

FRONTLINE

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

SECTOR REFORM

25 KPH CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

EDINBURGH'S FIRST ALL FEMALE
RESPONSE CREW



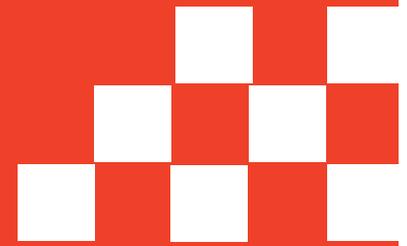
August
2014

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Front Cover: Edinburgh Unit female crew

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Warren Hicks

In the last edition of Frontline I started my piece by reflecting on just how busy SES volunteers had been over the summer months and by announcing the new Emergency Services Minister, the Hon Tony Piccolo MP, who has hit the ground running, holding both individual and group meetings with the various organisations that make up the Emergency Services sector.

No sooner were the initial rounds of meet and greet where out of the way and it was announced that the Emergency Services would once again reviewed to see if it could be structured more effectively. This review had two main drivers, the Hollow Report and the State budget.

As a means to get volunteer input into the reform process, the Minister has embarked on a series of community round table discussions where he has explained the reasons for reform and some possible ideas on how the Services could not only provide better service but cut operating costs, thus producing savings that could be reinvested into the Emergency Services sector.

The Minister has no plan in place as to what this new Emergency Services would look like other than it needs to maintain the three separate services of SES, CFS and MFS at the ground level. Believing each service provides their own unique skill sets and services to the community. So at a unit or volunteer level not much will change initially.

I say initially as the main changes are at a corporate level. Obviously if you are trying to save money, this is where the big savings can be made. The plan is to amalgamate all three corporate or administrative sections of the three services and create one. What this administrative structure will look like or be called has yet to be decided and that's the problem until the final structure has been announced the Association cannot support or oppose the restructure.

While on the surface there are some positive reasons for the change, there are just as many reasons to reject the changes as well and if you took the time to attend one of the community round tables you would have heard a lot of both sides of the argument.

Please if you have a view either way, engage in a discussion about it, let the Association know of your thoughts and concerns, by contacting one of the Associations representatives. I know from talking to volunteers that many of you think that the Minister has already made up his mind and saying anything is a waste of time. But not engaging in discussion about the future of the SES is not a wise move in my opinion.

The rumour mills have already started and the uncertainty that exists about job cuts amongst the paid staff is affecting both staff and volunteer morale. But we should never give up on demanding that the efforts of the SES be recognised and our concerns do matter.

Other States have gone through similar restructures, none of which have benefitted the SES volunteers in those states. I know this from meeting with the Chairs of the Associations as we continue to discuss and move forward with the National body of SES volunteer organisations. Our last meeting focused on designing a constitution for the body and the establishment of working bodies to look at funding, public relations, training issues etc. At that meeting we all agreed that our orange uniforms provide us with a National brand, which is instantly recognised by the Australian public. It would be a shame if the SES in South Australia lost this National branding by the formation of some blended emergency services provider.

The day to day business of the Association however must continue and as the end of the year approaches, please take some time to think about those you work alongside and consider nominating them for the various awards on offer, especially for the Keith Lane Award as nominations will be closing soon. Anyone can nominate someone but the more people who support the nomination the better. There is nothing more gratifying than seeing someone you have nominated be recognised for their service.

Till next time
Warren Hicks
Chairperson

Save the date!

SASES

Unit Managers Forum 2014

Leadership:

enabling others to achieve



The theme of this year's forum is Leadership. Presentations will address the skills Unit Managers need in the day-to-day business of running your units, as well as the leadership skills required to meet the demands of operational control and coordination.

The Forum's program will be structured around 4 areas:

- Operational Management
- Stakeholder Management
- Business Management
- HR / People Management

And we will be starting a conversation about Leadership



Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 October 2014

SA Police Academy, Taperoo

and

SASES Volunteer Association 2014 Awards Dinner

Saturday 18 October 2014

Adelaide Convention Centre



A WORD FROM OUR MINISTER ON THE EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR REFORMS

As many readers would be aware the State Government has asked me to undertake a review of the South Australian emergency services sector.

This is an important initiative that will largely determine how community safety in this state is managed in future years.

There are numerous stakeholders, including SES volunteers, who each have their own views and ideas as to the best way forward for the sector.

Let me say from the outset it is important we get it right. To this end we have been – and will continue to be – engaging widely.

The views of everyone will be carefully considered and together we will build a model from the ground-up that is best suited for South Australia.

In some ways the review I am currently undertaking could be seen as the State Government's response to the Holloway review. To this end I will be looking at:

- ensuring resources are allocated on a state-wide risk basis
- achieving sector efficiency dividends while maintaining front line services
- achieving additional savings (that can be reinvested into frontline services and support for our volunteers, operational members and staff)
- improving service delivery outcomes (and ensuring safer communities)
- increasing capacity for prevention and preparedness (community resilience)
- improving sector governance and accountability, and
- increasing the support for volunteers and volunteering.

What has clearly emerged during this consultation process is the need to recognise the different capabilities and services provided to the community by the SES, CFS and MFS so I don't envisage there will be any change to the model of having three distinct agencies at the coalface.

The important role played by the 20,000 or so volunteers involved in South Australia's emergency management arrangements has also been reinforced time and time again at the numerous meetings I have had with stakeholders.

I am also aware of the tremendous operational support provided to other agencies and bodies by SES volunteers.

This doesn't just include the CFS and MFS during major incidents but other agencies such as SAPOL and, of course, local government authorities.

So far we have had a terrific response to the public consultation process. It's still not too late to become involved so if you do want to contribute, I strongly encourage you to do so.

I recommend you read the Emergency Services Reform Communique and list of future roundtables located at: http://www.safecom.sa.gov.au/site/initiatives_reviews/sector_reform_2014.jsp

There are a number of ways you can do this – all of which are outlined in the Chief Officer Update in this edition of Frontline.

Tony Piccolo
Minister for Emergency Services



NORTH UMAG

The North Region UMAG was held on the weekend of the 21-22 June and the Minister for Emergency Services Tony Piccolo addressed the group about the proposed sector reform. He is pictured with Deputy Chief Officer Dermot Barry and Robyn Holthouse from Regional Administration.



ANZAC EVE YOUTH VIGIL

On Thursday 24 April 2014 six State Emergency Service cadets took part in the fifteenth ANZAC Eve Youth Vigil held at the South Australian State War Memorial on North Terrace, Adelaide.

The young people from the Enfield unit joined members of various other youth volunteer organisations to recognise the legacy of ANZAC.

The ANZAC Eve Youth Vigil stems from the military tradition of 'Holding Ground' whereby a reconnaissance patrol would find and hold strategic position in preparation for the arrival of their army. This would often involve an all-night vigil, keeping awake on watch and alert that the area of battle is secured against threat.

This year young people from 12 different youth groups including SES cadets took part in performing various duties in the ceremony and throughout the night for the 12 hours leading up to the Dawn Service before they handed over to the Defence Force Catafalque Party at 6.00 am on Friday morning who in turn 'held ground' during the Dawn Service and the ANZAC Day March.

This event encourages SES cadets and other young people to keep the ANZAC Day spirit alive.

The young people were exceptional representatives for the formal ANZAC Eve ceremonies including laying tributes



to the fallen, meeting His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, Governor of South Australia, standing guard, and delivering eloquent speeches to the assembled guests.

Congratulations to all the cadets who represented the State Emergency Service at the ANZAC Eve Youth Vigil and thank you to the Cadet Leaders for their support and enthusiasm, and for making it possible for SES cadets to be involved in this important event.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE S.A.S.E.S. VOLUNTEERS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT SHQ, LEVEL 8, 60 WAYMOUTH STREET, ADELAIDE AT 11.00A.M.

1. Apologies
2. Proxies
3. Minutes of the Annual general Meeting held on 9 November 2013
4. Business Arising
5. Chairman's report
6. Treasurer's report (financials will be placed on the website prior to the AGM, together with the final agenda)

7. Election of:
 - i. Chairman
 - ii. Secretary/Treasurer
 - iii. South Regional representatives
8. Any other Business

Please note: nominations for the positions of Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer and South Regional representatives close on Monday 27 October 2014 and a nomination form can be downloaded from the Association's website (www.sasesva.org.au) Members only section.

CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Chris Beattie

The start of a new financial year always represents a time to think and plan for the future.

It's also a good time to reflect on the previous 12 months which, from an operational point of view, was the busiest year yet for the South Australian State Emergency Service.

Up until 30 June 2014, we received a record 10,296 calls for assistance from the South Australian community. This represents an increase of over 80 per cent on the 5,690 call outs we received in 2012-13 and continues the upward trend in the number of requests for assistance we have received in recent years.

Not surprisingly, the majority (6,281) of our responses last financial year were calls for help in relation to fallen trees. Tireless SES volunteers also responded to 1,446 storm damage emergencies, 836 flood-related call outs, 324 road crash rescues, 323 animal rescues and provided substantial personnel support to 48 land searches.

