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The Drought Isn't Over Just Because The Media Coverage Is

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**Krystyna Fagan**

Contributing Writer

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Coverage of the drought across the media over the last couple of weeks has been extensive.

But as the news cycle churns and we collectively turn our attention to the next Trump scandal, the next Kardashian drama or the most recent ridiculous thing to come out of Barnaby Joyce's mouth, I want to remind you:

IT'S NOT OVER FOR THE FARMERS.

Last week I introduced you to my dad and his property at Coolabah in Western NSW.

to get quite graphic, but this message needs to get through. I want you, my fellow city and suburban dwellers, to truly understand what these farmers are dealing with.

Late Saturday morning as I'm lazing on the couch, sipping my tea and snuggling my puppy, I got a call from dad. Usually stoic and calm, he was shaken. The previous night one of his cows had gone down from dehydration. He had tried unsuccessfully for an hour to get it up again and hydrated, finally leaving it to rest until morning when he'd go back to try again.

He returned first thing in the morning to find the cow still alive but with its eyes picked out by hungry crows.

He was forced to shoot the cow to spare it further suffering.



My dad was forced to shoot the cow after it endured incredible suffering. (Image: Getty Images)

On Sunday afternoon as I settled in for a Netflix marathon, dad sent me this photo.

Ribs on display through their shrunken hides, his hungry stock make the most of a small grain feed.



Dad's starving cows get a small amount of feed. (Image: Supplied)

Today, while I'm sitting in my climate controlled office, pondering what to order for dinner tonight from UberEats, another photo comes through. It's my dad dragging out another sheep that's been stuck in a dried up dam.



Dad managed to save the sheep after dragging it out of the earth. (Image: Supplied)

We Aussies are extremely generous and thanks to the many public appeals such as Rural Aid's [Buy a Bale](#), [Parma for a Farmer](#), and [Drought Angels](#), help is slowly getting to those who need it.

However, farmers shouldn't have to rely on the [philanthropy of their fellow countrymen](#) or even [last minute government assistance](#) in order to survive.

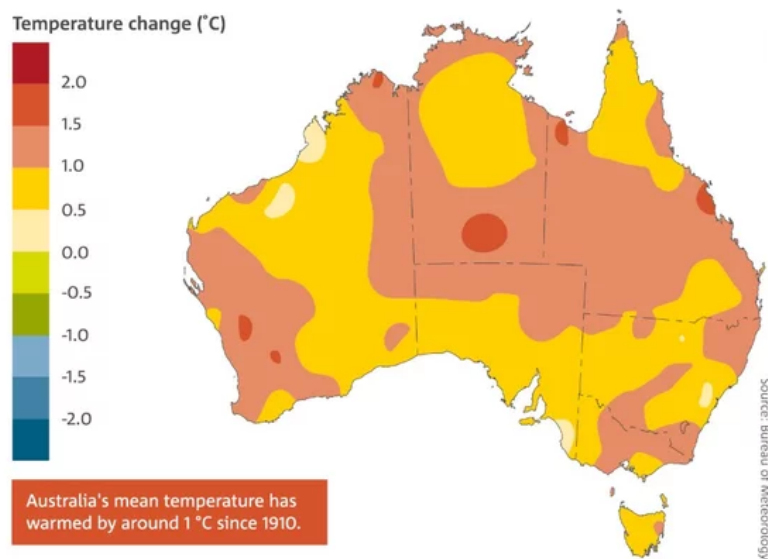


of that involves acknowledging and planning for the impacts of climate change.

READ MORE: [It's Time To Wake Up To The Truth About This Sunburnt Country](#)

READ MORE: [Why Are We So Scared To Say The C-Word During Drought?](#)

Climate change is real, it's here, it's happening and it's SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN. I'm not a scientist, so I tend to get my information about these things from the people who are qualified in these fields, like actual scientists.



Annual mean temperature changes across Australia since 1910.

(Image: Bureau of Meteorology)

According to NASA, multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals show that 97 percent or more of scientists agree climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities. In addition, most of the leading scientific organizations worldwide have issued public statements endorsing this position.

Last week on Facebook someone commented under my article that all this climate change stuff was "just a money spinner".

Well here's my response.



If you want to help Australian farmers in need, you can donate to a registered charity. Donate online to Rural Aid's [Buy a Bale](#), [Drought Angels](#), [Aussie Helpers](#) or [Lions' Need for Feed](#). You can also support farmers by [buying Australian grown produce at your local supermarket](#).

For 24/7 crisis or suicide prevention support, please call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or visit www.lifeline.org.au/gethelp.

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