1. INTRODUCTION
In order to better understand the history of natural disasters in Australia as a whole, and also solely in the state of Victoria, a review of the past hazard events data was conducted. The data was obtained from the Australian government website www.emknowledge.gov.au and includes events from the years 1857 to 2014. The raw data contained a range of disaster events outside of the scope of this project so firstly the data was classified before analysis was carried out.

2. DATA CLASSIFICATION
The original dataset contained information on all disaster events for Australia. The events included were:
- Bushfire
- Chemical complex emergencies
- Criminal act
- Cyclone
- Earthquake
- Environmental
- Epidemic
- Hail
- Industrial
- Landslide
- Shipwreck
- Transport
- Tsunami
- Urban fire

The data was then reclassified using the EM-DAT International Disaster Database from the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), which placed the disaster events into the four groups of geophysical disasters, meteorological disasters, hydrological disasters, and climatological disasters. As the scope of this project relates only to natural hazard events, disaster events which were not included in this classification were removed. Figure 1 shows the disaster classifications with the subgroups, disaster main types and the disaster sub-types.

3. DISASTERS IN AUSTRALIA
Using this classification system for the natural disaster events for all of Australia reveals a total of 289 disaster events, and for Victoria a total of 67 disaster events, broken down into the categories shown in Table 1 below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disaster Subgroup</th>
<th>Count – All Australia</th>
<th>Count – Victoria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geophysical</td>
<td>14 in Total</td>
<td>0 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 Earthquake (9 Ground shaking; 1 Tsunami)</td>
<td>11 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Mass Movement (4 Landslide)</td>
<td>10 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meteorological</td>
<td>109 in Total</td>
<td>10 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>109 Storm (38 Cyclone; 68 Severe Storm; 3 Tornado)</td>
<td>10 Flood (10 Riverine Flood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrological</td>
<td>77 in Total</td>
<td>10 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>77 Flood (7 Flash Flood; 70 Riverine Flood)</td>
<td>10 Flood (10 Riverine Flood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climatological</td>
<td>89 in Total</td>
<td>46 in Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 Drought</td>
<td>9 Drought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 Extreme Temperature (19 Heat Wave; 1 Cold Wave)</td>
<td>15 Extreme Temperatures (15 Heat Wave)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57 Wild Fire (56 Bushfire; 1 Grass Fire)</td>
<td>22 Wild Fire (21 Bushfire; 1 Grass Fire)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. DISASTERS IN VICTORIA
Using the data extrapolated for the state of Victoria, a number of statistics were generated, namely statistics on loss events, fatalities, injuries and insured losses. These results are summarized below in figure 2.

68 Loss Events
- 18% Earthquake
- 15% Mass Movement
- 68% Wild Fire

3406 Fatalities
- 0% Earthquake
- 2% Mass Movement
- 98% Wild Fire

3782 Injuries
- 0% Earthquake
- 0% Mass Movement
- 100% Wild Fire

Insured Losses AUD$7.24 billion
- 35% Earthquake
- 5% Mass Movement
- 60% Wild Fire

Figure 1: The disaster classifications
Figure 2: Loss events in Victoria (1851 to 2015)