



Bunbartha Community Emergency Management Plan

2025

DRAFT



The development of this plan was funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments following the October 2022 floods.



Australian Government



Originally developed with the assistance of
The Six C's Group 2025

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Bunbartha Emergency Group Members

What is community based emergency management?

Community based emergency management is about working together to be safer and more resilient, without building greater dependencies on agencies, government and service providers. This includes being relatively independent and self-reliant, while drawing upon the connections and lifelines which support people and their community to function and survive.

It also provides opportunities for broader collaboration and collective action. This includes working together as part of the community to drive the design, implementation and review of integrated planning and engagement processes. Connections and relationships developed through these processes can be maintained and beneficial before, during and after emergencies.

Maturity in these processes can also assist to build overall community capacity and capability to better manage long term stressors and to cope with shocks, including future emergencies.

This approach is designed to support community led approaches and activities wherever possible.

Adopting this approach taps into the collective local knowledge, expertise and resources to build on combined strengths. Working together through these processes can assist to develop mutual goals and solutions while strengthening relationships and lifelines to be drawn upon in good times and during critical times of need.



Overview

Introduction

The Bunbartha Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been developed by the local community and the Bunbartha Emergency Group (BEG) acknowledges all who have participated and contributed toward the development of this document.

This plan is managed and distributed by the BEG. All feedback and opportunities for participation to implement and progress the plan is welcome.

While every effort has been made to ensure that information in this document is correct at the time of printing, changes after the time of publication may impact the accuracy of the information.

The BEG is not responsible for any loss suffered in connection with the use of this document.

