

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

MARYSVILLE

triangle news



NARBETHONG

BUXTON & TAGGERTY

Friday March 19th 2010

President Ken Adams

Vol. 37 No. 10

BUSINESS PACKAGE TO SUPPORT BUSHFIRE ECONOMIES

THE Member for Seymour, Ben Hardman, has welcomed the announcement of a \$10 million stimulus package to create jobs and boost the economic recovery of towns hit by the Black Saturday bushfires.

The Victorian Bushfire Business Investment Fund (VBBIF) will provide grants of between \$50,000 and \$4 million, for up to 50 per cent of the capital cost of new businesses and the same level of funding to the expansion of existing businesses.

Mr Hardman said he was pleased that federal and state governments were providing support for the recovery of business in fire affected communities as they are critical to the recovery of local economies.

"We will support business investments which develop new industries, create sustainable new jobs, and generate further investment," Premier John Brumby said.

Grants are available for capital works projects which boost the economy of a fire-affected region or local area and proposals from industries such as tourism, agriculture, food, forestry, and energy are encouraged.

Capital works projects may include buildings for new industries, as well as tourism facilities which help drive economic recovery.

The criteria for funding will include:

- The level of economic benefit the project will bring to the bush-

fire-affected region;

- The number of sustainable, new full-time equivalent jobs created;
- The applicant's access to skills, experience and resources; and
- The project's longer-term sustainability without need for on-going Government support

The Minister for Rural and Regional Development, Jacinta Allan, said independent economic analysis commissioned for Marysville and Kinglake recommended a stimulus and incentives package to kick-start the private sector after the bushfires.

"Government is continuing to act to attract business and tourism and to drive ongoing investment in fire-affected areas," Ms Allan said.

"This fund complements the \$51 million Business Support Package already in place and \$10 million Tourism Industry Support Package being rolled out across fire-affected areas to encourage visitors back."

The VBBIF is part of the \$193 million *Rebuilding Together* statewide plan for bushfire rebuilding and recovery, released in October last year

Applications close on June 30 this year.

Application forms are available on the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery VBBRA website, www.wewillrebuild.vic.gov.au or phone VBBRA on 9092 5875.

Coca Cola Grant for Marysville

The Marysville & District Lions Club has received a grant of \$120,000 on behalf of Gallipoli Park Committee of Management from Coca Cola Australia Foundation

CCAF is a foundation created jointly by Coca-Cola Australia and Coca-Cola Amatil (Aust) Pty Limited in 2002 for the purpose of development of the young people of Australia.

CCAF's mission is "helping inspire change for marginalised youth" and it is committed to funding projects that help Australia's young people realise their potential. CCAF focuses on marginalised youth and youth at risk in the 12-25 year age group. CCAF's core target areas are education, leadership, well-being and the environment.

A contribution towards the construction of a multi-functional centre in Marysville has been selected for this grant because of its alignment with CCAF's focus and mission.

The Lions Club and the Gallipoli Park Committee of Management thank the Coca Cola Australia Foundation for this generous contribution towards rebuilding our beautiful town.

FORMER GWV EXECUTIVE RECIPIENT OF PRESTIGIOUS WATER AWARD

Former Goulburn Valley Water executive Allen Gale has been awarded the George Goffin Exceptional Service Award at the Ozwater10 Conference Dinner in Brisbane.

Goulburn Valley Water Managing Director Peter Quinn was at the awards night in Brisbane. "The George Goffin Award is the most prestigious of all the awards issued by AWA," said Mr Quinn. "The award reflects the significant contribution that Allen has made over many years to the water industry and the success of the AWA."

The award has been in existence for about 25 years, with only four other recipients in that time. "Allen is truly deserving of the recognition and it's great to see people associated with Goulburn Valley Water receiving accolades at this prestigious level," Mr Quinn said.

An AWA spokesman said the nomination for Mr Gale was supported unanimously by the judging panel. "Allen's contribution to both the water sector and AWA includes chairing Ozwater 09, representation on international committees, providing initial drive and support for Biosolids Partnership, and championing a number of other key issues through the Western Australian, Victorian and National levels," they said. "All of these achievements are testament to his dedication to the best outcomes for the whole industry."

The George Goffin Award is awarded to a member of the Australian Water Association (AWA) who has:

Demonstrated exceptional service to the Association (through a technical contribution or sustained administrative, organizational or leadership activity)
Demonstrated valuable contribution towards vision, leadership, knowledge and persistence within the Association
The service of the individual has resulted in positive (and demonstrable) changes in AWA

A substantial and commendable personal input to the Association
Contribution to creating new directions and opening new fields

Mr Gale was General Manager of Technical Services at Goulburn Valley Water for 10 years before leaving the Goulburn Valley region late in 2009 to take up the role of Managing Director of engineering consultancy firm SMEC in India.

Help Wanted Please

Many visitor sites and walking tracks in the Yarra Ranges National Park, located around Marysville, are set to reopen for Easter 2010, for the first time since the February 2009 bushfires.

To help reopen the tracks in time for Easter, Parks Victoria is calling for enthusiastic volunteers to assist with a range of work.

Ranger in Charge of the Yarra Ranges National Park, Ian Roche, said this is a great opportunity for people to spend a day out in the park and contribute to the fire recovery effort.

"Work will include clearing vegetation from walking tracks, working on stabilising track edging, track drainage and the removal of weeds," Mr Roche said.

"Volunteering in parks is a great way to get involved in our natural environment. There are many benefits to volunteering including learning more about plants and wildlife, gaining new skills, being in the outdoors and socialising," he said.

The volunteer day is set for **Sunday 21 March** 2010 from 10.00am to 3.30pm and will include working on Cumberland/Cora Lynn Falls, Big Culvert, Phantom Falls and Keppels Falls tracks which are located in the Yarra Ranges National Park and close to Marysville.

Volunteers will meet at the Marysville Bakery and then depart to these areas.

Water and fruit will be provided. Participants are asked to bring along any additional food they may need and some equipment if they are able to.

Appropriate clothing and sturdy footwear will also be required. Depending on the weather, a hat and sunscreen and a shower proof jacket are recommended.

To register for this event, please contact John Kenwright at Woori Yallock on 5954 4029 or 0409 901 758.

Marysville Police news

Police have arrested four people in relation to two separate incidents in the Marysville area over the past month.

On Saturday 6 March 2010, two men were arrested in relation to trespass and drug related offences at Steavensons Falls.

In a separate matter, on Tuesday 9 March 2010, another two people were arrested and spoken to over theft related offences.

In the second matter, Police were called after a local resident reported the male and female acting suspiciously. They were arrested a short time later in an alleged stolen vehicle.

The successful arrests are due to community vigilance.

"This is community policing at its best" said Senior Constable Caroline Sorrell. "We encourage residents to report all suspicious behaviour especially with the large amount of rebuilding going on in the area"

Police urge anyone who witnesses anything suspicious to contact 000 or Crime Stoppers on 1300 333 000 or visit www.crimestoppers.com.au

Regards

Caroline SORRELL
Senior Constable 35147
Marysville Police station.

Footy's back at Marysville!
Sunday 21st March -
YVMDFL Grand Final Replay
Kinglake v Olinda Ferny-Creek

Trevor Harrow Oval
Gallipoli Park, Marysville
From 12.00 Noon

Great footy and family entertainment

The Marysville District Football & Netball Club would like to extend it's sincere thanks to the above clubs in assisting our efforts to bring sporting activity back to Marysville.

THE MOMENTUM IS GROWING -
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Marysville's Mt Gordon fire tower rises from the ashes

Building work has been completed on the reconstruction of Marysville's fire tower at Mt Gordon.

The tower, which was destroyed by fire on Black Saturday, plays an important role in the early detection of fires across the Murrindindi area.

Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) Murrindindi Land and Fire Manager, John Steer, said completion of the tower was an important milestone.

"Reconstruction of the Mt Gordon tower was a priority for the department and the community following the Black Saturday fires," Mr Steer said.

"Not only does the towerperson provide critical intelligence to fire agencies, the tower also provides a platform for emergency and media communication."

The tower, which was built by National Infrastructure Services and Australian Concrete Technologies to new Australian Standards, is 20 metres tall and provides a 360 degree view above the forest canopy.

The tower was built at a cost of \$450,000, including the tower cabin that was constructed off site and mounted by crane earlier this month.

Technicians then fitted out the cabin with communications technology used by multiple agencies.

Mt Gordon fire tower monitors the area between Black Range, Blue Range and Cathedral Ranges which encompasses the townships of Narbethong, Granton, Marysville, Buxton and Taggerty.

DSE has a network of 70 towers across the state that are staffed by trained fire spotters.

"Fire spotting towers and towerpeople play a critical role in the early detection of wildfires on both public and private land across the state," Mr Steer said.

"The towers are an effective means of detecting fire in remote areas of forest."

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