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[Rebuilding Craig's Hut \(Click for larger image.\)](#)

Volunteers have been vital in the rebuilding of Craig's Hut | Jemina Wilson

[A small but dedicated team of volunteers came from various parts of Victoria to help rebuild Craig's Hut. Jemina Wilson](#)

Rebuilding Craig's Hut

Last Update: Monday, December 10, 2007. 1:27pm AEDT

By Jemina Wilson

Iconic Craig's Hut is being rebuilt with the help of a team of volunteers from across Victoria.

The replica cattleman's hut, which was made famous by the film 'The Man from Snowy River', was destroyed in a bushfire on December 11 2006

The team of volunteers have been working long hours to rebuild the hut, with some volunteers coming from Boonie Doon, Maindample, Tolmie, Toolamba West, Boronia and Wallan.

The volunteers worked installing traditional hand-cut slabs around the walls, as well as fitting of the

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ironbark decking on the front and back verandas.

Builder Craig Ogier says the rebuilding work was a team effort.

“Between them, they had a great range of bush craft and building skills and they worked incredibly well together,” he said.

Mr Ogier joked about the connection between his name and the hut.

“I am getting used to being constantly ribbed about my name being the main reason I won the tender to rebuild the hut - at least I will be able to honestly claim it is Craig's Hut.”

Mansfield Shire Mayor, Cr. Marg Attley was full of praise for Mr Ogier's skill as a builder.

“We are so fortunate to have found someone like Craig Ogier, who has the traditional building skills, attention to detail and commitment that will ensure this project is completed on time and to a very high standard.”

Tolmie resident, Chris Clarke, a very active member of the Victorian High Country Huts Association, says he enjoyed working on the hut.

“It is a privilege to work with someone of Craig's ability and to have the chance to refine my hut building skills.”

“It's also been a pleasure getting to know the other volunteers and I think there will be some lasting friendships developing as a result of these weekends.”

From the outside it looks like the hut is almost complete, but the work is not over yet. In January the finishing touches will be laid, while landscaping and rehabilitation of the surrounding area will continue to make sure the hut is looking its best for the official opening, which is likely to be held on Australia Day weekend.

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