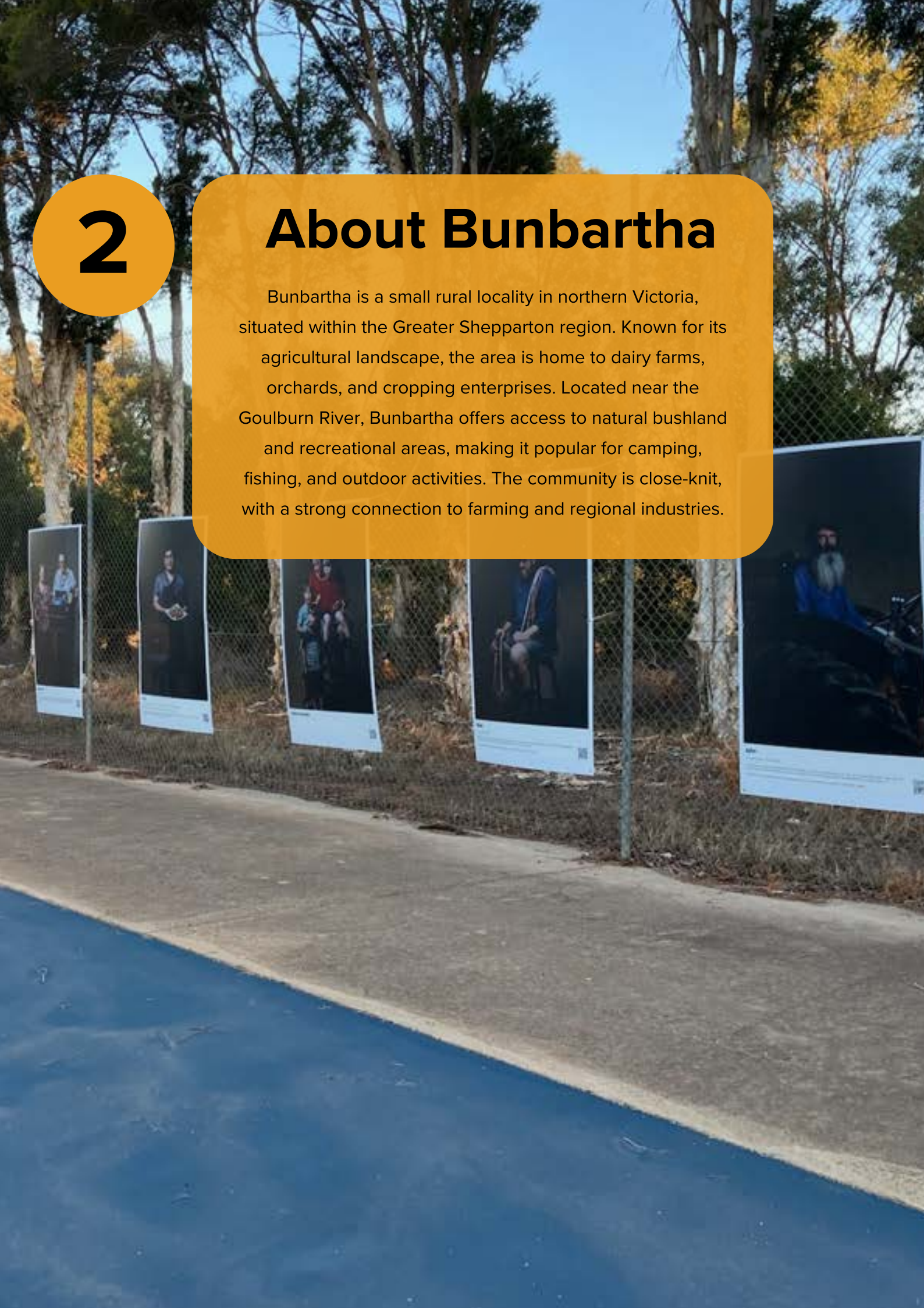
Aim

To safeguard the Bunbartha community by building a comprehensive emergency management plan that emphasises prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, ensuring the well-being of all community and residents in times of crisis.

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About Bunbartha

Bunbartha is a small rural locality in northern Victoria, situated within the Greater Shepparton region. Known for its agricultural landscape, the area is home to dairy farms, orchards, and cropping enterprises. Located near the Goulburn River, Bunbartha offers access to natural bushland and recreational areas, making it popular for camping, fishing, and outdoor activities. The community is close-knit, with a strong connection to farming and regional industries.



Statistics



313 people



114 private dwellings



**40 years of age
(average age)**



**9 lone
households**



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Hazards

Bushfire, Grass Fire, Broad Acre Fire



Bunbartha has historically had a low bushfire risk, but climate change and drier conditions are increasing the threat. Hotter temperatures and reduced rainfall are creating drier vegetation, raising the risk of grassfires and fast-moving fires. While major bushfires have been uncommon, fire preparedness and hazard reduction are becoming more important.

Heat



Rising temperatures and more frequent heatwaves pose a growing risk to the people of Bunbartha, especially older residents, young children, and those with health conditions. Extreme heat can cause heat stress, dehydration, and increased hospitalizations, while also impacting livelihoods reliant on farming.

Flood



Bunbartha, Victoria, has a history of flooding due to its proximity to the Goulburn River. Major floods have impacted the area in 1974, 1993, 2010, and 2022, causing property damage, road closures, and agricultural losses. The October 2022 flood was particularly severe, isolating & inundating properties and farmland. Residents have relied on levees, sandbagging, and emergency response efforts to mitigate impacts. These events highlight the need for ongoing flood preparedness and mitigation measures in the region.

Storms



Bunbartha, is prone to severe storms, particularly during the warmer months, bringing strong winds, heavy rainfall, and lightning strikes. These storms have been known to cause flash flooding, property damage, and power outages, impacting both residents and local agriculture. Hailstorms and high winds have also contributed to fallen trees and damaged infrastructure.



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Objectives



Administrative

Setting us up for success

Objective 1.

Proposal to seek the establishment of the group as the Bunbartha Emergency Group and submit a formal request to the Bunbartha Tennis Club Committee to recognise it as a sub-committee.

Objective 2.

Write to Goulburn-Murray Water asking permission to sandbag the low spots of Loch Garry Flood Protection District levee when advised of a moderate flood or above.





Community connections

Building Social Capital

Objective 3.

Ensure the elderly are cared for before, during and after disasters. Propose the following:

- establish a phone tree
- door knock

Objective 5.

Enhance community communication by developing a Whats App group

Objective 4.

Develop a community directory that outlines skills and equipment of the Bunbartha community





Building Capacity & Capability

Empowering our community

Objective 6.

Enhance the facilities at the Bunbartha Recreation Reserve to enable the centre to be used as a Community Hub that could be opened by the community when safe after an emergency or for community respite to heat

- Purchase a generator
- Upgrade the kitchen to a commercial kitchen
- Purchase another water tank
- First Aid Kit/Snake kit
- Steel scoops to assist with filling sandbags
- Electronic sign to announce when the hub is open and community safety preparedness messaging
- Develop a community hub model to fit community requirements (triggers to open, roles and role descriptions, services etc)

Objective 7.

Increase skills within the community. Training to include:

- First Aid training
- Chainsaw training
- Mental health first aid training
- Grant writing course

Objective 8.

