

# Colinton Courier

Newsletter of the Colinton Rural Fire Brigade \* No 106 \* September 2010



*Village Firefighters 1*

## Committee 2010-2011:

**Fire Captain:** Graham Povey  
**Senior Deputy:** Nick Goldie  
**Deputies:** Bob Morison, Jeremy Mears, Barry Woolcott  
**President:** Martin Hughes  
**Secretary:** Nick Goldie  
**Treasurer:** Bob Morison  
**Training Officer:** Jeremy Mears  
**Equipment Officer:** Michael Burton  
**Community Awareness:** Nick Goldie  
**Fundraising:** Sandra Lauer  
**Permits:** Graham Povey  
**NSW RFSA Delegate:** Jeremy Mears

**RFS OPEN DAY  
SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER**

## Call out:

At around 1500 on *Wednesday 1 September*, the brigade was called to a vehicle roll-over near the Colinton Rest Area. A small car had left the road, rolled, and ended up in the paddock to the east of the highway. *Seven Alpha* (Jeremy, Nick) and *Seven Charlie* (Graham) were quickly on scene, with hoses rolled out and water at the ready. There was no fire, and the driver was taken by ambulance to hospital. The vehicle was removed by Stewie and his tow truck, while the highway was closed for a short time. 

## Membership:

Membership: please pay by cash at training, or cheque to The Treasurer, Colinton Rural Fire Brigade, 88 Weemala Lane, Michelago NSW 2620. Membership fees: \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for juniors. Donations are always welcome. Please provide a return address so a receipt can be mailed to you. 

## Training:

The Colinton Brigade conducts training every month on the second Saturday, at two o'clock, at the Station at Colinton. Everyone is welcome. The Junior brigade is in action, once a month on the second Thursday of the month. Contact Michael Burton (0407 003 392) for details. 

## From the Ashes:

A book of beautiful photography, with a serious aim: that is ***forest phoenix : How a great forest recovers after wildfire.*** The book is written mainly by

environmental biologist David Lindenmayer, with most of the photographs taken by David Blair, both from the Fenner School at the ANU. The book tells the story of ecological forest recovery in the wet forests of Victoria, following the fires of 2009. It also focuses on the science of ecological recovery – a major body of information that is not well known by the vast majority of Australians, and the vast majority of environmental policy makers.

David Blair's photos are stunning, but what gives them extra impact is the analysis of each photo: what is happening now, what did happen to cause these effects, how different forest communities react to the same threat.

One of the many take-home messages from **forest phoenix** is the resilience of the natural forest and forest biodiversity – up to a point. That point being where a fire is too hot, too fierce, and even well-adapted eucalypts are simply killed. And some of the Victorian fires were killing trees which had not seen fire for 250 years.

The time-scales are also beyond the time-scales of human activities such as logging. Lindenmayer points to the amazing 'rain' of seeds from the scorched trees (*E. regnans*), and a phenomenal 'germination event' with up to 1800 seedlings per square metre of forest floor. Some of these seedlings, says Lindenmayer, should still be growing in 350 years time.

So will the forests survive? The answer, says Lindenmayer, is an unequivocal yes – but he then adds a number of related qualifications. Yes, if climate change permits. Yes, if human activities permit. Yes, if there's not another major fire in the area before 2030.

**forest phoenix** by David Lindenmayer *et al* is published by CSIRO, RRP \$39.95. It is available in Cooma from Monaro Books and Music.



*Village Firefighters 2*



*Seven Alpha at rollover scene*



## SENIOR FIRST AID COURSE

9am to 5pm Saturday 16 October  
2010

Colinton Rural Fire Brigade  
Training Centre

Would you like to attend a **free** Senior First Aid course? **Ablaze Total Solutions** will present this accredited first aid course at the Colinton RFS training room on Saturday 16 October.

The course is suitable for people who have never before attended a first aid course and also for those who would like to refresh their first aid skills and knowledge – please see the Ablaze website for more information about their course [www.ablazetotalsolutions.com.au](http://www.ablazetotalsolutions.com.au)

Tea and coffee will be provided. Participants are requested to bring their own lunch.

If you would like to participate please register by phoning Martin or Sally Hughes on 62359093 or email [mshughes@activ8.net.au](mailto:mshughes@activ8.net.au)

Please RSVP by COB Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

*This course is made possible by support from Volunteering ACT; Monaro Rural Health Service, Cooma Monaro Shire Council; The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.*



Items for **The Colinton Courier** to Nick Goldie at [horehound@yless4u.com.au](mailto:horehound@yless4u.com.au)  
02 6235 9190

by the first Saturday each month, or to any Committee member. For production assistance we are grateful to:

\*Noel Teys Real Estate 0428 625 307  
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**The Colinton Courier** is also available at

[www.michelagoregion.org.au/bushfire/brigades.htm](http://www.michelagoregion.org.au/bushfire/brigades.htm)

Views expressed in *The Colinton Courier* are not necessarily those of the editor, the Brigade, or the RFS.



## Essential numbers

### Emergency 000

**Fire:**  
**Cooma Monaro Fire Control**  
**(24 hrs)**  
**1 300 722 164**  
**02-6455 0455**

**Fire:**  
**Captain and Permit Officer:**  
**Graham Povey**

**02-6454 4150**  
**0419 406 908**





## **Open Day**

**The state-wide RFS Open Day 2010 will  
be held on  
*Saturday 25 September.***

**This year, Colinton Brigade has invited  
members of the Bredbo Brigade to join  
us at Colinton, for a barbecue, and to  
show off their equipment and skills.**

**We invite all members of the public to  
come and share the day, share the  
barbecue, meet your local brigade  
members, and view the trucks, the  
equipment, and the activities, any time  
from mid-morning until mid-afternoon.**

