

VOLUNTEER

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**New funding
system means
better fire
protection**

**New Executive
officer appointed**

Improving communications

Pot Belly stoves - is yours safe?



VOLUNTEER

From the Director

This issue of the 'Volunteer' is the first of the new format and the second of the bi-monthly issues with which we hope to provide a closer link between all the various interest groups that make up the Country Fire Services.

I hope the new format will be well received by all readers. As I have indicated in earlier issues, the more items of interest that can be initiated, not only by CFS Headquarters staff but by all readers, increases the effectiveness of the magazine as a communication link within the CFS organisation. The mailing of the magazine direct to readers will ensure that the information is circulated to all interested parties in the shortest practical time.

The Regional Competitions have, as usual, created a lot of interest. The new 'Rural' Drill has been well received and the more competitive format of the other events has generated more spectator interest. I must compliment and thank all who give up their weekends to assist in the running of these events.

The Interim Bushfire Prevention Council continues to meet on a regular basis and I am pleased to say that its members have displayed a very positive attitude to the tasks before them. In considering the report of the Working Party on Bushfire Prevention and Electricity Distribution, the Interim Council has considered all the recommendations and made comments thereon. This documentation has gone to the Minister with firm recommendations on certain sensitive issues.

It is to be hoped that the bushfire prevention issues are addressed by legislation in the near future and that some positive steps can be taken to protect the community before the coming summer months.

A long outstanding issue is that of an adequate 'compensation' package for CFS

Volunteers. The Minister has now given an undertaking that improved compensation will be in place prior to the summer period. A working party is preparing a submission to Cabinet with the objective of having the Country Fires Act changed in October.

NEW FUNDING SYSTEM MEANS BETTER FIRE PROTECTION

South Australia is to be given a more equitable and better deal in fire protection under new arrangements for funding local fire fighting services.

The Director of Country Fire Services, Mr. Donald Macarthur, said that implementation of the system would overcome some of the criticisms made by the Public Accounts Committee in 1984.

The aim would be to provide all CFS Volunteer members with a reasonable standard of equipment with which to protect their community assets.

Under the old system, the 50/50 cost sharing arrangement between Local and State Government had led to inequities. According to the Public Accounts Committee, the revenue-raising ability of Councils should be taken into account in assessing subsidy needs.

Some Councils may need only a 10 per cent State Government subsidy to meet requirements, while others might need 80 per cent or more to bring resources up to an acceptable level.

'Above all, CFS appeared in the past to be distributing funds on call rather than on need,' Mr. Macarthur said. 'We are now looking for those areas in our State where equipment is deficient and distributing available funds accordingly.'



Mr A. D. MACARTHUR
Director, S.A. Country Fire Services.
Chairman, S.A. Country Fire Services Board.
Chairman, S.A. Bushfire Prevention Council.

Mr. Macarthur said a project looking at the standards of fire cover across the State was nearly completed and it demonstrated that immediate action had to be taken to correct inequities.

'Priorities will be set and the CFS will endeavour to raise equipment standards, such as through the replacement of ageing vehicles, across the State,' he said.

'I must stress that this is not a cost-cutting exercise and any Councils which interpret it this way will be ignoring the clear fact that better use can be made of available funding to protect the community from fire and other emergencies.'

A. D. Macarthur

A. D. MACARTHUR
Director, S.A. Country Fire Services
7 August 1986



Dr. Don HOPGOOD B.A., Ph.D., M.P., J.P.
Deputy Premier
Minister of Emergency Services

From the Minister

The annual budget of the Country Fire Services for the 1986/87 financial year has been increased by \$1.8m. Total CFS expenditure is now \$7.9m.

This represents an increase of 30% over last year's budget.

The CFS is funded jointly by the State Government and through a levy on house insurance policies in non-metropolitan areas.

'Notwithstanding the difficult economic climate, the State Government has again demonstrated its strong commitment to bushfire protection and prevention,' said Dr. Hopgood.

'The additional funding has been provided for:

- decentralizing operational staff
- training

- communications
- subsidies on equipment purchased by brigades and councils
- staffing required for the implementation of the Mt. Lofty Ranges Bushfire Prone Areas Supplementary Development Plan
- Bushfire Prevention Council.

'In the new financial year, the CFS will be closely involved in the implementation of the Mt. Lofty Ranges Bushfire Prone Areas S.D.P.,' said Dr. Hopgood.

'Special funding has been provided for this important purpose.'

'The recently instituted Bushfire Prevention Council will receive additional funding to further its work in developing fire risk management strategies for the State,' Dr. Hopgood said.

Statement issued July 2nd, 1986.

South Australian Country Fire Services Board members from left: Mr. Graham Foreman (Treasurer), Mr. Dennis Minton (Woods & Forests), Mrs. Meredith Crome (Local Government), Mr. Donald Macarthur (Chairman & C.F.S. Director) and Mr. Peter Swann (President, South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association).



From the Board

Matters considered at the July and August Board Meetings and not specifically covered elsewhere.

Amalgamation of Fire Services

Assurances have been received from the Minister's office that there are no immediate plans for the amalgamation of CFS and MFS.

Bushfire Prevention Council

The Bushfire Prevention Council has forwarded recommendations and comments to the Minister on matters raised by the Working Party to review Electricity Distribution Policies in Bushfire Prone and Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

1986/87 Publicity Campaign

The Board has approved a campaign developed by its consultants for fire prevention next summer. The approach, to be entitled 'Operation Firesafe', will be a departure from previous campaigns, featuring a distinctive logo. It will be officially launched in November.

Amendments to Country Fires Act and Regulations

Proposed amendments have been forwarded for Ministerial consideration. As soon as Government attitudes have been determined more active consultation will be undertaken with interested parties.

Fire Control at Brigade and Group Level

It is proposed to initiate meetings between Police, CFS Brigade and Group personnel and representatives of other organisations which may be called upon to support fire suppression operations, with a view to more accurately defining roles and functions.

Corporate Role Statement

The Minister has now formally approved the role statement for the CFS, which was developed in conjunction with the VFBA. This statement will be central to the

ROLE STATEMENT FOR CFS

Corporate Purpose

The CFS is established under the Country Fires Act to protect life and property by providing a service for the protection from, and the prevention and suppression of, fire and other emergencies.

Corporate Goals

To provide advice on policies and guidelines to achieve efficient, effective and equitable protection of life and community assets from fire and other emergencies.
To provide a fire management service for areas under CFS Board responsibility.
To provide specialist advisory services in fire management.
To investigate fire management issues and contribute advice to the Government to enhance the protection of the South Australian

Strategies

The main strategies adopted by the CFS are:
— Community education to increase participation in achieving fire management goals;
— Provide assistance to local government and areas outside of Local Government and volunteer fire brigades to meet local fire management needs;
— Functional integration of the Country Fires Act with other legislation and management;
— Recommend legislation which provides adequate protection of life and property

Organisation Structure

The Board considers that the span of responsibility of the present position of Assistant Chief Officer Operations is too great for efficient operations and has adopted a new structure in which that position is split into two — ACO Regions, which covers all field operations and ACO Operations, which provides the operational support. The new chart is set out on page 3 and will be introduced as soon as the positions are filled. Advertisements will also be placed shortly to fill the new position of Manager, Training and Development and for permanent appointments to a number of operational positions.

Standards of Fire Cover

A further report on Standards of Fire Cover was considered and will be reviewed at the end of August 1986.

planning process and become a public document in explaining the functions of the CFS.

- and recognises and involves local community interest in this process;
- Conduct studies to identify improved approaches to fire management;
- To develop, apply and make available the products of fire management data systems for land and resource management;
- Co-ordinate and advise on protection requirements and emergency needs at regional and state level;
- Review development control, building and land management policies with the aim of minimising bushfire damage;
- Promote co-ordinated action by individuals, government agencies, fire brigades and the community to minimise bushfire damage.



Mr. Alan Ferris.

Executive Officer appointed

Mr. Alan Ferris commenced duties on Monday 28 July, 1986 in the recently advertised position of Executive Officer for South Australian Country Fire Services.

As Executive Officer Mr. Ferris will be:

- i) Responsible to the Director for the ongoing development of policy and procedure documentation.
- ii) A member of the C.F.S. Executive Management Team.
- iii) Represent C.F.S. when requested at senior level with Government and other related agencies.

Mr. Ferris comes to the C.F.S. with a wide range of senior management skills and experience.

