



The recovery diary

January-June 2005

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Date	Event
11 January Tuesday	<p>State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) briefing. Fire danger rating for all of South Australia is extreme.</p> <p>Cummins Bowling Club provides a refuge for evacuees. Recovery officers unable to reach evacuees as arterial roads closed.</p> <p>At 4pm Children, Youth & Family Services (CYFS) establishes a recovery centre at the Port Lincoln High School in anticipation of the pending need.</p> <p>4.30pm State Coordinator declares an identified major incident. State Coordinator, Commissioner Mal Hyde appoints Sue Vardon, Chief Executive, Department for Families and Communities as Assistant State Coordinator (Recovery) to lead and coordinate recovery operations. Vince Monterola, Chief Executive Officer, SA Fire and Emergency Services, to head the local recovery operation.</p>
12 January Wednesday	<p>Hotline managed by Centrelink in operation at 9am.</p> <p>12 noon State Coordinator declares a major emergency. Assistant State Coordinator (Recovery) convenes State Recovery Committee meeting at 4pm.</p> <p>Premier announces a relief operation to be mobilised for Eyre Peninsula victims, \$2 million allocated. Premier promotes Hotline.</p> <p>Emergency Services Minister Conlon flies to Port Lincoln with Country Fire Services Chief Euan Ferguson to assess assistance required. Premier announces appointment of Duty Minister: "A Government Minister will be on duty on the Lower Eyre Peninsula until the immediate crisis has passed and recovery plans are in place. Minister for Emergency Services Patrick Conlon will be located on the Eyre Peninsula until the weekend when Minister for Agriculture Rory McEwen will take over".</p> <p>Australian Red Cross (ARC) agrees to collect public donations on behalf of the Government. ARC, Salvation Army and others begin to receive public donations.</p> <p>Department of Primary Industries and Resources (PIRSA) mobilises 5 teams for stock assessment and destruction.</p> <p>Department for Administrative and Information Services (DAIS) organises for donated bottled water originally intended for the tsunami relief effort but not required, to be sent to the Eyre Peninsula.</p> <p>Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) officers provide an initial assessment of the adverse impact of the fire on biodiversity values including rare and endangered flora and fauna species.</p>

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12 January Wednesday	<p>CSIRO researchers assisted by DEH staff investigate fire behaviour, fire development and factors contributing to asset loss.</p> <p>PIRSA appoints Helen Lamont as recovery coordinator at PIRSA Port Lincoln office.</p> <p>South Australia Police (SAPOL) Disaster Victim Identification Teams fly to Port Lincoln.</p> <p>CYFS Emergency Management Coordinator contacts the State Coroner's Office to discuss grief support and practical assistance for bereaved families. The State Coroner's Office agrees to provide case management support to all families and sends social workers to the Eyre Peninsula. These officers will work closely with recovery centre staff and recovery personnel to ensure families are effectively linked into services.</p> <p>Telstra working to restore about 100 services and provides free call diversions from customers' fixed lines to another fixed or mobile service irrespective of the carrier.</p>
13 January Thursday	<p>Following action by DAIS the Adelaide based State Recovery Centre is operational from 8am.</p> <p>Premier Rann trebles the Government's initial allocation of the Bushfire Emergency Assistance Fund to \$6 million and announces the package of grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Personal Hardship and Distress Grant- Exceptional Circumstances Grant- Return to School Grant- Emergency Farm Business Support Grant- Emergency Small Business Support Grant- Transport subsidy for donated fodder- Specialist technical advice- Rural financial counselling- Local Government Support Grant. <p>Prime Minister announces Commonwealth ex gratia payments to affected households (\$1,000 per adult and \$400 per child).</p> <p>Premier flies to Port Lincoln with key chief executives leading the relief and recovery efforts.</p> <p>Sue Vardon identifies people to form the West Coast Recovery Committee (WCRC) to coordinate recovery at the local level.</p> <p>PIRSA and SA Water identify stock disposal sites.</p>

