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I hope humans

use Fire Safely This summer



FOREWORD

HOW MUCH, TO WHOM, AND WHEN? *A message to all C.F.S. members*

During recent months, many readers of "The Volunteer" will have been wondering what on earth has been behind the barbed criticisms repeatedly thrust at the CFS Headquarters. So have I!

In 1977, today's CFS organisation evolved from the firm foundations of the E.F.S. with its directions well charted by the carefully debated and documented recommendations of a respected working party, the quintessence of which had been encapsulated in an Act of Parliament. Over the following four years, the basic growth plans for the CFS were systematically realized. Little wonder then, that the H/Q was seen to be expanding its fleet, its staff and its services, because initially everything had depended on the small nucleus of personnel who had opted to transfer to the new statutory authority from the Police and Agriculture Departments, their former employers.

Today, the CFS Board can draw upon 38 full time staff to advise, assist and co-ordinate the fire fighting and prevention requirements of over 100 District Councils and more than 450 brigades. If the CFS H/Q were disbanded, there would be no technical advice or researched publicity material, no communications or co-ordination, no training, inspections or organised competitions, no State-wide representation to Government or links to other organisations such as those of insurers. This list just considers a few items without even mentioning the problems of quality control of equipment and hazardous chemicals.

The CFS, with a membership of over 11,000 volunteers, is recognised as the largest organisation of motivated people in S.A., which is effective provided they are kept in touch. In an emergency, the communications system actually works! Remember which organisation provided the vital link to Port Broughton after a damaging storm not so long ago? There are not many facilities offering a round-the-clock enquiry and emergency service with a rostered control-room staff and specialist officers on 24 hour standby-by. If flames wake you from your dreams at 3.00 a.m., you can call CFS, but who else can organise help for you at *that* time?

These services cost money, of course. In the CFS annual budget of over \$2,000,000, the largest item is that of the salaries of the 38 H/Q staff. Under the old EFS arrangement, the salaries were spread over other Government departments, now this cost comes under public scrutiny in the CFS budget. Each year, officers of the State Treasury examine this budget in great detail and ultimately approve sums for the 100 or so items which make up the total. The Insurance Council of Australia meets exactly half of the cost and is therefore represented on the CFS Board. It is reasonable to assume that the Insurers watch matters closely . . . to ensure that their money (or that of their policy holders) is spent wisely. Annual State Government auditing complements this picture of stern fiscal control. Under these circumstances, the H/Q staff are not able to engage in wild aberrations of spending and buying a Darley pump to fill the tea urn in the lunch room is out of the question.

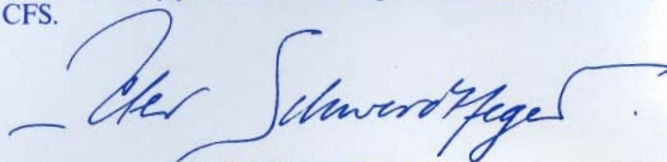
Sharp tongued critics have attacked the smart uniforms of the CFS. Well, I suppose that ugly ones could have been designed, but they would have cost just as much and been criticised even more. Candy-striped cars are always worth a jibe or two, but what is the point of having emergency vehicles clad in "mufti"? In any case, the Road Traffic Act has proscriptions which the CFS has obeyed, right up to the fitting of flashing lights. The latter can either be fitted by drilling a vehicle's roof full of holes (making preparation for

ultimate resale expensive) or by quickly clipping on a smart, reusable bar-type unit.

One of the important roles of the CFS H/Q is the allocation of funds in an equipment subsidies programme to Councils and brigades. This is the one item in the CFS budget over which the Board does not have full control. If, for example, the Treasury approved CFS budget indicates a certain sum for Research and Investigation, then activity is tailored accordingly. On the other hand, if Councils and brigades apply for subsidies allowances which exceed the sum allowed for in the budget, the Board can either advise expectations cannot be fulfilled (but imagine the infuriated outcry), or devise means either through exercising economies elsewhere or by delayed payment. Any person who has ever dealt with a Treasury approved budget, (half of which is bespoken for by untouchable salaries) will know that major redirections of earlier expressed spending needs have long-term consequences, usually disadvantageous. Last year, the Board, after directing that some economies be taken, chose the solution of delayed payment, the only other option in the absence of a Government authorized reserve fund. If this year's subsidies claims had fallen below expectations, as has happened on one occasion in the recent past, the balance would have been restored. However, the Board has found that for the second successive year, Councils' and brigades' claims were increasing at a greater rate than the authorized provision. The Board firmly believes that an open-ended subsidies programme is the best in that it is largely self-regulatory. Indeed, any minor economies that could be achieved by policing the claims of the over 500 potential applicants would be consumed 10 times over by the cost of the investigations and consultations.

In the light of these problems, I firmly believe that the CFS Board acted honestly, openly and responsibly. No information has yet come to light which might have shown the Board to have been deceived. The Board is not a body of "fat cats" but largely consists of dedicated people otherwise voluntarily active in CFS affairs.

As much as I am grateful for the morale-maintaining complimentary correspondence which has been directed to CFS H/Q in recent months, I am deeply disturbed as I hope many readers of this journal are, to witness poorly formulated criticism tarnishing a hard-won image, actions which can only promote crumbling of the foundations of the CFS.



P. SCHWERDTFEGER
Chairman, CFS Board

Urgent Message to all Brigades

Owing to financial restraints Country Fire Services Headquarters regretfully informs all C.F.S. Brigades that their respective allocations of the quarterly journal "The Volunteer" has been reduced between 30% to 50% of the original supply.

No doubt there are brigades who can quite easily justify retaining their original allocation, but once again we need to be advised on this matter, in writing please, stating the quantity required.

To those brigades who are even with this cut in allocation still receiving too many copies of "The Volunteer", let us know now, please! So other brigades are not left short.

Editor.

EDITORIAL

YET ANOTHER SUMMER LOOMS

So little time seems to have passed since the first "Volunteer Annual" heralded the dawning of a new era in the annals of the CFS, and yet so much has happened in so short a time.

Amid the turmoil of rapid change V controversy; advancement V criticism; is emerging a new breed of firefighter — one who knows that simply "putting on the CFS uniform and doing what Dad did" is just not enough to meet the challenges of 1982 and beyond.

A few weeks ago, a handful of the State's volunteer firefighters completed a Stage 4 Brigade Officer's Course at CFS Headquarters. The candidates weren't specially selected — other than having completed Stages 1, 2 and 3. They were a fair cross section of the range of risks and geographical variations representative of the area protected by the S.A. Country Fire Services.

Those firefighters created history; they accepted the challenge of advanced training because they saw the absolute need to be ready for virtually anything.

We cannot stand still, for if we do, we begin to move backwards. Whether we like it or not, the complexities of fire fighting have increased globally, let alone locally. To meet these complexities, we have a number of tools to call upon — experience, the best equipment that can be obtained, training, and a will to serve even more so than before.

Some of the above you must find for yourselves — some we can help you with — take advantage of it.

Examinations and theory don't make good firefighters — they make good firefighters better!

EDITOR

LLOYD C. JOHNS

Director

South Australian Country Fire Services

TRAINING SCHOOLS

Brigade Officers School — 4th Stage



Brigade officers and senior firemen numbering 22 personnel attended the 4th stage school held at C.F.S. H/Q 22 to 24th October. Course attendees came from Eyre Peninsula; South East; Riverland; Mid-North and Mt. Lofty Ranges. Subjects covered were: fire investigation; control room organisation/administration; revision sessions on radio procedure, hydraulics, physics and chemistry of combustion; building fires and hazchem and search and rescue procedures. Extensive practical sessions involved the application of information learnt from the three previous schools. Stage 4 course participants are now geared to instruct their own brigade members on the firefighting skills learnt and have already indicated their desire to continue with firefighting/training studies.

Course interest indicated

Region 6, Stage 1 training school held on 15th to 17th October was so well attended that due to the overwhelming response, regrettably 20 applicants could not be accommodated, and will reapply for the next school;

In Training (Region 6)



Firemen from more than a dozen C.F.S. units attended the first of a series of four regional training schools at North Shields recently. Thirty-nine C.F.S. volunteers from Yeelanna, Cleve, Streaky Bay, Ceduna-Thevenard, Wudinna, Iron Baron, Lincoln, Port Neill, Cummins, Ulipa (Mt. Hope Mt. Drummond), Wanilla, Louth, Elliston and Edillilie and N.P.WLS of Port Lincoln and Coffin Bay. Theoretical and practical sessions in line with C.F.S. training programmes kept volunteers in touch with the latest techniques. Stage two training school is scheduled for March 1983.

C.F.S. Officers at the North Shields regional training school pictured above Greg Hurrell (Yeelanna); Warren Boothby (Port Neill); Peter Bradford (Wanilla); Collin Kammermann (Cleve); Michael Hurrell (Lincoln); Terry Vigar (Mt. Hope) and Peter Mickan (Cummins) with C.F.S. training officer Bruce Hogan (front, right). Photo courtesy "West Coast Sentinel".

First Graduates in Fire Course



Fourteen C.F.S. volunteers including two women have completed the new State standard "second-class firemanship" course at Mt Lofty Training Centre. A further eleven volunteers completed a rescue and salvage course. Course attendees came from Norton Summit-Ashton; Echunga; Hahndorf; Ironbank; Mylor; Port Noarlunga-Christies Beach. Upper Sturt; Oakbank; Stirling and Eden Hills were also involved. Pictured above at the C.F.S. graduation ceremony from left: Judi Kaye (Hahndorf); Harold Fahibusch (Norton Summit-Ashton); Anthony Godden (Port Noarlunga-Christies Beach); George McInnes (Ironbank); Jenny Semmler (Mylor); Brian VanHoltan (Echunga); with Mr. Tony Keay, Superintendent of Operations C.F.S. H/Q; Graham Palmer (Norton Summit-Ashton) and Glen Walloscheck (Ironbank). Photograph courtesy Mt. Barker Courier.

Instruction Day

Fire Control Officers and C.F.S. Brigade personnel of the Robe, Lacedpede and Lucindale F.F.A.'s took part in a combined C.F.S. day school. Instructor was R.O. Murray Sherwell (Region 5). Topics presented included the C.F. Act and regulations, hazchem code, discussions on local radio frequency, followed by films.

(Continued page 4)



C.A.B.A. Course held at Wudinna, 18th to 20th June 1982.

Region 3

On Sunday 31st October, Yorketown, Edithburgh, Stansbury and Warooka C.F.S. brigades conducted a training day. Exercises held within the Yorketown Council area involved map reading, radio procedure, extinguishing a house fire, hazchem incident, and pump operation. The exercise took a realistic turn when, in the middle of radio procedures and house fire exercises, a grass fire report at 1535 hours at Port Moorowie turned out the school attendees. The fire was quickly extinguished and a burn off conducted to render the shack area hazard free. The "school" returned at 1630 hours to continue the course with an extinguishment of flammable liquids followed by a debriefing and films. A second fire call was then received again from Port Moorowie, with both fires being of a suspicious origin although the locals jokingly suggested the school trainees were kept on their toes with more practical sessions than believed programmed.

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Letters to the Editor®

Wishing to Exchange?

Dear Sir,

Would any of your readers be interested in exchanging badges or rank insignia, stickers or patches relevant to the fire service. If so I would be very happy to send them spare badges I have in my collection, including badges from overseas.

At the moment I have no items from the C.F.S. and would be appreciative of any that could be sent to me.

I remain yours etc.

Peter Stephens,
Unit 4, 12 Blenheim Street,
East Bentleigh, Victoria, 3155

FOR SALE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT R.O. RUSSELL GREAR, C.F.S. HEADQUARTERS APPLIANCE AND FIRE EQUIPMENT OFFICER, TELEPHONE (08) 297 6788.

H/Q SERVICE

Dear Sir,

The Lameroo C.F.S. have recently received copies of 'The Volunteer', volume 15. We have received less than the required number of copies to supply each Fire Officer and Rescue member with a copy.

We realise that the S.A. Country Fire Services are under pressure to reduce expenditure, but feel that 'The Volunteer', as a valuable source of education, information and interest to each member, should not be compromised. We would presume that other Brigades feel the same and that adequate supplies will be available in the future.

With regards to the adverse publicity that H.Q. have received recently, the Lameroo C.F.S. would like to express their approved for the marked increase in support and training assistance shown to our Brigade over the last couple of years. It is obvious that those responsible for applying pressure to the S.A. Country Fire Services to reduce spending, know little of the dramatic increase in services provided to Brigades such as ours.

We wholeheartedly support the actions of the S.A. Country Fire Services, and believe that each Brigade must be carrying out their duties more efficiently because of them. We hope that you will continue to support our Brigades with training and other Regional Officer services and endeavour to convince the 'knockers' that the role we play is vital to the State's fire control and protection, and that we need these services to function effectively and efficiently.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Price Sec. Lameroo C.F.S.

Front cover: The Volunteer proudly features a poster that expresses a child's insight into what fire protection and fire prevention means. The poster by Master Michael Friend aged 10, a student of St. Michael's College was awarded a special judges prize by Adelaide Hills artist and judge of the 1982 B.P. Creative Arts and Crafts "Using Fire Safely" Competition, Mrs. Barbara Leslie of Mylor.

Michael's poster features a drawing of a baby magpie being fed by its mother, with the catch line: "I hope humans use fire safely this summer."

Mrs. Leslie said the drawing layout was a near perfect example of how a child would see such a situation.

FREEDOM IN EXPRESSION BY YOUNG 'ARTISTS'

"The younger the child the greater their freedom of expression in poster drawing," was the conclusion reached by artist Mrs. Barbara Leslie, in judging this year's B.P. Creative Arts and Crafts Competition.

Mrs. Leslie whose home was destroyed in the 'Ash Wednesday' bushfires two years ago, has had 22 years as an art teacher and has now taken up full-time painting.

She said that among the 700 entries there was concern expressed in the younger children's entries, for the safety of birds and animals. Many posters related to the burning of animals, in particular, birds. Among the older groups, there had been a change from fauna to the ecology and wilderness, said Mrs. Leslie. While there was considerable free expression among the younger children, the older groups individuality had given way to what might be called a "class exercise". About 50 per cent of the entries dwelt on the theme: "using fire safely", while others tended to be more concerned about actual fires and means of extinguishing them.

The winners of the various sections of the competition were announced at B.P. House on Tuesday, 26th October, 1982.

This year the competition's "perpetual trophy" was won for the third time by Michael Swann, 16 years of Kapunda, whose brother Robert won the first trophy four years ago.

Other winners were: 7 years and under: D. Page, Marion; C. Inge, Thebarton; I. Batten, Angaston; D. Stacey, Lucindale. 8 to 10 years: F. Placanica; J. Collinson, St. Michael's College; G. Simpson, Maitland; M. Parsons, St. Michael's College. 11 to 13 years: S. Battams, Aldinga; P. Kavanagh, St. Michael's College; N. Waples, Woodlands; J. Heald, St. Michael's College. 14 to 16 years: M. Swann, Kapunda. Judge's Special Prize: M. Friend, St. Michael's College. F.F.E. Perpetual Trophy: M. Swann, Kapunda.

B.P. Australia provides \$500 prizemoney for the annual competition, promoted by the Savings Bank of S.A. through its State-wide school bank outlets, sponsored by the State Committee of the A.F.P.A.



Pictured above from left winners in the 1982 B.P. Creative Arts and Crafts Competition, from left: Michael Swann of Kapunda with the use fire safely model that earned him the F.F.E. perpetual trophy, with Samantha Battams of Aldinga Primary School and artist/judge Mrs. Barbara Leslie.



Pictured above our front cover poster winner Michael Friend (far left) with his St. Michael's College colleagues Julian Collinson, Patrick Kavanagh, and Francis Placanica (also competition winners), being congratulated by artist/judge Mrs. Barbara Leslie.

FIREMAN, SPARE THAT TREE by Neil Stevens

The task of instilling fire consciousness in the minds of the general public is one that will never be completed. There will always be some people who, through lack of thought and care, constitute a threat to the homes and assets of others. So it is necessary to continue to issue pleas, urging increased care and the removal of fire hazards.

With some people this is like planting water lilies on the Nullarbor, but others respond to varying degrees. A few, taking up the cry with excess enthusiasm, become problems of a different nature. They begin to see fire hazards all over the place and set about eliminating them with ruthless efficiency.

The victims of this over-zealous approach are usually innocent trees.

A tree, in itself, is not a fire hazard. If it stands isolated from its kind in closely mown or grazed surroundings it is a difficult thing to ignite.

With groups of trees, the same principles apply. Though they be crowded together in a dense plantation, they are relatively safe from fire if the ground beneath and around them is kept free from long grass and undergrowth which would provide sufficient heat to ignite the trees.

Yet many that were growing in safe situations have been condemned and removed simply because they were close to a house or a shed or some other valuable asset.

Under these conditions a tree does present a problem, but there are less drastic ways of overcoming it. Where leafy branches stretch above roofs of buildings, the leaves which accumulate in the gutters provide an ideal seed bed for wind-born sparks to germinate into fresh fires. The gutters, obviously, must be kept clean. A leaf-screen fitted to the guttering will solve the problem effectively and without great expense. Alternatively, regular cleaning of the gutters will control the hazard free of charge. And both of these methods are likely to be more effective than removing the tree.

Most leaves become detached from trees during periods of high wind, and follow an oblique course towards the ground. While many leaves from overhanging branches are blown clear of the roof below, there are also many from more distant trees which settle in the gutters. So the removal of overhanging branches does not eliminate the necessity for screening or cleaning gutters.

Where grass and undergrowth and trees exist together in tangled co-habitation there is a strong risk that fire will some day consume all, and if there are valuable assets nearby the hazard must be reduced. There is seldom a need to remove both trees and ground cover. If the trees are removed, the grass and undergrowth that remain will still be sufficient to carry a fierce fire through the area. But remove the ground cover and control its re-generation, and the remaining trees are no longer a hazard.

Much has been said and written about fire-resistant trees. Some species are more difficult to ignite than others, but when conditions are extreme there are none that can claim immunity from fire. There are no asbestos trees!

As in all things, people have differing tastes in trees, but it is doubtful if there is any person alive who dislikes them on principle. Some prefer the stately, symmetrical forms of those brought here from Europe. Others find more charm and character in the twisting red gums, the glowing colours of a liquidamber or the soft hues of a silver wattle. Whatever the favourite species, it is, to the eye of the beholder a friendly structure, casting its mantle of protection over its own little world and offering its sanctuary to man and bird and beast.

Yet some of its admirers still regard it as something which is allowed in from the outside world, close to their homes in an area where it does not really belong. Under these circumstances they are apt to decide regretfully, that it must be removed for the sake of safety.

The secret is to regard the tree as part of the home, as firmly attached as an extra room or a television antenna. Then plan the protection and do what is necessary to ensure that fire cannot threaten the living area.

As an integral part of the home, enclosed within the circle of protection, the tree will no longer appear as a hazard. Instead, it will add its charm and pleasantry to the setting and provide an additional incentive to ensure that the area is never in danger of destruction by fire.

Holidaying this summer?

FLINDERS RANGES FIRE RISK EXTREME

The Flinders Ranges has been a declared fire danger area since the beginning of winter but its popularity as a camping spot and the long dry summer ahead will increase the fire risk even further.

Although most campers heed warnings and take care when using fire, many are still unaware of other fire risks associated with camping.

CARAVAN SAFETY

The probability of a serious fire in a caravan is much greater than in a house because of the light construction and limited space for cooking, lighting and heating equipment.

Many caravans have been destroyed in fires with adults and young children killed.

By following a few simple precautions your family holiday will not turn into a disaster:

- Cooking, heating and lighting equipment should be securely installed and LP gas installations should be put in and checked by a licensed person.

- Turn off bottle gas heating and cooking appliances before travelling, going to bed or leaving the van.

- Never use candles for lighting and avoid using kerosene or petrol operated lanterns if bottle gas lights are available.

- Ensure the caravan is fitted with an approved fire extinguisher and keep a bucket of water just outside the door.

- Caravans should be parked clear of long grass, trees and shrubs, especially in isolated areas. This will keep them safe from bushfires.

WARNING: CAMPING IN A TENT

Fires in or near tents also spread rapidly and usually result in complete destruction but may also be avoided if sensible precautions are taken.

- Choose a tent made of a fire retardant treated fabric and pitch it away from long grass, trees and shrubs.

- Build camp fires well away from the tent and never attempt to cook or use candles inside the tent.

- Tie back flaps and awnings so they will not flap near the fire and watch for sparks blowing towards the tent if using a fire on a windy day.

- Never leave a campfire burning unattended—make sure it is out when you have finished with it, or are leaving the camp site, even temporarily.

- Keep a bucket of water or fire extinguisher outside the tent.

- If a fire does start in the tent, get everyone out and collapse it. Then clear adjoining tents and collapse them too.

- Turn off valves on any gas tanks if it can be done safely.

Extremely Dangerous . . . in Riverland

The drought that has ravaged the Riverland, coupled with the oncoming tourist season has heightened the risk of fire outbreaks in the Riverland.

Mr Trevor Schulz, Officer-in-Charge, Loxton C.F.S. said this could be a potentially bad year for fires. "This is going to be a very dry year".

"The lack of water in private tanks makes the situation a little worse, and with the summer coming on you've got an influx of visitors which makes the risk even greater", Mr Schulz said.

Mr Peter Symens, Officer-in-Charge, Barmera District C.F.S. described the fire situation in the Riverland as "extremely dangerous", and warned that offenders breaching fire restrictions imposed would be prosecuted.

Fines for breaches of the restrictions can be up to \$1,000.



The Glosop C.F.S. at the scene of a recent grass fire. Photograph courtesy Mr John Menzel, and *The Murray Pioneer*.

