

**THE AGE**  
**BLACK SATURDAY BUSHFIRE SERIES**  
**SUMMARIES BOOK**  
**(chronological order)**

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## Folder 1: 18 August 2010 – 23 November 2013

- [A1.1.1] Michael Fletcher, New Orleans, 'A tale of two recoveries as Katrina victims rebuild lives', *The Saturday Age*, August 18, 2010, p. 17.

Katrina – recovery – rebuilding – insurance problems – blacks worse off than whites, generally

- [A1.1.2] Trymaine Lee, New Orleans, 'Real truth behind hurricane's racial violence emerges', *The Saturday Age*, August 18, 2010, p. 17.

Katrina – racial violence – police misconduct – white militias

- [A1.2.1] Editorial, 'How the power of words can let the healing begin', *The Saturday Age*, January 15, 2011, p. 24.

Qld floods – Qld Premier, Anna Bligh's leadership exemplary – Vic Premier, John Brumby's leadership after Black Saturday also exemplary

- [A1.3.1] Karen Kissane, 'Disaster expert urges a retreat from the coast: Calls for no-go zones and mass population shifts', *The Saturday Age*, January 15, 2011, p. 3.

Qld floods - Katrina – September 11 (9/11) – climate change – extreme weather events becoming increasingly frequent and far more devastating – CSIRO data – rising sea levels – people should not be able to build in high-risk areas – Andrew Glikson – Prof Ed Blakely – Greg Hallam – Prof Catherine Lovelock – Climate Adaptation Initiative

- [A1.3.2] Selma Milovanovic, 'Court told Black Saturday case should be thrown out', *The Saturday Age*, March 26, 2011, p. 4.

2003 Alpine fires – Kilmore East-Kinglake fire on Black Saturday claimed 119 lives – Justice Jack Forrest – more than 1000 claimants in class action – SPI Electricity – Maurice Blackburn – lead plaintiff, Carol Matthews – Oldham Naidoo Lawyers sacked

- [A1.4.1] Ian Verrender, 'Japan's recovery will be difficult and it must affect Australia', *The Saturday Age*, March 26, 2011, pp. 12-13.

Qld and NSW floods – Christchurch earthquake, NZ – some argue that natural disasters have positive impact on economy – V-shaped effect (sudden drop, rapid recovery) – problems with this theory – earthquake and tsunami in Japan (loss of life, buildings, economic costs)

- [A1.5.1] Suzy Freeman-Greene, 'Drawing a line in the morality of watching disasters unfold', *The Saturday Age*, March 26, 2011, p. 25.

Japan Tsunami – media coverage – live footage – YouTube – legitimate coverage vs voyeurism – September 11 (9/11) – does replaying of the tsunami footage make the event more or less real?

- [A1.6.1] Selma Milovanovic, 'Judge douses bushfire case', *The Saturday Age*, May 14, 2011, p. 6.

Victorian Alpine fires 2003 case dismissed as abuse of process – Supreme Court – Oldham Naidoo Lawyers – Justice Jack Forrest ruled that the class action over the Kilmore East-Kinglake fire on Black Saturday should go ahead

- [A1.6.2] Michelle Grattan, 'Power shifts', *The Saturday Age*, June 25, 2011, p. 18.

Greens to hold the balance of power in the Senate from July 1, 2011

- [A1.7.1] Shaun Carney, 'Declining Labor may have to tie knot with the Greens', *The Saturday Age*, July 2, 2011, p. 24.

Labor will need Greens' support

- [A1.7.2] Ron Hayton, Beaumaris, Letters, 'It's called democracy', *The Saturday Age*, July 2, 2011, p. 22.

Greens hold balance of power – death of democracy – this is how democracy works – it has happened before

- [A1.8.1] Michael Bachelard & Cameron Houston, 'Police ignored Black Saturday evidence', *The Sunday Age*, July 3, 2011, pp. 1 & 8.

Murrindindi Mill fire – Ron Philpott suspected of starting fire – the fire now believed to have been caused by a power asset fault – SP AusNet

- [A1.8.2] Michael Bachelard, 'Bushfire findings kept from judge', *The Sunday Age*, July 3, 2011, p. 8.

Kilmore East fire – Justice Terry Forrest – SP AusNet – Utility Services Corporation – CFA – Peter Ryan – State Government wants to prevent judge from reading Royal Commissions findings

- [A1.8.3] Advertisement, Dymocks, 'An evening with Christine Nixon', *The Saturday Age*, July 9, 2011, p. 22.

An invitation to her Nixon and Jo Chandler speak on August 3, 2011 – ANZ Pavillion at the Arts Centre – Fair Cop

- [A1.9.1] Geoff Strong, 'News out to ruin me: Nixon', *The Age*, Thursday, July 28, 2011, p. 1.

Nixon – News Ltd – Herald Sun – campaign against Nixon – Fair Cop – Jo Chandler – Overland – Gillard – The Australian – Simon Pristel – Black Saturday – Royal Commission

- [A1.9.2] Jo Chandler, 'Caught in the crossfire', *The Age*, Thursday, July 28, 2011, p. 15.

Extract from Fair Cop – Nixon

- [A1.10.1] Reid Sexton & David Rood, 'Besieged again: Nixon cops it over her book', *The Age*, Friday, July 29, 2011, p. 1.

Nixon accuses Royal Commission of being a Kangaroo Court – widely reported – Premier, Ted Baillieu – Nixon's evidence at the Royal Commission – left her post – dinner – News Ltd

- [A1.10.2] David Teal, North Balwyn, Letters, 'Nixon', *The Age*, Friday, July 29, 2011, p. 12.

Nixon still thinks she's done nothing wrong – the fault lies with others

- [A1.10.3] David Ellaby, Berwick, Letters, 'Nixon', *The Age*, Friday, July 29, 2011, p. 12.

At least News Ltd hasn't hacked Nixon's phone

- [A1.10.4] Don Bruce, Watsonia, Letters, 'Nixon', *The Age*, Friday, July 29, 2011, p. 12.

Much of this could have been avoided if Nixon had bought sandwiches or ordered in pizza

[A1.10.5] John Dorman, Carnegie, Letters, 'Nixon', *The Age*, Friday, July 29, 2011, p. 12.

Cop it sweet, Christine

[A1.11.1] Jo Chandler, 'Nixon, Black Saturday and me', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, pp. 1-2.

Jo Chandler – Nixon – Black Saturday – gender – police culture

[A1.11.2] David Rood, 'Bushfire apathy "worrying"', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 2.

Public apathy – report – Bushfire Implementation Monitor – Comrie – Baillieu Government – Fire Services Commissioner – backburning increased

[A1.11.3] Editorial, 'One bad day does not a career make', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 20.

Nixon – poor judgment on Black Saturday – should not be judged too harshly

[A1.11.4] Leslie Cannold, 'Would we judge Nixon any differently if she were a man?', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 20.

Nixon – Fair Cop – Royal Commission – Black Saturday – career highlights – Mullett – ABC 7.30 – sexism

[A1.11.5] Jean Ker Walsh, Richmond, Letters, 'Christine Nixon's story is a tale of power', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 20.

Power – Nixon – professional judgment – police union – media

[A1.11.6] Dyson, Cartoon, 'Victims of fattism support network', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 30.

Nixon

[A1.11.7] Helen Goddard, San Remo, Letters, 'Christine Nixon', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 21.

Letters on 29/7 indicate only females support Nixon – proving Nixon's point about sexism

[A1.11.8] Keith Harkin, Cannon Creek, Letters, 'Christine Nixon', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 21.

Ultimate responsibility starts and ends at the top

[A1.11.9] Russell Newton, Black Rock, Letters, 'Christine Nixon', *The Saturday Age*, July 30, 2011, p. 21.

Male politicians don't have the courage to give Nixon recognition for police reform and helping in the bushfire recovery effort

[A1.12.1] John van Tiggelen, 'In the line of fire', *Good Weekend*, Saturday, July 30, 2011, pp. 18-21.

Nixon – Fair Cop – Black Saturday – career – background – Jo Chandler – Mullett – VBRRA – Kirner – Police Association – gender/sexism

- [A1.13.1] Editorial, 'It's a fair cop, Christine (and society ain't to blame)', *The Sunday Age*, July 31, 2011, p. 18.

