Kiwi farmers give generously

A group of Kiwi farmers and rural service providers have reached out and offered Upper Murray residents a chance to get away and recharge in beautiful New Zealand, when borders reopen again.

To qualify you must have been financially or emotionally affected by the summer bushfires and hold or be able to organise a current passport.

You will only need your airfare and money for personal expenditure and some meals. The initiative is auspiced and underwritten by AgBiz Assist with the support of Upper Hume Primary Care Partnership.

Funding may also be available to help with travel costs. If money is a barrier, support may be available depending on circumstances.

For more information, contact Sarah Crosthwaite on 03 5722 2677 or sarah.crosthwaite@awh.org.au.

CFA: the time to prepare is now

Summer is just around the corner and the message from the CFA is clear. The time to start bushfire preparation is now.

Cudgewa CFA Captain, Paul Carkeek says the right preparation is the key to saving property and lives in the event of another major event.

The seasonal outlook for the 2020/21 season, as per the CFA, shows that above average winter rainfall has substantially reduced the risk of campaign bushfires in Victoria’s east for the outlook period. While good rain is welcome, this can also lead to greater fuel loads and the risk of late season grass fires.

Victoria, along with Spain and California, is one of the most bushfire prone areas in the world and the CFA says it only takes two weeks of hot, dry and windy weather to create dangerous fire conditions.

“Do your preparation early and have a plan,” Paul said.

“Now is the time to clean up around your property and reduce your fuel load. Remember there is no guarantee the CFA will be able to defend your property in a large-scale bushfire event.”

Over the coming weeks, the CFA is producing a three-step fire plan for the upcoming season to help you prepare your property, your family, pets, stock, your community and vulnerable residents.

It’s a call to action, and it’s time to get started.

You can find more detailed information in your Community Recovery Newsletter, out this week, or head to www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare.