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New C.F.S. Director

FIRE SERVICES CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FUNDING WORKING PARTY

The Fire Services Co-ordination Committee, which was formed to improve the co-ordination, co-operation and liaison between the emergency services, has been asked by the Government to examine the method of funding the Country Fire Services and the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service.

The Co-ordination Committee formed a working party to investigate the question, and that working party sought the assistance of all interested parties for comments or suggestions as to the best and fairest way of obtaining and administering the funds needed to run the two fire services.

The terms of reference of the Co-ordination Committee funding working party were:

- to examine the present method of funding the Country Fire Services and the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service, and
- to recommend an alternative method (or methods) of funding the two fire services which would be more equitable to all those who are potential beneficiaries of their services.

In addition, the Co-ordination Committee instructed its working party particularly to examine whether

- the principle of the State's fire services being an essential community service should be accepted
- the principle of the State Government being primarily responsible for the funding of the fire services should be accepted, utilising appropriate levied taxes and/or General Revenue of the State
- the insurance industry should no longer be used as a collection agency for fire levies
- the Federal Government should be a "direct" contributor to the fire services

The working party has representatives from the two fire services, the insurance industry, Local Government, and the Treasury Department, and it has an independent chairman who is also chairman of the Fire Services Co-ordination Committee itself.

In addition to submissions from C.F.S. Brigades and Local Councils, the working party obtained submissions from the public. In the course of its investigations, the working party also hopes to have the opportunity to discuss the funding question with regional groups concerned with fire protection.

It should be clearly understood that the Fire Services Co-ordination Committee believes that the continuation of the C.F.S. as a dynamic entity is crucial to the effective fire protection of most of the area of the State, and this is reflected in the wording of the terms of reference of the funding working party.

The present method of funding the two fire services is complicated. Much of the money is collected by the insurance industry by way of levy in association with fire insurance premiums; with Local Government, collections by C.F.S. Brigades, and the State Government also making significant contributions. In the case of the C.F.S., the Headquarters' budget is met 50/50 by the State Government and the insurance levy. In turn, Brigades and Local Councils raise funds from rates and donations from the public which are then subsidised from the C.F.S. Headquarters' budget. The Metropolitan Fire Service is funded 75% by the insurance levy, 12½% by the State Government, and 12½% by Local Government.

It is generally accepted that the present system of collecting the funds necessary to pay for the two fire services is inequitable and open to evasion. In summary, the Fire Services Co-ordination Committee funding working party is seeking a simple and fair way of raising and distributing the necessary funds to efficiently operate the fire services in South Australia.

18th January, 1985

W. L. C. Davies
CHAIRMAN

FIRE SERVICES CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

Front Cover:

New C.F.S. Director

Mr. A. D. (Donald) Macarthur, 50, former Deputy Chairman of Victoria's Country Fire Authority, officially took up his new position as Director of South Australia's 468 C.F.S. brigades and 18,000 C.F.S. volunteer fire fighters on Wednesday 1st May 1985.

A Bairnsdale grazier and stalwart of the volunteer fire service for 30 years, Mr. Macarthur replaces former Director, Mr. Lloyd Johns.

Mr. Macarthur's impressive record in the Victorian C.F.A. includes the position of Group Officer of the Bairnsdale Group, prior to his appointment in March 1982 as Deputy Chairman of the C.F.A. and Acting Chairman for the twelve months up to November 1984.

During the past three years Donald Macarthur made a significant contribution to the C.F.A., both in fire service administration and co-ordination.

A major issue that confronted him involved a proposal to amalgamate the C.F.A. and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. Mr. Macarthur spoke out in support of the Service and on other matters which he felt the Service in country Victoria was being unjustly pressurised.

Mr. Macarthur said that one of his first tasks as C.F.S. Director would be to make a complete tour of the C.F.S. regions to familiarise himself with their operational difficulties.

"My initial aim is to get an appreciation of the problems encountered in the field as quickly as possible", he said.

"I intend to travel to various regions and meet as many of the personnel as possible, to get a first-hand view of their problems and to see what can be done about them."

Mr. Macarthur said another priority was future involvement of volunteers in decision making at management level.

"There is a lot of work to be done to bring volunteers more into the decision making area of the C.F.S.", he said.

EDITORIAL



It is pleasing to be able to write this editorial on my second day of office as Director, South Australian Country Fire Services.

Firstly, to those members of the Service, both volunteer and permanent staff, whom I have had the pleasure of meeting prior to my appointment, let me say "thank you" for your messages of good wishes and support. The numerous letters and phone calls have ensured the valuable support required for the tasks that lie ahead.

The warm welcome I have received from all personnel in the first couple of days is very encouraging.

The Country Fire Services, as a volunteer based organisation, is indeed a great community service of which all members can be justifiably proud.

I wish to put aside the criticisms of the past and look forward to being able to give leadership and encouragement to those of the permanent staff who have so capably shouldered the additional workload since the structure of the C.F.S. was altered in late 1984.

It is hoped that before many weeks are past those staff who have felt somewhat insecure can regain their confidences and that the vacant positions can be staffed as soon as possible. To those officers who have been in "acting" positions, it is appropriate that their extra workload is officially acknowledged. Thank you all.

Secondly, but of no less importance, is the role of the volunteer members of brigades. Having myself a rural fire service background, I recognise the importance of fostering and maintaining the interests of the "grass roots" personnel without whom there could be no C.F.S. It is my intention, as soon as possible, to meet officially with the President and executive members of the Volunteer Fire Brigades Association so that there can be established a firm link between the C.F.S. and the Volunteer Association to the mutual benefit of all. It is extremely important that there is a strong liaison and input by those volunteers who have to make things work on the fire ground and at brigade level, with those of us at Headquarters who provide the back-up resources—training and communications.

Thirdly, it is my intention to visit each of the regions as soon as practical and meet with as many volunteer personnel as possible. To achieve this aim will no doubt take time but it is important that I gain a first hand knowledge of the problems the fire service faces in such a large State with somewhat limited resources.

To those of you who give of your time and resources to the fire service, I thank you for your past contribution and look forward to your continued support into the future.

A. D. MACARTHUR
Director
S.A. Country Fire Services

IT WAS A MORE FIERY SUMMER THAN YOU THOUGHT

There were more fires this past summer than most people realise.

It may have appeared to be a relatively quiet fire season, only because the major fires flared in national parks away from major population centres, and because blazes in fire-prone areas like the Adelaide Hills were quickly controlled.

Figures from the operations room of the Country Fire Services headquarters show that from the beginning of July last year to the end of March this year there were 1390 calls. This compares with 1075 calls in the corresponding period during 1983-84.

Acting Assistant Chief Officer Operations, John Fitzgerald, explained why this significant increase in the number of calls may not have been noticed.

"Firstly, many potentially large fires were nipped in the bud early by a decision at headquarters to hit all fires very hard at the initial stages," he said.

"This required greater numbers of volunteers being called to fires initially, or put on standby, but because we had the resources should a fire suddenly become more difficult to control, earlier containment was possible."

Mr. Fitzgerald said the success of this approach required direction from headquarters, yet greater delegation of authority to district supervisors vested with the responsibility for bringing together the requested number of units.

"The protection of life and property brought about by this fast tactical response has been a credit to fire supervisors and crews," he said.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the second reason for the extent of fire operations not being fully appreciated was that, with the exception of Black Hill, the big blazes were not in the Adelaide Hills, hence media coverage was not as heavy.

Among the 26 fires classified as major during summer were three separate week-long fires in the Danggali National Park north of Renmark, a week-long fire at Telowie Gorge, a four day blaze at Coffin Bay, and the Ngarkat fire in the Upper South East.



Danggali Conservation Park fire.
Photograph reproduced courtesy "The Murray Pioneer".

Fire Reports 84/85 refer pages 12, 14, 17, 18.

Letters to the Editor.

Dear Sir,

FIRE AT TERINGIE—FEBRUARY 1985

On the 22nd February 1985 a fire that was burning in the Teringie area threatened my property several times as it changed direction and ferocity.

Within a matter of minutes several C.F.S. appliances were strategically placed throughout my property in readiness. Although I have a fairly "foolproof" roof sprinkler system, it was an enormous relief to see so many of your units. The fire was fairly quickly brought under control around our property but the units staged an all night watch at our place and did not leave until the danger was over at dawn the next day. Even then there were patrols going up and down our driveway for the rest of the weekend.

I am writing to thank your department and the volunteers for their prompt action, general concern and utmost care in not only protecting my property from fire but also in protecting trees, shrubs, outbuildings etc. as they were entering and leaving. My highest praise goes to all concerned.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. ADCOCK
TERINGIE

EFFORTS REDUCE DAMAGE

Mr. J. Maule,
Officer In Charge,
Country Fire Service,
STIRLING NORTH.

Dear Mr. Maule,

Recently, I received a letter from the Town Clerk of Port Augusta praising the efforts of both the Stirling North C.F.S. Brigade and the local Auxiliary Brigade in combating three major fires which occurred recently in Port Augusta.

The efforts of yourself and your crew no doubt played a major part in reducing the resultant fire damage.

It is always pleasing to receive such information as it shows quite clearly the professional and dedicated approach held by your self and your crew and it is a tribute to the co-operation, harmony and excellent working relationship which obviously exists in Port Augusta.

Please convey my sincere appreciation to all the fire-fighters who took part and whose joint efforts resulted in the damage and destruction from the fires being much less than the end result.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. Bruce
Chief Officer
S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service.
30/1/85.

The efforts of the Stirling North C.F.S. Brigade in conjunction with the local S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service Auxiliary Brigade in combatting three major fires in the Port Augusta District have also been praised by the Mayor and Councillors.

ARNO BAY COMMENDED

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Members of the Belair Unit, and in particular the members of our alarm race team, I wish to commend the members of the Arno Bay unit for their display of firemanship and sportsmanship in acknowledging the placement of our respective Alarm Race teams in the 1984 State Finals Competitions.

Yours faithfully,
P. Burrell
Hon. Secretary
Belair C.F.S.

LOOK IN YOUR GUTTERS

Sir,

I refer to an article in the "Courier" of 13.2.85 entitled "Look in your neighbor's gutters"—and contributed by Mr. D. Moller of the Bridgewater C.F.S.

Since coming to the Hills about 12 years ago, gutters and storm water drainage have been a continuous worry to me and provided quite a workload at times. Unfortunately, the subject gets little attention, perhaps because the subject is out of sight and therefore out of mind until trouble arrives.

Guttering should get more attention from builders and owners because—as pointed out in the article—the roof over your head may depend on it.

Firstly, the question is to have gutters or not to have gutters. Gutters are useful for the collection of rainwater which can be used as drinking water and for fire protection.

To keep the gutters in working order, the system will have to be kept from blocking up. Blocking can be quite damaging and expensive to fix: underground drainpipes may have to be dug up, water may over-run and flow back towards the house . . . it all happened to me.

To keep the exits from blocking, use chickenwire, flywire or both, and shape it to fit into the round or square hole of the drainpipe. Gutters themselves should be prevented from filling up with leaves, branches, pine needles, etc. by providing a suitable covering.

I found the commercially available gutterguard of black plastic unsuitable so I devised my own system. I used two methods: the first is using metal flywire, cut to strips, nailed to the wood behind the gutter and then bent over the outside edge of the gutter. Looks a bit messy but does a perfect job on my shed where I collect my rainwater for drinking.

The second method is using half inch chicken wire which is rolled up into a cylinder shape just slightly larger than the space between the tiles of the roof and the outside of the gutter so as to make a tight fit. Leaves cannot get through and blow away when dry. Pine needles are caught in the wire but can easily be shaken out of the wire once or twice a year.

The work saving is considerable, the cost is not high, blockages no longer occur. Perhaps some of your readers might apply my solutions to their own houses.

W. H. LENSINK
Aldgate

THANK YOU!

Dear Sir,

We wish to pay tribute to the wonderful volunteers who helped save our house, shed and vehicles in the Wistow fire. Even though there were many units through our property, the Echunga, Strathalbyn and particularly Paris Creek units always seemed to be there just as we needed their practical expertise and reassurance. We found it very comforting that they were still patrolling our area day and night up to a week later.

We would like you to pass on to those brave men our gratitude and admiration.

Sincerely,
DANNY & ROBYN FERGUSON
Bundarra
Wistow.

29th January, 1985

Hello from W.A.

It is pleasing to hear that "The Volunteer" is so widely distributed and read.

One of our newest readers is a fire service from Western Australia, the Ocean Beach Bushfire Brigade, Denmark, W.A.

The brigade's equipment consists of a 4 wheel drive unit, a tanker, 2 tractors with tanks and pumps and a dispatch motor cycle.

Support comes from the Denmark town bushfire unit, the Agriculture school bushfire unit, a unit from the Ocean Beach Caravan Park and a unit from Winniston Park (their English Antiques Museum).

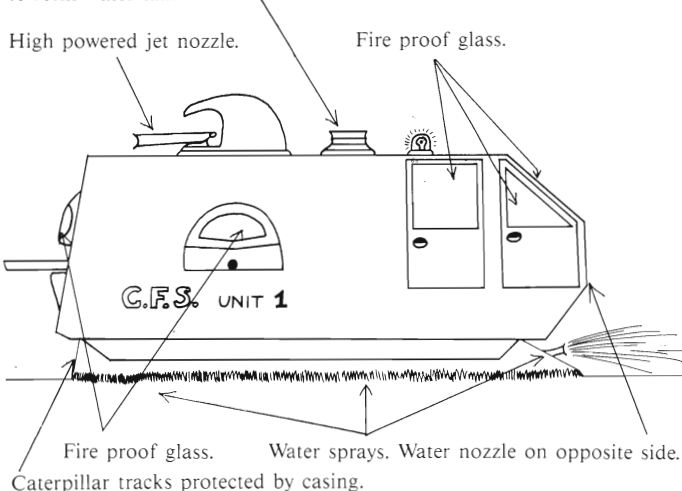
Some of the brigade's equipment will shortly be updated with the \$2200 from fund raising activities.

In closing the O.B.B.B. send their regards to S.A. C.F.S.

Best wishes to the Ocean Beach Bushfire Brigade from fellow Furies—the S.A. Country Fire Services . . . Editor.

A FUTURE FIRE FIGHTING APPLIANCE

Spout which connects to the outlet of a water bucket from a helicopter, to refill water tanks.



Daniel Raschella of Paralowie in January '85 after seeing a television report on bushfires still burning around the State was inspired to design a fire-truck of the future (illustrated above).

- The Fuel tank is located under the truck.
- A large diesel motor powers the truck and water pump.
- All available space has been allocated to carry water.

Thank you Daniel for your concern for our volunteer firefighters and the environment. Your futuristic fire-truck is most ingenious . . . Editor.

A Message from Smokey

Children you can help protect our state from fires, if you can work out and heed my important message below. (I have used the letter before or after the real one in the alphabet)



SMOKEY THE KOALA

IN MEMORIAM



C.F.S. Headquarters Officers representing the South Australian Country Fire Services attended Mt. Lofty Summit on Saturday 16th February 1985 to lay a wreath before the memorial for C.F.S. volunteers who served and those who gave their lives during the Ash Wednesday II Bushfires of 1983.

Officers present were former C.F.S. Director Lloyd Johns, Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services Tony Crichton and Regional Officer (Region 1) Brian Menadue.

A fitting tribute to our gallant volunteer fire fighters and co-emergency service personnel . . . Editor.

SUBSIDY LIMITS ON FIRE APPLIANCES

Due to cost increases in cab-chassis and build-up of standard appliances, the S.A. Country Fire Services Board has revised subsidy limits:

Maximum expenditure eligible for a subsidy on the purchase of a Cab-chassis:

Type 1 appliance (Heavy Duty Pumper)	\$33,000
Type 2 appliance (Medium Duty Pumper)	\$33,000
Type 3 appliance (Light Duty Pumper)	\$16,000
Type 4 appliance (Rural Tanker)	\$33,000
Type 5 appliance (Light Attack Vehicle)	\$14,000

Maximum expenditure eligible for a subsidy on The Build-Up of a Fire Appliance.

Type 1 appliance	\$57,000
Type 2 appliance	\$49,000
Type 3 appliance	\$25,000
Type 4 appliance	\$34,000
Type 5 appliance	\$12,000

The new subsidy limits apply from 1st January 1985.

Standards of Fire Cover

For some time now, the term "Standards of Fire Cover" has been bandied around the Country Fire Services throughout the State.

It all began in 1980 when it became apparent that whilst many considered that the C.F.S. vehicle fleet needed upgrading, there was little information available as to how this could be achieved without first determining what the risks were in the various areas of the State.

The first tentative steps involved a study of a single area, which, it was hoped, would provide a model for the statewide development of the system.

It soon became apparent that without the use of a computer, the task would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to undertake. At that stage C.F.S. Headquarters had neither a computer nor a staff member who was "computer literate".

When consultants were employed to undertake a Corporate Review, the opportunity arose to engage Engineering Consultants with experience in town planning and development.

A "Risk Profile" questionnaire was prepared and completed and returned by 67% of the State's C.F.S. Brigades.

Based on the replies received, Regional Officers have used the results of this questionnaire, and the basic principles of Standards of Fire Cover, to determine Brigade and Council needs, especially equipment priorities within budget constraints.

In 1984 the C.F.S. Board adopted a plan for the computerisation of certain elements of C.F.S. Headquarters operations, and employment of a Research Officer experienced in the use of computers has led to the further development of the system.

The original system has been found to contain some errors and inconsistencies. This is quite understandable as the whole project is breaking entirely new ground in rural fire service management.

In addition to this, a number of issues need to be explored. For example, what is the impact of the purchase of a second-hand cab/chassis as against a new one; what are the implications of the provision of more resources versus better deployment and management of existing resources?