Nixon – Fair Cop – VBRRRA – dinner with friends – evidence to Royal Commission – hands off leadership – scapegoat – News Ltd – gender – weight – reluctant to admit her mistakes

- [A1.13.2] Roger Jones, Gisborne, Letters, 'Nixon not "in charge"', *The Saturday Age*, July 31, 2011, p. 18.

Nixon was not 'in charge' on Black Saturday – changes in 2010 to the Emergency Management Act and State Emergency Response Plan – Royal Commission

- [A1.14.1] Bruce Guthrie, 'Nixon's worst letdown didn't come from the media', *The Sunday Age*, July 31, 2011, p. 19.

Nixon – News Ltd – Bruce Guthrie, former editor-in-chief, Herald Sun, Feb 2007 – Nov 2008 – Janet Calvert-Jones (Rupert Murdoch's sister) – Herald & Weekly Times – Nixon's history with the Herald Sun – *Man Bites Murdoch* – *Crikey*

- [A1.15.1] John Elder, 'Believe it or not: Trust between the public and the media is eroding and that's bad news for everyone', *The Sunday Age*, July 31, 2011, p. 15.

*News of the World* phone hacking scandal – lack of trust in the media – truth – Rupert Murdoch – Greens' leader, Bob Brown – analysis of what has led to the lack of trust

- [A1.16.1] Michael Saint, Parkville, Letters, 'Too many crooks ...', *The Age*, Monday, August 1, 2011, p. 16.

Nixon – Black Saturday – unfortunate consequence of the Royal Commission is that all the top-ranking emergency response officers will be at the control centre getting in everyone's way

- [A1.16.2] Peter Paterson, 'Tale of two inquiries', *The Age*, Monday, August 1, 2011, p. 16.

Black Saturday – Nixon's role peripheral – Royal Commission into the Australian Wheat Board, which was far more serious, uncovered little – no-one was apparently to blame

- [A1.16.3] Mike Reddy, Lyons, ACT, Letters, 'Nixon: Years of service trashed', *The Age*, Tuesday, August 2, 2011, p. 10.

Nixon's reputation trashed – relentless campaign by Herald Sun

- [A1.16.4] Bill Forrest, former CEO, Nillumbik Shire Council, Carlton, Letters, 'Nixon: Compare the coverage', *The Age*, Tuesday, August 2, 2011, p. 10.

Royal Commission, lawyers and media focused too much attention on Nixon and her dinner, rather than unearthing systemic failures

- [A1.16.5] Michael Gunter, North Melbourne, Letters, 'Nixon: Dire threat of power lines', *The Age*, Tuesday, August 2, 2011, p. 10.

Nixon was right to challenge the process and outcomes of the Royal Commission – fires caused by power lines needs to be addressed

[A1.16.6] John Leonard, Bacchus Marsh, Letters, 'Nixon: Appropriate leadership', *The Age*, Tuesday, August 2, 2011, p. 10.

Nixon's leadership appropriate – what is effective leadership? – Fair Cop

[A1.17.1] Adam Carey, 'Publisher fires the bullets for ex-police chief', *The Age*, Thursday, August 4, 2011, p. 5.

Fair Cop book launch – Jo Chandler – Prime Minister, Julia Gillard – Black Saturday – Louise Adler, Melbourne University Press – Joan Kirner – Barry Jones – Mary Delahunty – Nixon bullied – left post and had dinner on Black Saturday

[A1.18.1] Chris Johnston, 'From the ashes, a tale of hope and generosity', *The Saturday Age*, August 6, 2011, p. 7.

Dorothy Barber – Steels Creek – fire destroyed house on Black Saturday – rebuilding – post-traumatic stress – former MP, Fran Bailey

[A1.19.1] Erin O'Dwyer, 'On shaky ground', *Good Weekend*, Saturday, August 20, 2011, pp. 26-30.

Earthquake – Christchurch, NZ, 22 February, 2011 – 181 died – five survivors interviewed

[A1.20.1] (writer not known), 'Class action settled', *The Saturday Age*, October 8, 2011, p. 4.

First Black Saturday class action settled, subject to approval from a Supreme Court judge – Thomas v Powercor – Justice Jack Forrest – Horsham fire on Black Saturday – Royal Commission

[A1.20.2] John Macpherson, 'The quest to create a siren warning system that works', *The Saturday Age*, October 29, 2011, p. 32.

Quotes requested for sirens to warn people of bushfires – trial

[A1.21.1] Kathy Marks, 'Fighting fire with fire', *Good Weekend*, Saturday, February 25, 2012, pp. 24-27.

WA, Mt Franklin National Park – bushfire – deliberately lit – fuel reduction – Bushfire Royal Commission 2009 – pros and cons of prescribed burning – environmentalists – Margaret River bushfire WA, November, 2011, caused by prescribed burning – complacency of newcomers to the bush – some places are too dangerous to live – require a different mindset: one that regards fire as a natural phenomenon, rather than an enemy that can be fought and overcome – effectiveness of fuel reduction called into question

[A1.22.1] Robert Upe, 'There's something about Marysville ...', *The Saturday Age*, April 28, 2012, p. 3.

Marysville – tourism – Delderfield B&B – Jacqui Pearson – Black Saturday – Bruno's Sculpture Garden – Steavenson's Falls – caravan park operator, Christine Adams – Mystic Mountains Tourism – Lake Mountain's chief exec, Paul Squires – DSE – Parks Victoria

[A1.22.2] Andrea Petrie, 'Fire killer to serve at least 14 years' *The Saturday Age*, April 28, 2012, p. 1.

Brendan James Sokaluk sentenced yesterday – minimum 14 years' in prison – Rhonda Jacobs – Churchill fire – Black Saturday – Justice Paul Coghlan – ASD – intellectual disability – list of those killed

[A1.23.1] Roger Franklin, 'The man who played with fire', *Good Weekend*, Saturday, May 12, 2012, pp. 23-27.

Brendan Sokaluk, 42 – Black Saturday – Churchill fire killed 10 – Justice Paul Coghlan sentenced Sokaluk to 17 years and 9 months, min 14 years in prison – max penalty 25 years – ASD – intellectual disability – Sokaluk's MySpace page – background – history of lighting fires: nothing done – Autism Victoria CEO Murray Dawson-Smith – Rebekah Doley, a global authority of the psychology of arson

[A1.24.1] Chris Johnston, 'Ashes to ashes: forgotten town mourns again', *The Saturday Age*, May 19, 2012, pp. 1-2.

Kinglake – Rebuilding Advisory Centre – Daryl Taylor – four locals committed suicide in April, maybe four – Black Saturday – increased domestic violence, marriage breakdown, alcohol and drug abuse – Lesley Bebbington – Bernie Durklin – Peter Ryan – Dr Rob Gordon psychologist – report: *The Way He Tells It – Relationships After Black Saturday*, by Debra Parkinson and Claire Zara, from Women's Health Goulburn North-East – Cress Byrne – Nixon – former Murrindindi Shire Council mayor, Lyn Gunter – Royal Commission – Brumby Government

[A1.25.1] John Larkin, 'Horses for causes', *Good Weekend*, Saturday, June 2, 2012, pp. 22-25.

Black Saturday – post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) – damaged humans and damaged horses partnered – Horses for Hope – UnitingCare Cutting Edge – therapy – *The Man Who Listens to Horses*, by Monty Roberts – depression – anxiety – anger management – attention deficit disorder – Colin Emonson – heightened flight mode – Karen Ostenried – Michele Thomas

[A1.26.1] Darren Gray, 'Fire survivors farewell their forest fairyland', *The Age*, Tuesday, June 5, 2012, p. 1.

Andrew Berry – 30 Bald Spur Rd, Kinglake – buy back scheme

[A1.27.1] John Silvester, 'A committed officer takes the exit ramp', *The Saturday Age*, June 23, 2012, p. 28.

Deputy Commissioner, Kieran Walshe, 61, will retire at the end of next week – Nixon, pub meal – Walshe's mother and brother lost (killed?) in fires at Strathewen on Black Saturday – Simon Overland – Noel Ashby – Ken Jones

[A1.28.1] Tom Arup & Madeline Heffernan, 'Insurance bill fires up farmers', *The Saturday Age*, June 30, 2012, p. 5.

Meredith farmer, Robert Cooke – insurance increases in last two years – Fire Services Levy – CFA – MFB – Black Saturday – levy unfair: only those with insurance pay it – dairy farmer, Hugh McFarlane's insurance has doubled in the past four years – Peter Tuohey, president Victorian Farmers Federation – State Liberal MP, Simon Ramsay – CGU, insurer – State Treasurer, Kim Wells

[A1.29.1] Books, 'Words of great worth', *The Saturday Age*, August 4, 2012, pp. 30-31.

