

The
Triangle News
is a project
of the
Marysville
& District
Lions Club Inc.
ABN 32 727 809 965

MARYSVILLE

triangle news

NARBETHONG

BUXTON & TAGGERTY



We Serve

Friday March 6 2009

President Ken Adams

Vol. 36 No. 7

Tips from a bushfire survivor

Canberra woman Liz Tilley and her husband John Flannery and children Patrick, now 13, Conor, now 11, and Rosie, now eight, lost their home in Warragamba Avenue, Duffy, in the January 2003 firestorm. They moved back into their rebuilt home in August 2004. She has penned the following tips, based on her experiences.

As a survivor of the January 2003 firestorm in Canberra, my heart goes out to those who have lost loved ones, homes, pets, and a lifetime of memories in the tragic Victorian fires.

As I sit watching TV news coverage, with my heart racing and my body shaking slightly as I remember the fear, the flames, the heat, the smoke and the knowledge that I would probably not get out alive; I also remember in the days, weeks and months after the fires what support we needed and valued. The victims of the Victorian fires are coping with the loss of homes, possession, pets and property as well as trying to cope with immense grief.

A great relief effort is one that is based on the experiences of previous disaster situations, and yet, after the Canberra bushfires, we were so often "re-inventing the wheel". I just can't bear to see those victims in Victoria not benefit from what we learned in Canberra.

While the aid agencies will swing into action to do what they do best and the State and Federal government will put their disaster planning into action, how can the Australian public, and the Victorian Relief Effort, help in the best way possible?

What the surviving victims need, both in terms of donations, and physical and emotional support comes will come in phases. Of course, the first

weeks after the fire, in the immediate post trauma phase, these needs will be different from what they will need in six, 12 months or two years time.

So, for what it's worth, here are some of my tips for a "great" relief:

Notes to the general public:

Donate cash. Every little bit counts. If every person in Australia donated just five dollars, imagine what a difference it would make.

Basic essentials. Please only donate things that are new or of good quality. Don't slow down the relief effort by having the team receiving the donations in Victoria have to sort through linen, clothing or manchester that is soiled, torn, buttons missing or otherwise damaged in any way. Better to donate one item that is new or in good condition rather than several things that you don't wear anymore because they're too out of fashion, have broken zips or are stained. Similarly with bed linen, towels, blankets etc, only donate what is good quality or new.

Think of all the things you need every day -- pyjamas, toothbrush, toothpaste, face washer, soap, toiletries bag, deodorant, hairbrush, comb, shampoo, clothes suitable for work, casual clothes, belt, shoes, socks, watch, hair ties, wallet, handbag, keyring, hat, sunscreen, etc.

These people have nothing. While they will receive immediate assistance in the form of cash and gift vouchers from charitable organisations for major retail outlets, I remember that every day there was something I needed and didn't have. Within the first few days we needed notepads and pens just to deal with the paperwork and the insurance company.

Needs change over time, as people move into temporary accommodation they will need cooking utensils, pots, pans, plates, cups, bowls, kitchen knives, furniture, the list is endless.

Cold weather will come soon and winter clothes will be needed at this time -- warm tops, coats, hats and scarves. Blankets, electric blankets and heaters will also be needed.

Kits. If you're thinking of what else to give, put together a first aid kit for the home, or an office kit, a toiletry bag, or a make-up kit, or a hair care kit for a child, a kitchen kit, a tool kit etc -- these will be much appreciated.

Make something. Some of our most treasured items are the ones that were made, with love, by complete strangers. Hand-knitted anything, home made jewellery, toys, anything for a home.

Grow something. To see green, and new growth, when we returned to our rebuilt home, was beautiful and gave us hope that we too could recover.

Note to the Victims:

Learn to receive. Most of us are great at giving help, but many people find it difficult to accept help. Take the help when it is offered and don't be afraid to ask for what you need. For many people it can be incredibly hard to do this. But you need to allow family, friends, and the wider community to give. It will make you stronger and years from now, will give you an insight into what others need in times of trauma -- because you've been there and you understand. The only way you can truly learn to help others is by accepting help yourself when you need it. Six years on, I still feel an enormous faith in the human spirit, our ability to survive, and the compassion and generosity we can offer each other.