What does all this mean to the Volunteer, his Brigade, and his area?

One of the key issues is the maintenance of the total fleet of approximately 900 appliances at high levels of efficiency. Even with increases in the numbers of appliances purchased in recent years, a twenty or even twenty-five year appliance replacement schedule is not being achieved.

Not only must a brigade have efficient equipment, that equipment must be sufficient to handle the fire risk present in the Brigade's district.

Forward planning for the replacement of fire equipment has not been widely practised in South Australia. The time for forward planning came long before Ash Wednesday, and no more time can be lost in replacing the current method of determining replacement needs with a more quantitative system.

Ultimately there will be a number of benefits to brigades, e.g.:

- (1) The guess work will be taken out of assessing the risk of an area and determining the needs for fire protection
- (2) The debates over whether an appliance is "due for replacement" will not occur
- (3) The completion of annual equipment returns will be greatly simplified both for C.F.S. Brigades and C.F.S. Headquarters
- (4) The development of areas with the attendant increase in fire risk will be closely monitored
- (5) Brigade records will be computerised at C.F.S. Headquarters enabling speedy access and the ability to continuously update information

Is your body intact?

by I. K. Gliddon, Captain, Tea Tree Gully C.F.S.

While attending the Black Hill fire on Monday, 14th January, we suffered a breakdown on our International ACCO 510A Unit, Tea Tree 43, which I feel should be brought to the attention of all brigades.

The unit was built approximately 6 years ago and has attended many fires off-road. In this incident, the unit was travelling diagonally across a hump of dirt raised between two bulldozed fire breaks. As the vehicle lurched over the hump, the bolts securing the body to the chassis sheared and the body separated, coming to rest at approximately a 30° angle with the rear corner on the ground and the low side sitting on the rear wheels. Fortunately the vehicle was on level ground and remained stable. If this incident had occurred on the side of a hill there could have been disastrous results.

Later inspection indicated that some of the bolts had been sheared for some time as the broken face was rusted. It is believed that at least one bolt may have broken during the firefighting operations earlier in the day.

The point to be observed here is that although the bolts had sheared earlier, the two broken halves remained in their holes as they were 'fitted' bolts. Therefore, a visual inspection would not reveal the failure. All holding down bolts should be checked by spanner. If they turn easily, they could be very loose or broken.

The bolts are often out of the way and therefore could be overlooked during maintenance checks. I urge all brigades to check their vehicles and make it a part of the regular maintenance checks.

AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTRY FIRES ACT

For many years C.F.S. Brigades have been serving the community by providing assistance at emergencies, other than fires, in particular hazardous chemical spillages. As a volunteer service we have accepted the responsibility to help wherever and whenever we could and we will continue to do so.

However, in the past we have had no legislative backing whilst performing these duties. Recent changes to the Country Fires Act have now given us the support and the authority to take actions that may be needed to properly handle any emergency arising from the escape, or imminent danger of escape, of a dangerous substance. It should be noted that many common materials can be classed as dangerous substances, i.e. petroleum products, pesticides and fertilizers.

The main operational changes are those which extend the Powers of a Fire Control Officer. An F.C.O. still has the power to take any of the actions previously listed in the Country Fires Act in relation to fires. Now this power will also apply in relation to emergencies caused by the escape of dangerous substances, or emergencies that involve imminent danger of such an escape, outside S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service Districts. Likewise the Director now has the power to assume command at such emergencies or delegate that power to a fire control officer, as he does now at fires.

The power of the Police and F.C.O.s to enter and search premises or land to determine the cause of a fire is extended to cover those emergencies caused by the escape of dangerous substances or imminent danger of such escape.

Minor changes have been made to the Administrative Section of the Act, enabling the Board to advise the Minister on the most modern and effective way of dealing with emergencies involving the escape of dangerous substances and test and appraise equipment for dealing with them.

These changes do not affect any current fire fighting responsibilities or authority, they only add to them the statutory responsibility and authority to protect life and property threatened by other emergencies.

These changes also highlight the importance of all C.F.S. organisations having adequate public risk insurance cover.

This is not to be confused with the insurance cover that the C.F.S. Board takes out each year to provide compensation for injury or death of C.F.S. members. (See the article on page 10 of Vol. 21 of the Volunteer, September, 1984). Public risk insurance is to cover C.F.S. volunteers carrying out fire fighting and other duties who may become personally liable for negligence and may render their brigade also liable. (See also the article on Page 5 of Vol. 15 of the Volunteer, September 1982.)

Some councils cover their bridges in this respect and some brigades have taken out their own insurance.

It is possible that some C.F.S. brigades may have no liability protection or may have allowed the limit of liability under their Public Liability cover to run on year after year without review and without realising the quite dramatic escalation in court awards especially as regards personal injuries.

Our advisers suggest that a cover of \$2,000,000 should be an absolute minimum in the less populated areas, with Brigades in the more densely populated areas being advised to insure for \$5,000,000.

C.F.S. Brigades are periodically called upon to assist in search, rescue and salvage missions, therefore liability insurance should cover any emergency operations carried out by the volunteer C.F.S. members or other officers. This must now include those emergencies arising from the escape of a dangerous substance.

The section of the Country Fires Act which protects members and officers from civil liability for any act done in pursuance of the Country Fires Act, only does so where the person acted *in good faith and without negligence*.

This does not provide protection in *all* circumstances and an adequate insurance cover is essential for all brigades.

Note: The Premium on the public liability policy is eligible for C.F.S. Maintenance Subsidy.

NEW REGULATIONS—NATIONAL MEDAL

Your attention is drawn to the new Regulations governing the award of the national Medal.



The changes, briefly, are:

- (a) continuous service has been replaced by aggregate service for the Medal and for the Clasp;
- (b) the age limit of 18 years (for commencement of service) no longer applies, providing, of course, that the person is able to be certified by the Chief Officer as a *member* of the particular organisation on and from the first day of employment;
- (c) service may be full time or part time and paid or unpaid (this was not clear in the previous Regulations);
- (d) service in the Defence Force may be taken into account, as previously, *but only up to and including 19 April 1982* — service beyond this date does not count as the new Regulations, approved on 20 April 1982, do not include members of the Defence Force who became eligible for a new set of Defence service awards on the same date.

In addition a new category of eligible service has been included. Regulation 3(2) provides for exchange service, or secondment, to be included in the overall period if the person subsequently joins an Australian police force, fire service or ambulance service. The Regulation is quite clear and does not include service, as defined in Regulation 3(1)(a) and (b), rendered outside Australia.

Application forms for "Recognition of Continuous and Diligent Service" — C.F.S. Circular A8/5/85 and copies of the *revised* regulations may be obtained from C.F.S. Headquarters.

REGIONAL F.F.A. DELEGATES CONFERENCE

Monday, 1st October, 1984

(continued from The Volunteer, Volume 22, Page 7 . . .)

Resolutions Adopted

Following the formation of the "South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association in which Office Bearers of the Association be registered volunteer members of the Country Fire Service" and "the proposed constitution be adopted for a period of 12 months until the next annual conference—a review of the constitution to be undertaken at that time":

The following resolutions were officially carried in the 1984 Regional Fire Fighting Association Delegates' Conference minutes.

- Maintenance Subsidy Limit (Item 7.14)

"That the concept of providing maintenance subsidies on a per brigade basis be referred to the South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association and C.F.S. Headquarters, and that they report to the 1985 Conference."

- Introduction of Brigade Occurrence Book (Item 9)

"That the conference adopt the use of the Occurrence Book throughout the State and that all brigades be encouraged to use it."

(The first page of the book will carry a list of instructions. Normal activities to be recorded in black and fire calls in red).

- Manual Amenities Fund (Item 10)

"That a recommendation be made to the C.F.S. Board that the Manual Amenities Fund be transferred to the S.A. Volunteer Fire Brigades Association."

Items submitted by Delegates: Resolutions adopted.

- Lower South Eastern F.F.A. (Item 11.1)

"That the specifications of the Gamm 200 pump be the minimum requirement for any future pump purchases for use on rural fire fighting units."

- South East F.F.A. (Item 11.2)

"That the State Conference of Regional Fire Fighting Associations (or the Annual General Meeting of the South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association) be held on the *third Monday of September* in each year."

- South East F.F.A. (Item 11.3)

"That further investigations be carried out with a view to improving weather reporting and imposition of Fire Bans."

- District Council of Kingscote (Item 11.5)

"That resolutions adopted at State Conferences be published in the following issue of 'The Volunteer', including at the earliest date, the outcome of such resolutions."

- Upper South East F.F.A. (Items 11.6 and 11.7)

(1) "That the V.F.B.A. establish a working party to discuss as a matter of urgency the re-aligning of current C.F.S. regional boundaries with a view of forming regions with similar geography and fire risk. That the Association make recommendations to the C.F.S. Board and the Minister of Emergency Services at the earliest possible time."

(2) "That the conference request the C.F.S. Uniform Committee to allow the use of peaked caps with C.F.S. Insignia by C.F.S. members when on passive duty. Suggested cap to be similar to those produced by the Millicent Brigade."

"That the colour of the caps be yellow."

- Northern F.F.A. (supported by D/C Mt. Remarkable—Item 11.9)

"That the Board or a person authorised by the Board may in the form of Schedule 23 declare a locality in part of the State, where the lighting and maintaining of a gas fire or electric element for cooking purposes is prohibited."

- Lower South East F.F.A. (Item 12—any other business)

"That the Board take steps to implement the provision of woven F.C.O. badges as per the 1982 motion".

S.A.V.F.B.A. NEWS

(South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association)

The President, Mr. Peter Swann, welcomed fifteen members to the first meeting of the Advisory Committee of the South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association held at C.F.S. Headquarters on Monday, 18th February 1985. The meeting commenced at 9.13 a.m. and when concluded at 4.30 p.m., those attending felt that a profitable day's discussion had taken place.

Among matters discussed were the following:

1. Local Brigades are to be encouraged to keep a register of private firefighting equipment in their area as information for F.C.O.'s and District Supervisors to use when needed.
2. A working party to look into Regional Boundaries was formed, comprising F. Miller, D. Lord and D. McGowan, with F. Miller appointed as Chairman.
3. The maintenance subsidy limit of \$7,000 is to be removed as from 30/6/1985. The Executive Committee is to make a submission on the future funding of the C.F.S. and M.F.S. to the Fire Services Co-ordination Committee Funding Working Party.
4. As the motion from the October 1984 Delegates Conference concerning the Gamm Pumps was rejected by the Board, this matter was submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee for further consideration. This Committee has also been asked to supply full details to this Association on how and why pump applications are set.
5. Brigades are to be encouraged to handle matters of general concern through District Associations, Regional Associations, and then the State Association so that the volunteers of this State can be seen to be working together and speaking together, rather than each Brigade acting independently.
6. The Association is to write to the Government concerning the proposed changes to the administration of the C.F.S. asking that a C.F.S. Board be retained and that the proposed Bushfire Authority have no administrative power over the C.F.S., but rather the Committee of this Association be appointed as an Advisory Committee to the C.F.S. in this State.
7. The matter concerning the interpretation of a "portable water spray" being broadened to now include pressurised water fire extinguishers was found not to have proceeded beyond C.F.S. Headquarters. An approach is now being made to the Crown Law Office.
8. Of the sub-committees to the Board, Mike Arnold was appointed to the Competitions Sub-Committee and an approach is being made to the Board to allow for four volunteers to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. Present members are Brian Wiese and Frank Miller. Any further appointments will be made by the Executive Committee.
9. Concern was expressed that concrete barbeque sites, as are found on national highways, are encouraging people to light fires on fire ban days. An approach is to be made through the Board to have the Highways Department cover these sites or have them removed from the Highways during the Fire Danger Season.
10. The Board is to be requested to find a way in which firefighting associations outside of Local Government areas can receive a rebate of the excise paid on diesel fuel used by them for firefighting purposes.

GRAHAM KOCH
Honorary Secretary

Fire Safety is Smokey's Plea

Smokey The Koala (S.A./C.F.S. fire prevention mascot) and the Country Fire Services joined with media personalities in a special plea to *all* South Australians, young and old, to Learn Fire Safety.



In a fire education through entertainment programme at Smokey's Birthday Party held for the first time in Colley Reserve, Glenelg, on Wednesday 23rd January 1985, between 5,000 and 10,000 children were entertained with fire safety pantomimes.

To the delight of everybody Fat Cat and "friends"—Humphrey B. Bear and Smokey the Koala acted out the sketches, supported by what seemed to be a "cast of thousands".

The Masters of Ceremonies Judith Barr and Ron Sullivan assisted by Adriana Xenides and Keith Conlon (ADS7), Wendy Patching (NWS9), Ian Wilson (SAS10), Helen Woods (150 Jubilee), David Sanders (Captain, Burnside C.F.S.), Giles Carson (Surf Life Saving Association) and R. O. Russell Gear (C.F.S. Region 1 officer) held the audience "spell bound".

On the arrival of the breakdance team the crowd parted to make room for a dance floor in the reserve. When the music started the street beat fever spread.

Children and parents alike needed no encouragement to join Fat Cat, Ian Wilson and Cadbury's Caramello Koala in the Aerobics exercises given by instructors Angella and Joanne from Woodlands Indoor Leisure Centre.

Other activities involved clowns, a fire fighting demonstration, appearances by Streets Paddle Pop Lion, J.W. (Jubilee) Wombat, Westpac Rescue helicopter, a combined foam/rescue exercise with C.F.S./M.F.S. and first-aid by St. John Ambulance.

The Radio 5AN mobile van broadcast live the morning programme, as free party hats, Coca-Cola, Streets ice blocks and many donated prizes were handed out.

During the party Smokey the Koala had a most unusual task to perform. Jointly with Mr. Les Favell (Advertiser) Smokey presented a "Toy Koala" to master Sean Mundy of Woodville, winner of 1st prize in The Advertiser Birthday Party/Poster competition.

The finale was the presentation to Smokey of an enormous birthday cake supplied through the generosity of Balfours.

However the party spirit did not stop there as Smokey the Koala asked that the cake with a special "cheerio" be given to his friends at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, who were not well enough to come to the party.

The Deputy Premier and Minister of Emergency Services Mr. Jack Wright wished Smokey "Happy Birthday" and joined in the celebrations.



Pictured above South Australian children's favourite trio: NWS9's Humphrey B. Bear (2nd from left) with Smokey The Koala (C.F.S. mascot—centre) and SAS10's Fat Cat aided by picture panels tell a fire story to the children at Smokey's Birthday Party. Story tellers of the pantomime were NWS9's Wendy Patching (left) and SAS10's Ian Wilson (right).

Photograph reproduced courtesy Messenger Newspapers



The combined foam rescue exercise required a little imagination from the audience. First members of the S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service and Burnside C.F.S. filled the rotunda with foam to simulate the extinguishment of a house fire. Next a M.F.S./C.F.S. rescue team donned Breathing Apparatus and moved into the "house", only to emerge minutes later with "rescued victim" Streets Paddle Pop Lion (pictured). St. John then administered first aid and transported to hospital.

Photograph reproduced courtesy Messenger Newspapers

BOARD'S APPRECIATION

The South Australian Country Fire Services Board wishes to express its sincere appreciation to The Corporation of the City of Glenelg, Town Clerk Mr. Baker, Works Manager Mr. Jim Huckstepp and assistant Mr. Jon Beakin, Mrs. Judith Barr and Mr. Ron Sullivan and all who participated at Smokey's Birthday Party.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledgement is made by the Country Fire Services to the generous support from the following organizations:

Advertiser Newspapers Pty. Ltd., ADS7, Balfour Wauchope Pty. Ltd., Berri Fruit Juices Co-op. Ltd., Burnside C.F.S., Cadbury Confectionery, Carey Gully C.F.S. (Norm Leighbelt), City Books, Clean Away, Coca-Cola Bottlers (Adelaide), Glenelg Life Saving Assoc., Glenelg Amusement Centre, Humphrey B. Bear Enterprises, Kauri Timber, Lloyd Aviation, Magic Mountain, Malone Taxi Trucks, Messenger Newspapers Ltd., NWS9, Radio 5AN, S.A. Country Newspapers, SAS10, S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service, S.A. Police Department, St. John Ambulance, Stratco, Streets/Amcol Ice Cream Pty. Ltd., Woodlands Indoor Leisure Centre, Woods and Forests Department and Webb and Sons Printers.

Special thanks for the support from the Radio 5AN mobile broadcast van and C.F.S. headquarters staff . . . Editor.

A STAGE 4 TRAINING SCHOOL

ITS PURPOSE

Some forty-two (42) Country Fire Services volunteer firefighters attended the Stage 4 Regional Training School at Karingal near Wrattenbully in the South-East on 23rd, 24th and 25th November 1984.

Stage 4 of the Stage 1 to Stage 4 programme is a final assessment on what has been learnt over the previous three courses, to enable the trainees to put their learning and leadership skills to practical use.

Preparation prior to arrival of the students involved the setting up of notes and material in the lecture room for each attendee. Following an introduction to the course subjects, syndicate leaders were appointed.

The leader's role is to supervise the daily duties and practical exercises held and to lead their syndicate in discussion on subjects reviewed. With larger classes, the syndicates are divided into sub-syndicates with eight members in each sub-syndicate.

A colour code on a wall chart identifies each syndicate (i.e., red or yellow or blue team, etc.) and lists the order each team undergoes their practical exercises on—evacuation/ventilation of a farm shed, extinguishment of a simulated oil fire with the application of water sprays, a staged fire situation at the Naracoorte silos, an accident/cliff rescue following a review on abseiling, and extinguishment of a simulated grass fire involving a running fire simulator "The Mad Rabbit" (refer The Volunteer Volume 22 Pages 32/33).