15 books shortlisted for the 2012 *Age* Book of the Year awards – one of the books was: *Kinglake-350*, by Adrian Hyland

- [A1.29.2] Editorial, 'Victorians face cruel wait for bushfire justice', *The Age*, Tuesday, August 14, 2012, p. 10.

Kilmore East bushfire class action – Supreme Court – Black Saturday – Justice Jack Forrest – no venue large enough to hear case – Baillieu Government – Chief Justice, Marilyn Warren – court facilities underfunded for years

- [A1.29.3] Editorial, 'Warning: prepare for fires', *The Saturday Age*, December 1, 2012, p. 20.

Victorians should prepare for bushfire season – Black Saturday – trauma and grief – CFA website - arsonists

- [A1.29.4] Peter Fleming, Greensborough, Letters, 'Desperately seeking fire information', *The Saturday Age*, January 5, 2013, p. 16.

Problems with the CFA website – not good enough

- [A1.30.1] Jim McLennan, 'Clearing away the smoke to judge the true cost of fires', *The Saturday Age*, January 12, 2013, p. 18.

Research done of Black Saturday survivors – brief history of bushfire deaths from 1908 – 2008 – road deaths – Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre, La Trobe University – many people still lack bushfire plans – many people take the view that the chances of their house being burnt down in a bushfire as very unlikely – 1967 Hobart bushfires – 1983 Ash Wednesday

- [A1.30.2] Dick Davies, president, Warrandyte Community Association, Warrandyte, Letters, 'Forward fire planning', *The Saturday Age*, January 12, 2013, p. 18.

Survey in Warrandyte indicates that 95% of people understood the Fire Danger Ratings – insufficient warning given as reason for not leaving early – problems with the CFA website – media can help

- [A1.31.1] Andrea Petrie, 'Thousands expected to join Black Saturday class action', *The Saturday Age*, January 12, 2013, p. 9.

10,000 people may be involved in class action for the Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire claim – Supreme Court – Maurice Blackburn – Justice Jack Forrest – Lachlan Armstrong, barrister – SP AusNet, trading as SPI Electricity – Royal Commission found that the blaze was caused by a faulty power line owned and maintained by SP AusNet

- [A1.31.2] Peter Hannam, 'Heatwave and three months of low rainfall have sucked the nation dry', *The Saturday Age*, January 12, 2013, p. 9.

Weather conditions have increased the chance of bushfires – Ash Wednesday, 1983 – Black Saturday, 2009

- [A1.31.3] Vince Chadwick & Andrew Darby, 'Daylesford, Kangaroo Ground fires', *The Saturday Age*, January 12, 2013, p. 9.

Fire Services Commissioners, Craig Lapsley – Consumer Affairs Victoria warns people posing as MFB members selling fire blankets and extinguishers – deaths in Tasmania avoided because people heeded warnings



- [A1.32.1] Mark Baker, 'Nature restores a blackened dream', *The Saturday Age*, February 23, 2013, pp. 18-19.

Sean and Esther Leahy – Koornalla, near Traralgon – their story of fighting fires on Black Saturday – saving their house – the destruction of their extensive garden, on their property named *Tambrete*, and its astonishing recovery over four years – they took photos of the regeneration and have produced a book, *Round the Bend, the Creation, Destruction by Fire and Recovery of Tambrete Gardens* – the book is available online at [tambreteretreat.com.au](http://tambreteretreat.com.au)

- [A1.34.1] Jane Lee, 'Bushfires claimant tells of last phone call to her son', *The Saturday Age*, March 16, 2013, p. 4.

Carol Ann Matthews, 53, lead claimant – Kilmore East fire – SP AusNet – Supreme Court – 10,000 claimants – Dave Matthews – Sam Matthews, died – trauma

- [A1.34.2] Dianne Dempsey, Life & Style, Books, 'Black Saturday at Steels Creek', *The Saturday Age*, June 15, 2013, p. 29.

Review of *Black Saturday at Steels Creek*, by Peter Stanley – stories of the Steels Creek community on Black Saturday – information lacking from authorities on Black Saturday – close communities have a greater chance of recovery

- [A1.35.1] Nick Toscano & Richard Willingham, 'Melbourne's fringe a ring of fire risk, residents warned', *The Saturday Age*, October 19, 2013, pp. 1&4.

Victorian Fires Services Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – Melbourne's outer suburbs at significant risk – NSW bushfires – risk of suburban grasslands – Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre – Bob Brinkman, Parks Victoria – fire breaks – Environment Minister, Ryan Smith – planned burning at a 30-year high, with more than 253,000 hectares of public land burnt last financial year – Royal Commission target for burns 390,000 hectares – residents advised to get their properties ready

- [A1.36.1] Craig Butt & Lara O'Toole, 'Scientists warn bushfire season getting longer', *The Saturday Age*, October 19, 2013, p. 5.

NSW fires – effects of climate change – bushfire season to get longer in Australia's South-east – Climate Change Research Centre – Dr Sophie Lewis, Melbourne University – severe weather manager at Bureau of Meteorology, Tracey Malmberg – Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre, chief exec, Gary Morgan

- [A1.36.2] David Roe, 'Infernos being "politicised"', *The Saturday Age*, October 19, 2013, p. 5.

Environment Minister, Greg Hunt – rejects attempts to link bushfire tragedies with climate change – link is being made for political purposes to push for action on climate change and carbon tax – Tony Abbott – Greens deputy leader, Adam Bandt – NSW fires – Climate Change Institute chief, John Connor

- [A1.37.1] Tony Wright, 'Fighting fire with fire: a lot of hot air or plain common sense?', *The Saturday Age*, October 26, 2013, p. 19.

Black Friday, 1939 – *The Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines Made Australia*, by Bill Gammage – fuel reduction controversy: fire chiefs, environmentalists, councils, politicians – climate change – defence personnel caused a bushfire in the Blue Mountains by setting off explosives last week

- [A1.38.1] Emma Partridge, 'Containment key to winning battle of the blazes', *The Saturday Age*, October 26, 2013, p. 3.

NSW fires – embers – NSW Premier, Barry O'Farrell – compensation for victims of the State Mine bushfire started by the Defence Department – PM, Tony Abbott – acting Defence Force chief, Mark Binskin, apologized

- [A1.38.2] Josh Gordon & Richard Willingham, 'Climate change means more severe fires: CFA', *The Saturday Age*, October 26, 2013, p. 3.

CFA – climate change – larger and more severe fires – more record hot weather – more drought – less autumn and winter rain – state and federal governments have largely dismissed link between climate change and bushfires – CFA chief, Euan Ferguson – Greens deputy leader, Adam Bandt – Victorian Emergency Services Minister, Kim Wells – Victorian Greens leader, Greg Barber – Environment Minister, Greg Hunt – PM, Tony Abbott – Professor, Will Stephen, bushfire report by Climate Change Council

- [A1.39.1] Gareth Hutchens, 'Fire claims to go beyond \$138m', *The Saturday Age*, October 26, 2013, p. 5.

NSW bushfires, Blue Mountains – losses estimated at over \$138m – Insurance Council of Australia, chief exec, Rob Whelan – Insurance Australia Group (IAG) – NRMA – CGU – IAG boss, Mike Wilkins – Qld floods late 2010-early 2011 – Victorian fires, 2009, insurance cost exceeding \$1 billion, with more than 9000 claims – Deutsche Bank – Suncorp

- [A1.39.2] Darren Gray, 'Cutting power a "flawed" fire plan', *The Saturday Age*, October 26, 2013, p. 5.

Craig Lapsley – cutting off power on the days of extreme fire risk is flawed – poses substantial risks to homeowners, the elderly, people fighting fires (electric water pumps)

South Australia has adopted the power cut strategy

Upgrade of power assets in Victoria – Paul Fearon, Victoria's director of energy safety, against turning off power – Royal Commission – Black Saturday – electricity assets caused fires on Black Saturday – Kilmore East (119) – Beechworth-Mudgegonga (2) – Horsham, Coleraine, and Pomberneit-Weerite – likely cause of Murrindindi fire (40) – SP AusNet

- [A1.40.1] Megan Backhouse, Life & Style, Gardening, 'Heart and soil find healing', *The Saturday Age*, November 23, 2013, pp. 10-11.

