

STREATHAM TO SKIPTON FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE

Number 17: Wednesday 29 July 2026



Pyrenees
Shire Council

FIRE RECOVERY ENQUIRIES:

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas in July

Friday 31 July, 6pm
Streatham Hall

Skipton FNC Home Game

Saturday 8 August

40 Years of Landcare

Saturday 15 August, 3-9pm
Skipton Mechanics Hall
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/2me99re4>

Success with Succession Planning

Tuesday 18 August, 8.30am-2.30pm
Skipton Golf Bowls Club
Book at: <https://go.vic.gov.au/4hy2Bj1>

Success with Succession Planning

Wednesday 19 August, 8.30am-2.30pm
Lake Bolac FNC Clubrooms
Book at: <https://go.vic.gov.au/4floFVH>

Steak Night - Unbreakable Farmer guest speaker

Wednesday 19 August
Skipton Rec Reserve, 6.30-9pm
Register with Corangamite Shire

Streatham and District Post-fire gardening season

Tuesday 25 August
Streatham Hall, 6.30-9pm
Register with Ararat Shire

McFarlane Dress Collection: Fashion Through the Ages

19 - 20 September, 10am-4pm
Skipton Mechanics Hall
Afternoon tea Sunday 20 September, 1pm
Register with Corangamite Shire

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
- Prue Liddy, [Corangamite Shire Council](#) | 0428 619 278
- [Ararat Rural City Council](#) | 5355 0980
- Grampians Community Health | 1300 247 647

IN-PERSON SUPPORT

Pyrenees Community Recovery Officer, Karen Sherlock is available for in-person support at:

- **Bluestone & Bubbles Cafe**, Skipton
Wednesday and Thursdays, 10am-2pm

With Grampians Community Health

- **Recovery Hub, Streatham Hall**
Fridays, 1pm-3pm

Kylie Ripon from CAFS will be at the Streatham Hub each month to assist fire impacted residents (without an ABN) with financial counselling.

Kylie can be contacted on 0418 141 509.

STREATHAM TO SKIPTON FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE



Pyrenees
Shire Council

Number 17: Wednesday 29 July 2026

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.

LOOK OVER THE FARM GATE

Grants of up to \$5,000 for local organisations to create events and initiatives to support mental health and wellbeing in local communities. Applications for Look Over the Farm Gate funding are open. All funded activities must be delivered by 31 December 2026. The program is managed by the National Centre for Farmer Health – email lotfg@wdhs.net

Learn more: go.vic.gov.au/4fE9ONt

FARM CRIME

Farmers are reminded to remain vigilant around thefts from farms, particularly 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 or property.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS RECOVERY NETWORK UPDATE

The Streatham–Skipton Fire Community Business Recovery Network was established in January to ensure community needs are heard and reflected in all recovery efforts.

The Network brings together agencies involved in recovery and community representatives from across the fire-affected area. The Network is meeting monthly to work collaboratively on the community's recovery priorities. At the last meeting, the group worked together on how we can better advocate to politicians and government to address community needs and support fire affected residents with insurance. The three key messages from the meeting are:

1. If you need help with insurance, you can contact Allied Justice for advice and support (5331 5999- Ballarat Office). Allied Justice will organise some community sessions on Insurance later in the year.
2. Everyone is working together to advocate to politicians about the community's recovery needs.
3. Pyrenees Shire Council have made a decision to receive a lump sum from the insurance company for the Carranballac Recreation Reserve rebuild. A community-led model for the rebuild is being developed with community. There will be a gap in funding that will need to be addressed through grants and fundraising.

For more information about the Network, contact your local council Recovery Officer.

FREE MULCH AVAILABLE

Free mulch is available at Carranballac Recreation Reserve for anyone in the community.

Feel free to come and collect some.

STREATHAM TO SKIPTON FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE



Number 75: Wednesday 29 July 2026

FARM ADVISORY SERVICE ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS

Two free consultations per farm business with a farm advisor to take stock, discuss and plan the best way forward for your business. Nominate your preferred consultant from a panel of providers for a 3-hour consultation (on-farm or virtually) and a follow up call. Applications are open until funding is fully allocated or 30 September 2026, whichever comes first.

For more information email drought.support@agriculture.vic.gov.au or call 136 186.

HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL RELIEF PROGRAM – SOUTH WEST VICTORIA

Up to \$1,000 in financial assistance is available to help with household expenses of eligible farming families, those working on farms and contractors affected by drought conditions in 12 south west LGAs including part of West Wimmera, where drought has hit hardest.

Applications for Household Financial Relief are open until funding is fully allocated or 31 December 2026, whichever comes first.

The program is being administered by the Country Women's Association of Victoria (CWA). For more information and to apply, scan the QR code or visit www.cwaofvic.org.au

BLAZE AID

Did you know - BlazeAid can do more than just replace fencing? They can clear away debris, remove fencing and even plant trees. BlazeAid volunteers also assist with rebuilding and repairing internal and external fences.

To register contact Jen Weightman on 0418 275 575.

EMERGENCY RECOVERY SUPPORT PROGRAM (DFFH)

The Emergency Recovery Support Program helps people and families after a major emergency and offers a range of services.

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

IT'S OK TO NOT BE OK

If you need someone to talk to, the following:

GRAMPIANS COMMUNITY HEALTH:

Head to Health:
1800 595 212

Step Thru Care:
5338 4500

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 11 1 4

KID'S HELPLINE:
1800 551 800

MENSLINE:
1300 789 978

For more information and resources visit:

Corangamite
go.vic.gov.au/3YDCaOq

Pyrenees
go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7

Ararat
go.vic.gov.au/3P1UrmI