BURRA AREA IMPOSES EARLY FIRE BANS

The seriousness of the coming fire season in South Australia is highlighted by the imposition of total fire bans from Wednesday 6th October, 1982 in one of the more popular tourist areas, within the District Council of Burra.

The District Council of Burra have imposed fire bans in virtually the whole of the eastern half of the council's territory.

C.F.S. Director, Lloyd Johns said "the bans not only reflected the potential danger for the Burra district, but also indicated the serious fire risk that will be faced in most parts of S.A. during the next six to eight months".

The District Clerk at Burra, Mr Don Roberts said total bans apply from October 6th, 1982 to April 30th, 1983 in the Hundreds of Baldina, Rees, Mongolata and Kings. "Included in the area is the large Redbanks Reserve, very popular with weekenders from other parts of the State.

"The reserve with mallee scrub, trees and other natural vegetation, is already very dry and flammable, and a strong reason for imposing the early bans is to try and save the reserve", Mr Roberts said.

Also included in the ban territory is the popular World End Creek reserve and gold mining ruins near Mongolata.

The C.F.S. Director warned that while the lack of rain had retarded growth in some areas, other parts of the State would again have heavy growth, contributing to a dangerous fire season.

Fire Ban Broadcasts . . . Issued Daily

Fire ban broadcasts for South Australia's 1982-83 bushfire danger period commenced on Tuesday, October 19.

The warnings, issued daily by the Bureau of Meteorology under authority from the Country Fire Services Board, are being implemented at this time because of the very dry conditions prevailing over much of South Australia.

Issued at 7 a.m. each morning and broadcast over radio and television, the fire bans may apply to one or more of the State's 15 fire ban regions.

C.F.S. Director, Mr Lloyd Johns, said there was already considerable curing of crops and other fuels in many parts of the State and these could represent an early fire danger.

The public, including those travelling through S.A., were reminded of their responsibility to check for fire ban information each morning, and heed the warnings.

In addition to the State fire bans, many local councils have their own fire restrictions and bans which must be complied with.

And, in the northern pastoral districts (which are outside local government areas), a total ban on fires in the open will apply as from November 1.

Mr Johns said that while drought conditions had been experienced in many areas in recent months, there was still quite a build-up in fuels.

"We must protect the State's crops which are sparser than in other years because of the low rainfall during winter and spring, yet forested and timbered areas are very much a fire hazard already — again because of the lack of rains", the C.F.S. Director added.

Information on fire bans is available through local councils, C.F.S. Headquarters and regional offices, or by phoning 1196 in the greater metropolitan area.

Fire threat lessened on Eyre Peninsula farm

by David East
Stock Journal

Long-term planning, coupled with commonsense practices, play a big part in reducing the risk of bushfires on one Eyre Peninsula farm.

The farm, Broadacres, at Yeelanna, is owned by Reg Robinson and his family.

A mixed wheat and sheep farming enterprise of 850 ha (2,100 acres), Broadacres, about 3 km west of Yeelana railway siding, is on the eastern extremity of an area known as the lightning triangle.

The triangle, so called because of the frequency of bushfires started by lightning strikes, is a rugged and desolate stretch of scrub country scattered with huge limestone outcrops which makes fire fighting an almost impossible task.

It presents a constant bushfire threat to farmers whose properties are near it.

Reg Robinson says he, like his father before him, has been conscious of bushfires and the devastation they cause, since a small child.

Evidence of this concern stretches back to 1935 when Mr Robinson Snr. bought the property and built his house.

It is the house now occupied by Reg and his family.

Built with bushfire threats in mind, the house is situated on high ground, has a big, wide driveway around it and is nestled in a wide "green" area of lawn and garden.

Between the farmland and the driveways on the danger northern and western sides of the house, Mr Robinson Snr. planted a wide avenue of trees to act as a windbreak and give the house added protection.

According to Reg, the house is the most valuable of all personal assets, it has tremendous sentimental value and is invariably full of irreplaceable family possessions.

"It must be protected at all costs", he said.

With the advent of Broadacres being connected to the Todd River reservoir scheme, water pipes were laid around the house with common size garden taps and hoses being strategically positioned to provide suitable protection to the house at the time of a fire danger.

Today, as a special backup and to provide an additional water source for the protection of the house, Reg Robinson can use the water from the family swimming pool through a simple interconnection of the mains pipes and the plumbing of the pool, and the use of a pressure pump system.

Similar attention has also been paid to the farmyard layout and the position of the sheds.

All buildings have wide driveways around them.

This, according to Reg Robinson, serves two purposes — an aid to fire protection while also providing ample room to manoeuvre wide farm equipment.

All the farm buildings are fitted with 127 mm (5 in.) gutters with similar size downpipes, leading to concrete water storage tanks, which, even in a dry year, cannot be completely drained empty and thus maintaining an ample supply of fire water for shed protection.

A unique interconnection of the overflow systems of the tank sheds drains all the surplus water into a dam near the homestead to provide another valuable source of fire water in a time of extreme emergency.

Winter grass growth around the homestead and the sheds is slashed and windrowed early in October each year and after a suitable curing time is burnt.

Small and awkward areas around the farmyard receive the same treatment using a hand operated power lawnmower.

As an added protection, areas around all farm buildings and close by farmyard fences are treated with a ground sterilant chemical spray to provide a metre wide "bare area" firebreak.

This job is usually done in May or June in time to kill and prevent winter grass growth.

Another important fire protection program on Broadacres is its shed and building design and the co-ordinated plan of their use.

All sheds are bird and vermin proofed as far as practicable, the farm workshop and repair centre is a separate building to the main machinery storing sheds and doorways are planned to allow the quickest and easiest possible exit of equipment in the event of a shed fire.

Still in the farmyard area, Reg makes sure that inflammables such as hay stacks and stump stacks are made and stored in the least possible danger areas.

This, in the case of Broadacres, is on the south eastern side of the farmyard area away from the northern and western (prevailing summer winds) danger zones.

The sheepyards (usually bare ground) are also in this area and the danger to the house and sheds from radiated heat and flying sparks is kept to a minimum.

As a farmer, Reg says he is part of a dying breed on EP. He is a long-term fallow farmer and his fallowing program plays an important part in his fire protection plans.

His cropping program is planned with fire protection very much in mind.

Two dangerous areas like the northern and western sides of the farm are not cropped in the same year.

He plans his firebreaks before seeding.

Plans are also made for safe areas in each cropping paddock for storing harvesting equipment overnight and at weekends. Firebreak positions are varied each year.

In ley paddocks, Reg Robinson usually has his firebreaks well inside the position used in a cropping year.

Beside giving a much wider firebreak it also provides wide access routes throughout the farm for moving livestock, and assists in reducing the incidence of erosion by both wind and water.

Paddock access and the positioning of stock watering points also play a big part in the bushfire planning program on Broadacres.

Gateways and stock watering facilities are all erected in corners where up to four paddocks meet.

These corner spots also contain either natural scrub or planted trees for summer shade for the livestock.

In the event of a bushfire on a hot day, Reg Robinson says the stock would normally be in the shaded area near the water trough and close to the corner gateway system.

Because of this paddock design, it is a relatively easy job to locate the stock and move them onto safe fallow ground if a bushfire was threatening them.

A farm plan kept at the homestead shows where the stock are, where the safe fallow paddocks are and the quickest and easiest route for their transfer.

In his office, Reg Robinson has his farm plan map, a map of the district and details showing district access routes and where fire water is available.

Duplicate copies of these maps are carried in the farm fire truck and in other farm vehicles.

Also attached to these maps are what Reg Robinson calls his "standing orders in the event of a bushfire".

The list details the various steps to be followed when a fire breaks out or is reported and is used by all members of the family.

A member of the CFS for more than 20 years, Reg Robinson was president of the Yeelanna division for 12 years, is a past radio communications officer of the Lower EP Fire Fighting Association and is president of the Lincoln District Fire Fighting Association.

Reg Robinson admits that because of the industry he is in and the location of his farm, the possibility of a bushfire, under extreme conditions, burning him out still exists, but is emphatic that his planning and general awareness of the dangers have reduced that risk greatly.

Article reproduced courtesy of Mr D. East and *The Stock Journal*.

Continued page 8



Wide driveways around the homestead form an important part of the fire prevention program on Reg Robinson's Broadacres farm, Yeelanna. Wide avenues of windbreak trees on the dangerous western and northern sides of the house also aid the protection from fire of the Robinson home.



Reg Robinson checks out the efficiency of his on-farm fire truck and equipment. Regular off-season checks and maintenance of his equipment ensures the unit is ready at all times.

STUDY ON FIRE CONTROLS FOR COUNTRY AREAS

The Country Fire Services Research and Fire Protection Division is carrying out a long-term assessment of fire control requirements for those areas of the State protected by the C.F.S.

The Division's Acting Superintendent, Tony Crichton, says the assessment will be conducted in liaison with local corporations and district councils.

The study is to look at the various types of potential fire risks associated with local communities and how best protective measures can be implemented.

"It will be some time before the results can be analysed, but it is felt that the survey will contribute greatly towards future fire prevention and protection for a large number of communities," Mr Crichton said.

The Research and Fire Protection Division is engaged in assisting with a wide range of advisory services to C.F.S. brigades and the public.

It has also contributed towards the computer-based study of developing a network of fire-spotting towers in the Mount Lofty Ranges, and to the computerising of C.F.S. fire statistics.

The Division's officers are also involved heavily in investigating the causes of fires, and provide a 24-hour service in this area.

On-going projects include fire access track inspections and recommendations; liaison with State and local government authorities on land subdivisions and housing developments in fire-prone areas; and inspections of fire protection measures at solid waste disposal depots throughout the State.

BEWARE DANGEROUS CHEMICALS ON FARMS

SADDLEWORTH — At the 726th meeting of the Saddleworth Agricultural Bureau, held in the Supper Room on Monday night, farmers were warned on the use of dangerous chemical pesticides and weedicides used in rural areas in relation to employed labour.

In a hard-hitting address by Mr Harry Goatham, the assistant chief inspector for the Department of Industrial Affairs and Employment, the Industrial Safety and Welfare Act (Rural) was read and fully explained.

Mr Goatham dealt with the State Government Act dealing with the responsibility of the farmer when he is employing labour on the farm, especially in relation to the use of chemical weedicides and pesticides. All these chemicals were found in the 'Agricultural Chemical Regulations'.

He warned that all and every employee must be fully covered by the Workers Compensation Act and this was required by law.

He dealt with the complex problems arising from claims under this Act and stated that courts were courts of law and not courts of justice.

He read out the Act dealing with the use of agricultural sprays. He warned that if any serious accident or fatality occurred on any farm in S.A., the Department of Industrial Affairs and Employment must be advised and that the inspector from that department would immediately undertake a thorough and searching examination on all aspects of the accident.

INSURANCE

It would be extremely serious for any farmer who was working outside the Act and did not have any insurance to cover the accident.

The lawyers who handle such accident claims were experts in their field and he strongly advised that if any farmer had such an accident on his property, to immediately seek the services of a lawyer well versed in industrial accidents.

He went on to deal with the precautions necessary in storage, mixing and the use of any insecticide.

All these precautions must be observed at all times and strictly carried out especially if hired workers were present.

The instructions on the labels of these chemicals must be read by both the farmer and his employee. The farmer must see that all these instructions are carried out as it is his responsibility for the safety of his workers.

Protective clothing must be supplied and used and all spraying equipment must be decontaminated after use. Personal hygiene was very important as laid down under the act must be provided.

First aid equipment must also be immediately available.

Empty containers must be flattened and they must not be used for any other purpose.

Mr Goatham then went on to deal with the dangers of compressed air, the right and wrong way of lifting, the use of ladders, etc.

He also dealt with the storage of fuel on farms and the transportation of dangerous chemical on the highway, and explained Hazchem and its importance in any emergency.

Editorial reproduced courtesy *Northern Argus*.

IN THE SOUTH EAST

New body formed for fire control

BY NORM HANSEN

NARACOORTE: The formation of the central border fire advisory committee follows the need to co-ordinate activities of all volunteer personnel called to fight major fires in border areas.

CFS regional officer, Mr Murray Sherwell said the Border Fire Control Advisory Committee was re-structured to form this new body to include the areas of Tatiara, Kaniva, Naracoorte and northern portions of the Penola council area.

It covers a narrow strip from the SA-Victorian border to Edenhope and 20km on the SA side of the border.

The committee comprises of members of local government, CFS, Woods and Forest Department, national parks and wildlife and the SA Police Department, with councillor Jim Possingham of Naracoorte as chairman.

The aims of the committee are to obtain better procedures in reporting fires, more effective control, better communication, fire terminology and proper means of handling dangerous substances.

R. O. Sherwell said the idea is expected to extend from Tatiara right up to the NSW border.

Editorial courtesy *The News*.



Make the break from fire with Roundup[®] herbicide.

Protect your property and stock from the ravages of fire with a safe and effective firebreak created with Roundup herbicide by Monsanto.

Roundup herbicide offers two successful management techniques for the establishment of firebreaks.

One method uses Roundup herbicide plus a residual herbicide such as Simazine for long term control.

The other method involves late season spraying with Roundup followed by burning.

Weed control with Roundup is the effective alternative to cultivation,

grading or slashing in difficult areas such as fencelines, road sides and culverts.

Roundup herbicide controls a wide range of weeds including phalaris.

It translocates into the weeds' root system to prevent regrowth.

Roundup has no residual activity in the soil, thus nearby trees will not be affected by root uptake and its low toxicity presents a minimal hazard to operators.

Break the chances of fire this summer with Roundup herbicide.

For further information see your local Monsanto or Ciba Geigy representative.

Make a firebreak with Roundup[®] herbicide.

Fire Prevention Week Observed by many . . .

The 1982 Fire Prevention Week programme and the resultant observance and awareness of the fire prevention message by the public is attributed directly to the participants.

Acknowledgement is made to the C.F.S. brigades and co-emergency service organisations who attended the "City Parade of Fire Units"; to those C.F.S. brigades unable to participate in the city parade due to the high fire risk within their own area, who in turn organised their own "local parade" to promote fire awareness; to the Industrial Fire Services who contributed by holding their annual "I.F.S. fire fighting drill competitions" and "Factory Demonstration"; to the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service who held their annual "Pyre Lighting Ceremony", "Evacuation Exercise" and took part in the city parade; and the Australian Fire Protection Association (A.F.P.A.) who organised the annual "B.P. Creative Arts and Crafts Competition" (sponsored by B.P. and the Savings Bank of S.A.) and conducted a "Fire Technology in Buildings" seminar.

Special acknowledgement with sincere thanks goes to the many country newspapers who featured "Fire Prevention Supplements" in their respective newspapers to coincide with F.P.W. The media's valuable contribution helped make the annual programme the most successful held.

OFFICIAL OPENING — Friday 22nd October

Fire Prevention Week 1982 was officially opened by the Hon. W. E. Chapman, M.P., previous Minister of Agriculture, representing the S.A. Government. The venue was a private residence, set in a bush setting; the home of Mr and Mrs Sam and Lyn Mendolia of One Tree Hill.

The Theme: "Protective measures for Dwellings in High Fire Prone Areas".

In his opening speech Mr Chapman said, "this year the theme of Fire Prevention Week is fire safety for residents in the Adelaide Hills and other urban fringe areas of South Australia.

Fire protection begins with the planning and designing of one's home, the preparation of the site, and thereafter annual protective management.

In the Adelaide Hills and urban fringe area there is an enormous public and private investment in real estate, all of which demands protection, and is far too vulnerable to fire.

Experience has shown that where a property is protected by careful planning and the provision of fire retarding and fire fighting equipment, the losses are minimised.

This year we are launching Fire Prevention Week at the home of Sam and Lyn Mendolia for a very good reason. This attractive home, garden, indeed the whole property, proudly presents an example for all to follow.

The solid brick home is surrounded by extensive brick paving, landscaped gardens, outdoor leisure areas and a swimming pool serving additional roles in the overall protection plan", said Mr Chapman.

PROTECTION PLAN

The Mendolias have embarked on a programme of vegetation management around the house and the adjoining area. Removing the undergrowth regularly. The trees are placed clear of the house and their canopies are kept trimmed to reduce fire jumping from tree to tree, in the event of an outbreak.

All sensible and commendable precautions advocated for years by the authorities, but unfortunately taken on board by too few . . .

The house and the adjacent carport are protected by a series of eight (8) sprinklers installed at roof line. They are connected to an auxiliary petrol pump drawing water from the swimming pool. The spread of water from the sprinklers extends approx 20 metres beyond the house and Mr Mendolia estimates that the 18,000 gallons in the pool should provide enough water for the sprinklers to operate for about 10 hours. Hoses can also be connected to the fire pump at the pool to provide additional protection.

Spread through the surrounding gardens are a further 12 sprinklers, supplied from a bore, equipped with an electric pump. These sprinklers can be used while there is electric power available. Mr Mendolia envisages that in the event of an imminent bush fire this system could be switched on to dampen the area before a power breakdown occurs.

An intensively developed property, but still leaving access for fire fighting vehicles, the whole area is appropriately sign-posted, in the event of the family being absent. Neglect of these responsibilities places the lives of our volunteers at great risk, for the C.F.S. Volunteers protect life and property and they do it on a voluntary basis. In recognition for this tremendous work we all need to remind ourselves of our responsibility to their welfare, as well as our own.

Mr Mendolia said the layout of his property allows him and his family to enjoy about one hectare around the house area which provides good fire protection for the house and immediate surrounds, with the remaining three hectares left as natural bushland, which houses two large dams and access for fire fighting vehicles.

In selecting a pump to handle his requirements, a pump manufacturer advised on the type and capacity of pump best suited to the purpose. It is to be noted that the pump, as fire fighting equipment, was exempt from sales tax. The petrol pump delivers some 1,800 gallons of water per hour and with the swimming pool capacity of 18,000 gallons, the supply should last for some nine (9) to ten (10) hours.

Sam says that he first used one inch diameter galvanised piping for the sprinklers but found the mineral content of his bore water affected the pipes and reduced pressure, so he replaced the galvanised piping with two inch PVC piping.

Sam estimates that his initial costs, two or three years ago, for pumps, sprinklers — butterfly type — piping and other accessories was approximately \$500.

It is Sam's intention to teach fire protection procedures to all his children. The eldest two children assisted with the assembly and installation of the sprinkler system and know how to operate the system.

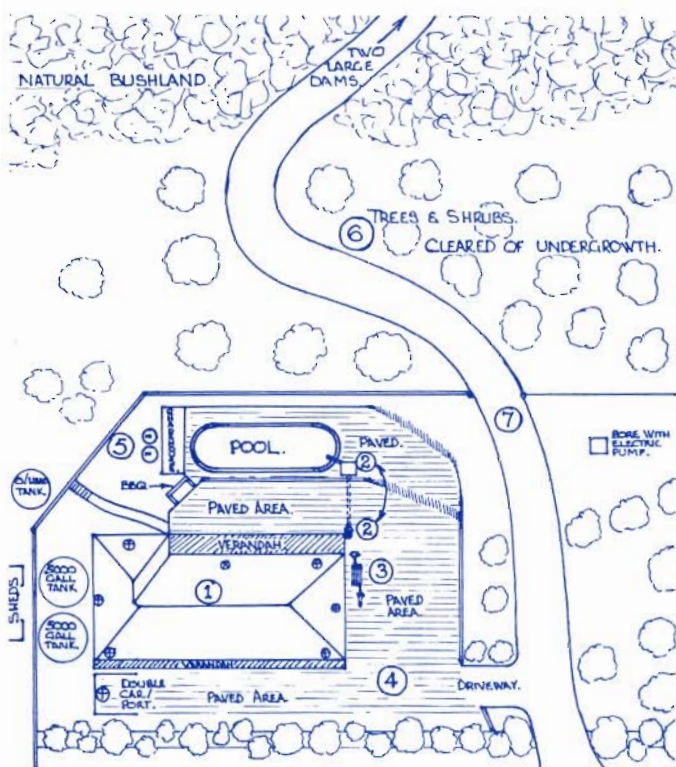
He believes in regular testing of both the four-stroke petrol pump and the sprinkler, even during the winter period, to ensure all are kept in working order.

Sam realises the drawback with all mechanical fire protection systems is that there must be an able-bodied person at home to start the engine.

In focusing Fire Prevent Week 1982 on the fire protection measures at the home of Sam and Lyn Mendolia, it is pertinent to note that the development work undertaken by Mr and Mrs Mendolia on their property has been achieved in three years.

Their efforts, highly commended by C.F.S. Officers, serve to illustrate measures which may be economically and easily implemented by others who are living or wish to live in a similar environment.

Their protection measures could apply equally to homes in the Adelaide Hills or any area with a high fire risk.



OPENING OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 1982:- LEGEND.	
1	SPRINKLERS ON HOUSE & CARPORT ROOF
2	PETROL MOTOR & PUMP FROM SWIMMING POOL FOR FIRE HOSE (3) NEAR THE HOUSE & FOR ROOF SPRINKLERS
3	FLEXIBLE FIRE HOSE ADJ. TO THE HOUSE.
4	CLEAR PAVED AREA ON NORTH EAST & WEST SIDES OF HOUSE.
5	LPG CYLINDER STORAGE, SHELTERED & AWAY FROM HOUSE.
6	TREES & SHRUBS WITH UNDERGROWTH CLEARED AS A BUFFER ZONE.
7	TRACK ON NORTH SIDE PROVIDES GOOD FIRE BREAK & ACCESS TO WATER IN DAMS.
8	GRAZING PADDOCKS ON SOUTH & SOUTH WEST PERIMETER.

Fire Prevention Week observed by many . . . continued

Highlights of the morning programme were:

A tree planting ceremony to commemorate the International Year of the Tree; a presentation of tree shrubs to children of the One Tree Hill Primary School, by Councillor Cyril Thornton, Deputy Chairman, District Council of Munno Para; and a demonstration of the Bushfire Sprinkler System.