The students were encouraged to discuss set problems within their syndicate. This way each trainee makes some contribution.

The leader collated the findings and on returning to the classroom, called on his members, individually, to explain certain arguments of the case before the class.

The instructor assumed the role of an adjudicator and re-directed syndicate/student responses to other problems that needed consideration, or procedures that had to be followed before a correct solution could be reached. Through this interaction, the trainees gained hindsight and their knowledge and confidence increased.

A significant number of the C.F.S. volunteer attendees sported first-aid badges on their overalls, indicating their commitment also to their local St. John Ambulance volunteer brigade.

The practical exercises involving cliff rescues in the council quarry with radio communication; relaying water to the top of the silo and extinguishment of oil fires and grass fires were supervised by instructors whose tasks were to observe how each syndicate leader directed his crew at each emergency. A debriefing followed.

Course designer, chief instructor, and organiser Regional Officer Murray Sherwell, was supported by his wife Rita (affectionately called Mrs. R.O.5) and assisted by instructor and Regional Officer George Polomka (Region 4) with Mrs. Elaine Polomka (catering).

The Tailem Bend C.F.S. Brigade have tended to the kitchen duties and preparation of food at every Training School that has been run in the South-East.

Acknowledgement is made to Bob Patten (Captain, Tailem Bend C.F.S.), David Jaensch (Brigade President) and John Cockshell (Safety Officer, Field Operations) for their dedication and untiring efforts.

The original concept and development of the Stage 4 training programme was prepared by R.O. Murray Sherwell based initially from experience gained, through involvement with other services and from comparisons made with interstate organisations.



"School is in" for students at the latest South East Stage 4 training course, as instructor R.O. Murray Sherwell addresses his pupils—fellow C.F.S. firefighters.



The catering team are about to prepare yet another culinary delight for the Stage 4 school attendees.



Course trainees brush up on their knots and lines following a review on abseiling. A practical exercise involving a cliff rescue followed.

continued page 11



“Volunteer victim” and course attendee Mrs. Marlene Wendelborn is securely lashed in the stretcher by the ‘blue team’ before retrieval.



Pictured above, the extinguishment of a large oil fire with water fog application, under careful direction from the team’s syndicate leader.

REGIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL—REGION 5

STAGE 4 PROGRAMME

Friday Night

1830 - 1900 Hrs	Arrival and settle in
1900 - 1915	School information
1915 - 2000	Building Construction/Forcible Entry
2000 - 2100	Ventilation
2100 - 2200	Fire Development
	Evacuation/Ventilation Syndicates
2200 - 2300	Syndicates

Saturday

0800 - 0945	Act/Regulations
0945 - 1000	Hazchem
1000 - 1015	Morning Tea
1015 - 1100	Hydraulics
1100 - 1200	Radio
1200 - 1230	Principles
1230 - 1315	Lunch
1315 - 1400	Knots and Lines
1400 - 1440	Travel
1440 - 1900	Practical Exercises
1945	Dinner

Sunday

0800 - 0900	Principles
0900 - 1000	Grass Fires
1000 - 1015	Morning Tea
1015 - 1230	Grass Fires (simulated)
1230 - 1315	Lunch
1315 - 1500	Question and Study Time
1500 - 1515	Afternoon Tea
1515 - 1615	Assessment

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR GOGGLES?

by Mike Canavan, Secretary, Sellicks C.F.S.

In an exercise following Ash Wednesday 11, we discovered two vents from a pair of goggles in TB 15 nozzles one after the other. The tank was subsequently checked and cleaned and the lens found.



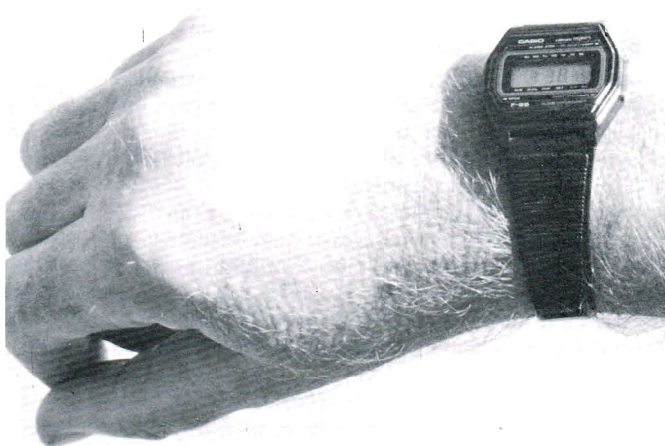
From that time, while the pump provided good pressure, it was difficult to achieve good suction. *Everything* we thought of was checked and replaced if doubtful, until, while stripping the plumbing from the pump inlet, a foreign object pictured above was noticed (by torch light) against the impeller. The foreign object was the remains of someone’s goggles.

MORAL: If you have a problem, go right back to basics. Also, a regular measurement of pump performance would be a good idea.

We have since fitted a filter in the tank, but please don’t clean your goggles in our tank again!!

The pump is a Godiva Single Stage, driven by Coventry Climax.

WARNING:



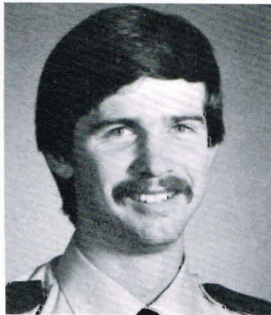
Your attention is drawn to the wearing of digital watches with *plastic bands* during fire operations.

In some instances interstate, the bands have melted under fire conditions causing severe burns, gangrene and loss of a limb.

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 1

R.O. Russell Grear
Assist. R.O. David Pearce



Assistant Regional Officer (Region 1)
DAVID PEARCE

Member of Blackwood C.F.S. for ten years. A motor mechanic automotive electrician by trade. Stationed in Alice Springs 1977 as a Police Officer with the Northern Territory Police. Employed by Telecom in S.A. 1980 before joining C.F.S. H/Q as a Control Centre Operator. Appointed Assistant Regional Officer for Region 1, January 1985. Married, Dave shares with his wife Helen interests in water ski-ing, football, volleyball and motor cycles.

Major Bushfires 1984/85 — Region 1.

To date this season there have been six major bushfires as follows:

Blackhill Conservation Park: This fire occurred on Monday the 14th of January on the only "Red Alert" day this summer. The fire started near the Gorge Road east of Athelstone and destroyed 1,500 hectares of scrub including the total area of Blackhill Conservation Park and a portion of the Montacute Conservation Park. At the height of the fire 65 C.F.S. appliances and 12 M.F.S. Appliances attended.

Strathalbyn: This fire occurred on the 16th of January southwest of Strathalbyn and destroyed 70 ha of scrub and grazing land and apparently started from a baling machine. At the height of the fire 17 C.F.S. and 10 private appliances attended.

Bugle Ranges: This fire occurred on the 21st of January and started from the railway line on the Wistow/Strathalbyn Road. The fire was responsible for causing the most damage of any of the fires in Region 1 this season, destroying sheds and fencing in an area of approximately 1500 ha of grazing land. At the height of the fire 42 C.F.S. appliances attended.

Onkaparinga Gorge: This fire occurred on the 24th of January and burnt an area of 100 hectares of State Planning Authority land in the Gorge. Access into the Gorge to fight this fire was difficult and brigades extinguished the fire as it came out of the Gorge on the Northern side. Aerial operations were used in conjunction with ground forces to contain the fire inside the Gorge. At the height of the fire 30 C.F.S. and 7 M.F.S. appliances attended.

Rockleigh Heights: This fire occurred on the 26th of January north of Monarto; burning 600 hectares of grazing land before being brought under control. At the height of the fire 43 C.F.S. appliances attended.

Giles Ridge/Teringie Heights: These fires were actually two separate fires and it is assumed at this stage that the fire at Teringie Hts. was a spot fire from the original fire at Giles Ridge, the cause of which is unknown. Although both these fires were relatively small, the potential for disaster was extreme as the southerly winds threatened to push the fire into the Morialta Conservation Park. These fires occurred on the 22nd of February. At the height of the fire 57 C.F.S. and 8 M.F.S. appliances attended.

Region 1 cont...

Fire Operations — Generally

A revised system of dealing with bushfires in Region 1 and 2 was introduced in November, 1984 with the emphasis on "overkill". This system proved to be very successful on fires this season, the best example of this being the Teringie Heights fire, which being fanned by strong southerly winds threatened to jump into the Morialta Conservation Park. A large concentration of appliances (nearly one for every household) succeeded in containing this fire, and completing a good proportion of mopping up. This was most useful as the next morning winds were gusting up to 90 km/h.

In all of the fires listed above, Group Captains and their deputies from within and out of district were assigned sections of the fire with a number of appliances to command.

Liaison for *overall* fire control using a separate command frequency with the local officer in charge, the Regional Officer (Region 1), Westpac Rescue 1 and a forward control van proved most successful. This system allowed the local fire officer to keep an overall view of fire operations.

The fire bombing aircraft also proved to be a great adjunct to fire fighting on the ground and was used extensively on most of the Region's fires.

There are still a few minor problems to be ironed out of the Region's fire fighting operations, but suppression and mop up of fires this season have been more efficient than in previous years.

Regional major fires this season have burnt an area of approximately 4,000 hectares.

Training Schools

A Stage II School was held at Headquarters on 8th, 9th, 10th March, 1985 to which 46 firefighters attended from all parts of Region 1 as follows:

Mount Barker, Yankalilla, Victor Harbor, Waitpinga, Jervois, Belair, Blackwood, Blackfellows Creek, Clarendon, Macclesfield, McLaren Vale, The Range, Eden Hills, Stirling, Morphet Vale, Happy Valley, Burnside, Woodside, Lobethal, Goolwa, Hahndorf, Murray Bridge, Langhorne Creek, Meadows, Athelstone, Brinkley. Visitors, Tea Tree Gully and Waikerie.

The following schools which were planned for Aldinga Beach and C.F.S. Headquarters, will now be held at this stage at Brookway Park Training College. Because of an excellent response to all schools the programme for this year is as follows:

Second Stage I	May 3, 4, 5
Stage III	May 31 - June 1, 2
Stage III	June 28, 29, 30
Stage IV	Oct. 18, 19, 20
Stage IV	Nov. 1, 2, 3

Dates for two "Breathing Apparatus" wearers schools:

April 19, 20, 21 Strathalbyn

August 23, 24, 25 Location Region 1.

Competitions

The Mount Lofty Ranges Fire Fighting Association is responsible for the Region 1 and State Championship Competitions in 1985.

Dates:

Region 1 — 7th July 1985 at McLaren Flat Oval.

Hosts — City of Noarlunga Brigades.

State — 22nd September 1985 at Blackwood Hill Oval

Hosts — Mitcham Hills Brigades.

The Association will run demonstrations of wet hose drills at the Region 1 Competitions, proposed for inclusion in the competitions for future years.

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 1 cont...

The Association will be sending circulars to brigades throughout the State with details of Region 1 Competitions and nomination forms.

Any queries regarding the Region 1 or State Championship Competitions can be directed to:

Assistant Regional Officer
David Pearce at
C.F.S. Headquarters
PH: 297 6788.

Sellicks farewells president.

With regret members of the Sellicks C.F.S. accepted the recent resignation of Mr. Brian Holme.

Brian became President of the Aldinga Plains and Sellicks C.F.S. on the 10th November 1973 and retained the Presidency until August 1977. Due to the population growth in the Aldinga and Sellicks areas, it was considered advisable to discontinue the association of the two areas.

On 1st September 1977 the Sellicks C.F.S. was formed, and at that meeting Brian was elected to the position of President, an office he held until his resignation in December 1984. Due to Brian's dedication and strong leadership, a new Fire Station, together with two firefighting units, updating equipment and B.A. equipment vital to combat house fires, have been acquired.

The Sellicks C.F.S. has continued its growth and now has a membership of 22.

The members of the Sellicks C.F.S. wish Brian and Jill every success in their new venture.

Region 2

R.O. Brian Menadue

Reflections

At the beginning of the 1984/85 Fire Season 2 major 1 day exercises were conducted:

1. In the D/C Mallala and Light Area.
15 fire appliances — 100 fire persons
5 command vehicles — 8 Group Captains, Deputy and F.C.O.s.
2 Communications and Operations Bases — 12 Group Captains, Deputy, FCOs. Fire Persons.

A total of 112 exercises were completed by the fire appliances in a 5 hour period.

Exercises included:

1. First aid and vehicle recovery.
 2. Hazchem.
 3. Flammable liquid fires.
 4. LPG fire.
 5. House fires.
 6. Suction and Delivery (pump drills)
 7. Map reading.
 8. Bush Fire and Survival.
 9. Improvised Rescue.
 10. Fire Appliance Fault finding.
- 2 actual fire reports occurred during the exercise, one a burning off out of control and the other a justified call, but not requiring any C.F.S. action.

A debriefing at the conclusion of the exercise highlighted the successes and failures for all participants.

2. The D/C of Saddleworth Auburn Area.
10 C.F.S. fire appliances — 80 fire persons
3 Command Vehicles — 5 C.F.S. officers/FCOs
1 Base Radio — 2 fire persons
1 Field Control — 5 fire persons

A total of 86 exercises were completed by the fire appliances in a 6 hour period.

Region 2 cont...

Exercises included:

1. First Aid and Rescue.
2. Hazchem.
3. Flammable Liquid Fire.
4. LPG fire.
5. House Fire.
6. Suction Drills.
7. Bush Fire Survival.
8. Knapsack use and maintenance.
9. Map Reading.

At the conclusion of the exercises a practical demonstration of High Pressure Pumps was given with participation by the C.F.S. crews, on a large flammable liquid fire.

A debrief was held several weeks later and with each exercise, the adjudicators (F.C.O.s) presented their comments and the crews viewed a video of the exercises.

Annual Dinner

The success of the 1983 Dinner and Presentation Evening was such that a 2nd Annual Dinner was held in 1984 at the Vine Inn, Nuriootpa.

145 Fire persons and friends thoroughly enjoyed the food, music and fun. Unfortunately some 30 fire persons were unable to attend because of limited seating available for the dinner. Highlights of the evening were presentations to Mr. E. V. H. Riggs Vice President and Member of the Lower North Fire Fighting Association since its inception and Mr. Tony Keay, past acting Deputy Director S.A. C.F.S. and Mrs. Keay.

Many other presentations eventuated from spot prizes during the evening,—"all day suckers, fancy balloons, party faces, chocolates etc."

The winning teams for the "Best and Most Efficient Brigade" Region 2 were announced and prizes presented.

A total value of firefighting equipment valued at \$1700 was distributed to winners and teams who entered the Competition.

Congratulations to Nuriootpa 1st, and Virginia and Salisbury C.F.S. equal 2nd.

Communications Exercises

During 1984 5 day and night exercises were conducted in C.F.S. Region 2.

These practical exercises originated in 1980 with the Expo 80 Horse Endurance Trials at Gawler.

On this occasion some 15 C.F.S. brigades crewed by 300 fire persons provided surveillance over a 24 hour period for the horse trial. Each exercise requires a field control, with up to 8 mobile check points, and a mobile field command/rescue vehicle. All appliances are in constant contact with the field control van radio.

2 accidents necessitating hospitalisation of riders occurred during one exercise.

The Field Control coordinated the mobile appliances in recovering the injured persons and horses and conveyance of the injured to waiting ambulances and recovery vehicles.

These C.F.S. Map Reading and Radio Exercises have been applauded by all participating for their practical application. The Horse Endurance Association recognises the value and services of the C.F.S. in providing the Radio Communications and Safety Surveillance during their activities.

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REGIONAL NEWS

Region 2 cont...

News Brief—C.F.A. visit

Following a successful visit to the Country Fire Authority Rural Championships in 1984, another group of C.F.S. officers representing 7 District Council areas from Region 2 visited Victoria on 29, 30 & 31st March & 1st April, 1985.

The group attended the 29th Annual Senior Championships and 7th Annual Junior Championships of the C.F.A. Rural Fire Brigades Competitions held at Sebastopol.

Competition drills are run 'wet', and are based on practical fire fighting application. Each event consists of between 2 and 5 fire persons per team. Equipment is standard as used on rural fire appliances.

On Saturday, 800 senior competitors participated and on Sunday 1000 Juniors displayed their skills in the quest for the honour of State Champions.

The organisation of such a display is monumental and includes a 2 day training school for all judges and officials involved, prior to the championships.

Static displays by industries associated with the Fire Service, Victorian State Emergency Service, State Government, Promotions Unit "Cease Fire" and C.F.A. fire appliances attracted considerable interest.

The S.A. group mingled freely with the volunteers, competitors and officials. Country Fire Services Competition Competitors would be interested to note that "one mistake" in the Victorian drills means *automatic disqualification*.

A protest can be lodged within 3 minutes of the team completing the drill followed by a written protest and a \$5.00 protest fee within 10 minutes.

The S.A. C.F.S. group also inspected the C.F.A. Training Centre at Fiskville, Ballarat Central Fire Station, Region 1 & 15. Regional Headquarters and Control/Co-ordination Centre and the C.F.A. Mechanical Manufacturing Workshops at Ballarat.

Another event, on a lighter note was the Presentation Dinner of the Cardigan Village Tennis Club.

The S.A. C.F.S. group participated in the "presentation" to members of the 4 Senior Teams who had competed in the Grand Finals that afternoon.

On the return journey the group was first at an accident scene.

An injured person was treated for shock, whip lash, and stabilised prior to rescue from the vehicle and before the arrival of an ambulance.

The locals and travelling public present commented on the efficiency of the group in rendering first aid, traffic control, salvage of personal effects and standby in case of fire as petrol was running from the ruptured petrol tank.

