

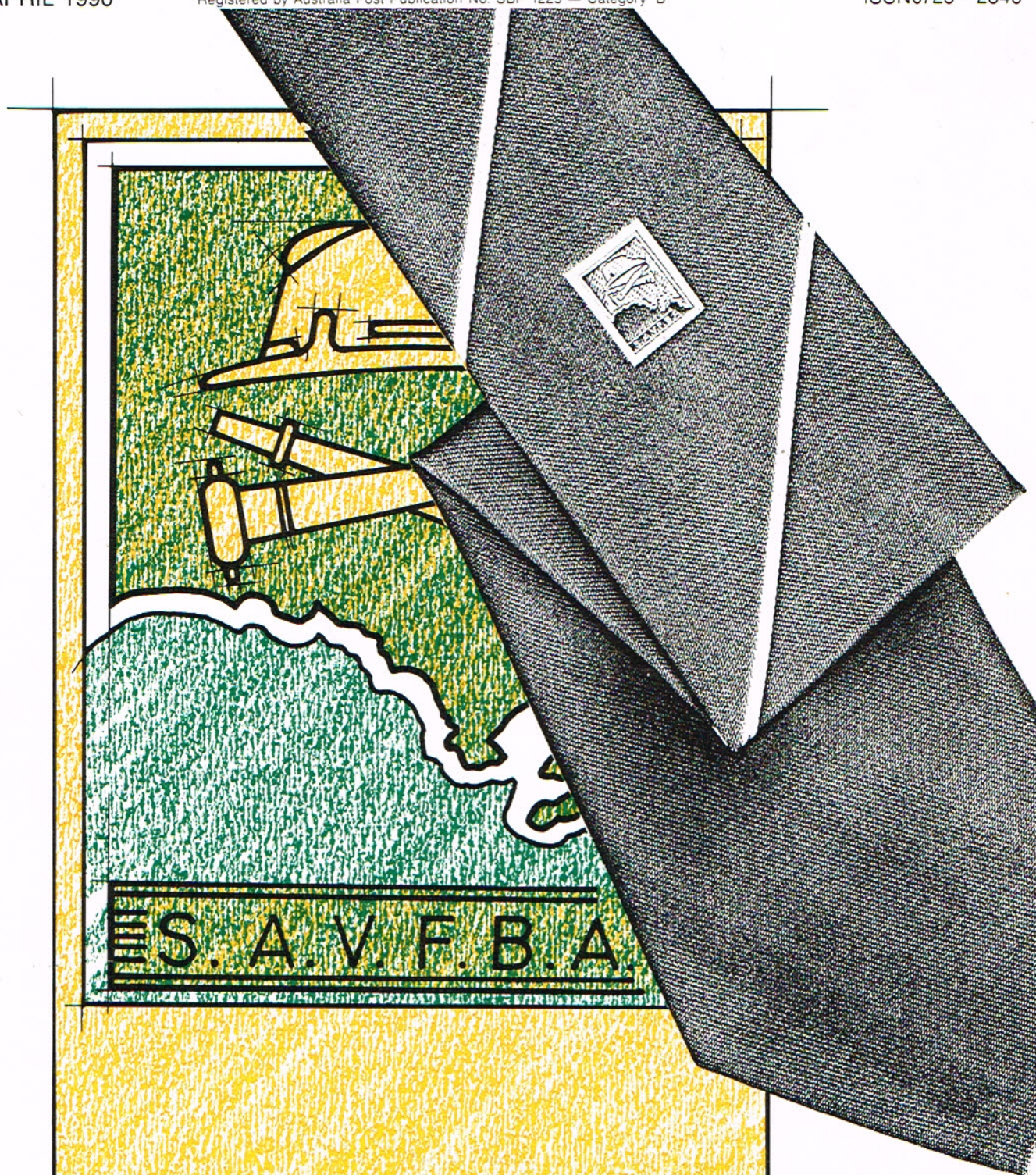
# VOLUNTEER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL FOR THE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VOLUME 51 APRIL 1990

Registered by Australia Post Publication No. SBP 1225 — Category 'B'

ISSN0725 - 2846



*'there is no must...  
we do it because we care.'*





# VOLUNTEER

## From the Chairman

Thankfully, as we approach the end of the 1989/90 Fire Danger Season, the State has not had any disastrous fires. In the main, this has been due to the more tropical nature of the summer and quick decisive responses by Brigades and Groups. There were several fires which had the potential to escalate but due to the excellent work of the attending Brigades they were brought to an early, satisfactory conclusion.

