

Moorabool Shire Council Phone: 5366 7100

June 9-10 Storm Event 2021 – Community Newsletter No. 19

Free Community Events

As a result of new funding provided by Emergency Recovery Victoria, the Moorabool Shire Council Storm Recovery team is excited to present a program of free activities for the communities impacted by the devastating storms in June 2021. These activities will occur over February- May 2023 and include:

- Development of an updated Community Emergency Management Plan for the community of Blackwood and surrounds
- Development of a new Community Emergency Management Plan for the community of Korweinguboorra and surrounds
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- An exciting Arts program (delivered by Cat Moser in collaboration with artist Samantha Thompson)
- Practical First Aid Training

All these activities are available to the community fully funded but registration is required to ensure we have enough materials and catering for all attendees. More details on each of the opportunities can be found below. Please just scan the QR Code or follow the link to read about these opportunities and register your interest.

More information and registration forms can be found at:
moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery-events
or via the QR Code here:

Mental Health First Aid Training- free

Two day course- 19 & 26 February at the Blackwood Community Hall

Have you wanted to assist people experiencing challenging mental health periods in the past but didn't know how to go about it?

Moorabool Shire Council is offering this fully funded 12-hour mental health first aid course suited to community members. No prior experience is required but you must be over 18 years old and live in Moorabool Shire.

It will be delivered over two full days of in person training on Sunday 19th February and Sunday 26th February. MH Training

In addition, we have some projects currently in the planning phase of their delivery. The Committees of Management at Blackwood Hall and Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve have identified infrastructure upgrades for their buildings that will benefit the community. These projects will go through the funding process in the coming weeks. A group of enthusiastic community members are working with Council's Community Connections & Inclusion Officer to produce an exciting program of Community Connection and Healing Country events which will culminate in various activities at the Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival.

Finally, the Blackwood Progress Association is producing a documentary on the June 9th 2021 storm and the community's recovery efforts since. This is also being supported by Emergency Recovery Victoria and Moorabool Shire Council. The documentary production is already underway with local talent working to source and edit archive footage from the storm and arrange interviews with community members and some responding agency representatives.

For any enquiries please email the Storm Recovery Coordinator, Amanda Western, at awestern@moorabool.vic.gov.au



has been appointed to deliver this training. Details can be found at: <https://www.mhtraining.net.au/smhfa>. Pauline is an accredited Principal Master Instructor with Mental Health First Aid Australia, which is the highest accreditation they have.

A manual and a Certificate of Completion will be provided. Lunch will be provided on both days. There is a maximum of 20 participants for the course with first preference given to residents of Moorabool Shire's impacted area from the June 2021 storms.

Lunch will be provided. Please register asap via moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery-events or the QR Code above.

Community Emergency Management Planning Workshop- free

Community Emergency Management Plans for Blackwood and Korweinguboorra

The development of Community Emergency Management Plans (CEMPs) for the Blackwood and Korweinguboorra areas has commenced with the first CEMP Committee meetings held last week.

The purpose of the Committees is to represent their community and contribute to the creation of a CEMP that will provide their community with:

- knowledge of the emergency risks that exist in their local area
- information to support the role that each member of the community can have in an emergency
- a platform to connect with each other and Council before, during and after an emergency
- the ability to support each other in an emergency event or disaster

The two CEMPs will be developed over the next few months. They will be based on the feedback received from the affected communities via a survey and community workshop.

The survey is currently open for all Blackwood and Korweinguboorra community members to share what worked in response to the June 2021 storm event and what they would do differently as well as invite ideas on what is needed to help them feel more prepared and safer if another emergency was to happen.

Blackwood Area CEMP Survey and Community Workshop:

The survey for the Blackwood CEMP can be accessed online via <https://forms.office.com/r/AuDXbfcqQI>. A copy of the survey has also been included in the hardcopy version of this newsletter and will also be made available in various locations in Blackwood or by calling Rory Thomson-Ball (Moorabool Shire Council Storm Recovery Engagement Officer) on 5366 7100.