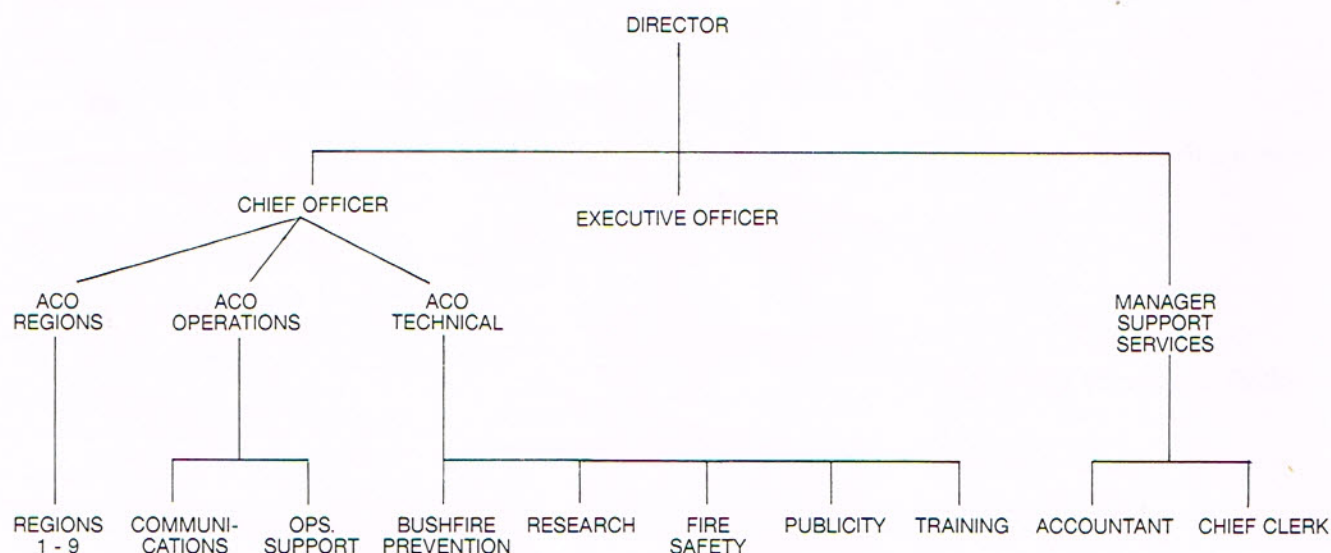
Following some 27 years in the Royal Australian Navy, he was involved with the T.A.F.E. system and then served 5 years as

Chief and then Director of the Northern Territory Fire Service.

Mr. Ferris is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Petroleum. As Director of the Northern Territory Fire Service Alan Ferris held the office of:

- Minister's Representative — National Council of Fire Service Ministers.
- Executive Council Member — Australian Assembly of Fire Authorities.
- Chairman — N.T. Branch and Member, National Executive Australian Fire Protection Association.
- Council Member — Bushfire Council (N.T.)
- N.T. Representative — National Conference on Arson.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES



Budget emphasises Volunteer needs

The State Government's budget emphasis on the needs of the volunteer will be reflected in a higher level of training, in bushfire protection and a campaign to raise community understanding of fire safety.

For some years frequent calls have been made by C.F.S. brigades for a well-structured training system and for our organisation to address the failure of people to respond to the lessons of Ash Wednesday and other disasters.

In past issues of 'The Volunteer' there have been articles on a revamped training structure and the funding of trainees' attendance at courses. In this issue there is an article detailing a new, flexible, funding system which will address marked inequalities between brigade resources.

Backgrounding this general thrust of raising standards has been an increase in overall training funds.

The latest budget represents a greater than threefold increase in funds for training.

This means more training schools, better training equipment, and expansion of such specialised training as the Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus operator course. The focus however, will be on brigade level training through the new three level system, and encouragement of volunteers, particularly new members, to participate.

Assisting volunteers will be a media campaign encouraging people to accept responsibility and clean up fire hazards. Bushfire prevention on a district and a regional basis will also be bolstered by the recent increase in funding.



STAFF CHANGES & APPOINTMENTS

Staff Officer: Mr Peter Ferris has been re-appointed to the temporary position of Staff Officer, Operations until 30 September 1986.

★ ★

Accounts Clerk: Mr. Terrence (Terry) Wright has been appointed to the position of Accounts Clerk as of Monday 16 June 1986. Terry has worked for the past four years with the Defence Research Centre Salisbury and has held several positions from Clerk Class 1 through to Acting Clerk Class 4. He has partly completed a Bachelor of Science degree and is currently studying towards completing the Business Certificate (Accounting) course.

★ ★

Assistant R.O.: Mr. Des Packer has moved to Stirling Regional Office (Region 1) as Assistant Regional Officer to R.O. Russell Grear. Mr. Trevor Modistach who temporarily held the A/R.O. position has resumed his duties as Communications Centre Operator at C.F.S. Headquarters Adelaide.

From the Secretary

3. Chimney Fires.

With the return to wood as a heating medium and the installation of a large number of combustion heaters, chimney fires are very prevalent this winter season. Many fires reported have been caused by poor installation of heater flues. The Association will investigate this problem with the view to having regulations improved or introduced pertaining to the installation and maintenance of wood burning heaters. In the meantime Brigade members would be well advised to check the installation and maintenance of their own wood heaters.

4. C.F.S. Philosophy.

A philosophy (refer page 6) has been prepared by Mr. Thomas Rymill of Renola and has been adopted by our Association for the encouragement of Brigades throughout the State.

5. Compensation for

Volunteers.

Following a meeting between the Minister, Dr. Don Hopgood and S.A.V.F.B.A. President, Mr. Peter Swann, the minister has given an undertaking that improved compensation will be in place prior to the summer period.

Graham Koch.

1. No Fire Service

Amalgamation.

Further to my last report there are several other matters which need to be drawn to your attention.

At our last meeting much concern was expressed at the rumours suggesting that an amalgamation of the C.F.S. and the M.F.S. was imminent. We have written to the Minister, Dr. Hopgood, and in reply he has advised that the Government is not preparing legislation for the amalgamation of the two fire services. In the event that the Government, at some time in the future, considers the matter of the integration of the fire and emergency services in this State all interested parties including our Association, will be fully consulted.

2. Certificate of

Appreciation.

Any Brigades, particularly urban, wishing to express their appreciation to employers who willingly allow their employees time off to attend Brigade call outs are advised that appropriate certificates for presentation to employers are available from C.F.S. Headquarters.

Owners of solid fuel heaters shouldn't overlook the importance of a clean flue and chimney.

Several local people have discovered, to their cost, that a blocked or inefficient chimney or flue can lead to a disastrous fire.

The flue or chimney removes smoke from the fire but if it gets blocked, the heater will not perform efficiently and economically. If a flue or chimney catches alight, there's a good chance of sparks getting into the roof which is very dry and highly flammable.

Chris Savers, Naracoorte's chimney and flue cleaning specialist, is also an experienced fireman and knows only too well, from attending household fires, how much damage can result.

He recommends a flue should be cleaned twice a year and a chimney once. A thorough, professional cleaning costs \$30. Mr. Savers says anyone who has the misfortune to have a fire in the chimney should immediately call the C.F.S.

Extinguish the fire in the grate by splashing on water — this will generate steam which will help to cool the flue.

Close the flue (if fitted with a device) or thoroughly wet a hessian bag and jam it into base of chimney to stop draught until the fire can be tackled (remember to keep bag wet).

A chimney fire may be extinguished by applying water from the top, using a garden

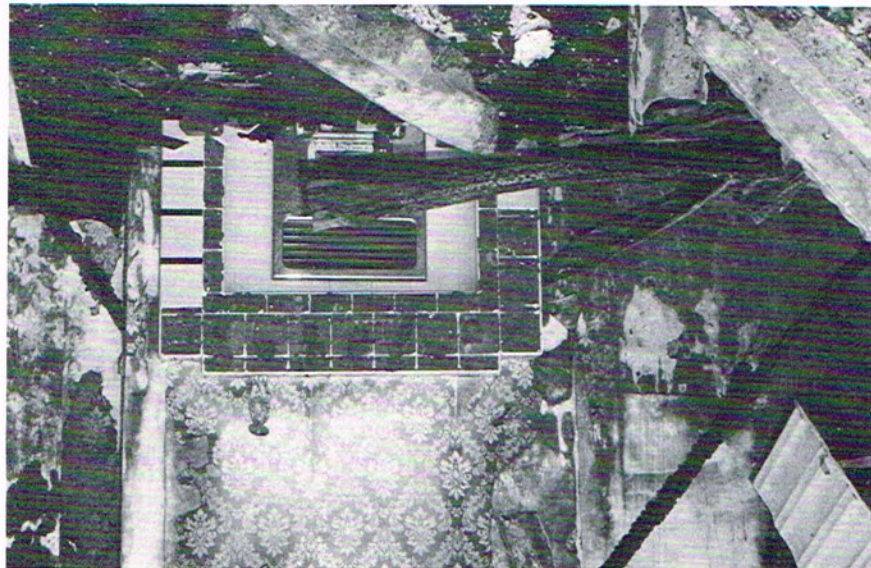
Clean chimney is fire safe

successful. By taking care in this manner, little mess will be caused. Treat all chimney fires seriously. They should be extinguished, not permitted to burn out. The space between the ceiling and roof should be inspected afterwards to ensure that roofing timbers have not been ignited. Article reproduced with the kind permission of the Naracoorte Herald.

Photograph courtesy S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service.



Pictured above, a C.F.S. Volunteer trainee 'donning up' in preparation for the C.A.B.A. Training exercise held at Brookway Park. The exercise was held over three days beginning on the 4th of July.



The Philosophy of the Country Fire Service

The Country Fire Service is an amalgam of community based fire brigades, grouped together for mutual benefit, and supported by a central headquarters.