The 1990 training schedule is now underway. The Board is committed to retaining emphasis on this important area. One of the disappointing features of last year's training program, in particular, was the number of people who nominated for courses and who then did not present themselves at the course. I appreciate that time to attend training can be difficult to find at times, however, if you can't attend a course for which you have nominated, please let the organisers know as soon as possible so that your place can be filled by someone who is waiting to attend.

The priority for training in 1990 will be based upon the need for Brigades with the highest risks to upgrade their skills to the levels required to provide effective coverage for those areas.

Whilst some specialist courses will be run this year, the emphasis will be placed on Levels 1, 2, 3 and officer courses, this will ensure the most economic use of the budget available for training purposes.

The requirements of the Mount Lofty Ranges Supplementary Development Plan for input from the Country Fire Service has assumed major proportions for the bushfire prevention staff at Stirling. The Bushfire Prevention Section was created to handle

the Statewide bushfire prevention issues which were to come after the proclamation of the new Country Fires Act. However, as most readers will know, the Act's implementation took longer than anticipated. In the interim, bushfire prevention staff have been engaged in the consultative and advisory tasks required by the Supplementary Development Plan.

With the passage of the Act and its implementation, the bushfire prevention staff will be fully occupied with provision of advice and assistance to Regional and District Bushfire Prevention Committees, as these tasks are the direct responsibility of the Board. Whilst the Supplementary Development Plan and its attendant controls over buildings in bushfire areas is important to the fire safety of the Mount Lofty Ranges, the Board will only be able to continue its involvement in this area if additional staff are provided. The Board has made the necessary approaches in an endeavour to secure the services of appropriate officers for this purpose.

In the coming months the bushfire prevention officers will be providing training courses for those persons who are to be appointed by Local Government as fire prevention officers at district level and they will be involved in assisting with the establishment of the local committees as well as providing the guidelines for the preparation of district and regional fire prevention plans.

There has been some disquiet expressed by Councils over the cost of District Bushfire Prevention Committees and the preparation of fire prevention plans. The Board and the Government were well



**Mr. A. D. Macarthur**  
Chief Executive Officer & Chairman  
Country Fire Service Board  
Chairman, SA Bushfire Prevention  
Council

aware of the possible cost ramifications of the bushfire prevention sections of the new Act and when it was originally framed, the responsibility for the District Committees was placed with the CFS Board. However, during the course of the passage of the Act, the Local Government Association was insistent that this responsibility be returned to Council control; thus the legislation now reflects the approaches made and devolves these tasks and their associated costs on individual Local Government bodies.

*A. D. Macarthur*

## 1990 COMPETITIONS

The Volunteer Fire Brigades Association Competition Committee has met to review the competitions for 1990.

Dates have been set as follows:

REGION	VENUE	DATE
6	Port Lincoln	5 August
1, 2, 3, & 4	Mintaro	19 August
5, 7, & 8	Meningie	9 September
State Finals	Lyndoch	23 September

The Competition Committee is anxious to see more Brigades enter the **Best CFS Brigade Competition**. To make it as easy as possible Brigades who enter the Best CFS Brigade Competition must have three (3) representatives on parade and enter in at least one (1) event which could be an individual event.

Please make every effort to support your competitions and this event in particular.

All Brigades whether large or small, urban or rural in character have an equal opportunity to win prize money of \$1000 (winner) and \$500 for runner-up.

**Best CFS Brigade Competition Event:** Registered CFS Brigades entering the competition are judged during the year on the following criteria:

- must compete in at least one regional competition.
- be represented on the opening parade of the regional competition (minimum of 3 representatives on parade).
- undergo an assessment involving -
  - (a) an inspection of the appliance and station.
  - (b) a practical exercise.\*

This year for the practical exercise\* Brigades can select from two (2) rural and two (2) urban drills.

Regional winners of the Best CFS Brigade Competition will be announced at the Regional Competitions. The State winner will be announced at the State Firefighting Drill Championships (Finals).

