

## Testimonial from Russel and Miriam

Dear Anthony

I just wanted to let you know that putting in your fire bunker was the best thing we've done recently. With fires raging everywhere around us it is attracting a lot of attention now.

Our immediate neighbours know where it is and where we keep a key. Everyone thought we were a bit crazy when we installed it but now they wish they had one! Since photo we have grassed it and the kikuyu has grown nicely so it is a reassuring grassy knoll just outside. Our stuff is packed inside and the yesterday we had fire drills and waited anxiously all day with the horrendous wind conditions. A lot of Russel's clients lost their houses and pets in the fire on Thursday.

The NSW fire people came around on Tuesday to let us know to evacuate but Russ took them round and they wanted to see inside the bunker as had heard of them but never seen one. It's not over for a while and we still anxiously wait. At least we know our valuables, ourselves and the cats have a plan B retreat if our pumps and hoses fail. We have purchased a second smaller onga pump with hoses to store in bunker so can fight embers if N#1 pump is burnt.

Russ mentioned yesterday that you had asked if he was keen to be an agent in the mountains. If you haven't found anyone yet we may well be happy to consider it. His mum is well versed in the bunker as she housesits for us, is planning to help us defend in fire. She is currently living in Katoomba where she runs a chocolate shop that is going to close in December due to owner relocating to Sydney-he is desperate for her to run his new business in the city but she is not keen to commute 3 hours a day. Together we may be able to provide a sales team (plus possibly mick the excavator's services as he does an excellent job) here as we have a bunker in place already.

Obviously at work it is currently chaos -we are both vets and even my practice in Penrith is full to capacity with 150 animals including chickens and ducks boarding due to fire evacuations. Burnt animals are being treated and boarded for free thanks to drug companies donating drugs to us. Dr Chris Brown and his team visited Winmalee today where Russ is at work on his motorbike so he can zoot home through traffic if needed. I am staying home today to monitor wind situation as ember attack still likely.

Thanks again - just thought of dropping you a line while clearing leaves and patrolling property this morning - we know even if we leave the property we won't return to nothing but ashes as our valuables and camping gear will be spending the summer in the bunker.

Regards

Miriam and Russel, Wentworth Falls, Blue Mountains NSW