The CFS is an amalgam of community based Fire Brigades

Local Government bodies, since their inception, have been charged with the obligation of preventing and suppressing fire. The Emergency Fire Service assisted Local Government with the performance of this obligation, and drew the previously fragmented brigades into a common organisation. The CFS is a formalised restructure of the EFS. Brigades are still raised by a local community, to fill a local need. They are principally operated, funded and controlled by that community. Their duty is to serve their community.

Grouped together for mutual benefit

The main benefits of joining forces are economy of effort, time, and money. Standardisation of critical equipment allows widespread use of equipment, and lower costs. Brigades can then assist one another when the forces of one brigade are overwhelmed by the task at hand. Joining forces allows the brigades better planning for prevention and suppression of fire, and greater efficiency in the application of fire fighting forces. Hence, grouping together provides benefits for the brigades, and the community that they serve.

And supported by a central Headquarters

The brigades in themselves are small units. A central body, drawing strength from all brigades, can undertake tasks beyond the

reach or capability of a single brigade. The proper role of this central body is to co-ordinate and assist the autonomous brigade to go about their various tasks. Such assistance can be in the areas of training; research; technical advice; information; and publicity. The assistance should be presented in a way that is easily accessible to the fire fighters.

For the system to work, it must always be based upon the concept that the fire fighter serves his community, and that the central body serves the fire fighters: The fire fighter does not serve the Headquarters.

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

This summary of the philosophy of the CFS is written with brevity, and should be read in conjunction with some practical knowledge of the CFS. For instance, fire fighters now attend at emergencies other than fires, and the word 'fire fighter' must be interpreted broadly. Also, standardisation of equipment requires flexibility in its operation, as each brigade is unique in its needs and resources.

This philosophy affirms the beliefs of the South Australian Volunteer fire service. It is, in many ways, a response to the pressures placed upon the Service during the 1980-1985 period. It became obvious that it is all too easy for politicians, and for salaried Headquarters staff, to forget the true nature of the CFS. It must be remembered that it is a volunteer organisation. If a rigid command structure is imposed by any central authority, it denies respect to, and trust in the volunteers. If it usurps the role of the local community, then it will degenerate into a self serving bureaucracy. Co-ordination does not equate with control.

Written by Tom Rymill, Lower South East Fire Fighting Association.

'Information is not getting out to Volunteers'

When the first issue of the journal 'The Volunteer' was introduced in March 1979 it was designated as a CFS Newsletter for issue to all registered CFS Volunteer fire fighters as a means of improving the channels of communication and conveying information between Brigades, Regional Officers, Councils, and the CFS Board.

Now seven years later the 'Volunteer' has expanded in content, but still retains the same purpose — 'Communication with Brigades etc'. The bi-monthly publication advises on Government and CFS Board policies, SAVFBA reports, covers Regional News, training and product and technical information and it is still printed for each and every registered CFS volunteer member. So why are some brigade members reporting that they are not getting this information — that they are not receiving their entitled free copy of the bi-monthly publication 'Volunteer'?

Are some brigades not receiving enough copies of the 'Volunteer' to be able to supply one to each of their registered members, as recorded on the membership records? or is the brigade's allocation simply left at the Fire Station for anyone to pick up, or what's worse left until the next annual general meeting before being distributed to members?

An ideal arrangement would be to issue each registered brigade member with a copy

immediately the brigade allocation arrives. It is recognised that distance alone may prevent early distribution of the 'Volunteer' by hand.

In such cases arrangements can then be made through CFS Adelaide to post direct to registered CFS Volunteer brigade members their free issue on a bi-monthly basis.

As a means of ensuring that the information in future does get out to the Volunteers, CFS Brigade Captains and Secretaries can now use one of the following procedures to distribute the 'Volunteer':

- (1) Retain the current procedure of CFS Adelaide (Headquarters) mailing your brigade allocations direct to your brigade address.
- (2) Mail the 'Volunteer' direct to each of your registered volunteers (as recorded in the brigade membership records).

Should you wish to retain the current procedures (1), then, is your allocation sufficient to supply each registered CFS Brigade member with a copy, or do you require more or less copies sent?

Would all Brigade Captains and Secretaries please set out their requirements in writing to: The Publicity Officer, SA Country

Fire Services Headquarters
PO Box 312, Goodwood, SA 5034

CFS Volunteers train in special vehicle

Lower Murray CFS volunteers like other brigades throughout the state, now qualified in breathing apparatus operation have been receiving practical training in a specially fitted out Mobile BA Training Unit.

The vehicle, below, a former freezer van, contains crawl passages and obstacles and is fitted with a heat and smoke machine to simulate as near as possible conditions under which firemen must sometimes operate when rescuing people from burning buildings.

Firemen working at least two at a time with temperatures up to 40°C are required to negotiate the crawl passages in complete darkness, and 'rescue' volunteer 'victims'. The training starts with a 20 minute revision session, instruction on compressor operation (to re-charge air cylinders), followed by the simulated rescue.

The van and prime mover has been used by CFS and SAMFS fire fighters in various parts of the state for the past 12 months. The vehicle was made available by the national road transport company Thomas Nationwide Transport (TNT).

Training Standards and appropriate levels of fitness for CFS volunteers are now established and recognised by Brigades.

Any CABA wearer will now be certified as medically fit to endure the arduous effects of operating in harsh environmental conditions associated with sustaining long duration of extreme physical effort.

The requirement for fitness and medical on a regular basis is commendable both to the credit of CFS volunteers and the Board for its introduction. Many permanent fire fighters in Australia do not enjoy such facilities.

The provision of a mobile training facility is yet another advancement in the CFS organisation ensuring higher levels of safety and performance.



CFS Volunteers Neil Burbridge (left) of Ettrick CFS and Lawrie Golder of Jervois CFS feel their way through the crawl-way in the specially fitted out pantechnicon van, during smoke rescue training.

The session was conducted by the Murray Bridge District CFS.

Photograph reproduced courtesy 'The Murray Valley Standard'.

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 1

Victor Harbor Training Day

Conducted under the direction of Russell Gray, 20 members were involved in fuel fire, motor vehicle and scrub fire techniques, as well as hazardous substances training and Hazchem. All course participants were eager to involve themselves in the day's activities and are now looking forward to more formal courses.

First Level 3 School

Region One personnel were the first in the State to complete the new Level 3 syllabus at Brookway Park on the weekend of May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. All participants were successful in the examination at the conclusion of the Training School. Special thanks go to Volunteer Instructors Des Packer and Wayne Atkins of the Athelstone CFS.

Callington's New Vehicle

Following the official handover of the vehicle keys, Callington CFS are now the proud owners of a Hino Type appliance.

Second Level 3 School

Thirty-one of Region One's fire fighters have completed the Region's second Level 3 School at Brookway Park on June 27th, 28th and 29th. The Regional Officer and his assistant R.O.s were capably aided at the course by Wayne Atkins and John Tanton as volunteer instructors from Athelstone CFS and judging by the reaction of the course participants, Wayne and John were readily accepted by the School and their input was greatly appreciated.

Assistant Regional Officers

As of June 23rd, Des Packer has moved to Stirling Regional Office as Assistant Regional Officer. Trevor Modisatch who held the temporary position for the previous 6 months has returned to the State Communications Centre to resume his duties as Communications Centre Operator.

CABA Course

The months of May, June and July have seen four CABA Schools completed, one at Mount Lofty Training Centre, one at Strathalbyn and one at Belair. Four more BA courses are programmed between July and November with all positions being filled months ahead of schedule.

RO Russell Gray
A/RO Des Packer



Region 2

A new fire appliance was commissioned at Mallee fire station on Friday night, June 13th 1986. The new appliance, built by Carey Gully Engineering, will be a second fire appliance for Mallee, working in conjunction with the existing Ford rural type truck. Features include a 1½ AGE high pressure diesel pump, 2 x 50 m hose reels and two hand lines, working from a 1050 litre water tank, triple extension ladder, and extensive cupboard space for equipment. The cab chassis is a Ford Trader 0811, 6 cylinder diesel.

The appliance was officially commissioned by Mr Leon Broster, Chairman of the District Council of Mallee, the keys being received by Mr Graham Pont, Captain of the Mallee CFS.

Approximately fifty people were in attendance, including Mr Neil Ellis, Regional Officer (Region 2) and Mrs Ellis, Mr Leon Broster, Mallee Council Chairman and Mrs Broster, Mr Brian Wilson, CFS Group Captain, Messrs David Roney and John Lush, Councilors from District Council Mallee. Following the commissioning, training certificates were presented to Messrs Graham Pont and Kym Roberts of the Mallee Brigade. Graham Pont received the CFS instructors certificate and the CABA operators certificate. Kym Roberts received the module 1 & 2 training certificate and the CABA Course attendance certificate.

Callington CFS Brigade membership with the new vehicle.



Region 3

Competition

A successful competition was conducted on the Yorktown Oval on the 15th June, 1986. As this was the first regional competition, some minor problems did occur with new drills and equipment, however the difficulties were overcome with little disruption. Thanks must go to all members of the host brigade for organising the function and their willingness to assist in setting up of the equipment. Special thanks go to all who helped in making up and packing of gear at the completion of the programme. Successful competitors, of course, are to be congratulated, however all competitors must be complimented for their attendance and participation, thereby making the Region 3 Competition the success that it was.