Volunteer Marine Rescue and the SES Units with a marine capability also had a busy year with 506 marine rescues.

It's worth taking a few minutes to mull over these figures because they represent an enormous amount of work and commitment by our volunteers to ensure the safety of our community.

As Chief Officer, I am immensely proud of what we – both volunteer members and staff – achieved operationally in 2013-14, particularly in January-February when we were stretched to near breaking point with ongoing periods of extreme heat, several significant storms, flooding, support to bushfire campaigns and large industrial fires as well as recovery support operations for fire affected communities.

This response volume and the sound operational outcomes speak to the enduring and unique nature of SES responsibilities and capabilities. Indeed, the strength of South Australia's emergency management arrangements stems from being able to bring specialist capabilities, such as those provided by the SES, together with those of agencies such as SAPOL, local government councils, the two fire agencies and other Functional Services to respond to and recover from disasters of all types.

Looking towards the next 12 months the SES will be focused on sustaining a well trained and equipped volunteer service and will be actively supporting our Minister, the Hon Tony Piccolo with his review of the South Australian emergency services sector.

Our overarching priority will be to contribute positive and proactively to the discussions and help ensure the SES, VMR associations and the sector more broadly, improves

its capacity and capability operationally.

It goes without saying that this is an extremely important period for the emergency services.

Decisions made as part of this review will shape the future direction of the SES, VMR and the sector more broadly, so I encourage all members and stakeholders to get involved and have your say. This reform process will undoubtedly shape the South Australian emergency services sector for years to come.

You can have your say in a variety of ways.

A series of face-to-face round table meetings with Minister Piccolo have already been held at various locations across the state over June, July and August this year. A further peak-level round table discussion will be held with stakeholders during September.

You can also lodge a written submission. These can be:-

- Emailed direct to the Minister's office (safecom.sectorreview@sa.gov.au);
- Emailed to SES State Headquarters (camilleri.mary@ses.sa.gov.au);
- Emailed to the SES Volunteer Association (SESVA) (susan@sasesva.org.au);
- Provided to the Public Service Association (PSA) for consideration in its representations and/or submissions.

Another way of providing suggestions or raising any issues is by going to the State Government's YourSay website www.yoursay.sa.gov.au. (You'll need to scroll down the home page to find the section on the One Emergency and Fire Service). Members should note that this is a public website.

While the sector reform process is important, it is critical that we do not become distracted from our mission and day-to-day business. Collectively, we need to remain focused on our business priorities, which include:-

- The safety and wellbeing of our members - this includes active participation in the health and safety framework and the implementation



of strategies to address priority areas, including the introduction of Fit for Task doctrine and standards; support of the SES health and wellbeing strategy; and activities to further improve risk management practices throughout the organisation.

- Enhanced training outcomes through the implementation of the new training framework and associated reforms.
- Capability development and assurance through the implementation of the new SES capability framework.
- Implementation of enhanced incident management capabilities - including the rollout of the new training modules and the SES Information and Intelligence Management System (SESIIMS).

Before signing off, I would like once again to reiterate and commend all members for their tremendous efforts over the last 12 months. The operational response rate was at times unrelenting, but collectively the service met the challenge head on and the community should be rightly proud of our volunteers' efforts. I would also like to congratulate those members who received honours and awards throughout the year.

Congratulations must go to Danny Wood, the District Officer for the Riverland, who was a recipient of the national Emergency Services Medal (ESM) in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours. Danny has had a long and distinguished involvement with the SES that stretches back to 1985.

I'd also like to specially acknowledge and recognise our long serving members who provide resilience and strength to this organisation - through their corporate knowledge, experience and leadership. Indeed, I was humbled to have been able to present six 40-year SASES Long Service Bars and twenty 30-year SASES Long Service Bars throughout the year, representing another example of the fantastic commitment to community service by our members.

Keep up the great work and until next time, train hard, stay safe and keep recruiting.

Chris Beattie

SOUTH EAST FIELD DAYS

The South East Field Days were held in late March, over two days, at Yakka Park, Lucindale and District Officer Jodie Green attended with volunteers from Millicent and the Community Engagement Unit.

Millicent unit volunteers had a Lego display of SES vehicles which the children loved and also their sand bag machine for adults.



Lego display

Children loved the three mascots at the field days, namely our own Paddy, Smokey from CFS and Pete the paramedic from SAAS, who are pictured with their minders.



Lucindale field day



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S UPDATE

Susan Caracoussis

Rather than do my usual update in this edition of *Frontline*, I thought it would be preferable to take the opportunity to address a few topics (of concerns and positives):

SECTOR REFORM OR AS VOLUNTEERS ARE SAYING AMALGAMATION

This has already been mentioned in both the Chair and Chief Officer's message, but I'd like to say that I am being continually approached by volunteers who feel that they are being taken for granted, even though we've continually been told that things will not change at the ground level.

We've been told the sector is being reformed, but there will be amalgamation in areas, especially at the paid personnel level where there will be many changes. Initially we have been told all will remain the same at the community level and that the community doesn't care who responds as long as their need is met. Of course this means response by the SES, CFS or MFS, re the appropriate skillset for the task and this could well change as has occurred interstate, where skills are being lost, there are major issues with training and even lack of personnel support, past the equivalent to our District Officer level.

Many volunteers know from past experience that this change will flow down and unless they're respected, listened to and provided with the appropriate equipment and training to meet the needs of their communities, many will walk. Possibly the fact that our volunteers will always respond when the need arises in their community, has caused a belief of "they'll be there".

Don't overlook the additional thousands of hours already give to maintain training skills, then Unit Managers with their Management Committee are literally running small businesses, again many hours of commitment, and most importantly the impact on work and family that we know occurs. Whilst having the greatest respect for anyone who volunteers, emergency sector volunteers give more due to their skill sets and being on call 24/7.

SES volunteers are not interested in being potentially swallowed up in a new structure. Our volunteers on a national basis deploy as the need arises. Let's not forget the many extreme weather events in recent years such as Cyclone Yasi or even in our own state the many hours given earlier this year with our severe weather extremities and the resulting consequences. Workloads have increased substantially and besides burn out that is occurring, there are also additional costs, some units have more than doubled the amount of kilometres travelled for

responses, which means increased fuel costs, wear and tear on vehicles etc., yet that additional funding isn't there and many of these responses can't be classified as an expected risk.

So questions are being continually posed to the Association as to whether one of the structures mooted at the Sector Reform discussions will see the establishment of a Fire and Rescue Service, or with a person such as a Commissioner in charge, will this impact on funding needs at a lower level, as the person appointed to this role will be responsible for the one budget, and funding will then be allocated to risks.

We acknowledge that there has to be change, and that the Minister has to respond to;

1. The Holloway Report
2. Financial sustainability

but do seek a response as we keep hearing that the "reality is no more money but have to find more savings". And don't forget that when the report goes to Cabinet in December, it's also mid-year budget review and we're all aware about the budgetary restraints.

Just think about the number of taskings volunteers have responded to over the last three years and consider these statistics as at the 30 June:

2012
5,263

2013
5,693

2014
10,296

and of course each response means a crew of four and allowing for travelling time, the taskings and return to unit, clean up etc, there are at least a minimum of 210,000 volunteer hours, then add in the already mentioned training hours etc and the contribution to the state is millions and millions of dollars.

The Association urges any volunteers with concerns to let us know, so that these concerns can be passed on and a response provided.

VOLUNTEER CHARTER AND RECOGNITION

The Minister has committed to including the Charter in Regulations, but the Association seeks a commitment to acknowledged both the Charter in the Act, together with the Association, as there are some already saying with the merger volunteers will no longer need an Association,

and the need for support will actually increase as changes occur, so please support your Association.

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An update will be sent to volunteers via their “sases volunteer email” on timelines.

NATIONAL PARKS PASSES BENEFITS 2014/15

Our sincere thanks to the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources who has continued its partnership with the Association and allocated 200 passes for volunteers. (Details of entitlements are on the Association’s website: www.sasesva.org.au). Format has changed this year in that a pass will be emailed to volunteers and only your SES email address can be used. To date we have allocated just over half the passes, so if you’d like a pass, please email me the following information: Name, Unit, SES ID Number, Vehicle Registration, Your Volunteer Email Address, Contact Number and Mailing Address.

Passes are again the Multi-Park and Camping pass valid until 30 June 2015.

VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY

Toni Richardson, from Volunteer Services Branch, together with the Executive Officer of the Association are represented on the Volunteering Strategy for South Australia 2014-2020 with Toni being a member of the “Promote and Inform on the benefits of volunteering”

The aim of this focus group is to raise the status of volunteers as being a valued community member that makes a positive difference to our State. To do this, we are looking to promote the benefits of volunteering including the diversity of volunteering roles. We are also looking to promote the benefits of volunteering to employers and to encourage corporate volunteering, as well as to recognise volunteering as both a pathway to employment and a pathway to retirement.