An A.F.P.A. shield was presented to the Mendolia family, by Mr. L. C. Johns, Chairman, Fire Prevention Week Committee, as a token of appreciation from the A.F.P.A. for allowing the use of their home and facilities to some 80 invited guests. The inscription reads:

"Fire Prevention Week 1982, opened by the Honourable W. E. Chapman, Minister of Agriculture, 22nd October 1982, featuring Property Fire Protection; in appreciation and co-operation of Sam and Lyn Mendolia and family."

Acknowledgement is made to the following organisations for their support: District Council of Munno Para; G. Gramp & Sons, Rowlands Flat; George Chapmans Pty. Ltd., Parkside; Patra Sales Pty. Ltd., Mile End; B. F. Clark, Virginia; Nomis Electronics Pty. Ltd., Black Forest; A1 Always Passenger Service, Evanston; Lawry's Signs, Para Hills; Riverton Combined Emergency Service Organisation; One Tree Hill Progress Association; One Tree Hill C.F.S. Brigade; Northfield C.F.S. Brigade and St. John Ambulance.



The two eldest children of the Mendolia family, Marina aged 13 (pictured left) and Antony aged 11 demonstrate the simple setting up procedures for the operation of the bushfire sprinkler system.



Thirteen-year-old Marina Mendolia reviews the instructions of the bushfire sprinkler controls supervised by her father Mr. Sam Mendolia.

Pictured below are members of the One Tree Hill C.F.S. beside their fire appliance. One Tree Hill is one of the five C.F.S. brigades who protect and service voluntarily in the Munno Para District. The districts 285 fire personnel comprise of 18 officers, 193 Firemen, 37 Auxiliary Firemen and 37 lady auxiliary members. The fireforce comprises of 10 fire appliances, one rescue vehicle and 3 command cars, all radio equipped. Altogether there are 33 transceivers, static or mobile. The Para Wirra National Park, with 3 fire fighting vehicles work closely with our fire service. In the past 7 years there has been 1662 fire calls in Munno Para District, that's an average of 237 callouts a year.



City Parade of Fire Units — Saturday 23rd October
WAIKERIE C.F.S. "UP FRONT" IN FIRE PARADE



Waikerie C.F.S. brigade, through its honour of being the "Best and Most Efficient Appliance and Crew" in this year's Country Fire Services State Fire Fighting Drill Championships, led the annual Fire Prevention Week "City Parade of Fire Units" in Adelaide on Saturday, 23rd October, 1982.

A contingent of some 500 personnel, with 60 Country Fire Services, 6 S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service and 14 ancillary emergency services appliances, took part in the biggest ever staged annual fire parade.

The Waikerie C.F.S. brigade proudly led the parade; However, their newest unit, a 1981 South Australian built International ACCO 1910, 4 x 2 fire appliance had to take second place to a "1924 Garford" fire truck, which had been restored by the Waikerie C.F.S. volunteers.

The "Garford" is pictured above, at the head of the procession, which started from the Torrens Parade Ground and travelled along King William Street to Victoria Square. The salute was taken on the Rundle Mall by the Hon. Ted Chapman, M.P., Minister of Agriculture.

The parade was attended by C.F.S. units from as far away as Keith, Penola, Karoonda, Waikerie, Eudunda, The Lower North and the Adelaide Hills.

Country Fire Services' units from the West Coast and Lower Flinders remained at their bases in view of the high fire danger already existing in those areas.



Fire Parade . . . biggest yet.

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I.F.S. COMPETITIONS — Sunday 24th October

WINNERS — G.M.H. ELIZABETH

The Industrial Fire Services held their interfactory 1982 Fire Squad Competitions at General Motors Holdens, Elizabeth Plant, Sunday 24th October.

Chief Judge Mr. A. Bruce, S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service Chief welcomed the I.F.S. teams and visitors to the competitions.

"The S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service regards the work of the Industrial Fire Services as a very important feature in fire protection of industrial plants . . . Without the I.F.S., a plant fire at some stage could lead to disastrous consequences. The I.F.S. are a vital link in plant protection, pending the arrival of the S.A.M.F.S.," said Mr. Bruce.

Competitions of this type develop the skills of the I.F.S. teams, needed to combat industrial fires.



G.M.H. Elizabeth Division 1 and 2 Teams who won the competition events overall are pictured above proudly displaying their trophies. From left back row — Messrs Dave Burgess (G.M.H. Woodville); Garry Greatbatch, Arthur Hawkins; John Oldenhove (Captain); with Alan Bruce, Chief S.A.M.F.S., Ron Troost and Adrian Johnson. Front row — Division 2 team, Messrs Tom Moore; Glen Clarke; Doug Wickham and Mike Nelson. Trophies won were the Fire Fighting Equipment Trophy (Division 1 — 4 Man Dry/Wet Drill); Phillips Industrial Trophy (Division 2 — 4 Man Dry/Wet Drill); and Robert Owens Holdings Trophy (I.F.S. Champion Team — Division 1). The One Man Hose Drill event was won by Mr. Dave Burgess, G.M.H. Woodville, Division 2 team, who received the Bridgestone Perpetual Trophy.

FOOTNOTE: Two of the I.F.S. team members also wear the C.F.S. beret and fire helmet. Mr. Tom Moore; ex C.F.S. H/Q Reserve; C.F.S. Competition Judge; A.F.P.A. member; and Safety Fire Officer, G.M.H. Elizabeth; previously held office as F.C.O. Tea Tree Gully C.F.S.; Instructor at Mt. Lofty C.F.S. Training Centre and has the honour of being the first Fire Officer for Northfield E.F.S. in 1963. Mr. Glen Clarke has been an active member of the Tea Tree Gully C.F.S. since 22nd January, 1979, and is a regular member of the Tea Tree Gully C.F.S. team competing in the annual Regional Fire Fighting Drill competitions.



G.M.H. Elizabeth — Division 1 . . . winning team.

PYRE LIGHTING CEREMONY — Monday 25th October

The Honourable J. W. Olsen, M.P. previous Chief Secretary who held the portfolio of the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service, was officiate at the Pyre Lighting ceremony. Mr. Olsen spoke on the proposed multi-million dollar S.A.M.F.S. H/Q city complex to be built; and of the significance of lighting the pyre.

"The very real meaning of the act of lighting this pyre . . . lies in the emotions partially symbolised by the flame. The fear, destruction, the heartache and sorrow, death and community suffering . . . all of these emotions are tragically represented by this fire. To even attempt to fulfil the aims of this week the fire service and the community in which it serves must actively pursue fire prevention practices through reviewing safe practices in homes, commercial buildings, factories and offices. . . People should be made aware of how to handle fire should it occur, with safety and diligence . . . Fire Prevention should be aimed at increasing the community's awareness of the potential hazards of fire, the problems associated with reducing these risks, to identify fire hazards and thus hopefully avoid them. In 1981, 177 lives were lost in this country through fire, 7 of which were in S.A. The cost of \$259 million lost through fire in 1980, represents an enormous burden to the community at large," said Mr. Olsen.



Following the lighting of the pyre, a demonstration of aerial fire fighting equipment was held to show the capabilities of the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service, when fire prevention activities fail and the fire suppression area of the service must be put into operation.

B.P. CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION

— Tuesday 26th October

(refer front cover article, Pages 4 & 5)

A.F.P.A. SEMINAR — Wednesday 27th October

'FIRE TECHNOLOGY IN BUILDINGS'

Arranged by the State Committee of the Australian Fire Protection Association the "Fire Technology in Buildings" seminar held at C.F.S. H/Q, emanated from the 1981-3 day National Conference, at the Festival Centre, Adelaide, where it was resolved that the A.F.P.A. approach key organisations which have responsibility for or an interest in fire protection and fire protection in buildings. The goals being: (1) To work towards the development of a unified approach to fire protection and prevention. (2) To work with organizations representing the interests of handicapped persons to bring about a greater awareness of the needs of handicapped persons, in respect to fire safety. (3) To work towards a provision of adequate measures to protect handicapped persons against fires in buildings, with special emphasis on means of egress.

To promote these resolutions, the seminar was planned and specially directed towards architects, designers, consulting engineers, building surveyors inspectors, the owners, developers and builders and those involved in the application of statutory requirements and standards for fire safety in buildings.

Continued page 13

Fire Prevention Week continued A.F.P.A. SEMINAR continued

Attended by 120 delegates the seminar was reported to have achieved its goals, affording those involved in fire prevention, the opportunity to meet to discuss the latest developments in fire technology in buildings, recognising a need for a constant awareness of modern fire prevention techniques to be applied to contemporary building practices to minimise the loss of human life and suffering. These efforts once combined will enhance community safety and security for the benefit of everybody in the community.

The A.F.P.A. seminar was followed by a display and demonstration of fire detection and fire protection systems and equipment.

I.F.S. DEMONSTRATION — Thursday 28th October

Rubery Owen Holdings (parent company of Rubery Owen & Kemsley) makers of aluminium wheels, have a unique fire hazard in its Woodville North plant. The "swarf" (both in ribbon and powder form) from the aluminium machining is highly combustible and when ignited burns strongly, while in its paint area, R.O.H. uses highly volatile paints and spirits which are an industrial fire hazard.

The company has its own specially trained Industrial Fire Services Fire Squad who demonstrated their efficiency in dealing with mock fires:

Fire 1 — A simulated thinners and paint plant fire (consisted of petrol and oil that was extinguished with foam and dry powder extinguishers.



Fire 2 — A bin containing general factory refuse — cardboard, timber etc, (on ignition was 'put out' by air/water extinguishers — refer above photo).

Fire 3 — A bin contained "Aluminium swarf," once alight burnt fiercely. Water was applied to show the *incorrect* method first, followed by the application of *Dry Powder* the *correct* extinguishing agent which correctly smothered the fire.

EVACUATION EXERCISE — Friday 29th October

Signaled by fire alarms, an orderly evacuation involving upwards of 1,000 people from the 21 office floors of the Grenfell Centre Building, Grenfell Street, Adelaide took place, as the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service implemented a city 'turn-out' of four fire units including the Snorkel, in a 'staged' evacuation exercise (part of the F.P.W. programme).

Acknowledgement is given to the A.M.P. Society as owners of the Grenfell Centre for their co-operation in organising the exercise.



A "victim" suffering from smoke inhalation in the staged evacuation exercise is treated by a S.A.M.F.S. Officer.

Evacuation Drill procedures are important to the safety of thousands of people who work, or visit high-rise buildings, and regular drills are necessary to ensure smooth evacuation in times of emergency.

C.F.S. Acknowledged in fire services book.

A total of fourteen South Australian Country Fire Services Brigades representing the 464 registered C.F.S. brigades, 19 regional firefighting associations and 11,500 volunteers; will be featured in a book "Muscle and Pluck Forever", subtitled "The South Australian Fire Services 1838 to 1982".

One of the brigades to be given the honour of appearing in the book, Millicent CFS is a member of the Millicent and District CFS which comprises of 13 CFS brigades who protect 95,200 hectares under the responsibility of the Millicent District Council in the South East. The brigade will be included in the Fire Services book, reported to be the world's most detailed and comprehensive history of the community fire service(s); to be published in February/March 1983.

Other C.F.S. brigade stations appearing in the fire services book, will be: Aldgate, Balaklava, Bridgewater, Franklin Harbour, Jamestown, Keith, Kimba, Mt. Barker, Meningie, Salisbury, Tea Tree Gully and District; Virginia and Waikerie.



Pictured above is the combined Millicent CFS and St. John Ambulance Station which houses three fire vehicles, a salvage/rescue trailer and St. John Ambulance units.

The Millicent fire fighting force consists of 25 volunteer crew members and 6 cadets; a 1976 Acco 4 wheel drive truck with all aluminium tray; 3,150 litre water tank and Magaris Pump; an Acco 610A urban/rural 1981 fire fighting unit (ex CFS state spare), built in New Zealand on an International 4 x 4 chassis with all aluminium construction, crew compartment, 2,700 litre water tank and front mounted Darley Champion HF400 with a pump and roll capacity; and a Toyota Land Cruiser with 400 litre tank and Finsbury pump, which responds first to a callout to appraise the fire situation and doubles as a "control vehicle" at major fires.

Articles covered in the book include: History of the South Australian Fire Brigades from 1882; Recruitment of Volunteers as Auxiliary Firemen in 1939; Birth of the Emergency Fire Services, and Volunteer Bushfire and Township Brigades and the Developments to the Present Day Fire Services.

Adelaide author, Mr Michael Page, said: "The book has everything except a love story. Tragedy, drama and humour appear in its pages. And without the efforts of Mr Malcolm Bryant, S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service fire officer and historian who, over the past 18 years has collected history from old newspapers, minute books/records, and has collated 200 files on material of the State's fire services from 1836 to 1982; the book would not have been possible to produce".

Don't believe fire cannot happen to you!

By Lloyd Johns, Chairman, Fire Prevention Week Committee

The economic and climatic conditions currently prevailing in South Australia are having a serious enough effect on the community without being compounded by unnecessary losses and damage caused through fires.

There are some situations which cannot be avoided — fire is not one of them.

And, so through the holding of Fire Prevention Week on a national and State level, attention is once more drawn to the dangers of fire. All should realise that the need for care and good-housekeeping in ensuring that fire hazards are removed, does not end when the 'Week' concludes.

The 'Week' highlights the total and ongoing need for public awareness of the dangers of fire — irrespective of whether it be in the heart of the city or the furthest extremity of the State.

And, regardless of whether people live in suburban Adelaide or work the land well away from the city, all are exposed to the dangers associated with fire.

Fire prevention and protection for John and Mary Citizen is a continuous learning process. Experience — often with bitter consequences — has shown that no-one can be so self-assured as to ignore the multitude of situations which may lead to fires occurring.

While large building fires and bushfires hit the headlines, many unnecessary fires happen throughout the State at all times of the year, causing tragedy and heartbreak through death or injury and property damage.

Fire Prevention Week reminds the people of South Australia that many of these fires can be avoided through the adoption of sound fire prevention procedures as an essential part of day to day living.

Believing that it won't happen to you, personally, is a myth.

Fires threat to hobby farmers

The Insurance Council of Australia says city dwellers in moving to semi-rural or urban fringe areas often overlook and are not prepared for the threat of bushfires.

In its leaflet on *'Bushfire Safety in Urban Fringe Areas'*, the council says that city or suburban life cannot adequately prepare a person for the sight of a large fire burning on a wide front across the countryside.

While most full-time farmers are properly equipped to defend their properties against bushfires, few owners of farmlets would see the need for knapsack sprays, truck-mounted tanks, dozer-tractors and other heavy equipment normally used on larger farms.

However, there are many ways of protecting property and not all involve the use of machinery.

Appropriate landscaping around the house can reduce the risk of fire damage.

Although landscaping is a long-term solution, there are many ways to reduce the fire risk, for example: storing fuel in safe containers, and well away from the house; keeping firewood neatly stacked and clear of buildings; clearing dead material from under shrubs and trees.

If the worst happens, and a fire does threaten the property, there are a number of measures which will minimise the risk of flying embers igniting the home.

If the house does catch fire, it is not always necessary to evacuate immediately.

However, it is always wise to have a plan and to be prepared to use it at any time.

In any case, proper precautions will always minimise the probability of fires starting inside the dwelling.

LANDSCAPING*

The most effective way towards long-term protection is landscaping.

With a little thought and forward planning, it is possible to create an attractive effect while maintaining a cleared area around the house.

A windbreak planted some distance from the house on the side facing the prevailing summer winds will help stop flying embers reaching your home.

TREE SELECTION

Selection of trees can also reduce the hazard. Smooth-barked trees are less easily ignited by burning grass, and are less likely to allow crevices where a burning ember could lodge.

When selecting trees for planting, avoid those which shed bark in long streamers.

Plant trees at a distance from the house sufficient to ensure that when fully mature the branches do not overhang the eaves of the house, dropping leaves into the gutters.

Trees already growing close to the house should be pruned back from the roofline and regularly checked for regrowth in this direction.

Closer to the house, small shrubs and ground-cover should be planted. However, some native trees and shrubs are highly flammable, having leaves with a high oil content, and papery bark. Melaleuca, Leptospermum, Banksia and Hakea are quite flammable under dry conditions, and should not be planted in clumps, under trees, or near the house. Cassia, Acacia, Callistemon, Cotoneaster, Pyracontha and such shrubs are safe provided they are isolated, and dried debris is cleared from under them at regular intervals.

A word of warning about trees and shrubs: removal of all such growth from around your house can actually increase the fire danger, by increasing the wind-speed in the immediate area and thus the likely fire intensity and rate of spread. In addition to a windbreak line it is a good idea to plant your trees at random to extend the effects of the windbreak.

AROUND THE HOUSE

The best way to prevent fire spreading to the house is to stop burning embers getting into places where they can start a fire.

All eaves should be boxed in or covered with fine wire mesh. Do not use fibreglass mesh, as it melts easily.

Roof vents should also be covered with wire mesh. Gaps in the end of roofing should be filled with cement, plaster, or other non-combustible material.

Doors and windows should be fitted with wire screens on the outside.

The space under the floor of the house should be enclosed, either by wire mesh or some solid material.

Make sure water is available to fight small outbreaks. Taps should be installed at strategic locations, preferably some distance from the house, and at least one tap should be fitted with a hose long enough to reach right around to the other side of the house.

It is likely that mains water pressure will drop during a fire emergency, due to demands by both brigade units and householders safeguarding their homes. So it is wise to have a back-up supply independent of mains water pressure. The easiest way to ensure this is to obtain a portable high-pressure pump with its own diesel or petrol powered motor (electricity may also fail during a fire). This should be fitted with a long hose, and enough pick-up pipe to reach a water supply.

If the home is supplied with bottled LP Gas, make sure the safety valve on the bottles face away from the house. Even if fire is licking around the bottles they will not generally explode. The design is such that the safety valve will open and gas will be vented. This gas may ignite, so provided the vents face away from the house and attachments it should burn harmlessly.

Care should be taken in storing flammable liquids, keep only a small supply and ensure that they are stored in well sealed metal containers.

*Refer article page 15 "Landscaping cuts fire risks."

*Landscaping cuts fire risks

The Mount Lofty Fire Ban District is South Australia's greatest fire prone area and in 1981-82 50 per cent of fires attended by the Country Fire Services occurred in this district.

The Mount Lofty fire ban district, which includes the Adelaide Hills, stretches from the Barossa Valley in the north, to Cape Jervis/Goolwa in the south, and inland to Murray Bridge.

The C.F.S. says that fire protection should be a critical factor in landscape planning for the area.

Fires have always been an integral part of the hills environment and were inevitable. However, through careful planning residents could provide protection without undue interference to the environment or their lifestyle.

Two features which have considerable effect on fire behaviour are topography and vegetation.

Topography

Fires burn more quickly and with greater intensity up hill than on the flat or down hill. From a fire protection aspect, ridge tops and steep northerly slopes are the most dangerous sites to build on. Gullies substantially modify wind direction creating turbulence and thus erratic fire behaviour.

Steep, rough country also hampers the movement of fire equipment and the ability of fire fighters to control fires. Fire crews risk their lives when taking heavy equipment down narrow, winding dead end tracks through thick vegetation where they could easily become trapped. Proper access should allow for safe movement and turn-around of fire units.

For the safety of residents and their property it is essential to have an adequate independent water supply for fire fighting.

Clear sign posting of access to property and water will assist fire crews.

Vegetation

The vegetation is the fuel on which a bushfire feeds and grows. Reduction of this fuel by clearing undergrowth provides one of the best methods of fire protection.

Trees will help to protect houses.

The removal of all trees and shrubs from around a house can increase the fire hazard and would also be aesthetically undesirable. Trees reduce wind speed, therefore, fire intensity and rate of spread must be reduced also.

Trees should be spaced so that there is not continuous canopy or lines of flammable undergrowth from bushland to house.

Overhanging trees will deposit a large amount of debris on to a roof thus increasing fire hazard.

The greatest danger to trees and therefore the house, comes from burning undergrowth and fallen or dead tree litter igniting the tree.

A planned approach would be:

*Clear out flammable undergrowth. Wanted undergrowth may have to be sacrificed for safety of trees.

*In dense native scrub, thin out the poorer tree specimens.

*Prune dead limbs and overhanging boughs.

*Hand clear snagged leaves and twigs from branch forks.

*Where desired, grow lawns under trees or keep undergrowth mown.

Where trees are being planted select tree species better suited to the garden.

Deciduous trees are suitable for planting nearest to buildings as they drop no litter during summer. Smooth barked Eucalypts and open canopies are a good choice providing their boughs are well clear of the house roof.

Trees generally unsuitable for planting adjacent to buildings are conifers, cypresses and rough barked eucalypts. Such trees should be planted well back from buildings.

NEW PERSONALISED FIRE FIGHTING UNIT



A new fire protection unit designed for fast action fire fighting is being marketed by N. J. Denyer Pty. Limited for the fire-conscious farmer and land owner.

The unit, mounted on a strong steel frame with lifting handles, has an "all-up" weight of 250 kgs (550 lbs) including water. This allows a further 100 kgs (220 lbs) of pay load for the average utility.

Denyer designed the product as a result of numerous requests from farmers for a smaller-sized unit that was easily operated and quickly mobile. It is suggested that the unit be permanently mounted on the tray at the beginning of the fire season or at least on high fire risk days. Permanent mounting is recommended by the manufacturer since the tank would not have to be emptied and refilled before and after storage.

The unit is invaluable during harvest or while paddock welding — it is much quicker than a knapsack spray and far more effective.