Yvonne Waugh and Trevor Watts – Kinglake West – garden five years on from Black Saturday – *Landscaping for Bushfire* guide by CFA – list of bushfire recovery gardens



## Folder 2: 21 December 2013 – 5 December 2015

- [A2.1.1] Iain Gillespie, 'Bushfire risk: On the road to oblivion', *The Saturday Age*, December 21, 2013, p. 15.

Warrandyte a fire trap in summer – 52 high-risk locations in Victoria – complacency amongst residents – lessons of Black Saturday have faded – Fire Services Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – local survey – Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre (in NSW & Tas) – only 40% of residents in fire-prone areas across the nation have a well constructed fire plan – gridlock problems – Rohan Thornton, of CFA – Warwick Leeson, deputy chairman of the Be Ready Warrandyte fire education campaign – Royal Commission – denial as a coping strategy

- [A2.1.2] Peter Hannam, 'Australia's hottest year smashes records', *The Saturday Age*, December 21, 2013, p. 15.

Australia's hottest year – Melbourne – ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science at the University of NSW – Bureau of Meteorology – Black Saturday – climate change – global warming

- [A2.2.1] Nino Bucci & Caroline Zielinski, 'Police on alert for firebugs as risks soar with scorcher', *The Saturday Age*, December 28, 2013, p. 5.

Serial arsonists and suspected firebugs will be monitored by police on Saturday – list of unsolved cases since Black Saturday – temperatures predicted to exceed 40 degrees in parts of Victoria – extreme fire warnings in Mallee, Wimmera and northern country regions – Operation Firesetter – penalties for recklessly causing a bushfire include 15 years' jail and fines up to \$34,000

Common causes of reckless fires are: burning off – bonfires – cigarette butts – campfires – car exhausts – machinery – angle grinders – welding equipment – flares

There were 4400 bushfires last season – Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre – CFA – Bureau of Meteorology senior forecaster, Terry Ryan – Crime Stoppers

- [A2.3.1] Henrietta Cook & Kate Hagan, 'Firefighters battle worst fire conditions since Black Saturday', *The Saturday Age*, January 18, 2014, pp. 1 & 4.

Arsonists have lit a dozen of the 70 fires burning across Victoria – conditions worst since Black Saturday – fire at Halls Gap in the Grampians – woman died at Rose's Gap – Craig Lapsley – Napthine – some residents refuse to act on advice to evacuate – fires in Mallee and East Gippsland – Victoria Police Commissioner, Ken Lay – three grassfires believed to be deliberately lit in Epping – 116 of 173 Halls Gap residents evacuated

- [A2.4.1] Editorial, 'Shared horizons', *The Saturday Age*, January 25, 2014, p. ?

Tim Storrier, landscape artists – fire paintings – Black Saturday – Storrier's painting Blaze Line recognises and becomes a symbol of our shared experience

- [A2.4.2] (writer not known), 'Riding life's cycle', *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 1.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – Rob Greig of Flowerdale

- [A2.5.1] John Schauble, 'Should we commemorate the Black Saturday fires?', *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 22.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – should we commemorate Black Saturday? – is it about honouring the dead, learning lessons or making myths? – Kinglake – Gippsland – grief – book, 'Gardens of Fire' by Robert Kenny – Rudd – Steels Creek – ANU professor, Tom Griffiths – proposal for a National Fire Day

- [A2.6.1] Darren Gray, 'New priorities in winds of change', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 14.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – increased fuel reduction – power lines in high-fire-risk areas to be made safer – more than 100 properties have been bought by the government – 173 died on Black Saturday – Royal Commission – CFA chief officer, Euan Ferguson – Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Alan Goodwin, chief fire officer – Fire Services Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – Kim Wells – outline of improvements made since Black Saturday – primacy of human life, the biggest change

Only three community fire refuges – East Warburton – Ferny Creek – Blackwood

- [A2.6.2] Darren Gray, 'The biker', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 14.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – Rob Greig, 59, of Flowerdale – has rebuilt

- [A2.6.3] Darren Gray, '“Urbanised” residents lack fire instincts: CFA', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, pp. 14-15.

CFA chief officer, Euan Ferguson – lack of bushfire awareness by some people living in high fire-risk areas – lightning – new building standards necessary

- [A2.7.1] Darren Gray, 'Bushfire warning urges personal responsibility', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 15.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – changes made to electricity system – changes to building codes – residents need to take personal responsibility – most people adopt a 'wait and see' approach – Code Red – Craig Lapsley – Euan Ferguson – psychological pain after Black Saturday – diminishing awareness of fire safety

- [A2.7.2] Shane Green, 'The firefighter', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, February 7, 2014, p. 15.

Bruce Waterhouse, captain of Maryknoll CFA Brigade on Black Saturday – Bunyip – counselling of CFA firefighters

- [A2.8.1] Shane Green, 'Still life, still hope', Black Saturday, Five Years On, *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, pp. 16-17.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – personal account – Laurie family, Clonbinane – Laurie, Tony, Natalie, Henry – Mt Disappointment – *Kinglake 350*, by Adrian Hyland – Lyn Gunter, mayor of Murrindindi during Black Saturday fires – Mitchell Shire – home insured for \$170,000 – new home cost meeting new building codes, so far, \$300,000 (not yet finished – out of money)

- [A2.10.1] Editorial, 'More lessons to learn after Black Saturday', *The Age*, Friday, February 7, 2014, p. 20.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – 173 died – 2132 homes destroyed – deficiencies identified by Royal Commission – building standards – warnings – evacuation procedures – command and control of emergency services – communications – triple zero – media alerts – electricity infrastructure

Where we are now: many homes rebuilt – many lessons learnt – Kim Wells – communications infrastructure and emergency alert systems improved – building codes improved – better co-ordination between emergency services – buy backs – fuel reduction has almost doubled – better appreciation of dangers of bushfires – people need to take responsibility - Laurie family

- [A2.10.2] Denham Sadler, 'Communities join to remember Black Saturday', *The Saturday Age*, February 8, 2014, p. 3.

Fifth anniversary of Black Saturday – remembrance service at Kinglake Memorial Reserve – Kathy Stewart – photographic exhibition 'Things of Fire and Ash: Remembering Black Saturday' – Kinglake Historical Society – Kinglake Ranges Foundation, executive officer, Sarah Matthews – Eltham Library Community Gallery – plans for a St Andrews Bushfire Memorial – Whittlesea Community Gardens – Kinglake West Uniting Church – Treetops at Melbourne Museum

- [A2.11.1] Steve Colquhoun, 'Christchurch rises from the rubble', *The Saturday Age*, February 22, 2014, pp. 14-15.

Christchurch, NZ – earthquake, 22 February 2011 – rebuilding problems – 185 died – 11,000 injured – up to 10,000 have left Christchurch, never to return – 50,000 lost jobs – thousands of aftershocks – psychological scars – problems with insurance claims – depression – domestic violence – alcohol and substance abuse have skyrocketed

- [A2.12.1] Editorial, 'Nature's guardians turn back to plunder', *The Saturday Age*, March 8, 2014, p. 36.

One view: conservation and climate change are elements to be respected or brought under control – the other view: nature is to be exploited with little restraint, and short-term political motivation is far preferable to pragmatic, long-term consideration – Mother Nature

Environment Minister, Greg Hunt, has approved a cattle-grazing trial in the Wongagatta Valley in Victoria's Alpine National Park – environmentalists argue that there will be damage to nature, fauna and flora – graziers argue, unpersuasively in our view, that the practice will help reduce bushfire risk

- [A2.12.2] Advertisement, 'Reducing fire risk with planned burns', *The Saturday Age*, March 15, 2014, p. 41.

Department of Environment and Primary Industries – Parks Victoria – carrying out planned burns

- [A2.13.1] Ben Miller, Patrick Hatch, Letters, 'Healesville fire quelled', *The Saturday Age*, March 22, 2014, p. 17.

Lightning causes Healesville fire

[A2.13.2] Jason Dowling, 'State's worst threats: fire, flu, flood', *The Saturday Age*, April 12, 2014, p. 22.

Emergency Risks in Victoria report – top risks are bushfire, flood, pandemic influenza – climate change (heatwaves and severe storms) – Kim Wells

[A2.13.3] Peter Campbell, Surrey Hills, Letters, 'Time to proclaim new park', *The Saturday Age*, May 31, 2014, p. 30.