A total of 1600 kms was covered in a 3½ day tour by the S.A. Region 2 officers.

The experience and knowledge gained by these officers will be introduced into training, operations and equipment within their respective council areas and Region 2 as a result of the tour.

Comments from the group:

"Talking with the C.F.A. Officers and volunteers was *most interesting—they have similar problems!*"

"I've numerous ideas for training after visiting Fiskville."

"The Region 1 & 15 Coordination Centre concept is worth consideration."

"S.A. C.F.S. Fire appliance design for crew safety is superior to those units on display."

"They don't muck around with the competing teams, your ready or . . . disqualified."

"I've put on weight—the meals are superb."

"Living and talking with other officers from the Region 2 area has been terrific."

Region 3

R.O. David Batten

B.A. Cylinder colour change:

— LIME GREEN

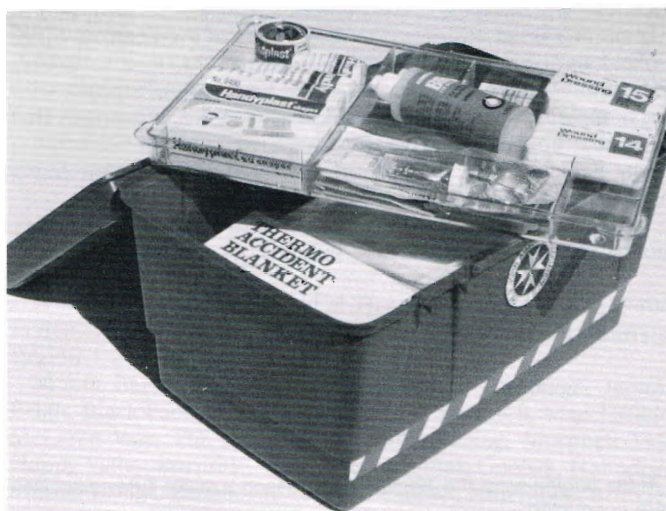
All fire services throughout Australia have been requested by the Australian Standards Association to change their Breathing Apparatus cylinder colours to *lime green* to designate "Breathing Air" only.

The purity of the breathing air used in the B.A. cylinders (identified by the French grey colour with black and white quartering) does not meet the Australian Standard for "medical air," hence the colour change.

Brigades are advised that when next their B.A. cylinders are hydrostatically tested, the colour code on each cylinder is changed to "lime green".

Colour coded labels and further information can be obtained from R.O. David Batten (Region 3 Officer/H/Q Equipment Officer.)

Portable First Aid Kit



The portable first aid kit pictured above meets Australian Standard 2675-1983.

Kits can be purchased for \$78.50/kit. For further information and supply, contact: Mr. Brenton Chappell, Project Officer, St John Ambulance, 89 South Road, Hindmarsh West, S.A. 5007. Telephone: (08) 46 9396.

Note: Your local St. John Ambulance Brigade can restock components as required.

Region 4

R.O. George Polomka

Fire Calls

Region 4 has had a busy fire season with 130 fire calls received including large fires at Telowie Gorge, Clare and Hawker. Also in the Eastern and North-Eastern Pastoral District and Danggali and Mulga Hill via Yunta.

Any brigade who has had a fire is asked to forward a fire report to the Region 4 Office as soon as possible so figures can be collated.

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REGIONAL NEWS

Region 4 cont...

Training Schools

Region 4 training commenced with a Special Training School. Grass fires and associated subjects were held on 15, 16 and 17th March for persons having completed Stage 4 in Regional Training Schools.

Other Training Schools to be held in Region 4 for 1985 are:

Stage 3 29-30-31 March

Stage 1 24-25-26 May

Stage 4 14-15-16 June

Stage 2 12-13-14 July

Stage 3 9-10-11 August

Stage 4 6-7-8 September

C.A.B.A. 18-19-20 October.

Region 4 brigades are asked to note the above dates so that members can be advised to keep dates free to attend.

C.A.B.A. Course

On the week-end 19-20-21 October, a C.A.B.A. Course was conducted.

Nine C.F.S. members who attended the course passed the required assessment.

Members attended from Huddleston, Laura, Narridy, Gladstone, Crystal Brook, Yongala and Stirling North.



"Smithy" from Laura prepares for an exercise during the week-end.

Life Support Aid

The Yacka C.F.S. was donated the cost of a Life Support Aid consisting of a Resuscitator Bag, Mask and an Oxygen Supply Apparatus by the Yacka Junior Red Cross.

The C.F.S. has extended its service into the Rescue area as the district is too small to run a separate service.

The need became apparent after several bad accidents on the Main North Road near Yacka as the nearest S.E.S. and Ambulance are at least 45 mins away.

A number of C.F.S. Personnel are doing Rescue Training. Local people as well as some C.F.S. Crew have completed the Basic First Aid Training. Two ex nurses and others are now training in the use of the Life Support System and General First Aid.

The aim of the Group is to provide Rescue and Care in the short term until further assistance comes from Clare or Gladstone.

The Yacka C.F.S. wishes to thank the Yacka Junior Red Cross for their generous donation.

Region 4 cont...

Toolkit for Jamestown

The Jamestown Belalie Social Club presented the Jamestown C.F.S. with a tool kit for the fire station.



Mr. J. Glistak (on behalf of the Club) presenting the tool kit to members of the Brigade left to right T. Cooper, M. Hancock (Captain), F. Smith (Station Officer), R. Toholke, G. Cornish

Raffle

During 1984 Fire Prevention Week, Jamestown Brigade conducted an L.P.G. exercise in the main street of Jamestown.

Following the exercise a raffle was drawn by Mr. Max Petersen. The winner was Jamestown C.F.S. Secretary, Mrs. J. Hancock.



Members of the Jamestown Unit and Max Petersen drawing the raffle.

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REGIONAL NEWS

Region 4 cont...

Poster competition

The Northern Fire Fighting Association was very pleased with the response of 271 entries for its poster competition from primary school children for the area, who submitted posters on the dangers of fire fighting, the closing date coinciding with fire prevention week, 1984.

The C.F.S. Headquarters once again presented 3 book prizes for the first, second and third, and wooden plaques for the place-getters, while the Association gave prize money of \$30.00, \$15.00 and \$10.00 and \$5.00 consolation prizes.

Winners as adjudicated by two artists were:

1st Katrina Zacher aged 11 from Blyth
2nd Melanie Wundke year 4 from Brinkworth
3rd Cherie Cootes aged 9 from Spalding
Consolation prizes were:

Daniel Menzel aged 5 from Snowtown
Peter Cullen year 6 from Booborowie
Wanda Jacka aged 5 from Jamestown
Debbie Lawry aged 12 from Koolunga
Samuel Smart aged 9 from Melrose.

The standard of the entries was high, prizes have now been presented to the winners and the posters of all except the winning entries returned to the participants.

The Association would like to thank the teachers of all the schools who submitted entries.

Region 5

R.O. Murray Sherwell
Assist. R.O. Andy Lawson



Assistant Regional Officer (Region 5)

STEWART ANDREW (ANDY) LAWSON

23 years of age, single. Born in Cobram, Victoria (on the river) 16/1/1962. Moved to Bordertown in 1967. Completed schooling at Bordertown High School in 1978. Worked briefly for a seed cleaning operation in Bordertown. Commenced apprenticeship in 1979 as a diesel mechanic with the Tatiara District Council. Joined Bordertown C.F.S. in 1979, working way up to Brigade Captain. Member of Tatiara District Firefighting Association's Equipment Committee and Board of Management. Joined full-time staff of the C.F.S. in January 1985. Andy is looking forward to working in every aspect of C.F.S. operations.

Region 5 cont...

Training Schools

The following dates have been set aside for training this year.

May, 24-25-26	Regional Stage 1	Wratttonbully
July, 26-27-28	Regional Stage 2	Wratttonbully
August, 13	Fire Officers	Tintinara
August, 27	Fire Officers	Millicent
September, 8	Field Exercises	Robe
September, 13-14-15	Regional Stage 3	Wratttonbully
September, 22	Field Exercises	Penola
September, 29	Fire Officers	Lucindale
October, 6	Field Exercises	Tailem Bend
October, 20	Field Exercises	Millicent
October, 22	Fire Officers	Naracoorte
October, 27	Field Exercises	Naracoorte
November, 3	Field Exercises	Tatiara
November, 8-9-10	Regional Stage 4	Wratttonbully

It must be pointed out that these dates are only but a few of the bookings made during the year, other courses are conducted for government departments and C.F.S. volunteers.

Fire Ban Flag



On a "Fire Ban" day the South East C.F.S. Regional Headquarters at Naracoorte will hoist the flag pictured above, to alert the community to the danger.

The ban prohibits the lighting of fires in the open, which also means the closure of the local rubbish dump.

Pictured with the new flag are R.O. Murray Sherwell (left) and recently appointed assistant R.O. Andrew Lawson.

A well equipped \$18,000 field communications van is another new sight at the Regional Office. The van which contains 3 radios, maps and 24 volt portable generator and an operations board will be used by C.F.S. groups in the South East to help combat bushfires and other related emergencies.

Photograph reproduced courtesy Naracoorte Herald.

continued page 17

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 5 cont...

Tourists Learn Fire Safety

The promotion of the C.F.S. by the Tourist Committee of Naracoorte and District started at the local P.A. Society Show in October 1984 when the C.F.S. was approached to feature its Naracoorte fire appliances. The M.F.S. was also on display.

With the approaching fire season there was a need to inform tourists, including those coming from Victoria, of fire bans, so assistance was sought from R.O. Murray Sherwell for a display board to be used at the caves foyer, together with free "fire safety" hand-out literature.

The public who visited the caves previewed a video showing the programme "A State Affair" which included C.F.S. coverage. From there they went into the foyer to purchase tickets for the caves, and whilst waiting for the tour to commence, inspected the "Learn Fire Safety" display kit.

The Tourist Committee spent 10 days out at the caves from 22nd December 1984 to 1st January 1985. 4,700 people visited the caves with another 700 inquiries being received regarding tourism.

The C.F.S. had the display board at the caves from 22nd December 1984 to 25th January 1985. During this time 15,000 tickets were sold and approximately 75% of the people involved would have seen the display and received car stickers.

To continue this valued fire awareness programme, the Naracoorte and District Tourist Association has recently received a further supply of relevant hand-out literature, together with a continuous playing cassette of all the C.F.S. fire safety T.V. commercials and a multi-screen display kit complete with fire safety information (on loan).

Thanks go to the Naracoorte and District Tourist Association, R.O. Murray Sherwell and all C.F.S. personnel involved, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Naracoorte Rangers, and B. Pycroft . . . Editor.

Region 6

R.O. Kevin May

Assist. R.O. Tony Secker



Assistant Regional Officer (Region 6)

TONY SECKER

32 years of age. Married with 3 sons. Number 4 child due mid-May. Commenced C.F.S. service 1968 with Yeelanna C.F.S. Transferred to Lincoln C.F.S. Brigade 1976. Appointed Fire Control Officer 1978 and Truck Lieutenant Lincoln C.F.S. 1980. Qualified B.A. Operator 1982. Attended Stages 1-2-3-4. Completed 1984. Committee member Lincoln District Firefighting Association 1984/85. Joined C.F.S. Headquarters staff 21st January 1985.

Region 6 cont...

Lincoln fire — city threatened.

Twenty-five houses in Port Lincoln were evacuated by police as a scrub fire swept towards the city on Sunday, 3rd February, 1985.

The fire was the third in a spate of 6 in a seven day period all of which were believed to be deliberately lit.



At the height of the fire flames were 6 metres high and only metres away from the back fences of houses.

Miraculously no lives or houses were lost.

Port Lincoln C.F.S. Captain Gary Kennedy said, "narrow fire breaks along the side of house fences helped protect the homes."

Some 200 volunteer fire fighters attended the fire. C.F.S. units from Lincoln, Greenpatch, North Shields, Charlton Gully, Whites Flat, Wanilla, Wangary and Edillillie combined with 2 Port Lincoln M.F.S. units, several private fire units and local contractors' heavy equipment and tankers to fight the blaze.

Assistance came from an Army Reserve, Police, St. John, S.E.S. and the Salvation Army.

One fireman received rib injuries and required hospitalization. St. John treated 12 firefighters for eye/smoke irritation and 2 for minor burns.

A major back burning operation contained the fire in the late afternoon. 100 hectares of grass and scrub was destroyed.



Pictured above C.F.S. volunteers prepare a back-burn to stop the fire's advance.

Photograph reproduced courtesy Port Lincoln Times.

Footnote:

The house on the right hand side of the above photo, is the home of R.O. Kevin May (Region 6) who was co-ordinating the fire from another location.

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REGIONAL NEWS

Region 7 R.O. Peter Ferris Training for 1985

The following courses will be held:
Combined Region 3 and 7 Stage 4, 25th, 26th & 27th October at Brookway Park.

C.A.B.A. (Region 7) 2nd, 3rd & 4th August at Brookway Park

Competitions

Brigades are reminded that the Regional Fire Fighting Drill competitions are on Sunday, 18th August at Monash Oval (adjacent to Monash Playground). Host brigade is Monash C.F.S.

Activities include a demonstration by Westpac Rescue I helicopter and a demonstration by Berri S.A.M.F.S. of the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service Competition Drill.

Monash playground, adjacent will provide amusements for children.

Junior citizen of year

Donald Heward of Monash, aged 18, was awarded "Junior Citizen of the Year" by the Berri District Council on Australia Day, Monday, 28th January 1985, for service to the C.F.S. volunteer brigade.

Donald's father John Heward is Captain of Monash C.F.S.

"Congratulations on your award Donald. It is well earned and I am sure it will be a source of great pride to your self and family . . . from friends and C.F.S. colleagues."

Fires

Ngarkat Conservation Park Fire:

C.F.S. Brigades from region 7 combined with units from region 5 to assist National Parks and Wildlife Services in combating fires in the 200,000 hectare Ngarkat Conservation Park (30 km south of Lamerloo) from 25th to 27th December 1984.

Lightning strikes caused *all* 3 fires. One fire started west of the park and spread to the park while the other two occurred in the park. Consequently all joined to form a major bushfire.

More than 100 firefighters battled the blaze as bulldozers prepared fire breaks and back-burns were lit to contain the fire. Support came from the air with Westpac Rescue I used for observation and construction of a major back-burn operation through the use of aerial incendiaries. "Bomber one" supported by a local agricultural aircraft, dropped fire retardant in inaccessible areas.

An estimated 10,635 hectares of the conservation park was destroyed.

Danggali Conservation Park Fire:

All Riverland C.F.S. brigades, together with appliances from Regions 1, 2, 3 and 4 and the Eastern Districts F.F.A. were totally committed to supporting the National Parks and Wildlife Services crews at the Danggali Conservation Park fires, 80 kilometres north of Renmark.

The Danggali fires developed into 3 major fires on 3 different dates — all resulting from lightning strikes.

1st Fire: started (2 places) on 2nd December, burnt until 18th December 1984, destroying 8,000 hectares.

2nd Fire: started on 25th December, burnt until 1st January 1985, destroying 11,700 ha parkland and 2,600 ha private land.

3rd Fire: started (4 places) on 14th January, burnt until 29th January 1985, destroying 32,000 ha.

Region 7 cont... Danggali Fire cont...

More than 200 personnel involved in fighting the blaze used an estimated 50 vehicles of various types.

Workers from N.P. & W.L.S., C.F.S., S.E.S., Police, St. John Ambulance, Army and the R.A.A.F. were involved in the combined effort. They used four-wheel drive vehicles, trucks, tankers, bulldozers, graders, tractors, "bomber one", and helicopters to attack the fire, construct firebreaks and supply personnel.

A large base camp set up, consisted of communication vans for N.P. & W.L.S., C.F.S. and S.E.S., food preparation tents/vans, first aid facilities, conveniences and resting areas. There were fuelling areas, an airstrip, equipment to mix and pump fire retardant into the fixed wing aircraft "bomber one" and a helicopter landing and fuelling area.

The Airforce crew of 60 were involved in back burning operations. Army crews of about 20, ran water tankers to supply fire units and dampened down hot spots near the perimeter. The S.E.S. were used as a back up to the main firefighters (N.P. & W.L.S. and C.F.S.) and also delivered food and drinks. St. John supplied medical checks for all firefighters before and after their shifts.

Aerial incendiary drops and conventional back-burns were used to make the perimeter safe. Westpac Rescue 1 and two hired helicopters were used mainly for aerial observations and deployment of people around the fire.

The fixed wing aircraft "Bomber one" operated by the C.F.S. as a fire retardant bomber. It carried 200 gallons of fire retardant which was dropped into areas of the fire as directed by fire officers in the helicopters.

The retardant was also dropped ahead of the fire to act as a fire break.

The concerted effort to quell the blaze was reflected by the presence of C.F.S. units from as far away as Yorketown, Ardrossan and the Mount Lofty Ranges.

Brigades spent in excess of 1,000 man hours combating the 3 fires and several 1,000 kilometres were covered transporting crews and equipment.

The total area burnt in the park this summer was 54,300 hectares.

Copy extracts courtesy the Murray Pioneer.

B.A. Course

Riverland C.F.S. brigades took part in a simulated fumigant explosion as part of their compressed air breathing apparatus qualification course at Waikerie. Equipped with life lines and B.A., members put their skills to the test locating casualties in a densely smoke-filled area and moving them to safety.

AERIAL FIRE CONTROL GAINS WIDE SUPPORT



Success of aerial fire-bombing over the past summer means that it is here to stay as a method of fire suppression and control, according to the South Australian Country Fire Services.

