

# STREATHAM TO SKIPTON FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE



**Pyrenees**  
Shire Council

Number 14: Wednesday 27 May 2026

## FIRE RECOVERY ENQUIRIES:

ARARAT 5355 0200 | CORANGAMITE 5593 7100 | PYRENEES 1300 797 363

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Leslie Manor Refresh & Reset Farmer Dinner by Agriculture Victoria

Friday 29 May, 6.30-9pm  
Leslie Manor Fire Station

Free event with a two-course meal provided. Come along for information, resources, and the chance to connect with others in the farming community. Learn more/register:

[go.vic.gov.au/49moWeJ](https://go.vic.gov.au/49moWeJ)

### Skipton FNC - Special Effort Draw

Sunday 31 May (Round 8)

Learn more: [www.skiptonfnc.com.au/events](http://www.skiptonfnc.com.au/events)

### Plates & Paddocks

#### Free Sunday roast lunch

Sunday 31 May, 1pm  
Skipton Mechanics Hall

Free community meal. Come along to enjoy a delicious Sunday roast prepared by local young people, and connect with others.

RSVP by Friday 29 May: Contact Camperdown & District Community House on 5593 1403 or email [office@camperdownch.com.au](mailto:office@camperdownch.com.au)

### Community Fire Photo Exhibition

Official opening - Friday 19 June, 6-9pm  
Skipton Mechanics Hall

Learn more: [go.vic.gov.au/3RvoQey](https://go.vic.gov.au/3RvoQey)

### After the Fire - Community event

Tuesday 9 June, 5.30-7.30pm

Register here: [tinyurl.com/ATF-Skipton](https://tinyurl.com/ATF-Skipton)

### Community Conversation about Recovery

Wednesday 17 June, 6.30 - 8.30 pm  
Skipton Recreation Reserve

Free community event. Come along to hear David Younger share insights on recovery after fires, with a focus on wellbeing, support, and connection.

Please RSVP by calling Corangamite Shire on 5593 7100 or email

[skiptonfiresrequest@corangamite.vic.gov.au](mailto:skiptonfiresrequest@corangamite.vic.gov.au)

## IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP

There are a range of supports and programs available to help you through your recovery—it's okay to ask for help. Recovery Officers from Council and Grampians Community Health are here to listen and help you navigate and connect with services, and you can contact either—there's no wrong place to start.

- Karen Sherlock, [Pyrenees Shire Council](#)  
1300 797 363
- Lia Sarto, [Corangamite Shire Council](#)  
0456 567 814
- [Ararat Rural City Council](#) | 5355 0980
- [Grampians Community Health](#) |  
1300 247 647

## IN-PERSON SUPPORT

Recovery Officers are available at the following locations:

- Streatham Recovery Hub | Streatham Hall  
Fridays, 1-4pm (1-3pm from June)
- Grampians Community Health visits  
Bluestone & Bubbles Cafe, Skipton  
Tuesday - Thursday, 10am - 2 pm
- Community Hub | Stonleigh CFA Shed  
Thursdays. 12-2pm

[Pyrenees](#) Community Recovery Officer Karen Sherlock is available at Skipton's Bluestone Café (Wednesdays 10am–2pm, Thursdays 10–11.45am), Stoneleigh Community Hub (Thursdays 12–2pm), and Streatham Recovery Hub (Fridays)

## FARM CRIME

Farmers are reminded to remain vigilant around thefts from farms, particularly for fuel theft. If you have witnessed any suspicious activity or want to report theft, please contact your local police or call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444. Please call '000' if you need police urgently, an offender is present, a crime is in progress, or there's a threat to life, health or property.

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## **CLEAN UP SUPPORT**

The Victorian Government is providing a free, voluntary, and tailored clean-up program for residential homes, businesses, and community assets destroyed or heavily damaged by the January 2026 bushfires.

The program includes hazardous material removal, demolition, and site clearing for uninsured or underinsured properties. Register by calling 1800 560 760. Eligibility criteria apply.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

If you need assistance with general waste or steel collection, **Pyrenees** and **Corangamite** will provide a skip bin or schedule a steel collection. Please contact Pyrenees on 1300 797 363 or Corangamite on 5593 7100 to lodge a request.

## **TREES ON FARM PROGRAM**

The Victorian Trees on Farms Program (VToF) provides grants to rural landowners seeking to integrate trees into their land. Grants of up to \$4,000 per hectare are available (eligibility criteria applies).