Please Send Your Contributions to:-

The Triangle News
P O Box 1 Buxton 3711

Deadline - 5.00pm Mondays

Buxton Store & P.O.,
Black Spur Roadhouse Narbethong,
or by Email.

Circulation: 600 copies
to Narbethong, Marysville, Buxton,
where possible

e-mail to:

delice.guscott@bigpond.com

or PH : 5963 3353 (Btl Mon-Thurs)

or FAX: 5963 3353

DISCLAIMER

The Triangle News committee does not take responsibility for opinions expressed by contributors to the Triangle News. The editor reserves the right to reject articles and advertisements and to edit submissions if necessary. **All submissions must carry the author's name, address and phone number.**

The Triangle News is currently available at Narbethong (Black Spur Inn), Marysville Golf Club, Buxton Store or the Igloo at Buxton, Taggerty Store or Alexandra Newsagency

Triangle & Taggerty residents temporarily displaced can have a Triangle News mailed to them courtesy of Fran Bailey's office if they are unable to pick up a copy at any of the above locations, please register a mailing address with Di Roennfeldt on 5774 7575

Narby eggs

Genuine Free Range Eggs

Yes we are still here and the chooks are still laying so we are operating business as usual

Free Delivery within the
Triangle

Ph: Raelene Bartlett
59 637 248

Please support our local businesses
that are still lucky enough to be
here.

Marysville Medical Clinic News

When staff at Alexandra District Hospital reviewed and modified their emergency management plans in 2008, who would have imagined the magnitude of disaster the Hospital would face only a few months later?

On the night of Saturday 7th February 2009, the town of Alexandra became the refuge for our friends in the Narbethong, Marysville, Buxton and Taggerty areas as they tried to escape the worst wildfire on record. There was a rapid influx of patients with a variety of fire related injuries, many of whom required transfer to a larger facility. With all roads to Melbourne blocked, Goulburn Valley Health accepted 8 transfers over the next 24 hours. Fifty-six patients presented over that first weekend and by the end of the first week, a total of 161 presentations had been managed.

Six of our staff lost their homes, but thankfully all survived along with their families. Our doctor in Marysville lost his home and unfortunately was injured in the fires. Our Marysville Community Health Service, which contained the GP practice, was completely destroyed and we are currently working towards re-establishing a community health service, which will include the GP practice, in Buxton as quickly as possible.

Our emergency management planning withstood what could be regarded as the "ultimate" test and we not only managed that first weekend extremely well, but have managed to sustain ongoing services since. My heartfelt thanks go to our amazing staff and doctors who did an outstanding job in extremely challenging circumstances.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the many Accident & Emergency doctors and nurses from Melbourne and Regional areas who supported us via the Victorian Medical Assistance Teams.

Our apologies to any members of our community who had elective surgery, X ray or consulting appointments cancelled during the first week of the fires. We have since restored all usual theatre, radiology and consulting lists.

Whilst it is gratifying to know that our emergency management plans operated so well, we hope we never have to manage an emergency on this scale again.

Heather Byrne
Chief Executive Officer / Director of Nursing
Alexandra District Hospital

Water tanks in bushfire-affected areas

Not all rain water tanks are contaminated after a fire.

You can tell if your tank water is contaminated after fire if it looks or smells noticeably different to what it did before the fire. If it looks and smells the same as it did before the fire, then check the taste. If it tastes the same as it did before the fire, it is unlikely to have been contaminated.

If it smells unusual, or is cloudy, has an unusual colour or contains particles, assume it is contaminated. You will need an alternative supply of water for drinking, cooking and teeth cleaning.

Testing the water is not recommended as contamination is usually obvious based on the colour smell and taste.

If the water smells and looks the same as before the fires you do not need to treat your water or clean your water tank. You only need clean your tank if you think the water is contaminated.

If you do need to clean your tank, you can have specialist contractors clean it, or if it's safe, you can clean your tank yourself. If grossly contaminated it is recommended that you engage a specialist contractor as working with cleaning agents in a confined space is potentially dangerous.

To clean the tank yourself, you must ensure it is adequately ventilated.

Diluted bleach or chlorine will treat the water for bacteria. It can be used to wash down the tank walls or you can add it to the water as a disinfectant. For every 1000 litres of water in your tank you can safely add: 4% chlorine household bleach (approx) 125 mL or 125 g - avoid bleaches that contain detergents or other chemicals such as perfumes.

