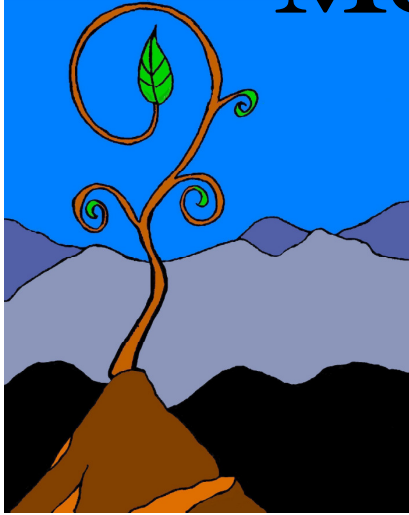


# Meet, Meld, Merge II



**Community art forum to explore and discuss the use of the arts as a bushfire recovery tool.**

**WHEN:** 9.00 am to 3.30pm Tuesday 26th May

**WHERE:** Yea Golf Club, Racecourse Road, Yea

**WHO:** Local artists, community groups, arts workers, funding and support agencies.

**RSVP:** By 22nd May to Sue Purcell at Berry Street 57 723 383  
Book now as spaces are filling quickly!

## Art Bringing Communities Together : A Fire Recovery Project



### Meet, Meld, Merge II Arts Recovery Forum

In September 2006 Berry Street held an extremely successful community arts forum entitled: "Meet, Meld, Merge - Art Bring People Together". Berry Street, in conjunction with the Cultural Development Network supported by Regional Arts Victoria and Arts Victoria, is now conducting a second forum with the focus being on ways in which individuals and communities can utilise the arts as a bushfire recovery tool.

The Meet, Meld, Merge II forum will be a full day event to be held on Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of May starting at 9.00am at the Yea Golf Club. Representatives from many organisations will be present. The forum will explore how other communities and individuals have utilised the arts as a recovery tool in relation to catastrophic events - in particular bushfires.

It will also provide information on arts resources, funding and support that are available through the organisations represented at the forum. One of the aims is to encourage people to "think outside the box" as they explore ways of dealing with the affects of the Black Saturday fires.

The forum will encourage artists and community groups to explore and express their needs and the ways in which they can utilise the arts as a recovery tool. There will be time for artists to focus on their own needs as well as the needs of their communities.

The aim of the forum is to open peoples' minds and encourage them to really think about how they can utilise the arts to benefit themselves and their communities. The Meet, Meld, Merge II forum is about inspired thinking, shared ideas and exploring ways that these inspired ideas can be turned into inspirational initiatives to aid the fire recovery process.

For more information or to receive an invitation to the forum please contact Lisa Rudd, Community Arts Worker, Berry Street Yea, on 0428 887 009 or Cindy Ferguson Youth & Community Arts Worker Berry Street Alexandra on 57 723 383

An outline of the program for the day is available at [www.culturaldevelopment.net.au/cdnevents.htm](http://www.culturaldevelopment.net.au/cdnevents.htm)