The Committee has again appointed Mr. Neil Turner to judge this event on its behalf.

Neil will provide 'feedback' to all Brigades participating, after the judging is completed.

### Certificates - revised size:

The Committee has endorsed the reduction of size of all Regional and State drill certificates (awarded to winners and runners-up team members for all events), to an A5 size.

The new size certificate is more practical for displaying.

### Standard appliance:

A significant change this year will be the use of a standard 2000 litre appliance for the pump drill and cadet pump and hose reel drills.

### Demonstration:

The Committee has also agreed to run a demonstration event using standard CFS ladders to obtain comment and feedback from the field.

See you at the competitions.

Mike Arnold  
Chairman  
VFBA Competitions Committee





# From the Board

FEBRUARY 1990 BOARD MEETING

## Board membership

Mrs Valarie Bonython was welcomed as a new member of the Board representing the SA Local Government Association. Mrs Bonython is a member of the East Torrens Council. *Profile next issue.*

## Australian Fire Service Medal

The Board congratulated group officer Geoff Knight and regional officer Murray Sherwell for their well deserved awards in the Australia Day Honours.

## Fuel fire foam specifications

The Board RESOLVED to approve the replacement of present 6% AFFF foam with 3-6% ATC AFFF foam in future tenders. This foam is cheaper and more versatile than 6% AFFF.

## Travel reimbursement for attendance at regional meetings

It was agreed in principle that the Board should contribute to travel costs of volunteers who attended board initiated meetings within Regions. This is to be implemented from 1 July 1990, subject to funds availability.

## Vehicle & Equipment Sub-Committee

Policy recommendations were considered by the Board which passed resolutions on:

### 1. Minimum items of equipment for standard stowage kit for:

- a) Water tankers
- b) Command vehicles
- c) Small appliances to 1000 litres

### 2. Service schedule for all CFS appliances/vehicles

A service schedule for distribution to Brigades was adopted as a minimum standard of maintenance for CFS appliances.

The schedule was developed to assist service mechanics in meeting board standards.

It was agreed that this recommendation have a sunset date of two years to allow feedback to be received by the Vehicle & Equipment Sub-Committee from the field, after which time a revised service schedule can be adopted as policy.

### 3. Labelling of appliance lockers

The Board approved the labelling of appliance lockers with numbers. The Board will purchase and issue labels to Brigades with new appliances delivered in 1989.

## Board member committee representation

It was agreed that:

Mr Ron Bowden will be the board member on the Volunteer Occupational Safety Health and Welfare Committee.

Mr Mel Whinnen and Mr Peter Mew (SAVFBA) will be the board members on the CFS Board Insurance Committee.

## Delegation of powers - section 37 - total fire ban

The Board RESOLVED that the Board delegate its powers under Section 37 (total fire ban) of the Act to the Chief Executive Officer of CFS or to any person who, for the time being, is acting as the Chief Executive Officer of the CFS.

## New or amended constitutions

The Board RESOLVED to approve the new or amended Constitutions submitted by the CFS Brigades and Groups as follows:

CFS Group	CFS Brigade
Tatiara	Tanunda
Orroroo	Lower Inman
Burnside/	Valley
Athelstone	Smithfield
Goolwa & Districts	Port Elliot
Mt Pleasant	Keilira
Cleve	Tatiara Senior
Victor Harbor	Hallett
	Waitpinga
	Kingoonia

## Cadet service

The Board re-affirmed its policy that time served as a cadet fully qualify for service recognition and resolved that this apply irrespective of the date of the service.

## Australian Assembly of Volunteer Fire Brigade Association

The Board resolved to support the Annual General Meeting of the Assembly to be held in Adelaide on 18 August 1990.

## Appreciation

The Board noted a letter from the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board commending Mark Dawson (OIC, Information Systems) for the information provided on a recent visit to Perth.

## Management & administration of the CFS

The Board is satisfied that the existing Executive structure collectively has the managerial experience and expertise to carry out the responsibilities of the Country Fires Act 1989. At this stage of the development of the Country Fire Service, it has therefore been decided not to appoint a Chief Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer will retain the responsibility to the Board for the management and administration of the CFS, including the responsibilities of the Office of the Chief Officer as delineated in Section 15 of the Country Fires Act 1989.

The Administration Manager has been delegated responsibility for the equipping and supply functions required to maintain the CFS. This responsibility includes the ongoing vehicle inspections until such time as a satisfactory standard of vehicles, equipment and maintenance is achieved (Refer Section 15 [3] [a]).

ACO (Technical Services) will be responsible to the Chief Executive Officer for all bushfire prevention and land management functions of the Act. In accordance with the thrust of the board's organisational restructuring proposals the position will be titled **Manager, Technical Services**. The rank associated with the incumbent in the position Mr. Tony Crichton, will remain that of Assistant Chief Officer to maintain the appropriate level and profile within the Australian Fire Services.

ACO (Operations), as Head of the Operations Divisions, has been delegated the full responsibilities of Section 15 (3) of the Act, less those inspections associated with vehicles, equipment and maintenance which are the responsibility of the Administration Manager.

With regard to Section 15 (2), ACO (Operations) may assume ultimate responsibility after making every endeavour to consult with the Chief Executive Officer or the Executive Officer in his absence. His delegated responsibility for prevention is limited to those (tactical) operations necessary to control a fire or emergency.

To more properly reflect the increased responsibilities of the head of the Operations Division, the position will be titled **Chief Operations Officer**. Again, the fire services rank associated with the incumbent in the position, Mr. Howard McBeth will remain that of Assistant Chief Officer to maintain the appropriate level and profile within the Australian Fire Services.

## Materials management

Following Donna Edwards' resignation from the Country Fire Service, George Polomka, vehicle & equipment officer, will act as **materials manager** until a person is appointed to the position.

Asset register development will be carried out by Barry Barker, administration manager and Arjan DeKousemaeker asset register consultant.

Wayne Byrne, purchasing & stores clerk will assist in tender evaluation.



Mr. George Polomka  
A/ Materials Manager



## SUPPLY UPDATE

An updated stock listing is soon to be distributed to Groups and Brigades. Purchasing and stores clerk Mr. Wayne Byrne can assist with your enquiries on (08) 297 6788.

The CFS headquarters store is located at 9 Hampstead Road, Keswick across the road from CFS headquarters.

Resources however do not allow the stocking of all fire fighting requirements in the store. Instead supply contracts and agreements have and will continue to be maintained with various companies, as detailed below; to supply direct to Groups, Brigades and Councils.

### Dress uniform

Epauettes and chrome impellers etc. are available from the regional office.

### Fluorescent tape

Supplier: Cutler Brands Distributors Pty. Ltd.  
33 Humphries Terrace  
KILKENNY SA 5009  
Phone (08) 268 9888

### Footwear

Tenders have recently been called for the supply and delivery of protective footwear to CFS Groups and Brigades as and when required. Details will be provided shortly.

### Helmets

All Groups and Brigades will by now have received red and yellow helmets from regional officers. White helmets are still available direct from:

MSA  
21 Rosa Street  
GOODWOOD SA 5034  
Phone David Klinger (08) 272 2271

### Magirus pump spare parts

The CFS headquarters store will no longer be stocking Magirus parts. Spares are now held and can be obtained from:

Fire Fighting Enterprises  
118 Glen Osmond Road  
PARKSIDE SA 5063  
Phone Mike McCahon (08) 272 1000

### Overalls

State Clothing Corporation has recently supplied 2000 pairs of overalls to fire fighters throughout the State.

Priority will in future be given to supplying fire retardant Proban treated overalls. These are approximately \$10 per pair above the cost of cotton overalls. Ample stocks are kept on the shelf. For further enquiries call:

State Clothing  
Oxenham Street  
DUDLEY PARK SA 5008  
Phone Pauline Haseldine (08) 344 7038

### Shirts

Shirts can be supplied and flashed through:  
Valerie Travers  
193 Angus Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
Phone Val Travers (08) 223 5255

### Stowage Kits

Stowage items are available from:  
Fire Fighting Enterprises  
118 Glen Osmond Road  
PARKSIDE SA 5063  
Phone Mike McCahon (08) 272 1000

### Tabards (Incident Management vests)

Tenders for tabards have recently closed. Supplies will be expected to be delivered to Groups and Brigades by regional officers in April-May.

### Trousers

Common sized khaki trousers are also available from State Clothing. Non-standard sizes can be tailored by:

Dixon Clothing  
85 Carrington Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
Phone (08) 232 2222

## CFS HELMET AND OVERALL MARKINGS

CFS OFFICER	HELMET	OVERALLS
Regional Officer	White with Blue Band	
Group Officer	Red	3 rings 12mm wide
Deputy Group Officer	Red	2 rings 12mm wide and 1 ring 6mm wide
Captain	Yellow with Red band	2 rings 12mm wide
Lieutenant	Yellow	1 ring 12mm wide
Senior Fireman	White	1 ring 6mm wide

- The blue and red helmet rank bands are reflective strips 25mm x 100mm placed both sides of the helmet and located 10mm above the brim.
- In addition, reflective strips (25mm x 100mm) the same colour as the helmet, are located on both sides of the helmet, 10mm above the brim. For the captain's helmet the yellow band is above and adjacent to the red band.
- Reflective strips (all colours) are available from the regional office.
- CFS star transfer is worn on the front of the helmet in a central position.
- Volunteer surname only, in red (20mm letters) on fluorescent tape (30mm width), is to be placed on the rear of the helmet, in a central position.

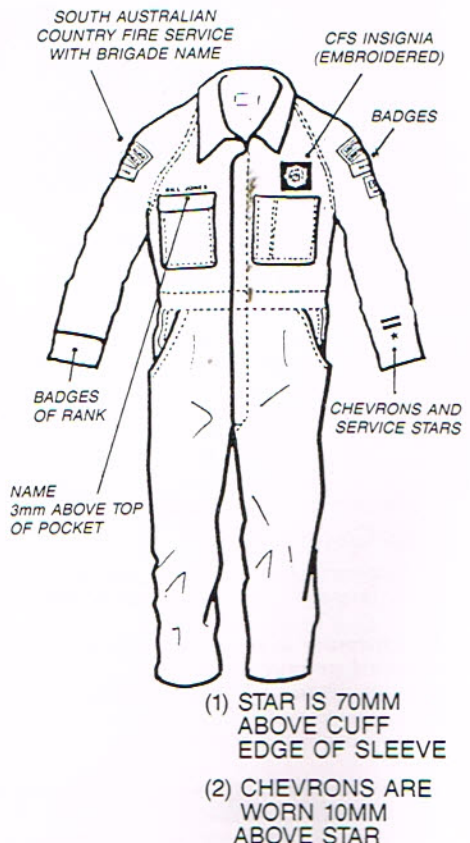
EXAMPLE:

# LAWSON

Fluorescent tape is available from Cutler Brands Distributors Pty. Ltd., 33 Humphries Terrace, Kilkenny, 5009. Telephone (08) 268 9888.

For overalls the rings commence 70mm above the right sleeve cuff and are 10mm apart. 12mm and 6mm ribbon is available from the Regional Office.

### OVERALLS (YELLOW)



## Fire awareness seminar - 560 students

Firefighters of the Mitcham Hills CFS Group (Belair, Blackwood and Eden Hills Brigades) conducted fire awareness seminars for years 8, 9 and 10 students from Blackwood High School, over 7 days in December, with up to 80 students each day.

The Seminars held at the Eden Hills fire station covered the structure, responsibilities and operations for the CFS; how to report a fire; fire danger season rules and regulations; how to make houses safer in bushfire prone areas; personal safety and protection in bushfires, a video about the CFS and summer fire safety and an inspection of fire appliance equipment and an explanation of its use.

Numerous aspects of the CFS were covered in 1½ hours and in particular, fire awareness in the Mitcham Hills area.

Seminar co-ordinator Ian Motley said, '14 volunteer group members were involved with instruction. The seminar was well received and may assist with the recruitment of cadet volunteers for the Group.'



Blackwood High School students become familiar with the Eden Hills 51 fire appliance.



# From the VFBA

## South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association



Front cover:

*'THERE IS NO MUST ...  
WE DO IT BECAUSE WE CARE'*

### Protecting your interests

Under the new Country Fires Act (1989) the South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (SAVFBA) is recognised as an association which represents the interests of CFS organisations, and the Association is empowered to take such steps as may be reasonably available to it to advance the interests of members of CFS organisations (The Aim).