With the mobility of a utility, a fire can be reached quickly. This applies particularly to roadside fires. The tank has enough water for approximately four minutes of continuous running and with an 8 metre (25') hose and an 8 metre (25') jet the unit gives a good cover. A larger unit is available — 450 litres (100 gall.) tank for one tonne trucks.

Provision is made for filling the tank from a dam or trough as well as through the normal filler cap.

Outside the fire season, the Denyer fire fighting unit is ideal equipment for spraying of weeds along fence lines etc. with chemical herbicides, where a boom spray cannot reach. It is only a matter of replacing the fire nozzle with a spray wand.

What may seem a luxury is a dire necessity when fire is recognised as a deadly threat to life and land.

For further information contact N. J. Denyer Pty. Limited, 55 Bacon Street, Hindmarsh, telephone (08) 46 5081.

JACK THE RIPPER New Swedish Safety Knife



"Jack" is an all purpose lightweight safety knife for a multitude of uses and is especially handy in fire rescue operations for cutting webbing or safety belts.

It cuts rope, webbing, string and plastic film in a swift one handed operation.

Two super sharp, replaceable blades are fixed in the jaws of the knife through which only items to be cut can enter.

No more accidents, no more cut fingers. No sheath required and 'Jack' can be safely carried in a pocket.

Distributed throughout Australia by Macson Trading Company, 44 Alexander Parade, Clifton Hill, 3068.



DID YOU KNOW?

The concentration of CO₂ required to extinguish common B and C class fires is: 25 to 55% v/v

For example:

Acetylene 55% (NFPA Booklet No. 12, 1980, page 31)

Carbon monoxide 53%

Natural gas 31%

Petrol 28%

Methane 25%

The ILO Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety (1977) on page 251 summarises the hazards of carbon dioxide as follows:-

"A concentration of 5% carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (i.e. 50,000 ppm) may produce shortness of breath and headache in those exposed to it, but no deleterious chronic effects are regarded as having been due to repeated exposure to the gas. It is as an asphyxiant that it presents its greatest danger. At a concentration of 10%, carbon dioxide can produce unconsciousness in an exposed person, who will die from oxygen deficiency unless he is removed to a normal atmosphere or is given oxygen resuscitation. The very faint odour of carbon dioxide does not give a warning of its presence in an asphyxiating concentration, and a person may unwittingly enter a confined space or descend into a tank or vessel and be overcome before he becomes aware of the danger and can make his escape."

The US Department of Health and Human Services and the US Department of Labour in the NIOSH/OSHA publication "Occupational Health Guideline for Carbon Dioxide" on page 1 summarise the toxicity of carbon dioxide as follows:-

"Carbon dioxide gas is an asphyxiant, a potent respiratory stimulant and both a stimulant and depressant of the CNS. Respiratory volume is doubled at 4% CO₂ and redoubled at 5%. Increases in heart rate and blood pressure have been noted at 7.6% and dyspnea, headache, dizziness and sweating occur if exposure at that level is prolonged. At 10% and above, prolonged exposure can result in unconsciousness. Above 11% unconsciousness occurs in 1 minute or less. Numerous human fatalities have occurred after persons entered fermentation vats, wells, and silos where oxygen had been largely replaced by carbon dioxide. Exposure to very high concentrations, 25 to 30% may cause convulsions. Carbon dioxide at room temperature will not injure the skin, but frostbite may result from contact with the solid or the liquid phases."

i.e. a highly toxic concentration can be reached without the fire being extinguished!

BCF vs CO₂ IN A CONFINED SPACE

Toxic effects of BCF Halon 1211 can be produced at 5% v/v

Toxic effects of CO₂ can be produced at 5-7.6% v/v

In a small unventilated office 3 metres by 3 metres by 3 metres high volume = 27 cubic metres.

1 kg BCF gives 0.14m³ vapour

1 kg CO₂ gives 0.53m³ vapour

Weight of BCF to reach 5% level = 5% of 27m³ = 9.6 kg
0.14 m³/kg

Weight of CO₂ to reach 7.6% level = 7.6% of 27m³ = 3.9 kg
0.53m³/kg

The quantity of BCF needed to produce a toxic level if 9.6 kg. 6 extinguishers rated at 5B could be safely discharged.

The quantity of CO₂ needed to produce a toxic level is 3.9 kg. Only 1 extinguisher rated at 5B could be safely discharged.

therefore

BCF is much safer to use in a confined space.

50TH ANNIVERSARY PLAQUE



To commemorate 50 years service of the N.S.W. Fire Services Volunteer Brigade Demonstrations, plaques were presented to thirty (30) senior N.S.W. personnel and to each states fire organisation. The plaque presented to the South Australian Country Fire Services (refer above), is being admired by C.F.S. Board Chairman Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger (left) and C.F.S. Board Member Michael Arnold of Waikerie. Footnote: The presentation followed the 50th Anniversary of the N.S.W. Volunteer Fire Brigades' Demonstration held at Port Macquarie, Monday 18th October 1982. The N.S.W. Volunteer Fire Brigades began in the 1850's and the State Demonstrations in 1932.

CHARITY BEGINS AT SMITHFIELD

Charity begins at home, could well be the motto of the Smithfield C.F.S. brigade, who rallied to the recent SAS 10 Christmas Appeal for the Children's Medical Research Foundation.

To help in their own small way the children in need of medical treatment in South Australia, Smithfield C.F.S. organised a Bathtub/Walkathon Appeal, in which 18 brigade members took part.

The volunteer members covered some 29 kms (17½ miles) in 5½ hours to raise the incredible sum of \$713.77.

Congratulations go to the following Smithfield C.F.S. members; a most commendable gesture: Ken Clark, Jack Clark, Greg Congdon, Tony Butlin, Darryel McLean, Dennis Cartwright, John Harrison, Douglas Kernohan, Richard Leedham, Patricia Varney, Noeline Hunt, Rhonda Gannoway, Jill Cartwright, Joy Clark, Mark Hewitson, Jan Giddens, John Giddens and Dawn Hyatt.

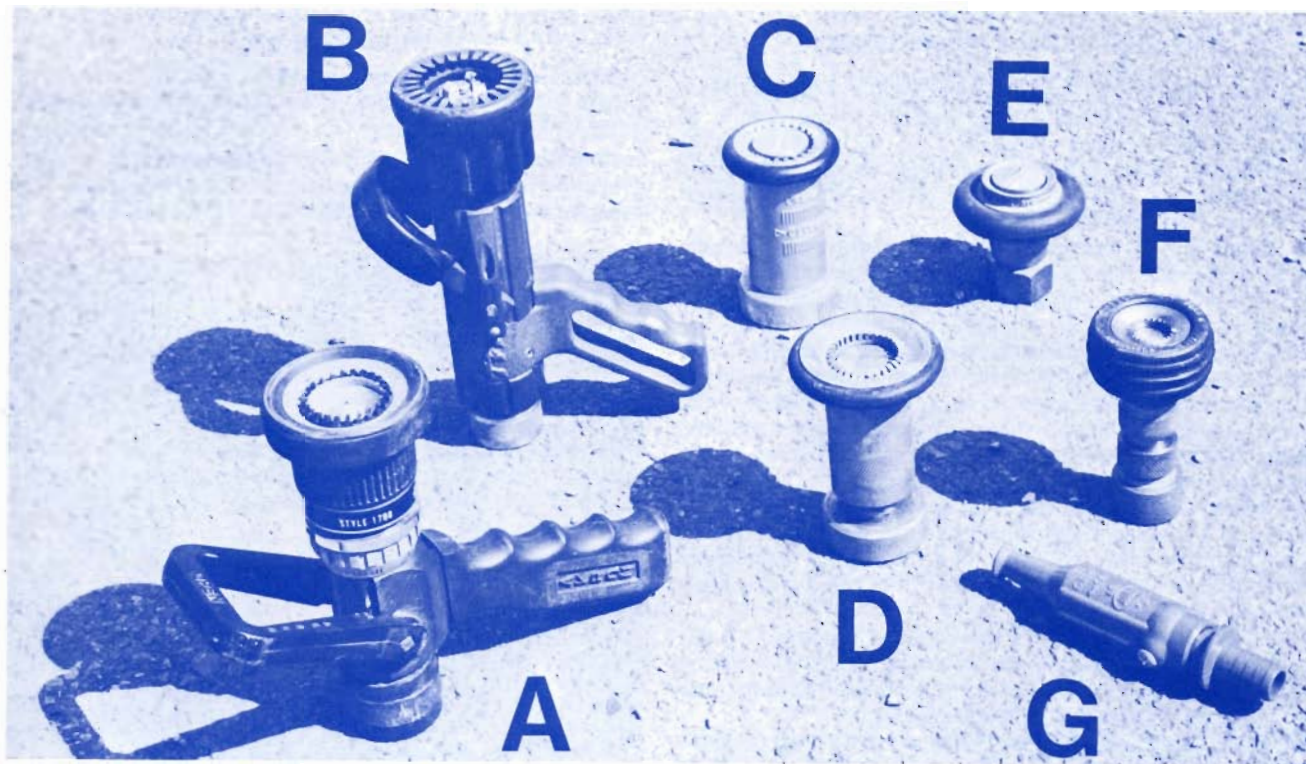
Smithfield Captain Ken Clark conveyed the brigades thanks to the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service for the escort, S.A. Police, for traffic control assistance, various councils and Highways Dept for granting permission to use roads. With a special thanks to S.A. Housing Trust, Elizabeth Gardens section, for supplying the tub, Detroit Engineering of Cavan, for making up the tub and the people of South Australia who donated towards the appeal.



Pictured above members of the Smithfield C.F.S. brigade on the last leg of their 29 km Bathtub/Walkathon approaching SAS Channel 10 studios with their mascot "Pink Panther" guarding the \$713.77 raised for the Children's Medical Research Foundation.

NOZZLES FOR 25mm BORE HOSE

by R.O. R. G. Gear



It takes water, not pressure, to put out fires! True? or False?

In a sense, true. Water is the most readily available, cheapest, effective medium, for fighting fires — and, if aggressively, promptly, and properly applied, with the right action at the right point, does quench blazes.

However, from a fire fighter's point of view, the statement is false.

Witness the many boats and water-front properties destroyed in the presence of near infinite supply of water, for want of pressure to apply it effectively.

The only two ways of applying water without pressure are dunking (sink the boat), or going back to the bucket brigade. Equipment can not make water; the only thing pumpers *can* make is *pressure*, and then only if a water supply is available, and if a properly sized nozzle is used (pressure cannot be developed to an open butt). The nozzle provides resistance to build pressure; serves to convert pressure into usable velocity, and shapes the stream or fog pattern.

Therefore, **pump, hose and nozzle** combinations are most important for maximum and effective use of your fire appliance. In this issue are listed a number of nozzles to fit 25 mm bore hose. All nozzles were tested at a pump pressure of 1400 kPa (except nozzles E. & F., at a 1000 kPa), and 6m of 25mm bore hose. Prices up to \$350.00.

A. Type Akron 363

- effective jet stream 27 metres
- *** ● fog pattern and angle, 45° max.
- water use 135 lt. per min. (30 gall.).

Nozzle pressure — recommended range 1000 kPa to 3000 kPa.

B. Type T.F.T. (Task Force Tips)

- effective jet stream 27 metres
- *** ● fog pattern and angle, 80° max.
- water use 137 lt. per min. (30 gall.).

Nozzle pressure — recommended range 1000 kPa to 3000 kPa.

C. Type Pacific Red 1675

- effective jet stream, 25 metres.
- ** ● fog pattern and angle, 80° max.
- water use 274 lt. per min. (61 gall.).

Nozzle pressure — recommended range 1000 kPa to 1800 kPa.

D. Type TB15 F.F.E.

- effective jet stream 20 metres.
- ** ● fog pattern and angle, 80° max.
- water use 171 lt. per min. (38 gall.).

Nozzle pressure — recommended range 1000 kPa to 1800 kPa.

E. Type HOE 4

- effective jet stream 11 metres.
- * ● fog pattern and angle, 75° max.
- water use 112 lt. per min. (25 gall.).
- (Max. pressure 1000 kPa).

F. Type TB10 F.F.E.

- effective jet stream 10 metres
- * ● fog pattern and angle 75° max.
- water use 65 lt. per min. (15 gall.).
- (Max. pressure 1000 kPa).

G. Type Straite Jet Type

- effective jet stream (6mm) 10 metres.
- fog pattern and angle, nil.
- water use 100 lt. per min. (23 gall.).

(N.B.: Water use measured on jet stream only)

RATING

- ***Very Good
- **Good
- *Fair

A TRIBUTE TO:

"Smokey Koala" (S.A. Fire Prevention Symbol) and "S.A. Father of the Koala"

"Smokey" the timid, cute, loveable, cuddly koala is South Australia's Fire Prevention symbol and in paying tribute to "Smokey" The Volunteer believed it to be most fitting to acknowledge the service of the "Father of the Koalas" 80 year old koala handler and friend, Mr Bob Robins of the Cleland Conservation Park, Wildlife Reserve.

Mr Robins with his charges has won the admiration of Royalty, representatives and ambassadors of over a dozen countries, governors and thousands of visitors from Australia and from around the world.

The Koalas — in particular the grand old lady koala "Bib", who died recently at the age of 18 years (126 human years), was in her time a fine ambassador for Australia, a respected symbol of fire protection as "Smokey" and a valued advocate for conservation.

By her docility, loveable nature and willingness to go to people "Bib" endeared herself to thousands of tourists visiting the Reserve.

The Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) is one of Australia's unique mammals. It is a marsupial, suckling its young, which it carries in a pouch, opening downwards like that of the wombat. *Phascolarctos* is a scientific term meaning "pouch bear", but the koala is *not* a bear.

"Koala" is an Aboriginal word said to mean "no drink". It has this name because it does not seem to require water in the same way other animals do. Sufficient moisture is obtained from the gum leaves on which it feeds, and from morning dew.

Known for its sleepy nature the koala rests or dozes in the forks of eucalypts trees most of the day. Being partly nocturnal by habit after dusk it becomes quite active.

Loveable and "cuddlesome" as they are, koalas are slow and are frequently trapped and destroyed in bushfires being apparently unable to anticipate danger in time to reach safety.

The programme involving the protection and establishment of koala colonies controlled by the National Parks and Wildlife service in South Australia and Department of Fisheries and Wildlife in other states, has been one of the most successful animal management projects ever undertaken in Australia.

Ranger in charge of Cleland Conservation Park, Mr Peter Martinsen, paid tribute to Mr Robin's work with koalas.

"He has developed an intimate knowledge of koalas in his 16 years, and has obtained their complete trust", he said.

"Bob is talked about all around the world. We had American tourists who asked for him as soon as they arrived — five years after their previous visit".

Mr Robins' connection with Cleland goes back even before the park was opened. His property was acquired by the Government when it wanted to extend Cleland, but he was given life-time tenancy of his home.

His interest in koalas began when Cleland was established and he and his late wife Aileen Robins an equally dedicated person and a gracious lady, saw koalas being handled roughly.

With no prior experience, except with domestic pets and a deep love of animals, Mr Robins is now recognised unofficially as an expert on koalas.



Have you seen how nice and friendly koalas are with people, at the Cleland Conservation Park, Wildlife Reserve. They are generally known as "Smokey" by the public, to remind us all of their helplessness in a bushfire.

Pictured above, Loretta Swit, star of the TV series 'Mash', in the role of Major Margaret Hoolihan, was overwhelmed by the friendliness of the koala; as koala handler Mr Bob Robins looks on, ready to offer any advice.

Acknowledgement is made to the support given by *The Mount Barker Courier* and National Parks and Wildlife Services in the preparation of the above article.

Children and adults alike, on cuddling a koala, become very protective towards the little animal . . . what better symbol could be used for Fire Protection for South Australia . . . Editor.



"My home is in the trees, but leaves burn readily even when green. Please help me by PREVENTING BUSHFIRES, because you wouldn't like me to get burned to death, would you?"

Look at "Smokey" the Koala — what can he do when a "hot" fire roars into his tree? He's so slow moving that by the time he has climbed out to the end of the branch, flames are sweeping around him, scorching his fur. He has nowhere to go, so he falls suffocating to the ground, where the burning undergrowth has already claimed other bush animals.

SMOKEY'S XMAS MESSAGE TO CHILDREN

Each summer it is the South Australian Country Fire Services job to make people be more careful with fire, as bushfires destroy valuable fields of wheat, haystacks, sheep and fences on farm land, houses, churches and even factories.

In the parks, reserves and country areas of South Australia, fires sometimes kill many of "my friends" — koalas, lizards, wallabies, bandicoots, kangaroos, birds, butterflies and flowering shrubs and all kinds of trees.

Fires start from a person being careless with fire; leaving a barbecue or campfire unattended, a parent throwing away a burning cigarette or a lit match, sparks from cars or tractors and children who play with matches.

You can help Smokey by thinking about the things that fire destroys and by always being careful and reminding others to be careful too.

Smokey hopes you enjoy your school holidays, and asks you to tell your friends about the dangers of fire to help "Prevent Bushfires".

Have a very Merry Christmas, Children . . . from "Smokey" Koala.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL
C.F.S. VOLUNTEERS**

CHEMICAL DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURES

1. Decontamination Teams

A team should consist of at least four suitably trained fire brigade personnel, one of which will be designated Officer-in-Charge (Decontamination) and another his Assistant. The team must be provided with suitable transport and equipment to decontaminate personnel and equipment at an incident. In addition to the team there should be an officer, with special chemical training, to act as supervisor, where no Scientific Adviser is available.

Certain chemical manufacturers have specialists who are able to provide advice at any hour of the day or night and in certain cases may be available to attend incidents.

2. Decontamination Equipment

Equipment for use by the decontamination team should include: Protective Clothing; Breathing Apparatus; Dust masks (for use with dry or dusty contaminants); pH papers; First Aid Kit; Hose Reel; Vacuum Cleaner with suitable power supply; Polythene bags with tying wire and labels; Cleaning cloths and rags; Traffitape and Warning Signs; Detergent.

Compressed Air Cylinders with airline (to provide an alternative supply to compressed air BA); Disinfectant; Spare Breathing Apparatus facemasks; Small brushes and scrubbing brushes; Washing facilities, soap and towels (paper or cloth); Tray for boot cleaning; Sawdust, sand or earth and soda ash; Suitable empty containers with lids (marked, eg dirty rags); Shovels, brooms etc.; Clean overalls and bath towels and soap.

3. Decontamination Zone

On arrival of the decontamination team the Officer-in-Charge of the team will consult with the Officer-in-Charge of the incident and determine a suitable zone for decontamination, taking into account weather conditions, wind direction and comfort of the personnel, the slope of the ground and the location for a pump to provide hose reels if required for wet decontamination.

All decontamination must take place within this established zone.

The success of Decontamination depends on the strict observance of disciplined procedures within the defined zone.

4. Marking of Decontamination Zone

The zone or area chosen for decontamination procedures must be clearly marked by means of Traffitape or similar. Into the zone or building should be placed the vacuum cleaner, hose reels, polythene bags with tying wire and labels and cleaning cloths and rags and polythene sheets should be laid out to provide a clean path within the zone.

5. Decontamination Team Procedure

- The Officer-in-Charge (Decontamination) will operate at all times in fire gear and should remain *outside* the zone. His Assistant will wear fire gear, and breathing apparatus.
- The Assistant should enter the zone on the clean path and remain on the clean path during the whole procedure.
- The remaining operatives of the decontamination team will wear "standard protective clothing" and breathing apparatus. These operatives should remain in the decontamination zone.

6. Control

- The Officer-in-Charge (Decontamination) will issue all instructions and advice on the decontamination and disrobing procedure. He must ensure that his orders have been understood and acted upon by all before proceeding to the next stage.
- Wearers awaiting decontamination must remain in or adjacent to the zone as directed. This is to avoid spreading contamination.
- The Officer-in-Charge (Decontamination) will maintain a register showing names and stations of personnel who have been decontaminated; the chemical involved and any other relevant information. This information should be transmitted to H/Q Control where it should be recorded.

7. Removal of Contaminated Clothing and Equipment

The guidance outlined in para. 10 for wet and dry decontamination lead up to the bagging of clothing, equipment, etc.

Continued page 28



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OF: NORMALAIR COMPRESSED AIR
BREATHING APPARATUS

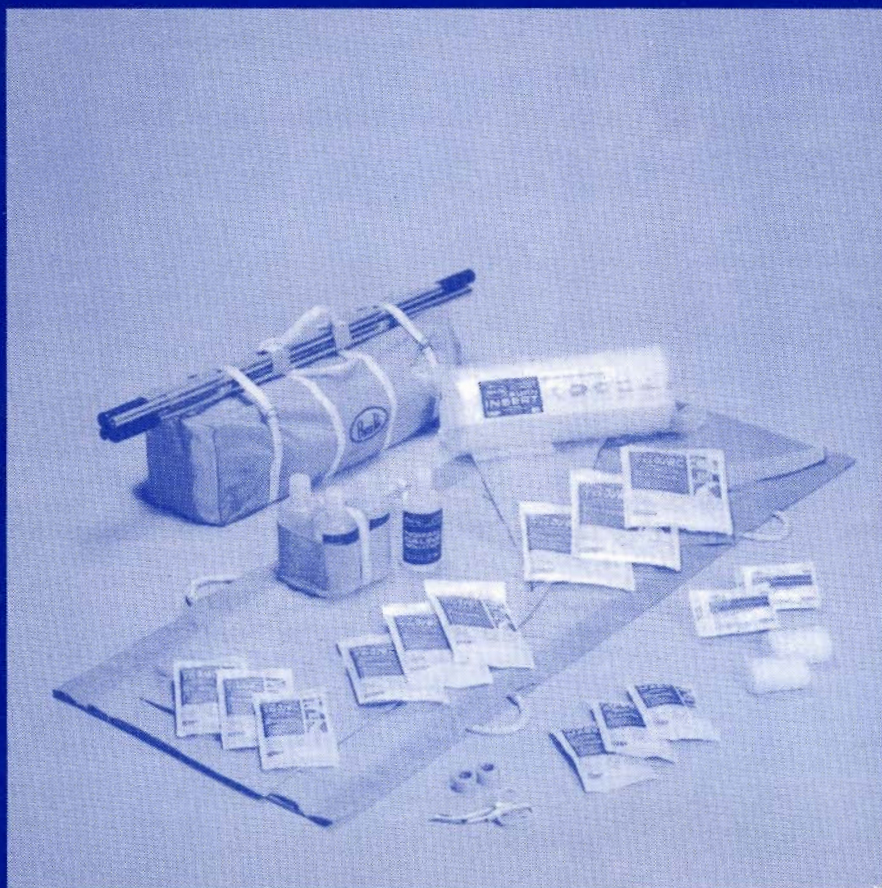
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The **INDUSTRIAL BURN PAC** is part of the revolutionary **BURN PAC** emergency treatment system designed for the portable wet or dry emergency treatment of burns and trauma. **BURN PAC** products utilize a special tri-laminate dressing material that is non-adhering, highly absorbant, non-wicking, breathable and hypo allergenic. The **BURN PAC** has been endorsed internationally by burn specialists, emergency room physicians and paramedics, and is used by the U.S. military.