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14 January Friday	<p>Premier and Minister Conlon attend first meeting of the West Coast Recovery Committee. Premier announces Vince Monterola to Chair the Committee which includes representatives from a wide range of organisations.</p> <p>Fire now controlled, nine people confirmed dead, 110 treated for fire related injuries, 79 homes destroyed.</p> <p>State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) holds extraordinary meeting.</p> <p>110 people have been treated for fire related injuries at local hospital. 3 people were flown to the Royal Adelaide Hospital for treatment. Several trauma teams are now in Port Lincoln helping with disaster victim identification and assisting victims, workers and volunteers in dealing with stress issues associated with the disaster.</p> <p>A second recovery centre is established at Cummins Bowling Club.</p> <p>PIRSA call centre established to coordinate offers and requests for fodder, agistment, volunteers and farm business grants. At least 12 staff on duty seven days a week.</p> <p>PIRSA, SAPOL and local stock agents working together to identify farmers needing assistance.</p> <p>Water supply now restored to most parts of Eyre Peninsula. Four rain water tanks in place at key locations in Wangary, Edillilie, Koppio and Greenpatch to supplement supplies.</p> <p>ETSA working around the clock to restore power to 160 customers.</p> <p>Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) staff visit Port Lincoln to offer advice and assistance to small business affected by the fire.</p> <p>Service SA establishes West Coast Bushfire Recovery web page listing a broad range of information and resources. Service SA liaising with relevant agencies to establish the correct process to enable free replacement of destroyed documentation eg driver's licence.</p> <p>South Australian Farmers Federation (SAFF) meets with eight farmers identified to disseminate information and act as a conduit to support neighbours within eight designated zones.</p> <p>The Governor of South Australia, Marjorie Jackson-Nelson visits the Eyre Peninsula.</p> <p>Australian Tax Office announces a specialised service for taxpayers affected by the fire: fast track refunds, extra time to make tax payments without interest charges, to lodge activity statements and to reconstruct tax records damaged or lost in fires.</p>

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16 January Sunday	<p>Almost 800 calls made to the Hotline by 4pm. A register is now being established as a result of people offering assistance – labour, grain, fodder and accommodation.</p> <p>Transport SA has arranged to transport 18 caravans from Port Augusta to Port Lincoln to use as field stations and accommodation.</p> <p>58 families have sought housing assistance from the South Australian Housing Trust (SAHT). 127 offers of housing have been made by members of the public.</p> <p>Telstra has restored most land lines in the affected areas.</p>
17 January Monday	<p>200 people have received the Emergency Support Grant.</p> <p>CYFS and Department of Health (DoH) arrange free child care for those affected by the bushfires through the Tumby Bay out-of-school hours program.</p> <p>Additional mental health services have been established for the Eyre Peninsula region, with a senior clinical nurse consultant and mental health educators to have a presence in the region for three months.</p> <p>Following a visit to the fire area an Environmental Health Officer reports no immediate public health issues. Two regional environmental health officers remain in the area.</p> <p>PIRSA hands out the first of \$10,000 emergency relief grants to four recipients, a further 40 applications are being assessed. Livestock killed by fire or subsequently destroyed now at 45,000, mostly sheep. Approximately 79 farms and 140 farm vehicles destroyed. A significant amount of fencing within about 84,000 hectares destroyed and, of those hectares affected, 95 percent of the pastures have also been destroyed.</p> <p>Between 50,000 and 60,000 sheep mustered and sent to other locations, a further 16,000 sheep and some cattle to be agisted to the South East. Donated fodder will still be needed for this stock over the coming months.</p> <p>PIRSA working with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to assess soil erosion, soil contamination, asbestos, burial sites and chemically treated timber.</p> <p>SA Water meeting the needs of 70 customers still without water supply by offering them tankers and/or bottled water.</p> <p>ETSA rebuilding power lines where infrastructure completely destroyed.</p>

