to go on to the Mosaic Mural unveiling at Kyneton Town Hall. There is also a service at Redesdale Church at 5pm that day, with the presentation of 'Our Lady of Recovery' - an Icon for Redesdale. [More details in Bridge Connection newspaper and in this newsletter in January.] The Bushfire Appeal Fund has offered a Commemorative Events Grant for events which mark the one-year anniversary of the bushfires.

**Summer Break arrangements:** Council offices are closed from midday on 24<sup>th</sup> December until 9am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Ian is back from 4<sup>th</sup> Jan., and Kirra from 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. Our next newsletter will be on 14<sup>th</sup> January. The Case Management Service operates during normal business hours over Christmas. You can also call the intake line on **1800 050 400** during business hours if you can't get in contact with your case manager. Other useful numbers: Nurse-On-Call, **1300 60 60 24**, or Lifeline **13 11 14** - these services operate 24 hours.

## News for next year:

**12-14 January** – the magnificent mobile library is visiting the Redesdale Hall with three days of fun events – see page three of this newsletter.

**26 January** – Australia Day Film Night – Baynton Hall from 6pm. Games, BBQ, fun. With a grand movie yet to be announced – all welcome!

**7 February** – anniversary events – details above.

**10 February** – Community meeting with Ben Hubbard, CEO of VBRA.



**Taste of Gold's Gourmet Picnic:** 21st March - at Redesdale, with free hampers for fire-affected residents. A regional event in the prestigious Melbourne Food and Wine Festival – details at <http://www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au/event?id=233> and [www.tasteofgold.com/](http://www.tasteofgold.com/)

**Barfold Hall Drop-in:** Thursday drop-in at Barfold Hall will resume on 14<sup>th</sup> January from 10am – 12 noon and will continue at that time every Thursday.

**Clayton Warehouse:** the warehouse stores donated items for 'blue card holders'. If there is demand, we can organise a bus in late January or February. Please call or email Kirra if you are interested.

**School Holiday Program:** at Redesdale Hall until Friday 29th January 2010, and Heather Steele, youth worker, is back at work from 4<sup>th</sup> Jan., tel. 0428 867 654.

**Fencing Program:** Karl Metcalf will be continuing as Fencing Co-ordinator for six weeks from 18<sup>th</sup> January to late February 2010. This will allow work to continue on repair and replacement of boundary fences. A pneumatic post driver is available for short term loan – but you need to have your own compressor. For fencing requests or enquiries, contact Karl on 0437 27 40 50. Please leave a message if Karl is out of range.

**Deadlines for Grant Applications:** the Supplementary Grant for Primary Producers and Small Businesses Primary Producers Repair / Restoration Payment closes 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. Applications must include either receipts or quotes for clean-up works and/or restoration needed to restore the business. Late applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, but you are urged to get your applications in by the set date. For more information about these grants, contact the Rural Finance Corporation in Bendigo on 54482600.

The Department of Human Services' temporary living expenses grant and the re-establishment grant also close on 31 December, 2009. For information talk with your case manager or visit [www.dhs.vic.gov.au/emergency/current-events/bushfire/financial-assistance/major-grant](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/emergency/current-events/bushfire/financial-assistance/major-grant)

**Christmas gifts for local children:** thanks to CentaCare and the Community Wellbeing Working Group, Curves and Toyworld who distributed wonderful Christmas gifts to local families at the Barfold Hall on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**Women Gathering After The Fires:** women in the community affected by the fires are invited to attend a 1 or 2 day workshop in Bendigo in March 2010. They then may be eligible for funding to run a Women Gathering {"WG"} group in their own community. For more information, contact Kirra or Elaine Atkinson, Case Manager on 5479 1000.

**Thanks:** if you are running a farm, caring for sick relatives, entertaining guests, and/or doing more rebuilding, your life probably won't be much quieter than normal over the next few weeks, but we do hope you get a rest sometime☺. We'd like to thank you for all of your hard work and understanding over the last nine months as we have worked together on rolling out community recovery. We look forward to seeing you in 2010. Kirra and Ian.

**Recovery Staff Contact Details:**

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**Newsletters are also available at:**

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## THE MOBILE LIBRARY'S BIG THREE DAYS OUT

*The Goldfields Library Corporation's mobile library is visiting the space next to the Redesdale Hall from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January for 'The Mobile Library's Big Three Days Out'.*

*There'll be a marquee with espresso coffee plus cold drinks and icy-poles. Explore the book mobile and be amazed at the range of library resources now available. Or come and enjoy the fabulous (and free!) programmed events.*

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January:

**11.00 am: Pete the Plumber Rides the Water Cycle**

Listen to Pete's wondrous watery tales and help him make music with his water-pipe inspired instruments. Suitable for all ages.

**Midday: Juggling workshop with Pete the Plumber**

All equipment supplied. Suitable for all ages.

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January:

**10.30 am: Zine making workshop with Simmone Howell.**

What's a zine anyway? Come and find out. It's easy, creative and fun. Simmone is an award-winning young adult fiction author and her film scripts have been made into award-winning films. Suitable for secondary students.

**1.30 pm: High Literary Tea with Carmel Bird: Writing Your Life**

Carmel is a renowned author and will be reading from her inspirational book: *Writing The Story of Your Life*, followed by an informal discussion about memoir writing. Fresh scones and cups of tea will be provided.

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January:

**11.00 am: Giving Voice to the Landscape by Annie Stewart**

Be enchanted by Annie's stories as she gives voice to the landscape through her interactive stories that range from Goriolla the Rainbow Snake to tales from the Goldfields and more. Suitable for all ages.

*This Mobile Library's Big Three Days Out is a collaborative project between the Goldfield's Library Corporation and the Bushfire Recovery Health & Well Being Committee.*

*For enquiries, phone Julie Gittus, Outreach Officer, Bendigo Library on 5449 2786.*