Acting Assistant Chief Officer Operations, John Fitzgerald, says any suspicion that fire-bombing aircraft are still experimental and too expensive has now been erased.

"The performance of the aircraft over the past summer in retarding the fires' advance so that ground crew work can be safer, faster, and more effective, has impressed headquarters staff and volunteers in the field," he said.

Aircraft have been used in past years, but approval by the South Australian Government of \$30,000 to conduct a trial in 1984/85, enabled the first comprehensive exercise to be conducted in this State.

Planning the use of aircraft began in the days following the disastrous Ash Wednesday II fires of February 1983, when hot spots and danger areas in inaccessible country continued to worry fire crews.

Adding to the concern was the depletion of units caused by the disaster, and the fact that many volunteers were still recovering from the experience.

So aircraft were applied to the hot spots and when fires occurred in such difficult and inaccessible areas as Anstey's Hill and Slake's Gully. Insufficient retardant was available but a mixture of water and fertiliser was used and the effects began to be noticed.

In the summer of 1983/84 aircraft were again used, but still on a piecemeal basis. Although further enquiries were made about how aircraft could be used in the South Australian situation, and talks were held with the operators of agricultural aircraft, no plans of a sufficient scale were made.

Interest increased, however, when in January 1984 a fire at Alligator Gorge near Mount Remarkable threatened a very big area, where thick growth covered steep slopes. The potential for damage was great but use of an aircraft to drop retardant bought time, enabling earthmoving machinery to make tracks for ground crews.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the Country Fire Services could see the advantages not only of slowing down a fire front but also of allowing ground crews to get in and complete their work more quickly.

"This means that the cost effectiveness of aircraft can be seen in terms of saving property and also through the savings in productive time which must be felt by employers when volunteers are able to quickly return to their workplaces," he said.

On the first day that the Government's trial of aerial bombing became official, December 17 last year, four loads of retardant were dumped at the front of a fire near Heathfield, with reasonable success. With experience, the effectiveness of aerial operations improved and aircraft became a significant feature of firefighting over the summer, particularly in the big park fires.

Mr. Fitzgerald is ready to admit that not all types of aerial bombing will be effective. For example, use of water alone requires large volumes, requiring the expense of large aircraft, and the water must be dropped directly on the fire line.

"Mixing water and diammonium phosphate, however, does not make dropping directly on the fire line critical, as the retardant mixture will remain effective by covering growth in advance of the fire," he said.

In some situations, even the best-equipped aircraft carrying the right ingredients cannot do the job, as was the case during the Telowie Gorge fire when a water bucket under a helicopter helped quell a fire, where a plane could not go.

And even with the best managed aerial attack on a fire, ground crews will continue to play the leading role.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the Country Fire Services was grateful not only for the Government decision to proceed with aerial bombing on a serious scale, but also for the efforts of the contractor, S.A. Agricultural Aviation, which exceeded expectations.

"The contractor provided additional manpower at no extra cost, fitted out special gates on their Beaver aircraft to meet our needs, and reacted immediately to our calls for assistance," he said.

"Also assisting in the past summer's trial was Mobil Australia, which donated 5,000 litres of aviation fuel."

Mr. Fitzgerald said that after the trial, letters of appreciation and approval had been received from field supervisors.

Their comments on the effectiveness of aerial bombing had been supported by photographic evidence.

In addition there had been no environmental damage. This result had been expected because the mixture contained only water, finely-ground diammonium phosphate (which could easily be broken down), a thickener, and iron oxide as a colouring agent to enable the pilot to see where the retardant had been dropped.

The Country Fire Services is now planning a program for the use of aerially-applied retardant, next fire season.

"A Testimony to Bomber One"

Wistow farmer Seaton Dredge was fighting a rear guard action against fire, as flames crept closer to his farm buildings, when a plane buzzed his property.

The plane affectionately called "Bomber One" and operated through the C.F.S. dropped fire retardant chemicals over the blaze, saving 200 stud sheep from certain death.

Mr. Dredge's property "Inala"—an Aboriginal name meaning "peaceful place"—was in the path of the Wistow bushfire. (refer page 12). Eighty acres of his pasture land was blackened when fire caused an estimated \$250,000 damage to some 1,500 hectares.

The rest of Mr. Dredge's property was saved through quick action by the C.F.S. and "Bomber one".

"When the plane dropped the retardant, all the way along the paddock the fire just died," said Mr. Dredge.

"The fire would have burnt right up to a pen of 200 sheep and probably suffocated them. The retardant went a long way to stopping the fire from jumping the road and burning all the way to the freeway", Mr. Dredge said.

Extracts courtesy "The Courier", Mt. Barker.

ANGASTON C.F.S. — Fire station was opened by former fire chief Mr. Ken Rasmus, on Sunday, 11th November 1984. Designed for future expansion the brick station was converted from a former builder's factory. Facilities include two vehicle bay, radio control room, recreation area and equipment storage. Ladies Auxiliary and crew social club raised over \$14,000 for equipment and improvements. A presentation of chevrons and service medals was made at the ceremony. Adelaide Brighton Cement donation \$2,000 towards a new Darley high pressure pump for the unit.

AUBURN C.F.S. — Have remodelled their fire truck to improve its fire fighting capacity.

BALAKLAVA C.F.S. — Commissioned their \$20,000 initial fire attack unit. Vehicle is fitted with a 454 litre tank, pump hoses, 2 radios, extinguishers and knapsacks.

BIRDWOOD C.F.S. — Received a \$600 donated from Birdwood Primary School children's walkathon, towards the purchase of rescue equipment.

BLACKFELLOWS CREEK C.F.S. — To purchase breathing apparatus equipment with \$1,000 received from Red Cross.

BLYTH C.F.S. — Had their new \$60,000 fire appliance commissioned by former C.F.S. deputy director Mr. Peter Malpas, Sunday, 28th October 1984. Service awards were presented to brigade members, followed by a demonstration of the unit's fire power.

COWELL C.F.S. — Are looking to purchase a \$68,000 urban/rural unit. Support has come from a \$3,000 donation from Cowell Apex Club, \$500 from Commercial Hotel Social Club and \$100 from Franklin Harbor Hotel Button Club.

CRYSTAL BROOK C.F.S. — Received a new Ford 350 fire appliance. The \$30,000 four wheel drive unit with 200 gallon tank and crew of 4, replaces an outdated Toyota land cruiser. Funds were provided by Council, Ladies Auxiliary, community, C.F.S. and government subsidy.

EUDUNDA C.F.S. — Acknowledged the Rural Youth's generous donation of \$617.00.

HAHNDORF C.F.S. — Redeveloped station was officially opened 21st October 1984 by life member Mr. George Petersen. Local community contributed time, labour and materials. Fund-raising totalled in excess of \$25,000 with Mt. Barker D/C servicing a \$45,000 loan. Redevelopment entailed conversion of original station into 3 spacious vehicle bays accessed by panel lift doors. Abutting the engine room is a radio/operations room, large meeting room, well appointed kitchen and storeroom. Features include carpeting, exposed timber beams and raked ceilings. The Hahndorf Community Hall Incorporated generously donated land adjoining the station site for relocation of siren tower and for parking space. President of the Hahndorf Traders Association Mr. Cambridge presented a cheque for \$1,000 to the brigade. Among the 100 invited guests were former brigade members, the Mayor of Mt. Barker, Mr. Lawrie Hughes, Member for Murray, Mr. David Wotton, C.F.S. Director Mr. Johns and R.O. Russell Gear.

IRON BANK C.F.S. — Took part in the Brighton Rotary Club's procession and gala day, on 30th March 1985. Conducted an Emergency First Aid Session with St. John, 1st April. Supported by C.F.S. H/Q the brigade plans a simulated gas fire exercise on 3rd June. The brigade's No. 2 team won the annual country fair "alarm race" and previously held the "tug of war" title in 1982 and 83.

KEITH C.F.S. — Fire truck has been fitted with a new pump, reels and crew haven, costing \$15,000.

LITTLEHAMPTON C.F.S. — Celebrates the completion of its second year of operations. Their achievements are: A 25 fire person crew, established a modern fire station, erected a siren and tower and modifications done to the brigade's new Toyota quick attack unit.

LONGWOOD/BRADBURY/SCOTT CREEK C.F.S. — Former brigade lieutenant Mr. John Allen (29 years' C.F.S. service) on retirement was presented with a polished piece of burnt gum decorated with his FCO's badge and plaque. As a memento of his vast service his C.F.S. overalls with flashes handed in on retirement were returned. Mr. Allen, a Foundation member of the brigade, had generously donated the land for the fire station at Bradbury in 1955.

MT. OSMOND C.F.S. — Fire station is nearing completion. Some 17 local residents have trained with the C.F.S. as volunteers to assist at the station, when ready.

MT. PLEASANT, PALMER AND SPRINGTON C.F.S. — Brigades each received a new fire unit. Mr. Roger Goldsworthy, M.P. handed over keys to a \$31,000 Ford F350 (Mt. Pleasant C.F.S.) and 2 Toyota Landcruisers each valued at \$14,000 (Palmer and Springton C.F.S.).

MACCLESFIELD C.F.S. — Type 4 fire tanker valued at \$40,000 introduces the latest equipment for the brigade's front line of defence. Foundation member Mr. Len Pullen accepted vehicle keys on behalf of the brigade, from Mr. David Wotton M.P. Plans have been drawn up for fire station extensions and a second vehicle to replace the 1950's Dodge utility. Volunteers are needed to train as fire fighting crews. New members are most welcome.

MEADOWS C.F.S. — Is a story of success thanks to local residents and the Meadows C.F.S. Market which has been operating for 12 months. The once bare fire shed has been converted into a fire station with fully equipped crew room, kitchen, operations room. Crew cabins have been built for two of the fire trucks.

MYLOR C.F.S. — Modern brick fire station was officially opened by the Minister of Emergency services, Mr. Jack Wright before a crowd of 300 people. The \$74,000 buildings was result of a community employment project (Federal Government grant), with donations and assistance from local service clubs, residents, Stirling Council and private enterprise.

NURIOOTPA C.F.S. — Were presented with an ICOM H12 transceiver from ICOM in recognition of Nuriootpa winning Region 2 "Best and Most Efficient Award for 1984." Aided by Barossa St. John's, the brigade has completed a First Aid Course, with 18 firemen and 3 ladies auxiliary personnel receiving their certificates. Their new heavy 4WD unit is nearing completion.

ONE TREE HILL — Fire station plans have been approved by Munno Para Council. The project is expected to cost \$350,000, with support from the Community Employment Programme Unit. Planned as the headquarters for the Munno Para Fire Service it will be the central point for radio communications for fire fighting in the Munno Para District.

PORT LINCOLN C.F.S. — Burned 116 vacant blocks in a fuel reduction programme during summer. The \$4,000 received from Port Lincoln D/C will go towards a new fire truck. Lincoln Rotary Club donated \$500 to the brigade.

PALMER C.F.S. — With the donation of a fully equipped Mobile 7 ex Army 1939/45 Chev 4 × 2 fire truck and training of local volunteers, by the Mount Pleasant council—the brigade was established in 1982. Following Ash Wednesday II the council allocated a new unit to Palmer C.F.S. The modern fire truck has a 250L fibre glass tank, high pressure pump, 2 way radio and equipment. Palmer has a population of only 80 but there is no shortage of volunteers on a fire call. The council has agreed to supply materials as finances permit, for a fire shed.

PENNESHAW C.F.S. — Purchased a Hino GD174, 4 × 4 cab chassis fire unit, body work and pump has been guaranteed by the D/C of Dudley. The \$70,000 unit will be completed by July 1985.

ROBE-KINGSTON C.F.S. — New \$15,000 Rescue Unit trailer contains a 5Kva generator, lucas hydraulic spreaders and cutters, 600 watt generator, hydraulic pump, 8 sq. ft. compressor and airtools, floodlights and accessory tools.

SADDLEWORTH & AUBURN C.F.S. — Brigades have each received a 'Drager' breathing apparatus from D/C of Saddleworth and Auburn.

SMITHFIELD C.F.S. — New Ford F350 fire unit is dedicated to the memory of the late Captain Ken Clark, who put in many years' work to obtain the vehicle. Tribute was paid at the commissioning on 11th November 1984. The ceremony was opened by Chairman D/C Munno Para Mr. John McVeity, J.P. C.F.S. Director Mr. Johns commissioned the unit, brigade Captain Mr. Jeff Clark accepted the vehicle keys. Special guests were past C.F.S. Director Mr. F. L. Kerr, Minister of Housing Mr. Terry Hemmings, council members, Salisbury M.F.S. District Officer Mr. Lance Doleman, St. John members & C.F.S. brigades for surrounding areas. The new appliance is equipped with 909 litres (200 galls) 2 × 50 m electric rewind, 25 mm hose reels, Darley Champion 1½ AGE high pressure pump, 2 × Auer H/P B.A. sets and spare cylinder, life lines, 3 × BCF extinguishers, first aid kit and blankets, petrol & oil dispersant, suction hose, alloy stand pipe and turncock key, 2 × 30 m 38 m canvas hose and 20 × 30m 64m canvas hose.

STRATHALBYN C.F.S. — were presented with a \$700 - 3Kva portable generator by Victoria Hotel Social Club. Donations from the Victorian Hotel enabled purchase of safety equipment, overalls, hard hats, fireman's boots, safety goggles and upgrading of unit equipment — over the years. More recently towards purchase of a cab chassis for the brigade's new type 5 appliance nearing completion.

WANDILLO C.F.S. — Fire unit an International DI6510 4 × 4 chassis was purchased in Melbourne for \$7,000. Brigade members designed the body and D/C Mount Gambier workshop staff built it up for \$5,500. With exception of new Denyer 2,100 litre tank, all equipment ex old Wandillo unit.

WOODSIDE C.F.S. — New \$50,000 unit has a 680 gallon tank, 6 water outlets including 2 monitors, 4 hoses, 300 psi pump and wheel sprays. Safety features include high protection sides and drop down blankets. Bought and built locally, the appliance was funded by a grant from Onkaparinga Council.

NEW WAYS OF TACKLING FIRES IN HOSPITALS AND HEALTH BUILDINGS

by R.O. Mike Gent, Fire Prevention

Most hospitals, and many other health buildings have been inspected, and as a consequence have had fire safety precautions updated.

To you as a Volunteer Firefighter, the new precautions will mean easier firefighting if a new approach is adopted, but first, what are the new precautions?

Automatic Fire Detection

A system of detecting a fire by thermal (heat) or smoke detectors which sound an alarm in the building, show the fire zone and in many cases put an automatic fire call to the nearest fire station. A system of "break glass" manually operated alarms is also incorporated in the system.

To you this means earlier warning of fire, a chance to extinguish the flames before anyone gets hurt and hopefully smaller fires to extinguish.

Hose Reels

Each fire compartment will have at least one hose reel. This means you may not have to run hose into the building, but use the reel provided to catch a fire detected in its early stages.

Emergency Lighting

If the fire has caused a lighting failure the emergency lighting will be on, to help nurses move patients, and you will be able to see to find the fire.

Fire Compartments, Smoke Stopping

Splitting up the building into fire resisting compartments, and further dividing of those compartments into smoke stopped areas, will limit the fire and smoke travel. This makes complete evacuation unnecessary leaving more firefighters to tackle the fire.

Water Supplies

The availability of a hydrant and the water supply must now meet a satisfactory standard.

Housekeeping

The "Health Premises Code" requires such premises to keep exits, and paths to exits clear and lays down standards for keeping storage of flammables safely.

With safer health premises and early automatic detection it is hoped that tragedies of the past for patients and those fighting such fires can be avoided. But that is only part of the situation.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A FIRE IN YOUR LOCAL HEALTH BUILDING?

Pre-planning is essential, the community will rely on you for a first class performance. The rules are:

1. A building familiarisation visit at least once a year.
2. Know where the fire indicator board is located.
3. Know where the hydrants, hose reels and extinguishers are located.
4. Inform HQ Fire Prevention of false alarms.

When the fire call comes

1. Check location of fire on the indicator board.
2. At least 2 men, in BA (if carried) go to the fire.
3. Extinguish the fire with hose reels in the building.
4. Help nurses to evacuate nearest patients to the fire, into an adjoining safe fire compartment.
5. If the fire gets too large to manage with "in house" hose reels, then the fire appliance's equipment can be used and a full evacuation considered.

These fire precautions are designed for early detection minimal disruption of patients and quick fire "knock down".

FIRES IN HOSPITALS cont...

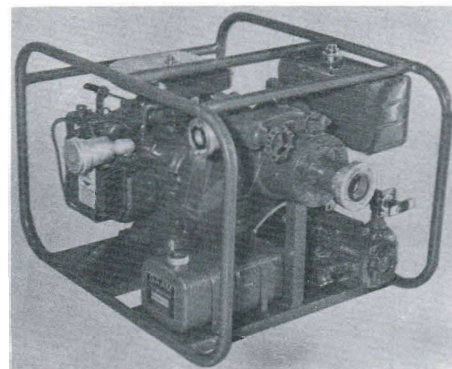
Remember the old methods?

Fire starts at night in an unoccupied room, 20 minutes later one of the few night staff smell smoke, on investigating, a member of staff finds a fire too large to use an extinguisher or hose reel on, and shouting for help tries to get patients out of doors that open the wrong way. More staff come to help, then one realises that in the concern for evacuating patients, the firefighters have not been called. It is now 30 minutes since the fire started. Five minutes later the first fire unit arrives. At 35 minutes since the fire started, the fire now involves a whole wing of the hospital, with firefighters trying to drag hoses in, and nurses trying to get patients out. The lighting fails, water pressure from the hydrant 4 lengths away is not too good. Young firefighters look worried, and older ones get a nasty feeling in the pit of the stomach.