The **INDUSTRIAL BURN PAC** is especially useful in: steel mills, chemical plants, petrochemical plants, refineries, drilling rigs, fuel storage facilities, coal mines, glass plants, foundries, plating shops, bakeries . . . anywhere

The **INDUSTRIAL BURN PAC** contains everything needed to treat burns and trauma. It combines all the special features of the **BURN PAC SYSTEM** into one easy to carry pack. The user has the advantage of being able to treat any injury without having to carry several different first aid kits. The **INDUSTRIAL BURN PAC** will handle everything from minor cuts or abrasions, to a full body burn. By removing the sterile insert, the rugged nylon cover can be used as a stretcher to transport the patient to an emergency treatment center.

CONTENTS:

BP300 INDUSTRIAL BURN PAC

Weight: (approx. 38lbs.)

- 1 BP100A Burn Pac with sterile disposable insert
- 1 Pair Aluminum Poles, 84"
- 3 BT2030 Burn Towels 20" x 30"
- 3 BT1520 Burn Towels 15" x 20"
- 3 BT1212 Burn Towels 12" x 12"
- 3 BP103 Face Masks
- 4 Gauze Bandages
- 2 Rolls 1" Tape
- 8 Bottles Normal Saline Solution
- 1 Pair Emergency Bandage Scissors

For further information, demonstrations and technical details contact John Skepper or Gary Clinnick.

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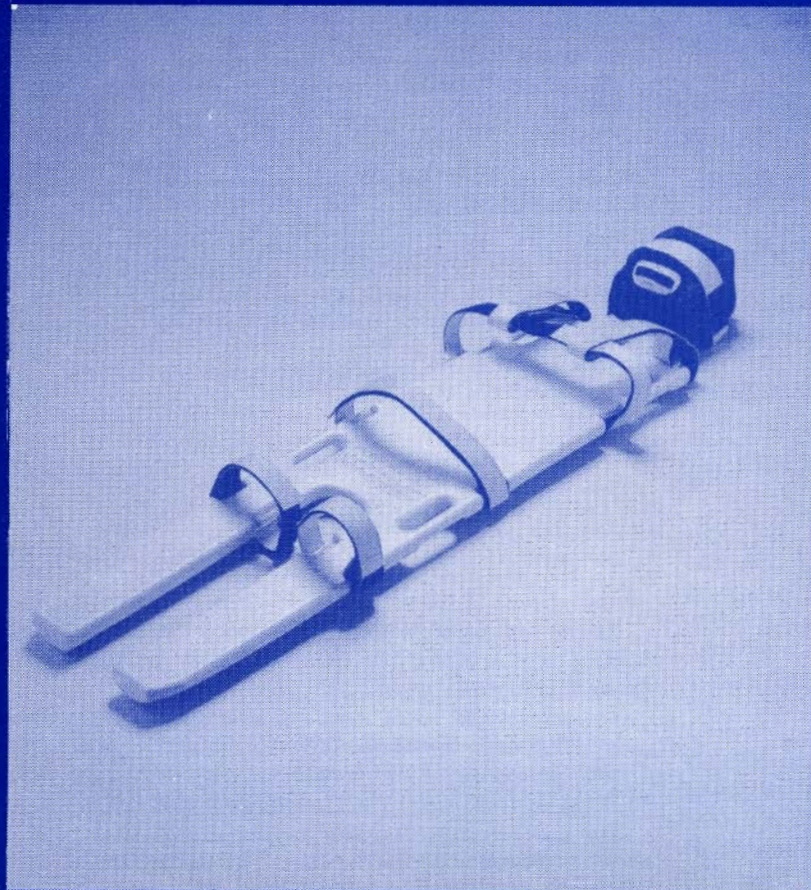
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MILLER FULL BODY SPLINT/LITTER BL015

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Will fit the standard navy basket litter to allow for the most difficult evacuations.



The security of the harness system is unparalleled and is so easy to apply. It will adjust to any size body in seconds.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PRICES
AND DEMONSTRATIONS, CONTACT**

The **MILLER FULL BODY SPLINT/LITTER** provides a new, revolutionary method for the immobilization/extrication, and transport of injury victims.

The device may be used as a combination "body splint/litter", and effectively immobilizes patients from rescue through X-ray due to its "radio-parent" construction.

The **MILLER FULL BODY SPLINT/LITTER** is designed to immobilize patients ranging in size from small children to large adults and is compatible for use with standard "Navy rescue" basket litter.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- Comes complete with full head and body harnesses.

- Made of "no maintenance", highly visibility yellow plastic.
- Highly chemically resistant. Will never need refinishing. Just wash off and the **MILLER FULL BODY SPLINT/LITTER** is ready for use again and again.



The rescuer can turn the patient on his side to attend the airway without jeopardizing a spinal injury.

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AUTOMARQUE W.A. PTY. LTD.
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CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS . . .

Communications for fire fighting (as related to me by my father) used to consist of a local identity riding his horse down to the local main road, beating on a kerosene tin to raise the alarm, and message runners on foot, bicycle or horse between fire ground and groups assembling to fight the fire.

Since the nineteen thirties, telephone and radio communications have been advancing through many technological changes to provide excellent turnout and control facilities for today's fire fighting.

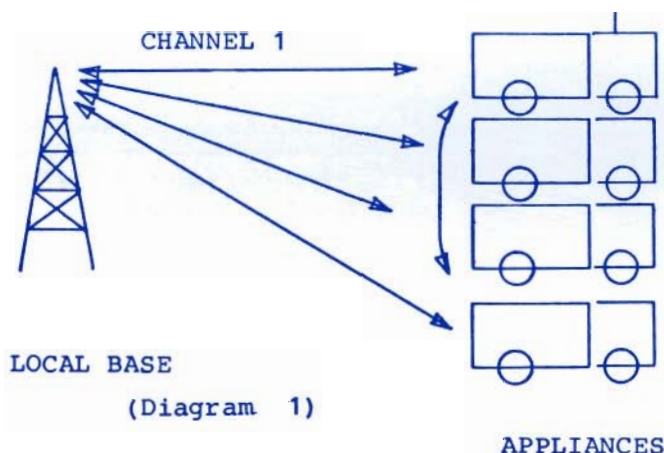
The automatic telephone systems now available have recently received refinements to a point where little further improvements might be expected for C.F.S.

Radio communications, however, are very much on the advance with computerised radio sets, frequency synthesising (instead of pairs of crystals), selective calling and satellites. All of these have potential for use in fire fighting within the next two to five years.

High technology radios are not as essential as proper operating techniques in many fire fighting applications. The past ten years have seen the use of VHF FM radio spread right across the State, with basic base stations and mobiles supplemented by remote controls and portable equipment.

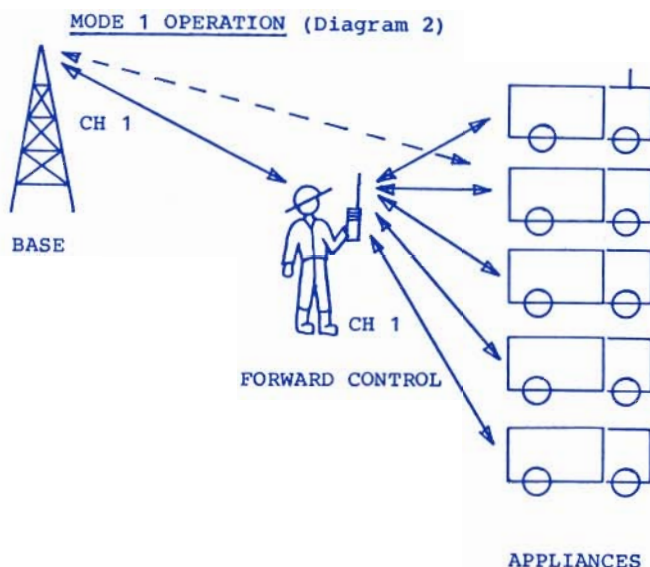
Improvements in equipment available has provided a continuing upgrading in quality of transmission and reception. Experience has allowed us to develop various procedures and patterns of use, and depending on circumstances, arrived at a point where the asset of good communications has been firmly established.

There have, however, been situations in which our usual way of operating has let us down. Consider the following system:- (Refer Diagram 1).



Here mobiles work together under direction from the district base. The result of such a network is heavy traffic from the base station, increasing the long range interference, and is not suitable where two adjacent districts share the same frequency, and certainly not acceptable when using a State-wide frequency. Such a mode of operation is also poor operationally and restricted in its expansion for use at larger fires.

To considerably improve the operation, use a forward control on the fire ground. This reduces base station transmission and is a sound operational tactic. The network operates on one frequency. The forward control need not be a complex arrangement. For smaller fires an officer with a portable radio would suffice. (Refer Diagram 2).



As the fire expands and more appliances are engaged, a control vehicle and other manpower may be added to the forward control as required.

The primary effect of reducing base station transmissions reduces network disruption both within and adjacent to the district involved. This is particularly important where adjacent districts share the one primary channel.

The forward control is responsible for controlling the fire and the communications network. The base is the link to the telephone and other resources, and as a more powerful transmission source to back up the control when problems with coverage arise. All transmissions to base are passed through or authorised by the forward control.

Where multiple fires occur in an area served by one primary frequency (be it one district or those sharing), a change in network operation may be warranted to prevent bases disrupting fire traffic and vice versa. In simple terms, a secondary channel is used to communicate between the bases and forward control. (Refer Diagram 3), page 23

This mode of working can be applied within one district with multiple fires, or to adjoining districts who share the same channel 1 frequency, or to a large fire involving a number of groups. It is essential that the intercommunication channel (CH 2 in this case) be used strictly for priority traffic.

The bases share air time with their respective forward controls (and each other) without causing fire front disruption. Where the two fires are not sufficiently geographically separated to provide CH 1 isolation, it would be assumed that one or other fire would be fought on an alternate frequency (say CH 3), the CH 2 base link is still maintained.

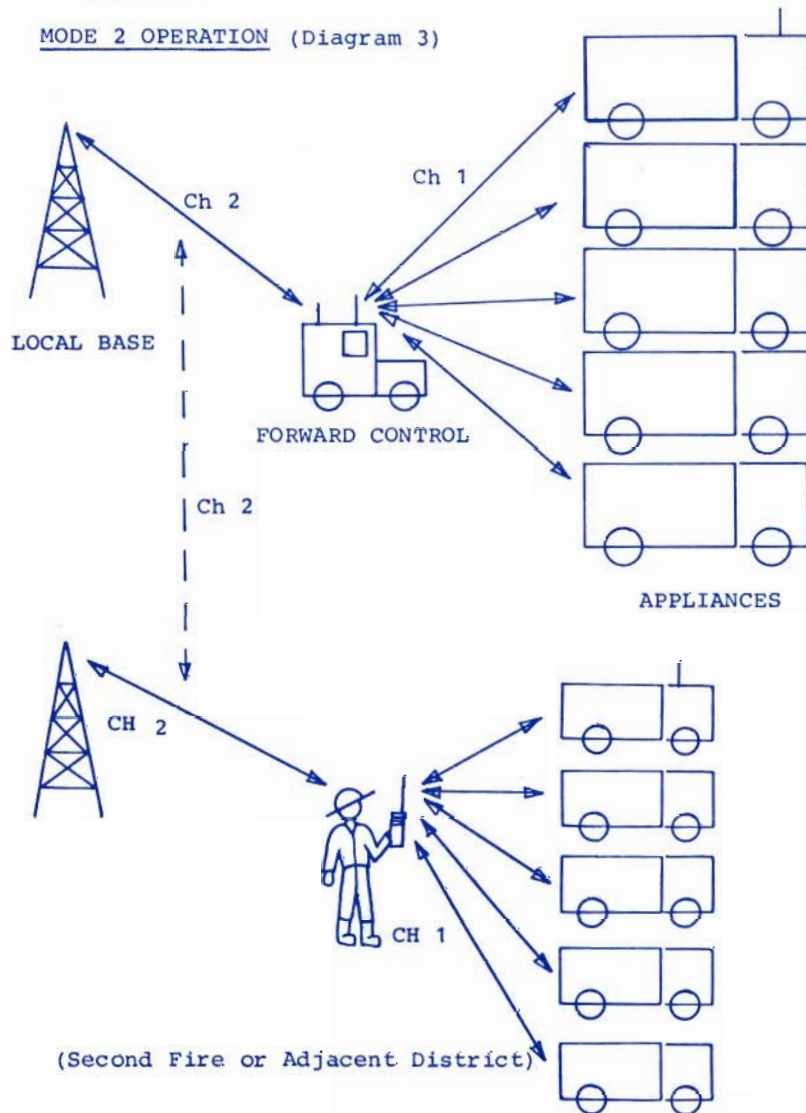
Such a network arrangement is expandable and operable under major fire conditions where multiple groups are engaged on the fire, each with their own group forward control and fire front frequency, but maintaining communication with the major control on a co-ordination channel.

To provide the best form of group forward control, a command vehicle with two radios is advisable, but there are other ways of improvising by appropriate pre-planning.

The following diagram shows one way in which communications for a major fire might be set up. The network is complex, but worth some time for contemplation. (Refer Diagram 4), page 24

Consider Communications . . . continued

MODE 2 OPERATION (Diagram 3)



Continued page 24

R. W. ELECTRONICS

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PROMPT EFFICIENT SERVICE ON ALL BRANDS.
NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS ON SYSTEMS.**

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DISTRIBUTORS FOR

General Electric high quality base stations, mobile radio and portable equipment.

Plessey communications equipment, rugged, reliable, synthesised mobiles.

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Midland communications, portables and synthesised mobiles.

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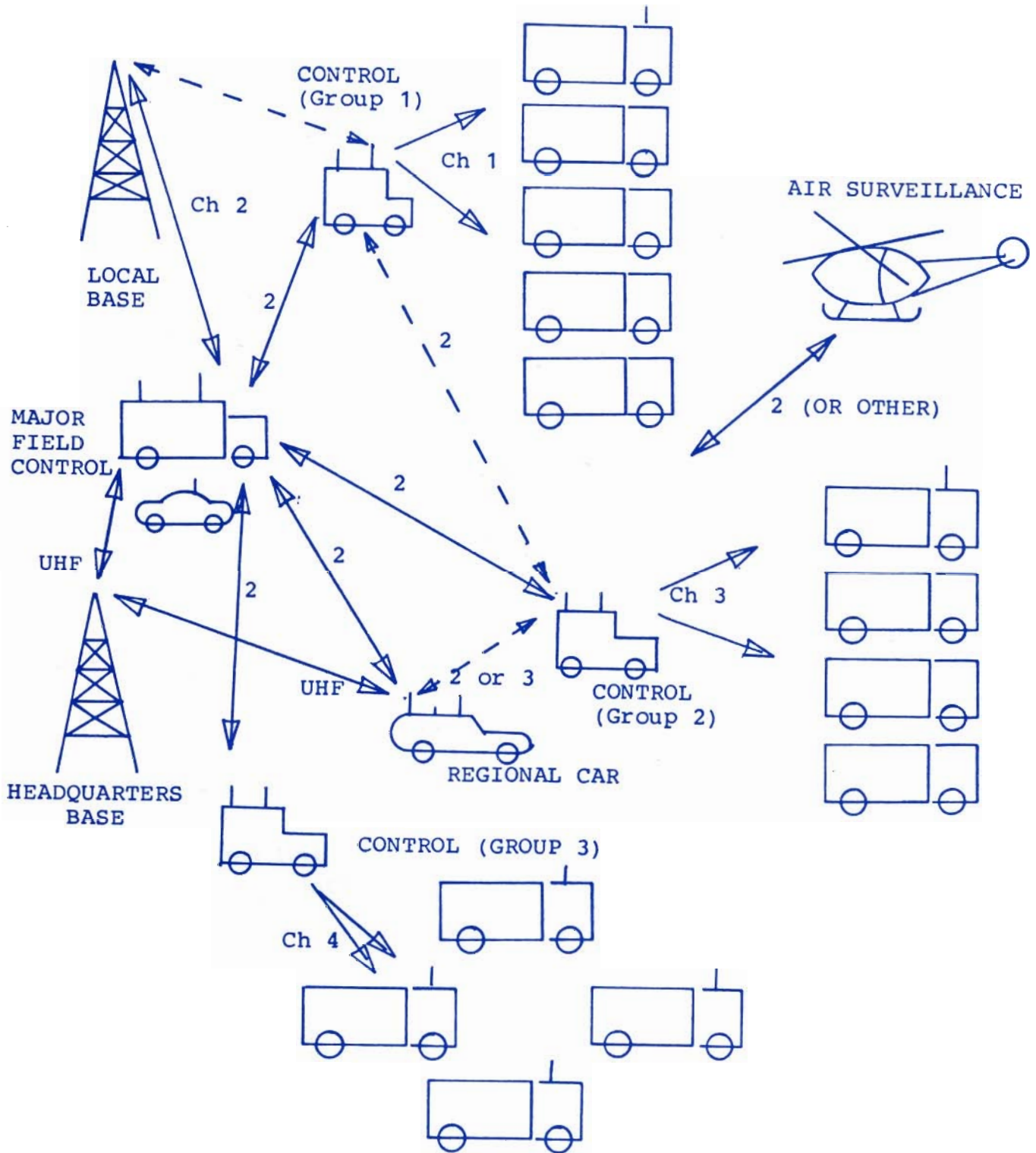
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MAJOR FIRE NETWORK (Diagram 4)

Arrangements depicted in the diagram show various formats which may be employed to suit a particular area and fire condition. They may be employed in a variety of conditions, but pre-planning of resources and actions needed to set up a major fire network is essential.

FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY 1982/83

CAR STICKERS:

For Brigades:



PREVENT BUSHFIRES

ISSUED BY THE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES BOARD, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Car Stickers carrying the above "PREVENT BUSHFIRES" message are available *only* to Councils and C.F.S. Brigades, *for their use only*; due to a limited supply.

The sticker is printed in a red light safe fast ink (guaranteed not to fade) on a white vinyl that will not shrink or crack. Size: 300mm long x 47mm deep.

For Children:



GIVE US A GO! BUSHFIRES HURT



ISSUED BY THE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES BOARD, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Stocks of the above "GIVE US A GO! BUSHFIRES HURT" car stickers are available to Councils and Brigades for issue to children. These stickers are most suitable for use by children, but are *not* suitable for the car bumper bar or car rear window.

YOUR LOCAL C.F.S. REGIONAL OFFICER HAS STOCKS OF EACH TYPE.

For further information please contact S.A. Country Fire Services (Peter Mills, Publicity Officer), P.O. Box 312 Goodwood 5034, or telephone (08) 297 6788.

POSTER:

The existing poster widely accepted the previous year, has been re-introduced for the 1982/83 Bushfire Season, in limited supply.

The four-colour poster consists of a graphic fire scene with the heading: "PREVENT BUSHFIRES, PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, OBSERVE RULES." Superimposed over the fire are four captions with photographs: 1. FARM AND EQUIPMENT — featuring farm equipment in a paddock with farm fire fighting equipment; 2. HOME — featuring proper home protection methods; 3. BURNING OFF — featuring a burnoff of open grassland; 4. BARBECUES/CAMPFIRES — featuring a correctly prepared barbecue site, which is freely available for public use in all national parks.

Limited stocks of this poster are now available to Council and C.F.S. Brigades for display in your local business windows, at schools, council, public notice boards, etc.

LITERATURE:

Fire Prevention Literature/Circulars are available from S.A. Country Fire Services Headquarters. These circulars are: "Some Important Features of the Country Fires Act," "Barbecues and Campfires," "Incinerators and Burning Rubbish," "Burning Off Bush and Stubble," "Spontaneous Combustion of Hay," "Maintenance of Farm Fire Fighting Equipment," "Rural Women and Bushfires," "Sprinklers for Home Protection." Leaflets consist of: "Plan for Bushfire Safety," "Fire Destroys," "Fire Ban District Maps — Know Your Fire Rules," "A4 Smokey Colouring-In Poster," and "10 Hints for Protection of Houses from Bushfires/Prevention Household Fires" bookmarks.

Your Regional Officer will also have stocks of the above mentioned circulars/literature.

KOALAS ARE KNOWN AS "SMOKEY" TO REMIND US HOW HELPLESS THEY ARE IN A BUSHFIRE. THEY ALSO REMIND US OF OUR DUTY TO "PREVENT BUSHFIRES".