'THE BLACK SATURDAY BUSHFIRES'

have had a dramatic social and economic impact across the Shire.

This devastating event has had far reaching consequences affecting the vibrant nature of our communities and businesses.

Many businesses will be under significant financial pressure throughout 2009 and beyond and the flow on to business viability and job security could be significant.

YOU CAN DO SOMETHING

Right now you could consider:

- Buying more 'local' products and services
- Comparing prices and products
- Giving local businesses an opportunity to quote a price
- Saving money on travel costs

Consideration costs nothing

Think local
Buy local
Keeping \$'s local keeps local jobs

Help to rebuild vibrant communities and vibrant businesses



Murrindindi
Shire Council

Maroondah Highway at Black Spur remains closed

as VicRoads works to undertake emergency repairs and clear unstable trees. VicRoads only gained access to this road last week as it was previously under active fire threat. It is still considered unsafe to drive on as there are many unstable trees needing to be removed.

Crews will work as quickly as possible to get the road open, however weather conditions over the next few days may delay this process. We thank motorists and local residents for their patience and will continue to provide updates.

The above information obtained from VicRoads website Tues 3rd

PHOENIX TASKFORCE SEEKS HELP FROM MARYSVILLE RESIDENTS

Investigators from the Phoenix Taskforce will attend the Marysville Community Golf and Bowls Club on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th of March 2009 between 9am and 5pm, to obtain statements from Marysville residents.

Police are hoping to gather further information about the bushfires that ravaged the Yea- Murrindindi Complex and urge all residents to attend the Community Golf and Bowls Club and tell their story

Detectives would like residents who were not present in the area on Saturday 7th February 2009 to still attend the nominated meeting point so that a brief statement can be taken reflecting this.

These statements will be collated to form part of the brief of evidence that will eventually be submitted to the Victorian Coroner.

Taskforce Phoenix have requested that every resident contact **Crimestoppers** on 1800 333 000 to register their availability or provide contact details for those members of the community that are unable to attend either day.

Police would like to thank the Marysville residents who have already given their time and provided a statement to members of the Phoenix Taskforce.

Sergeant Carla Coslovich
Media Officer
MDL 27110
Bushfires/2009/Marysville residents

Triangle Advertisers

I am hoping to resume regular advertising in the next week or so, it would be appreciated if you could advise whether or not you wish your advertising to be included at this stage. My preferred method of contact is via email: delice.uscott@bigpond.com or fax to 5963 3353 or in the short term only, you may phone 5963 3342 and leave a message if no answer

Mayor's Chair

I have now been able to visit many of the Bushfire affected areas in the shire. I send my personal, sincere congratulations, along with council's, to all of our communities for the tireless efforts over the past two and half weeks. I may not have had the opportunity to speak with all of you as the workload for all of us has been overwhelming. Having attended a number of community meetings at Kinglake West, Flowerdale, Alexandra, Kinglake and Yea it has been incredible to see how people are working together and supporting each other through one of the worst disasters we have seen in a shire, state and nation. With the many phone calls and requests for information from the meetings we have all been kept incredibly busy.

We have lost many loved ones, gained many friends and received generous donations from so many we could not name them all. It has been a privilege and honour to represent the views of the communities to the other levels of government and departments. I feel proud to stand with you so we can work together to rebuild our communities and the memorials you have spoken about in tribute to those who have lost their lives in this tragedy. Councillors from ridings directly affected by the bushfires have been working long hours assisting the community as much as possible. The remaining councillors have been working helping out their fellow councillors where they can, as well as assisting at the relief centres.

In between travelling to as many of the fire areas as I have been able to gain access, I have made representation to the Prime Minister, Premier of Victoria, numerous State and Federal Ministers and departments and the Recovery Reconstruction Authority. I also feel honoured to be sitting on the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Advisory Panel that will distribute the money that has been donated to the Red Cross, State Government and Commonwealth.

Being able to represent the Murrindindi Shire and other fire affected municipalities across Victoria at the Road Laver Arena Memorial Service by reading an Expression of Compassion was indeed a privilege. I will continue to put forward the need to work with the community especially in the rebuilding of our many towns and hamlets.

