

WELCOME and THANK YOU for joining us!

Our community has once again shown incredible resilience with the storm & flood clean up and road impacts adding additional stress to many. Now is the time more than ever to support each other as a community, be kind to each other and understand that this may be a very difficult time for some, particularly those in our community who are still on the recovery journey following the bushfires.

It's been a big end to March seeing our Health Hub and display of Recovery Services and information available at the 2022 Lithgow Show, through to the Renew, Rebuild and Recharge your business workshop and edging out the month with two informative grant workshops with Melanie from Heart of the Bush Marketing.

If you missed the Rebuild, Recharge, Renew workshop. Never fear, you can view a recording of the workshop [HERE](#)

Did you miss our Where is Your Group Heading? Getting Strategic Grant Workshop?

You can access the 1 Page Strategic Plan Template to work on in your own time. Click to download it [HERE](#)

Mark your calendars in April for our **No Grant No Worries** workshop to make your project or idea shovel ready. Also check out our **Making Your Home Bushfire Safe** workshop, Recovery Webinars from the Australian Red Cross and workplace mental health training for small business! It's all happening!

Lithgow City Council is available for both our bushfire and flood affected communities - here to listen, help and provide practical advice. In addition to the large variety of help and support - here is some more recent flood information and links:

- Rural Aid support (financial, wellbeing and fodder assistance) for farmers affected by natural disaster, click [HERE](#)
- For the latest NSW Government support, click [HERE](#)
- For the latest Federal Government support, click [HERE](#)
- If you want to help people affected by floods, and want to know what to do - and what not to do, click [HERE](#).

A schedule of outreach visits is coming soon to a community near you. Join us for a cuppa and a chat...we would love to see you.

Rachel Nicoll - Community Recovery Officer



What to expect in the first 6 months of recovery

Date: Wednesday 13th April
Time: 1:30 - 3.00pm (AEST)
Presenter: Dr Rob Gordon
Register [here](#)



Community-led recovery after disasters

Date: Tuesday 26th April
Time: 2:00 - 3.30pm (AEST)
Presenter: Steve Pascoe
Register [here](#)

NEWS

NIGHT-TIME CAPABILITY FOR RFS TAKES OFF

In a first for NSW, the Rural Fire Service (RFS) has commenced training for night-time firefighting operations using a Coulson Chinook helicopter.

The new technology and equipment addresses two recommendations handed down as part of the NSW Bushfire Inquiry, following the 2019-20 Black Summer bush fires.

Read more here: <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/ministerial-media-releases/night-time-capability-for-rfs-takes-off>

BUILDING A MORE RESILIENT AUSTRALIA

Late last month, the Insurance Council released, Building a More Resilient Australia, calling for a doubling of Federal funding to \$200 million a year matched by states and territories.

This calls for a range of measures to better protect households and communities from the impacts of extreme weather and put downward pressure on premiums. Read more [HERE](#)

FLOOD RESOURCES

FLOOD SUPPORT FROM ICARE

iCare is providing relief to businesses affected by recent flooding events. Depending on eligibility, iCare is offering to defer premium payments for three months and will consider further assistance if needed. Please contact iCare on 13 44 22 to discuss, or click to read more about their flood support.

<https://www.icare.nsw.gov.au/crisis-support>



**Service
NSW**

**AVAILABLE
PROGRAMS**

Service NSW has a tool to help find a personalised list of available programs and services for those affected by severe storms or floods.

Visit: <https://disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au/>

or call 13 77 88.

DID YOU PLAY A LEADERSHIP ROLE DURING THE 2019-20 BUSHFIRES?

Researchers from the University of New South Wales would like to speak with a range of leaders from government, emergency services, NGOs and other sectors about their experiences during the 2019-20 bushfires for research into the governance and collaborative challenges we face in managing these (and other) kinds of disasters moving forward. Please contact [Jaco Fourie](#) for more information about the research or to register your participation.



FARM FLOOD GUIDE

NSW Local Land Services have developed a Farm Flood guide to help primary producers prepare for and deal with floods. Click or call 1300 795 299.

https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/798901/lls-flood-readiness-kit.pdf

CURRENT DECLARATIONS

A list of all Local Government Areas with current declarations as a result of flooding can be found

<https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/declarations>.

FLOOD RECOVERY WEBINAR SERIES

Australian Red Cross invites you to attend a webinar series focusing on post disaster community recovery and the humanitarian and psychosocial impacts of disasters. Facilitated by experts in disaster recovery, these sessions are suitable to all flood affected community members and service providers.