VicForests – logging – woodchipping – losses – Toolangi State Forest, not burnt during Black Saturday bushfires, being logged – proposal to create a new Great Forest National Park

[A2.14.1] Steve Lillebuen, '“No duty” to victims: power company', *The Saturday Age*, June 7, 2014, p. 8.

Black Saturday – Kilmore East fire – February 7, 2009 – damaged power line – 119 killed in Flowerdale, Kinglake, Steels Creek, Chum Creek, Strathewen – Jonathan Beach, QC, for SP AusNet, says company may not have a duty of care under Victorian legislation – Martin Hyde, principal, Maurice Blackburn – state's largest civil class action – Justice Jack Forrest expected to hand down judgment early in 2015

[A2.14.2] Advertisement, State Government, Victoria, '100% of your fire levy goes on our fire services', *The Saturday Age*, July 12, 2014, p. 14.

New Fire Services Levy – fairer – Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission

[A2.15.1] Photo, 'Black Saturday victims to share in \$500m payout', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, p. 1.

Photo of burnt trees and new fern growth

[A2.16.1] (writer not known), 'Justice done, but nothing will replace the loss of a beloved son', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, p. 8.

Black Saturday – Kilmore East bushfire class action – Carol Matthews, lead plaintiff, from St Andrews, son Sam died, lost home – settlement for \$500m – 119 died – about 5,000 Victorians to share payout – largest class action settlement in Australian history

[A2.16.2] Jane Lee, Richard Willingham & Timna Jacks, 'Record \$500m settlement likely for fire survivors', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, pp. 8-9.

Record \$500m settlement for Black Saturday Kilmore East bushfire class action – largest civil class action in Victoria's history

SP AusNet - Utility Asset Management (UAM) – Justice Jack Forrest – Supreme Court – Naphthine Government – insurance will cover defendants – settlement must be approved by another judge

Andrew Watson, national head of class actions at Maurice Blackburn – 12-18 months after settlement approved before payout distributed – Carol Matthews, lead plaintiff, lost son and family home – 119 died – 16-month trial – CFA – DSE

Must do everything possible to stop another avoidable disaster – Premier, Denis Naphthine – personal injury claimants would receive about 70% of their assessed losses – property claimants would receive about one third of their losses – on average, claimants were insured for about 50% of losses – 7% of settlement (\$35m) for solicitors' costs – 5% (\$25m) to barristers, experts and other legal expenses – no admission of liability by defendants – statistics given on Kilmore East fire – claimant, Lyn Gunter, Flowerdale

[A2.17.1] (writer not known), 'Record payout won't blow a hole in state budget, says Napthine', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, p. 9.

Premier, Denis Napthine – Kilmore East bushfire payout won't impact on state budget – insurance would cover government's liability – proposed settlement of \$494.7m – SP AusNet – Utility Services Corporation Ltd – Victorian Government – largest class action settlement in Victoria

[A2.17.2] (writer not known), 'Key questions about bushfire class action', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, p. 9.

What was case about? – Black Saturday – 119 killed – Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire – power line – SP AusNet – CFA, DSE, Victoria Police, failed to give timely warnings

Why was it settled? – lead plaintiff, Carol Matthews – 10,000 claimants

Who was responsible? – no-one admitted liability – biggest civil settlement in Victoria

Is it a sizeable sum?

How much will survivors receive? - \$90m in lawyers' fees, etc - \$435m to be distributed between 10,000 claimants – Andrew Watson, class action head

[A2.18.1] Editorial, 'For fire survivors, settlement at last', *The Age*, Wednesday, July 16, 2014, p. 16.

Carol Matthews, lead plaintiff, lost son Sam on Black Saturday – 119 killed in Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire – Black Saturday death toll 173 - \$495m settlement – largest in Australian history – 10,000 claimants – SP AusNet – Utility Services Group Ltd – 200 sitting days 100 witnesses – no admission of liability – faulty power line/pole – survivor, Dennis Spooner – Robert Richter, QC, for claimants – Jonathan Beach, QC, for SP AusNet – Justice Jack Forrest – Bushfires Royal Commission Implementation Monitor, Neil Comrie

[A2.18.2] Jane Lee, 'Fire victims face panel for compo', *The Age*, Thursday, July 17, 2014, p. 13.

Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire - \$500m settlement – 10,000 claimants – SP AusNet – UAM – largest civil action in Victorian history – Supreme Court must approve settlement - \$60m in legal and other fees – Andrew Watson, Maurice Blackburn – panel will assess individual claims – 16-month trial – process of distributing payments to take about 18 months – personal injury – property damage

[A2.19.1] Advertisement, State Government, Victoria, '100% of your fire levy goes to our fire services', *The Saturday Age*, July 19, 2014, p. 16.

New Fire Services Levy – fairer – Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission

[A2.19.2] Nick Toscano, 'Firefighter sues CFA', *The Saturday Age*, July 27, 2014, p. 1.

Glenn Barrow, 57, CFA firefighter on Black Saturday – suffers from - post traumatic stress – chronic adjustment disorder – anxiety – depression – badly injured right shoulder – totally incapacitated

Kilmore East- Kinglake bushfire – 119 died – 7 February 2009 – Royal Commission – CFA sued for negligence and breach of duty of care by failing to properly assess the spreading bushfire as 'unable to be suppressed' in Coombs Rd – first action of its type



[A2.20.1] Carolyn Rance, 'Black Saturday duties recognised', *The Saturday Age*, September 27, 2014, p. 29.

Victoria's Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) – Black Saturday  
– 173 died - National Emergency Medal – Qld floods – Cyclone Yasi – Sean Curtin – Telstra

[A2.21.1] Darren Gray, 'Victoria at high risk of fast, furious fires', *The Age*, Wednesday, December 17, 2014, p. 6.

Victoria's worst fire weather day since last summer – Chief Fire Officer (CFA), Euan Ferguson  
– code red – Dandenongs – Mt Macedon – leave the night before or early on the day

Where to go: safe place – stay with friends – go shopping in Melbourne – come back after the  
weather conditions have moderated

Ash Wednesday – Otways – Emergency Services Minister, Jane Garrett – DEPI – fuel reduction  
undertaken this financial year – Chief Fire Officer of DEPI, Alan Goodwin

[A2.22.1] Darren Gray, 'Bushfires and the long hot summer', *The Age*, Wednesday, December 17, 2014, pp. 12-13.

Officer, DEPI, Alan Goodwin – fuel reduction and targets – Emergency Management  
Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – firefighting equipment statistics

[A2.24.1] Michael Bachelard, 'After the wave', *The Age*, Good Weekend, Saturday, December 20, 2014, pp. 16-18.

2004 Boxing Day, Sunday, 26 December – tsunami – 10 years on

Toll: Aceh, 167,000 died – Sri Lanka, 35,000 died – India, 18,000 – Thailand, 8,000 – global  
total death toll 330,000 – 1.7m people displaced

Strength of earthquake – international aid – reconstruction

[A2.27.1] Ray Edgar, 'Tales from the bunker', *The Saturday Age*, December 20, 2014, p. 24.

Joost Bakker – Justin Leonard of CSIRO, fire expert – Royal Commission – Australian building  
codes – fire resistant homes/structures

[A2.28.1] Mark Russell & Jane Lee, 'Judge approves record \$500m payout in lawsuit', *The Age*, Wednesday, December 24, 2014, p. 2.

Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire – Black Saturday – 119 people killed – 1772 homes, properties damaged or destroyed

Justice Robert Osborn – settlement approved – 16-month trial – 5000 Victorians will share in \$494m – largest class action in Australian history - \$60m in legal costs

SP AusNet changed its name this year to AusNet Services to pay \$378.6m – State Government \$103.6m – UAM \$12.5m

AusNet Services paid out \$8.8m in previous settlement for Black Saturday Beechworth bushfire

Carol Matthews, lead plaintiff, lost son Sam and family home in St Andrews

CFA – DSE – Victoria Police – failed to give timely warnings

AusNet Services covered by insurance – faces another payout for Marysville fire on Black Saturday

Two more fire lawsuits have been filed against AusNet Services – Michelham-Kilmore fire (\$50m) – Gippsland fire \$5m

[A2.28.2] Georgia Wilkins, 'Bushfire insurers in line for \$100m', *The Age*, Wednesday, December 24, 2014, p. 2.