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17 January Monday	<p>Telstra providing free call diversion and flat rates for mobile use to customers with phone faults.</p> <p>The Regional Biodiversity Steering Committee meets to discuss future directions for rehabilitation and recovery of affected flora, fauna and ecology.</p> <p>DAIS arranges to provide a logistics person to coordinate shipping containers and volunteer camp equipment.</p>
18 January Tuesday	<p>West Coast State Recovery Committee Chair, Vince Monterola advises "Eyre Peninsula emergency response phase complete and the second phase of relief and recovery in full swing".</p> <p>CYFS distributes information kits to bushfire victims.</p> <p>The Hotline has received more than 1,000 calls.</p> <p>600 people have registered at recovery centres.</p> <p>Professor Sandy McFarlane conducts a workshop for health professionals in Port Lincoln on trauma and how to respond to the issues facing the community in the medium to long term.</p> <p>SAHT has assisted 64 families seeking accommodation. The Aboriginal Housing Authority (AHA) provided accommodation for one family. 143 offers of accommodation have been received from the general public, 29 of these have been accepted.</p> <p>PIRSA is coordinating the relocation of more than 50,000 sheep from the fire affected areas. Ausbulk provided storage facilities for donated fodder which will be needed for several months to hand feed stock. Two rural counsellors are in the area assisting families.</p> <p>SA Water sends team to Port Lincoln to evaluate damage to infrastructure.</p> <p>The Office of the Technical Regulator provides two people on site to assist customers with reconnection, installation of new meters and safety checks for wiring installations.</p> <p>Transport SA advises that replacement signs and guideposts have been ordered and installation is commencing on arterial roads as a priority.</p> <p>Transport SA is commencing removal of trees identified as an immediate threat along the Tod Highway. A further investigation of all trees adjacent to the highway will be completed later this week.</p>

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18 January Tuesday	<p>The EPA approves the reopening of a disposal pit previously used for recycling asbestos and metals. A trench has been dug for the disposal of asbestos waste and metal compaction equipment has been despatched to the area. Ash continues to be a major waste concern. The EPA will publish advice on safe disposal methods for waste material on website.</p> <p>DEH threatened species officers are auditing known sites of threatened species on roadsides and private land.</p> <p>Insured losses are estimated at \$20 million and expected to increase. Uninsured losses are expected to be much higher, particularly fencing.</p>
19 January Wednesday	<p>15 Commonwealth ex gratia grants approved for payment. 260 applications have been received in total.</p> <p>Premier Mike Rann attends West Coast Recovery Committee meeting in Port Lincoln.</p> <p>Di Butcher, formerly the Manager of the Canberra Bushfire Recovery Centre also attends the meeting and provides an overview of the lessons learned from the Canberra bushfires.</p> <p>The Director of Mental Health, Dr Jonathan Phillips reinforces through local media that people affected by the fire should use services being offered. Dr Phillips and Sue Patterson, Manager, Mental Health, Eyre Regional Health Services Inc. met today with representatives from the Port Lincoln, Cummins and Tumby Bay councils and received strong support for a series of community resilience meetings planned in the coming days and weeks.</p> <p>Representatives from the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) meet with Security and Emergency Management Office (SEMO) personnel and other key agencies in Adelaide to discuss recovery proposals under the National Disaster Relief Arrangements (NDRA).</p> <p>SA Water has restored mains water to all customers. Work has commenced on restoring damaged pipe supports and on assessing the extent of heat affected pipe coatings and concrete pipe linings.</p> <p>ETSA begin restringing along the Tod Highway and it is expected that all customers able to accept supply will be reconnected within a week.</p>