Once again I congratulate everyone, who along with our emergency services, are all heroes, with each one of us having our own story to tell. United we stand and we will achieve our living memorials to those we have lost.

regards

Cr Lyn Gunter

Heartfelt thanks

to all the wonderful, wonderful people who have taken me to their hearts.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to too many people to name, but not too many to love. To my beautiful Eileen and Helen, I pray that they be blessed and kept safe and my home away from home, Darlingford and all the wonderful staff be kept safe also. To wonderful Keith and David's wife, please forgive me for not knowing the names of all the wonderful people who gave all to save us. God bless them all.

Susan Lucas

PAT'S HAIRDRESSING

57747016

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
WORKING FROM HOME FOR
THE TIME BEING

TENNIS

(FREE!)

At Buxton Reserve
4:30pm Mondays

All ages - coaching
Practice & play

Bring racquets, soft shoes
Graham Page 5774 7555

Marysville & District Lions Club

would be interested to hear from people affected by the bushfires who believe that there are areas/types of assistance that have not yet been provided or addressed by any of the organisations.

Please contact Neil on 5963 3342

Local Community Recovery Reference Groups

Expressions of interest are invited from people who would like to volunteer for Local Community Recovery Reference Groups for each of the fire affected communities - (Cluster 1: Kinglake, Kinglake West and Toolangi Cluster 2: Flowerdale, Glenburn and Strath Creek Cluster 3: Buxton and Narbethong Cluster 4: Marysville)

Applications are invited immediately and will be assessed on experience, skills and community involvement.

Bushfire recovery will be enhanced by collaboration between local communities, government agencies, volunteer groups and the corporate sector. If you would like to be an integral part of the recovery process, please forward your expression of interest to email ehoiles@murrindindi.vic.gov.au or PO Box 138, Alexandra VIC 3714.

BUDDING GARDENERS

GROW YOUR OWN

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN GROWING YOUR OWN
VEGETABLES
OR
FLOWERS
I WILL SUPPLY SEED,
LAND & WATER

Phone GEORGE EDWARDS
57 747 361

Marysville Update (provided by Bruce Ackerman)

A meeting of senior representatives from a variety of groups involved in the reconstruction of the devastated areas in the Marysville & Triangle region was held on Monday 2nd March at the Murrindindi Shire Council Chambers. As well as a number of shire representatives, organisations represented at the meeting included, police and emergency services, State Department of Human Resources, service providers including Telstra, The Australian Children's Trust, and Marysville & Triangle Development Group (MATDG).

Temporary Village and Resource Centre at Marysville. - Discussion centred on reconstruction efforts and in particular the establishment of a temporary village and Resource Centre at Marysville.

Having considered a number of options for the site of a temporary village, it was felt that land at ESA (opposite the Marysville Golf Club) would be most appropriate. A major factor in this reasoning is that the site already has provision for power, sewer, water, communication and good access.

Some accommodation already exists on the site including 2 large lodges which can accommodate up to 40 people. Negotiations with the ESA owners are underway and an agreement could be in place by the weekend. The Andrew Forrest Children's Trust have also offered to provide 1 bedroom units complete with ensuite, phone and internet connections known as "Dongers". Depending on the demand for this accommodation, the Trust will endeavour to provide as many of these units as may be required. Telstra have also offered to locate a mobile internet café at the site. Other essential services including Centrelink, post office facilities, newsagency, supermarket etc are also under consideration.

Reinforcing the appropriateness of the ESA site for the temporary village is its closeness to the Marysville Golf & Bowls Club House. Immediately adjacent to the ESA site the club has a registered kitchen and plenty of space for dining, recreating etc.

Free Storage Facilities. - Bruce Ackerman (MATDG) reported that approximately 100 shipping containers had been offered to allow bushfire affected residents a secure storage facilities at no cost. Should anyone wish to avail themselves of this offer please contact Sheree Bell on 57747421. (Genuine enquiries only please)

Databases & Contact Information. - A Marysville & Triangle Community Database has been developed in an attempt to ensure everyone affected receives good and reliable information. Should you wish to be included in this list, please email your details (mobile phone number & email address) to trudi.ackerman@yahoo.com.au

Trades Database. - A database of tradesmen and associated suppliers of good & services is also being developed. One of the major objectives of the reconstruction efforts is to ensure local tradesmen are engaged as a priority. Please send your details together with a brief description of your trade or expertise to the Public Affairs & PR Manager, Graeme Haycraft, of the Marysville & Triangle Development Committee (MATDG) graeme@haycraft.com

MOP's. - Goods for the future MOPs (Marysville Opportunity Shop) are being received and are being sorted in readiness for future needs.

