

WE'RE NOT IN KANSAS ARE WE?

The afternoon of Tuesday 28 August 2018 will remain in the minds of many Plantagenet residents who experienced the effects of a mini-tornado cutting a swathe through a specific area in Kendenup causing significant damage to roadside vegetation and property.

It appears that the 'tornado' first touched down in the Shire of Cranbrook then moved south east in the Shire of Plantagenet creating a path of destruction, in some points only 100m wide. Martagallup, Boyup, Gough, Beattie, Hobbs and Jutland Roads were all affected. A short section of Albany Highway from Martagallup to Beattie Roads was not left untouched with numerous trees coming down over the highway. Beattie Road was completely covered in vegetation for approximately 250 metres and required the use of a bulldozer to make it passable.

A special thanks is extended to those local farmers who brought their tractors and helped to remove trees from Martagallup, Boyup and Beattie Roads. Thank you to Jon Oldfield for allowing Shire staff to dump debris on his property and thank you to Brad Woods for the use of his paddocks to store material in order to facilitate the opening of Beattie Road. David Lynch, the Shire's Manager Works and Services commented 'Despite the severity of the very short event, it was encouraging and heartening to see local residents working with the Shire to clear roads for traffic. Thanks must also go to motorists who got out of their cars and helped locals and Shire staff remove branches and vegetation from the roads.'

All road users are urged to consider the safety of Shire staff and volunteers working on the ground during and following such event clean ups and to obey traffic notices. Despite clear signage, numerous drivers do not appear to heed directions and continue to speed through road works making unsafe conditions for those working to make the roads safe. Please have patience and drive to the conditions and remember to 'Slow Down, Move Over'.
