

Author biographies

Karl Anthony-Harvey-Beavis was research officer for the Bushfire CRC Evaluation Framework project in the Collaborative Institute for Research, Consulting and Learning in Evaluation (CIRCLE) at RMIT University, responsible for the data management and detailed analysis of the concept-mapping work for this project. Karl currently works for the Australian Crime Commission.

Luke Balcombe studied for his Environmental Science Masters degree at James Cook University and the Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre during 2004–06. The Tamborine Mountain Bushfire Awareness case study formed the basis of Luke’s masters thesis, ‘Perceptions of preparedness for bushfire’. Previously, Luke worked as a park ranger at Tamborine Mountain and as a research fellow at the World Forest Institute based in Portland, Oregon, where he investigated fire management on public lands. His areas of research interest include the environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects of fire management.

Adrian Birch is a research officer in the School of Psychological Science at La Trobe University, working on the Bushfire Co-operative Research Centre Enhancing Volunteerism Project. His background is in sociology. He is a long-serving CFA volunteer for the Country Fire Authority, Victoria.

Dr Raphaela Blanchi is a Bushfire CRC-funded post-doctoral research scientist at CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems in Australia. She obtained a PhD in Science and Engineering of Hazardous Activities from Ecole des Mines de Paris, where she worked on forest fire risk assessment and prevention at the urban interface. Her interests lie in understanding the specific issues involved in house loss, and providing specific tools to predict and manage the risk posed by bushfires at the rural–urban interface.

Karyn Bosomworth spent several years in the community safety section of Victoria’s Country Fire Authority, co-ordinating post-bushfire research assessing policy efficacy, among other projects. More recently with Victoria’s Department of Sustainability and Environment, she has been working on climate change adaptation. She is currently on leave from DSE and undertaking her PhD on climate change and community resilience bushfire.

Sally Bushnell is a research officer for Bushfire CRC’s Understanding Communities Project in the Centre for Disaster Studies at James Cook University. Sally completed her Master of Applied Science in Natural Resource Management at James Cook University in 2005. Her areas of research interest broadly include hazard and environmental management, in particular community participation in management and developing sustainable outcomes. Current research focuses on community and fire brigade perceptions, values and expectations relating to bushfire hazard.

Dr Colleen Bryant works with the Australian Institute of Criminology’s bushfire arson project. She is principally involved with the analysis of spatial and temporal trends of deliberate firesetting in Australia.

Superintendent Gerry Byrne is the Manager of Bushfire Natural Hazards with the NSW Fire Brigades, a position he has held since 2005. Gerry has 24 years firefighting experience in