

# RU READY? 10 years on

Wandong History Group Inc.



## Free starter kit will help U be ready

The **RU READY? 10 YEARS ON** event to be held in Wandong on October 19 is shaping up to be a day not to be missed. A feature of the day will be distribution of 100 Emergency Starter Kits that will be given away by the Wandong History Group to Wandong Heathcote Junction residents.

The Emergency Starter kits will be distributed through a ballot system and residents can register to be in the running for a kit by completing the form attached to "Whats Old" in this edition of *What's News* and emailing it to [wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com](mailto:wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com) or dropping it into the box at the Wandong IGA or Wandong Pharmacy. The ballot forms will also be available at the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group sausage sizzles at the Wandong Plaza during September and October. Forms must be received by 16th October 2019.

Valued at over \$100 the kits form a valuable starting point for residents to prepare for the upcoming fire season. They are able to be personalised according to individual needs, the kits provide the essential products to get started on a Fire Action Plan for local households.

The contents of the kits have been sourced through local Wandong traders, including John Georgy of the Wandong Pharmacy who provided the excellent first aid kits; the Wandong IGA supplied much needed personal hygiene products at reduced prices; Kilmore Timber and Hardware Mitre 10 store donated a useful torch and Bunnings of Craigieburn donated 100 fire blankets.

Donations from Kilmore Mitre 10 and Bunnings were facilitated through Corporate2Community, a leader in community preparedness and disaster management initiatives.

The upcoming **RU READY** community event is a collaboration between the Wandong History Group, the Wandong CFA and the Mitchell Shire Council, and is on target to be a fun filled day as well as being informative. This event has been funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal as a way of helping the Wandong/Heathcote Junction community increase its awareness and preparedness for any potential emergency events. Under the umbrella of the combined Wandong History Week and the CFA Fire Action week, the groups are combining their resources to stage a fun filled and informative day for the town's residents.

The gala day will also feature a photographic display of post bushfire recovery, promoting the theme of preparedness and connectedness within the community. Mitchell Shire Council will provide a free barbecue – cooked by the Wandong Wallan Lions Club. There will also be a jumping castle, a Lego tent, Auskick skills, hair feathers for the children and a visiting nature-based tramway conductor. Local groups along with service organisations will also be present. Students at the Wandong Primary School are creating an artwork built around a creative design selected by the school to depict the resilience, sense of place and connectedness of its students. Having been through the bushfires of 2009, the school is helping its students develop and strengthen their resilience as well as imparting a strong sense of place through its connections with the surrounding community, its landscape and its residents.

With new residents moving into the area and predicted warmer than average temperatures, the history Group is keen to help the community become better prepared for any future emergency event. The Group saw the CFA community education program as the logical link. The program has been made possible through a \$20,000 grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR).

Put the date in your diary – Saturday October 19, 11am to 2.30. Come along to the Wandong Memorial Park to support your local groups, play and learn. And don't forget to enter the ballot for an Emergency Starter Kit. (Those who received emergency kits at the Black Saturday 10 year anniversary event are not eligible in this draw)



# **R U READY? 10 years on**

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## **Wandong Primary part of our R U READY Day**

As part of the R U READY: 10 YEARS ON event being held on October 19 at the Wandong Memorial Park, the entire Wandong Primary school has been busy working on a secret artwork project to be unveiled at the event.

The project is funded by the Wandong History Group through its grant from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal.

The artwork is a creative design selected by the school to depict the resilience, sense of place and connectedness of its students. Having been through the bushfires of 2009, the school is helping its students develop and strengthen their resilience as well as imparting a strong sense of place through its connections with the surrounding community, its landscape and its residents.

Each student has designed a unique piece of artwork to be incorporated into a larger composition which, when completed will symbolise that student's sense of identity with their community. The artwork will be unveiled at the community event with students narrating the story behind their artwork and without giving away what the finished product will be, it is sure to be a hit with everyone who sees it.

An artist has worked with the children over the past two months to create the artwork.

Everyone is welcome to come along to the R U READY: 10 YEARS ON? day to see the artwork unveiled, hear the story behind the piece and to participate in the activities planned. There will be a photographic display on Wandong and Heathcote Junction's recovery since the bushfires; face painting; free nature give-away swap cards by The Connies and storytelling; as well as a jumping castle, free BBQ, refreshments and activities and games by the CFA.

So parents, bring your children along to see the secret artwork they have been working on and participate in a day to help you 'Know Your Risk'.

For more information check your letterbox for the event flyer; the What's News, the North Central Review or listen to your local radio station OKFM.

Wandong Heathcote Junction residents have until 12 October to register in the ballot for one of 100 Emergency Starter Kits that will be given away by the Wandong History Group at the community event in October 19 at the Wandong Memorial Park.

Under the umbrella of the combined Wandong History Week and the CFA Fire Action week, the groups are combining to stage the fun filled and informative day for the town's residents.

Providing 100 Emergency Starter kits through a ballot system is one of the great initiatives for the day.

Valued at approximately \$100 these kits form a valuable starting point for residents as they prepare for the upcoming fire season. Able to be personalised according to individual needs, the kits provide the essential products to get started on a Fire Action Plan for your household.