To increase preparedness to all hazards, by purchasing a shipping container to hold the following:

- Plastic pallets (to stack sandbags)
- Sand bags
- Community hub items
- Install posters on how to correctly fill sandbags (include a QR code linked to VicSES short videos on how to sandbag)

Objective 9.

Increase knowledge in preparedness, response and recovery activities:

- How to sandbag effectively
- What you can and can't do before, during and after a flood

Objective 10.

Develop a Flood Action Card that includes:

- Flood triggers
- State priorities
- Council 24/7 phone number
- Community actions
- Establishment of flood lookouts similar to flood warden role
- Map with location of levees
- A list and map of what areas flood first within the community



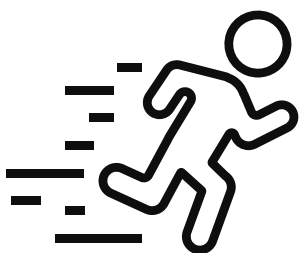
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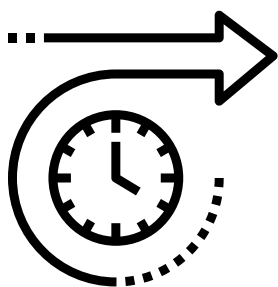
Local Priorities



Short term goals

The goal of this initiative is to bolster Bunbartha's community resilience and emergency preparedness by formally establishing the Bunbartha Emergency Group and enhancing readiness for floods and other disasters. Key components of the project include strengthening community communication through a directory of local skills and resources, a phone tree, and a WhatsApp group.

Additionally, the initiative will develop a Flood Action Card, offer flood preparedness training, and improve emergency response capabilities. The project also aims to upgrade the Bunbartha Recreation Reserve into a Community Hub for emergency support and respite, enhance resource storage with a shipping container, and equip the community with essential disaster response tools.



Medium term goals

The medium-term goals of the project include building the capacity and capability of individuals by hosting a range of courses. Additionally, a formal request will be made to GMWater, seeking permission to sandbag low spots of the levee when moderate floods or higher are anticipated, further strengthening flood preparedness.



Long term goal

Enhance the facilities at the Bunbartha Recreation Reserve to support its use as a Community Hub.

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Key Issues & vulnerabilities

Key issues & vulnerabilities

- Medlands estate is a close-knit community of lifestyle and hobby farm blocks, accessible by a single entry and exit point.
- The Loch Garry flood regulator is a structure that provides flood protection for downstream landowners in the Bunbartha/Deep Creek area from minor to moderate flooding.
 - Built in 1925 at Bunbartha, the regulator is a 48 bay structure which contains 506 drop bars that can be removed or replaced during operation.
 - There is also 9km of levee that forms part of the Loch Garry Flood Protection District.
 - Loch Garry Flood Protection District Revised Operating Rules (June 2023) should be reviewed by all residents
- Potential closure of the Barmah-Shepparton Rd due to flooding.
- Bunbartha does not have a local CFA brigade, the closest is Tallygaroopna Fire Brigade who provide local emergency response for fire, flood and accidents.
- Bunbartha does not have a local VicSES Unit, the closest unit is the Shepparton Search and Rescue squad located in Shepparton.



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Values

“We support each other, we just need the tools to help out more.”

“We value our community.”

“Community gatherings are valuable.”

“We value the Bunbartha Recreation Reserve as a central point of Bunbartha.”

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due by	Complete	Comments
Proposal to seek the establishment of the group as the Bunbartha Emergency Group and submit a formal request to the Bunbartha Tennis Club Committee to recognise it as a sub-committee.					
Develop a community directory that outlines skills and equipment of the Bunbartha community					
Establish a phone tree					
How to sandbag effectively					
What you can and can't do before, during and after a flood					
Develop a Flood Action Card that includes: · flood triggers · state priorities · Council 24/7 phone number · community actions · establishment of flood lookouts similar to flood warden role · map with location of levees · a list and map of what areas flood first within the community					

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Enhance the facilities at the Bunbartna Recreation Reserve to enable the centre to be used as a Community Hub that could be opened by the community when safe after an emergency or for community respite to heat · Purchase a generator · Purchase another water tank (22,000 litres) · First Aid Kit/Snake kit · Steel scoops to assist with filling sandbags · Electronic sign to announce when the hub is open provide preparedness messages					
Develop a community hub model to fit community requirements (triggers to open, roles and role descriptions, services etc)					
To increase preparedness to all hazards, by purchasing a shipping container to hold the following: · plastic pallets (to stack sandbags) · sand bags · community hub items · install posters on how to correctly fill sandbags					
Enhance community communication by developing a Whats App group					

MEDIUM TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due by	Complete	Comments
First Aid training					
Chainsaw training					
Mental health first aid training					
Grant writing course					
Write to GWWater asking permission to sandbag the low spots or the levee when advised of a moderate flood or above.					