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19 January Wednesday	<p>Origin Energy offers assessment and change over of any cylinders in the fire zone through Origin's distribution network at no cost to the customer.</p> <p>Telstra advises that it will take approximately two months for all services to be restored. Property owners have been offered landline call diversion to mobile or satellite phones at landline cost.</p> <p>Transport SA commences replacement of signage especially at dangerous intersections and continues to coordinate the burial of stock. Felling of dangerous trees continues on the Tod Highway.</p> <p>EPA organises on site excavation of pit at Edillilie to dispose of asbestos waste. EPA is assisting local council and farmers with asbestos removal and disposal to the pit. Supporting media information has been supplied regarding safe removal of wastes, including asbestos.</p> <p>DEH is taking calls from landholders in regard to replacing fencing for biodiversity and re-vegetation.</p> <p>Insurance losses increase to \$25.5 million. No significant issues emerging in processing insurance claims, but anyone experiencing difficulties advised to contact Insurance Ombudsman's Services (IOS).</p> <p>Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) is working closely with mental health specialists on counselling needs for children and students as the return to the new school year approaches. Contingency plans are also being put in place for generators in the event that electricity cannot be guaranteed when teachers go back to school next week, ahead of students returning the following week.</p> <p>Banks continue to provide assistance to people affected by the fire: eg deferral of home loan repayments for up to three months; deferral of credit card payments; waive of bank establishment fees; low interest rate loans. Banks also continue to accept donations from the South Australian public to assist the victims of the Eyre Peninsula bushfires.</p>
20 January Thursday	<p>Recovery centre relocates from Port Lincoln High School to Wayback Football Club because school is about to commence.</p> <p>PIRSA flies in additional resources to assist farmers with the reassessment and viability of stock that has been kept alive.</p> <p>SEMC holds extraordinary meeting.</p>

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20 January Thursday	<p>DEH now has 12 staff involved in the Wangary fire recovery effort and is assisting landholders regarding replacement fencing for biodiversity and re-vegetation. Native vegetation guidelines regarding clearance and fire have been prepared with the help of Natural Resource Management, DEH and Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (DWLBC). The guidelines advise how to remove dangerous trees and assist with information on boundary fencing.</p>
21 January Friday	<p>About 5,000 copies of the first Eyre Peninsula Bushfire Recovery newsletter providing important information and updates on the bushfire recovery effort distributed around the West Coast today.</p> <p>PIRSA mails out recovery information to all farm businesses, including information on native vegetation, emergency feedlots, care of saved livestock and farm business grants.</p> <p>Cummins Recovery Centre closed at 2pm today. The recovery centre situated at the Wayback Football Club, Windsor Avenue will continue to operate as the central recovery centre on the West Coast for those affected by the bushfires.</p> <p>Mental Health Director, Dr Jonathon Phillips is today working in collaboration with local services on the Eyre Peninsula to provide an Aboriginal counsellor to the Port Lincoln district for three months. The counsellor will meet the cultural needs of Aboriginal people in the region.</p> <p>The DWLBC is distributing guidelines to the general public on the management of burnt vegetation and unsafe trees.</p> <p>PIRSA and SAFF mail a combined survey to all farm business enterprises to capture information on losses and requirements for re-establishment.</p> <p>Minister for Small Business, Karlene Maywald visits Port Lincoln to meet with the Eyre Regional Development Board (ERDB) and small businesses affected by the fire.</p>
24 January Monday	<p>Families have started to take up the Return to School Grant issued by DECS.</p> <p>Convoy of shipping containers of donated goods organised by Adelaide media Mix 102.3 and Adelaide fire fighters is expected to arrive at 5pm this evening.</p> <p>Service SA provides office accommodation for WCRC Chair, recovery team and assists with IT requirements.</p>