Cemetery Information. - Residents will be pleased to know that the cemetery site sustained minimal damage with all headstones remaining intact. Damaged trees and shrubs have already been removed. Ten new exotic trees have also been planted.


Water Matters - GVWB. - Untreated river water has been diverted into the Aubrey Cuzens Reservoir (Marysville) via a temporary pipeline and pump. The level has increased by 400 mm and is gaining daily. Bottled water is available to all residents for drinking purposes as the town supply is non-potable.

Garden Information. - Green thumb's will be delighted to learn that 2 semi trailer loads of plants have been delivered to the Bushfire Relief Nursery in Buxton. These plants will be freely available for fire affected residents to assist in the re-establishment of their new gardens.

For further information on any of these matters please contact either Bruce Ackerman on 0418171754 or Public Affairs & PR Manager, Graeme Haycraft, of the Marysville & Triangle Development Committee (MATDG) 0427091495

MORGAN - A Funeral Service to farewell and remember Harley and Errol Morgan will be held at the Melbourne Christian Fellowship, 70 Holloway Rd. Wonga Park (Mel. Reg. 36 K5) on SATURDAY (March 14, 2009) at 11 am.

The family will gather for a Private Burial Ceremony at a later date

 **Le Pine Heritage**
Lilydale 9735 1500
Member AFDA

CHURCH NOTICE

Anglican Parish of
Marysville Services are
to be held
at St Thomas' Buxton
9 am each Sunday
until such time as
services may be
resumed in Marysville.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO HOLD A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ALL LOST PETS & AFFECTED ANIMALS

**Where: St. Thomas Church
Buxton**

When: 11am Sat 28/3/09

**Father Norman & Wendy
Davis are co-operating to
organise this service.**

**Further details will be
advertised closer to the date.**

Sizing Things Up

A fisherman was lugging a fish half his size when he met another fisherman with seven small fish on a string. "Howdy," said the first fisherman, dropping the large fish and waiting for a comment.

The other fisherman studied the big fish on the ground. Then he said calmly, "Just caught the one, eh?"

OTHER HELP

Dr Margaret Miller will be seeing people on Saturdays 9-10.45am in Buxton (for now, as no one has been making appointments for Sundays). Apparently there has been one appointment only taken up for this Saturday so far!

Dr Lachlan Fraser will see patients Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 - 4pm.

Phone Buxton Store to make an appointment with either Doctor on 5774 7301

RACV & CGU Insurance representatives are available at the Marysville Golf Club AND Buxton Reserve.

Buxton CFA - Information Update Meeting
Daily at 5.00 pm
In the Army Tent at Buxton Reserve
Until further notice

Fuel is available at the Igloo Roadhouse

New & Secondhand clothing and small household items are at time of printing still available at Buxton Hall - also available at Narbethong at the Black Spur Inn. Watch this space for updates.

Support from Far & Near:

Another large consignment of donated goods from N.S.W. will be arriving within a few days and again will be available as soon as these can be sorted.

Free Food and drinking water is available in the building at the corner of Buxton-Marysville Rd & Highway - also available at the Black Spur Inn, Narbethong. Watch this space for updates

Anyone needing hay delivered, call Andrew Embling on 0418 266 038

Marysville/Narbethong/Grantton Mail is currently held at Healesville, 18 Hunter Street. Mail can be picked up from there, or re-direction forms are available from Buxton PO (free re-direction to wherever). Roadside deliveries have resumed where possible and previously available. Contact Buxton store on 5774 7301.

Drinking water should be boiled for all Buxton and Marysville residents.