LONG TERM OBJECTIVES

Action	Lead	Support	Due By	Complete	Comments
Upgrade the Bunbartha Recreation Reserve kitchen to a commercial kitchen					



Emergency Contacts

Agency	Phone Number	Website
Triple 000	000	
VicEmergency	1800 226 226	emergency.vic.gov.au
VicSES	132 500	ses.vic.gov.au
CFA		cfa.vic.gov.au
VicTraffic		traffic.transport.vic.gov.au
Police but not the sirens	131 444	
Bureau of Meterology		bom.gov.au
Powercor Outages	13 24 12	
Poisons Information Line	13 11 26	
Nurse on Call	1300 60 60 24	
Better Health Channel		betterhealth.vic.gov.au
Greater Shepparton City Council	5832 9700	greatersepparton.com.au



Bunbartha Emergency Group

The Bunbartha Emergency Group was established in 2025 and consists of the following members:

Members	Members
Mat	Barb
John	Kevin
Ross	Shaun
Rhonda	Adam
Mick	Tom
Albert	Naomi

The Bunbartha Emergency Group welcomes new members.

Community support services in Greater Shepparton

There are a range of support services throughout our community who can help during difficult times. This brochure outlines a few of those available.



Business Support

Find out about grants, support, workshops and other resources available for your business.

Business Victoria

☎ 13 22 15
🌐 business.vic.gov.au

Greater Shepparton Business Centre

🌐 sheppartonbusiness.com.au

Carer Respite

Respite care can be arranged in a few different ways.

It is important to take care of yourself so you can take care of others.

Carers Victoria

☎ 1800 514 845
🌐 carersvictoria.org.au

Carer Gateway

☎ 1800 422 737
🌐 carergateway.gov.au

Community Support

Neighbourhood/Community Houses offer information, resources, support, activities, programs, training, lifelong learning and so much more. Check out your local NH House

Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre

☎ 03 5825 1774

Murchison Community House

☎ 03 5826 2373

North Shepp Community and Learning Centre

☎ 03 5821 5770

South Shepp Community House

☎ 03 5821 6172

Tatura Community House

☎ 03 5824 1315

Community Transport

Community Accessibility

☎ 03 5831 8515
🌐 communityaccessibility.com.au

Dyson Group

(Shepparton Bus Services)

☎ 03 5831 2150
🌐 dysongroup.com.au

Jacobson

(Mooroopna Bus Services)

☎ 03 5825 2323
🌐 jacobsoncoachtours.com.au

Drug and Alcohol Support

Practical help, information and support is always available.

Australian Community Support Program (ACSO) Shepparton

☎ 1300 022 760

🌐 acso.org.au

Direct Line

☎ 1800 888 236

🌐 directline.org.au

Family Support

Caroline Chisholm Society

☎ 1800 134 863

🌐 caroline.org.au

FamilyCare

☎ 03 5823 7000

🌐 familycare.net.au

Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project

☎ 0419 555 939

🌐 gslp.com.au

Maternal Child Health at Greater Shepparton City Council

☎ 03 5832 9312

🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au

Maternal Child Health Line

☎ 13 22 29

National Home Doctor Service

☎ 13 74 25

🌐 homedoctor.com.au

Nurse on Call

☎ 1300 606 024

Family Violence

Violence and abuse is never okay. These times are stressful but help is always available.

If you are unsafe or in danger call Triple Zero "000" immediately.

1800RESPECT

☎ 1800 737 732

🌐 1800respect.org.au

Marian House (Vincent Care)

☎ 03 5825 9400

(business hours)

☎ 1800 015 188 (after hours)

🌐 vincentcare.org.au

Men's Referral Service

☎ 1300 766 491

🌐 ntv.org.au

Orange Door

☎ 1800 634 245

🌐 orangedoor.vic.gov.au

Safe Steps

☎ 1800 015 188

🌐 safesteps.org.au

Financial Help

Situations are changing and this is making it difficult for people to pay expenses.