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24 January Monday	<p>Minister for Trade and Industry, Paul Holloway arrives to undertake role of Duty Minister.</p> <p>DECS threatened species officers are auditing known sites of threatened species on roadsides and private land.</p> <p>PIRSA, DEH, DWLBC and the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resource Management Board meet to discuss long term re-establishment needs and potential programs.</p>
25 January Tuesday	<p>Trained by the EPA, the Lower Eyre Peninsula District Council sets up an asbestos disposal team to collect waste from all affected properties in fire affected area.</p> <p>Information bulletin sent to all education leaders in the region informing them of agency roles and availability of assistance for communities from social workers and counsellors.</p> <p>Collaboration between CYFS and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) at the community level is emphasised in the bulletin.</p> <p>All fire affected heritage agreement owners have been contacted by DEH.</p> <p>Fire damage repairs completed at Poonindie Primary School.</p>
27 January Thursday	<p>Exemption from compliance with some clauses of the Government's Information Privacy Principles granted to enable transfer of information to those assisting in the recovery operation.</p> <p>Education Minister Jane Lomax-Smith arrives in Port Lincoln, visits Eyre Peninsula schools and preschools and undertakes role of Duty Minister.</p>
28 January Friday	<p>SA Water has changed over 200 water meters due to fire damage.</p> <p>The Premier announces further financial relief for bushfire victims with the decision to waive thousands of dollars worth of fees and stamp duty on mortgages, replacement vehicles and farm equipment.</p> <p>PIRSA decides to close the call centre after transferring fodder coordination to SAFF and volunteer coordination to the WCRC.</p> <p>Three temporary camps for volunteers, farmers and crews assisting with site clean up and repairs are being set up at North Shields, Wangary and Edillillie. Lower Eyre Peninsula District Council and SA Water are organising water, sullage, power and toilets.</p> <p>Transport SA supplied several large caravans for field works and accommodation.</p>

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28 January Friday	<p>The first of a number of family information nights for the community held at Edillilie. Representatives from key agencies available to provide information on resources and support and to answer questions. Further sessions scheduled for Wangary, Koppio and North Shields.</p> <p>Minister for Emergency Services, Patrick Conlon, hosted a barbecue at Tumby Bay last night for volunteers involved in the fire fighting. More than 250 people attended. Minister Conlon and Minister Lomax-Smith both addressed the crowd and expressed appreciation for the efforts of volunteers.</p> <p>Survival kits which include basic toiletries, tools, household utensils and personal effects are available through the West Coast Hotline.</p>
31 January Monday	<p>Children return to school and have access to door-to-door school bus services, counselling and financial help with school related costs.</p> <p>PIRSA appoints Ms Helen Lamont as Director, Farm Re-establishment Program.</p> <p>Native Vegetation Council approves redirection of \$190,000 from the Native Vegetation Fund to replace heritage agreement fencing burnt in the fires. Fencing works coordinated by local NRM Bush Management Advisor.</p> <p>Soldiers and officers from the Army Reserve's 9th Brigade arrive to assist the management of, and provide logistic support to the volunteer camps.</p> <p>DAIS arranges with Minister Lomax Smith's office for the German Consul to visit Port Lincoln to meet with people who require replacement overseas documents.</p>
1 February Tuesday	<p>PIRSA provides the first stage of the farm re-establishment program. A one day Getting Started Workshop will assist landowners in identifying the immediate needs for the first farming season. A longer term program will be discussed to assist landowners re-establish their properties and consider viability and sustainability.</p>
2 February Wednesday	<p>Family information night held between 7 and 9pm at Wangary. Overall, 350 people have attended this round of family information nights.</p> <p>Minister for Families and Communities, Jay Weatherill visits the Eyre Peninsula.</p>

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2 February Wednesday	Minister for Administrative Services, Michael Wright, approves the waiving of SA Water charges for residents whose properties were damaged by the bushfire.
3 February Thursday	<p>Minister for Employment, Training & Further Education, Steph Key visits the Eyre Peninsula and announces funding of \$650,000 to develop job training programs directly targeted at boosting bushfire reconstruction efforts.</p> <p>DECS and ARC are providing additional transport for children to attend school at Cummins, medium and long term solutions are being addressed.</p> <p>Vince Monterola continues to talk regularly on local radio programs.</p> <p>The West Coast Recovery Health and Wellbeing Team met today to develop a strategy for long term community services.</p> <p>Officers from Native Vegetation Group, DWLBC begin a rolling program of weekly regional visits to the fire area, providing advice to landowners and local councils on re-fencing and tree clearance issues.</p> <p>Federal Leader of the Opposition, Kim Beazley visits fire affected properties.</p>
4 February Friday	<p>Transport SA has completed replacement of all warning and regulatory signs, guideposts and guard rail on the arterial roads.</p> <p>DAIS is undertaking inspections of permanent survey marks throughout the fire area.</p> <p>Defence Minister Robert Hill visits a farm at White Flat where Army Reservists are assisting with clean up.</p>
10 February Thursday	Vince Monterola met with Port Lincoln Aboriginal Community Council Inc (PLACC) Recovery Coordination Group and visited the Vanilla Forest.
11 February Friday	<p>24 volunteers arrive from Mitsubishi Motors. They will stay at Edillilie. Current camp populations are North Shields 26, Edillilie 19 and Wangary 26.</p> <p>PIRSA establishes the first soil sample rings at three locations across the burnt area – Tumby Bay, Koppio, Wangary – to look at pasture seed reserves and impacts of the fire on germination. Regular updates will be provided on stubble germination tests. Current results are quite promising. There is indication that damage to pasture seedlings is not as dramatic as first thought.</p>