Insurance companies will receive about \$100m from the Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire settlement – 119 lives lost – 1242 properties destroyed - \$500m settlement approved

AusNet (formerly SP AusNet) – insurers have paid out about \$500m on insurance policies to class action members – Justice Robert Osborn – largest class action settlement in Australian history – Maurice Blackburn, senior associate, Rory Walsh – Insurance Council of Australia

[A2.29.1] Editorial, 'Bushfire prevention a national priority', *The Saturday Age*, December 27, 2014, p. ?

Black Saturday, February 2009 – 173 died

Ash Wednesday, 1983 – 37 died in Victoria – 28 died in SA

Black Tuesday, Tasmania, 1967 – 62 died

Black Friday, Victoria, January, 1939 – 71 died

Black Sunday, Victoria, February and March, 1926 – 60 died

1939 Royal Commission – Judge Leonard Stretton

CFA – climate change – Climate Council – population growth in bushfire-prone areas – report 'Be Prepared: Climate Change and the Victorian Bushfire Threat'

[A2.29.2] Lindsay Murdoch, 'Warning system weakened: experts', *The Saturday Age*, December 27, 2014, p. 20.

Boxing Day tsunami, 2004 – 230,000 killed – Thailand, 5,400 killed – Banda Aceh, 167,000 killed – 10 years after, the warning system is not maintained property

[A2.30.1] Editorial, 'Firefighting policy needs close watching', *The Saturday Age*, January 3, 2015, p. 26.

Climate Council report, 'Be Prepared: Climate Change and the Victorian Bushfire Threat' – population growth in bushfire-prone areas – CFA, 60,000 volunteers

Black Saturday – MFB – Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria, president, Hans van Hamond – chief executive, Andrew Ford – United Firefighters Union (UFU) – Labor policies would give union more control over CFA

[A2.30.2] Brian Spooner, 'Victoria on high alert as fire fears rise', *The Saturday Age*, January 3, 2015, p. 4.

Total fire ban – Emergency Management Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – Bureau of Meteorology – 49-year-old Julie Anne Thumpston, charged with 41 offences, including intentionally causing a bushfire – Tatura

[A2.30.3] Bill Garner, St Kilda, Letters, 'Many careful campers', *The Age*, Friday, January 9, 2015, p. 15.

Agricultural [equipment?] – campfires account for 1% of total area burnt – to suggest a total ban on campfires an overreaction

[A2.31.1] Shane Green, 'Marysville settlement gives Black Saturday victims relief', *The Saturday Age*, February 7, 2015, p. 8.

Marysville – Gallipoli Park – sixth anniversary of Black Saturday

AusNet – maintenance contractor (UAM) – State Government - \$300m settlement yesterday – 40 lives lost

Six Black Saturday class actions – total payments \$900

Pam Phillips – Greg Cherry – survivors – Crossways restaurant

Vibe hotel and conference centre

[A2.32.1] Advertisement, State Government, Victoria, 'Planned burns in your area', *The Saturday Age*, March 21, 2015, p. 13.

Planned burns reduce bushfire risk – CFA – Parks Victoria – latest information on planned burns

[A2.32.2] Darren Gray, 'Authorities urged to keep to 5% burn-offs', *The Age*, Tuesday, March 31, 2015, p. 8.

Ewan Waller, former chief fire officer, DSE – Andrews Government – Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission – 5% fuel reduction burning target, equating to 385,000 hectares a year – burning off has increased since Black Saturday but well short of target – bushfire expert, David Packham – target should be doubled or tripled – Victorian National Parks Association wants target dumped

[A2.32.3] Advertisement, State Government, Victoria, 'Planned burns in your area', *The Saturday Age*, April 4, 2015, p. 16.

Planned burns reduce bushfire risk – CFA – Parks Victoria – latest information on planned burns

- [A2.33.1] Carolyn Rance, 'Adeptability vital in times of disaster', *The Saturday Age*, April 11, 2015, p. 26.

Daniel Long, manager operations at Blue Mountains City Council – recovery after bushfires – October 2013 bushfires in Blue Mountains – 197 houses destroyed – experience of people who worked in Victoria following the Black Saturday fires of February 2009 consulted – trauma

- [A2.33.2] David Blair, 'Time now for the living', *The Saturday Age*, May 2, 2015, p. 34.

Haiti earthquake, January 2010: 230,000 lives lost; 700,000 homeless – United Nations – Nepal earthquake, April 2015 – Typhoon Haiya, Phillipines, November 2013

- [A2.34.1] Paul Chai, Traveller, 'The Getaway', *The Saturday Age*, May 9, 2015, p. 27.

Marysville – Vibe hotel and conference centre – Fraga's – Bruno's Art and Sculpture Garden – Black Saturday – Donovan Wilson of Mystic Mountain photography – Steavenson Falls

- [A2.34.2] Steve Lillebuen, 'Plantation fights bushfire payout split', *The Saturday Age*, May 16, 2015, p. 16.

\$300m Black Saturday settlement for Murrindindi-Marysville bushfire – 40 died and at least 500 properties razed – all parties except one, Hancock Victorian Plantations (HVP), agreed to all terms – HVP is not against the total amount of the settlement, but does not agree with its distribution – defendants: AusNet, CFA, DEPI, state government – fire caused by powerline that fell

- [A2.35.1] Richard Willingham, 'Emergency calls lost in network clog', *The Saturday Age*, August 8, 2015, p. 20.

Emergency phone and radio network overloaded in times of crisis – proposal for part of the spectrum be set aside for emergency services – Craig Lapsley – other countries have dedicated spectrums for emergency services – Productivity Commission to undertake a cost-benefit analysis by 2020

- [A2.35.2] Editorial, 'Burn-off debacle highlights big fire risk', *The Age*, Friday, October 9, 2015, p. 18.

Criticism of the Lancefield burn-off – DELWP – Black Saturday

- [A2.35.3] John Christiansen, St Kilda, Letters, '“Controlled” burns are a dangerous waste of time', *The Age*, Friday, October 9, 2015, p. 18.

Criticism of the Lancefield burn-off – little evidence that burn-offs are effective

- [A2.35.4] Paul Spinks, Alma, Letters, 'Don't take it out on those in the firing line', *The Age*, Friday, October 9, 2015, p. 18.

Black Saturday – don't blame the CFA for greenies for out of control burns

- [A2.35.5] Geoff McNamara, Newry, 'Spot the difference', *The Age*, Friday, October 9, 2015, p. 18.

Criticism of the Lancefield burn-off – a private landowner would have been charged and face jail for such actions

[A2.35.6] Andrea Bunting, Brunswick, Letters, 'Teaching point for climate change', *The Age*, Friday, October 9, 2015, p. 18.

Burn-off debates just a distraction – real problem is climate change

[A2.36.1] Bonny Francis, Upper Plenty, Letters, 'Living in fear and dread', *The Saturday Age*, October 10, 2015, p. 32.

Lost everything on Black Saturday – criticism of the Lancefield burn-off

[A2.36.2] Benjamin Levy, St Kilda East, Letters, 'Safer, better approach', *The Saturday Age*, October 10, 2015, p. 32.

Controlled burn-offs not working – different approach needed

[A2.36.3] Nigel Jenkins, Beech Forest, Letters, 'Oh, the irony', *The Saturday Age*, October 10, 2015, p. 32.

Re Lancefield burn-off – DELWP starts the fire and relies on the CFA to put it out

[A2.36.4] Darren Gray, 'Fuel reduction burns save lives: fire chief', *The Saturday Age*, October 10, 2015, p. 7.

CFA Chief Officer, Euan Ferguson defends burn-off policy – bushfires royal commission – Black Saturday – 173 died – Lancefield burn-off – statistics on burn-offs undertaken – criticism of burn-off policy

[A2.36.5] Peter Hannam, 'Fire warnings to show who is at risk', *The Saturday Age*, October 17, 2015, p. 9.

New bushfire prediction model should be more accurate – El Nino – Centre for Environmental Risk Management of Bushfires at University of Wollongong – Black Saturday – McArthur Forest Fire Index, developed in the 1960s based on limited range of factors

[A2.37.1] Sue Wallace, 'Vibe Hotel Marysville', *The Saturday Age*, Goodweekend, October 31, 2015, p. 43.

Review of the new Vibe Hotel in Marysville – part of the revitalization of the town after Black Saturday

[A2.38.1] Darren Gray, 'Anger but no surprise', *The Saturday Age*, December 5, 2015, p. 6.

Marysville fire on Black Saturday – SP AusNet denies its powerline caused the fire – coroner finds that bushfire caused by power assets – Murrindindi-Marysville bushfire settlement – Maurice Blackburn

[A2.38.2] Steve Lillebuen, 'Finding brings closure for town', *The Saturday Age*, December 5, 2015, p. 6.