Whilst I am involved in “Improve access to information on regulatory requirements, good governance and risk management for the use of volunteer-lead community organisations which will lead to reduced ‘red tape’ “.

NEW SOUTH REGION REPRESENTATIVE

And finally I’m delighted to confirm what many have already heard, that TREVOR HEITMANN, Unit Manager Murray Bridge, has joined the Association Committee, as a South Regional Representative and is well and truly hard at work for volunteers. Many may not be aware, but Trevor was actually one of the founding members of the Association, which was established in the early 1990’s when SES volunteers felt their existence was under threat and feared this would lead to the loss of uniquely different services in the community. At the time the government was looking at merging the SES and CFS, which was strongly opposed by both.



TRAINING

Diana MacMullin



As always the training section has been working hard to support SASES members with up-to-date training resources and services that meet national standards as well as the organisation's needs.

Rescue Operations

The new accredited Rescue Operations course (PUASAR022A Participate in a rescue operation) is now being rolled out across the state, replacing the old Basic Rescue course. Through the 2009 cultural review and subsequent consultation workshops, members asked for more flexibility in training delivery, including the opportunity to deliver training at unit level. Rescue Operations is the first course to be introduced using this new approach. Units can choose to undertake the course over several training nights delivered by Local Instructors, with just the assessment being conducted by a Trainer/ Assessor over a weekend; however units can still elect to undertake the course as usual over a few weekends if preferred.

Storm and Water Damage

The next course to be rolled out with the new approach will be Storm and Water Damage. As with Rescue Operations, this course is being revised to meet national standards and members will gain the units of competency PUASES008A Undertake Storm and Water Damage Operations and PUASES013A Undertake Storm and Water Damage Operations Performed at Height.

The learner guide has been reviewed by subject matter experts, and we are currently reviewing the online pre course work. Session plans are being developed and practical assessment scenarios have already been trialled. It is planned to run some pilot courses in August/ September, while developing the trainer/assessor pool. Gap training is also being finalised for those that have the current Storm and Flood qualification.

Drive under Operational Conditions

Members have been asking for training in this area for many years. This new course to SASES is based on the CFS course, with changes made to reflect SASES policies and procedures. (Our thanks to CFS for making their materials available to us.) This accredited course – members will gain PUAVEH001B Drive vehicles under operational conditions - is designed to assist licenced drivers to develop the knowledge and skills to cope with the problems presented with driving a vehicle under operational conditions. Operational conditions may include emergency response and non-emergency driving.

The learner guide is at the review stage, as are the



assessment materials. There will be some pre-course study and assessment, face to face learning in the classroom, and then practical driving demonstration and assessment. Finally, there will be a requirement to complete two drives back at your unit under logbook rules.

The course, including assessment, is designed to be done either in one day, or over two training nights. It is planned that we will start to roll out the training to units in September 2014. In this initial roll-out each unit will have 2 members per vehicle trained (that is, if you have 4 vehicles, a maximum of 8 members will be trained). Other drivers will be progressively trained in subsequent courses.

The face-to-face component of the course includes a DVD. It is expected that all members (including those who aren't drivers) will watch the training DVD so they have an awareness when responding as a member of a crew driving under operational conditions.

Incident Management

In March this year Robert Charlton was selected to take on one of the newly created Capability Coordinator roles. Prior to this he was based in Port Lincoln as District Officer, also having worked there as Regional Commander and Divisional Officer. He first joined the service as a volunteer of the Port Lincoln Unit almost 20 years ago.

His role in the training team is to build capacity within SASES in Incident Management and Emergency Management. Since commencing he has been working on the following:

Introduction to Incident Management This will be able to be delivered at Unit level and over time also online. It is envisaged that all SASES members will undertake this course to give them a broad overview of Incident Management and what it means to them.

Course in AIIMS This is the full course in understanding the



Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS). Initially this will be aimed at senior members who will be fulfilling specific positions. The course will cover off on version 4 of AIIMS.

Team Leader training This course is designed to equip team leaders and level 1 Incident Controllers with the skills they need to manage Incidents at a local level. This course will allow members to attain the national competencies of PUAOPE012A Control a level 1 incident and also PUAOPE015A Conduct briefings and debriefings.

Work in an Incident Control Centre This SASES course is for those members who will be working in an Incident Management facility - which could be at a local unit, district, Region or State level, or even assisting another agency - and is aligned to the nationally accredited unit PUASES012A Work as a team member in an Emergency Operations Centre. It will give you the tools you need to be able work as a part of a team and support the other positions within.

There are a number of other courses that are proposed related to incident management ranging from short non-accredited to nationally recognised qualifications.

Emergency Management

Introduction to Emergency Management This course is designed to be delivered to SASES, local councils and other government agencies. It outlines the roles we all play in not just responding to emergencies but also covering the aspects of prevention, preparedness and recovery. An online version of this course is due to be implemented soon.

There are also plans to offer more specific courses in areas such as risk management and planning at a unit level.

As many of you are aware there is a considerable amount of work to be undertaken in developing training and resources in both the incident management and emergency management fields. As such it will be completed in stages with courses progressively released and offered to members. An important part of the development process is to ensure that we meet the needs of the end users, which involves staff and volunteers. I would encourage anyone who has an interest in these areas to contact Robert at charlton.robert@ses.sa.gov.au and nominate to be part of a training reference group.

Coming up...

There are some big changes coming up very soon for our On-line Learning Hub including our own video repository (like YouTube), an e-portfolio tool for members and a virtual

classroom. There will also be a change in the look of the On-line Learning Hub – much better than the current rather dull moodle interface. More about that later.

Until next time, keep learning.

Diana MacMullin

Manager, Training and Organisational Development

Upcoming SAFECOM training for volunteer leaders

Jane Abdilla, Stress Prevention and Management (SPAM,) and Toni Richardson, Volunteer Support Branch (VSB) will be delivering training aimed at volunteer leaders (and aspiring leaders) of the SES and CFS in August and October.

Psychological First Aid (PFA) for First Responders and Leading and Managing Emergency Services Teams are tentatively booked to be delivered in Mt Barker (August 23rd/24th), the South East (October 11th/12th) and the Riverland (August 9th/10th).

These courses are both full day courses and will be delivered twice over a weekend.

The aim of PFA for first responders is to enable volunteer leaders to gain the skills to adequately respond to their crews who are distressed following a traumatic incident. This does not replace the need for input from a Mental Health Professional, or peer support, but will provide some strategies for helping others at the time.

Leading and Managing Emergency Services Teams aims to enable leaders to develop skills in conflict management, communication, performance management and developing a positive team culture.

Confirmation of the venue and times will be provided to Units closer to the dates.



EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY (ESL)

REPRODUCED FROM THE 2014 – 15 BUDGET PAPER 2, Budget Speech, delivered on 19 June 2014, on the second reading of the Appropriation Bill 2014, by the Honourable Tom Koutsantonis, MP, Treasurer of South Australia, with acknowledgement, as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 to the Government of South Australia 2014

Extracts re the ESL from the 2014-15 Budget Speech (pages 2-4)

“Passing on the entire \$655 million worth of cuts in health funding cannot be sustained and it would have a devastating impact on services across our healthcare system.

We have taken a more balanced approach in our response to the Commonwealth’s attack on hospitals and the sick.

It is an approach that requires savings of \$332 million to our healthcare system over four years and removal of ESL remissions to cover the remainder.

Given the lack of consultation and the short time between the Commonwealth and state budgets, we will not be rushed into how we tackle the health reconfiguration the Commonwealth Government has forced upon us.

We will work with stakeholders in the health sector and other affected groups over the coming months to determine how best to deal with these devastating cuts.

However, it must be stressed that the nature of the Commonwealth’s withdrawal means the health system is no longer viable in its current state.

Let me be absolutely clear about the impacts of the Prime Minister’s cuts, bed cuts or hospital closures may be necessary but we want to work with the health community to prevent this from happening.

To manage this process major hospital redevelopment works that have not yet commenced will be suspended.

These funds will be retained in the budget and directed into the Health Capital Reconfiguration Fund which will be used to ensure capital funds are invested in the areas of the health system that best deliver the services and complement the outcomes of the health system review.

This restructure has been forced upon us by the Commonwealth Liberal Government and their belief that the health of the nation is not their responsibility.

The Government will be in a position to announce our future plans and allocate the associated capital within the Health Capital Reconfiguration Fund sometime this year.

The forced rationalisation of our healthcare system only reflects 50 per cent of the cuts the Commonwealth has imposed on South Australia.

As such the state will make necessary changes to remissions to the Emergency Services Levy to help fill the health budget hole left by the Commonwealth Liberal Government.

Proceeds from the Emergency Services Levy go into the Community Emergency Services Fund.

Since 2000 the state government has provided remissions to fixed and mobile property owners, with the total value of those remissions being nearly 50 per cent of the funds required by the Community Emergency Services Fund.

The state government paid for these remissions, making contributions into the Community Emergency Services Fund.

This fund pays for emergency services such as the MFS, CFS, SES and some ambulance and SAPOL activities.

Because of the Commonwealth budget, the state is no longer able to provide these general remissions for the emergency services levy.

This money is now required to be spent on healthcare to ensure we can still deliver high-quality healthcare now and into the future.

Changes to fixed property ESL contributions will take effect on July 1 2014 and mobile property changes will apply from August 1 2014.

Eligible pensioners and concession card holders are exempt from these changes for their principal place of residence, keeping the Premier’s pledge to protect pensioners.

Actual increases in fixed property ESL will vary based on the capital value of the property, the regional area the property is located within and the property’s land use.

For the median household in metropolitan Adelaide this increase will equate to about \$150 per year.

For cars and large motorcycles this increase will equate to \$8 and for historic vehicles it will be \$2.

Removal of the Emergency Services Levy fixed and mobile property remissions for non-concession recipients will raise \$357 million over the forward estimates.

This was not an easy decision because I know full well the impact this will have on households.

This is an unfortunate result of the Commonwealth cuts and them transferring their budget repair onto the states.”

For more information on the Emergency Services Levy, also visit the Revenue SA website and if you wish to find out what your levy will be go to:

www.revenuesa.gov.au/taxes-and-duties/emergency-services-levy/calculate-esl-new

OPERATION SUPPORT UNITS (OSU) WORKSHOP

On the 31 May the South Region Operation Support Units from Adelaide (State Operations Support Unit – SOSU), Riverland (Riverland Operations Support Unit – ROSU), Mount Gambier (South East Operations Support Unit – SEOSU) came together for a weekend of knowledge sharing, networking support and role development.

The objective of the weekend was to define the roles and purpose of the OSU's, share specialised knowledge, tools and experience and generally build supportive relationships for a stronger future.

Speakers for the day included Leanne Adams, Robert Charlton, Danny Wood and Jodi Green.

Topics covered included:

- Roles and responsibilities
- Operations Coordination Centre expectations
- AIIMS
- Routine Operations Support
- Training support and opportunities
- Operable connectivity between OSU's
- SASES Radio Networks
- Administration
- Open Forum and where to from here discussions



Charles Prime UM South East OSU informing group about the unit



Leanne Adams addresses group

Units were given opportunities to show their capabilities, resources and assets and speak about what projects they were working on and tools they have been developing in



Group discussions

order to share their knowledge and expertise.

Members contributed to some very healthy discussions throughout the day about future directions, ongoing support requirements, training and development needs and how they can provide greater support to the operational requirements of the service.

All in all a very successful day and members look forward to another workshop near the end of the year involving an operational exercise.

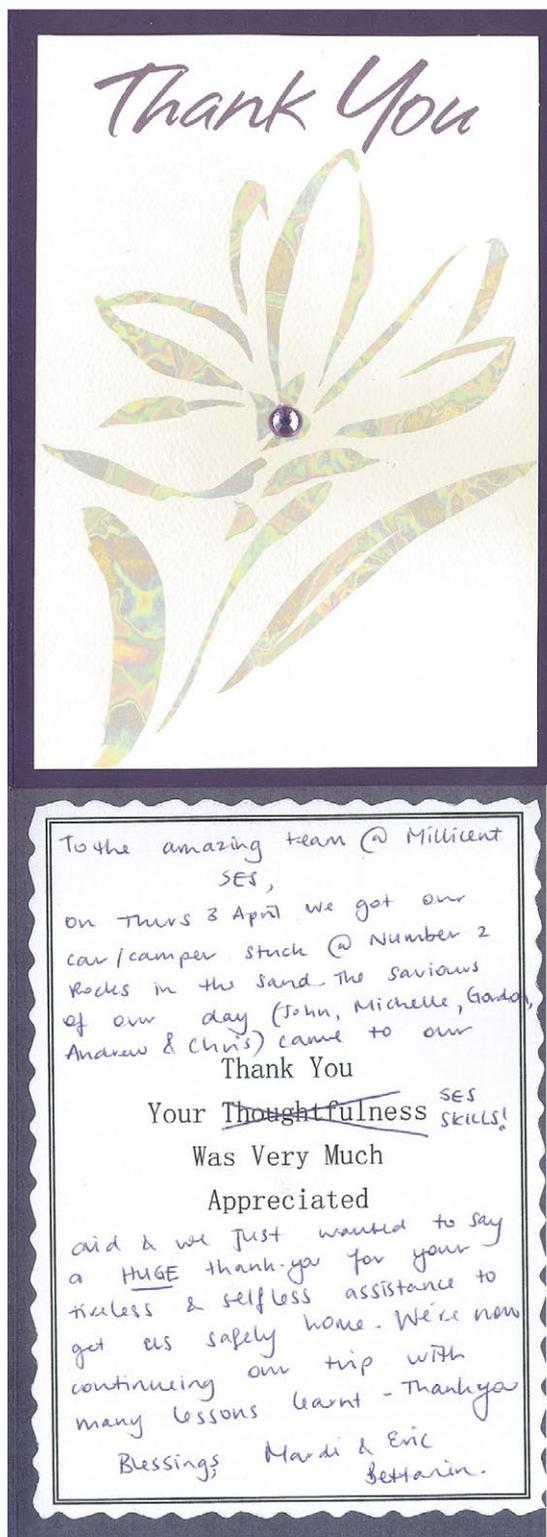
Jodi Green

District Officer, South East | SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE



OSU Combined Group Photo.jpg

THANK YOU LETTERS



Chris Beattie
 SES Chief Officer
 SA State Emergency Service
 L8, 60 Waymouth Street
 Adelaide SA 5000

Dear Chris

On Easter Sunday around 10am I went for a 'short' walk at Baratta Station in the Flinders Ranges and found myself very lost.

People who were camping with us searched from early afternoon until dark with my husband reporting me missing at around 4.30 that afternoon. Within hours, crews from the Orreroo CFS, Quorn SES, police from Hawker, Quorn and, Jamestown and a search and rescue helicopter with a paramedic on board were out searching for me. It was with the benefit of the flashing lights that I determined the general direction of camp and was relieved to find my way back at 2 am next morning

My husband and I would like to offer our sincere thanks to the crew from Quorn SES who came out to look for me. We are so fortunate in South Australia to have such dedicated people who respond so selflessly to ensure the safety of others.

I am embarrassed that a short lapse in my attention impacted so many, I promise I will never leave the track again assuming I am allowed out again. I would like to say however, how proud I am to be a South Australian and to know people are willing to give up their time, dinner and sleep to help other people. It was a very humbling experience.

Please pass on our thanks to the Quorn crew and everyone involved from the SES.

Kind regards
 Pam Gerrard



NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE 2014 KEITH LANE AWARD SPONSORED BY THE POLICE CREDIT UNION

K eith Lane through his association with both the State Emergency Service and the S.A. S.E.S. Volunteers' Association, was always recognised as a great volunteer leader and someone who always went above and beyond the call of duty in the roles he undertook.

Nominations are now open for the 2014 Award which will be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner on Saturday 18 October 2014, at the Adelaide Convention Centre. So please nominate that colleague who you feel fits the criteria.

The Keith Lane Memorial Award is selected by a committee of three Association representatives and is judged on "outstanding contribution by an individual member."

This means that emphasis is not based just on an individual's skills, but on their commitment to both their Unit and the SES in general.

To lodge a nomination, we require, a covering letter which includes, your name, address and contact details, together with the name, address, phone number, unit and rank of the person nominated.

On a separate sheet, please provide a short statement of approximately 300 - 500 words on why you feel the individual deserves to be considered for the award, and, of course, supporting references or endorsements from other members would be useful.

The winner or winners as has occurred, receive an individual trophy, their name on the perpetual plaque and a cash prize. The award is open to any current serving member of the SES and Association and nominations can be forwarded to:

Keith Lane Award 2014
Attention Susan Caracoussis
S.A. S.E.S. Volunteers' Association
GPO Box 2706, Adelaide 5001
Or emailed to susan@sasesva.org.au
Nominations for the 2014 Keith Lane Award close Friday 26 September 2014.



RESCUE FROM HEIGHTS

Participants undertook a "rescue from heights" at the lookout at Meningie as a trial run out of the new General Rescue package. The course was undertaken as a five night and two weekend Saturdays, and run under the management of District Officer Terri Purvis and supervision of delivery was by Damien Brider from Yankalilla S.E.S. The trainer/assessor team came from South Coast, Yankalilla and Strathalbyn. Highlight of the course was stopping at the café at the Wellington ferry for a fatigue management stop, and excellent coffee!

After the successful recruitment campaign to boost numbers at the Meningie unit, they now have a new and enthusiastic crew to assist and develop their skills to aid the community.