Bart's Earthmoving & Ag Contracting

We can now offer you:

- Rural Fencing
- Post and Rail Fencing
- Removal of Old Fencing
- Building of Stockyards
- Direct Drilling of pasture
- Supply and Spreading of Fertiliser
- Bobcat Hire

Phone Rob Bartlett

59 637 248 or 0447 481 273



FIRE RELATED ENQUIRIES

DPI RURAL RECOVERY CENTRE - 5761 1528

- Livestock
- Fencing
- Farm dams
- Stock containment areas
- Pest weed and animals
- Soil conservation
- Whole farm planning
- Native vegetation

FODDER

Andrew Embling VFF 0418 266 038
VFF 1300 882 833

WILDLIFE

Wildlife Help 0417 380 687
Wildlife Victoria 1300 094 535
Animal Aide (domestic pets) 9739 0300
RACV Wildlife Connect 13 11 11

RUBBLE CLEARING

Victorian Volunteer Hotline 1300 366 356

DANGEROUS FIRE TREES

Shire of Murrindindi Recovery 5772 0333

FIRE SUPPRESSION WATER LOSSES

Shire of Murrindindi Recovery 5772 0333

ROAD CLOSURES

VicRoads Website vicroads.vic.gov.au
VicRoads Bushfire Road Closures 1800 240666

WEBSITES

VicRoads vicroads.vic.gov.au
DPI dpi.vic.gov.au
DSE dse.vic.gov.au

There is someone to help!

The Victorian Bushfire Case Management Service is available now to help you.

The **Victorian Bushfire Case Management Service** is providing all Victorians affected by the bushfires with the support they need to access assistance with matters including accommodation, finance, personal assistance, employment, education, counselling, health and legal services during this difficult time.

Call the
**Victorian Bushfire Case Management
Service Line**

1800 050 400

or speak with staff at recovery centres

WORK FOR FARMERS

Connecting the farming community with off farm employment

Farmers, their families and workers can access the opportunity to formally qualify their skills to assist them to earn off farm income.

The Shires of Murrindindi, Mansfield, Strathbogie and the Rural City of Benalla, Rural Skills Connect initiative, endeavours to address labour shortages and provide opportunities to increase farm cash flow by providing employment opportunities and training that compliment the existing skills of local farmers.

As the impact of our recent bushfires hits home, farmers, their families and employees could be looking for ways to earn an extra bit of income and those industries and contractors that are struggling to find employees may well have an answer for them.

Rural Skills Connect Project manager Debra Shaddock said the skills of local farmers could benefit local employers. Business often already recognise the value of the work ethic and the resilience of people on the land.

"The project provides a win for all concerned", said Ms Shaddock. Contractors involved in the bushfire clean up and recovery process are keen to employ a local labour force. The formal qualification of skills is a vital step in making local employment a reality.

Deb encourages anyone interested in the opportunity of obtaining free skill qualification and possible 'off farm' employment to contact her to arrange a visit and informal chat. She can be contacted on 03 5775 8520 or 0407 848 789

Please come along to a

MARYSVILLE and TRIANGLE Community Social Gathering & BBQ

On:

Sunday March 15th

At:

The Yering Gorge Cottages
"Yering Function Room"
215 Victoria Road, Yering.

(melways ref: front gate 280 D1)

12noon for BBQ Lunch

(food and soft drinks provided)

RSVP is essential for catering purposes:

Please confirm your attendance by Monday 9th March, via TEXT message with your surname, the number of adults and children who will be attending to:

0413 400 300

(if you have any queries, please contact Neale Johnston on 0411 460 414)

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER TO MEET WITH RESIDENTS

Deputy Commissioner Kieran Walshe will today be meeting with residents from Kinglake to address any frustrations they may be experiencing.

Mr Walshe said, "We are aware that residents are frustrated with the current situation and we need to reassure them that we are committed to completing a thorough and sound investigation and to ensure that any bushfire victims are located and managed with dignity and respect."

"Information is being fed back to me through the local Commanders about how the communities feel in these areas and I want to listen to all their concerns and feed them back to the right authorities and see what action needs to be taken."

The Section 40 restriction notices do not prohibit access to the areas but rather give police the authority they need to control and preserve the area.

Once the Section 40 notices have been lifted by police and the Coroner, property owners need to seek advice from their local council that safety checks have been also been completed.

The 'Municipal Building Surveyors' from the local councils will inspect each and every property from a safety perspective. On some occasions this will also include a representative from the Environmental Health department.

Each property will be given a notice as to whether it is safe or not with instructions to the owners as to what they are able to do.

