

# Community Update

# Buloke.

## Attention Primary Producers in Buloke

In the wake of the recent storm event, we understand many of you might be facing significant challenges, including fence damage due to fallen trees and high winds.

BlazeAid, a volunteer-based organisation, can assist in removing debris from fences, standing them up and rebuilding fences.

If you've been affected and think you could use a hand, please don't hesitate to reach out.

To justify the mobilisation of BlazeAid's valuable resources we are aiming to engage 16-18 properties within a 30km radius. Contact the Community Recovery Team without delay at **1300 520 520** to express your interest or for more information.

## Mark your calendars Buloke Businesses!

Dive into an invigorating advisory services menu, designed to rejuvenate your spirit and kickstart your day with options like "Wellness Lattes," "Recovery Plan Mochas," or "Value Shot Espresso."

Tailored to energize and inspire, this four-week series addresses the unique challenges and opportunities for businesses today.

Every Wednesday this March, 7:30-9:30 AM

Location: Rex Theatre Coffee House

An initiative developed in partnership with Business Victoria's Partners in Wellbeing Service, made possible by support from the Australian and Victorian government's Community Recovery Program.

Book your spot for individual sessions (9am-3pm) at the Partners in Wellbeing Helpline: **1300 375 330**. For more details, reach out to Council's Community Recovery or Economic Development team: **1300 520 520**.



## Transform your Community Through Art

Unlock your potential to help communities recover, become a Trauma-Informed Artist!

In a world that's increasingly touched by storms, hot weather, fires, droughts and floods, the power of creativity offers a beacon of hope and resilience.

We're committed to empowering our local creatives, from painters and musicians to dancers and digital artists, to fill this gap and strengthen our community's resilience.

This is your chance to step into a role that's not just about art—it's about healing, connecting, and rebuilding communities from the ground up. Find out more [www.buloke.vic.gov.au/transform-your-community-through-art](http://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/transform-your-community-through-art)

## Coping Strategies Through Storytelling

Local libraries across the shire will be home to the specialised "Birdie's Book" series, aimed at empowering our youngest members with knowledge and coping strategies for natural disasters like hot days, floods, storms, and fires. Buloke's Community Recovery Team have been introducing the series by reading to Supported Playgroup participants over recent weeks at Birchip, Charlton and Donald. The tour will pick up again next term at Sea Lake and Wycheproof.

## Pool Season – Wrap up

As the sun sets on another pool season, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to its success. With the last day of the season last Sunday 17 March 2024, we reflect on shared moments, joyous splashes, and the dedication of our exceptional lifeguard team. Many of them are local residents, ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all across our seven pools, supported by our facilities team and staff behind the scenes. As we bid farewell to this season, we eagerly anticipate the next and invite those with a passion for community service and safety to consider joining our lifeguard team. Thank you to our incredible lifeguards, staff, and community members for making this season a success- we can't wait to dive back in with you next time!

## Clean-up support for storm damaged homes

If your home was damaged by the February 2024 Victorian storms and is not covered by insurance, clean-up support is available.

Emergency Relief Victoria (ERV) is extending support to community members in Buloke who were affected. Here's how ERV is assisting:

- Removing Hazardous Trees
- Demolition of Storm-Damaged Homes

Find out if you are eligible by visiting the ERV Website: <https://www.vic.gov.au/clean-support-storm-damaged-homes>

## Buloke Library Book Reviews

Our monthly Buloke Library Book Reviews are now available on our website care of our phenomenal librarians who bring passion, knowledge, and creativity to our libraries across Buloke. You check out our March book reviews here: <https://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/buloke-library-book-review>



## Crafting Calm and Connections

Join us at Charlton's Rex Theatre on **28 March 2024, at 1:30pm** for a unique cinematic experience!

Buloke Shire Council, in partnership with VALiD (Western Victoria), and Focus On Ability Short Film Festival, proudly presents the "Crafting Calm and Connections" film showcase.

These films celebrate the exceptional talents and resilience of individuals by emphasising narratives that focus on abilities and personal challenges to help foster inclusivity.

This event, organised by Council's Community Recovery Team is supported by VALiD Western Victoria and the Australian and Victorian Government's Community Recovery Hubs Program, and aims to uplift Buloke's spirit and resilience through the art of storytelling.

A sensory area will be available for a peaceful retreat.

Catering will also be provided.

Admission is FREE, but tickets are limited to 200 guests.

Secure your spot now by booking through Eventbrite at <https://bit.ly/3PaBMCF> or call our Customer Service Team on 1300 520 520 for assistance to book online.



## Safer Together in Buloke - Listening Posts

The Safer Together Project is a Victorian Government funded CFA program to assist the most at risk community members in times of emergency and climate crisis.

**Tuesday 19 March - Charlton**      **Wednesday 20 March - Donald**  
**Thursday 21 March - Wycheproof**      **Tuesday 26 March - Sea Lake**  
**Wednesday 27 March - Birchip**

Those who choose to register, identifying as some of the most vulnerable members of our community, may require assistance during times of crisis. In such situations, Buloke Shire Council workers will proactively reach out to registered individuals and, if necessary, facilitate the coordination of support services for those in need.

## Emergency Management from a Community Perspective

Come along and learn more about Emergency Management from a community perspective at this FREE online session!

Designed to equip community members with important information when responding to emergency situations, the session reflects the changes to emergency management structures following the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.

**FREE Online Zoom session**  
**When: Thursday 11 April 2024**  
**Time: 2pm to 5pm**

Please register using QR code below or if you need assistance to register please call Council on: 1300 520 520 and ask to speak to the Community Recovery Team.



## Calling All Buloke Innovators!

Have you got a ripper project idea?

In Buloke, we're known for rolling up our sleeves and getting things done with a whole lot of community spirit.

With thanks to funding from the Australian and Victorian governments and the Community Recovery Program Buloke Shire Council is rolling out the Buloke Community Recovery Wellbeing Grants Program. There's \$20,000 on the table to boost the next wave of fantastic community projects.

**Funding Available:** 4 x \$5,000 grants

**Eligibility:** Not-for-profit groups in the Buloke Shire area, focusing on community recovery.

**Grant Objectives:**

- Strengthen community connection and inclusion
- Promote wellbeing, mental and physical health
- Support trauma-informed recovery service navigation, education, initiatives, and programs
- Ensure targeted evidence-based recovery interventions
- Encourage community-wide collaborative efforts
- Uphold self-determination principles in recovery for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

**Grant Timelines:**  
**Starts: Monday 11 March 2024**  
**Ends: Friday 26 April 2024**

**Dive In:** [www.buloke.vic.gov.au/community-grants-and-sponsorship](http://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/community-grants-and-sponsorship)

If you're part of a not-for-profit group with a project or event that aligns with these objectives, we encourage you to apply.



## Employment Opportunities

Council is an equal opportunity employer. Our roles are non-gender specific, and Council encourages all suitably qualified applicants to apply. For more information on equal opportunity, call Human Resources on **1300 520 520**.

You can find all current employment opportunities at [www.buloke.vic.gov.au/employment](http://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/employment)

You may lodge your applications by Mail to PO Box 1, Wycheproof VIC 3527; or Email to [recruitment@buloke.vic.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@buloke.vic.gov.au).

**Finance Support Officer**

Council is looking for someone to join our professional and supportive Financial Strategy Department in providing financial and administrative support to the Council and its ratepayers.

**Applications close: Friday 29 March 2024**



**BULOKE**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

**Phone: 1300 520 520**  
**[www.buloke.vic.gov.au](http://www.buloke.vic.gov.au)**

