

10 years since the fires

I've been asked to write
a poem

last week I sobbed
forecast 45 degrees
memories hot
raw dread fear

I've been asked to write
a poem

café, tofu and soba
old notebook
2009
full of lists

insurance policy numbers
building code advice
real estate agents
grants to apply for

Phoenix Taskforce
documents to find
wound clinic appointments
support group dates

donated goods
people to thank
contacts at Grocon
trauma psychologists

what we need for the baby
relationship counsellors
re-establishing contents
family lawyers

I've been asked to write
a poem

walk to the café
scribble down words
boys are at school
barista knows my name

flick pages
catch breath
frown at names
no longer recognised

at home
greying dog

freshly picked plums
ready for the preserver

post photo online
new friends, new fella click 'love'
profile now declares me
a poet

I've been asked to write
a poem

my green notebook
2009
full of lists
a poem

Kim Jeffs