

Australia Wildfires

Email from Larry Brockman

Date: Monday, February 23, 2009, 12:23 AM

Hi Guys,

We are all ok , the fires are only 25 miles away, we have had plenty of smoke.

This has been the worst disaster in the history of Australia. With over 200 people dead and thousands injured, over 6000 homes destroyed and tens of thousands of acres burnt-- not to mention the loss of our wildlife, farm stock, pets etc. We have been in drought conditions for more 10 years.



Melbourne, where we live, is a city of over 4 million people and right now our water supplies are less than 30 percent. On the day of the fatal fires, the temperature was over 106 degrees with 70 mile-per-hour winds. The fires started as a result of downed power lines that created sparks. The rest is history.



The victims are being well looked after. Public donations of more than 100 million dollars were raised in the first few days. Plus there have also been many donations of clothing, food, cars, portable accommodations, and power generators. 30 percent were uninsured however, the government will provide for them.

Like Americans the Australians look after their own.

Keep safe

Best regards Larry