Complete the survey by Tuesday 28 February 2023 for a chance to receive:

- a \$100 voucher for the Blackwood General Store or
- one of 5 x double passes to the Blackwood Woodchop.

Please note: winners will be selected at random and notified via telephone.

Feedback received from the survey will be presented to the

community at a family friendly workshop on Thursday 23 March 2023 at 6.00pm in St Martins Hall with dinner and refreshments provided.

Korweinguboorra Area CEMP Survey and Community Workshop:

The survey for the Korweinguboorra CEMP can be accessed online via <https://forms.office.com/r/9WQKsC7BAj>. A copy of the survey has also been included in the hardcopy version of this newsletter and is available on request by calling Rory Thomson-Ball (Moorabool Shire Council Storm Recovery Engagement Officer) on 5366 7100.

Complete the survey by Tuesday 28 February 2023 for a chance to receive:

- a \$100 voucher or
- one of five \$20 vouchers for either the Daylesford or Ballan Home Timber & Hardware stores.

Please note: winners will be selected at random and notified via telephone.

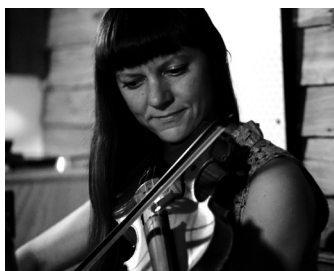
Feedback received from the survey will be presented to the community at a family friendly workshop on Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 6.00pm at the Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve with a BBQ dinner and refreshments provided.

For more information about the CEMP project or for assistance completing the survey please contact Rory Thomson-Ball (Moorabool Shire Council Storm Recovery Engagement Officer) on 5366 7100.



18th, 19th & 26th March

We are delighted to offer the community a series of free art activities to get your creative juices flowing. Two well-known artists, Blackwood's own Cat Moser, and Samantha Thompson have joined forces to run a series of workshops in March and are eager to have as many community members participate as possible. There's the opportunity to sing! Cat will gather the community together to form a choral experience and Samantha will run Linocutting workshops (for absolute beginners to advanced). Join us for one or both! The workshops will culminate in a community sharing event, with yummy catering, on the 26th March from 11am-1pm in the Blackwood Community Hall. Everyone is invited- so please share this widely.



Cat Moser is a performing artist, musician and teacher who has toured extensively in Australia and overseas facilitating arts events. As a Blackwood local, Cat has been involved in various community arts projects closer to home, including the

award-winning Hide and Seek Music Festival in the Moorabool Shire. Cat is passionate about growing the live music and arts network in rural communities and making the arts accessible for all. In her final year studying Masters of Therapeutic Arts practice, Cat consolidates her experience as an artist and views it through the lens of Recovery Through the Arts. Singing can be used as a powerful self-care practice with the potential to calm or activate the nervous system.

Cat firmly believes that if you have a voice, you can sing! Members of the community are warmly invited to join the Storm Recovery Choir for a fun, free and inclusive experience for all ages and abilities. Participants who have been led to believe that they can't sing will have the opportunity to use their voice and body percussion in the nurturing environment of group singing. Confident and experienced singers will have the opportunity to sing in parts and bring their strengths to this collaborative project. It will be fun for all the family with group music activities and the opportunity to use instruments. Choir will form up on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th March from 1-3pm, at the Blackwood Community Hall following a complimentary lunch at 12 noon.

Samantha Thompson is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist and regional arts advocate based in regional Victoria. With a highly successful career spanning over 20 years, Thompson is renowned for her vibrant, playful artworks. Thompson has exhibited in numerous galleries across Australia and produced 14 solo shows since 2003. She has also exhibited internationally, and her works can be found in private and public collections across the world. She has a passion for community art and loves to share her passion and knowledge with locals.