If the property area is declared safe then the owners will be able to return and retrieve any items remaining that they wish to take. The site will then be ready for clearance. Some properties have already been cleared from a police and safety perspective.

Restriction notices have been lifted in four fire affected areas (Operation Winston, Operation Elects and Operation Phylon, Operation Spence) across the state after new police searches for bushfire victims were completed.

The notices have been lifted in the fire affected areas of Redesdale, Callignee, Churchill, Jerralang and Hazelwood in Gippsland and Maiden Gully and Bendigo, Mudgegonga.

A number of fire affected areas are still covered under Section 40 including Murrindindi Mill, Marysville, Narbethong, Wandong, Kilmore, Humevale, Kinglake and Taggerty.

The notices do not prevent residents from returning to their local area but they do prevent owners from starting any clean up and removing any rubble or items from their destroyed homes until such time that police and the Coroner are satisfied that the area has been thoroughly searched and all human remains have been located.

Deputy Commissioner Kieran Walshe said police and the Coroner understand that people are keen to return to their properties and commence clean up works and as soon as further notices are lifted the community would be informed.

"We are undertaking this process community by community. After completing each community we will approach the Coroner to lift the restriction in that particular area and let local residents know as soon as possible. Residents then need to contact their local council to ensure that the safety checks have also been completed."

Marysville Golf Club News.

The members of Marysville Community Golf and Bowls club mourn the loss of some members, the loss of a number of homes and the loss of their local community. To the members, their families and friends who have been affected in any way by the events of February 7th we send our sincere condolences. The clubhouse miraculously was undamaged by the fire and it will become a Community Hub for the people of Marysville.

The course was very badly damaged by the firestorm. The fairways will have to be cleared of fallen and burnt trees, twelve greens will have to be rebuilt, all bridges will have to be replaced, sheds and equipment will have to be purchased, and the famous rhododendrons will have to be replanted. Saturday golf will be replaced by working bees and every member is determined to do all they can to support greenkeeper Rob Christie with the rebuilding of our beautiful course.

The rebuilding of the members morale began on Saturday when members gathered on the day listed on our syllabus as Presentation Day. A BBQ lunch was enjoyed by all and the presentation of the 2008 trophies was held after the lunch.

The men's section also held their AGM. Dave Robinson was re-elected as Captain and Mal Arnold was elected as Secretary. Committee members are Geoff Falcke, Sean Williams, and Travers Stow. Match Committee members are Bernie Culhane, David Robinson and Len King. Handicapper is Murray Curnow. Ladies' Captain Barbara Birkett has relocated to Geelong. We will miss her and we thank her for all her hard work. Lesley Rundle will replace Barbara as Captain and Marg Arnold will be Ladies' Secretary.

After the AGM members were able to walk around the course to see first hand the amount of reconstruction required. There were some sad moments interspersed with shouts of joy when they realised that a particular tree which often 'ate' their golf balls had actually been felled!

Some ladies felt ready to play in the 4 Club Invitational Event held at Alexandra on Wednesday. This event was instigated by our former captain Barbara Birkett and she was thrilled to hear that 39 ladies from Yea, Alexandra, Eildon and Marysville gathered to play a stableford round. The event was a great success and our thanks to the Alexandra Ladies for their hospitality. Later in the year the other three clubs will host the event. As residents of the Murrindindi Shire all players had in some way been affected by the fires and the game of golf was very therapeutic for all who played.

Marysville Club members would like to thank the members of Alexandra and Eildon for offering them free membership of their clubs. This offer is very much appreciated and it is of great comfort to know that we will have a 'local' club.

Marysville Community Golf and bowls Club will be rebuilt!
LR

NEED FOR FEED

BUSHFIRE BENEFIT

COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

FEATURING CARS, GUITARS & STARS



Vintage & Veteran, Classic & Custom
Restorations, Rods, Rice Burners
Harleys, HPVs, Trucks & Tractors
SATURDAY UTE SHOW SPECTACULAR
*Trophies for all Categories
If its got wheels ... Bring It!*

WANTED: CHARITY AUCTION ITEMS

*Free entry for Display Vehicle Drivers
and CFA volunteers*

**Food & Beverages Available
No BYO**

STARRING

BILLY WYATT (USA)
JAYNE DENHAM & BAND
AND YESTERYEAR
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