TELEVISION/RADIO COMMERCIALS

Commercials featuring "Daily Fire Ban Broadcasts reminder" (R. & T.); "Children Playing with Matches" (R); "Caravanning This Summer" (R); "Fire Ban Districts" (R); "Barbecues/Campfires" (R); "National Parks" (R. & T.); "The Volunteer — A Family Man" (R. & T.); "Fire Reporting by Motorists" (R. & T.); "Burning Off" (R. & T.); "Maintenance, Farm Fire Fighting Equipment" (R. & T.); "House Protection" (R. & T.). Through the co-operation and generosity of the media, the above commercials are being "aired" throughout this summer season as a community service.

Footnote: R. denotes: Radio.

T. denotes: Television.

TELEVISION SCATTER

To ensure the public are made fully aware of the responsibility they have to listen to the daily fire ban broadcasts on radio, and thereby hopefully reduce the incidence of fire this bushfire season, a television scatter (commercial) is now being aired, titled: "FIRE BAN BROADCASTS."

FIRE BAN BROADCASTS — TV SCATTER

Location: Bureau of Meteorology
W.S. — BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY, APPRAISING FIRE BAN INFORMATION. TO TIGHT SHOT OF BUREAU OFFICER CALCULATING INFORMATION THEN FEEDING INTO COMPUTER. CUT TO INFORMATION BEING TYPED AND SENT OUT ON TELEX MACHINE.

Voice Over:
EACH BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD UNDER AUTHORITY FROM THE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES, THE BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY ISSUES DAILY FIRE BAN WARNINGS.

THESE WARNINGS ARE BROADCAST EACH MORNING FROM 7.00 AM OVER RADIO AND TELEVISION.



Meteorologist Class 1/Duty Forecaster Mr. John Prideaux is shown appraising fire ban information, with the use of grass fuel curing rates supplied from C.F.S. H/Q.

Location: Farmer's Property (for Country TV)
M.C.U. — FARMER NEAR TRACTOR LISTENING TO FIRE BAN INFORMATION ON RADIO.

Location: Residential Home (for Metropolitan TV)
FEATURE FAMILY AT BREAKFAST TABLE LISTENING TO FIRE BAN BROADCAST OVER RADIO.

Radio Announcer:
TODAY IS A DAY OF EXTREME FIRE DANGER, AND THE DIRECTOR OF COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES HAS BANNED THE LIGHTING AND MAINTAINING OF UNAUTHORISED FIRES IN THE OPEN IN THE FOLLOWING FIRE BAN DISTRICT. Fade out.

FIRE PREVENTION PUBLICITY 1982/83 continued

FIRE BAN BROADCASTS — T.V. SCATTER CONTINUED...



Location: Urban/Rural Area
CUT TO GRASS / STUBBLE BURN-
ING, FIRE LEFT UNATTENDED.
SUPER: \$1,000 PENALTY POSTER.

Voice Over:
THIS SUMMER, IF YOU ARE
PLANNING TO LIGHT A FIRE IN
THE OPEN, HAVE A BARBECUE
OR CAMPFIRE, WE ASK YOU TO
HEED THE DAILY FIRE BAN
BROADCASTS. BREACHES OF
THIS BAN ENTAIL A PENALTY
OF UP TO \$1000.



Breaches of the Country Fires Act — A fire in the open left unattended,
on a fire ban day.

DISSOLVE TO FIRE CALL BEING
RECEIVED AT C.F.S. H/Q
CONTROL CENTRE.
CUT TO C.F.S. BRIGADE (Aldinga
Beach and Area C.F.S.) ATTENDING
FIRE CALL OUT. ZOOM TO
TIGHT SHOT OF VOLUNTEER
FIRE FIGHTERS ON FIRE TRUCK.

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS
MAY BE IMPOSED IN SOME
COUNCIL AND PASTORAL
DISTRICTS.

FIRE BANS ARE NOT APPLIED
LIGHTLY: THEY ARE ISSUED
FOR YOUR PROTECTION.



Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. members respond to a "fire call-out."

CUT TO VOLUNTEERS FIGHTING
FIRE.
SUPER: PREVENT BUSHFIRES
STICKER.

THIS SUMMER PREVENT
BUSHFIRES!



A scene from the T.V. scatter "Fire Ban Broadcasts," featuring ladies
from the Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. fireforce.



Mr. Geoff Brown, Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. member with his family was selected to play the role of the family listening to the early morning fire ban broadcast on radio (Fire Ban Broadcast T.V. Scatter), in honour of being chosen the "1982 fireman of the year," for the Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. Geoff is pictured above proudly holding the Peter Sutton Memorial Trophy with his son Peter holding the Fireman's Combination Key Trophy both awarded for 'dedicated service to Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. for 1982.' His wife Pauline and Daughter Tracy display dad's trophy won at the C.F.S. 1982 Victor Harbour Competitions for the fastest time in the Alarm Race with 51 seconds.

Acknowledgement is given to the members of the Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S., The Bureau of Meteorology, SAS Channel 10 Production Manager Mr. John Francis and Regional Officer Richard Keynes for their valuable time and co-operation. With special thanks to Sellicks Hill farmer Mr. Brian Holmes, Aldinga Beach and Area C.F.S. fireman Mr. Geoff Brown, his wife Pauline, daughter Tracy and son Peter and Messrs. John Prideaux, John Evans and Peter Blake from the Bureau of Meteorology.
Editor.

CHEMICAL DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURES cont. . .

7. Removal of contaminated clothing cont. from page 19

It is important that contaminated equipment and clothing is not unnecessarily moved from the incident to an area where it might present a greater problem due to the nature of the contamination. In this respect the supervisor will give appropriate instructions as to the disposal, cleaning and thorough decontamination of the affected gear. In the event of the equipment having to be moved from the incident it should be done under the close supervision of the supervisor.

8. Illness following Chemical Contamination

Firemen who suffer, or are suspected to be suffering, from the effects of exposure to toxic hazards, should be treated in accordance with the procedures set out by the S.A. Health Commission officials.

9. Notes on Decontamination

- (a) Before starting decontamination the cylinder pressures of Breathing Apparatus worn by contaminated personnel should be checked. If they are too low, below 80 ats. wearers should either be supplied by airline or if a set is not provided with a second line attachment, the cylinder should be changed.
- (b) When a breathing apparatus set is removed during the process of decontamination the wearer may if necessary be protected by a dust mask or airline equipment.
- (c) The method of decontamination will be either wet or dry according to the contaminant. Wet decontamination may include the use of water, neutralising solutions, detergents etc., where as dry decontamination may be achieved by the use of a vacuum cleaner, brushes etc. The appropriate treatment will be specified by the supervisor.
- (d) It is not possible to set out detailed procedures because this will depend on a number of factors such as:
 - i. The type of protective clothing worn.
 - ii. The type of breathing apparatus used.
 - iii. The degree of contamination.
 - iv. The nature of the contaminant.

Details of decontamination procedures must therefore be evolved locally in fire brigades with the help and guidance of the appointed fire brigade supervisors and in consultation with chemical manufacturers.

Advice should also be sought from the chemical manufacturers and appropriate local authority departments on the disposal of chemicals.

BLOW-UP DAY

A blast of Hell was blowing and demons danced around,
They roared from tree to tree-top and scorched the littered ground.
Consuming all they swept along no answer could be found,
The uncleared break and rubbish pile the felony compound.

The fight to stop them hot and long, the hellfire onward blasts,
With every ounce of courage drawn the fire fighter lasts.
More hose, more men, more water — still support is coming in,
It's families and homes at stake, we'll fight until we win!

The fear of facing such a foe is held within each breast,
To turn and run the strongest urge they stay and give their best.
What is the motivating force, what crazy logic makes
Him stand and fight and place at risk his life — the highest stakes.

Perhaps a form of madness or obsession, some might say,
But stand and watch a life consumed? Too great a price to pay.
A bond together holds them there to fight and not relent,
A thousand years of heritage in every hour spent.

The fight against the devil fire goes on for all mankind,
It makes no choice consuming and it little leaves behind.
No man, machine, nor strategy will stop it on that day,
An eternal running battle starts to weary us away.

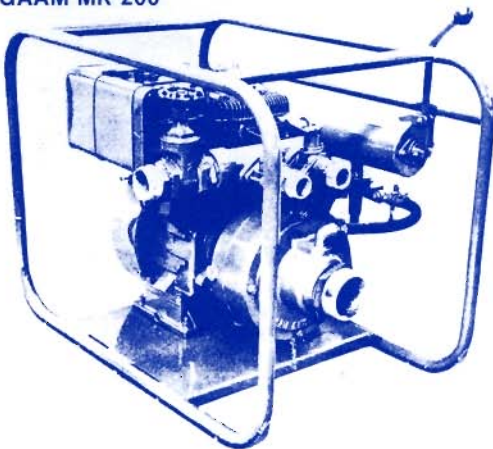
To stop the head is just a dream, the flanks we narrow down,
The bitter fight goes on to stop the fire before the town.
In vain we fight and one another urge again to try,
By evening, still hours away, the wind must surely die.

There's houses lost and stock destroyed and blackness all around,
No words of comfort for distress though searching can be found.
The wind abating gives a chance to stop the devil dead,
And weary fire fighters run to battle with the head.

As darkness falls the blackness of the horror fades away,
But all prepare to face the facts in the coming light of day.
A flickering torch and wisps of smoke determined still remain,
Emotions high the fire fighters' faces show the strain.
If he is mad then so am I, as to humanity
Without him life would be like Hell — to burn a certainty.

GAAM Fire Fighting Pumps

GAAM MK 200



The topline bushfire fighting pump, GAAM MK 200 is built for performance, durability and reliability. For fighting fires with large volume at high pressure, the MK 200 is ideally mounted on a bushfire tanker truck — is easily handled by two men at dam sites or stream. For rapid tanker replenishment it is a perfect choice for rural fire brigades.

Engine: 11.94 kW Briggs and Stratton engine fitted with cast iron cylinder sleeve, dual element air cleaner, waterproof spark plug cover, 5.68 litre fuel tank, rope start.

Pump: GAAM 2 stage centrifugal pump. Aluminium alloy body, gunmetal impellers, stainless steel shaft, self adjusting mechanical seal, close coupled to the engine.

Pump Suction: 75 mm diameter BSP male inlet.

Pump Discharge: Two 25 mm bronze ball valves and 25 mm BSP male outlets. One 50 mm bronze screw down valve and 50 mm BSP Male outlets.

Priming: GAAM Ejectaprime, including inbuilt spark arrestor.

Frame: 25 mm diameter welded tubular steel, fully protective frame.

Capacity: Flow rate to 180 litres per second and pressures to 1100 kPa at 3 metre suction lift.

Dimensions: Length: 825 mm; Width: 622 mm; Height: 609 mm. Mass: 91 kg dry weight.

Options: Instrument package, Electric start; or 11.94 kW twin cylinder Briggs and Stratton engine, electric start fitted with a MK 200 pump and water ring primer. Storz or other threads available as specified.

SOLE S.A. SELLING AGENTS:

FIRE FIGHTING ENTERPRISES (S.A.) PTY. LTD.

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT Co. DIVISION

118 Glen Osmond Road, PARKSIDE, S.A. 5063.

Tel. 272 1000 After Hours: Kevin May (085) 56 5336



ALDINGA BEACH & AREA C.F.S. — Held a "Fire Awareness Week" at the Aldinga Primary School to give the children an insight into fire prevention. All classes were shown films, given practical demonstrations on fire fighting methods and quizzed on "what to do in the event of fire". A recent live burn demonstration involving Aldinga Beach & Area, Sellicks and McLaren Vale C.F.S. brigades was handled extremely well. Battling against strong gusty winds the firefighters were kept on their guard. The "live-burn" served a threefold purpose: to provide an actual fire situation for training under controlled conditions; to remind residents of the impending danger associated with the fire ban season; to act as a timely reminder in observing the importance of Fire Prevention Week. The brigade also took part in the regional C.F.S. competitions held at Victor Harbor, 3rd October, returning home with 3 trophies won as a result of dedication, time and effort put into their training programme earlier in the year. Pictured above a "live burn" exercise by C.F.S. volunteer firefighters involving extinguishment of flammable liquids.

BEACHPORT F.F.A. — This fire season has based C.F.S. vehicles at nine strategic points; Beachport, Furner Fox, Mt. Burr, Mt. McIntyre, Picanniny, Thornleigh, Wattle Range North, Wattle Range-Mt. Graham and Woakwine. New sheds have been provided at Thornleigh and Woakwine and a new pump fitted to the Wattle Range-Mt. Graham truck. A simulated fire exercise, Sunday 10th October, called out appliances at staggered times.

BASKET RANGE C.F.S. — Is expected to benefit from \$700 raised from a recent orchid display.

BIRDWOOD C.F.S. — "Did an excellent job... very efficiently" said a grateful Mr Royce Wells of Eastwood, "caught" in a recent cave-in of a mine shaft at Birdwood. Buried under half a tonne of rock and injured, Mr Wells was rescued with the assistance of the brigade members, who then strapped him to a stretcher, and raised him safely to the surface by hand.



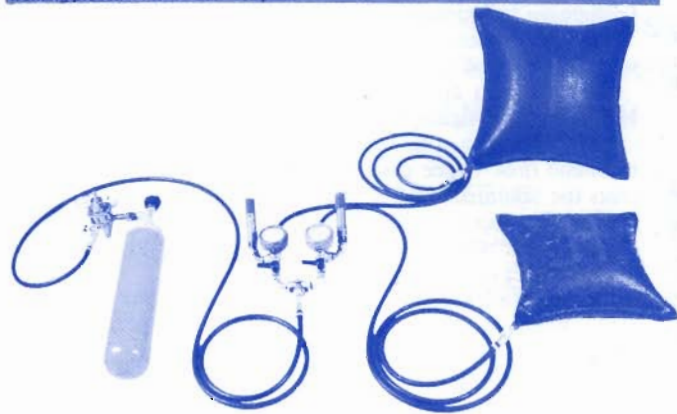
BURNSIDE C.F.S. — Members were presented service stars and chevrons in recognition of the voluntary fire fighting service given to their community. The presentations were made at the commissioning of the new Volvo fire appliance, attended by the Burnside Mayor, Coralie Soward, volunteer members and local residents, on Saturday 28th August. Captain John Nolan received a gold star for 20 years' service and radio operator Julie Lovett a third chevron to mark 6 years' service. Other recipients were Peter Swain (10 years); Craig Holt (8 years); Robin Holmes (4 years) and David Wilson (4 years).

The new multi-purpose \$80,000 fire appliance replaces a 16 year old truck. It's the first C.F.S. vehicle built on a Volvo F7 chassis with turbo charged six cylinder diesel motor; chosen for its extra power to negotiate the hills and steep terrain. Special features are a heat exchanger to keep the motor cool when running for pumping and an inbuilt charging/heating system, which when plugged into a normal battery supply keeps the engine warm and battery charged. Unit carries 8 crew; 3 in cab and 5 in rear compartment, which has a drop-down fire blanket.

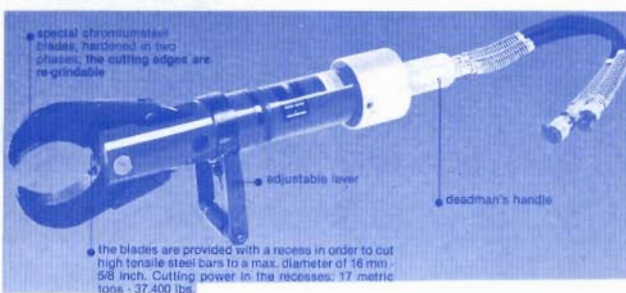
Continued page 30

holmatro® rescue equipment

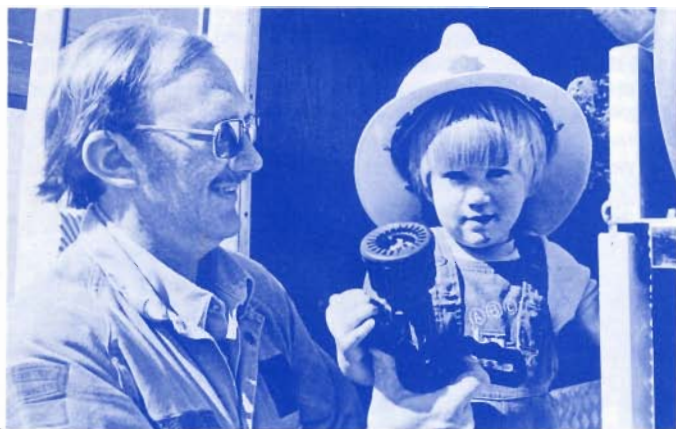
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capacity from 8 up to 67 metric tons - 17,600 up to 147,400 lbs
working pressure max. 8 bar - 116 p.s.i.



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A YOUNG RECRUIT?

"I am going to be a fireman like my dad". Pictured above is Master Hamish Tippet (right) complete with his father's helmet and a branch. Hamish and his dad Chris Tippet, a member of the Burnside C.F.S. attended the commissioning of the new "Volvo" Burnside C.F.S. fire appliance.

CLEVE F.F.A. — Held a familiarisation evening on November 23rd, for its fire control officers and brigade personnel, reviewed "The Powers and Duties of a Fire Control Officer", and demonstrated the capabilities of the new Cleve C.F.S. unit. The evening was conducted successfully by R.O. Peter Ferris (Region 6) of Wudinna.

"The Cleve Fire Fighting Association considers it most important for fire control officers to keep pace with developments in fighting fires and revise their knowledge concerning the Country Fires Act"

CLEVE C.F.S. — New \$19,000 fire appliance was commissioned by C.F.S. Director Lloyd Johns, Sunday 14th November. Chairman of D/C of Cleve Mr. R. M. Burton handed the keys to Mr. Johns who then presented them to Cleve C.F.S. Captain Ross Bates. The vehicle is a Volvo F7 diesel turbo, with a Darley Champion JMP 400 pump and auxiliary Darley Champion AG¼ a water tank capacity of 3,000 litres (600 gallons). The new unit has a high "fire knock down" capability because of the available water pressure with little water damage resulting, where as the existing unit is only able to supply water at a similar pressure to that available from the mains. The extinguishing power of the new unit is 75 to 100 per cent greater than the old, and can pump 450 gallons/minute, which is 300 gallons/min more than the old unit. Cleve C.F.S. with assistance from the women's auxiliary raised \$10,000 with the council contributing \$35,000 towards the purchase of the appliance. (Photos next issue.)

CUMMINS C.F.S. — Volunteer Leo Haarsma along with representatives from the Cummins S.E.S. unit attended a recent 3 hour familiarisation/training course involving the use of their new compressed air breathing apparatus equipment. The course enabled the operators to gain a basic knowledge of the equipment and become confident in its use.

ELLISTON C.F.S. — Are looking into utilising a four wheel drive line patrol vehicle, used for electricity undertakings which is now being offered for tender. Subject to District Council approval it is proposed that the body from the old E.F.S. unit could be transferred to the patrol vehicle.

GAWLER RIVER C.F.S. — Received a \$290 donation from the Gawler Rotaract Club, for the purchase of a p.a. siren for the C.F.S. fire truck. The Rotaract Club was commended for its support and work within the community.



GOOLWA/CURRENCY CREEK/HINDMARSH ISLAND C.F.S. — Held a fashion parade in the Goolwa Town Hall on 24th September, to help raise funds for the upgrading of their fire fighting equipment. \$241.70 was raised and a \$50 donation was received from the Women's Agricultural Bureau. Melvas Fashions were paraded by local models, while the local C.F.S. brigade supplied their own "international models" and their fashions were from, I quote: Anywhere, Everywhere and Timeless! A photograph of the "models" will appear in our next issue if the Goolwa lads will supply a print . . . Editor.

Volunteers from Goolwa, Mount Compass, Port Elliot and Middleton attended a C.F.S. training day at Goolwa, on Friday 29th October. The programme included lectures, films and practical training involving extinguishment of L.P. Gas and flammable liquid fires. Mr Roy Galpin Port Elliot and Goolwa D/C Chairman opened the training day. Training officers were R.O. Richard Keynes (Region 1) and R.O. Brian Menadue (Region 2). A training night was also held at the Goolwa Fire Station, Monday, November 8th.

Pictured above members of the Goolwa C.F.S. attending a "live burn", at the Goolwa Dump on the training day. Photograph courtesy "Victor Harbor Times".

GEORGETOWN C.F.S. — Visited the Georgetown Primary School on 26th October as part of Fire Prevention Week. Children inspected the fire truck; were instructed in the use of fire fighting equipment, followed by films a talk on fire prevention and a staged school evacuation exercise. Co-operation from the teachers and students of the Georgetown Primary School and R.O. George Polomka (Region 4) made the exercise a success. Photo supplied courtesy Capt. J. C. Barberien, Georgetown C.F.S.

Veterans retire from the battle . . . 59 years of fighting the South's fires.

Happy Valley firefighters reach a milestone in their history with the retirement of Howard Ellis and Bill Turner.

Howard and Bill have accumulated almost 60 years of service to the Country Fire Service since they joined in the early 1950s.

Howard, who holds the position of brigade captain and deputy supervisor, fought his first bushfire in 1939 when a fire started near Taylors Road, Happy Valley, and spread through his family's property.

He officially joined the service in 1952 and was appointed officer in charge and deputy supervisor in 1969.

In 1972 he was made a life member of the CFS and in 1979 was awarded the Australian Medal and Bar for 25 years service.

Bill was also awarded the Australian Medal in 1979. He joined the CFS in 1953 and was appointed fire control officer in 1969.

Bill, who is retiring as lieutenant and fire control officer, fought his first fire at Darlington and has only missed the odd fire since.

