

# Upper Murray Community Recovery

Weekly Recovery Update - 6 August 2020

## Are You Rebuilding?

Bushfire Recovery Victoria's Rebuild Support Service is now providing case management for landowners rebuilding after the bushfires.

The free service offers information, guidance and support throughout the process, including help with planning and building approval.

Any landowner in Towong Shire that is rebuilding following the bushfires can access the support.

Referrals can be made at any stage of the rebuilding journey.

Simply complete the registration form on Council's website at [www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery](http://www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery). You will then be contacted by a Planning Coordinator to discuss your case and set up a first appointment.

**Image (right):** Brady Nicholas, Poppy Bond, Harriet Murdoch, Kiara Crane, Myla Tight and Lily Condron from Corryong College say a huge thank you to the Australian Booksellers Association, GIVIT and Council's Recovery Team for books recently donated to all primary school children.



## Recovery in a COVID World

As we return to stage 3 restrictions, the pandemic adds another complicated layer to recovery.

With Grocon property clean-up nearing completion (177 of 183 properties complete) and fencing continuing, the community is looking to itself to determine the way forward.

Towong Shire Mayor David Wortmann said COVID-19 had made it difficult in

the early stages to hold community meetings and it was having an impact again.

"But it's important to keep the momentum going" he said.

"A lot of good recovery ideas have already been put forward and several young people have put their hands up to be involved.

"They are the future so having them involved in community recovery is important."

Lessons learned from the 2009 Black Saturday fires showed a 'top down' approach doesn't work. This is why State, Federal and Local Governments are working at the grassroots level to facilitate and support community-led recovery.

"Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria will find the right grants, but it's up to the community to decide what their priorities are in recovery and renewal," Cr Wortmann said.

"This is a rare opportunity for residents to define how their communities grow into the future."

The comments come as Community Recovery Committees continue to be formed across the Upper Murray.

While the Recovery Hub in Corryong will be closed to 'drop-in' visits, call or email to speak with your Local Area Recovery Officer.

### Upper Murray Community Recovery Hub:

Call 1800 518 222 or email [recovery@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:recovery@towong.vic.gov.au). While the Recovery Hub is currently closed to drop-in visits, recovery work continues remotely.

### Bushfire Recovery Victoria:

Call 1800 560 760  
Email [connect@brv.vic.gov.au](mailto:connect@brv.vic.gov.au)

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