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11 February Friday	Rabbits in the fire zone have been a major concern and are expected to have a significant impact on remaining vegetation, re-growth and any attempts at re-vegetation. The Southern Eyre Integrated Pest Management Program has funding to map and destroy warrens and a large scale warren survey will be conducted over the next few weeks. Follow-up will be in March and April and ongoing support will be provided thereafter.
15 February Tuesday	District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula has received 80 requests for site clearance of buildings, car bodies and rubble. Asbestos removal being given priority due to risk of contamination. Storage containers, porta loos and survival kits have been delivered and initial demand has been met. It is still a concern that a number of people who are in need of the containers have not yet sought assistance.
17 February Thursday	A sighting of 25 yellow tailed black cockatoos alleviates concerns that this endangered species may not have survived the bushfire.
18 February Friday	Removal of hazardous trees on arterial roads completed, to be reassessed in four weeks. 22 kilometres of the Tod Highway and 2 kilometres of the Lincoln Highway to be resealed where the surface was heat affected. Removal of drift sand from roadside drains and culverts is planned for this financial year. Invitations sent to 255 people for Getting Started Workshops to be run in March by PIRSA.
20 February Sunday	Minister for Administrative Services, Michael Wright announces that free personal computers will be offered to residents affected by the bushfire.
21 February Monday	Eyre Peninsula NRM Board commences the rabbit warren mapping exercise with the support of DEH staff.
24 February Thursday	CYFS relocates the Bushfire Recovery Centre to a longer term site at 85 Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln. This site expected to remain open for at least 12 months. In the past week Patrick Conlon, Jennifer Rankine, Kaye Patterson, Barry Wakelin, Lyn Alison, Sandra Kanck, and Warren Truss have visited the area.
26 February Saturday	Volunteer camp coordinators appointed as the Army departs.
28 February Monday	Martin Breuker commences as Bushfire Recovery Coordinator.

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2 March Wednesday	PIRSA delivers the first Getting Started Workshop at Wangary, designed to assist broad acre farmers to re-establish their farming enterprises. Other sessions will be held at Edillilie and North Shields.
4 March Friday	Rabbit warren mapping exercise finishes. Mobile offender work camp established with support from Department for Correctional Services (DCS) and DEH and tasked to remove dangerous trees from road verges in the fire area.
10 March Thursday	District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula has received 146 requests for site clearance. Of these 103 have been completed. West Coast Help Hotline receives large number of calls from people wishing to offer assistance as volunteers. Calls received from as far away as Wagga Wagga, NSW and Mildura, Victoria. Many callers are responding to radio programs concerning the need for volunteers on the Eyre Peninsula.
12 March Saturday	Volunteer numbers increase with the arrival of 20 members from the German Club.
15 March Tuesday	Building Positive Rural Futures Workshop on community rebuilding in the wake of the bushfire held at Cummins.
16 March Wednesday	The second round of family information nights commences at Edillilie at 7pm. Sessions will also be held at North Shields, Koppio and Wangary over the next week. Extra Getting Started Workshop held at Wangary.
21 March Monday	Free courses to be held in April announced for people affected by the fire. Topics include: lucerne workshops, home garden regeneration, operation and maintenance of chainsaws. The first fencing contractor begins rebuilding heritage agreement fences.
29 March Tuesday	Kate Eglinton commences as Community Development Officer at the West Coast Recovery Centre.
31 March Thursday	The SAHT has interviewed 90 families. 231 offers of accommodation have been received from the public.
4 April Monday	Vanilla residents collect post box keys from the new Post Office. A transportable building and 36 new post boxes have replaced the volunteer operated community Post Office lost in the fire.