John Edge ESM
Yankalilla SES

EDINBURGH'S FIRST ALL FEMALE RESPONSE CREW

At 5.12p.m on Friday 4 July, Edinburgh Unit was called to an incident at Salisbury East described on the pager as Incident type – Severe weather – Tiles removed by SAPOL; roof requires covering; SAPOL waiting on scene. The crew that responded to the incident comprised DTL April Young, Bek Kotz, Bronnie Knott and Zoe Aldcroft.



Pictured from left to right: Bronnie Knott, Zoe Aldcroft, April Young, and Bek Kotz.

Bob Allert, an ex-Unit Manager and currently the Unit Business Coordinator with nineteen years in the Unit, was

able to confirm Unit Manager John Lawrence's surmise that this was the first all-female response crew in the fifty-one year history of the Unit. The girls are a relatively inexperienced crew, but handled the incident admirably.

The roof tiles had been removed by a neighbour to access the house due to concerns for the health of the occupant. The occupant had been found deceased and was still in the house at the time the Edinburgh crew arrived.

As the tile support batons had been cut to provide access to the house, the tiles could not be replaced, and hence the hole was covered with Fortecon. April, as the most qualified, undertook most of the work on the roof, with assistance from Bek on the ladder, with Bronnie and Zoe on the ground.

Unit Manager John Lawrence commented: "This showed the changing makeup of SASES."

April said that she was proud to have lead the first all-female response crew, and that, whilst females currently comprised only about one quarter of the total number of people in the Unit, she expected this to increase.

Thinking of Recruiting?

Volunteer Services Branch (VSB) can help you to recruit new members. So if you are considering recruitment, there is support is available.

VSB help units become recruitment ready by providing training sessions on regular training nights which take approximately 1.5 to 2 hours.

A Unit Health Check is designed to assist in volunteer recruitment and retention by discovering the unit's strengths and identifying the areas that members feel need improvement. Members will have the opportunity to anonymously rate how they perceive the unit is doing in twenty six characteristics such as material resources, organisation, morale, location and induction. They will also have the opportunity to suggest some recommendations on how these areas can be improved in a facilitated environment. Once results have been collected the facilitator will prepare a report of results and possible recommendation for improvement. This is a great tool for unit leadership to use to improve the retention within their unit or identify any areas of concern that need to be addressed before welcoming new recruits.

Recruitment planning is also an area that VSB can assist with and can be run once a unit has completed a Health Check. A representative can work with the unit to plan out a recruitment campaign which may include finding a targeted audience within their community, timelines, structure, media, resources and more. Once these areas have been addressed, VSB can support the unit throughout their campaign by providing advice and assistance, that includes, but is not limited to, recruitment advice, media advice (including assistance drafting articles or preparing media releases), engaging recruits within their community through recruitment presentations and by supplying resources such as recruitment banners, engagement items, brochures, some catering for events and the VSB promotional trailer.

Please contact the Volunteer Services Branch on 1300 364 587 and ask to speak to a Recruitment and Development Officer to book in your training.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT PROGRAM MURRAY BRIDGE – 29 MAY 2014

The most recent Volunteer and Employer Recognition and Support Program was held in Murray Bridge in May this year. The event was held at the Rambler Football Club which saw itself host to around 140 volunteers, their family, VIP's and staff.

We were fortunate to have the Hon Tony Piccolo MP, Minister for Emergency Services in attendance on the night to meet with volunteers and present the awards. Minister Piccolo spoke passionately about the outstanding contribution made by employers and self-employed SES and CFS volunteers.



Mr David Place, Chief Executive of SAFECOM was MC for the evening while the Ramblers Catering Committee delivered a first class evening meal for guests.

In addition to Minister Piccolo addressing volunteers and special guests, Mr Michael McEntee, Captain of Taillem Bend CFS Brigade spoke of the important contribution made by self-employed volunteers and what motivates volunteers to give up their time to serve their communities. Also in attendance were SES Chief Officer Chris Beattie, CFS Chief Officer Greg Nettleton and MFS Chief Officer Grant Lupton.

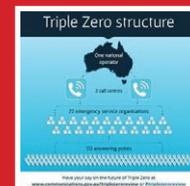
All together 29 certificates were presented to local employers, self employed volunteers and retained MFS members. All were certainly worthy recipients and were publicly acknowledged for their support of the emergency services in South Australia.



Group photo of Michael, Aaron, John Tom and Simon

Have your say on the future of the National Triple Zero (000) Operator

Technologies have come a long way since Triple Zero (000) was established in 1961. Triple Zero is a 'voice only' service, but today mobile phones, text messaging, email and smartphone apps dominate the communications landscape. That's why a new review the operation of the national Triple Zero operator has been commissioned.



The review will explore how the service can respond to new technologies and changing community expectations.

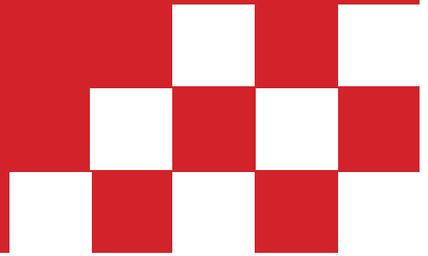
For instance, the recently launched Emergency + Smartphone App, which displays the phone's GPS coordinates for the caller to read out to the emergency operator is a great example of how modern technology can be used to improve the Triple Zero service. Recently, when a 27-year old woman was bitten by a snake while running, she downloaded the Emergency+ app so she could pinpoint her location to receive medical attention as soon as possible.

A public discussion paper is available from: http://www.communications.gov.au/telephone_services/emergency_call_services/Public_submissions_to_the_triple_zero_review

If you'd like to have a say, go to www.communications.gov.au/triplezeroreview and complete the online form or quick survey to have your say on the future of Triple Zero.



SES HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



Ever wanted to take part in the City to Bay fun run but never had the time or found the motivation? Well this year you have no excuse.

The SES is aiming to put a team in the annual 12- kilometre fun run, which this year is being held on Sunday 21 September.

The aim is for team members, which hopefully will include both volunteers and staff, to carry a rescue litter the entire way from the Adelaide CBD to Colley Reserve at Glenelg.

Team coordinator Brenton Clarke said training for the City to Bay was a great way of getting fit while helping raise the profile of the SES.

“Thousands of people take part in the event and, of course, many, many more line Anzac Highway to watch those taking part,” Brenton said.

He said the aim was to set a steady jogging pace rather than attempt to run the whole distance.

“We want everyone in the SES team who start the run at 8am to finish together at Colley Reserve,” he said.

The City to Bay fun run, which annually attracts tens of thousands of runners and walkers, had its beginning back in 1973 when Bob Clarke (no relation to Brenton) was the inaugural race director.

Sponsored by The News, Adelaide’s then-afternoon newspaper, the entrance fee in the first City to Bay was a mere 50 cents. The run started outside the Adelaide Town Hall and finished at the Glenelg Town Hall.

More information on the City to Bay fun run can be found on www.city-bay.org.au

Brenton can be contacted at SHQ on 8463 4343 or clarke.brenton@ses.sa.gov.au

Healthy eating

This recipe for lentil soup, from SHQ’s Sara Pulford, is a proven family favourite. And relatively simple to make too!

Ingredients

1L stock (I use Massel - a low salt vegetable stock. Not just healthier but also too much salt can prevent pulses

softening. Low salt chicken stock is also good if you are not a veggie)

225g red lentils, rinsed

1 large onion

1 tbsp oil

3 bay leaves

Seasoning

Method

Peel and dice the onion. Heat oil in a pan and add the onion – cook on a fairly high heat, stirring regularly, to caramelise the onions.

Add the stock, lentils and bay leaves.

Cook until lentils are soft – about 20mins.

Season to taste – I like to add a splash of soy sauce and a splash of Worcestershire sauce. Black pepper and a little salt are fine too.

Enjoy!

Some useful websites

www.headsup.org.au

Lots of useful advice about creating a more mentally healthy workplace.

www.eatforhealth.gov.au

Advice about the amount and kinds of food that we need to eat for health and wellbeing. Includes nutrition calculators

www.gofor2and5.com.au

SA government website aimed at helping people get more fruit and vegetables into their diet. Includes recipes.

www.prostate.org.au

Website of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA). PCFA is the peak national body for prostate cancer, the second largest cause of male cancer deaths.

www.bcna.org.au

Website of Breast Cancer Network Australia, the peak national organisation for Australians affected by breast cancer. Numerous fact sheets and booklets can be downloaded from this site.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES GAMES 2014

This year 35 SES members entered the South Australian Police and Emergency Services (SAPES) Games, a 36% increase on last year. A great effort by everyone for being prepared to get out and have a go. From what I have heard everyone had a good time and got into the spirit of the Games which is really about sportsmanship and camaraderie with some competition thrown in for fun.

Volunteers from Eastern Suburbs, Enfield, Tea Tree Gully, Metro South, Strathalbyn, Laura, Edinburgh, Hallett, Saddleworth and Port Augusta together with 11 staff members competed in 13 different sports and won a total of 28 medals.

