

For immediate release
4 February 2019

Black Saturday, 10 Years On Coverage on ABC Radio Melbourne

On Wednesday 6 February, ABC Radio Melbourne will mark the 10th anniversary of the 2009 fires with a full day of live broadcasts across the state.

The programs will revisit the stories of the people who survived this extraordinary traumatic event and highlight the rebuilding and recovery process still taking place within communities today.

ABC Radio Melbourne manager Dina Rosendorff says, “This special day of programming is part of ABC Radio’s ongoing commitment to emergency broadcasting, where we educate and inform our community of dangers and risks to encourage better preparation for future fires; and continue to support fire affected communities and individuals by telling their stories.

“Listeners are encouraged to tune-in or come along to these broadcasts across the day as we highlight the extraordinary resilience of the communities affected and share the highs and lows 10 years on,” concluded Dina.

Event Details:

- **Breakfast, 5.30 – 7.45am: Marysville, Rotunda in the park – All Welcome**
Jacinta Parsons and Sami Shah invite you to join them from Marysville as they start the day of live broadcasts.
- **Mornings, 8.30 – 12 noon: Strathewen Primary School – All Welcome**
Jon Faine will revisit the community from Strathewen and their rebuilt local Primary School.
- **Myf Warhurst program, presented by Meshel Laurie: Melbourne Museum**
Melbourne Museum’s commemorative activation *From The Heart* presents personal stories behind 12 objects from the state bushfire collection, a Tree of Remembrance, and a series of photographs on loan from Department of Environment, Land and Water Protection.
- **Afternoons: 2.00 – 4.00pm: Neerim South**
During the 2009 fires Richelle Hunt was our roving Station Reporter, reporting from fire affected communities in the immediate aftermath. She will be joined by Senior ABC Journalist Mark Debono, who reported extensively on the 2009 Gippsland fires. The Bunyip fires started in the week leading up to Black Saturday and spread beyond the Bunyip State Park on the day.
- **Drive, 4.00 – 6.30pm: Ellimatta Youth Centre, Whittlesea – Kinglake Road, Kinglake – All Welcome**
Raf Epstein will revisit the community of Kinglake, where ABC Radio Victoria assisted in setting up a temporary community radio station.
- **Evenings, 7.00-10.00pm: Dixons Creek**
David Astle will be joined by former Evenings presenter Derek Guille. In 2009 Derek broadcast from Dixon Creek as part of a series of programs from fire affected areas.

More information: abc.net.au/melbourne

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