

Council Storm Recovery Number: 5366 1323

June 9-10 Storm Event 2021 – Community Newsletter No. 16

Storm Recovery Habitat Kit workshop a success

Thanks to everyone who joined us to collect their Habitat Kits at the Spargo Creek Mineral Springs on Sunday 3 July, during our habitat and vegetation workshop. We had a wonderful turn out, with over 50 people in attendance.

If you successfully applied for a Habitat Kit and couldn't join us, you can still collect your nest box from the Ballan Council office, located at 15 Stead Street, during business hours.

Thanks again to Landcare, the Ballan Men's Shed, the Rotary Club of Bacchus Marsh and Rowsley Nursery.



Central Highlands Water install a new generator in Blackwood

One year on, Central Highlands Water (CHW) is building resilience for the Blackwood community.

In response to the significant storm event in June 2021, which caused extensive damage across Victoria, CHW installed a generator at the Blackwood Water Treatment Plant.

The new generator has the capacity to provide up to 48 hours of back-up power before needing to be refuelled, meaning that the site can continue to operate remotely and recover quickly in the event of future power outages.

New Fire Access Track and Static Water Supply in two high risk areas



Moorabool Shire Council has successfully secured funding on behalf of Ballan Fire Brigade and Gordon Fire Brigade via the State Government's Fire Access Road Subsidy Scheme (FARSS), for a new Fire Access Track in Ingliston and a Static Water Supply in Gordon.

The strategic water supply will provide 2 x 26,000 litres of potentially life-saving water for firefighting, with two water tanks recently installed at the cross-section of Callaghans Lane and Tooheys Close in Gordon.

Emergency vehicle access to the Werribee Gorge, Falcons Lookout and surrounding areas will be greatly improved with a new Fire Access Track constructed in Ingliston.

Falcons Track, previously an unofficial access track that in sections required a 4WD due to its rough terrain, has now been transformed into a properly designated Fire Access Track for all aspects of firefighting, rescue and other emergencies.

Collect your free Storm Recovery Book

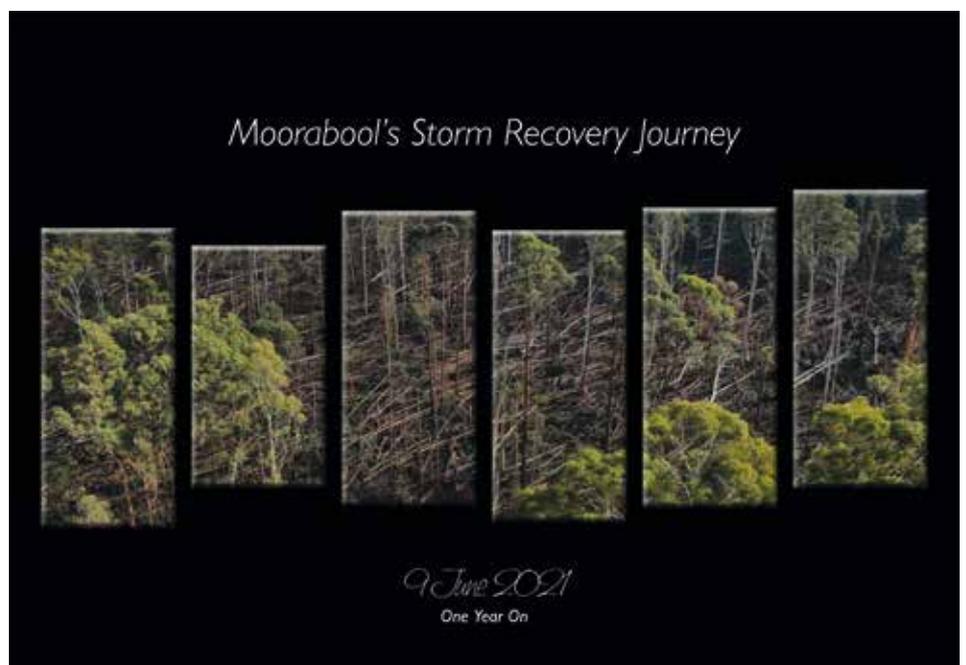
Moorabool's Storm Recovery Team has put together a book of community stories that acknowledges the impact of the June 2021 major storm event. We launched the book at two 'One Year On' events held last month to acknowledge one year since the storm. They are now available to collect for free from the Ballan Council office.

The book is a collection of stories, interviews and images, directly from the community, Council, emergency services and recovery agencies, detailing experiences during the storm and the ongoing recovery journey since.

It's a way of collectively acknowledging the major impact this weather event had on our community, and the recovery that still lies ahead.

The book was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victoria under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project – we hope reading it assists you on your recovery journey.



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Emergency Management Victoria's Community Report

EMV have released their findings after capturing community sentiment and feedback around the June 2021 extreme weather event. After undertaking community conversations and surveying, the EMV Community Report reflects a number of residents' experiences before, during and after the event and describes the context that surrounded these. The report identifies key themes that will inform ongoing improvement in organisational planning and operational processes.

You can read the report here: <https://files.emv.vic.gov.au/2022-06/June%202021%20Extreme%20Weather%20Event%20Community%20Report.pdf>

How to access mental health support

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/>

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/>

Lifeline

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



Blackwood One Year on event



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