Samantha will be running a "Learn to Linocut Workshop" from 9am- 12pm on both the 18th and 19th of March, followed by a complimentary lunch at 12 noon. You'll get to learn the basics if you're a beginner or have the chance to produce a new artwork if you are an experienced printmaker. Finished pieces can be included in a one-off Storm Recovery artists community book. Take time to learn a new skill and reflect. All material provided.

Please join in to one or both of the workshops- we are keen to see the whole storm affected community gathering together to have some fun! If you're from Blackwood, Dales Creek, Korweinguboorra, Barkstead, Spargo Creek or Greendale and beyond, you're invited!

Please register as we need to plan for materials and catering purposes via moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery-events or the following QR Code.



Practical First Aid Training- free

Free certification in HLTAID011 – Provide first aid

including the following units
HLTAID009 – Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation
HLTAID010 – Provide basic emergency life support

Moorabool Shire Council has engaged Emergency First Aid who have been delivering this model of training for over 10 years. There is a pre-learning component, so register early to ensure you have time to complete the online modules before the in-person sessions in late April. The practical session is aimed at an interactive engaging learning environment for students to walk away from the course with confidence, skills and knowledge to apply basic life support.

Limited place are available in the two courses below- so register now!

- 23rd April 10am- 5pm at the Blackwood Community Hall
- 30th April 10am- 5pm at Koweinguboorra Recreation Reserve Hall

Lunch will be provided. Please register asap via moorabool.vic.gov.au/storm-recovery-events or the following QR Code.



Introducing new Moorabool Shire Council team members:



Amanda Western- Storm Recovery Coordinator (until July 2023)

Amanda has joined the team as Kristi Sullivan has taken a new position with Ararat Rural City as their Emergency Management Coordinator.

Amanda has extensive emergency management experience including positions at Hepburn Shire Council as the Storm and Floods Recovery Manager, Emergency Management Coordinator, Grampians Region for DHHS (now DFFH) and as a Brigade Administration Support Officer for the CFA. Amanda is focussed on delivering real community benefit from funding recently provided by Emergency Recovery Victoria by rolling out an extensive program of activities over the coming months for the June 2021 storm affected areas.



Cameron Anderson- Emergency Management Officer

Cam has an extensive background in emergency services, having been a paramedic for nearly 15 years, and a volunteer firefighter for almost as long, working in various locations across Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania. He specialised in the management of major incidents and emergencies, which has seen him deployed to many of Australia's most significant bushfire, cyclone, and flood emergencies. Cam enjoys working closely with communities, and is excited to apply his skills in emergency management to support communities in the Moorabool shire to continue developing their resilience to emergencies.

Ag recovery update for flood and storm affected farmers

A range of support measures are available for flood and storm-affected farmers.

Information about these measures can be found at agriculture.vic.gov.au/floods.

For any urgent animal welfare needs, please contact 136 186.

Farmers are encouraged to contact the Agriculture Recovery team on 0427 694 185 (Mon-Fri between 8.30 am and 5 pm) or email recovery@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Technical information and decision-making support

Agriculture Victoria is working with Victorian farmers and industry to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters (including floods and storms) through delivery of technical information and decision-making support services to help farm business recovery.

Financial support for flood- and storm-affected farmers

A support package is available for flood-affected farmers:

- Primary Producer Recovery Grants: Up to \$75,000 grants to cover the cost of recovery and get businesses up and running again. Note: This replaces the \$10,000 Primary Producer Flood Clean-Up, Relief Grants announced on 19 October. Producers that have received a Primary Producer Flood Clean-Up Relief Grant of \$10,000 can now apply for up to a further \$65,000 under the Primary Producer Recovery Grant, bringing the total to \$75,000.
- Rural Landholder Grants: Up to \$25,000 grants to cover the costs of disaster impacts for small-scale producers.
- Primary Producer Concessional Loans: Up to \$250,000 to restore or replace damaged equipment and infrastructure, or to cover the short-term business expenses.
- Primary Producer Transport Subsidies: Up to \$15,000 to support the transport of emergency fodder or stock drinking water, and the movement of livestock.

