

As I am a retiree my ideas may not be what you are looking for. The weather through the Xmas break was very severe to me at least. I live in Maleny & have done so for eight years but I have never had the summer weather so hot. It is something that you may need to address as I fear a lot of elderly people may not be able to cope with that year after year. It also doesn't bode well for newborn babies or older people in hospital who are receiving treatment for various reasons.

Next is the working people, first of all those in the building trade, sub-contractors etc. Some of these people are in the heat all day, especially those fitting colorbond to rooves. Others who do deliveries by truck to warehouses & supermarkets are also unpacking goods in the heat. At least most of these usually have air conditioning in their vehicles. There are schools that do not have very good outside eating areas for children & possibly those that do not have enough air circulating in the teaching areas. These need to be upgraded if the heat gets worse.

I used to work in insurance, however, I am very disturbed at the fact that a lot of these greedy organisations have not yet finalised insurance claims for the Queensland flood of two years ago. I saw on t.v. that they made billions by not meeting the conditions of policies of flood victims. I feel that the government should have closed them down for that alone. I was told once by my boss, never to deal with tiny insurance companies as they are full of crooks & after the flood I am convinced he was right.

Now as a pensioner I am clicking off channels all day that are advertising funeral insurance. How disgusting for elderly people to have to watch this daily & in the evening. Some of the things they offer are just to get people to sign up. People should be more vigilant with these crooks as after their treatment of people after the flood I would want to read all the paperwork before I signed anything. Be aware, these companies do not have very good records for paying up when it is needed. If possible it is better to have money set aside for this sad time. I feel the government should have checked out these companies & applied strength to those not having the integrity to help flooded victims. I fear that all the bushfire victims could be in the same boat.

The fact that some fires may have been lit by children & others means that people living in these homes need quality help to recover & have a home built as soon as possible. After all Tasmania is a very cold place to live in & many areas have scores of homes burnt to the ground. I just hope both political parties do a lot more to help these people by supporting them to get the financial help they need from insurance companies.

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