Webinar: What to expect in the first 6 months of recovery



Date: Wednesday 13th April

Time: 1:30 - 3.00pm (AEST)

Presenter: Dr Rob Gordon

Register [here](#)

Australian Red Cross invites you to attend a short webinar on the emotional, psychological and social impacts of disasters and what to expect in the first 6 months.

Dr Rob Gordon, a clinical psychologist, has been working in the field of disaster recovery since Ash Wednesday and has supported many people and communities after disasters across Australia.

Webinar: Community-led recovery after disasters



Date: Tuesday 26th April

Time: 2:00 - 3.30pm (AEST)

Presenter: Steve Pascoe

Register [here](#)

Australian Red Cross invites you to attend a short webinar on community-led recovery after disasters.

Steve Pascoe, is a community leader from Strathewen in Victoria and a disaster recovery mentor. Steve will share his story and experiences of community-led recovery in Strathewen after the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires.

SAVE THE DATE!!

NO GRANT? NO WORRIES

GETTING YOUR PROJECT
SHOVEL-READY

FREE GRANT WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 2022
4PM - 5:30PM

MALDHAN NGURR NURRA
LITHGOW TRANSFORMATION HUB
154 MORT ST, LITHGOW



NO GRANT? NO WORRIES! GETTING YOUR PROJECT SHOVEL-READY.

Rather than sitting back and waiting for the perfect grant programme to fall into your lap, start work now!

This one-stop workshop will include:

- How to prepare a detailed project brief.
- Understanding what information to gather.
- Thinking strategically - who could you partner with, how to be innovative and be clear about where your project fits into the long-term plans of your group.

Doing the majority of the heavy thinking now will help you to maximise the grant application window.

Tue 12 April | Maldhan Ngurr Ngurra Lithgow Transformation Hub - 4PM - 5:30PM

For more information and to register visit <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/no-grant-no-worries-getting-your-project-shovel-ready-tickets-308392218427>.

MAKING YOUR HOME BUSHFIRE SAFE

During the 2019-20 Summer fire season, 99 per cent of buildings destroyed were within 500 metres of bushland, and 74 per cent of buildings lost were constructed prior to the introduction of the bushfire building standard (AS 3959).

Join us for a FREE one-hour workshop covering fire safe domestic land management, landscaping and asset protection, Bushfire attack levels(BAL) when building a new home or doing renovations, and Water and Access for emergency services.

Making Home bushfire safe presenter is Steven Houghton, a Bushfire Consultant who specializes in bushfire planning policy with 15 years' experience working for Fire & Rescue NSW and Director of Statewide Bushfire Consulting.

The workshop will take place at Eskbank House Museum on 27 April 2022 at 3-4pm. Numbers are limited and bookings are essential. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/making-home-bushfire-safe-workshop-tickets-304473567637>

The program has been made possible by funding from the Federal Government's National Bushfire Recovery Agency and the NSW State Government's Resilience NSW as part of the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund.

GRANTS

Strengthening Rural Communities

Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)

The Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program aims to give the thousands of small rural, regional and remote communities across Australia an opportunity to access funding to support broad community needs.

Three funding streams are available:

1. Rebuilding Regional Communities (RRC): two tiers – grants up to \$10,000 and grants up to \$50,000 to respond to ongoing impacts and recovery from the COVID pandemic;
2. Bushfire Recovery: grants up to \$25,000 for 2019/20 bushfire recovery; and
3. Small & Vital: grants up to \$10,000 for broad initiatives that strengthen local people, places, and climate solutions with a preference for smaller communities (populations under 15,000).

Grants are available for a broad range of grassroots, community-led initiatives that directly and clearly benefit local communities. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis and assessed quarterly.

Visit: <https://frrr.org.au/funding/place/strengthening-rural-communities/>

Direct Practical Coaching

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2022 COUNTRY ARTS SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Country Arts Support Program (CASP) is small grants (\$500 to \$3000) for local arts projects in Central West NSW Communities.

Applications close 5pm 21 April 2022.

Visit: <https://artsoutwest.org.au/pf/casp/>



FREE WORKPLACE MENTAL HEALTH COACHING

The NSW Government has partnered with Transitioning Well to deliver tailored workplace mental health coaching to help your business create a mentally healthy workplace.

Four hours of free coaching is available online or by phone, six days a week from 8 am to 6 pm. The service focuses on providing owners and leaders of private businesses with 1 to 200 workers and not-for-profits of any size, hands-on guidance to address any workplace issue impacting mental health such as stress, burnout, change, customer aggression or having difficult conversations.

For more information or to book an appointment, register below.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/mental-health-at-work/free-training-and-coaching/one-on-one-business-coaching>