AgBiz Assist

☎ 1300 834 775

🌐 agbizassist.org.au

MoneyCare

☎ 1800 722 363

🌐 salvationarmy.org.au

Salvation Army

☎ 03 8873 5288

🌐 salvationarmy.org.au

Services Australia (Centrelink)

☎ 136 240

🌐 servicesaustralia.gov.au

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

☎ 03 5831 7755

Vincent Care

(Free financial counselling service)

☎ 03 5825 9400

🌐 vincentcare.org.au

Food Assistance

Reaching out can be hard but it is always okay to ask for help. We are here **with** you.

Salvation Army

☎ 03 8873 5288

🌐 salvationarmy.org.au/

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

☎ 03 5831 7755

St Vincent de Paul Welfare Assist

☎ Shepparton: 03 5821 0317

☎ Mooroopna: 03 8199 4243

Hospitals & Health Services

GV Health

☎ 03 5832 2322

🌐 gvhealth.org.au

Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

☎ 1300 000 559

🌐 betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Primary Care Connect

☎ 03 5823 3200

🌐 primarycareconnect.com.au

Priority Care Clinic

☎ 03 5823 3132

🌐 shepmed.mthc.com.au/ppcc

Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative

☎ 03 5820 0000

🌐 rumbalara.org.au

VVED (Victorian Virtual Emergency Department)

🌐 vved.org.au – then register

Housing/Homelessness

If you need extra support for housing reach out now.

Beyond Housing Shepparton

☎ 03 5833 1000

☎ 1800 825 955 (after hours)

🌐 beyondhousing.org.au

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

☎ 1300 650 172

🌐 dffh.vic.gov.au

Rumbalara Homelessness & Housing Support

☎ Ph: 5820 0000

🌐 rumbalara.org.au/service/homelessness-housing-support/

Salvatore (Social Services)

☎ 03 5820 8000

🌐 salvationarmy.org.au/shepparton

Legal Help

Goulburn Valley Community Legal Centre (ARC Justice)

☎ 03 5831 0900

☎ 1800 310 900

🌐 arcjustice.org.au

LGBTIQA+

Diversity Project Shepparton

☎ 03 5831 6157

🌐 diversity@vt.uniting.org

🌐 pridecentre.org.au

GV Pride

🌐 gvpride.org/contact

🌐 facebook.com/gvprideshepparton

🌐 gvprideshepparton

qLife

☎ 1800 184 527

🌐 qlife.org.au

Rainbow Door

☎ 1800 729 367

🌐 rainbowdoor.org.au

Mental Health

If you are feeling higher instances of stress and anxiety at this time reach out, you are not alone.

13YARN (Aboriginal & Torres Straight Islanders Crisis Support Line)

☎ 13 92 76

🌐 13yarn.org.au

Beyond Blue

☎ 1300 22 4636

🌐 beyondblue.org.au

Head to Health

☎ 1800 595 212

🌐 headtohealth.gov.au

Headspace Shepparton

(for 12-25 year olds)

☎ 03 5823 8800

🌐 headspace.org.au

Headspace 1800 650 890

(9am-1pm – 365 days year)

Lifeline

☎ 13 11 14

🌐 lifeline.org.au

Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

☎ 1300 000 559

🌐 wellways.org

Wellways

☎ 1300 111 400

🌐 wellways.org

Multicultural Support Services

Ethnic Council of Shepparton & District

☎ 03 5831 2395

🌐 ethniccouncil.com.au

Translator Services

☎ 1800 560 760 (press 9)

Older People

Find out more about support for older people.

Seniors Rights Victoria

☎ 1300 368 821

🌐 seniorsrights.org.au

People with Disability

For information about NDIS eligibility and access to support groups and mainstream services, contact IntoRec or Council's Access & Inclusion Officer today.

ConnectGV

☎ (03) 5821 2466

🌐 connectgv.com.au

Intereach

☎ 1300 488 226

🌐 intereach.com.au

IntoRec (Family Care)

☎ 03 5823 7041

🌐 familycare.net.au

Rights Information and Advocacy Centre (RIAC)

☎ 03 5222 5499

🌐 riac.org.au

Shepparton Access

☎ (03) 5831 6180

🌐 sheppaccess.com.au

Places of Worship

Visit the Greater Shepparton Great Things Happen Here website for a listing of places of worship.