It happened to me as a young firefighter, fortunately the wing was for premature babies, the nurses were able to get them to safety more easily than adults.

Automatic systems will have some false alarm problems and that's a great nuisance to firefighters, but the safety of early warning for patients and firefighters far outweighs the inconvenience of false alarms.

NEW PRODUCT



HIGH PRESSURE FIRE PUMP

The new Wajax BB-4, 4 stage high pressure fire pump meets the type 5 C.F.S. Board specifications. Cost \$4,369 F.I.S. Includes electric primer and S.A.F.S. couplings.

Gaam Pumps Pty. Limited of Thomastown, Victoria has announced the release of a precision-built, corrosion resistant, high pressure pump ideal for fire fighting.

Known as the Wajax BB-4, the pump is designed and manufactured in Australia. It can be carried on a fire truck, utility or trailer and, with its wrap around steel frame and low weight of 75 kg it can be handled easily by two men.

The manufacturer claims that the Wajax BB-4 pumps at rates to 350 l/min and pressures of 2,400 kPa and is thus ideal for long hose lays or for employment in rugged terrain.

Measuring a compact 860mm × 480mm × 480mm (L × W × H), the BB-4 is powered by a two cylinder 4 stroke air cooled Briggs & Stratton engine with 12 V electric start. The dual circuit 3A alternator has separate battery charging and auxiliary lighting circuits.

Wajax quality materials including aluminium alloy body and impellers, stainless steel shaft and self-adjusting mechanical seal together with the high standard of workmanship synonymous with the Wajax name, ensure dependable operation with a minimum of maintenance.

To simplify routine servicing and to enable pumps to be interchanged at will, the unit features a quick "flip-over" action coupling of pump to power unit.

Options include various priming systems and outlet threads.

Supplier: Fire Fighting Equipment Co., 118 Glen Osmond Road, Parkside, S.A. 5063. Telephone (08) 272 1000.

Signal Fires — Rekindled

BONFIRES FOR SESQUICENTENARY

1986 will be an exciting year in South Australia when we celebrate our 150th Birthday.

The three Districts of the Lions organisation in South Australia are seeking to make a substantial contribution to the State's celebrations and have agreed to combine with the Country Fire Services and Metropolitan Fire Service where appropriate, in a major "Chain of Bonfires" project throughout the Coastal and Murray River areas of South Australia.

In the early days of South Australia a large percentage of the wheat crop was shipped to the major ports by small sailing ships.

The arrival of these ketches was a major event in the remote seaside communities and it was common for ketch captains to signal their arrival by lighting fires on the beach. This was the signal for farmers to bring their grain, by dray for loading.

To re-enact a part of our State's history the Lions Clubs wish to light bonfires from Ceduna to Port Macdonnell along the coast and from Mildura to Goolwa along the River Murray on the night of Saturday, 18th October, 1986. In addition to the re-enactment it is anticipated that as a secondary objective to use this project as part of Fire Prevention Week 1986 by providing a "Clean Up" theme to the collection of materials for the bonfires.

It is anticipated that Lions Clubs will organise a fund raising activity around the "Bonfire Project" and will be seeking the involvement of the Fire Service and members of the local community with the proceeds being donated to the C.F.S.

A C.F.S. circular detailing the "suggest format for participation by the C.F.S." in the Lions chain of Bonfires Project 1986 together with "Bonfire specifications" (C.F.S. Ref. 200/1/47, Feb. 20th 1985) . . . has been issued to C.F.S. Brigade Secretaries within the areas specified. For further information or copies of the circular contact your C.F.S. Regional Officer or R.O. Peter Ferris at C.F.S. Headquarters. Telephone: (08) 297 6788.

New course in fire technology

S.A. is to get a specialised TAFE certificate course in fire technology this year.

The Minister of Education, the Hon. Lynn M. F. Arnold said, "the course addresses the needs not only of fire fighters, but those engaged in the design and installation of fire detection and suppression systems in accordance with the appropriate Acts and Regulations.

Additionally the incorporation of a communications skills segment will help in getting the fire safety message across to the public."

This certificate in Fire Technology which will serve to increase further the public's confidence in those involved in fire safety, is to be implemented at Gilles Plains TAFE College. The provision of this course demonstrates again TAFE's philosophy of providing programmes relevant to the community's needs, concluded Mr. Arnold.

The two year part-time course has been developed by the Australian Fire Protection Association and will use equipment supplied by the fire protection industry.

Stage one of the course will include fire safety management, principles of fire behaviour, fire fighting equipment and emergency treatment of personnel.

Stage two will have six main subjects and two selective subjects resulting in an advanced certificate.

The Chairman of the A.F.P.A. education committee, Mr. L. J. Brown, said, "entry to the course was by a personal counselling interview where students would be expected to demonstrate a high degree of personal desire to gain the qualification."

"Class facilities limited the first class to 24 and entrants would normally have achieved Year 11 standard and/or be employed in the fire technology industry or associated organisations.

People interested in joining the course, which costs \$25, plus books and materials, can contact the A.F.P.A. Ltd., P.O. Box 338, Hindmarsh 5007.

For Sale by Tender

1971 Nissan Patrol 4 wheel drive fire unit

Registration No. RDK-090

Unit is in fair condition and is equipped with the following:

6 h.p. (approx) Wisconsin Motor

Rex pump.

150 gallon water tank.

¾" hose reel with approx 30m of hose

3 side hoses

Front & rear wheel sprays.

Tenders should be lodged with the District Clerk, District Council of Kanyaka-Quorn, P.O. Box 43, Quorn, S.A. 5433 not later than Friday, 31st May, 1985.

Inspection can be arranged by contacting the undersigned (Tel. (086) 48 6031)

David Knox,
District Clerk

1 x QUELL HOSE REEL
(200 ft)

FOR SALE

contact: Mr. Gregory Stone,
Secretary
Ardrossan C.F.S.
28 Fourth Street,
Ardrossan, S.A.-5571



OBITUARY



Mr. Colin Stuart SHEPHARD

Compton C.F.S.

A Mount Gambier stalwart of the C.F.S. and the Holstein-Friesian Association, Mr. Shephard passed away on 18th August, 1984.

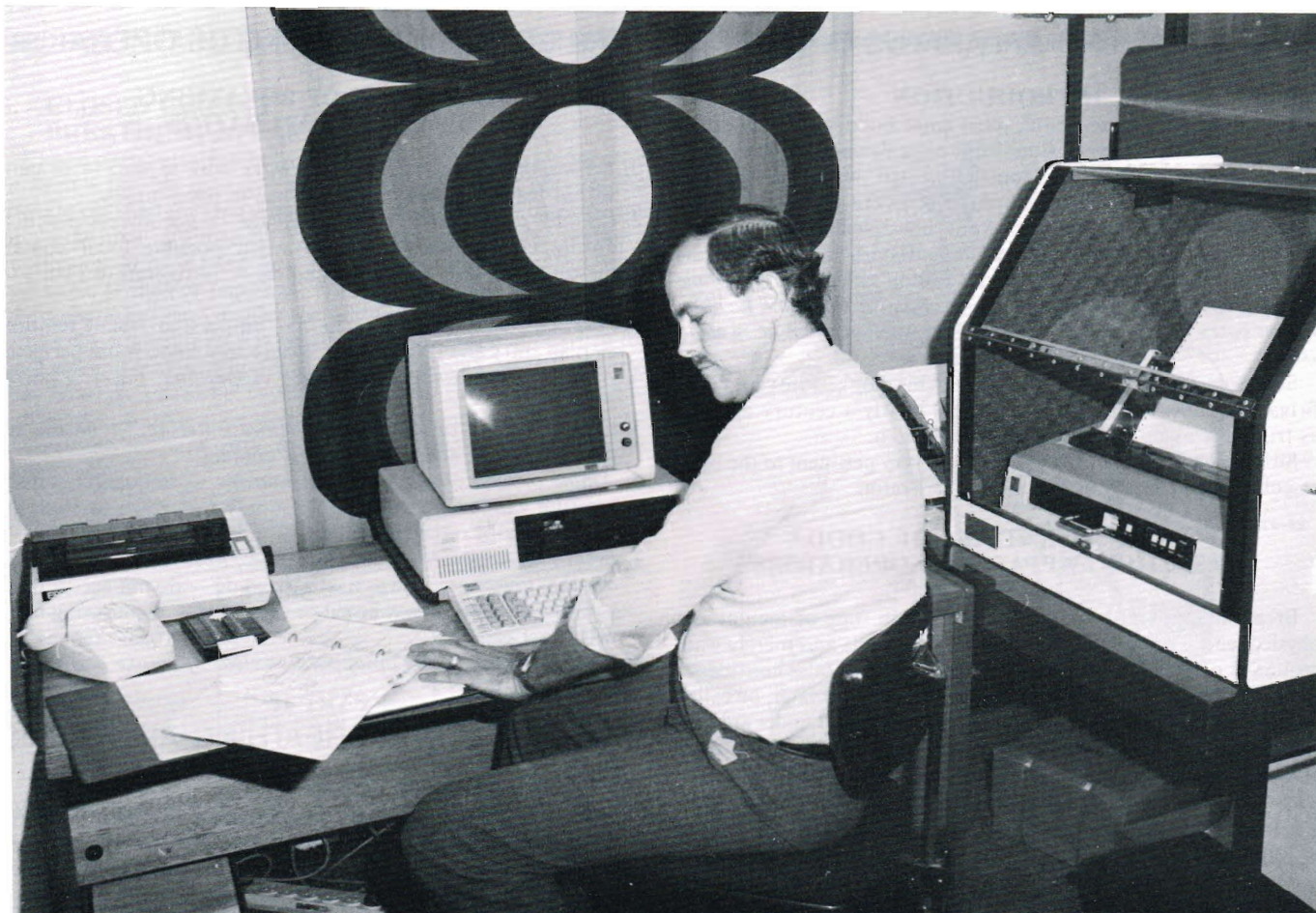
Mr. Shephard was a member of the Compton brigade since its inception in 1939. He served as a fire control officer from 1969 until 1979 and as supervisor of the C.F.S. south west zone, was vice-president of the Mount Gambier Fire Fighting Association before holding the position of president from 1976 to 1983.

He was honored with the Australian National Medal in 1979 for service to the C.F.S.

A highly respected member of the community, Colin Shephard will be sadly missed by fellow C.F.S. members and friends.

C.F.S. PURCHASE COMPUTERS

by Frank Muldoon, Project Officer



The computer, *pictured above*, is one of two IBMs purchased by the C.F.S. Board this financial year. This particular one is the PCXT model and has a single Floppy Disk drive and a 10 megabyte hard disk. Currently this computer is being used for word processing, spreadsheets and financial modelling. (In fact the 1985/86 financial year Budget Estimates were prepared with the aid of a Symphony Financial Modelling package on the IBM.)

At present General Ledger and Creditors Ledger packages are being installed and as from 1st July 1985 all processing of Creditor's accounts, production of cheques, maintenance of the C.F.S. Board General Ledger and preparation of financial reports will be fully automated and carried out entirely "in house".

In the near future it is the intention that subsidy records will also be maintained on this IBM using the Symphony Spreadsheet facility.

The printer, *pictured right*, contained within an acoustic hood, is an NEC 3550 Spinwriter. This printer was chosen because of the need for a Letter Quality Printer for use with the Word Processing package. It has the advantage of being able to handle single sheets of paper, in either single or dual bin modes for the production of standard letters, reports etc. as well as continuous stationery for the production of financial statements and reports.

The smaller printer, *pictured left*, is an Epson MX-80F/T III which was purchased some years ago with an Osborne micro-computer for the maintenance of Volunteer membership records.

These records will now be maintained, with other information, on the other IBM Computer which uses an Epson LQ1500 high speed dot matrix printer whilst the MX-80FT III still has some use for printing out draft reports and small spreadsheet and financial modelling outputs.

PART I

THE BREATHING APPARATUS OPERATOR

INTRODUCTION

A fireman, to be successful, must enter buildings: he must get in below, above, on every side, from opposite houses, over back walls, through panels of doors, through windows, through loopholes, through skylights, through holes cut by himself in the gates, the walls, the roof: he must know how to reach the attic from the basement by ladders placed on half burned stairs and the basement from the attic by rope made fast on a chimney. *His whole success depends on his getting in and remaining there and he must always carry his appliances with him, as without them he is of no use.*

So wrote Sir Eyre Massey Shaw in his book, *Fires and Fire Brigades*. These words, though penned nearly a century ago, are as true now as on the day they were written.

Sir Eyre Massey Shaw's last sentence is very pertinent to the basic essentials of a Breathing Apparatus Operator.

BASIC ESSENTIALS OF GOOD BREATHING APPARATUS OPERATORS

Breathing apparatus work calls for a high state of mental and physical endurance. To wear breathing apparatus and merely walk around is of little value and will soon give a man false confidence in his equipment. A trained fireman will, sooner or later, be called upon, at a moment's notice, to work exceedingly hard under arduous conditions of smoke, heat, total darkness, obstruction and toxic atmospheres, when wearing breathing apparatus. Naturally, action taken will be governed to a great extent by the circumstances of any particular incident, whether it be a rescue performed or fire location and extinction.

The fireman must therefore be physically fit, for work at a fire will almost always involve considerable physical exertion. He must be courageous and yet be calm, for on these qualities will depend his reactions in an emergency. He must be patient for often he will need patience when dealing with persons whose property is involved or threatened by fire and who are in a state of considerable mental distress. He must have initiative and must possess the will to keep going for long periods under adverse conditions. He must cultivate his powers of observation to the utmost and must also possess an enquiring mind. He must have a keen sense of discipline, for unless he himself is able to obey orders without question he cannot expect others to carry out his orders. Finally, he must never forget that as a member of a local authority fire brigade he is a servant of the public, and that it is to him that the public turns in an emergency.

To sum it up a good Breathing Apparatus Operator should possess the following qualities:

1. Self-discipline
2. Moral courage
3. Training
4. Fitness
5. Confidence in apparatus
6. Teamwork and team spirit
7. Importance of mental strain.

THE BREATHING APPARATUS OPERATOR

PRINCIPLES OF BREATHING APPARATUS OPERATION

1. *Breathing apparatus operators always work in pairs* — or pairs within teams — develop confidence in team-mates.
2. *Contact person with local knowledge* — not always practical during close-down periods — when possible local contact inestimable value — ships — hotels — refrigeration plants — departmental stores, etc.
3. *Formulate a plan and keep to it* — unless snap rescue required — plan entry and procedure — ensure crew understand perfectly.
4. *Always work under Breathing Apparatus Entry Control Procedure.*
5. *Check oxygen or air supply before entering* — ensure all personnel have adequate cylinder content.
6. *Ample oxygen or air for return journey* — frequently consult pressure gauge — ensure ample supply for return to fresh air — if in doubt return at once.
7. *Breathing Apparatus Main Guidelines, hose reels, lines of hose or other lines* — service as a reliable guide — do not accept these as positive safety — may be cut or entangled — memorising route will assist exit.
8. *Always don and start up apparatus clear of smoke and fumes.*

PART II

SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Modern self-contained breathing apparatus allows firemen to work in conditions where the density or nature of smoke or gases once would otherwise have denied access. It should not, however, be regarded as essential in all cases where considerable smoke is present. Further, it can only be considered as providing safety when preceded by the necessary training, without which a fireman may venture into situations which could endanger not only his own life but the lives of his fellow firemen.

Safety in the basic design of self-contained breathing apparatus is provided for in AS1716 1984 specification which sets out minimum performance requirements and certain features essential to good design. Only self-contained equipment, that is, with its own supply of air, can ensure safety in fire or other conditions where the atmosphere may not support life. Essential requirements are:

- 1.1 A supply of air for normal breathing
- 1.2 Effective removal of carbon dioxide produced in breathing (discharge to atmosphere)
- 1.3 Means of increasing the supply of air during heavy exertion (automatically by demand valve or manually using by-pass).

Breathing apparatus must have adequate strength, minimum weight, be comfortable to wear, trouble-free and reliable. It must have readily identifiable, easily operated valves which will not be likely to catch on projections when working in confined spaces. There must be minimum resistance to breathing and no undue heat build-up.

There are two main types of self-contained breathing apparatus: Open circuit — compressed air in which carbon dioxide is expelled to the atmosphere.

Closed circuit — compressed oxygen in which carbon dioxide is absorbed and oxygen re-circulated.

2. OPEN CIRCUIT

Open circuit operation is used with compressed-air breathing apparatus. Air is supplied to the wearer at a breathable pressure — for practical purposes, at atmospheric pressure. The exhaled breath, including carbon dioxide produced, is discharged to waste. The rate of air consumption, and hence the duration, depends on the demands of the wearer, so that no set duration can be allowed, an important difference from closed circuit sets.

cont. page 25

SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

3. CLOSED CIRCUIT BREATHING APPARATUS

Closed circuit principle only suitable with oxygen. This is breathed in from a flexible reservoir and the exhaled oxygen plus carbon dioxide purified (or regenerated) by passing through caustic soda or soda-lime ("Protosorb"). The oxygen which remains, supplemented by a fixed flow from the cylinder to replace what was used, is then re-breathed. The heat produced in the process of regeneration may require the addition of a cooler.

In a closed circuit set it is possible to provide enough oxygen for hard work in a small cylinder because no nitrogen has to be carried and no oxygen need be wasted. The oxygen is allowed to flow at a fixed rate, so that a pre-determined duration is known. The rate is sufficient for hard work, any not used being discharged via the relief valve.