Over the years Howard and Bill, like thousands of other firefighters throughout the State, have spent hundreds of hours each year in administration, public relations, preparing training programs, and becoming familiar with new equipment and firefighting techniques.

They have been called to car accidents, retrieve horses from wells, even to kill snakes.

"The firemen are not paid, contrary to popular belief", says Happy Valley brigade president Rick Grant.

"And on many occasions must leave their place of employment to attend fires. In the case of the self employed this often actually costs the volunteer money in lost time and productivity", he said.

He paid special tribute to Howard Ellis who spent many hours designing the rear bodies and plumbing for the brigades two latest trucks.

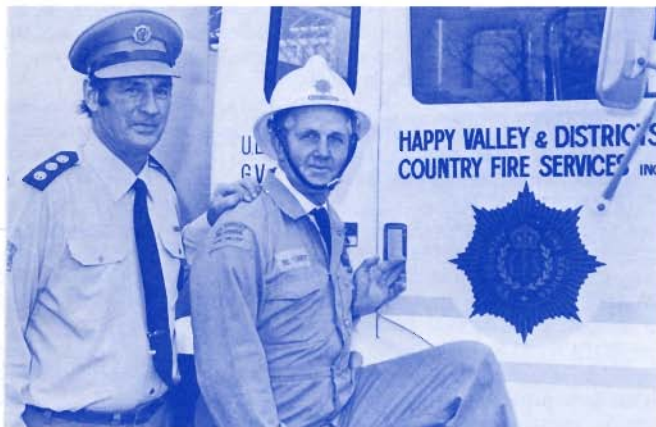
"Happy Valley CFS now has three fully equipped fire tenders — a four-wheel drive International Acco, a four-wheel drive Toyota Landcruiser, and Bedford forward control.

Editorial reproduced courtesy *Southern Times*, Messenger Newspapers.

Howard and Bill thank you for your dedicated and valued service. The South Australian Country Fire Services expresses its gratitude to you both, for your many and varied contributions throughout the years. It has been an honour to know men of such calibre . . . Editor

Continued page 31

Veterans retire continued . . .



Retiring Happy Valley firefighters Howard Ellis (left) of O'Halloran Hill, and Bill Turner of Reynella . . . 59 years combined service to the brigade. Photograph supplied courtesy Messenger Newspapers.

A FINE EXAMPLE OF
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



JERVOIS C.F.S. — New \$22,000 fire truck is the result of hours of hard work by 8 of the members and reflects the importance placed on fire protection by the people of Jervois, Wellington and Woods Point who over subscribed to the unit's target of \$5,000, donating a generous \$7,058; the result of a doorknock by brigade members over several weeks. The balance will go towards the purchase of trailer units to provide additional protection at Woods Point and Wellington.

The new unit carries a 2,250 litre water tank, a 140 lbs/sq. inch pump, outlet for 2½" canvas hose, 2 rear mounted 1" x 20 metre long rubber hose and 1 fixed hose, 2 electrically controlled directional nozzles and front spray bar. Crew seating is behind cabin forward of water tank, with a pull-down fire blanket. The Jervois unit along with a new unit for the Murray Bridge C.F.S. were commissioned at the hand over ceremony of the Monarto appliance on Saturday, November 13th.

KEITH C.F.S. — Fire awareness day, Sunday 24th October involved fire awareness messages to the public, competitions in the three man and captain wet ladder drill, one man hose drill and a display of some 40 fire extinguishers dating back to 1930.

Karoonda C.F.S. \$44,000 new International ACCO 610A fire appliance was delivered in October 1982, and will service the needs of the community for many years to come.

Planning for the unit began twelve months ago, with the need to replace and update the old International town appliance.

Discussions held between the Council and the Karoonda Fire Fighting Association and with support from the community, resulted in the purchase of the new unit, pictured above.

The unit will serve the Karoonda township and act as a back-up for the excellent small units situated at other locations within the Karoonda/East Murray Council area.

The provision of this appliance is an excellent example of total community involvement.

Continued page 32



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KINGSCOTE C.F.S. — Fire siren sounded on August 9th at 1830 hours to signal the start of a doorknock appeal to assist in the purchase of a new fire truck for the township. C.F.S. brigade members and Apex Club volunteers called to over 500 homes, the result was approx \$10,000 in donations.

The Kingscote C.F.S. have always responded to a call, day or night, so it is most heartening to hear that the Kangaroo Island-Kingscote residents have responded so generously to the Brigade's "call" . . . Editor.

You have come a long way Kingscote C.F.S.

A BRIEF HISTORY BY JOHN DOWNING

During the 1950's when the small town of Kingscote started to grow, there were about 140 houses, and fire suppression was very basic.

There was a feeble siren on the roof of the new town hall, switched on by the kindly ladies in the manual telephone exchange, from whom one enquired where the fire was. (This wasn't too good after 11 p.m.)

The response? An old, barely roadworthy traytop truck, locked in the Council Depot, key in a concealed spot (perhaps).

The truck carried a rusty pump and hose reel left over from wartime civil defence, and an even rustier water tank — there was only salty Cygnet River water available at the time. The truck was crewed by Messrs. Burdon, Catchlove, Christophers, Downing and Ellson (snr.), who did what they could with what they had, not much either way!

However, a series of disastrous house fires which cost two lives, plus the homes and possessions of several families, prompted the Council to offer, in 1962, a brand new fire unit and a building to house it, if a proper E.F.S. brigade could be formed.

As rural areas expanded, Duncan/Gosse and American River also set up effective brigades. There were few phones at the time and certainly no modern radios in Kingscote, which left the town again vulnerable when the unit went 'outback' — as it often did. So about twelve years ago Kingscote Unit 2, a small but versatile firefighter, was built up locally and has since been seen at fires all over the Island, and provides vital back up to the older unit.

Since that time the township has more than doubled in size, there is a pressing need for a bigger general purpose unit incorporating the latest technology and all of the experience accumulated in the last twenty years.

Editorial courtesy The Islander.

Following the support and overwhelming response of some 500 local residents, the \$10,000 received from a doorknock will now enable the Kingscote C.F.S. to purchase a much needed modern fire fighting appliance. You have come a long way Kingscote C.F.S., and are a credit to our organisation and K.I. . . . Editor.

The proposed new unit will be built around high pressure technology. Operating pressure will be a staggering 300 lbs/sq. inch requiring special hose reels and nozzles, to deliver billions of very fine water droplets at high velocity. Discharge can then be varied from a wide cone to a far reaching jet.

The Council have indicated the probability of enlarging the C.F.S. building to accommodate the new C.F.S. truck, S.E.S. vehicles and the communications base under the one roof.

LAFFER C.F.S. — Held a successful fire awareness and unit familiarisation day, Sunday October 31st.

LOWER SOUTH EAST F.F.A. — Annual field exercise involved a simulated 4 car collision. Cars were destroyed by fire and people severely injured. Local brigades responded promptly to extinguish fires and render first-aid to the car victims until St. John personnel arrived.

Other tasks dealt with a spillage of hazardous chemicals, driving in loose sand, in built up areas and reviewing road rules. C.F.S. crews had to navigate cross country using grid references on standard maps, receiving directions by radio. The exercise involved a wide range of co-emergency services. Red Cross supplied food to the fire crews; St. John prepared the "accident victims" and tended them at the crash site, Saffor and Woods & Forests provided fire appliances and crews and the C.F.S. Auxiliary staffed the Control Room. At the de-briefing comment was made on the high standard of appliances and equipment and in particular the crews who were both enthusiastic and properly dressed.

MANNUM C.F.S. — Retiring C.F.S. President Mr M. Wilson commended crew members for fitting out the new fire unit bought this year, and for the installation of two-way radio equipment in both mobile units. The District Council was acknowledged for its support in providing capital assistance for the new fire unit and radio equipment.

MANNUM C.F.S. — Is seeking an additional 10 volunteers to back up their existing 8 to 10 regulars, in manning the fire truck in an emergency and operation of radio equipment.

MELROSE C.F.S. — F.C.O.'s are brushing up on the "powers and duties of an F.C.O." having received circulars from the Mount Remarkable D/C, as result of a hearing of a recent court decision against another council through negligence of a fire control officer.

MILLICENT C.F.S. — Have installed U.H.F. radio in its control vehicle. Costing approx \$300 the radio was purchased with money raised by unit members. It was used for the first time on October 2nd, to summon volunteers to the Cape Buffon fire.

NURIOOTPA C.F.S. — Conducted a lecture and demonstration on "use of fire extinguishers", for commercial and domestic purposes on Thursday, October 21st. The demonstration was held because in businesses today very few employees are taught how to use a fire extinguisher. Also householders generally are not familiar with the correct extinguisher to use for the home, car, caravan or boat fire, or its correct application.

ORROROO C.F.S. — Dodge fire truck now 10 years old is having an overhaul and will be fitted with new sides, decking, valves, pipes and hoses. Extensions to the fire station are being held in abeyance due to council's financial restraint. The C.F.S. Ladies Auxiliary has invested \$15,000 for extensions.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS . . .



The Paringa Emergency Fire Service formed on the 25th November 1962, consisted of a membership of 17 and a Ford Army Blitz truck capable of carrying 400 gallons of water.

Mr Milton Curtis elected station officer at the first meeting held the honoured post until the 25th October 1982, and was then appointed Group Captain.

April 1972 saw the purchase of a Dodge D5N to replace the old blitz and in the ensuing 12 months a radio was installed.

In November 1981 a Toyota 4WD was purchased and fitted out, for use as a much needed back-up unit for the rural areas.

The Paringa C.F.S. brigade now in its 25th year of voluntary service has 15 active members and 8 cadets.

With the enthusiasm shown by the cadets Paringa residents can be assured that these future fire fighters will themselves be looking forward to having their own "quarter of a century celebration" with half a century old brigade.

Tradition lives on, in the spirit of young Australians . . . Editor.



Continued page 34



An Open Invitation to all C.F.S. Members



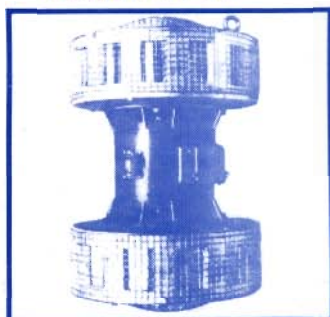
WHEN YOU ARE IN TOWN CALL IN AND SEE US
OR see Kevin May who will personally attend to your requirements



KEVIN MAY

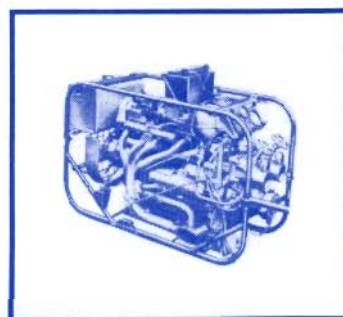
*"Prepare your fire fighting equipment now . . .
don't wait for disaster to strike.*

*We have a complete range of equipment
to suit your needs."*

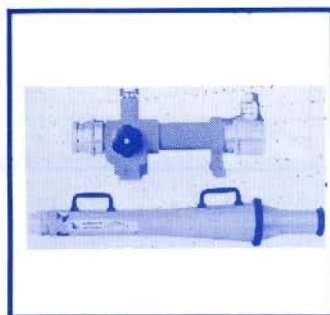


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PENOLA C.F.S. — Were presented a cheque for \$100 from the local Savings Bank Branch. The cheque will go towards the purchase of a spare C.A.B.A. Pictured above are members of the Penola C.F.S., left to right-back row: Messrs Peter Lucas, Andrew Lucas, Tom Rymill, Anthony Lynn, Don Burns and Ted Clark. Front row-Cadets: Miss Donna Burns, Michelle Whittenbury, Master Travis Whittenbury and Leon Jackson. Brigade Captain Mr Fred Stent receives the cheque from Mr Brian Whittenbury, Manager, Savings Bank of S.A., Penola Branch. Photograph courtesy The Penola Pennant. Refer page 32.

ROBE & DISTRICT F.F.A. — Organised visits to the Kangaroo Inn Area school and the Robe Primary School by local C.F.S. brigades. The K.I.A.s took part in a fire drill exercise with senior students testing water pump, hose and hydrants. Bray C.F.S. Captain Mr. R. H. Wendelborn explained "fire safety" to both schools. Instruction on fire equipment usage was given by Mr. D. Williams (Greenway C.F.S.) and Mr. A. Morgan (Bray C.F.S.). Robe C.F.S. Captain C. Cook and Snr Fireman M. O'Loughlin discussed nozzles and B.A. purpose and use. The visits were highlighted with judging of fire prevention posters using fire prevention measures in a National Park, Forest, Home or on a Farm.

ROBE C.F.S. — Will soon have a cavity wall stone fire shed to house their fire unit.

SMITHFIELD C.F.S. — Needs new volunteer fire fighters. The brigade is seeking people 18 and over, to join their ranks. The recruits will need to be dedicated to the job, prepared to accept "no pay" and "long hours".

It is a special kind of comradeship that provides a high level of fire protection within the District Council of Munno Para. The brigade received a recent donation of two hand receivers from the Smithfield Lions Club.

SNOWTOWN C.F.S. — Through the generosity of the District Council of Snowtown, the brigade will receive 6 respirators with chemical filters, 2 breathing apparatus units, replacement hose for the fire appliance, a Philips 320 U.H.F. radio for the Council ute, and have agreed to support a proposed "Education Day" on radio.

STIRLING C.F.S. — Are learning procedures involving the handling of dangerous substance spillages, particularly liquified petroleum gas. Representatives from all Stirling brigades attended a meeting at the Mount Lofty Training Centre. Guest speaker Mr John Stone, Training and Development Supervisor, S.A. Gas Company, spoke on the properties and characteristics of L.P. Gas, types of tanks, their construction, ancillary equipment, autogas conversions and handling leakages. A film shown "Handling L.P. Gas as Emergencies", stresses the importance of learning how to cope with L.P. Gas. An important role for C.F.S. volunteers particularly as more cars today are being converted to L.P. Gas.

DOUBLE PROTECTION FOR SALT CREEK



The commissioning of a new fire appliance, Friday 15th October, for Salt Creek C.F.S. is an addition to the present Bedford unit and now assures Meningie Council residents "double protection."

Meningie Council contributed \$5,000 towards the purchase of the unit with the Salt Creek C.F.S. Womens Committee donating the sum of \$3,250, proceeds from fundraising functions held over the past 18 months.

Chairman of the Meningie Council, Mr Wayne Sanders officiated at the fire unit commissioning, and praised the community for its financial support. Present at the ceremony were Meningie councillors, members/residents of the Salt Creek area, and R.O. Murray Sherwell of Naracoorte (Region 5).

Pictured above beside the new International, petrol driven ACCO 1810cc 4x4 fire unit are from left: Mr Wayne Sanders, Chairman, Meningie District Council, with Mr Peter Crawford, Chairman, Salt Creek C.F.S. Photo supplied courtesy Murray Valley Standard and Mr A. C. Schutte, Secretary, Salt Creek, C.F.S.

Continued page 36

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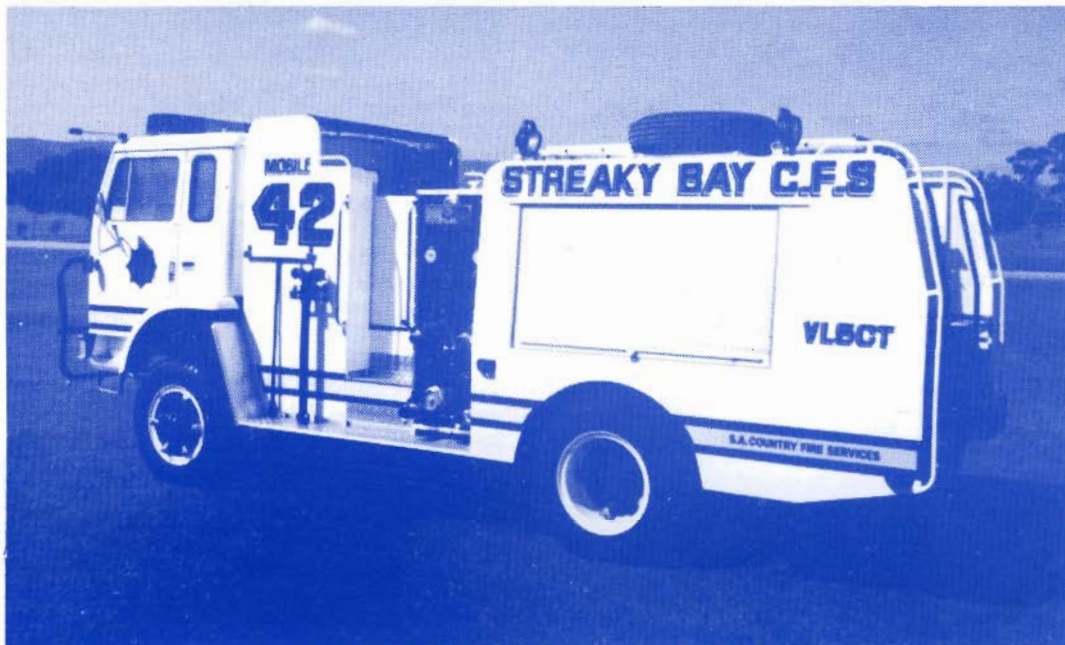


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Designed and constructed to C.F.S. specifications
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C.G.E.2 FIRE ECLIPSE URBAN & RURAL.
Reg. design no. 84612



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C.G.E.4 FIRE ECLIPSE.

- ★C.G.E. HIGH PRESSURE HOSE REELS. 30 METRE & 50 METRE WITH MOUNTING FRAME, BRAKE AND REWIND HANDLE.
- ★DARLEY PUMPS.
- ★C.G.E. ELECTRONIC SIRENS & P.A. SYSTEMS.
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- ★INTRA-CUT NAMES AND NUMBERS. (BRIGADE NAMES)
- ★WATER TANKS.
- ★SLIP-ON UNITS.
- ★FIRE TRAILERS.
- ★MODIFICATIONS TO EXISTING UNITS.
- ★MONITORS.

STRATHALBYN C.F.S. — District Fire Station was officially opened on Sunday 24th October by the then Minister of Agriculture, Mr Chapman. About \$45,000 has been spent converting the old council offices to the combined C.F.S. and S.E.S. building. Conservatively an estimated \$40,000 was given in voluntary labour. The community donated \$12,000 and the Council \$32,000. During the ceremony "Certificates of Appreciation" were presented to local business houses who freely allowed staff (members of the C.F.S.) to attend fire calls.

Recipients were Strathalbyn Wholesale Meat Pty. Ltd. and A & M Moran and Son Pty. Ltd. Mr Bert Michelmores a prominent Milang townsman and Mr John McInnes were awarded the Council's prestigious "Certificate of Merit". Mr Michelmores is the only active foundation member of the Strathalbyn C.F.S. formed 43 years ago, and has held the office of President for the past 13 years. Mr McInnes was a foundation member of the Milang C.F.S. for more than 30 years.

STREAKY BAY C.F.S. — Fundraising campaign raised \$21,000 towards the payment of the new \$56,000 fire appliance. The unit an International ACCO 4 wheel drive will travel easily over the districts light coastal soil without bogging down. Features include a P.T.O. driven Darley high pressure, high volume pump with an auxiliary pump, a forward crew compartment and ample locker storage area. The Flinders Community Hotel support the brigade and have again made a most generous donation of \$3,000 this year, towards ancillary equipment required on the new unit; which includes hoses, extinguishers, nozzles and a first aid kit.

TOTHILL C.F.S.



The Tothill C.F.S. crew (pictured) attended the C.F.S. State Fire Fighting Drill Championships, held at Riverton on Sunday, 22nd August, 1982. Pictured on rear step of Tothill fire truck is: Mick Williams, Secretary Tothill C.F.S. Back row, from left: Maurice Mosey, David Mosey and David Busch. Front row, from left: Chris Mosey and F.C.O. Jeff Kernchen.

The Tothill C.F.S. Brigade was established in October/November 1981 due to local property owners' concern that the area was lacking of fire protection equipment.

Bushfires were previously fought by the private farm units with back-up from neighbouring district C.F.S. Brigades. But early control of fires was not always possible due to the terrain and the distance "local" brigades had to travel.

At harvest time all private units were committed, which left none available for a bushfire emergency; so the community banded together and gave donations amounting to \$2,600 towards a fire truck.

The local council of Saddleworth and Auburn provided an old fire body and an ex ETSA truck chassis was purchased from the donations. With voluntary labour the body was fitted on and the unit built up.

The community now proudly has a registered CFS Brigade with a 4-wheel drive Bedford RLH 2 series, complete with Yamaha high pressure pump, hose reels, 400 gallon capacity water tank, knapsack sprays and basic fire fighting equipment.

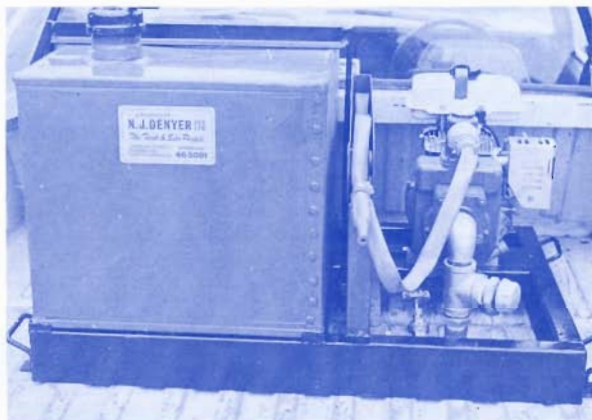
Property owners can now feel a lot more secure in the knowledge that the Tothill C.F.S. are protecting residents of the Saddleworth and Auburn District Council, in the Tothill Valley from the Apoinga Lagoon to the old Tothill Creek School, and across the ranges, assisting Robertstown Council and neighbouring brigades as required.