Coroner finds that AusNet assets caused Murrindindi fire on Black Saturday – bushfire royal commission – Maurice Blackburn – class action – settlement – AusNet denies fault – Ashraf Doos, Marysville Patisserie

[A2.40.1] Steve Lillebuen, 'AusNet scorched', *The Saturday Age*, December 5, 2015, p. 1.

Black Saturday Marysville bushfire – 40 died – coroner finds AusNet power assets caused bushfire - \$300m settlement

[A2.40.2] Bill Mundy, General Manager, South West Victoria, Telstra, Letters, 'Bushfire safety', *The Saturday Age*, December 5, 2015, p. 33.

Mobile phone network should not be relied on in emergency situations



### Folder 3: 19 December 2015 – 22 June 2019

- [A3.1.1] Darren Gray, 'Heatwave worries emergency staff', *The Saturday Age*, December 19, 2015, p. 8.

Extreme heat – Total Fire Ban – Craig Lapsley – Bureau of Meteorology – on 18/12/15 100 grass or bushfires reported in Victoria

- [A3.2.1] Josh Gordon, 'Phone black spots stoush', *The Saturday Age*, December 19, 2015, p. 1.

Mobile phone black spots – funding

- [A3.3.1] Richard Willingham, 'Net void leaves CFA high and dry', *The Saturday Age*, December 19, 2015, p. 10.

CFA – mobile phone black spots – lack of internet access

- [A3.3.2] Richard Willingham, 'Mobile black spots explained', *The Saturday Age*, December 19, 2015, p. 10.

Definition of 'black spot' – Why does reception change so much? – Where is it worst? – How can it be fixed? – What is being done?

- [A3.4.1] Goya Dmyutryshchak, 'Firies on duty as usual: union', *The Sunday Age*, December 20, 2015, p. 4.

MFB – United Firefighters Union Secretary, Peter Marshall

- [A3.4.2] Marissa Calligeros, Darren Gray & Chris Vedelago, '“It's pretty daunting having a wall of flames at your house”', *The Sunday Age*, December 20, 2015, pp. 4-5.

Scottsburn busfire (near Ballarat) – extreme heat – arson – Black Saturday, 2009

- [A3.4.3] Farrah Tomazin, 'As 300 fires scorch Victoria, the state government moves to monitor arsonists', *The Sunday Age*, December 20, 2015, pp. 4-5.

Arson – monitoring – GPS technology – Dr Janet Stanley, bushfire arson prevention expert, Melbourne University, Sustainable Society Institute – biggest group who light fires tend to be troubled children or youth - 2014-2015 bushfire season: 600 suspicious fires

- [A4.6.1] Darren Gray, 'Holidaymakers urged to be fire vigilant', *The Age*, Monday, December 21, 2015, p. 6.

Holidaymakers – Lorne – CFA Chief Officer, Joe Buffone – Parks Victoria – CFA website, Emergency Vic – fire advice: Do not/Do

- [A3.6.2] Nick Toscano, 'Firefighters in impasse over terms, conditions', *The Age*, Monday, December 21, 2015, p. 6.

CFA – pay conditions – Victorian Government – United Firefighters Union Secretary, Peter Marshall

- [A3.7.1] 'In ashes', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 1.

Photo – Wye River bushfire, Christmas Day



- [A3.7.2] Timna Jacks, Darren Gray, Richard Willingham & Jill Stark, 'Warning of horror season ahead as 116 homes burn', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, pp. 2-3.
- Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Separation Creek – Daniel Andrews – Insurance Council of Australia – Falls Music Festival – CFA – Craig Lapsley
- [A3.7.3] Timna Jacks, '“It was like the apocalypse”', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 3.
- Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Separation Creek – CFA – destruction
- [A3.7.4] Andrew Holden, 'House is gone, but we will carry on', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 3.
- Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Daniel Andrews
- [A3.7.5] Goya Dmytryshchak & Anna Whitelaw, 'Falls Festival to go ahead at new site near Torquay', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 4.
- Falls Festival moved
- [A3.7.6] Richard Willingham, '“Get out early” the new fire mantra', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 4.
- Christmas Day bushfires – destruction – lightning started fires – Ash Wednesday, 1983 – few roads – Wye River – Lorne – Otways – Emergency Services Minister, Jane Garrett – Scottsburn bushfire - Lancefield burn-off – Craig Lapsley – FireReady app – Christmas Day bushfire facts
- [A3.7.7] Darren Gray & John Elder, 'In fight or flight, Lorne pulls together', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, pp. 4-5.
- Christmas Day bushfires – FireReady app – CFA
- [A3.7.8] Darren Gray, 'Campers urged to make safety the priority', *The Sunday Age*, December 27, 2015, p. 5.
- Campers/holidaymakers urged to be careful – Parks Victoria
- [A3.8.1] Simon White, 'Raging WA firestorm leaves frightening scenes in wake of devastation', *The Saturday Age*, January 9, 2016, pp. 2-3.
- Yarloop, WA – bushfires (8/1/16) – destruction
- [A3.8.2] Brendan Foster, 'Yarloop razed from the map', *The Saturday Age*, January 9, 2016, p. 2.
- Yarloop, WA – bushfires (8/1/16) – destruction
- [A3.10.1] Trevor Black, Northcote, Letters, 'Wye River bushfires: Clear information belies claims of cover-up', *The Saturday Age*, January 16, 2016, p. 28.
- Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – clear information and warnings given
- [A3.10.2] Mark Poynter, Balwyn, Letters, 'Wye River bushfires: It is possible to avoid these disasters', *The Saturday Age*, January 16, 2016, p. 28.
- Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – witch-hunt – backburn – fuel reduction needs to be increased

- [A3.10.3] Chris Wallis, Albert Park, Letters, 'Wye River bushfires: Contained burns not a realistic option', *The Saturday Age*, January 16, 2016, p. 28.

Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Craig Lapsley – controlled burns unrealistic – more resources should have been used on fire four days earlier

- [A3.10.4] John Christiansen, St Kilda, Letters, 'Wye River bushfires: Firefighting must keep up with the times', *The Saturday Age*, January 16, 2015, p. 28.

Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – controlled burns don't work – more resources should have been used on fire as soon as possible after it started

- [A3.10.5] Steven Katsineris, Hurstbridge, Letters, 'Do more to fight fires', *The Saturday Age*, January 16, 2016, p. 28.

Recent bushfires in WA (Yarloop) and Victoria (Wye River) – we should be able to do better given our scientific and technological advances – people will leave fire-prone areas (and that would be detrimental) – more resources to fight climate change – build fire retardant houses

- [A3.11.1] Bianca Hall, 'Bushfire victims gifted red tape relief', *The Saturday Age*, January 23, 2016, p. 15.

Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Separation Creek – rebuilding – Environment Minister, Lisa Neville – destruction: 116 homes lost – lessons learned from Black Saturday

- [A3.11.2] Advertisement, Classifieds, 'Powerline plan to reduce fire risk', *The Saturday Age*, January 23, 2016, p. 12.

Tender for consultant for the replacement of powerlines in bushfire areas – AusNet Services – Powercor – Black Saturday Bushfire Royal Commission found five major fires caused by electricity assets – Kilmore East fire: 119 lives and 1242 houses destroyed

- [A3.12.1] Aisha Dow & Richard Willingham, 'State Coroner to investigate Christmas bushfire at Wye River', *The Saturday Age*, January 30, 2016, p. 2.

Christmas Day bushfires – Wye River – Separation Creek – coroner to investigate – 116 homes destroyed – fire caused by lightning – Inspector General for Emergency Management, Tony Pearce: interim report found backburn did not start fire and had possibly prevented a much worse bushfire – United Firefighters Union Secretary, Peter Marshall

- [A3.12.2] Photo, '“We've had to fight for everything”', *The Sunday Age*, February 7, 2016, p. 1.

Black Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Denis Spooner – Suzi Kerr

[A3.13.1] Ebony Bowden, 'Another blow for shattered survivors', *The Sunday Age*, February 7, 2016, p. 6.