New Assistant

Mrs Lesley Peacock commenced duties as a part-time receptionist/clerical assistant on June 3rd. Lesley will be known to a number of volunteers who, prior to taking leave to give birth to baby Alexandra, now 10 months, was receptionist/typist at Headquarters for a number of years. Lesley is an asset to the Regional Office with her easy going manner, willingness to help and of course knowledge and understanding of CFS procedures and requirements.

Training School

A Level 1 Training Course has been conducted at the Karatta Outdoor Education Centre on Kangaroo Island and attracted 38 students. This was the first opportunity for a number of Volunteer Instructors to test their newly acquired skills. As expected there was a little trepidation in the early stages, however it was generally agreed that all new instructors acquitted themselves very well.

A/R.O. Winsion Bryant

Region 4

Training Program

Regional Training is well underway with a Regional Level 1 School held May 23rd to 25th at Bowmans Park. Quorn and Yongala Brigades have both completed Level 1 courses at Brigade level. A Regional Level 2 was held August 8th to 10th at Bowmans Park and a Level 3 is programmed for October 3rd to 5th. Anyone who did not complete the 4 stages previously held, is invited to attend. Course nomination forms are available from the Regional office. Each Brigade in the region will be issued with a copy of the 3 training books (Level 1-3) for Brigade use. I am delivering these personally, along with the new 'CFS Officer's Handbook' to each Brigade. Although quite a few have been distributed, if your Brigade hasn't yet received their copy then they shouldn't be far away.



Communications

During this month field tests were carried out to try the range of the new Mt Brian VHF Repeater. After some initial problems the tests proved to be very successful. Transmissions were received at Yunta, Morgan Vale Homestead (Dangalli Conservation Park), Wilmington and even one on a hand held radio from Cadell Training Centre. This facility should prove to be invaluable for any incidents within that large area.



Practical Exercise

On Sunday the 20th of July, a one day training exercise was held at Georgetown. Brigades from Jamestown, Laura, Gladstone, Georgetown, Narridy, Huddleston and Yacka were involved in a 'Round Robin' exercise of structure fires, LPG, Flammable Liquids, Hydraulics and Hydrants, Hoses and Branches. The exercises went very well and I thank those who assisted in arranging the day.



Annual Leave

I wish to advise that I will be on annual leave from the 25th August for 5 weeks.

R.O. Tony Seeker

Obituary

Mr. James Philip Lamont
Spalding CFS

Mr. Jim Lamont died suddenly, aged 43, on July 17th at Spalding. He and his family have lived at Spalding for the past three years and was deeply committed to the local CFS Brigade. He was elected Secretary of the Spalding CFS earlier this year and held the office of Secretary of the Region 4 Communications Committee. Jim will be sadly missed by his wife Pat and 4 children. The CFS both locally and at Regional level offer their sincere condolences.

New Brigade Units, Fire Stations, Presentations, Training Skills/Programs

ARTHURTON CFS — Purchased a fire unit from Stirling North CFS for use as their new town unit, following a spectacular truck fire in the main street where the town hydrants and council water truck proved inadequate.

BASKET RANGE CFS — Obtained two sets of breathing apparatus through the generosity of the Ladies Auxiliary and East Torrens Lions Club. Valued at \$3104 the equipment includes two spare cylinders. Funds were also obtained from the East Torrens Fire Fighting Group and CFS Headquarters. Profits totalling \$1300 from the annual dinner will go towards a fire trailer for the district, foam equipment for use in road accidents and safety items. Service chevrons have been awarded to Messrs M. Patterson (6 years), Peter Knott and Don Cranwell (each 4 years).

BRUKUNGA CFS — Commissioned a new \$67,000 fire truck believed to be the most advanced of any unit in the Mt. Barker district, and built with volunteer support for less than the budgeted cost. Members have undergone training in the use of the modern equipment.

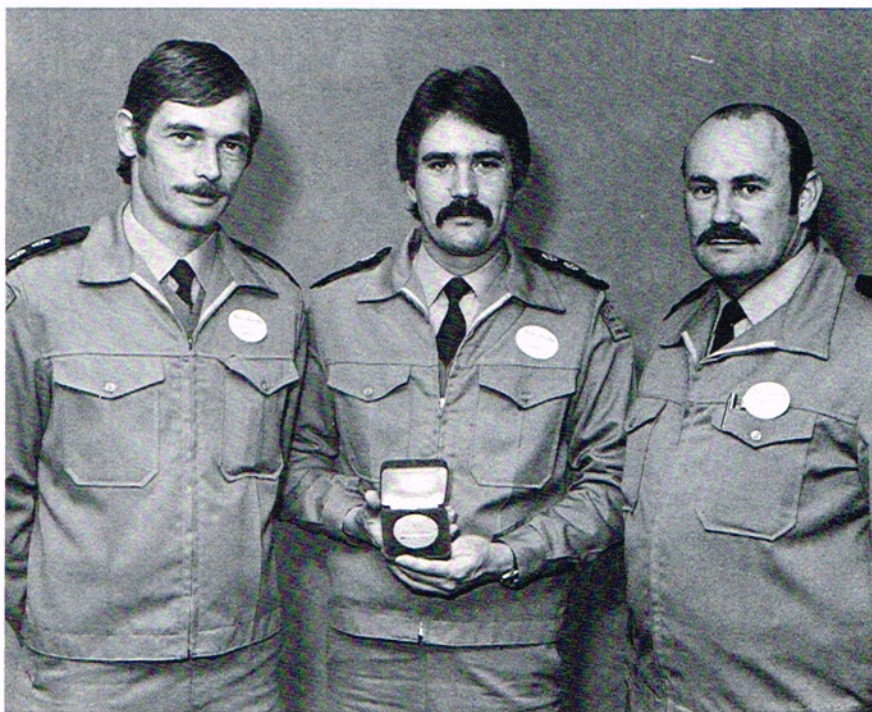
EVANSTON GARDENS CFS — Have trained Gawler St. John Cadets in fire fighting skills to enable the cadets to sit for the St. John proficiency certificate. Recently held a BA training session at the Station which was also attended by 5 Roseworthy CFS members. Certificates for completing 4 training modules have been presented to Brigade Captains Brian Wheelton, Snr Fireman Kevin Ayris and Firemen Sarah and Gordon Drage. Fireman John Mueller was also presented with a 10 year service certificate and star.

GOOLWA—CURRENCY CREEK—HINDMARSH ISLAND CFS — Received \$13,926 from the District Council for backburning done in the 1985/86 season. This includes payment for 1981 of \$2,346 since paid by ratepayers. Brigade Captain D. Ostigh completed the Instructors Brigade Level training course (Brookway Park, 6 April). Currency Creek members T. Vivian and T. Fergusson completed the new Level 2 training course (13 June). Major exercises held this year covered a combined riverboat accident and fire involving casualties with the St. John Ambulance, Sea Rescue and CFS, and a Hazchem chemical/flammable liquid spillage involving a tanker and truck containing chemicals. Members donned full BA and splash suits and set up a decontamination centre. Service certificates presented at the annual dinner (20 June) attended by over 100 people, went to Brian Skewes, Ken Wood, Graham Wood (20 years) and Graham Flanagan, Barry Bonner, Richard Keynes and Norbet Von Ruetzen (each 10 years service).

KINGSCOTE CFS — Unit No. 1 is being rebuilt by volunteers during a series of working bees over a 5 week period. The new town truck would cost around \$80,000. In 1984 the brigade built up the Kingscote No. 2 unit for \$26,000, once again for only a fraction of the normal cost. The brigade is always on the lookout for new members.

LUCINDALE CFS — Won a new trailer for selling more than 30 drums of Valbazen drench in a promotion run by the Lucindale branch of Dalgety Bennetts Farmers.

MAITLAND CFS — Had their \$43,000 Ford 350 Light Attack vehicle commissioned by CFS Director Mr Donald



Smithfield CFS officers from left, John Giddens, Jeff Clark and David Lamplough with the Telecom/Advance Australia Fair Award of Merit.

Photograph reproduced courtesy Messenger Press.



Goodwa, Currency Creek, Hindmarsh Island CFS members receive their service certificates. Pictured from left Captain D. Ostlign, Deputy Supervisor K. Wood, FCO B. Skewes with CFS Director Mr. A. D. Macarthur.

Photograph reproduced courtesy The Southern Argus.

OAKBANK/BALHANNAH CFS —

Were given a fund raising concert by members of the Balhannah United Church. The event raised more than \$1300 towards the new fire station.

PORT WAKEFIELD CFS —

Thanks to community support have raised enough money to purchase the much needed UHF and marine radio for their large fire truck with some leftover to pay towards a UHF radio for a 'base station'.

SMITHFIELD CFS —

Have been recognised as the first group or organisation to have been awarded the Telecom Advance Australia Award for Merit. The brigade although proud of the award acknowledged that every CFS unit was worthy of it.

Smithfield's 32 volunteer fire fighters operate in the northern areas outside MFS

responsibility. The brigade assists at vehicle accidents, fires, floods, accident rescue and other dangerous incidents. In a quieter year than normal 151 emergency calls were answered over the past 12 months. Training night is every Monday between 7.30 and 10.00 p.m. at the Jane Street Fire Station. A recruitment drive for new members is being conducted.