The Tothill C.F.S. has approximately 23 registered volunteer members. Ages start from 15 years for cadet firemen, with farmers' sons making up the main crew contingent.

Terrain covered by the brigade varies from open range to the rugged dense scrub of the Julian or "Black" Ranges, where it becomes a man and a knapsack job in the event of a fire. A few tracks enable their fire truck to transport and dispense water to the firefighters.

Continued page 37

Dependable Denyer



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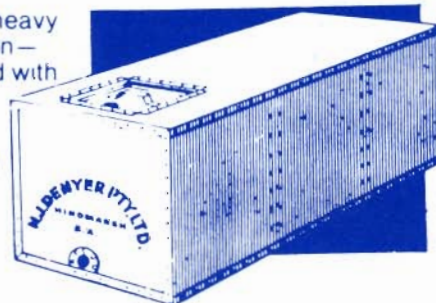
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TRURO C.F.S. — Unit is very proud of their new Cadet section. In early August the cadets were officially inspected by C.F.S. Board Member, Group Captain Peter Swann of Kapunda C.F.S. and R.O. Brian Menadue (Region 2). They have the honour of being the first cadet group to be established in the Truro Council area. R.O. Menadue said there was a possibility the 1983 Regional Competitions would be held at Truro. With the need for C.F.S. units to consider the danger faced if called to an L.P. Gas fire, R.O. Menadue recommended the use of high pressure pumps to supplement foam at such fires. Mr Swann showed the latest in breathing apparatus equipment and stressed for the volunteers' safety to wear C.A.B.A. when dealing with fires in confined spaces or when chemicals on contact with fire give off toxic gases.

WAIKERIE C.F.S. — Winners of the "1982 Best and Most Efficient Appliance and Crew" Award, turned out to fight a blaze, which gutted a dental surgery at Waikerie on Friday, October 29th. Quick action by the volunteers brought the fire under control. Firefighters then worked tirelessly into the night to stop the fire spreading through the roof of the Waikerie Printing House. The task of the 2 officers and 11 men at the scene was made more difficult by heavy black smoke and burning wiring, which required the wearing of breathing apparatus to reach the "Red Hot" ceiling, rafters and roof insulation. Waikerie C.F.S. Group Captain Michael Arnold (C.F.S. Board Member), complimented his men manning the 3 C.F.S. units and said that recent schools attended by Waikerie brigade members covering subjects on firefighting, use of breathing apparatus and drills, all contributed to the success of the operation.

When calling for a forecast . . .

During a fire, the services of the Bureau of Meteorology are always available for the provision of forecasts of expected wind speeds, weather and of any expected changes.

However, it is stressed that wind speeds given in these forecasts are in *kilometres per hour* (k.p.h.) (knots are only used in nautical and aviation forecasts). Also, these forecasts are the general expectation for the area and cannot take into account the local topography or winds produced by the fire itself. Should a weather forecast for a going fire be required at any time, the Control Centre Operation at C.F.S. H/Q can obtain it (this is the preferred method) or a direct call can be made to the Bureau on (08) 42 6601.

When calling for a forecast, be prepared to give details of existing conditions at the fire, including wind speed and direction (k.p.h. again!), temperature and cloud cover, as best can be estimated.

On receipt of a fire call in the Bureau, the above information is logged, together with the location of the fire and a call back telephone number is taken in case additional important information becomes available.

The forecast given by the forecaster, is usually valid for the next six hours, with an outlook for the following six hours. So that the best advantage can be taken of the Bureau's forecasting services, an update of the forecast near the end of the first six hours is advisable.

Weather observations are done throughout Australia every three hours (except for midnight in SA/NT and the eastern States and 9 p.m. in W.A.) Optimum times to ring the Bureau, when the most weather information is available are: 5.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 5.15 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. Calls can, of course, be made at other times. However, near the above times, the forecaster has much more information available to him to assess how a particular weather situation is developing.

Remember that the wind forecasts given by the Bureau are in *kilometres per hour* (k.p.h.) and that timing of wind changes (when given) will be as a range (say, 5 to 7 p.m.).

OBITUARY



Sgt. John William COLMER

Passed away 22 October 1982

A well respected member of the South Australian Police Force, Sergeant Jack Colmer of Woodside, took a vital interest in the C.F.S., particularly during his station appointments at Truro, Port Noarlunga/Christies Beach and Strathalbyn. The Woodside Country Fire Services benefitted immensely from Jack Colmer's leadership.

To Mrs. Colmer and family, we extend our heartfelt sympathies.

Mr. W. L. ENGLAND

Passed away 14 October, 1982

The Volunteer and the South Australian Country Fire Services pay tribute to the memory of Lin England of Kingston, S.E., in his sad passing.

Mr England, a well-known and respected member of the South Eastern Fire Fighting Association, served as President for a number of years. His wise counsel on matters relating to fire fighting legislation, fire prevention and protection did much to enhance the work of the Fire Fighting Association.

To his family we extend our sincere condolences.

Mr. Clement H. A. WECKERT

Passed away 8th November 1982, Aged 72 years

Mr. Weckert of Yacka dedicated himself to serving the community at all levels of local government and in the civic promotion of community services. His devotion to the Country Fire Services of Yacka, Brinkworth and surrounding areas for over 30 years, including holding the office of President of the Yacka C.F.S. and past President of the Northern Fire Fighting Association, earned him the respect of all his associates.

To Mrs. Weckert we extend our sincere condolences on behalf of the South Australian Country Fire Services.

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1981	Salisbury
1982	Nuriootpa

Industrial Fire Service Inc. V's C.F.S.

1981	Salisbury (Dry Drill)
	Eden Hills (Wet Drill)
1982	Nuriootpa (Dry Drill)
	Clare (Wet Drill)

Portable Pump Alarm Race

1981	Belair
1982	Belair

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1981	Clare
1982	Waikerie

"C" Grade Drill (Ladies or Cadets)

1979	Woodside
1980	Yongala
1981	Yorketown
1982	Salisbury

One Man Hose Drill

1979	Yorketown
1980	Yorketown
1981	Yorketown
1982	Yorketown

One Man Ladder Drill

1979	Kapunda
1980	Waikerie
1981	Yorketown
1982	Evanston Gardens

Four Man Ladder Drill (Wet)

1979	Nuriootpa
1980	Nuriootpa
1981	Yorketown
1982	Nuriootpa

District Association, CFS Fire Brigades and CFS Group Committees

The figure in brackets after the name of the brigade indicates the number of calls reported for the year 1 July 1981 to 30 June 1982

REGION 1 (CENTRAL)

Reg'd No.	Regional Officer—Mr. R. T. Keynes, E.D.	COUNCIL BRIGADE
11	BURNSIDE CORPORATION	1 Burnside (18)
14	CAMPBELL TOWN CORPORATION	1 Althelstone (16)
23	EAST TORRENS	1 Cherryville (2)
58	MEADOWS	1 Ashbourne (1)
72	MURRAY BRIDGE	1 Murray Bridge (6)
66	MOUNT BARKER	1 Mount Barker (3)
75	NOARLUNGA	1 Port Noarlunga Christies Beach (26)
68	ONKAPARRINGA	1 Onkaparinga (1)
90	PORT ELLIOT AND GOOLWA	1 Port Elliot (3)
108	STIRLING	1 Aldgate Inc. (17)
109	STRATHALBYN	1 Strathalbyn (2)
113	TEA TREE GULLY	1 Tea Tree Gully (70)
118	VEICOR HARBOR	1 Victor Harbor (3)
124	WILLUNGA	1 The Range (2)
128	YANKAILLA	1 Yankilla (2)
130	HEADQUARTERS RESERVE SECTION	1 CFS Headquarters West Beach Road, Kewwick
151	NORTHFIELD (Correctional Services) (51)	1 Northfield (51)
63	MONAROT DEVELOPMENT	1 Monarot Development (6)
2	ANGASTON	1 Angaston (7)

REGION 2 (LOWER NORTH)

3	BALAKLAVA	1 Balaklava (18)
5	BAROSSA	1 Barossa District (1)
27	EUDUNDA	1 Eudunda (7)
33	GUMERACHA	1 Gumeracha & District (27)
42	KAPUNDA	1 Kapunda (28)
52	LIGHT	1 Gawler River District (9)
55	MALLALA	1 Mallala & District (8)
56	MANNUM	1 Mannum (1)
69	MOUNT PLEASANT	1 Mount Pleasant (2)
70	MUNDOORA	1 Mundoora (4)
78	OWEN	1 Owen (1)
99	RIDLEY	1 Ridley (1)
100	RIVERTON	1 Riverton (5)
102	ROBERTSTOWN	1 Robertstown (2)
103	SADDELEWORTH AND AUBURN	1 Saddleworth (5)
105	SALISBURY	1 Salisbury (135)
111	TANUNDA	1 Tanunda (1)
115	TRURO	1 Truro (19)

REGION 3 (YORKE PENINSULA)

129	YORKE TOWN	1 Yorketown (2)
5	BAROSSA	1 Barossa District (1)
27	EUDUNDA	1 Eudunda (7)
33	GUMERACHA	1 Gumeracha & District (27)
42	KAPUNDA	1 Kapunda (28)
52	LIGHT	1 Gawler River District (9)
55	MALLALA	1 Mallala & District (8)
56	MANNUM	1 Mannum (1)
69	MOUNT PLEASANT	1 Mount Pleasant (2)
70	MUNDOORA	1 Mundoora (4)
78	OWEN	1 Owen (1)
99	RIDLEY	1 Ridley (1)
100	RIVERTON	1 Riverton (5)
102	ROBERTSTOWN	1 Robertstown (2)
103	SADDELEWORTH AND AUBURN	1 Saddleworth (5)
105	SALISBURY	1 Salisbury (135)
111	TANUNDA	1 Tanunda (1)
115	TRURO	1 Truro (19)

REGION 3 (YORKE PENINSULA)

129	YORKE TOWN	1 Yorketown (2)
5	BAROSSA	1 Barossa District (1)
27	EUDUNDA	1 Eudunda (7)
33	GUMERACHA	1 Gumeracha & District (27)
42	KAPUNDA	1 Kapunda (28)
52	LIGHT	1 Gawler River District (9)
55	MALLALA	1 Mallala & District (8)
56	MANNUM	1 Mannum (1)
69	MOUNT PLEASANT	1 Mount Pleasant (2)
70	MUNDOORA	1 Mundoora (4)
78	OWEN	1 Owen (1)
99	RIDLEY	1 Ridley (1)
100	RIVERTON	1 Riverton (5)
102	ROBERTSTOWN	1 Robertstown (2)
103	SADDELEWORTH AND AUBURN	1 Saddleworth (5)
105	SALISBURY	1 Salisbury (135)
111	TANUNDA	1 Tanunda (1)
115	TRURO	1 Truro (19)

REGION 5 (SOUTHEAST)

129	YORKE TOWN	1 Yorketown (2)
5	BAROSSA	1 Barossa District (1)
27	EUDUNDA	1 Eudunda (7)
33	GUMERACHA	1 Gumeracha & District (27)
42	KAPUNDA	1 Kapunda (28)
52	LIGHT	1 Gawler River District (9)
55	MALLALA	1 Mallala & District (8)
56	MANNUM	1 Mannum (1)
69	MOUNT PLEASANT	1 Mount Pleasant (2)
70	MUNDOORA	1 Mundoora (4)
78	OWEN	1 Owen (1)
99	RIDLEY	1 Ridley (1)
100	RIVERTON	1 Riverton (5)
102	ROBERTSTOWN	1 Robertstown (2)
103	SADDELEWORTH AND AUBURN	1 Saddleworth (5)
105	SALISBURY	1 Salisbury (135)
111	TANUNDA	1 Tanunda (1)
115	TRURO	1 Truro (19)

REGION 5 (SOUTHEAST)

60	MILLICENT	1 Rendelsham (1)
76	MOUNT GAMBIER	1 Benara (1)
82	PENOLA	1 Penola (11)
93	PORT MACDONNELL	1 Port Macdonnell (1)
101	ROBE	1 Robe District (1)
112	TATARA	1 Tatara (1)

REGION 6—(EYRE PENINSULA)

18	CLEVE	1 Cleve (9)
24	ELLISTON	1 Elliston (4)
28	FRANKLIN HARBOR	1 Franklin Harbour (2)
45	KIMBA	1 Kimba (1)
50	LEHUNTE	1 Lehnate (1)
51	LINCOLN	1 Lincoln (1)
80	MURAT BAY (Ceduna)	1 Murat Bay (Ceduna) (1)
110	STREAKY BAY	1 Streaky Bay (2)
116	TUMBY BAY	1 Tumby Bay (1)

C.F.S. FIREFIGHTING DRILL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS . . . continued from The Volunteer, Volume 15.

NURIOOTPA TEAMS SCOOP THE TITLES

Nuriootpa Country Fire Service 'A' and 'B' grade teams scooped the pool in taking out titles at the C.F.S. State Championships at Riverton on Sunday August 22nd.

The 'A' grade team won the top dry hose and pump drill title earning the State Government Cup, C.F.S. Board pennants, individual trophies and certificates.

The same team also took out the Insurance Council of Australia trophy as runners up in the best and most efficient C.F.S. appliance and crew award (winners were Waikerie CFS); and the Wormald International trophy for the C.F.S. v. I.F.S. (Industrial Fire Services) challenge shield.



REGION 7 (UPPER MURRAY & MURRAY MALLEE)

Reg'd No.	COUNCIL BRIGADE	Reg'd No.	COUNCIL BRIGADE
4	BARMERA	2	Loveday
7	BERRI	3	Cobdogla
10	BROWN'S WELL	4	Glossop
43	KAROONDA EAST	5	Peetings
48	LAMEROO	6	Geranium (3)
53	LOXTON	7	Tapian (1)
65	MORGAN	8	Wunika (2)
79	PARANGA	9	Cadeil Training Centre (8)
81	PEAKE	10	Lyrup (3)
85	PINAROO	11	Moortlands
119	WAIKERIE	12	Livingston
131	National Parks & Wildlife Services (54)	13	Yumali
132	Woods & Forests Dept. (34)	14	Coonandook
133	State Planning Authority	15	Parilla (1)
134	Iron Baron (5)	16	Eastern Districts (1)
135	Iron Knob (3)	17	Far North West
136	North East	18	Far West
138	Arbury Park (Educ Dept)	19	Kingsbury
140	Olympic Dam (Roxby Downs)	20	North East
		21	Upper Murray
		22	Northern Flinders
		23	Wipena

Regional Fire Fighting Associations

Name of Regional Fire Fighting Association (within Local Government Area)	Name of Regional Fire Fighting Association (outside Local Government Area)
1 Adelaide Hills	12 Eastern Districts (1)
2 Barossa Ranges	13 Far North West
3 Eyre Peninsula	14 Far West
4 Kangaroo Island	15 Kingsbury
5 Lower North	16 North East
6 Lower South East	17 Upper Murray
7 Northern	18 Northern Flinders
8 Riverland and Eastern	19 Wipena
9 Upper Murray	
10 Upper South East	
11 Yorke Peninsula	

Nuriootpa "A" Grade Dry Hose and Pump Drill winning team with the Government Cup, CFS Board Pennants, individual trophies and certificates. Insurance Council of Australia Trophy for runners up in Best and Most Efficient CFS Appliance and Crew Award, and the Wormald International Trophy "CFS vs IFS Challenge Shield".

Pictured from left: Team Captain, Lyle Rohrlach, Orb Rohrlach, Les Hampel, Glen Lange and Ian Cartwright.



Nuriootpa "B" Grade Dry Hose Drill team won their event and the Carey Gully Engineering Shield, pennant, certificates and individual trophies. Pictured from left: Team Captain Wes Shilling, Don Rosenzweig, Graham Rohrlach, Andrew Hanckel and Robin Falkenberg.



Nuriootpa 3 Man and Captain Wet Drill team proudly display the Mills Tui Cup presented to the winning team. Pictured from left: Don Rosenzweig, Laurie Hatch, Team Captain Wes Shilling and Robin Falkenberg.

Virginia — much more than market gardens

Over the past nine years Virginia, located approximately 30 kms north of Adelaide has seen over \$13 million of real estate investment.

A large parcel of land has been sub-divided into 2 hectare (5 acre) lots, which constitute a fire hazard, as the owners/residents from the city do not clear their land regularly enough; and a grass fire can be the result.

Productivity comes from the market gardens, and the market gardens use highly volatile and/or toxic insecticides and fungicides which constitute a second hazard.

Adding to the need for fire protection in the area are three large complexes: the Adelaide International Raceway, Virginia Speedway and the Virginia Gun Club.

Fire Protection for the district that houses a population in excess of 2,000 people is the role of the Virginia C.F.S. Volunteer Brigade, consisting of 14 regular members, 7 cadets, a women's auxiliary numbering 8 ladies, and 2 fire fighting appliances.



Pictured above with the two fire appliances, in front of their modern fire station are members of the Virginia C.F.S. From left, Back row — Brian Marschall (Lieutenant); Jim Modafferi (Lieutenant); Agostino Musolino (Snr Fireman); Rocco Musolino (Snr Fireman); Gino Guidotto (Snr F.C.O.) and Brian Clark (Captain). Front row — Cadets Douglas Nicol; Mathew Hamilton; Daryl Nicol; Adrian Marschall; Grant Marschall and Craig Marschall.

The Fire Station built two years ago was the result of brigade members visiting residents of the district, saying "what is the C.F.S. worth to you!" Donations totalling \$8,000 were received and the brigade contributed an overall total of \$10,000. Members supplied all materials, timber and stone, did their own furnishing, and the station was built solely by the brigade members. The fire station features an operations room, furnished office, lecture area, kitchen, toilet, outdoor training area and landscaping. Its design has incorporated sufficient area in which to house four (4) fire appliances to meet the needs of Virginia's future expansion.

The Munno Para District Council is to be commended for their support and assistance and the Munno Para Group Committee have given the Virginia C.F.S. first priority in the purchase of a new fire appliance, when funds become available.

COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES MANUAL AMENITIES FUND — STATMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 30th June, 1982

RECEIPTS

	\$	\$
Donations	37.00	
Advertisements	2,044.21	
Trophies	936.72	
Picture Frames	23.00	3,040.93
Bank Interest		121.00
Funds 1.7.81		
Bank Balance		1,642.96
Cash on Hand		3.75
		<u>4,808.64</u>

PAYMENTS

	\$	\$
Trophies and Engraving	381.03	
Picture Frames	28.00	
Cap Badges	58.80	467.83
Funds 30.6.82		
Bank Balance		4,337.06
Cash on Hand		3.75
		<u>4,808.64</u>

FIRE STATISTICS SUMMARY 1981/82

Fires reported and attended by CFS Brigades:

Rural	1227
Structural	200
Vehicle	156
TOTAL FIRES	1583

Brigade Turnouts:

Category	Frequency
Rural	
Miscellaneous (not recorded)	25
Grass	796
Grass/Scrub	158
Grass/Crop	40
Grass/Forest	8
Scrub	116
Forest Plantation	25
Scrub/Forrest	24
Crop	9
Single Tree	16
Hay/Hayshed	10
Rubbish Dump	64
Rubbish Heap	88
Other	66
Structural	
Building (other)	158
House (kitchen)	18
House (other)	62
Factory/Warehouse	9
School	1
Hotel/Motel	3
Vehicle	
Vehicle Fire	164
Caravan	1
Special Service	
Motor Vehicle Accident (no fire)	82
Search/Rescue	25
Power Lines	1
Storm Damage	1
Gas Leaks	3
Fallen Tree	6
Other	56
False Alarms	
Malfunction	41
Justified Call	116
Malicious False Alarm	28
TOTAL CALL OUTS	2220

Financial Losses	
Rural Fires	\$3,727,730
Structural Fires	\$2,229,919
Vehicle Fires	\$1,098,915
TOTAL LOSSES	\$7,056,564

Estimated Area Burnt	102,959 Hectares
Houses Destroyed	8
Sheds Destroyed	45

Vehicles Burnt	57
Farm Machinery Damaged	12
Fencing Destroyed	24.877 kms
Hay Destroyed	175 tonnes

Fire Causes:

Rural	
Not Recorded	74
Not Known	285
Arson	75
Electrical Fault	14
Cigarettes/Matches	22
Burning Off	152
Rekindle	91
Children/Matches	81
Incinerators	35
Rubbish Heaps	58
Rubbish Dumps	26
Vehicles/Crash/Defect	10
Trains—Brakes Shoes	17
Trains—Exhaust	7
Campfire—Wood/BBQ	44
Gas and Electrical Appliances	2
Spontaneous Combustion	16
Machine Defects	19
Power Lines	27
Exhaust/Spark Arrestor	22
Welders/Cutters	27
Slashers/Mowers	19
Lightning	60
Other	44
TOTAL, Rural	1227

Structural	
Not Recorded	5
Not Known	27
Arson	14
Electrical Fault	33
Cigarettes/Matches	7
Kitchen	21
Oil/Gas Heater	10
Open Fire — Combustion Stove	12
Chimney/Flue	38
Other	33
TOTAL, Structural	200

Vehicle	
Not Recorded	13
Not Known	25
Arson	13
Electrical Fault	36
Cigarettes/Matches	1
Mechanical Fault	43
Accident	19
Other	6
TOTAL, Vehicle	156

DATES FOR THE 1983 C.F.S. DRILL COMPETITIONS

5TH JUNE	REGION 5	KEITH
19TH JUNE	REGION 1	ALDINGA
26TH JUNE	REGION 2/3	TO BE ADVISED
10TH JULY	REGION 4	TO BE ADVISED
24TH JULY	REGION 7	BARMERA
7TH AUGUST	REGION 6	CUMMINS
21ST AUGUST	STATE FINALS	TO BE ADVISED