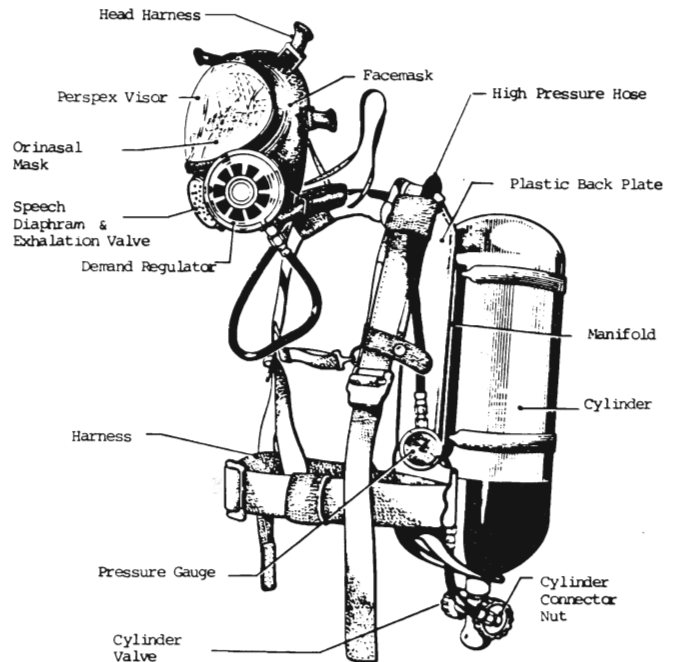
4. SUMMARY OF OPEN AND CLOSED CIRCUIT BREATHING APPARATUS PRINCIPLES

	Open Circuit	Closed Circuit
Cylinder filled with	Compressed air	Compressed oxygen
Duration	Depends on demands of wearer	Pre-determined
Air/oxygen supplied	On demand	Fixed rate of flow
Additional supply	On demand	By-pass valve or on demand
Disposal of CO ₂	Expelled to atmosphere	CO ₂ absorbent

OPEN AND CLOSED CIRCUIT BREATHING APPARATUS COMPARED

Open Circuit (Compressed Air)		Closed Circuit (Oxygen)
Advantages ... Simple operation — less training required) Quick to put on (no "starting up procedure") Full face-piece permits reasonable speech Quick to recharge	Dis-advant-ages	More training required than for compressed air Starting up procedure required (eliminate nitrogen from system) Signals must be used Much more time may be needed to recharge
Disadvantages ... No pre-determined duration No "entrapped procedure" possible Large cylinder, relatively short permissible working time	Ad-vant-ages	Pre-determined duration "Entrapped procedure" may be used Small cylinder, long duration with suitable sets

Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus



PART III "NORMALAIR C.A.B.A." to follow, next issue . . .

Walk for a family in Ethiopia



A walkathon was held on 31st March 1985 at Yorketown on Yorke Peninsula to aid the Ethiopians.

Pictured left to right: Chris Hills, Anne Takeny, Joanne Penberthy with "Smokey The Koala", Sue Clasohm, Jenny Reuther and oldest walker Mr. A. Hertman aged 90 years and youngest walker Luke Barns aged 5 years.

Unmasking a new challenge(r)

Meet Jan Smith, S.A.'s first woman to have successfully completed the intensive C.F.S. Breathing Apparatus (B.A.) course at the Mount Lofty Training Centre.



SENIOR FIREMAN JAN SMITH, LITTLEHAMPTON C.F.S.

"That was three days and a night of near hell," said Jan reflecting on the courses' intensive training programme.

"But at least you know your capability and limit." There are so many more dangers during a house fire these days with toxins and other dangerous fumes . . . you can't be too careful!"

Jan was recently appointed a senior fireman with the Littlehampton C.F.S. having moved from Bridgewater with husband Rob earlier this year.

"We might be one of the youngest brigades in the State, but many of us have a wealth of experience from other C.F.S. brigades", said Jan who has also been a lecturer at the Training Centre.

Jan is just one of a growing number of women who are becoming more actively involved in actual fire fighting.

"The men here respect me and recognise my experience" she added.

If they didn't I wouldn't have my senior fireman's stripe.

The only other woman to have successfully completed the C.F.S. "B.A." course is Fern Raintree of Nairne C.F.S.

Extracts and photograph reproduced courtesy The Courier, Mt. Barker.

E & WS hydrants for fire-water

CORRECT USE

The Engineering and Water Supply Department makes available to the C.F.S. unmetered hydrants for the purpose of drawing water from the mains for fire-fighting purposes and at times for fire-fighting practice.

For efficient operation of both services, good co-operation is necessary between C.F.S. fire control officers and the department's local representative. All C.F.S. personnel should be familiar with the operation of fire hydrants and the conditions under which the department issues them to the C.F.S.

Some of these conditions are:

- (1) In the event of fire, water may be taken direct from the mains, but the department should be advised as early as possible. This will enable such alterations (as may be possible) to be made to the distribution system to assist in maintaining an adequate supply.

In the metropolitan area, C.F.S. fire control officers should advise the Radio Room, Kent Town, where a 24-hour 7-day service is maintained—Telephone 223 4622.

In country areas, advise the local E & WS representative.

- (2) Hydrants should only be operated by authorised personnel who have received suitable instruction from E & WS officers. In particular, C.F.S. Personnel operating hydrants should:

- (a) Ensure that the leather washer at the base is in good condition.

- (b) Before attaching hydrant to the fire plug, open valve slightly to flush away any obstruction.

- (c) Exercise caution in opening and closing fire plugs to prevent water hammer and possible damage to the main, which could result in loss of supply.

- (d) Do not leave hydrant unattended at the fire plug. Erect proper and adequate warnings to provide safe passage for all vehicles. Damage to fire plug or main and loss of supply could result from failure to take this precaution.

- (e) Remember you are responsible for the safe custody of the hydrant and liable for repairs or damage. Hydrants issued for fire-fighting **MUST NOT** be used for any other purpose. Hydrants issued for fire-fighting are painted RED.

- (3) Hydrants must not be used on the Mannum-Adelaide, Murray Bridge, Onkaparinga, Tailem Bend-Keith and Clarendon-Blackwood Pipelines and only at specified places for actual fire fighting on the Morgan-Whyalla Pipeline. Note: Fire fighting standpipes have been provided at suitable locations, adjacent to these pipelines. Where necessary, additional standpipes can be provided on application by your Local District Council.

- (4) In case of fire-fighting practice, obtain prior consent of the department's representative thereby minimising inconvenience to other consumers.

- (5) Generally, the department does not favour pumping direct from the mains, as incorrect procedures and equipment could easily lead to damage of the main, and consequent loss of supply. In certain cases, as in township house fires, where this may be necessary, C.F.S. fire control officers should ensure that the correct equipment, with pressure gauges on the suction and delivery sides of the pumps, and proper hose connections are used, and that personnel are trained in this aspect.

- (6) E & WS officers are available for consultation, and demonstration *in the use of hydrants at any time*. Arrangements can be made direct with the Regional Engineer (Metropolitan) at Kent Town, or the Regional Engineers at Elizabeth, Crystal Brook, Pt. Lincoln, Berri and Mt. Gambier, or through your local E & WS representative.

Swivel-headed hydrants of an approved design may be used, but they must be painted red and recorded with the department.

A.I.D.S.

The A.I.D.S. Task Force is a Commonwealth established authority charged with the tasks of, inter alia, reviewing data on the disease A.I.D.S., monitoring the incidence of the disease in Australia and issuing advice on required management and control measures.

A recent bulletin (reproduced below), issued by the Task Force details the special risks from A.I.D.S. that may apply to first aid workers and recommends precautionary action which should be taken by this group of personnel.

AN EXTRACT FROM A.I.D.S. TASK FORCE BULLETIN 85/2

A.I.D.S. PRECAUTIONS IN FIRST AID AND RESUSCITATION

The virus which causes A.I.D.S. is transmitted through sexual intercourse and by blood passing directly from one person into the circulation of another as in blood transfusion and the sharing of needles between drug addicts. The virus has been shown to be present in saliva and is almost certainly present in faeces and in urine. However, *there has been no instance in which the disease has been shown to be transmitted through contact with saliva or body fluids other than blood and semen.*

Experience with A.I.D.S. in the United States indicates that there is no reason to withhold resuscitation from persons believed to be in the high risk groups for A.I.D.S. in the event of sudden collapse. For persons who by nature of their duties are likely to be called on frequently to administer mouth to mouth resuscitation, there are reasons for precautions to further reduce any small possible risk. The use of an appropriate mask for mouth to mouth resuscitation is recommended and appropriate equipment and training programmes should be provided. Thus, it is recommended that resuscitation equipment for ambulances, fire trucks, for Police and first aid outposts should include appropriate masks or appliances for this purpose. Disposable gloves (plastic or rubber) should be available for use by persons with cuts or abrasions on their hands. However, as prevalence of the virus in the community is very low and the risk of infection is almost negligible, should these not be readily available in an emergency, direct mouth to mouth resuscitation should never be withheld.

Special purpose facilities such as ambulances or fire trucks will ordinarily carry mechanical ventilators, obviating the need for mouth to mask resuscitation but in situations where these are not available or are not working effectively, mouth to mask or mouth to mouth resuscitation should not be withheld.

Surfaces of the body which have been exposed to blood, faeces, urine or saliva should always be washed with soap and water at the earliest opportunity. One in ten dilution of household bleach is an effective disinfectant for the A.I.D.S. related virus.

Where a person engaged in first aid is found to have administered mouth to mouth resuscitation or been exposed to body fluids from a carrier of A.I.D.S. virus, the risk of acquiring the infection is *very* slight indeed. Antibodies arise over a period of one to three months in persons with the infection. Where there is special reason to suspect infection such as needle stick or other penetrating injury in the first aid worker, antibody testing, repeated after three months, will rule out infection if negative.

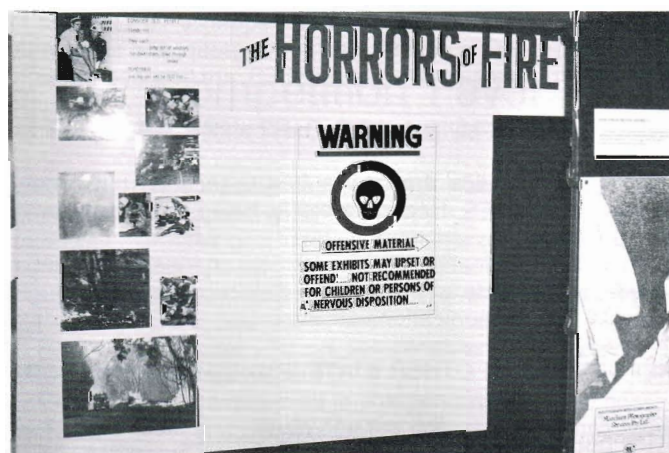
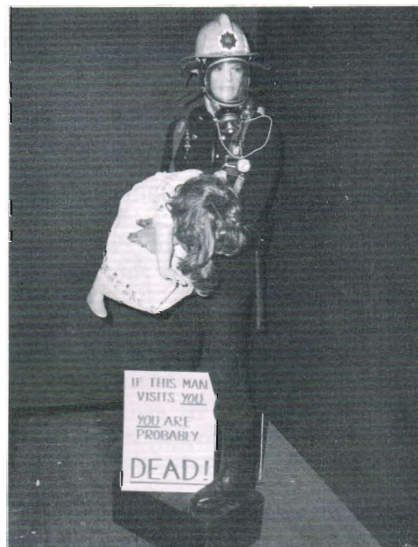
In training for mouth to mouth resuscitation, manikins with disposable masks or plastic face shields should be used where possible: otherwise, the mouth of the manikin should be rinsed and wiped between each person with an appropriate disinfectant and thereafter dried. (70 per cent ethanol plus 0.5 per cent chlorhexidine has been shown to be highly effective in rapidly destroying the virus of herpes simplex under these conditions and is likely to be effective against other viruses). At the end of the class the manikin should be thoroughly cleaned. For masks and other equipment, acceptable disinfectants for the A.I.D.S. virus are at least 30 per cent alcoholic chlorhexidine solution, a freshly diluted 1:10 solution of household bleach (sodium hypochlorite) or 1 per cent Glutaraldehyde, with a period of exposure of one hour.

For further enquiries contact: The Communicable Disease Control Unit, South Australian Health Commission. Phone 218 3445; 218 3446.

Royal Adelaide Show 1985

Following the success of The Institution of Fire Engineers fire prevention display at the 1984 Royal Adelaide Show, the I.F.E. Show Sub-Committee will again mount a display in 1985.

Located on the centre stage at Centennial Hall, Wayville, the 1984 display featured a SAS Channel 10 wooden fire truck prop near the entrance. Children could have their photograph taken with either SAS10's Fat Cat or C.F.S. symbol Smokey The Koala, before they entered the maze.



The maze consisted of graphic photos of fire causes and prevention advice, with a special section on "The Horrors of Fire" featuring burn victims. This area was clearly signposted "not recommended for children or persons of a nervous disposition."

An alternative exit to the steps from the stage was provided for the children and adults alike, a ride down a real fireman's pole for 20c a slide.

"Much of the success of the 1984 display is owed to the dedication of the C.F.S. volunteers who were represented on the stand at all times during the Show. We are looking forward to their assistance in the future and ask you to pass on our thanks for their efforts". J. J. CONNOLLY, Honorary Secretary, The Institution of Fire Engineers.

1984 COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

The annual Communications conference was held at C.F.S. Headquarters on Tuesday, 2nd October 1984.

Items discussed at the conference and resolutions passed are recorded below:

- Radio Operators Certificate (Item 7.2)

A standard operations policy has been prepared for communications. As a result a Communications Operators Certificate course will be developed from the 19 pages of statements and concepts drafted.

Carried — "That the C.F.S. Communications Officer be a member of the State Committee".

- Regional and State Communications Committee (Item 9).

A meeting would be convened in the near future at which a chairman is to be elected, once all Regional Committees had been formed.

Carried—"That Mr. Conlon (C.F.S. Communications Officer) act as the convenor for the State Committee at which regional nominees would attend."

Carried—"That the Chairman of the State Committee automatically take the chair at the Annual Communications Conference."

Carried—"That the requirements of the 1983 minutes, directing each Regional committee to nominate two people to the State Committee, be carried out."

- Frequency Allocations (Item 10)

A revision of the licencing policy had been undertaken by The Department of Communications, and that the situation was now as follows:

(1) The 20 frequencies currently allocated to C.F.S. have been grouped as a batch of frequencies which are available for fire fighting in S.A. and are licensed to the C.F.S. with the district councils being nominees. The 21st frequency, i.e. Channel 1, belonging to H/Q is not included in this group, and along with the UHF frequencies allocated to C.F.S. are licenced through H/Qs.

(2) Equipment is still required to be licenced, but at a no fee rate.

(3) UHF CB radios are now a free licence for those sets endorsed by C.F.S. Headquarters as being solely for use in fire fighting.

(4) Licence applications for the VHF 20 channel sets can be made by a brigade, or the relevant district council, or through the C.F.S. Communications Officer.

REPORTS FROM OTHER STATE BODIES REPRESENTED

Telecom:

- Has provided out of area exchange services.
- Has overcome congestion problem experienced on Ash Wednesday II.
- Launching mobile telephone in Adelaide in the near future. Some units will be placed with emergency services.

Dept. of Communications:

General increase in co-ordination between regions and districts.

National Parks & Wildlife Service:

- New emergency frequency has been installed in all fire appliances.
- HF frequency 7956 has been allocated to NP & WS. 60% of mobiles have had HF frequency fitted.
- HF frequency 2580 which was requested by the northern area has not been allocated, but the project recently completed in the Flinders area should alleviate any problems being experienced.
- Extension of UHF project nearing completion.
- Multi frequency simulcast system project designed to provide the Flinders Ranges National Park with reliable communications has now been completed.

COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE cont.

Wicen:

- Developing UHF/VHF repeater system.
- Developed TV broadcasting system with improved antennae suitable for installation on helicopters.
- Hills Emergency Communications Committee to study communications in the 7 Hills districts. A Wicen member is serving on each of the 7 district committees involved.

St. John:

- Developing regional communications centre at Berri.
- Assistance sought from C.F.S., re liaison with St. John in potential fire danger situations.

Woods and Forests:

Development of the telephone communications system within the Mt. Gambier exchange at fixed headquarters level.

Police Department:

- Upgrading communications system in consultation with C.F.S. Communications Officer.
- Changing from low band VHF to high band VHF which will allow communication between the Police and C.F.S.

Training (Item 16)

A 19 page document of training notes at brigade level involving statements and concepts is currently being studied by the Regional Committee and would form the basis of working notes, when it has been approved.

Regional Committees would take up the challenge of providing communications training, when working notes could be supplied.

Mapping Standard (Item 17)

Resolved—"That the index of the map system as outlined for each region be accepted at state level and that funds be made available to continue the project of producing map standards."

Equipment Records (Item 19)

Regional Committees would undertake a statewide census of radio equipment to ascertain when replacements would be needed. Need for brigades to record problems experienced with radio equipment in the station log book(s).

Turn Out Calls (Item 22—any other business)

As the C.F.S. H/Q Operations Room is now initiating turn out calls for many brigades close to Adelaide, brigades are requested to notify the Operations Room if they respond to a call from another source, so that H/Q Operations Room is not wasting valuable time in trying to contact a brigade that has already turned out.

NOTE: ALL STIRLING DISTRICT BRIGADES ARE NOW USING C.F.S. H/Q CALL OUT NUMBER 297 9111

C.F.S. Communication is advancing rapidly and involvement by Regional Committees and Districts will be necessary, to enable consolidation of methods and concepts currently being considered.

Acknowledgement is given to those involved in communication development over the past 12 months. Improvements in fire fighting communications were significant . . . R.O. Trevor Conlon, Communications.