STIRLING CFS —

Recently held a Dangerous Substance exercise, a large scale exercise is now being planned for later in the year. The new Stirling Auxiliary commenced operations from 1st July. Training for daytime crews is underway. An internal Level 1 course was attended and completed by 7 members. All members commenced and finished the course with as much if not more enthusiasm than when they started. Training priority now rests with 'Safety and Vehicle Rescue'. Officers are looking at conducting a Level 2 course within the station later in the year. Des Lorr, Johnny Carver and Vince Montecola have completed the Senior First Aid Certificate Course conducted by Stirling/Aldgate St. John.

WUNKAR CFS —

Foundation member Vic Gibbs, former brigade chairman (for 19 years) and active community member, was the winner of the June Loxton News Telecom Advance Australia Award.

MURRAY BRIDGE DISTRICT CFS —

Has a new Group Captain Reg Hutchinson. Reg was appointed following the retirement of stalwart Tom Hogan. A CFS volunteer for 16 years Reg Hutchinson was previously group secretary and lieutenant of the Jervois Brigade, is active in Rotary and St. John and spent 11 years lecturing in fire prevention and management at Rosworthy Agricultural College. He started with Mudla Wirra CFS and held office of lieutenant (2½ years), brigade captain (3 years) and district deputy supervisor (6 years). Jervois CFS lieutenant Fred Clifford has been appointed group secretary and Brinkley Brigade Captain Graham Humphrey is deputy group captain. The Group Captain is the district's senior CFS officer, chief administrator and supervisor of fire control officers. The Murray Bridge Group involves seven brigades — Murray Bridge, Jervois, Brinkley, Callington, Monarto, Myponga and Errick.

Acknowledgement is made to the dedication and

service under the direction of the former Group Captain Tom Hogan. Tom held the office of Group Captain since the group was formed in 1981. He started as a district officer at Tatiara 28 years ago, was brigade captain at Bordertown, then district officer. Moved to Murray Bridge in 1964, became fire supervisor in 1980/81 and was a member of Murray Bridges' disaster committee since its inception. Tom also spent 12 months as Chairman of the Adelaide Hills Fire Fighting Association (1984/85) and has been actively involved for many years as a judge at the annual CFS Regional and State Drill Competitions.

NORTON SUMMIT/ASHTON CFS —

Member Sandy Taylor has been presented with life membership. At 44 he is one of the youngest recipients to receive this honour. At the presentation dinner, Certificates were also awarded for 10 years' service to Geoff Pedder, Heather Nicolls, Alison Chalklen, John Longbottom, Pat Thamm, June Longbottom and Mary Richards.

Macarthur. Contributions to the unit came

from the service clubs, local farmers, business houses and individuals. Fifteen year service medals were presented to FCO Colin Sandcock and Maitland CFS Treasurer Brian Matthews.

MARRABEL CFS —

Seeks \$3,000 to cover cost of recently built new fire shed designed to house their 6,000 gallon trailer unit and fire truck. Members planned to raise money from grape picking at weekends but seasonal conditions proved unsuitable. The District Council of Saddleworth and Auburn have agreed to pay the power and telephone installation costs.



MEADOWS CFS —

Purchased rescue cutting equipment valued at \$12,000 with Meadows Lions picking up half the cost. Equipment consists of petrol motor coupled with hydraulic pump, two sets of hydraulic hoses, with cutting shears and super spreader, opening bar and chains. Ten members have been training in equipment use and each carries a pager for 'call out'. The pagers were donated by the Senior Citizens Club. The brigade's special Rescue Unit operated by highly skilled CFS and St. John trained 'First Aiders' has been called out to an average of 40 incidents/year for the past 3 years. With the additional equipment now in use rescue work will be even more quicker and will go a long way to saving lives.

MORPHETT VALE/REYNELLA/HACKHAM CFS —

Because of public pressure to stop sounding its Fire Stations warning sirens each Sunday at 10.15 a.m. as a safety check, the brigades are faced with providing pagers to members at \$200 each. Already a generous donation

1986 CFS Regional Fire Fighting Drill Competitions

LATEST RESULTS

REGION 3 — Yorketown 15th June

One Man Hose Drill — 1: L. Butler (Yorketown), 19.88 sec, 2: G. Butler (Yorketown), 27.01. One Man Ladder Drill — 1: G. Butler (Yorketown), 12.11, 2: V. McWaters (Yorketown), 13.05. Three Man Ladder Drill — 1: Yorketown 2, 26.87, 2: Yorketown 1, 30.46. Alarm Race — 1: Yorketown 1, 31.11, 2: Yorketown 2, 37.08. Rural Drill — 1: Edithburgh, 141.6, 2: Yorketown, 210.22. Pump Drill — 1: Yorketown 1, 37.24, 2: Yorketown 2, 43.03. 'C' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Yorketown 2, 47.4, 2: Yorketown 1, 48.46. 'B' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Yorketown, 92.00, 2: Clinton, 130.99. 'A' Grade Hose and Pump Drill Championship — 1: Yorketown, 128.70. Best All Round Brigade — Yorketown. Parade Pennant — Yorketown.

REGION 2 — Virginia 22nd June

One Man Hose Drill — 1: A. Rohrlach (Nuriootpa), 20.75, 2: B. McDougall (Evanston Gardens), 22.03. One Man Ladder Drill — 1: G. Brown (Salisbury), 9.46, 2: K. Ayris (Evanston Gardens), 10.05. Three Man Ladder Drill — 1: Nuriootpa 1, 22.32, 2: Tea Tree Gully 1, 22.42. Alarm Race — 1: Nuriootpa 1, 30.17, 2: Nuriootpa 2, 35.50. Rural Drill — 1: Watervale, 141.86, 2: Mallala, 149.00. Pump Drill — 1: Nuriootpa 2, 35.16, 2: Nuriootpa 1, 39.22. 'C' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Nuriootpa 1, 34.10, 2: Nuriootpa 2, 44.29. 'B' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Nuriootpa, 60.49, 2: Salisbury, 64.46. 'A' Grade Hose and Pump Drill Championship — 1: Nuriootpa 2, 115.97, 2: Tea Tree Gully, 127.57. Best All Round Brigade — Nuriootpa. Parade Pennant — Nuriootpa.

REGION 5 — Nangwarry 6th July

One Man Hose Drill — 1: G. McIntyre (Naracoorte), 25.64, 2: A. Marshall (Naracoorte), 25.88. One Man Ladder Drill — 1: G. Bath (Nangwarry), 10.89, 2: A. Mullan (Millicent), 10.95. Three Man Ladder Drill — 1: Naracoorte, 24.47, 2: Nangwarry, 28.57. Alarm Race — 1: Naracoorte 1, 39.23, 2: Millicent 1, 44.31. Rural

Drill — 1: Naracoorte, 142.14, 2: Penola, 180.60. Pump Drill — 1: Millicent, 41.00, 2: Naracoorte, 43.10. 'C' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Naracoorte, 43.59, 2: Nangwarry 1, 49.14. 'B' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Millicent, 78.37, 2: Nangwarry, 83.80. 'A' Grade Hose and Pump Drill Championship — 1: Nangwarry, 141.87, 2: Naracoorte, 142.76. Best All Round Brigade — Naracoorte. Parade Pennant — Naracoorte.

REGION 1 — Athelstone 13th July

One Man Hose Drill — 1: D. Tomlinson (Blackwood), 21.01, 2: M. Merritt (Blackwood), 22.37. One Man Ladder Drill — 1: D. Thompson (Blackwood), 9.76, 2: M. Merritt (Blackwood), 9.98. Three Man Ladder Drill — 1: Happy Valley, 20.70, 2: Pt. Noarlunga, 21.24. Alarm Race — 1: Eden Hills 1, 37.63, 2: Belair 2, 38.04. Rural Drill — 1: Blackwood, 125.90, 2: Eden Hills, 143.70. Pump Drill — 1: Eden Hills B.I., 31.80, 2: Eden Hills A, 32.42. 'C' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Mitcham Hills 1, 34.94, 2: Mitcham Hills 2, 40.75. 'B' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Blackwood, 62.01, 2: Eden Hills 1, 65.06. 'A' Grade Hose and Pump Drill Championship — 1: Blackwood, 119.67, 2: Eden Hills, 122.61. Best All Round Brigade — Blackwood. Parade Pennant — Eden Hills.

REGIONS 7 AND 8 — Borrika 3rd August

One Man Hose Drill — 1: S. Arnold (Waikerie), 21.53, 2: S. Segneri (Waikerie), 21.96. One Man Ladder Drill — 1: S. Arnold (Waikerie), 10.79, 2: K. May (Monash), 11.5. Three Man Ladder Drill — 1: Waikerie A, 27.14, 2: Monash 2, 27.83. Alarm Race — 1: Monash 1, 37.93, 2: Waikerie 1, 39.91. Rural Drill — 1: Waikerie, 134.28, 2: Wynarker, 150.39. Pump Drill — 1: Wakerie A, 39.94, 2: Waikerie B, 47.94. 'C' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Barmera, 37.38, 2: Waikerie, 51.28. 'B' Grade Dry Hose Drill — 1: Waikerie, 74.62, 2: Jervois, 78.16. 'A' Grade Hose and Pump Drill Championship — 1: Waikerie, 124.50, 2: Barmera, 170.40. Best All Round Regional Brigade — Wakerie. Parade Pennant — Monash.

