WSW DISASTER RISK REDUCTION SYMPOSIUM 2019

Wagga Wagga
Tuesday 22 October, 2019
Wednesday 23 October, 2019

PROGRAM
## Agenda

**Tuesday 22 October**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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| 13:00 | Opening and welcome  
  Superintendent Kevin McNeil, Deputy Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON), NSW Police Force |
| 13:15 | Connecting people for collective action, practical insights from past experience  
  Anne Leadbeater OAM  
  Awarded with an OAM in recognition of her community coordination role, when working with the Murrindindi Shire Council during the 2009 Victorian Bushfires, Anne sheds light on the importance of community organisations, government agencies, and local businesses partnering together to reduce the impact of disasters. |
| 14:15 | Afternoon Tea  
  *MARKETPLACE OPEN* |
| 14:45 | Private, public, and community sectors mitigating impacts of disasters, a scenario based activity  
  Anne Leadbeater OAM  
  Dave Parsons, Crisis Management Australia  
  Who works in emergency management in your local area? This session will draw on knowledge and experience in the room to identify new or existing stakeholders that have a role to play before, during, and after a disaster. Small groups discuss the benefits, barriers, and opportunities in working with these key groups to question “are we adequately partnered for resilience?”. |
| 15:45 | Meals on Wheels, connecting vulnerable persons and emergency services  
  Louise Sutcliffe, Project Officer, Meals on Wheels NSW  
  Melanie Rebane, Community Safety Coordinator, Fire and Rescue NSW  
  Across Australia, Meals on Wheels services have been providing an essential community service, offering nutritious meals and social support for vulnerable older people and people with disabilities for over 60 years. Now in partnership with emergency services, Meals on Wheels NSW is developing tools to help staff and volunteers have discussions with their clients and raise awareness about emergency preparedness. |
| 16:30 | Supporting the local level, emergency management in New South Wales  
  David Butt, NSW Office of Emergency Management  
  Each decision and action made throughout society makes us either more vulnerable to disasters, or more resilient to them. Hear how emergency management programs, pilot projects, resources, funding opportunities, and exercises are bringing together those at the local, regional, and state levels to position NSW as a more resilient state. |
| 17:00 | Get Ready: Supporting all hazards community preparedness at local level  
  Wendy Graham, NSW Office of Emergency Management  
  Councils, community service organisations and businesses play a vital role in building the disaster resilience of individuals, organisations and communities. What makes these sectors so influential? Messages delivered by local, trusted sources are most effective in raising risk awareness and increasing preparedness actions. Hear how the Get Ready Program can provide free tools and resources to help local organisations build the disaster resilience of their community. |
| 17:00 | CLOSE  
  *MARKETPLACE OPEN* |
| 18:30 | Dinner served at Wagga Wagga RSL |
Wednesday 23 October

08:30 Marketplace Open

09:00 State and local governments working together with communities, to recover from a disaster

▶ Wendy Graham, NSW Office of Emergency Management

Collaboration between state and local governments is essential in supporting communities to recover from a disaster. Wendy draws on recent recovery operations in Northern NSW and Bega Valley to discuss what roles government have in recovery, as well as the differing needs of recovery operations between communities and disaster events.

09:30 Local Leaders Project, strengthening local connections to support emergency management

▶ Tracey Potts, Team Leader Strategy and Partnerships, Local Land Services

▶ Supported by members of the Goobang Community Resilience Network

The Local Community Resilience Network (LCRN) is connecting prominent community members in the Little River Catchment area to facilitate long term community recovery. Tracey sheds light on the role of an organised community in taking responsibility for their emergency management, and how emergency services and government agencies can support the community.

10:15 Morning Tea  *MARKETPLACE OPEN*

10:45 Keeping the lights on, how the energy sector navigates around the impacts of disasters to ensure business and community continuity

▶ Ron Whalen, Industry Participant

NSW is an energy hungry state. How do those in the control room ensure the lights stay on all year round, as climate change increases our demand for electricity? Ron gives an insight into the energy market, and what the private sector is doing to mitigate negative impacts of disasters. Explore the risks in your local area, how partnerships between emergency services and the energy sector can ensure we have power to our business and homes.

11:30 Leading change and coordinating effort in your organisation

▶ Dave Parsons, Crisis Management Australia

Dave draws on a wealth of experience working with diverse stakeholders both nationally and abroad, such as the mining and private health care sectors, to discuss practical ways to partner for change. Be guided through steps you can take to work more effectively with new or existing partners, and help share the responsibility of disaster risk reduction.

12:15 Final remarks and next steps

▶ Master of Ceremonies (MC)

Reflections from the day and submit survey/feedback.

12:30 CLOSE
Superintendent Kevin McNeil  
_Deputy Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON), NSW Police Force_  
Opening remarks will be made by Kevin.

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Anne Leadbeater OAM  
**Leadbeater Group**  
Anne is the director of Leadbeater Group Pty Ltd, specialising in disaster recovery and community resilience. Her background is in emergency management, community development and adult education, working first in the neighbourhood house sector and then for 16 years in local and state government.

Anne has worked with communities recovering from drought, fire, flood and cyclone in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland, and in 2014, she headed up an international team to evaluate the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal for New Zealand Red Cross. Last year she completed a review of the national Community Recovery Handbook for the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience. Anne lives in Kinglake, Victoria and was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for her work in the aftermath of the 2009 ‘Black Saturday’ bushfires.