First sport of the Games was Equestrian and we had two competitors Christine Frizell from



Christine Frizell (Strathalbyn SES)



Sally Equid (Tea Tree Gully SES) and Christine Frizell

Strathalbyn and Sally Equid from Tea Tree Gully. Sally won 2 Gold and 2 Bronze and Christine won 1 Gold and 4 Silver.

Next was Tennis and we had three competitors in the doubles – Amanda Todd from Tea Tree Gully who teamed up with Anthea Ellis from SAPOL won the Gold beating State Headquarters staff members Kaylene Willson and Jo Brooks who had to settle for Silver.

John Lawrence, Edinburgh Unit Manager, was our only representative in Track and Field and he again came home with some medals winning Bronze in the 3000 metres, Bronze in 5000 metres and Gold in a mixed team in the 4 x 400 metres relay.



State Headquarters staff members Kaylene Willson and Jo Brooks with , Amanda Todd (Tea Tree Gully), centre

Robbie and Deidra Klemm made the first of their treks from Laura to compete in the Table Tennis but unfortunately didn't make the medals this year.

Nick Askew from Eastern Suburbs took part in the Cycling Hill Climb and won a Silver medal in his age group. He was only 6 seconds behind the Gold medallist and almost three minutes ahead of Bronze. In the overall rankings he finished a very creditable 6th out of 28 competitors.



John Lawrence (Edinburgh Ses)

The next sport held was Rifle Shooting, my event, and on a cold and windy day SES had 9 entrants. Robbie and Deidra Klemm from Laura again travelled to Adelaide to compete,



Bronze medal team - Ruff As Gutts - Alex McDonald, Adrian Marlow, David McDonald from Hallett SES

Norma Mayne, David McDonald, Alex McDonald and Adrian Marlow all drove down from Hallett, Tallon Towers came from Saddleworth for a shoot and Stephan Scmidt and I were the staff contingent. Although for the competition I think I'll proudly claim my Laura connection. In the Women's competition Deidra Klemm won Bronze and I won the Silver. Team "Ruff As Guts" of David McDonald, Adrian Marlow and Alex McDonald from Hallett won Bronze and the all girl team "Shooters With Hooters" – Tracey Pollard (SAPOL), Norma Mayne (Hallett SES) and myself won Silver. We only missed out on the Gold by one shot, b...er! I had a good day out and also won Silver in Rimfire A Grade, Silver in Centrefire B Grade and Silver for the 2-gun aggregate giving me 5 silver for the day. Woo Hoo.



Silver medal team - Shooters With Hooters – Tracey Pollard (SAPOL), Norma Mayne (Hallett SES), Sue Gage (Laura SES)

Our next event was Angling and Scott Turner and Peter Nygaard from State Headquarters were the SES representatives out on the water. I have heard a lot of "fishy" stories in my time but never have I heard so many excuses as to why they didn't do very well and didn't make the medals.

A new sport in the Games this year was Dodge Ball and SES had a combined team of members from Eastern Suburbs, Tea Tree Gully and Enfield. Although they had never played before and didn't feature in the medals, from what I saw I'm sure they had a good time.

In complete contrast to the Dodge Ball we had 5 entrants in the Lawn Bowls. Bob Stevenson (SHQ), Jon Carr (SHQ), Andrew Clarke (District Officer Outback) and Jodi Green (District Officer South East) combined for the Fours and Bob Stevenson teamed up with Tallon Towers from Saddleworth in the Pairs. While they didn't win any medals they are planning on some training before next year's Games.

Peter Nygaard recovered from his Angling experience and took part in Cue Sports. I haven't heard from Pete as to how he went but I have looked up the results and his name doesn't feature in the medals. I am sure that will be another fishy story.

The award for determination should go to Greg Mennie and Kim Falster who took part in the Golf. The conditions were cold, wet and windy and they still went chasing that little white ball around!

We had two competitors in the Shotgun event. Cameron Pratt from Edinburgh competed in Trap and Frank Woolfe made the pilgrimage from Port Augusta to take part in Skeet. Cameron combined with SAPOL and DSTO in a team and won a Silver medal. Frank Woolfe went home with a Bronze in Double Barrel Trap C Grade and Silver in Trap in a team with SAPOL.



Frank Woolfe

The last event of the Games was Soccer and SES had one member, Anthony Moyle from Edinburgh. I don't have any details yet about the team he was in or how they went.

I would like to thank everyone for their efforts and being prepared to get involved and represent SES. Next time you see Chris Beattie please remember to thank him for his support and sponsorship of our involvement in the Games.

Sue Gage

District Officer Mid North and SAPES Games Agency Co-ordinator.

SES SOUTH EAST DISTRICT RECOGNISES 290 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

SES General Manager, David Carman, recently completed visits to all of the of South East District units as a part of the rolling program of executive visits. David said he really appreciates the opportunity to meet with members and to get a first-hand understanding of the operating environment of each unit. He said a real highlight is always the opportunity to present awards to members who had achieved significant milestones in service. "It's just awesome to be able to celebrate such amazing levels of commitment over such long periods of time."

Awards presented by David over the last six months to South East District units recognised a total of 290 volunteer years of service. Congratulations to all recipients; well done!

Award recipients were as follows:

South East Operations Support Unit - June 2014
 Thomas AUBREY – 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 Gregory BARRINGTON - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 John DREW - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 Ronald JOHNSON - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 Charles PRIME - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 Desmond SCHWARZ - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 David STACPOOLE - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal



Aron Pettingill

Norbet TRUPP - 10 Year SES Long Service Medal

Mt Gambier Unit – June 2014

Rebekah POEL – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 John QUIN – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 Michael BRENNAND – 10 Year SES Long Service Medal
 Tom POEL – 30 Year Bar to SES Long Service Medal
 Simon POEL – 30 Year Bar to SES Long Service Medal
 Aaron PETTINGILL – National Medal (15 years)

Bordertown Unit – June 2014

Geoffrey DUNKIN – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 Scott William TINK – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate

Kingston Unit – May 2014

Timothy COMEY – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 James HUTCHISON – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 Meagan ROBINSON – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 Joseph DENSLEY – 10 Year Long Service Medal
 Damien Ross LLOYD – 10 Year Long Service Medal
 James WHITCHER – 10 Year Long Service Medal



Simon Poel

Rodney HANCOCK – 10 Year Long Service Medal & 20 Year Long Service Medal
 Diane SCOTT - 10 Year Long Service Medal & 20 Year Long Service Medal

Millicent (Wattle Range) Unit – May 2014

Andrew SARGENT – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate
 Rodney HARKNESS – 5 Year Meritorious Service Certificate & SES Plaque (in recognition of services as a Unit Manager)

Keith Unit – Nov 2013

Colin WALLADGE – 10 Year SES Long Service Medal

Pictured are the Mount Gambier recipients receiving their awards from David Carman. Absent on the night was Rebekah Poel.



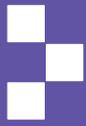
Michael Brennand



John Quin



Tom Poel



CEDUNA AWARD PRESENTATIONS

The Deputy Chief Officer Dermot Barry visited Ceduna Unit on 24 June to make several presentations to members which included long service medals and bars to:

10 Year SASES Long Service medal

Trevor Kammerman
Peter Codrington
Perry Will
Mark Bedson
Joy Codrington
Jillian Stockham
Jamie Swain
Emma Codrington
Danny Ronan
Christopher Dew

20 Year SASES Long Service Bar

Margaret Oakley
Graeme McGuinness

30 Year SASES Long Service Bar

Kevin Trewartha
Beverley Bedson

40 Year SASES Long Service Bar

Desmond Whitmarsh



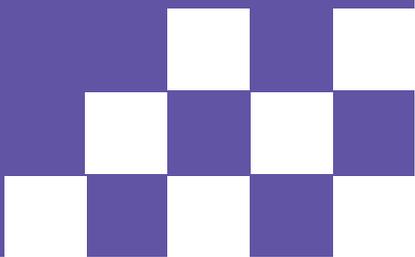
Deputy Chief Officer Dermot Barry with Desmond Whitmarsh



Group photo of award recipients, from leftback Peter Codrington, Jamie Swain, Kevin Trewartha, Desmond Whitmarsh, Perry Will, Chris Stockham, Front: Mark Bedson, Margaret Oakley, Bev Bedson, Brian Dew, Jill Stockham. Absent: Joy Codrington, Emma Keanelly, Trevor Kammermann, Graeme McGuinness and Danny Ronan.

Anonymous
Supporter

ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY



Shona Mayne from Hallett Unit participated in the 25kph campaign.

An advertising campaign to educate motorists that they will be required to travel at 25km/h past stationary emergency service vehicles showing blue and red flashing lights commenced on Sunday, 17 August 2014.

Advertisements, which feature Hallett SES Unit's Shona Mayne and representatives from the four other emergency service agencies, are to appear in newspapers, bus shelters and digital advertising. Radio advertisements are also part of the campaign.