🌐 greatthings.com.au/places-of-worship

Sexual Assault Victims/Survivors

GV CASA

(Centre Against Sexual Assault)

☎ 1800 806 292

🌐 gvcasa.com.au/contact_us

Social Connection

Visit our neighbourhood houses or the links below to get involved and stay connected.

Get Mooving

🌐 getmoovingshepparton.com.au/activities-in-the-park

Greater Shepparton Community Group and Sports Club Directory

🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au/community/community-directory

Volunteer Opportunities

🌐 greater-shepparton.com.au/community/volunteering/volunteer-opportunities

Weather Emergency

As extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, be prepared for an emergency situation.

Weather Emergency

As extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, be prepared for an emergency situation.

ABC Radio (local ABC radio)

Emergency radio broadcast

ABC Local 107.9 FM,

594 AM & 774 AM

Food relief in the Goulburn Valley



FOOD ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

Shepparton Family & Financial Services

1 Naomi St, Shepparton T: 5831 7755

Mon - Fri, 10am - 4pm

South Shepparton Community Centre

290 Archer Street, Shepparton T: 5821 6172

Mon - Fri, 9am - 3pm

Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre (MEAC)

2 Northgate Street, Mooroopna T: 5825 1888

Mon - Fri, 9am - 3pm

Family Haven

15 - 17 Young St, Mooroopna T: 0428 736 961

For families only. Tue - Thu, 9.30am - 3pm

Generations Op Shop

119 Hogan St Tatura T: 5824 3059

Mon - Fri, 10am - 4pm

Caroline Chisholm Society

15a St Andrews Rd, Shepparton T: 5821 0826

Emergency supplies - clothing, nappies, formula etc.

Assistance for children up to 10 years.

Mon - Wed, 9am - 12pm.

SalvoCare Shepparton

99 Nixon Street, Shepparton T: 8873 5288

Mon, Tue, Thur, 10am - 4pm (call at 9am for apt)

St Vincent de Paul Society Shepparton

290 Wyndham Street, Shepparton T: 5821 0317

Mon - Fri, 10am - 12pm

South Shepparton Community Church

15 St Andrews Road, Shepparton T: 0408 738 967

By appointment

Rumbalara

20 Rumbalara Rd, Mooroopna T: 5820 0000

ATSI clients only. **Mon - Fri, 9am - 4pm**

The Salvation Army Kyabram Doorways

24 Unitt St, Kyabram T: 5853 2684

Servicing Kyabram & district.

By appointment

Shalom Worship Centre Merrigum

116 Waverley Ave, Merrigum M: 0429 866 478

Tue & Wed, 1pm - 4pm, or call/text

Shalom Worship Centre Girgarre

10 Morgan Crescent, Girgarre M: 0409 510 871

Please text for assistance

Girgarre Community Cottage

27 Olympic St, Girgarre T: 5854 6482

Mon - Thu, 10am-3pm

Euroa Foodshare

1A Clifton Street, Euroa T: 0491 721 024

By appointment

Euroa Christian Fellowship

Old School House, Clifton St, Euroa

T: 0402 427 955

By appointment

Murchison Neighbourhood House

23 Impey Street, Murchison T: 5826 2373

Mon - Fri, 9am-3pm

Love In Action Broadford Living & Learning Centre

58 High St, Broadford T: 0473 845 808

Assistance for the Broadford community in need

Mon - Thu by apt or Fri collections, 11am - 2pm

Food relief in the Goulburn Valley



COMMUNITY MEALS PROGRAMS

Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre (MEAC)

23 Alexandra St, Mooroopna T: 5825 1774

\$10 per meal - 2 courses

Tue, 12pm - open to all

Bookings necessary

Family Haven

15 - 17 Young St, Mooroopna T: 0428 736 961

Lunch - For families only

Tue - Thu, 12pm - 1pm

Murchison Neighbourhood House

23 Impey Street, Murchison T: 5826 2373

Mon & Wed, 12 noon - open to all

\$8 per meal - 2 courses

The Salvation Army

99 Nixon St, Shepparton T: 5821 2666

\$5 if you can contribute

Wed, 11.45am - 1.30pm

People Supporting People

Lutfiyes Shish Kebabs

338 Wyndham Street, Shepparton.

Mon - Fri, 4pm - 5pm



03 4840 5280



7 Doonan St, Mooroopna VIC 3629



info@sheppartonfoodshare.org.au



sheppartonfoodshare.org.au



/sheppartonfoodshare



Compiled by Shepparton Foodshare.

Subject to change without notice,

correct as at May 2025