I have watched with alarm the extreme temperatures and associated fires across estern Australia this January, 2013. It reminds me of the similar horror we had to watch in Victoria a few years back and also the massive floods and cyclone Yasi that devastated Queensland so recently. The common word we keep hearing is "unprecedented". We see old residents saying they have never seen anything with such ferocity. These events are beyond the historical norm and we are going to have to be prepared for such extreme weather events with more than our previous preparedness. Scientists have been warning us for decades that climate change will manifest as a worsening of extreme weather events and that we need to be prepared. Thank you for clarifying these responsibilities for the people.

Sandra Bayley