



Title	Mrs
First name	Sue
Last name	Kelly

I am making this submission as	Resident
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Submission type	Personal
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Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
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Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
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Consent to make submission public	Public
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Your story	<p>On the morning of 31st Dec 2019, we got a texted notification at 6am of impending fire. We put our fire plan into action, the fire plan included filling gutters with water, we had petrol pump and water all around our house. We had a bushfire fighting team turn up, by then the fires was coming from 3 different directions. We fought the first wave of the fire and put out all spot fires, grass fires, trees. We regrouped ready for second wave, which came with just as much force and voracity as the first. We fought the second wave, the sky started to get dark, our daughter and 5 year old grandson were visiting at the time and the fire fighter advised them to evacuate. We could hear trees exploding, fire ember became more frequent and the air became much hotter. After the second wave sided, one of the fire fighters advised me they were leaving. And I sad DONT LEAVE US! He replied your fine, you got this! keep going with spots fires, and gave me a hug. The horn of the fighter truck sounded, they dropped the hose and as the last fire fighter was jumping in they left us. They</p>
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took footage from inside the camp of the fire truck as they left my property. The audio has since been deleted and I would like to know what was being said as they left my property. A friend who was helping us fight advised he followed the truck in his vehicle and advised they were going really fast, and if there was no water inside the truck would have rolled. As the firefighters advised the fire truck was out water which is why they left. My husband and I kept on with spots fires and the air became extremely hot and extremely dark. The fire embers were coming at us all horizontally. Our pump stopped working. We hooked our hoses on our tank water to try put out the fires. Winds increased and it was nearly impossible to stand against it. At that stage I heard the metal roof of our house making a crackling sound. I ran and got my husband and asked could the roof be on fire. We dragged the hoses inside with us to see if the fires had started inside. We couldn't see any signs, we went further in to the house and in the kitchen i looked up and saw the down lights glowing. My husband grabbed a ladder and sledge hammer and proceeded to knock into the ceiling of the en suite. He wanted to get a hose up into the ceiling between the ceiling and roof cavity. It was to hot and it started to fall down on top of him. I used the hose to put him out. We went into the kitchen where my husband said - "if there's anything you need, grab it!".. we are going to lose the house. I grabbed a clock and left the kitchen and the kitchen ceiling caved in where i had been standing. The house quickly filled black smoke we couldn't breathe we ran out side, i got in the car, i wanted him to get in the car we needed air con we couldn't see through the smoke. He didn't get in the car, he couldn't believe what was happening he just kept saying he should have tried harder I shouldn't have let this happen. He let the animals out of the garage tried to grab some work tools however smoke had filled downstairs. He sat outside downstairs and I sat in the car upstairs and we watch our house that took 30 years to build burn down to the ground in less than an hour. It was the day the sun didn't rise in Batesman bay.

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

1.2 Preparation and planning

We had plan in place however mother nature hit us with the Southerly.

1.3 Response to bushfires

1.4 Any other matters

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