

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY NEWSLETTER



Edition 4 – July 2020

WELCOME

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Bushfire Recovery Newsletter. This newsletter is one of the ways we are working to stay in touch, keep you updated and hear from you through your recovery journey.

The **Bushfire Assistance Hub** in Braidwood is now **open**, located in Park Lane at the Old Braidwood Library.

Opening hours: Monday-Friday, 9am – 3pm

You can come in and see us or contact the Recovery Team on **6285 6789** and recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au.

Getting Back Out to Communities

Araluen and Nerriga

With the easing of restrictions in June, agencies and services have been able to start getting back out into your communities. So far this month we have visited the communities of Nerriga and Araluen bringing services that can provide financial assistance, wellbeing support, fencing support and other help you might need going forward through recovery.

We are working to plan our visits based on events already occurring in your community, so we can get to as many people as possible.

The picture below is at the Monkeyduck Pantry in Araluen, which is run by locals for locals, and offers a place for the community to come together and support each other with fantastic food and even better coffee!



Bushfire Facebook Group

QPRC Bushfire Recovery team has set up a Facebook Group where the team will upload all the latest information. It will also act as a platform where you can ask questions and reach out to your fellow community.

If you would like to be included in this group and its updates, search Queanbeyan-Palerang Bushfire Recovery on Facebook.

Bushfire Housing Assistance

Has your home been impacted by the bushfires and you need help with housing?

- Emergency Temporary Accommodation
- Assistance with Bond and Advance Rent
- Rent Subsidy
- Help sourcing accommodation in the local area

For more information visit: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing

Call **1800 018 444**

Email DCJBHART@facs.nsw.gov.au

Roads and Infrastructure

Cooma Rd is expected to reopen to traffic Sunday 5 July. There will still be some guidepost, signage and guardrails to be replaced in the coming weeks, but the road will be open to traffic.

As of July 3, Council is waiting on approval to come through to replace Monga Lane and Forbes Creek bridges, but please follow the Council Facebook page for more updates.

@QbnPalrangRC

Bushfire Primary Producer Support

Local Land Services support landholders and groups to improve agricultural productivity, manage animal health, biosecurity risks, pests and diseases, and natural resources. Please contact the Braidwood office on: **4842 2594** or call **1300 795 299**.

The **Rural Financial Counselling service** is a free and confidential service, providing support to help producers make the right decisions for their farm business. To speak to your local counsellor, contact Fiona Taylor on 0429 057 597 or email Fiona@rfcsnsw.com.au

The Rural Recovery Support Service Provides information on support available for farmers and their families or workers recovering from natural disasters and can connect them with relevant support services and assistance packages. For further information, you can contact your local officer, Ted on: 0427 781 514, or email: Ted.O'kane@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Clean-up

The Government-funded NSW bushfire clean-up program continues to progress at pace with more than **2,800** bushfire affected properties cleared across the State as at 30 June, giving communities the chance to start again.

In Queanbeyan-Palerang 82 properties have been cleared by Laing O'Rourke and they are continuing to work in the area to complete the clean-up of registered properties.

The primary focus of the clean-up is to remove destroyed or damaged buildings and associated safety hazards and debris that could impede people rebuilding their homes or businesses.

Contact Laing O'Rourke on **1800 007 539** for information about the clean-up program.

To register for the clean-up call **13 77 88**.



Salvation Army Bushfire Recovery Grants

The Salvation Army has grants available to assist people impacted by the 2019-2020 bushfires.

Hardship recovery grant is available for families or individuals experiencing ongoing extreme hardship as a result of the bushfire.

The loss of residence grant provides assistance to individuals and families in bushfire impacted areas whose primary place of residence (owned or leased) has been destroyed or rendered uninhabitable due to the 2019-2020 bushfires

Assessment for a Bushfire Recovery Grant is based on an individual needs basis. If you've previously been assessed by The Salvation Army for bushfire assistance (2019-2020 bushfires), you do not need to provide these verification documents again.

To apply for a grant or if you have further questions, please call our bushfire disaster team on **1300 662 217** or email sal.disasters@salvationarmy.org.au



Red Cross Bushfire Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available for bushfire-affected people in financial hardship.

The cash grants available are:

Emergency grant for people who have lost their homes.

Injury grant for people who were hospitalised due to the fires.

Primary residence repair grant for home owner-occupiers whose homes have been structurally damaged. This includes destruction or damage to critical private water, septic and/or power infrastructure.

Re-establishment grant to help people who lost their primary place of residence – house, caravan or mobile home, whether owned or rented – to have somewhere safe to live.

Applications for the above grants will be open until 31 August 2020. For more information visit their website <https://www.redcross.org.au/grants> or call 1800 RED CROSS (1800 733 276).

Lifeline Bushfire Recovery: 13 43 57

Beyondblue: 1300 224 636

NSW Mental Health Line: 1800 011 511

Mensline: 1300 789 978

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800

Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463

Open Arms: 1800 011 046

CONTACT US

It is important during community-led recovery that we hear from you about how you are managing and coping, what issues you are facing and any ideas you have to support the community's renewal. Please share comments or ideas with us by contacting:

Phone: 6285 6789

Email: recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au

Facebook: @Queanbeyan-PalerangBushfireRecovery

For translating and interpreting assistance call TIS on 13 14 50