

Press Release 29th March 2007

Monash University Lends Support to Bushfire Recovery

Monash University Gippsland Campus has lent its support to the tourism recovery process through its work placement program.

Michael Taplin, a third year tourism and marketing student, will be working with the Gippsland Tourism Response and Recovery Group over the next 3 months.

Michael will be doing some hands on work to assist with the recovery process. He will also be undertaking detailed analysis of the way business, community and government have responded to the bushfire through the Tourism Response and Recovery Process.

Mr Michael Taplin said 'Tourism is a key driver in Gippsland and I am interested in supporting the recovery.'

Monash University Gippsland Campus' Work Placement program gives students an opportunity to complete approved projects for an employer which contribute to the organisation and facilitate the development of work place skills for students.

Dr Vaughan Reimers, lecturer at Monash University observed: 'Monash University Gippsland is committed to developing closer ties with the community. We are delighted to be working in partnership with the tourism industry to assist the bushfire recovery process.'

Mr Chris Buckingham, Convenor of the Gippsland Tourism Response and Recovery Group responded: 'This support is welcome. The response has been a massive effort by business, community and government. Having Michael on board through the work placement program will allow us to reflect and improve on our capacity to respond to bushfires in the future.'

Mr Buckingham concluded 'Monash University is one of a number of key regional organisations that have supported the tourism industry in the recovery process. This is another great example of business, government and the community working together to support the recovery process.'

Media Representatives: For more information contact Chris Buckingham on 0429 869 638.

Chris Buckingham
Convenor, Gippsland Tourism Response & Recovery Group
General Manager, Gippsland Tourism
Chairperson, Destination Gippsland Inc
0429 869 638

www.destinationgippsland.com.au

For information on the Gippsland Tourism Response and Recovery
Group and industry information please go to

www.gippslandtourism.net.au