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7 April Thursday	The Premier advises of the appointment of members to the State Emergency Relief Fund Committee for a term of 12 months. The Governor in Executive Council establishes directions for the Committee.
8 April Friday	State Emergency Relief Fund Committee meets for the first time in Adelaide and agrees to priorities for a first round of allocations.
15 April Friday	Fire danger season extended to the end of April 2005.
18 April Monday	SA Farmers Federation holds taxation information session at Wanilla at 7.30 pm. Valuation SA announces special project to identify the extent of bushfire damage to enable adjustment of property value.
21 April Thursday	Mobile offender work camp ends and the volunteer accommodation camp at Edillilie closes. The mobile offender work camp has resulted in more than 1800 fire damaged trees on road verges being removed or trimmed.
22 April Friday	Volunteer accommodation camp at Wangary closes.
27 April Wednesday	Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister, Rory McEwen announces additional funding to cover freight costs of donated fodder. \$75,000 from the State Government and \$75,000 from SA Farmer's Federation.
30 April Saturday	Volunteer camp at North Shields closes. Remaining volunteers transfer to the Nyroca Scout Camp. Free workshops on managing loss & grief being held on 10, 11 and 12 May 2005 facilitated by Anglicare Loss & Grief Centre.
9 May Monday	Minister for Small Business, Karlene Maywald announces \$150,000 for community recovery initiatives to be administered by the ERDB.
12 May Thursday	Round one allocation of donated monies from State Emergency Relief Fund are mailed out.
13 May Friday	Glimpses of green - new shoots seen sprouting from the base of eucalypt and other native species. Lincoln Community Care offer free cookbooks and chocolate packages.
23 May Monday	State Emergency Relief Fund Committee meets in Port Lincoln to review progress of first round allocation of monies and begins to discuss priorities for next round of allocations. Committee

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23 May Monday	members meet with the West Coast Recovery Committee, the Lower Eyre Peninsula Donated Funds Allocation Committee and a range of community groups to discuss community needs in preparation for round two allocations of donated monies.
24 May Tuesday	Martin Breuker meets with PLACC representatives Howard Coote and Heather Cox.
27 May Friday	Agriculture, Food & Fisheries Minister, Rory McEwen and the Minister for Environment and Conservation, John Hill jointly announced a further commitment of \$2.68 million to assist more than 300 farm businesses and landholders in re-establishing their properties. The amount will be matched by the Federal Government.
31 May Tuesday	The first of several enhancing relationships workshops held in Port Lincoln. The workshops, designed to help couples who have been affected by the fire, will be held in various locations around the area over the next week.
1 June Wednesday	First of several workshops designed to assist small landholders held by PIRSA.
8 June Wednesday	Events calendar and project register added to the West Coast Bushfire Recovery web page on the Service SA website.
15 June Wednesday	Agreement signed between State and Australian Government for joint \$5.68m program to assist landholders to plan re-establishment, with grants to implement on the ground sustainable agriculture and biodiversity works.
24 June Friday	Wanilla Hall upgrade announced, funded by the State Government's Regions at Work program and the District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula and supported by Rotary. Issue 16 of the Eyre Peninsula Bushfire Recovery Newsletter distributed today.
27 June Monday	About 1,500 bales of hay, harvested from SA Water land has been transported to the Eyre Peninsula since March.
30 June Thursday	A total of 1,236 volunteers has registered since 11 January 2005, providing 3,326 hours of labour to the community. This does not include the efforts of hundreds of other volunteers, including family and friends, who helped the fire affected community locally and also in their own communities through fund raising and other contributions.