HAZCHEM SURVEY

Robert Young of the Wudinna & District CFS has over the past months done a survey on Semi Trailers travelling both directions on Highway One. With the assistance of the Local Roadhouse they have been asking the truck drivers to fill out the survey form. Approximately 15 trucks a day on the average travel on the East West Highway which nearly adds up to 5,500 trucks a year. Out of those surveyed—

70% knew what they were carrying,
15% knew CFS were setting up Hazchem
Teams in Country areas,
35% knew what a U.N. number meant.

Wudinna & District CFS are setting up a Dangerous Substance Brigade for Dangerous Substance Spillages Incidents. Below is a typical filled out form.

1. TYPE OF VEHICLE FLAT TOP, PANTEC, BULBET, FUEL TANKER, ROADTRAIN, OTHER

IF OTHER PLEASE DISCIBE BRIEFLY

2. TRAVELLING. EAST TO WEST OR WEST TO EAST.

3. HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRANSPORT ON EYRE HIGHWAY. WEEKLY, FORTNIGHTLY, MONTHLY, YEARLY

4. DO YOU HAVE HAZCHEM SIGNS YES NO (CODE No 3) (UN No 1276)

5. DO YOU KNOW WHAT TYPE OF LOAD YOU ARE CARRYING. YES NO

6. HOW MUCH OF YOUR LOAD IS DANGEROUS. 1/3 2/5 3/5 4/5 5/5 NB

7. IS YOUR LOAD SOLID FORM, LIQUID FORM, BOTH

8. DO YOU CARRY A CONTACT NUMBER IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT. YES NO

9. IF YOU DO WHERE. GEORGEY, WALTER, MANIFEST OTHER WHERE HAZCHEM sign

10. HOW HEAVY IS YOUR LOAD. 5 10 15 20 25 30 TONNE MORE 35,000 Ltr

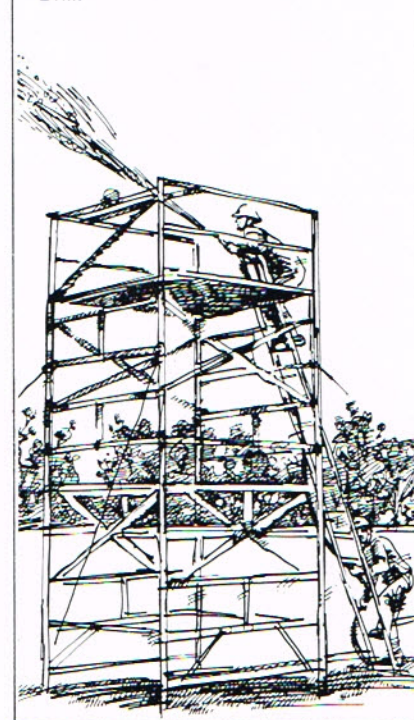


Filling the drum in the Rural Drill

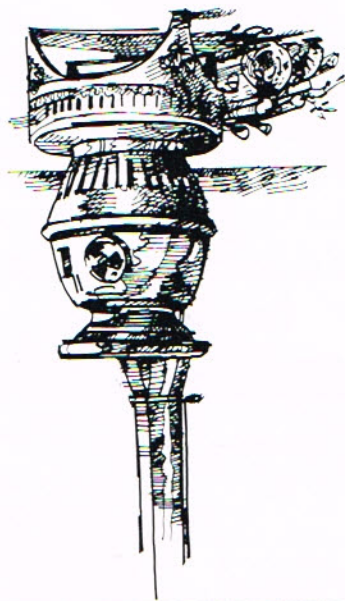


Rural Drill competitors at the Region 2 CFS Drill Competitions about to hit the 'target' to complete the event.

Getting to work in the 3 Man Ladder Drill.



POT BELLY STOVE



Is yours safe?

use metal flue pipes. The flue gas temperature from these is high compared with that from an open fire, so the metal pipe gets very hot. Where the pipe is near walls or where it passes through the ceiling or roof, additional protection usually takes the form of a metal sleeve that surrounds the flue pipe leaving clearance all around the flue. The space between the two pipes must be open to allow air to flow through and remove the excess heat. This metal sleeve, called a flue shield, also hides the flue pipe, and any defects such as burned out patches or rust holes cannot be seen.

Metal flue pipes have failed in periods as short as three years, so make sure the flue is safe. Regularly examine the outside of the flue pipe for the presence of creosote. This indicates a build-up of creosote inside the flue, which may lead to chimney fires. It is critical to have the flue pipe cleaned at least once a year before the stove is lit for the heating season.

If you examine the soot from the flue with a strong magnet, any rust flaking from a steel flue pipe will stick to the magnet. To test for holes in flues, light some wet newspapers to create smoke and put a cover over the top of the flue. Look for any flaws in the roofspace. Finally, a stove works best with the fuel that it was designed for. Some are designed for wood, some for coal. If you live by the sea, using driftwood may be cheap, but it is also the quickest way to corrode the stove and flue, because driftwood will contain sea salts. Avoid using CCA treated timber. The ashes of such timber are poisonous to pets and other animals. This timber can usually be identified by its greenish colour.

No matter what fuel you use, the best results will always be obtained using fuel as dry as possible. So as well as checking the stove, it might be a good time to also check the conditions of the roof over the fuel supply.

Pump Failure — is there a solution?

Having wandered around the Adelaide Hills for the past 35 odd years attempting to suppress all kinds of fires one has to have been caught in a few sticky situations. On Black Sunday we got caught on a narrow dirt track resulting in blistered paint on mudguards, ropes burnt on ladder on top of unit, six singing firemen (no plastics in those days) and the brakes failed on account of heat, but the pump kept going.

On Ash Wednesday **one**, we lost our Number 1 unit on account of the damaged throttle control on the pump which could not be fixed due to intense heat. We had a hand pump for such an emergency but it was too hot to operate. Luckily the 5 firemen fitted into the cab, otherwise there could have been fatalities, but the pump **did not fail** to atmospheric conditions. Later in the day our second unit, a Toyota 4 WD, gave up the ghost when the engine which was running for at least 4½ hours boiled all its sump oil. Result: engine seizure (it was full when checked that morning. Thirty minutes later when the sump was refilled, it restarted and the engine is still running to this day. But the pump motor **did not fail**).

Naturally it proves if your pump is reliable you will have the most protection one can expect, although you can use the available knapsacks on the unit. It would be wise to have the secondary pump hand operated or portable.

I believe that there should be no unit unless it has full protection sides, enclosed cabs, drop down fire proof curtains and or blankets to protect the crew it carries. We have all had pump failures for various mechanical reasons but on 3 April 1986 when we attended a bushfire at Deviation Road, Forest Range (SA), with our MOB primary and PTO pumps were nearly new 42 unit, a roll and pumper tanker (both pumps) we experienced a pump failure that was not mechanical. During the process of fire-fighting and when our 2 main hose reels

Dear editor, this correspondence was brought about after reading an article 'Bushfire Survival' (The Volunteer, volume 27, pages 12, 13) based on a report from the City Coroner's Court, Glebe NSW on the loss of a fire unit with six others badly burnt, apparently because their main pumps failed, for no obvious reason. The experiences and views expressed above may be of help to other volunteer members. Again I stress the importance of the following issues: That crew protection is on you could get out fast.

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For Belli stoves are now commonly installed in many Australian homes. However, like all household appliances they require regular maintenance to be efficient and safe.

We are now under the icy chill of winter and many owners of pot belly stoves are constantly refitting the stoves they neglected over the warmer months. Before doing this however, it will pay them to carry out a few simple checks to ensure their installed stoves are still in good condition. Firstly the stove should be checked for soundness.

— If the stove is lined with firebricks, are they still firmly in place?

— Are the hinges and catches on doors in good working order? Is the seal on the door in place?

— Is the glass in the door and its seal intact?

— Have any corrosion holes appeared in the base or walls of the appliance?

If there are any signs of unsoundness, attend to these defects before using the stove. Replacement glass for doors should be met the manufacturer's specification for the original glass. Next, any materials adjacent to the stove should be inspected.

If a heat screen has been installed between adjacent walls and the stove, check the surface of the heatscreen for damage or distortion. It also pays to remove the screws holding the screen in place and inspect the wall surface behind. If there is discoloration of the wall directly in line with the appliance, it could indicate overheating has occurred, the screen needs to be improved. Redecorating of screens must be done with caution. Paint on the surface of a screen may produce toxic fumes or the paint may even ignite.

With free-standing stoves, it is common to



Silo Explosions Blamed for Four Volunteer Deaths

Washington, D.C. United States of America ... February 28, 1986 ... A rise in volunteer fire fighter deaths due to silo explosions last July and August has prompted the National Volunteer Fire Council to strongly urge its membership and others to initiate or upgrade training programs on fire control in oxygen-limiting silos.

