

Community Recovery News for the Redesdale Area Fires

Number 45 – 23^d June 2010

Welcome to Kate Mutsaers as the Bushfire Recovery Community Development Officer: It's a pleasure to accept the role as the Bushfire Recovery Community Development Officer for the next 10 months and I look forward in working alongside the community. For the last 12 months I have been working with the Bendigo Bushfire affected community and closely working in partnership with Kirra Litchfield, so I have a good understanding and awareness of this context. I'm excited about supporting another diverse and active community.

Kirra Litchfield will be finishing next week: thank-you for welcoming me into your lives, it has been a privilege to work with you all. I've met some wonderful and inspirational people over the last year and I've learnt a lot lessons that I will carry with me into the future. I wish you all the best with your recoveries and the future.

Meeting Dates:

- Communications [Bridge Connection & web-site development] call 54 255 501
- Wellbeing meeting Thursday 1st July Barfold Hall
- CRC Meeting Metcalfe Hall Wednesday 14th July at 6pm
- Land management 21st July Barfold Hall

The Well Being Working Group has organised an informal session with Dr Rob Gordon to come and talk to the community from 6pm on the 13th July at the Redesdale hall. Rob is working with the Victorian Government to support all fire affected communities in recovery. There will be light supper, sweets and lots of time for questions and chatting.

Parenting skills: Castlemaine District Community Health is facilitating a skills based parenting program in Kyneton. The free, six-session program has been funded in recognition of the impact on families in the aftermath of the bushfires but the topics are relevant to concerns faced by all parents. Sessions will run Monday evenings 6.30pm to 8.30pm (light meal available from 6pm) Commencing 9th August 2010, Kyneton. Enquiries and bookings to Rob Gill on 0488 026 446

Free 45mins Massage Vouchers for a little winter pampering. Appointments will be available at Riverview Lavender and Craft, 491 Lyells Rd Redesdale on the following dates Aug 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and Sept 8th free morning and afternoon tea with each voucher. Or by appointment at McCubbin Cottage 58 Urquhart St Woodend Vic 3442. For more information and to order your voucher ring Viv Bourke on 0429 708 707

A picture tells a story Fire-affected residents are invited to be part of a project using photography to tell stories. The workshops aim to be interesting, fun and rewarding, by providing an opportunity for residents to connect, learn new skills or just have a yarn. These workshops are free and morning tea is provided. For further information and bookings contact Deanna on 5475 1092 or 0428 751 090 or email Deanna@focusoncommunity.org

Baynton/Sidonia Land Care Group has received funds from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund for a project aimed at restoring fire damaged native vegetation. Letters and emails have been sent out explaining the project. If you have not seen a copy of the letter, and you would like to, please feel free to get in contact with Kirra Litchfield.

Mike Hall is running mentoring program as part of the Youth Participate and Innovate project for the Redesdale fire affected area for youth aged 17 to 26 years. The Program offers guidance toward a career or assistance to define your goals and achieve them. Contact Mike Hall at CHRIP 5479100, 0457 524490 or email mhall@cdch.com.au

The Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority will be hosting a state-wide Community Leadership Development Forum. The forum will be at the Sebel Heritage Yarra Valley on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 July 2010. Council and DHS will have representatives attending the forum and we would like to have community members from the CRC and each of the working groups. Please contact Kirra for more information.

UHF Radios If you are interested in receiving a fire radio or want to find out more, please call Anthony Ryan on 54255578 or 0437 356051

Post hole driver for fencing recovery: Contact Pip on (03) 5423 7263 or p.j.elston@bigpond.com

Rainwater tank grants for bushfire destroyed homes: A one-off grant is available to residents rebuilding homes to purchase and install rainwater tanks: <http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/saving/home/rainwater/rainwater-tank-grants-bushfire-destroyedhomes>



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