Black Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Denis Spooner – Suzi Kerr – Strathewen – Marley and Damien (Spooner) died in Black Saturday fires – Maurice Blackburn – compensation payments from settlement delayed by a year – 173 died on Black Saturday

Australian's largest class action – AusNet Services (formerly SP AusNet) – utility contractor UAM – State Government

Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire – settled in December 2014 - \$494m  
Murrindindi Mill-Marysville bushfire – settled in May 2015 - \$300m

[A3.14.1] Adam Morton, 'Why is Tasmania burning?', *The Sunday Age*, February 7, 2016, p. 15.

Bushfires in Tasmania – increase in lightning strikes – climate change – El Nino – scientists concerned

[A3.15.1] Allison Worrall, 'Airbnb signs emergency housing deal', *The Age*, Saturday, June 4, 2016, p. 15.

Airbnb to provide emergency housing – bushfires – Canada – Daniel Andrews

[A3.15.2] Bridie Smith, 'Firefighters way behind with burn-off targets', *The Age*, Monday, December 5, 2016, p. 6.

Emergency Management Commissioner, Craig Lapsley – burn-off targets not being met

[A3.16.1] Megan Backhouse, 'Rising from the ashes: New life has emerged from the destruction of Black Saturday', *The Age*, Saturday, May 20, 2017, p. 4.

Kinglake – Judy and Robert Henry – Oakhouse Garden

[A3.17.1] John Silvester, 'Behind the thin blue line(s)', *The Age*, Saturday, December 9, 2017, p. 36.

Christine Nixon – determined to break what she saw as the 'brotherhood' culture of Victoria Police

[A3.18.1] Chris Ray, 'Red Alert', *The Age*, Good Weekend, Saturday, January 20, 2018, pp. 10-13.

Burning off in Australia's north – lightning – cigarette butts – campfires – sparks from machinery – Aboriginal burning off - those against burning off – some plant and animal species at risk

[A3.19.1] Michael Idato, 'Australian firefighters battle inferno', *The Age*, Saturday, August 4, 2018, p. 20.

California – wildfires – evacuation – Australian and New Zealand firefighters to to US

[A3.20.1] Jason Steger, 'Chloe Hooper', *The Age*, Spectrum, October 20, 2018, pp. 24-25.

Review of Chloe Hooper's book, 'The Arsonist' – Black Saturday – 173 died – Churchill – Brendan Sokaluk

[A3.22.1] 'Black Saturday: Not the end of the story', *The Age*, Friday, January 19, 2019, p. 22.

Review of Peg Fraser's book, 'Black Saturday: Not the end of the story' – Museum Victoria - Bushfire Collection – Vicki Mitchell, Strathewen – Bronwyn Apted South

[A3.22.2] '10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Remembering Black Saturday', *The Age*, Saturday, February 2, 2019, p. 1.

Promoting an article in today's paper, see [A3.23.1]

[A3.22.3] Tammy Mills, 'Things of fire and ash remembered', *The Age*, Saturday, February 2, 2019, p. 19.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – Kinglake – Victorian Police Museum – bushfires museum to be created – Ash Wednesday, 1983 – Black Friday, 1939 – Bec and Goldie (Labrador) – Marysville – Phoenix Taskforce – John Brumby – 'Things of Fire and Ash, Remembered' opens February 7, at the Victorian Police Museum, 637 Flinders St

[A3.23.1] John Silvester, 'Unlikely survivor lies from the ashes: A flag symbolizing resilience returns to Marysville 10 years on', *The Age*, Saturday, February 2, 2019, p. 34.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – Marysville Police Station – Australian Flag that survived the Marysville fire on Black Saturday returned to Marysville – Ash Wednesday, February 16, 1983

[A3.24.1] Nicole Hasham, 'Inaction on climate "puts lives at risk" ', *The Age*, Tuesday, February 5, 2019, p. 12.

Climate change – failure to take action – bushfires – Scott Morrison – Bill Shorten – Black Saturday survivor, Ali Griffin

[A3.24.2] Tony Wright, 'Remembering a black day', *The Age*, Tuesday, February 5, 2019, pp. 12-13.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – commemoration – Royal Exhibition Building – Jane Haywood, principal, Strathewen Primary – Dr Kathy Rowe, Marysville – Scott Morrison – Daniel Andrews – Christine Nixon

'Black Saturday 10 Years On: From the ashes', *The Age*, Liftout, Thursday, February 7, 2019, pp. 1-8.

[A3.26.1] p. 1: before and after photos

[A3.26.2] Debbie Cuthbertson, 'Trial by fire', pp. 2, 3, 6

p. 2: Jennifer Wood and Mark Kaempkes, Jack, Narthbethong – Red Cross – Medal of the Order of Australia

p. 3: Cyclone Tracey, 1974

p. 6: Bron and Shane Sparkes, Kinglake

[A3.26.3] 'February 7, 2009: A Day of Devastation', p. 3.

Facts about the Kilmore East, Murrindindi, Horsham and Churchill bushfires on Black Saturday

[A3.26.4] 'How hell broke loose', pp. 4-5.

Maps of the Kilmore East and Murrindindi bushfires on Black Saturday

[A3.26.5] 'February 7, 2009: A Day of Devastation', p. 6.

Facts about the Coleraine, Bendigo, Narre Wareen and Upper Ferntree Gully, and Beechworth-Mudgegonga bushfires on Black Saturday

[A3.26.6] 'I was sure I was on fire', p. 7.

Lois and Luke van den Berk – Kinglake – Macedonian Church – Brodee, Aaron, Khyle – payout from SP AusNet settlement – Kevin Rudd

[A3.26.7] Wendy Duncan, 'When the fire took everything: A Black Saturday survivor writes of the terrible journey from despair to healing', p. 7.

Wendy Duncan, Kinglake – a Black Saturday survivor

[A3.26.8] 'In memory of those who lost their lives', p. 8.

List of people who died on Black Saturday

[A3.27.1] Richard Thornton, 'Black marks quick to fade: Ten years after a defining moment in bushfire history, complacency reigns', *The Age*, Thursday, February 7, 2019, p. 18.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – some lessons learnt – The Bushfire and Natural Hazards Co-operative Research Centre – psychological impacts – 'Stay or go' abandoned – Black Saturday could happen again – natural disasters, mostly human caused because of where we choose to work and live – still living in the same areas – Black Friday, 1939 – Ash Wednesday, 1983

[A3.27.2] Elizabeth Quinn, 'I can only hope I'd behave differently next time', *The Age*, Thursday, February 7, 2019, p. 18.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – Ash Wednesday – 173 die

[A3.28.1] Editorial, 'Complacency still a risk 10 years on', *The Age*, Thursday, February 7, 2019, p. 16.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – one of Australia's most devastating disasters – chances of another similar catastrophe – Marysville – Kinglake – Flowerdale – Strathewen – Yea – Steeles Creek – Churchill – Royal Commission – 'Stay or go' changed to 'flight' – people still choosing to stay – Bushfire and Natural Hazards Co-operative Research Centre – global warming – we must never forget the lessons

[A3.28.2] Andrew Thomson, '“Fanciful” fire class action dismissed', *The Age*, Friday, February 8, 2019, p. 3.

Reference to a bushfire class action against SP AusNet, re Black Saturday bushfires – Maurice Blackburn – Kinglake fire \$380m – Murrindindi fire \$300m – 173 died

- [A3.28.3] Jill Sanguinetti, Narbethong, Letters, 'Fires and climate change', *The Age*, Friday, February 8, 2019, pp. 18-19.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – commemoration ceremony – lessons learnt – Australia's worst natural disaster – global warming/climate change – wildfires in California and Greece – need to tackle climate change

- [A3.28.4] Arnold Bates, Williams Landing, Letters, 'The heatwave victims', *The Age*, Saturday, February 9, 2019, p. 35.

10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Black Saturday – 374 died in the weeklong heatwave – those people forgotten

- [A3.29.1] John Silvester, 'Staying upbeat in the face of death: How two women found a life in the state's mortuary', *The Age*, Saturday, March 23, 2019, p. 36.

Autopsy – forensics – 2009 Black Saturday fires – greatest natural disaster in Victoria's history – 173 lives lost – up to 450 heat related deaths

- [A3.30.1] Writer not known, 'Ancient knowledge may save grasses', *The Age*, Saturday, June 1, 2019, p. 16.

Indigenous burning – Black Saturday recommendations – protection and importance of grasslands

- [A3.30.2] Adam Carey & Benjamin Preiss, 'Cancer compo in CFA shake-up', *The Age*, Saturday, June 22, 2019, p. 8.

Firefighters – cancer compensation – Lisa Neville – Fire Rescue Victoria – CFA – UFU – Peter Marshall