Richard Conlon, Public Safety Officer's program specialist at the Department of Justice, said three volunteers died last August in Marshallville, Ohio, when fighting a silo fire. Mr. Condon said the men climbed to the top of two smouldering silos and directed water from the top. Both silos exploded, throwing the fire fighters over 60 feet. Another volunteer was killed in a similar fire in Slaughter, LA, in late July.

'The situations were both particularly sad since the fire fighters in both cases were handling the situation in a perfectly logical way,' Mr. Conlon said. 'What they didn't realise was that the pressure from the steam and heat would expand when the water hit the silo.'

Mr. Condon and others, including Lt. John Harris of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute at the University of Maryland, agree that fighting silo and related grain fires must be carefully planned.

Safety Rules to Follow:

'The fire officer must choose between fighting the fire or letting it burn,' said Lt. Harris. 'The general rule is to stay off the top of any silo, especially tops of oxygen-limiting types.' Lt. Harris said even the simplest of actions, such as opening a hatch, may cause an explosion. He added the following warnings:

- If the silo is making noises or vibrating, or if steam or smoke is coming out of the roof, leave the roof hatch alone.
- A roof hatch can be closed if there has been no visible smoke or vapour for

several hours, but never tie it down as subsequent gas pressure needs to be able to vent to avoid an explosion.

- Never step onto the storage pile. The cavity created by the fire will allow any weight on top to crash into the burning cavity.
- Take extreme care in unloading storage as it may burst into flames when it comes into contact with the air.

Lt. Harris said that water is often ineffective, can easily damage a silo structure and may cause an explosion in oxygen limiting types of silos. He said two chemicals ... dry ice and liquid nitrogen ... are relatively effective in controlling silage fires. Lt. Harris added that both chemicals are extremely cold and should be afforded the appropriate safe handling practice to avoid personnel injury.

Lt. Harris said the fire officer must always be mindful that his efforts may be in vain. Once a large cavity has formed, or several holes have burned through the silo, there may be no way to extinguish the fire.

'In this type of fire, extinguishment is contingent on stopping the supply of oxygen,' Lt. Harris said. 'So, there are times when it will be safer, cheaper and more practical to let the silage burn. This may go against what we are taught, but it is the option that cannot be overlooked.'

Article reproduced courtesy 'National Volunteer Fire Council USA'.

A report of the tragic loss of the 3 fire fighters killed in the silo fire in Ohio (referred to in the above article) appeared in 'The Volunteer' volume 26 on page 44. By covering this story we hope our volunteers are now even more aware of the dangers involved in silo fires, and that they will heed the safety rules recommended above ... Editor.

No. 1. Protective sides, large cabs with protective curtains/sheets, gloves, goggles and protective sprays are a must. Are overalls fire proofed (don't trust them)? plan emergency procedures (our fire proof curtain is to be dropped on way to fires of account it may be too hot standing up to undo the holding belts). Maintenance of the highest level is essential on all motors and pumps to gain maximum safety and full confidence in your equipment which could save your life. P.S. Could we make it a firm practice to call our vehicle units not trucks, our buildings stations not sheds and what about a wanted to sell and buy column in The Volunteer.

by Captain David Moller,
Bridgewater CFS

Improving Communications

Trevor Conlon, Communications Officer.

In the interest of improving communications for the 1986-87 season various regional committees have resolved to direct specific effort toward communications matters requiring attention.

1. Call Signs

The standard call signs which have been in use in many areas for some time require full application. By the 1st September 1986 it is aimed to have all brigades using the standard call signs, including appropriate marking on vehicles, and proper use of call signs within operating procedures.

2. Communications Training

'Communications One' training notes have been prepared for inclusion in the level 1 training course. They are also available as separate notes for use at brigade level by officers conducting basic training. The aim is to have trained as many radio operators as possible in basic procedures by the next season. This training is directed towards all personnel who may operate on CFS radio networks.

3. Improved Equipment Records

The need for proper records of radio equipment has become more evident in recent times. The census recently conducted has revealed significant inaccuracies in official records, and a continued effort is required to list and licence appropriately all equipment on CFS frequencies.

4. District Control Centres

Many districts have recently upgraded their District Control Centres in recognition of the role to be undertaken in major emergencies. Each district needs to have a facility available to act as a focal point for co-ordination and control, equipped with the necessary resources depending on local circumstances. Before the 1986 season commences, check that appropriate facilities are available.

The above issues need not require large amounts of time or effort in following up but have been identified as important actions to be taken before the 1986 fire danger season arrives. Assistance in following up these matters is available through the respective Regional Officer, or Communications Officer, CFS Headquarters Adelaide.

Bits 'n Pieces

Stepping Up to Fire Safety

Siraco Lonsdale body kit builders of the class 4 heavy pump type recently took time off from their general sheet metal work commitments, to design and build a special set of transportable steps for Smokey's Fire Truck. The truck's new steps (pictured) are constructed from floor treads with 2mm floor plate sides, 1.6mm galvanised sheet steel and 6mm flat bar brackets all hot dip galvanised to protect against weather. Thanks to Siraco Lonsdale, Smokey The Koala now simply has to step up on to the stage to present his fire safety education message to children.

Latest in Sound

Smokey's Fire Truck has the latest in sound systems thanks to the generosity of New Wave Communications of Richmond and Philips Communication Systems Pty. Ltd. (Consumer Products Division).

The equipment consists of 2 new horn speakers and modification of the existing amplification system. The amplifier has been coupled to a new Philips cassette/radio AC758 system for broadcasting Smokey's fire safety jingle, on arrival at all appearances.

Electronics specialist Peter Sommer installed the speakers and sound equipment on Smokey's Truck. Peter under contract to CFS at Adelaide carries out maintenance and design requirements on radio communications and has been involved with R.O. Trevor Conlon in the upgrading of the CFS Communications Network. He also runs his own business — New Wave Communications at 41 Craig Street, Richmond S.A. Phone (08) 354 0427. Peter Sommer has 14 years experience in the Radio Communications Industry and would be pleased to hear from Brigades requiring advice, radio maintenance service or new equipment needs.

Inaugural Dinner Dance

Come one-and all

What R.O. put cooking oil on the stove to heat up and went away leaving it unattended? Returned to find the kitchen full of smoke and 1 metre high flames coming from the stove? Ruined his wife's good saucapan? Smoke damaged all walls in kitchen his good wife had recently painted? Guess who? No one is saying, but he was last seen making a quick departure from the hills to the Mallee Scrub!

The Port MacDonnell Fire Fighting Association extends an invitation to all volunteers to attend their inaugural fire fighting variety dinner dance.

Saturday, September 13, 1986 at Cassido Park, Mount Gambier at 6.30 p.m.

Tickets \$15.00/head.

Pre-dinner drinks, 3-course meal, Country and Western music, guest artists — Laurie Fields, local boy Andrew Norman (alias Frank Spencer) and a Fashion Parade will make an entertaining evening.

Safety First

by Vince Monterola, Stirling CFS

Proceeds from the dance will go towards purchasing a paging system. Tickets and further information contact: Mr. Peter Norman, Private Bag 67, Mt. Gambier, S.A. 5291.

Fire fighting is always fraught with potential dangers. It is each person's duty to recognise these potentials before undertaking any task. Perhaps the simplest way is to consider the Red — Yellow — Green symbols used in traffic signals: Red — Yellow — Green. It is what I am doing correct and will it work? — If yes YELLOW — Caution (is it safe, is what I am doing correct and will it work?) — If yes GREEN — GO! — Perform the task, but keep the situation under constant assessment. This assessment should be done automatically and quickly as it is too late to assess the situation after the event. Your first priority is to save lives — and that means firstly your own and fellow firefighters!

The 1986 Fire Prevention Weeks B.P. Creative Arts and Crafts Competition is now open. The Theme is Fire Protection and Prevention — Past, Present and Future! Children up to 16 years of age are invited to enter Paintings or Posters. (Size not to exceed 75 cm x 50 cm) other forms of art including models not to exceed one square metre.

Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third prize winners in the following age categories: 7 years and under; 8 to 10 years; 11 to 13 years and 14 to 16 years. Special prizes will be awarded to the Best Creative Art and also the best Slogan. The first prize winners from the 6 sections will be judged for the Fire Fighting Enterprises Perpetual Trophy.

Entries close September 26th, 1986. All entries must have a paper clip attached stating Name, Address, Age, School and are to be delivered or sent to the A.F.P.A. C/O S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service Headquarters Library, 99 Wakefield Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000. Prize winners will be notified by letter one week prior to presentations on 21 October. Names will be published in 'The Advertiser' on 25 October 1986, under 'Public Notice' heading.

'What is our future'

Poster Competition — Enter Now!



Bits 'n Pieces

I.F.E. Fire Engineering Certificate

All CFS officers and firefighters who are currently studying for their Fire Engineering Examinations (March 1987) should be aware of the new syllabus for the 'Certificate' level.

This is available from CES Headquarters, Chief Clerk, or Mr. Richard Hutchins, S.A. I.F.E. Branch President at CFS Headquarters.

N.B. Closing date for candidates for 1987 is the 1st October, 1986. S.A. Branch Secretary, C/- Metropolitan Fire Service.

