

# Pinery Fire Recovery Newsletter

Issue 4 5 January 2016



Government  
of South Australia



Welcome to this fourth edition of the Pinery fire recovery newsletter, and the first for 2016. I trust that you managed to enjoy some time with friends and family over the Christmas and New Year period. While there may have seemed to be signs of lessened activity during that time, there was still plenty of behind the scenes action.

The new year will start with new vigour in current projects and plenty of effort through new initiatives. There is still much work to be done and volunteers, together with staff from government agencies and NGOs, will continue to work alongside community members to support the recovery effort and bring about positive change.

**Vince Monterola** Local Recovery Coordinator

## Pinery Fire Recovery Centre

The Pinery Fire Recovery Centre is located at the TAFE Gawler Campus, 43 High Street, Gawler. The Centre is currently open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 12pm Saturdays (closed on Sundays and public holidays). The Centre provides long-term support to fire-affected community members who have registered at the emergency relief centre or through the Recovery Hotline.

Mobile recovery services are available at:

### Hamley Bridge

Hamley Bridge Institute

Gilbert Street, Hamley Bridge

Each Monday from 1pm to 5pm

### Kapunda

Light Regional Council

93 Main Street, Kapunda

Each Thursday from 1pm to 5pm.

## Stay connected

The Recovery Hotline (**1800 302 787**) provides recovery information for people affected by the fire. The latest fire recovery information is also available online at [www.sa.gov.au/recovery](http://www.sa.gov.au/recovery) or the SA Bushfire Recovery Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SABushfireRecovery](http://www.facebook.com/SABushfireRecovery).

## Wasleys Post Office

Australia Post continues to support customers of the Wasleys Post Office while looking to restore a local service. A free 12-month mail redirection is available, either to another post office or a residential street address. When service resumes at Wasleys, any mail redirection can be cancelled free of charge. For more information contact the Roseworthy Post Office or phone Benjamin Snyder on **(08) 8178 3243**.

## Email addresses

If you have provided an email address when registering at a Relief or Recovery Centre, but have not received a digital version of this newsletter, it could be that the email address we have for you is not correct. To correct your details please email

[dcsi.pinerynews@sa.gov.au](mailto:dcsi.pinerynews@sa.gov.au)

## State Emergency Relief Fund

The State Emergency Relief Fund (SERF) was activated on 26 November 2015 in response to the Pinery fire. SERF is administered by an independent Committee, whose primary function is to ensure that all donated funds are distributed appropriately and fairly to people and communities impacted by the fire.

The SERF Committee is keen to distribute further money as soon as possible. If you live within the Pinery fire area and your property was damaged, you may be entitled to receive a monetary gift from the fund. The application form is available from the Pinery Fire Recovery Centre in Gawler, or can be downloaded from:

[www.sa.gov.au/topics/emergencies-and-safety/pinery-fire/pinery-fire-appeal](http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/emergencies-and-safety/pinery-fire/pinery-fire-appeal).

You can request an application form by emailing:

[StateEmergencyReliefFund.Applications@sa.gov.au](mailto:StateEmergencyReliefFund.Applications@sa.gov.au). You are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. For further information phone **(08) 8463 6405**, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

## Accounting support

Symes Accountants in Gawler has offered to assist people impacted by the fire. The firm is offering a free consultation to discuss any assistance required when considering financial management impositions due to the fire. It has published a pamphlet for primary producers that answers a number of questions about insurance, taxation, farm management deposit schemes, and charitable assistance. To obtain a copy, contact Symes Accountants on **(08) 8522 2633** or the Recovery Centre on **0477 744 258**.

## Rural Business Support

When natural disasters such as fire occur, Rural Business Support can assist primary producers and small rural businesses with free, independent and confidential financial information and business support.

Making decisions can be overwhelming, and Rural Business Support's team of professional rural financial counsellors can help with a range of services. These include assistance with correspondence (applications and forms), reviewing debtors and creditors, looking at short and long-term cash flows and identifying government assistance. Appointments can occur in your home or office, or in its offices. For more information contact Deb Purvis on **0427 430 244**, Judy Goedecke **0418 856 267**, Freecall **1800 836 211**, or visit [www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au](http://www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au) [www.facebook.com/RuralBusiness](https://www.facebook.com/RuralBusiness) or [www.twitter.com/RuralBiz](https://www.twitter.com/RuralBiz)

## Seed for next year's crop

Grain Producers SA is running a seed register, which records people providing seed (for sale or by donation) and those who will require seed to sow for next season. Phone **1300 734 680** for more details.

## Financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government

The Australian Government has made disaster recovery assistance available to eligible people impacted by the Pinery fire.

A one-off Disaster Recovery Payment of \$1000 per eligible adult and \$400 for each eligible child is available.

The Disaster Recovery Allowance is available to assist individuals, including employees, primary producers and sole traders, who can demonstrate they have experienced a loss of income as a direct result of the Pinery fire. This is paid for up to 13 weeks, equivalent to the rate of the Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance.

To check your eligibility phone **180 22 66** or visit [www.humanservices.gov.au/disaster](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/disaster)

## Fire affected and fallen trees

The Pinery fire impacted on native mallee and box eucalypt trees growing in scrub and along the roadside. Many old trees that had large hollows and dead wood have burnt from the inside and are now laying on the ground. These will be vital in helping the soil and environment to recover. Please minimise disturbance to these trees as that will improve their prospects of survival, as many will reshoot from their charred base.