Learn more: [go.vic.gov.au/4fE9ONt](https://go.vic.gov.au/4fE9ONt)

## **GLENELG HIGHWAY TREE REMOVAL**

Department of Transport and Planning have advised that impacted trees along the Glenelg Highway have been assessed and contractors will be onsite to remove identified trees from 1 June. Their project manager will be onsite next week to meet with adjoining farmers.

If you are planning to remove trees along your fenceline, **Pyrenees Shire Council's** Environment and Sustainability Coordinator Noel McKeegan is available to meet with farmers to provide advice and support.

Native vegetation is protected under state planning provisions (excluding sugargum plantations), although there are some exemptions for fencelines.

## **CARRANBALLAC RECREATION RESERVE UPDATE**

**Pyrenees Shire Council** is continuing to negotiate the Carranballac Recreation Reserve rebuild with its insurers, to maximise the outcome, with two options currently put forward. These include the insurers managing the rebuild on a "like for like" basis, or Council receiving a lump sum payment.

Once the rebuild design elements and the total value are resolved, Council will continue to work with the Committee and other interested parties to consider which option will be in the future best interests of the community.

Congratulations to the community committee and volunteers working with DEECA and contractors to remove the hazardous trees and to undertake replanting works around the reserve perimeter.

## **MULCH AVAILABLE**

Free mulch is available at Carranballac Recreation Reserve for anyone in the community. Feel free to come and collect some.

## **SOWING SUPPORT**

Swayne and McCabe from Colac are donating labour and machinery to assist with sowing for fire impacted farmers. Contact Dan Casey on 0429 015 664 for more information.

## **REBUILDING AFTER FIRE**

If you need help rebuilding after fire, including planning exemptions and planning and building permits, contact **Corangamite** on 5593 7100.

For **Pyrenees** residents, go to [go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7](https://go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7).

## **LEGAL AND INSURANCE SUPPORT**

These agencies provide free legal assistance, including help with insurance claims.

Allied Justice

[www.alliedjustice.org.au](https://www.alliedjustice.org.au)

1800 466 488

Disaster Legal Aid

[www.disasterlegalhelp.org.au](https://www.disasterlegalhelp.org.au)

1800 113 432

Australian Financial Complaints Authority

[afca.org.au](https://afca.org.au).

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## EMERGENCY RECOVERY SUPPORT PROGRAM (DFFH)

The Emergency Recovery Support Program helps people and families after a major emergency. Recovery support officers can help you with things like:

- health and wellbeing services
- financial advice and assistance
- finding local services
- insurance and legal questions
- registering for government services.

Support can include advice, referrals, or more involved help if needed. You can call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 or you can also contact your local council.

## RURAL FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES (RFCS)

The RFCS supports farmers with drought and fire recovery grants, negotiations with insurers and lenders, low-interest loans, budgeting and planning (including rising costs), and succession planning. Their local counsellors understand farming and are here to help. Call 1300 735 578 or visit [wswrccs.com.au](http://wswrccs.com.au).

## IT'S OK TO NOT BE OK

**RURAL AID:**  
1300 175 594

**NATIONAL CENTRE  
FOR FARMER  
HEALTH:**  
1300 375 330

**1800RESPECT:**  
1800 737 732

**MENTAL HEALTH  
SERVICES:**  
24/7 | 1800 808 284

**BEYONDBLUE:**  
1300 224 636

**LIFELINE:** 1 3 1 1 1 4

**KID'S HELPLINE:**  
1800 551 800

**MENSLINE:**  
1300 789 978

**GRAMPIANS  
COMMUNITY  
HEALTH:**

Head to Health:  
1800 595 212  
Step Thru Care:  
5338 4500

For a full list of resources visit:

[Corangamite  
go.vic.gov.au/3YDCaOq](http://Corangamite.go.vic.gov.au/3YDCaOq)

[Pyrenees  
go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7](http://Pyrenees.go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7)

[Ararat  
go.vic.gov.au/3P1Urml](http://Ararat.go.vic.gov.au/3P1Urml)

## BLAZEID BONFIRE & BBQ EVENT THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came along to the community event at Bradvale on 17 May. Over 150 people came along to enjoy a meal, music from Neil Murray and great company. A big thank you to Blazeaid for hosting the event and to Skipton Progress and Beaufort Rotary for assisting with serving of the food.