Please address your enrolment application to the S.A. Branch Secretary, C/- Metropolitan Fire Service Headquarters.



Volunteers Graduate

In the 1986 Institution of Fire Engineers Examinations, 2 more CFS volunteers namely: Graham Palmer, Norton Summit CFS and Glen Trebilcock, Montacute CFS were successful in the Graduate Diploma, Fire Engineering. Both have studied the N.S.W. TAFE Correspondence Course which has rapidly proven an excellent method of combining operational experience and some formal study of Fire Engineering to acquire qualifications.

SIAMESE TWINS JOIN THE CFS!



In a most unusual move a set of Siamese twins have become Volunteers. Naturally modifications to equipment and special training programs were needed to cater for the special needs of the 'twins'. Our intrepid photographer caught the 'twins' at work recently demonstrating the success of their training.

Combined Emergency Services Seminar Committee 8th Seminar
Agora Theatre, Latrobe University, Bundoora, Melbourne
November 29th-30th, 1986

'Hazards, Health, Safety and You, the Emergency Worker'

Have you a potentially hazardous, chemically unknown mixed cargo installation in your area of responsibility. Did your volunteer fire crew realise what was in the cargo of that last truck smash they turned out to?

The ever increasing incidence of Emergency Services Personnel coming face to face with life threatening hazards, be they toxic chemicals, explosive devices or hazardous chemical spills is cause for deep concern, this concern has prompted the Combined Emergency Services Seminar Committee to invite several competent authoritative speakers to present papers at the 8th annual seminar. Subjects to be covered include: 'Urban terrorism', Hazardous material spills', 'Explosive devices, and the community threat', 'Oil spillage and the environment', 'The Chiltern Incident' and R.A.R. nightmare, 'the voluntary worker—are there sufficient safeguards?' 'Possible hazards of the future' and a critical analysis of a recent major

incident in a large country town by the Emergency Services involved.

The seminars are run 'By emergency services personnel for emergency services personnel' with two main aims, the presentation of topical subjects which are of interest and concern to those personnel, and to foster the establishment of personal contact between members of the emergency services which will develop into rapport in the work place or at the incident scene.

The enrolment costs for the 8th annual seminar are as follows:

Saturday November 29th	\$30.00
Sunday November 30th	\$30.00
or Both days	\$50.00
Accommodation Bed/Breakfast (per night)	\$25.00
Seminar Dinner (limit 100) (per head)	\$21.00

Membership fees include: Entry, Morning and Afternoon teas, Lunch Conference Notes and Refreshments. For those members who book in for Friday Night there will be refreshments available on the campus.

To ensure that you receive your application form for the Combined Emergency Services 8th Annual Seminar (note the date previously advertised as November 22nd-23rd). Send a stamped, self addressed envelope to:

The Registrar
John How
31 Hadlow Drive
Wantirna, Vic. 3152
Telephone (03) 729 0984



Project Operation Clean-Up — Latest Developments

(2) gain maximum public interest in the project

(3) obtain important media coverage

A media kit on hazard reduction is being compiled to complement the brigades and communities range of activities (which may be a demonstration, display, seminar, community clean-up, school visit program or any other relevant project.)

The 'Operation Clean-Up' project is designed to cover both the Domestic and Industrial fire hazard problem areas in Rural, Urban and metropolitan South Australia. Active support from CFS brigades, service groups, councils and the community will assist the state-wide campaign, to put the fire prevention-clean-up message into practice.

The Rural Youth Community Aid Project scheduled between 13th October and 1st December will complement 'Operation Clean-Up' projects on the West Coast, Yorke Peninsula, Murray Mallee, Northern Lower North and South East South Central areas. Rural Youth Clubs are presently surveying their town and district to identify properties which are potential bushfire hazards. Clubs will then select appropriate projects to undertake.

It is proposed to highlight some Rural Youth Community Aid projects completed during Fire Prevention Week.

All media newspapers have now been issued a news release on operation clean-up titled: 'Fire Safety Message is Do It — Clean Up'. Together with a set of 'Support Operation Clean-Up' logos to generate support and identification of Clean Up Projects. During Fire Prevention Week each CFS Regional Office will display an 8ft x 3ft double sided white vinyl banner 'Observe Fire Prevention Week, to draw public attention to the week long program of activities planned by various CFS brigades and service groups throughout each region. S.A. M.F.S. will hold short displays in their Headquarters drill yard (five to six times per day) and a historic display will be on show in the No. 2 Engine Room — as part of The Jubilee 150 celebrations ... Editor.

Fire Prevention Week Committee South Australia



Please encourage your brigade members to participate and let us know the nature of the fire hazard clean up exercise(s) that will be undertaken in your area, so that we can publicize your efforts and the communities. You may for example, be planning hazard reduction exercises which would benefit from our co-ordinated promotion of 'Operation Clean-Up'. Alternatively, council resources could be offered for community working bees.

For greater effectiveness it is suggested that brigades liaise with Lions Clubs, Rural Youth and other service organizations and local councils for their support, labour and resources, as seen fit. The main aim of 'Operation Clean-Up' is to raise awareness of the need to reduce fire hazards while generating a self-help attitude within communities.

Any projects whether big or small that are undertaken can double as a promotion of the valuable volunteer service(s) provided by local CFS Brigades and community clubs/groups, supported by district councils.

A useful spin off of course, will be the attention paid to the role and needs of local fire brigades. In other words a fire prevention-clean up exercise can double as a promotion of the valuable volunteer service you give.

Brigades at the earliest opportunity are asked to advise their Regional Officer as well as Peter Mills, CFS Adelaide, of activities they propose to undertake or support, associated with 'Operation Clean-Up' and Fire Prevention Week 1986. This information will assist Peter Mills in: (1) the collation of all projects being undertaken throughout the state

From previous correspondence addressed to all CFS Brigade Captains and Secretaries, brigades will be aware of 'Operation Clean-Up' a project developed by the Fire Prevention Week Committee to encourage the reduction of fire hazards on a community basis.

Country Fire Services and S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service brigades have been called upon to identify fire hazard problem areas appropriate to 'Operation Clean-Up' and to give advice to service clubs and community groups willing to take on projects.

Some Lions Clubs, Rural Youth and other service organizations have shown interest and are now waiting on brigade contact. It is expected that local councils will play a prominent role.

The Fire Prevention Week Committee have asked councils to support 'Operation Clean-Up' through liaison with their local CFS or MFS Brigade.

While a few brigades have responded with good practical examples of how communities through self help can contribute to the 'Operation Clean-Up' message, greater participation is required. Examples of worth while projects both large and small already identified, range from the cleaning up of grass along railway line edges, development of a 'defensive line' around a high fire risk area, advice in local newspapers covering correct use and methods of fire breaks, restricting use of slashing equipment on days of high fire risk, removal of roadside vegetation, displays/demonstrations of fire fighting equipment by local agents, hazard clean ups, random property inspections by CFS brigades and an advisory inspection service for farmers.

The National Park and Wildlife Service has a most successful network of fourteen Consultative Committees, all serving voluntarily, and covering every part of the State. People with CFS experience are represented on each Committee which makes recommendations to the Director and to the Minister for Environment and Planning who appoints the Membership. Among the well known people with fires experience, on the Committees are: Mr. Arch McArthur, of Mount Hope, via Millicent; Mr. Jim Bell, of Norton Summit; Mr. Bob Martin, of Yankalilla; Mr. John Sorrell, of Mortalla; Mr. Sandy Mathison, of Keith; Mr. Mike Arnold, of Waikerie; Mr. Gary Richardson, of Port Augusta; Mr. David Siekmann, of Kangaroo Island; Mr. Bill Butler, of Warooka; Mrs. Flora Axford, of Melbourne; Mr. Geoff Hissey, of Cockatoo Valley. The Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Services, Mr. Bruce Leaver, said that the Consultative Committee system in South Australia has drawn on expertise, particularly in fire protection, which has been of enormous help to the Service.

National Parks Consultative Committees



National Parks and Wildlife Services firefighters undergo instruction in 'Hydraulics' at the combined Fire Services Training Centre at Brookway Park.

COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES

HEADQUARTERS:

KESWICK

20 Richmond Road
P.O. Box 312, Goodwood, S.A. 5034.
Telephone (08) 297 6788

REGIONAL OFFICES:

GAWLER

2/29 Adelaide Road
P.O. Box 866, Gawler, S.A. 5118.
Telephone (085) 22 6917
Telephone (085) 22 6827

MURRAY BRIDGE

1/207 Adelaide Road
P.O. Box 519, Murray Bridge, S.A. 5253.
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Telephone (085) 32 6800

NARACOORTE

Arthur Street
P.O. Box 8, Naracoorte, S.A. 5271.
Telephone (087) 62 2311

PORT AUGUSTA

9 Mackay Street (S.G.I.C. Building)
P.O. Box 2080, Port Augusta, S.A. 5700.
Telephone (086) 42 2920

PORT LINCOLN

38 Washington Street
P.O. Box 555, Port Lincoln, S.A. 5606
Telephone (086) 82 4266

STIRLING

Avenue Road (Behind Stirling CFS)
P.O. Box 197, Stirling, S.A. 5152
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VOLUNTEER

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