Primary producers are advised that grant applications close at 4 pm on Sunday 30 April.

To apply for support or for more information, visit the Rural Finance website.

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National Centre for Farmer Health: flood response support

The National Centre for Farmer Health is committed to supporting primary producers whose properties, livestock or crops were damaged or lost in the floods and storms through the delivery of initiatives to boost farmer mental health and wellbeing, including:

- A supportive online community through the #BuildingFarmSpirit social media campaign,
- Free access to online psychology support delivered by farmer health trained psychologists,
- Support for community events providing social connection and mental health promotion opportunities for farmers, farming families and farming communities,
- Distribution of mental health resources and support information.

More information is available on the National Centre for Farmer Health website.

Ag recovery newsletter

Farmers and service providers are encouraged to subscribe to the Flood Recovery digital newsletter to access latest events and information.

Ag recovery events

For information on events and field days across the state please visit the Events page on the Agriculture Victoria website.

Update for the community from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (formerly “DELWP”)

- Works are continuing in the Wombat State Forest, to remove debris caused by the 2021 storms.
- Works are expected to start in the Barkstead area shortly.
- The Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA) is working with forest contractors to re-establish safe access for the public and firefighters and reduce longer-term bushfire risks.
- You may see additional heavy vehicles and machinery moving around the forest in the coming months as debris is removed.
- Debris works are only taking place in the Wombat State Forest where it is safe to do so.
- Public Safety Zones will be in place that restrict public access to some tracks. Traffic management will ensure everyone's safety while heavy machinery is in the area.

For more info about storm recovery works, visit: <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/recovery-after-an-emergency/public-land-recovery>

How to access mental health support

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention. Call 13 11 14 or visit <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

Storm and Flood Recovery Support Hotline

Call 1800 560 760 and a Recovery Support Worker can assist you in accessing mental health support through Central Highlands Rural Health. This hotline can also link you in with a financial counselling service.

Partners in Wellbeing Helpline

Free and confidential wellbeing coaching for businesses and individuals. This service is available 7 days a week via email, chat or phone call. Find more info at: <https://www.partnersinwellbeing.org.au/>

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Australian Red Cross

Support and resources to look after yourself and your family when disasters happen. Visit <https://www.redcross.org.au/get-help/emergencies/looking-after-yourself>

Beyond Blue

Information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live. Call 1300 22 4636 or visit <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Free Event calendar

Date	time	Event description	Venue	RSVP
19th Feb	9am-4pm	Mental Health First Aid Training (Day 1 of 2)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
26th Feb	9am-4pm	Mental Health First Aid Training continued (Day 2 of 2)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
15th March	6-8pm	Community Emergency Management Planning Workshop	Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve Hall	No
18th March	9am-12pm	Linocut printing workshop (Session 1 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
18th March	12-1pm	Lunch for workshop participants	Blackwood Community Hall	No
18th March	1-3pm	Choir workshop (Session 1 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
19th March	9am-12pm	Linocut printing workshop (Session 2 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
19th March	12-1pm	Lunch for workshop participants	Blackwood Community Hall	No
19th March	1-3pm	Choir workshop (Session 2 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
23rd March	6-8pm	Community Emergency Management Planning Workshop	St Martins Hall, Blackwood	No
26th March	9am-12pm	Linocut printing final workshop (session 3 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
26th March	11-1pm	Choir final workshop (session 3 of 3)	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
26th March	11am-1pm	Community drop-in session to hear the choir and view the lino prints. Join us all for light refreshments	Blackwood Community Hall	No
23 April	10am-5pm	Practical First Aid Training	Blackwood Community Hall	Yes
30th April	10am-5pm	Practical First Aid Training	Korweinguboorra Recreation Reserve Hall	Yes