Communications

by R.O. Trevor Conlon, Communications

CLOSING DOWN FOR WINTER?

Recent rains have reduced the bushfire hazard in much of the State, and now is the time for brigades to place equipment in store for the winter. Or is it? If plans have already been made for this it is strongly suggested that they be scrapped.

The "off period" should be as equally important as the fire danger season, if not because structure fires and other emergencies are likely to occur, then certainly because there are only a few months to the next fire danger season.

The following activities should be commenced as soon as possible to improve skills and state of readiness.

1. Discuss operational and equipment problems experienced during the season and act to solve them.
2. Relate problems to your Regional Committees for consideration and exchange of information.
3. Plan training sessions.
4. Seek advice on new procedures and equipment.
5. Establish and/or foster inter relations with neighbouring brigades.

As a starting point for discussion try your knowledge on the following.

1. What is an F.A.C.U., and what are the advantages of a Mark 3 over a Mark 1?
2. What frequency does your brigade normally use and what is its standard channel number?
3. Do you know about the paging systems currently being installed in various brigades, and why?
4. What is MQB, and what is a sub-audible encoder? How will these things affect C.F.S.?
5. How does selective calling work and does it have an application within C.F.S. networks?
6. How will the introduction of UHF affect fire fighting operations in your brigade area?
7. What is "group turn out" and how do fire fighting task forces operate?

If you have trouble with any of these questions you have a "few months" to find out the answers.

Revised communications training notes are now available and will be posted to districts shortly. They will provide excellent winter reading, and answers to some of the above questions.

Closing down for winter? — not likely.

AGAINST ALL ODDS

by Jeff Lomas, Promotions Officer
Woods and Forests Department

Sometimes getting to a fire can be as hard, or demanding of more effort, than bringing it under control and putting it out.

Praise goes to the efforts of a group of Wirrabara volunteers who, on 14 January, tackled a lightning caused fire high in the rugged Bluff Range adjacent to Wirrabara Forest.

It was far from a textbook approach for the assault party numbering 17 strong who were willing to tackle three hours of bush bashing to get to the source of the fire deep in inaccessible native forest.

With no alternative but to walk into the fire C.F.S. volunteers, locals and Woods and Forests fire crews could only take hand tools and as much water as they could carry on their backs. The combined attack quickly brought the fire under control which was described as being "two tennis courts" in area.

Creating even more difficult conditions the total exercise was carried out at night—incredibly difficult conditions which make the efforts of the fire fighters even more commendable. The prompt action not to wait for the fire but to go in and attack it prevented what could have been a major conflagration.

The spirit of initiative which in 1916 at Wirrabara gave rise to the birth of organised voluntary firefighting in South Australia lives on in the northern rangelands.

Competition Fever

C.F.S. FIRE FIGHTING DRILLS ARE ON AGAIN!

Now the hot weather has abated some brigades have intensified their training for the coming Fire Fighting Drill competitions—their goal to attain the honor of competing in the 1985 State Championships.

For those of you who have entered in events this year "good luck and may the best teams win."

For those brigades who are still considering attending, you still have time to nominate.

Competitions are designed to sharpen brigades' fire fighting skills, as a *team* and affords one the opportunity to meet other C.F.S. personnel from the region.

The competitions are for you, so come along as a competitor or as a supporter and join in . . . *Editor*.

1985 PROGRAMME

The following dates have been confirmed for the Regional competitions:

June 30	Region 5	Naracoorte
July 7	Region 1	McLaren Flat
July 21	Region 2 & 3 (combined)	Mannum
August 4	Region 4	Yongalla
August 18	Region 7	Monash
September 1	Region 6	Cleve
September 22	FINALS	Blackwood Hill Oval

The competitions are to be run in 1985 using the traditional format and traditional events, with the exception of the "One Man Hose Drill".

The Regional Competition Committee has *RESOLVED*: "That the One Man Hose Drill be run in accordance with Rule G1/4/83 of the S.A. C.F.S. Fire Fighting Drill Competitions Rules and Conditions and that rules numbered G2/4/83 and G2/5/83 be deleted."

For further information contact your C.F.S. Regional Officer.

S.A. vs. N.Z. FIRE DRILLS

by Ray Collins, Team Captain

An invitation for an Australian Fire Brigade team to attend the Biannual New Zealand United Fire Brigades Championships resulted in a team from South Australia attending and competing in the inaugural International Lion Red Trophy event. The international event is proposed to be an annual event between teams from all over the world and is expected to be developed into a world championship event providing co-operation from all parties is received.

The current 5 man South Australian "A" Grade Hose and Pump Drill team from Blackwood attended and were successful in coming equal first against three invitation teams from New Zealand. The N.Z. teams were the three top teams from the previous N.Z. championships (a team invited from Japan could not attend).

The team comprising of David Childs, John deRoos, Malcolm Merritt, Mike Pearce and I (team captain) flew to Auckland on 27th January to be met by representatives from the Auckland Fire Services, the Auckland Herald, reporters and photographers, and interviewers from two local radio stations.

The weather was about 23°C but VERY humid (about 92%).

Programme:

February 28th, Thursday—Raining—Went to Epsom Showgrounds to see N.Z. teams run in their competitions. Running drills 1-2-3 today. Run all drills wet, wearing bunker coats, helmets, waterproof trousers and football boots. Eighty-six teams ran through 3 drills in each of the 3 days' competitions—a total of 774 drills in 3 days. The organisation was very good.

Each N.Z. team consists of 4 people. These 4 people compete in each of the 9 drills and the lowest aggregate score is the N.Z. champion.

Training for the February/March competitions starts in October with teams training up to 4 nights a week until the beginning of February when the serious teams move up to training 6 nights a week. Phew!!

The S.A. team ran the N.Z. No. 1 drill called "the mad mile". N.Z. teams complete in 43 seconds. S.A. team's first try was 74 seconds and uncountable penalties. Lots of N.Z. encouragement to "bowl the ... thing out underarm" didn't help much! Every time a competitor is slow with *couplings, approximately 1,000 spectators shout "get it in". A bit disconcerting for the unknowing. N.Z. competition runs were very spectacular and quick. Still raining.

*All N.Z. hose is fitted with instantaneous couplings which push clip together.

Met an elderly man who had been in the N.Z. fire service for 47 years. He told us that the last Aussie competed in N.Z. 99 years ago. A team from Ballarat (he thought) and they ran second. Surely the two fire services could organise visits on a more regular basis than every 99 years! Suggested a video be taken of drills including our effort tomorrow, which the New Zealand team offered to do.

Some random notes:

All firemen wear rubber boots with steel protection in toe cap and sole, bunker coats (black or silver), helmets same as ours but black, also wear black nomex trousers. How do they find each other on a dark night? No wonder they call themselves the "All Blacks".

One of the national sports is beer can stacking. We saw stacks up to 32 high in tiers of 3. Each successful top tier is worth 6 dozen cans—payment to the team owning the completed top tier is made by the team who collapse the tower trying to complete the next tier. Rules state that firm supports other than team members cannot be used during stacking. Noted that cans stacked 32 high is about 11 feet off the ground. Crazy.

The hospitality is terrific—cannot get away to get back to motel.

March 1st, Friday—Still raining—Team picked up by N.Z. permanent firey (Mike Culpin—great guy) and shown over Auckland. About as big as Adelaide but with no apparent logical town planning and LOTS of traffic.

Back to Showground for second day of N.Z. competitions. Three more drills, some 86 teams. S.A. team ran in 4 Squad Drill but didn't draw for positions as N.Z. teams have to (cheating again). Again ran 74 seconds with uncountable penalties so as least we are consistent. Team also had first run of drill which is part of international challenge—ran 54 seconds—not bad for first attempt.

After the competitions finished for the day, took aside the N.Z. teams which will be competing against us on Sunday for the Lion Red Trophy and introduced them to our screwed couplings. Much mirth regarding antiquity of equipment until they realised that we were serious in our intent to ask them to use these hoses in the International run off. Rules were 1 team from S.A. and 3 teams from N.Z. would each do 4 runs. Two ex N.Z. and 2 ex S.A. runs (drills) selected were N.Z. 4 & 9 and S.A. Standard Hose Drill and 4 man Wet Ladder Drill. Showed N.Z. team how to do standard hose drill and took them step by step through the entire drill. Then back for some more can stacking. Still raining. Hospitality overwhelming. Cannot get any time to ourselves—out again tonight visiting fire stations. Showed fireys at Manakau Fire Station the Ash Wednesday II video courtesy of Mr. Lloyd Johns. They could not believe that anyone could have such fires or that they could be fought and that anyone survived. Difficult to get away from fire station due to more hospitality.

March 2nd, Saturday—Sun shining—Today is final day for N.Z. championships. Weather is 20°C—humidity 92%. Very sticky. Another 3 drills for 86 teams but S.A. does not get a run today due to a free bus tour of Auckland and Harbour areas, we alighted too late. N.Z. competitions finished and teams either celebrating or commiserating.

Saturday night—Big Ball at convention centre. Temperature 20°C outside—about 35°C inside. Humidity about 90%. About 1,500 people in area which holds 800 comfortably. Presentations over, we force down a few cans to be sociable. Great night. Swapped all tie pins, clips, epaulettes, ties, etc. N.Z. people great on collecting anything re fire service.

An international challenge was on tomorrow. Strict curfew for team to be in bed by 10 p.m. Left show about 11.45 p.m. and in bed by 0100 hours, but O.K. because daylight saving finished adding one hour onto sleep time. Sums don't quite add up but near enough.

THE BIG DAY. March 3rd Sunday. Church parade in morning. S.A. team and about 400 N.Z. firemen in full dress uniform standing in sun for about 1½ hours. Temp. about 28°C. Humidity about 85%. Sun shining. Would you believe, got sunburnt. What a crazy country.

Judges meeting decided that allocation of penalties was difficult to administer and therefore no penalties would be taken into consideration and scores would be allocated on a points basis of 1st = 4 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 2 points, 4th = 1 point.

1st drill was S.A. Standard Hose drill. S.A. time was 57.7 seconds—not good—but N.Z. team times were all about 72 seconds as was to be expected. 4 points to us. Then went into N.Z. #9 drill. S.A. ran last, a predictable result—I more point. Next competition run was N.Z. #4 drill. Surprise—S.A. team ran second—a most unexpected result and 3 more points. Next . . . 4 Man Wet Ladder Drill. All N.Z. teams took more than one flake at a time out of the box and consequently had very good times. However, the S.A. team won this drill (by taking still more flakes!) and amassed a total of 12 points for the competition, tying with N.Z. team Akaroa also on 12 points.

The Lion Red Trophy is to be shared between S.A.'s Blackwood and N.Z.'s Akaroa drill teams. Blackwood C.F.S. will proudly display the Lion Red Trophy for the first 6 months. The trophy will then be returned to N.Z. approximately 1st September to be displayed at Akaroa for remaining 6 months and then competed for again in 1986. It is to be hoped that a team or teams from S.A. will defend equal first place in 1986.

The team from S.A. was made particularly welcome by all members of the N.Z. Fire Service, both permanent and part-time firemen, and the experience of meeting with, and exchanging views, with these very experienced crews was indeed extremely worthwhile and enjoyable.

In summary, the N.Z. Competitions are fiercely competitive, extremely well conducted, and demonstrate daily fire fighting practices used.

The personnel in N.Z. are extremely proud of their fire service and perform accordingly.

Their fire service is a close knit group of permanent officers and volunteers and generally appears to work well.

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S.A. vs N.Z. FIRE DRILLS cont...

The friendliness of the New Zealanders towards visiting fire fighters is most sincere. Their interest in other fire services equipment and techniques compared with their own fire services is intense.

The experience and learning process during our 6 day visit was extremely worthwhile and I can recommend to any other teams that the opportunity of a similar trip is well worth working hard to achieve.

The South Australian team would like to publicly sincerely thank the following sponsors:

- N.Z. Lion Brewery
- N.Z. Hertz Rent-A-Car
- N.Z. Associates Fire Brigade Association
- S.A. Great Committee
- Lloyd Aviation
- S.A. Country Fire Services
- T.A.A.
- Qantas



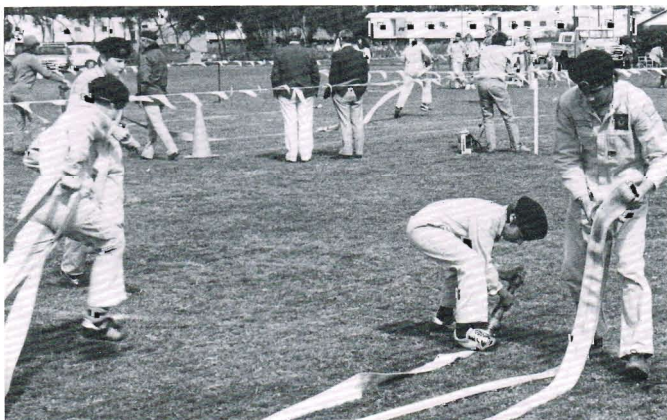
Our champion Country Fire Services team was pictured by The Sunday Mail before they flew out to New Zealand to compete in fire drills against N.Z.'s best.

Pictured from left the Blackwood A Grade Team: Senior Fireman Dave Childs; Group Captain Ray Collins (Mitcham Hills C.F.S.)—team captain; Station Captain Malcolm Merritt and Senior Fireman John de Roos. Other team member Mike Pearce is absent from photo.

The Blackwood team trained for the N.Z. drill all summer when they were not occupied fighting fires and conducting routine training.

The team spent an estimated 525 hours on competition drill last year in addition to normal training, the result—they won the Government Cup and Pennant at the State Championships 1984.

"It's not just for fun", explained Ray Collins. "Drills group people into a team and you get to see how individuals react under stress." "In fire fighting you have to work as a team and get used to handling equipment under stress."



Mitcham Hills C.F.S. 'C' Grade team show the team effort required to win regional firefighting drill events.

LEARN FIRE SAFETY



SMOKEY THE KOALA

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and Survival
Begins with You!**

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Contact your:
Country Fire Services
Regional Headquarters, or
your local District Council
or C.F.S. Headquarters
Telephone (08) 297 6788

THANKS COUNTRY NEWSPAPERS

Our readers no doubt would have seen the message from Smokey The Koala (refer above) that appeared in all S.A. country newspapers during the 1984/85 fire season.

Thanks to the many country newspapers the advertisement appeared regularly as a newspaper filler when space permitted. The top section was also used separately as a filler in other parts of the paper.—Editor.



Wandilo C.F.S. New Fire Truck

Brookway Park—Fire Training Centre

Brookway Park at Hill Street, Windsor Gardens was recently dedicated by the State Government as an emergency fire training centre.

Traditionally the training ground for S.A.M.F.S. recruits, Brookway Park for the first time echoed to the sound of drill commands to C.F.S. brigade members on Friday, 19th April, 1985. Brookway Park was holding its inaugural C.F.S. Training School, a Stage 3 school for twenty-seven C.F.S. members.

C.F.S. Instructors R.O. Peter Ferris and R.O. David Batten put their men through their paces, teaching knots and lines (revision), rescue hose drill/ladder testing, C.F. Act/Regulations (revision), grass fires (revision), building fires tactics and ventilation (revision), hydraulics (revision) and water supplies, salvage, spread of fire in buildings, flammable liquids, L.P.G. and foam, and radio procedure (revision), followed by a written assessment.

To further the common bond of co-operation and friendship between the services, senior officers from both fire services visited the first C.F.S. training school and addressed the attendees.

Present were S.A.M.F.S. Deputy Chief David Grubb, C.F.S. Board Member Peter Swann and Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services Tony Crichton.

The facility will now be used jointly by S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service and S.A. Country Fire Services.

The next C.F.S. course is to be conducted on 3rd to 5th May, with a total of 10 more courses this year.



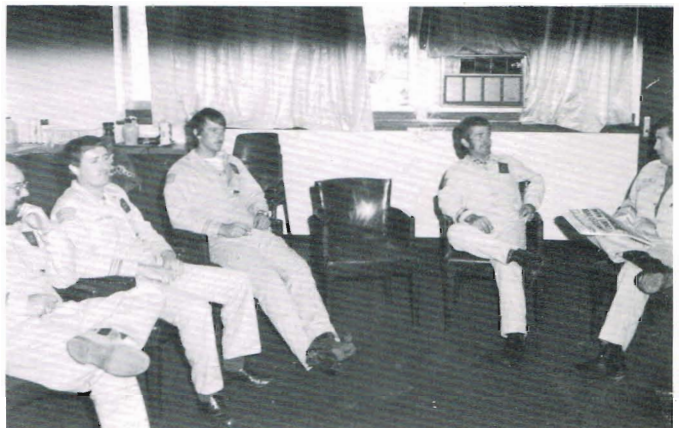
R.O. David Batten instructs students in L.P.G. fire attack—part of the practical session on “flammable liquids and L.P.G.”



Following instructions on casualty handling and use of stretcher a “patient” is carefully hauled up a cliff face using a 2-point suspension method.



Trainees undergo cliff rescue techniques at the Anstey's Hill Quarry.



After a full day's theory and practical training C.F.S. members relax in one of the common room facilities located across the wing from the dormitory. Brookway Park is also equipped with a physical fitness area containing weights, cycles, medicine balls etc., lecture rooms, swimming pool and mess room with a full-time chef. The basketball court doubles as a drill yard, while other practical exercises are held at Anstey's Hill Quarry, 10 km from the Park.



Equipment carried on a S.A.M.F.S. support tender was demonstrated to attendees of the first Stage 3 school at Brookway Park, under the supervision of S.A.M.F.S. Deputy Chief, David Grubb.