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David Parsons  
**Crisis Management Australia**  
David is a founding partner of Response and Recovery Aotearoa New Zealand (RRANZ). RRANZ provides emergency management leadership training throughout New Zealand on behalf of the NZ Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. He previously managed Sydney Water’s Emergency Management and Security Program. Following September 11 David established the Water Services Sector Group within the Australian Government’s Trusted Information Sharing Network and was a member of the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council for 14 years.

Prior to commencing at Sydney Water, David served as the Regional Emergency Management Officer for Central West NSW where he was awarded a Ministerial Commendation for his efforts. He also holds a Masters in Emergency Management, and degrees in Social Science and Education, and has been an active member of the Blue Mountains State Emergency Service for over forty years.

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David Butt  
_A/Director, Emergency Management Capability and Planning, Office of Emergency Management_  
David is the current Acting Director of Capability and Planning at the Office of Emergency Management. He has held a number of different roles at the office and has been involved in delivery of the State Level Emergency Risk Assessment and the Disaster Preparedness Program, which has been trialling a Local Risk Assessment, along with a number of practical tools and resources such as the LEMC Information Guide and LEMO Handbook. Prior to working at the Office of Emergency Management, David worked as the National Operations Manager at Surf Life Saving Australia and also held a similar role in New Zealand. He has been involved with Surf Lifesaving as a lifeguard and lifesaver from the age of 14 and over that time won multiple...
National rescue awards working with interagency teams and individual awards such as Paid Lifeguard of the Year.

**Wendy Graham**  
**Director, Resilience and Recovery, Office of Emergency Management**

Wendy leads the development of disaster resilience strategy in NSW, which includes the establishment of the NSW Community Resilience Innovation Program, the ‘Get Ready NSW’ all-hazards preparedness initiative, and the Community Resilience Networks pilot project. She has provided strategic leadership and whole-of-government recovery coordination in numerous disaster events over the last 13 years, including the “Pasha Bulka” Storms 2007, Warrumbungle and Blue Mountains Bushfires 2013, Lindt Cafe Siege 2014, NSW Western Fires 2017, Northern Rivers Flooding Ex Cyclone Debbie 2017, and Tathra Bushfire 2018.

Wendy is also a Winston Churchill Fellow and has researched disaster recovery programs and community resilience in the United Kingdom, USA, Canada and New Zealand. These learnings continue to inform Wendy’s practice and she brings an in-depth knowledge and passion to working with disaster affected communities.

**Tracey Potts**  
**Team Leader Strategy and Partnerships, Local Land Services**

Tracey has extensive experience in natural resource management with twenty five years of working in conservation management, rural and social development and project management in South Africa, Zimbabwe, New Zealand and Australia. Tracey’s passion lies in developing novel approaches to the challenges we experience in the space where people and the environment meet. She enjoys the opportunities, complexity and challenges associated with working in multi-stakeholder environments, and is committed to effecting lasting impacts on resilient ecosystems and communities. Tracey holds a Masters’ Degree in Environmental Science and is currently working towards a PhD.

As Team Leader Strategy and Partnerships at Central Tablelands LLS, Tracey’s role incorporates strategic planning and policy development; working closely with the Board; forecasting emerging issues and creating the necessary capacity and resources to effectively address problems and opportunities; and, leading a team of six staff – GIS & Systems Officer, MERI Officer; Aboriginal Engagement Officer; Communications Officer; Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator and Strategy & Investments Advisor.

**Louise Sutcliffe**  
**Project Officer, Meals on Wheels NSW**

Louise Sutcliffe has had extensive experience in a range of positions across the community sector for 37 years. While currently coordinating this MOW NSW Emergency Preparedness 18 month pilot project, over the past few years she has also been providing consultancy support for local Councils, Aged, Disability and local Community services in the Blue Mountains region. Her roles over her career have included project management, advocacy, community development, policy and sector support within aged and disability services.
Melanie Rebane
Community Safety Coordinator, Fire and Rescue NSW
Awarded with an Australian Fire Services Medal (AFSM) for her commitment to the safety of the NSW community. Melanie joined Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) as a permanent operational firefighter in 2002. In her community engagement role, she works closely with community organisations and government agencies to reduce risk within ageing and disability communities.

Ron Whalen
Ron has spent over 30 years in the energy industry, predominantly in System Control. His experience has been used to enhance planning, preparation, response, and recovery efforts within the energy sector during this time, mitigating the disruptions caused by power system outages locally and abroad. He is well known outside of Australia, in New Zealand and North America, for his commitment to training and power system simulation, most notably for his work in coordinating the ‘Black Start’ exercises annually. After involvement with the Energy Security Taskforce, Ron’s passion has been to raise awareness of the unique issues that can arise within the energy sector during disasters. By working alongside government agencies and Local/Regional Emergency Management Committees, Ron has contributed to building relationships between groups, and improved understanding of the challenges faced by the energy sector during disasters.

Jeremy Hillman
Facilitator
Jeremy is a communications and engagement specialist with broad experience across government, private, and not-for-profit sectors. In recent times, he has worked for NSW Environment Protection Authority, Fred Hollows Foundation, as well as the General Manager at an engagement consultancy. Prior to that, he lived in Canberra and served as a policy and communications adviser to two Prime Ministers.
Jeremy has managed media and communications at the Office of Emergency Management for the last two years, including deployments to the Northern Rivers Floods and Tathra Bush Fire recovery operations. He’s passionate about engagement and pursuing better ways to connect with and support disaster-impacted communities.
Check out the Marketplace

Meet and network with others working in the sector

Delegates will have the opportunity to speak directly with exhibitors during morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea

Coffs Harbour
17 October

Dubbo
7-8 November

Wagga Wagga
22-23 October


Free resources available at emergency.nsw.gov.au/getready