The new law is effective from Monday, 1 September 2014.

DRIVE 25

New laws that require road users to travel at 25 km/h when driving through an emergency service speed zone will come into effect on 1 September 2014.

The emergency service speed zone will help protect frontline workers and volunteers from the CFS, MFS, SES, Police and SA Ambulance while they carry out vital emergency work.

Volunteers and emergency services staff are often called on to provide life saving assistance at roadsides, or it may be that a police officer has pulled over to question a driver.

By slowing down, we can all help them to safely get on with their job.

The 25km/h Emergency Service Speed Zone applies on an area of road:

- In the immediate vicinity of an emergency service vehicle that has stopped on the road and is displaying a flashing blue or red light; or
- Between two sets of flashing blue or red lights that have been placed by an emergency worker at either end of a length of road on which an emergency vehicle has stopped.

- It does not apply if you are driving on a road that is divided by a median strip and the emergency service speed zone is on the other side of the road beyond the median strip.

An emergency services vehicle includes:

- Ambulance
- Fire service vehicle (CFS, MFS or Federal Aviation Rescue)
- State Emergency Services (SES) vehicle
- Police.





INCIDENT MANAGEMENT: SCENE ASSESSMENT AND SIZE UP

In the April edition of Frontline, we reviewed Situational Awareness and the critical need for all responders to be situational aware of their surroundings. Building from Situational Awareness is the process of defining our activity priority, through scene assessment and size up.

Initial assessment of the scene, assists in building our situational awareness and allows us to assess and decide a course of action – critical in deciding our plan and course of action. The first five minutes at the incident, planning our actions are worth the next five hours of activity.

Our initial assessment and size up commences on receipt of the pager message, it promotes us to consider what we are responding to, what equipment we may use, what the situation may look like. The message gives us critical information regarding the incident that assists us, including the type of incident, the incident's location, and time of day. Information we receive allows us to build our situational awareness prior to arriving and allows us, regardless of our role to commence the mental process of assessing the incident we are attending.

On route to the incident from the Unit provides the next phase in scene assessment. On route, we can consider the weather, as a crew we can discuss local knowledge. Monitoring the radio we can potentially glean additional information from other SES crews or emergency services on scene.

Arriving, scene assessment, evaluation and size up commences. The process involves the systematic consideration of all critical factors presented to us (the crew and crew leader), to allow the crew leader to make a plan, based on what they and the team see. Scene assessment requires a number of tasks:

- **Dynamic Risk Assessment:**
 - What is the task, situation and hazards, what planning is needed to address them, what risks are present, can the risks be made safe prior to activity, what else needs to be monitored. Scene, crew and public safety is paramount
- **What is the potential:**
 - Could the situation get worse, if so how (i.e. rising water). What other impacts are there at the scene (downed power lines).
- **Are there enough resources:**
 - Do we as a crew have sufficient people to undertake the task? Do we need additional equipment? Are we trained for the incident/task?

- **What else may influence our activity:**
 - Is there sufficient time to complete the task (i.e. is the severe weather going to reduce our capacity)? Do we have or can we get enough information (i.e. search details)? Does the crew understand the plan and actions (is our assessment and plan clear to all present)?
- **Who do we need to inform:**
 - Providing what we see and the action we plan to take to the crew and to the Unit assist the crew leader in confirming their action and plan!

Effective scene assessment and size up requires the crew leader and crew to obtain information through thorough observation of the scene. It requires a rapid, but systematic assessment of the scene based on operational factors and capabilities specific to the incident.

Once the initial scene assessment is carried out and undertaken, the crew leader can develop a plan. The plan should include:

- A clear objective and outcome based on the scene assessment
- Identification of risk present from the scene assessment
- Tasks and tactics to be used to resolve the incident
- Consideration of additional equipment, resources or personnel.

Crew Leaders need to ensure that their scene assessment is on-going, assessment needs to incorporate on-going dynamic risk assessments and needs to incorporate the activities that crews have undertaken.

Scene assessment ensures on-going situational awareness and provides crew leaders the information to brief their crews and as required to provide SITREP(s) to the Unit and or Duty Officer.



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Emergency Management

July 2014

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DISASTER RESILIENCE NEWSLETTER

2013 flooding continues to impact Kangaroo Island

Flooding and inundation has affected the low-lying and land-locked MacGillivray/Haines area of Kangaroo Island since June, 2013, continuing into the winter of 2014.

To date, the estimated damage bill from the event is more than \$9 million.

The flooding was the result of an extraordinary rain event in June, 2013, which preceded heavier than usual winter rains. The many natural lagoons overflowed onto roads, paddocks and yards.

The flooding damaged and closed many roads and resulted in significant financial loss and disruption to farming and tourism businesses and residents. Impacts have included daily disruption to school bus routes; vehicle damage from driving through saline water; loss of pasture and vegetation; loss of crops; loss of farm animals due to drowning and de-stocking; and loss of tourism accommodation income due to closed roads.

So far, the disaster has also cost the Kangaroo Island Council \$529,000 in emergency road repairs.

Utilising State Government discretionary funding, a Flood Recovery Co-ordinator was appointed in December, 2013.

One of the community-driven tasks for the co-ordinator was to undertake an impact assessment and this was completed in February and March, 2014.

The impact assessment team identified more than \$9 million of financial cost to the community which included about \$2.7 million in direct losses to farming businesses.

It also identified a large percentage (60 per cent) of residents who had felt the effects of isolation and/or stress over the preceding nine months because of the flood waters.

Residents face the prospect of the same problems recurring this year as normal winter rains are expected to swell lagoons again.

This atypical disaster has posed complex questions for recovery.

While the recovery process can start during the response phase of a disaster - such as fire or flash flooding - the ongoing and insidious nature of this disaster posed challenging issues.

How can a community start to recover when the full extent of the damage is not yet revealed? There is little chance of relief from the effects of the disaster for some time and the disaster may continue into the next wet season and beyond.

A multi-agency approach was employed with regular meetings of the Kangaroo Island Flood Recovery Committee. This committee represents health, primary industries, emergency services, council, environment, waste collection and other stakeholders.



A home resources kit was developed to provide residents with information about personal wellbeing, financial help and council contacts. This information was delivered to residents during the impact assessment visits and through regular newsletters.

Key aspects of the recovery process have included:

- improving communication with the community through newsletters, email, home visits and community meetings
- use of a local cricket ground as a social and meeting place for residents
- providing a central point of contact at the council through the Flood Recovery Co-ordinator
- identifying what is important to the residents for the future of the region and starting to formulate a plan to address issues such as drainage and better roads
- involving all agencies in maintaining services and road access
- responding to individual concerns while focussing on region-wide solutions, and
- providing an opportunity for people to tell their stories.

The recovery process for the people of MacGillivray/Haines still has a way to go and will depend on the outcomes of this winter.

Through the recovery work done so far, it is anticipated that the community will face this winter better equipped to deal with the ongoing disaster.

Shauna Black

Local Flood Recovery Co-ordinator
Kangaroo Island Council



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National certification for incident management

At the May 2014 meeting of the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) it was resolved to progress a national certification scheme for incident management including the establishment of a national certification panel.

This scheme will provide for significant improvements in capability, enhancements to interstate support and substantial professional credence for individuals who obtain certification.

It represents a significant national project for the emergency management sector.

The national certification of incident management is part of a professional pathway being developed for fire and emergency service personnel.

While 'accreditation' of personnel to conduct incident management roles and the authority to appoint individuals

to incident management teams will remain with agencies and jurisdictions through the legislative authority given to chief officers, AFAC will be establishing 'certification' requirements centred on experience, education, ethics and examination of individual achievement.

These requirements will be set by an industry certification panel, establishing professional standards around AIIMS.

This formal recognition, for paid, part-time and volunteer staff, is likely to begin in late 2014 and is expected to take three to five years to fully implement.

It will be voluntary for individuals to seek national certification and the entire approach and process is being overseen by the AFAC Board.

More information on the scheme is available from the AFAC website www.afac.com.au.

Productivity Commission inquiry into natural disaster funding arrangements

The inquiry was announced by the Commonwealth Government in December 2013 to examine the national expenditure of disasters, and the effectiveness of current mitigation support arrangements.

South Australia welcomes this inquiry because the impact of natural disasters on community living standards and the rising costs of disasters will become increasingly important as we prepare for more frequent and extreme weather events.

A concern has been the increasing imbalance between Commonwealth spending on disaster mitigation (such as the Natural Disaster Resilience Program) and spending on post-disaster relief and recovery. For example, South Australia receives \$2m a year for the NDRP program whilst Queensland received \$5 billion Commonwealth funding between 2010-11 and 2012-13 for post-disaster reconstruction.

While South Australia has not experienced a major disaster in recent years, the state and zone emergency risk assessments highlight why we need to put our effort into disaster prevention and community resilience.