### Why is fallen timber important?

Fallen timber helps the environment recover from bushfire. Logs and branches can slow wind speeds and trap seeds which will later germinate. These seedlings will go on to help stabilise the soil, shade the soil surface, reduce soil water evaporation, and provide cover and protection to native animals and other seedlings that germinate post fire.

### What do I do with fallen trees?

Fortunately, many fallen trees can be left where they are. Some logs and branches will need to be cleaned up around infrastructure like homes, fences, tracks and sheds. But there are many parts of a property where it is beneficial to leave them lying on the ground. In these areas it is not necessary to 'tidy up' fallen trees.

### What will happen to the native animals?

Old hollow trees with dead wood are vital habitat for native animals like birds, small bats, possums and lizards. Although no longer attached to the tree, fallen logs and branches provide them with refuge and foraging opportunities in the fire scar. This is vital to sustain their populations while the vegetation recovers.

### Will burnt trees recover?

Many trees will reshoot and regrow. It is important to control rabbits, stock and other grazing animals to give regrowth and seedlings a chance to establish.

More information is available from Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges on **(08) 8523 7700**; Natural Resources Northern and Yorke on **(08) 8841 3400**; or [www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaide/mtloftyranges](http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaide/mtloftyranges)

## Disposal of burnt CCA posts to Light Regional Council

From 11 January 2016, Light Regional Council ratepayers can leave burnt CCA posts in Skip bins at the Council's Freeling Operations Centre (corner Coulls and Stephenson Street). The bins can be accessed from 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

### Join the mailing list

Where possible we are distributing this newsletter by email. If you would like to receive the newsletter directly in your inbox please let us know by sending an email to: [DCSI.PineryNews@sa.gov.au](mailto:DCSI.PineryNews@sa.gov.au)

## Events

**People and communities – how do they react and recover after fire?**  
**With psychologist Dr Rob Gordon**

### Freeling

Wednesday 20 January, 2pm - 4pm  
Freeling Recreation Park (Cherry Street)  
Afternoon tea at 2pm, for 2.30pm start

### Wasleys

Wednesday 20 January, 6pm - 8.30pm  
Wasleys Institute (Annie Terrace)  
Sausage sizzle at 6pm, for a 6.30pm start

### Hamley Bridge

Thursday 21 January, 6pm - 8.30pm  
Hamley Bridge Recreation Centre (Stockport Road)  
Sausage sizzle at 6pm, for a 6.30pm start

**Horse SA is offering the following two events, free to Fire Impact Card holders.**

**Large animal rescue capabilities**

Wednesday 13 January, 7pm – 9pm

Roseworthy Campus

For further information contact Horse SA on 0402 488 306

**Managing horses on small properties**

Date: Sunday 6 March

Time: 9.30am – 4pm

Venue: Roseworthy Campus

Register at [www.trybooking.com/JZNO](http://www.trybooking.com/JZNO)

**Contact information**

Recovery Hotline **1800 302 787**

Pinery Fire Recovery Centre (Gawler)

**0477 744 258**

Pinery Fire Recovery website

[www.sa.gov.au/recovery](http://www.sa.gov.au/recovery)

SA Bushfire Recovery Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/SABushfireRecovery](http://www.facebook.com/SABushfireRecovery)

**Local Councils**

Wakefield Regional Council

[www.wakefieldrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wakefieldrc.sa.gov.au) or

**(08) 8862 0800**

District Council of Mallala

[www.mallala.sa.gov.au](http://www.mallala.sa.gov.au) or **(08) 8527 0200**

Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council

[www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au](http://www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au) or

**(08) 8842 6400**

Light Regional Council

[www.light.sa.gov.au](http://www.light.sa.gov.au) or **(08) 8525 3200**

**Insurance**

Insurance Council of Australia Hotline

**1800 734 621**

**Agriculture and Livestock**

PIRSA Stock Assessment Hotline

**(08) 8207 7847**

Livestock SA and Primary Producers SA

**(08) 8297 2299**

**Disaster Recovery Assistance**

Commonwealth Government Information Hotline: 180 22 66

**Health**

Northern Health Network: (08) 8209 0700

**Counselling Services**

Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

Youth Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Mens Line Australia: 1300 789 978

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800

National counselling helpline: 1800RESPECT or [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)

**Volunteering**

Volunteering SA&NT

[www.volunteering.sa.gov.au](http://www.volunteering.sa.gov.au) or 1300 135 545

**Waste Management**

Environment Protection Authority

**(08) 8204 2004** or **1800 623 445**

**Business Support**

Rural Business Support: 1800 836 211

[www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au](http://www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au)

**Natural Resources**

Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges, Gawler Office: **(08) 8523 7700**

Natural Resources Northern and Yorke, Clare Office: **(08) 8841 3400**

**Community support**

BlazeAid: 0467 999 909 or 0477 330 488

[www.blazeaid.com](http://www.blazeaid.com)

Samaritan's Purse: 0490 314 552

Habitat for Humanity: **(08) 8344 6009** or email: [enquiries.sa@habitat.org.au](mailto:enquiries.sa@habitat.org.au)