



TOOLANGI-CASTELLA BUSHFIRE MEMORIAL



The six memorials in Murrindindi Shire provide an opportunity to pay tribute to loved ones lost in the 2009 bushfires, as well as all those who lost homes, animals and property. These memorials also provide a space to reflect upon all the ways the community and landscape was affected by the events which began on 7 February 2009 and forever changed our lives.

Forty percent of Murrindindi Shire was burned during the 2009 bushfires. More than 100 people lost their lives and 1,397 homes, 75 businesses, 16 community or government buildings and 234 sheds were destroyed.

The development of the Toolangi-Castella Bushfire Memorial was a collaborative effort between the community and Murrindindi Shire Council. It honours the memory of the two people who lost their lives in the Toolangi-Castella area during the fires.

Location: Castella Central Park, corner of Melba Highway and Healesville-Kinglake Road, Castella VIC 3777



The memorial features:

- A series of 11 inscribed stepping stones.
- The stepping stones lead into the small gathering space which is nestled among newly planted native trees and shrubs.
- Locally-crafted timber seats furnish the gathering space, these were made from a tree trunk which survived the 2009 bushfires.

Symbolism

The past, present and future is symbolised through a sculptural glass element located as the centre piece of the gathering space.