While all levels of government are promoting the economic and social benefits of disaster prevention and community preparation, the Commonwealth funding for disaster mitigation has declined in real terms over the past decade. The Productivity Commission's website provides more information and will publish the responses from states and territories, various sectors and agencies.

Planning and service delivery for children and youth across all phases of emergency management.

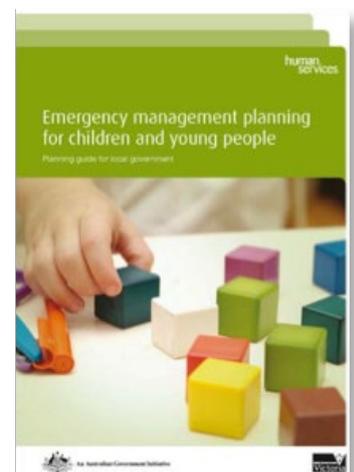
Children and young people account for around a quarter of Australia's population.

They have unique needs and can be particularly vulnerable in emergency events. Children are different from the adult population physically, psychologically and developmentally and their needs in emergencies and disasters should be considered in emergency management planning.

This was a significant learning from the Black Saturday bushfires.

The Victorian Government received Commonwealth Government funding to produce the Emergency Management Planning for Children and Young People Planning Guide.

The guide outlines best practice and provides practical steps to ensure the unique needs of children are not overlooked. You can download a copy of the guide from the Victoria Government website.





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New AEMI lessons management book released

A new Lessons Management Handbook (Handbook 8) has been produced by the Australian Emergency Management Institute as part of the Australian Emergency Management Handbook Series and the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience.

As stated in the handbook's introduction: "Lessons Management is an overarching term that refers to collecting, analysing and disseminating experiences from operations, exercises, programs and reviews.

"A consistent approach to the management of lessons is an essential component for an organisation to become a learning organisation. Organisations are seen to be learning when their structures, systems and cultures are able to evolve based on past experiences."

"Interoperability of lessons management systems across agencies, sectors and jurisdictions will facilitate information sharing and national analysis".

The term 'lessons management' is now preferred to the often misused term 'lessons learned' due to the fact that 'lessons learned' implies an end state – that the lesson has been 'learned' when often it has merely been observed.

The actual learning process involves a lot more investment by an organisation in terms of planning and training in order to achieve a lesson 'learned'.

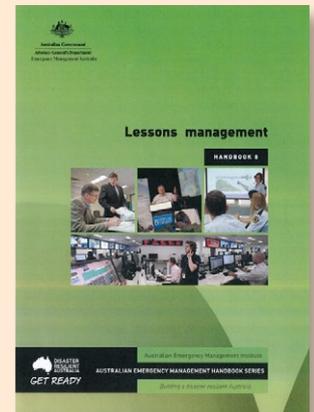
Too often in the past, this oversimplification of the learning process has meant that valuable insights from past experiences have been lost, condemning us to repeat past mistakes with often expensive and sometimes tragic outcomes.

This important and very practical handbook is available to download from the Emergency Management Australia website.

Details of the Handbook Series are available at <https://ema.infoservices.com.au/items/HB8-1ST>

Bob Stevenson

State Emergency Management Planning Officer
SA State Emergency Service



What do older people's life experiences tell us about emergency by Victoria Cornell

In late 2010, I was fortunate to be awarded a Resthaven Incorporated PhD research scholarship in emergency management and older people.

I started the PhD in January 2011 under the supervision of Professor Paul Arbon at Flinders University. I did my research on a full time basis, submitting it to the examiners in January 2014 and, in May of this year, I was awarded my PhD.

Anecdotally, older people are considered to be under-prepared for emergency events. However, they are rarely engaged directly to understand their knowledge and experience of emergencies and their feelings regarding emergency preparedness.

Discussion thus far largely considers the development of tools and checklists that will help older people prepare for emergencies rather than what might influence their decision to prepare.

The study took a qualitative approach as the aim was to explore and understand whether people's life experiences have influenced their perception of preparedness and what it means to them to be prepared for an emergency event.

During the research, I interviewed 11 people - eight women and three men - who ranged in age from 77 to 90 years. All participants lived in their own home, in the greater Adelaide or Adelaide Hills areas, and received low-level in-home care (which, for example, included assistance with shopping or housework).

In the interviews, the emergency events that the participants had experienced were nominated by them. I did not ask whether they had experienced specific events, such as a bushfire or flood. The events were wide-ranging and included health issues, natural hazard events, human-induced events and (for the time in which they occurred) socially unacceptable events such as teenage pregnancies.

I found that the participants felt that being prepared for an emergency is not a one-off activity that is achieved upon completing a preparedness checklist or a safety plan. It is an ongoing process built upon over many years.

Experience, strength and ability to cope is gathered from many aspects of life, both the big events and the small. This process leads to a feeling of comfort, safety and security. While they might not define themselves as 'being prepared', the people I interviewed certainly considered themselves to be resilient. They accept their limitations and feel confident they can cope.

Given the lack of engagement to date, this is a key finding as it has implications for how older people may (and should) be engaged in the future. They should not be approached as a 'vulnerable' group as such but rather as a group that has some specific needs.

It should also be acknowledged that they are a group that also has a wealth of positive attributes in terms of knowledge, experience and sense of community.

The material gathered in this research shows that for these older people being prepared is principally a mental state of being.

In accepting their advancing years and deteriorating physical ability, the participants gain comfort in knowing that their life experiences (including the emergency events they have lived through) have left them feeling comfortable and strong enough mentally to deal with any potential future emergency.

The research therefore has implications for the emergency management sector in terms of developing well informed policy and practice.

By understanding what influences older people living in the community to prepare for emergency events – indeed, understanding that for this group of older participants being prepared is less important than being resilient – the emergency services sector can establish how best to assist them in their emergency preparedness planning rather than making assumptions about what this target group wants or needs.

For further information on Victoria's research, please contact her on cornell.vicki@safecom.sa.gov.au



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New Triple Zero app launched

A new Triple Zero Kid's Challenge Smartphone and Tablet Application has been launched.

The new safety game is available for free download from iTunes and Android Market Place.

This app is perfect for raising awareness in primary school-aged children and can be played on current and limited legacy Apple iOS and Android devices.

The Android version is available at Google Play - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.au.com.A360entertainment.TripleZeroKidsChallenge>

The iOS version is available at iTunes - <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/triple-zero-kids-challenge/id679476707?mt=8>



Impact of February, 2014 winds felt for weeks in Adelaide

If you're involved in emergency services from a paid or volunteer perspective it's going to be very difficult to forget February, 2014.

The widespread impact of such ferocious wind for a very short period of time was felt for days and weeks.

The main issues that became evident over the initial response to the incident from a volunteer perspective were:

1. Preparedness (Not only of the community for such a large scale, widespread event but also emergency services agencies and associated essential services work crews).
2. Communication between various responders and even between units/brigades in the same service.

While some areas of Adelaide received only minor to moderate damage, others received dozens of jobs. The area most impacted was Adelaide's Eastern Suburbs where hundreds of jobs were handled by volunteers across multiple days of prolonged response.

The vast majority of calls from the public related to tree limbs or, in some cases, entire trees dropping on roadways and properties due to the high wind.

Once the initial rush calmed and a picture began emerging of the scale of the incident, it was very clear that this was widespread and very big.

The SES State Duty Officer was requesting information from SES Units on the number of tasks outstanding, tasks complete, tasks underway and the number of crews on the road. By mid-morning the question was:

"Do you want help?"

Simply put, yes! In my 14 years in the SES this is only the second time I can recall the question being put to us at my home unit of Tea Tree Gully.

We had almost 100 jobs outstanding and only two vehicles on the road which meant without help we were in for a very long few days.

After multiple phone calls, clarification on numbers and follow ups we had an MFS Strike Team, a CFS vehicle and two vehicles fully crewed from our neighbouring SES unit at Enfield. A great assistance to us, but here's the problem: We've got vehicles and people coming to help but what can they do?

While it only took a short conversation with the officers/team leaders to ascertain their capabilities, it was operational time that could have been better spent in the field.

Much can be learned and applied through this event. The community and services just weren't ready for the scale of the event.

The SES Community Engagement Unit has a large role to play in ensuring that there is better information available on how to prepare and protect yourself, your home and your family in extreme weather conditions.

Emergency services agencies scaled up operations quickly once the size of the event became clearer, communication systems were put in place, and operations continued to progress throughout the event.

The end result was that the jobs were complete, everyone went home safely and the community were all too aware of the huge scale of operation that emergency services as a whole undertook during that day.

Longer term, the various services involved on the day have a greater appreciation of each others' capabilities. Communications between the services **have** also improved.

The management of incidents on this scale is always going to be a testing experience that provides important learnings.

Hopefully these learnings can be pushed into any future situations that require a multi-agency response on a major scale.

Phil Tann

Unit Manager
Tea Tree Gully Unit
SA State Emergency Service