The Association nominates people for appointment as Volunteer representatives on the CFS Board.

### Objectives

The objects of the Association are:

- To promote public concern in measures to be taken in the interests of fire prevention and fire extinction in the saving of both life and property.
- To recommend to the CFS Board and other appropriate authorities various measures for consideration in the development and efficiency of the CFS.
- To provide nominations to CFS board advisory committees.
- To appoint delegates to meetings of the Federal body - The Assembly of Volunteer Fire Brigades Associations.
- To perform any other function consistent with the aim of the Association.

Regional associations elect one delegate per thousand volunteers to the State general meetings with not more than four or fewer than two, with the exception of Region 3 where there are two Associations, one for Kangaroo Island and one for Yorke Peninsula, and each has one delegate.

The Association holds two general meetings and at least four management committee meetings per year. The executive committee meets as business dictates.

### Issues to be resolved

The VFBA now needs to concentrate its efforts to ensure that the Association is informed of the Volunteers' views on all contentious issues.

Regional VFBA's need to be made aware of the feelings of their members and to make those views known to their management committee delegates, representing the SAVFBA on the following committees:

- Occupational Health Safety and Welfare.
- Uniform and Protective Clothing.
- Vehicles and Equipment.
- Training.
- Communications.
- Competitions.

### Meeting the polities

Your executive has sought meetings with the Minister, John Klunder, and the Shadow Minister, Jamie Irwin, to discuss matters of concern and interest to the CFS volunteers. We hope that we shall be able to continue the rapport which has been established between our organisation and the politicians and to maintain that vital two-way communication that can overcome many misunderstandings.

### Crewing of appliances

As many of you will know, the Association has endeavoured to get the Board to rescind its policy on the maximum number of crew to be carried on appliances.

The policy reads:

'That CFS vehicles should only carry the number of personnel that they can seat and safely protect, with the exception of appliances without crew cabs where the limit should be six persons per vehicle.'

Following the circulation of a submission from the Region One VFBA to all other regions the matter was discussed in detail at the last State Management Committee Meeting and this time the Association could not support a further request to the Board for removal of this policy as only three regions shared Region One's concern.

We understand that the reasons put forward by the Board for maintaining this policy are:

- the safety of the crew is paramount
- new Hino appliances cannot be readily adapted to provide safe seating for more than six crew
- in most operational situations a crew of six is quite adequate

Members of the VFBA executive have seen the result of the impact of a rollover to one of the new appliances, and provided that the crew is seated and belted in, very little injury should be sustained.

The VFBA does not want to see reports of the following type in the 'Volunteer' in the future:

**Date: 30th January**

**Time: 1415 hours**

**International Fire Appliance and crew were responding to a fire call when it lost control at a sharp corner on a bitumen road and collided with two trees whilst**

**travelling downhill at approximately 60 kph.**

**The loss:**

- one vital fire appliance out of action for weeks
- appliance repair cost \$7300
- five members of the crew injured to varying degrees, one with a broken shoulder and concussion when thrown from the appliance will require treatment for some months
- compensation cost - unknown

The picture below graphically tells the tale.

Thanks go to the members of the Group concerned for permission to publish this information in the hope that it will bring home the need for safety consciousness at all times - if there is a seat, sit on it; if there is a belt, wear it, unless operational circumstances dictate otherwise.

### Ties

Don't forget the VFBA ties! Here is the order form.

VFBA ties are now available to all CFS volunteers. We have them in Junior Blue and Maroon at \$15.00 each plus 60¢ for postage.

To obtain a tie or ties, complete the order form and send money - No money - No tie!

### Order Form

To: VFBA

Box 182, Echunga, 5153.

Please send me:

Maroon tie (number required).....

Blue tie (number required).....

Cheque/money order/cash enclosed

\$.....

Cost \$15.00 per tie

Post 60¢ "

Total \$15.60 "

Name .....

Address .....

John Forster

Hon. Secretary

continued page 6





# REGIONAL NEWS

## Region 1

### Training issues

The training program for Region 1 volunteers has been developed and information is now available from your Group and Brigade training officers.

CABA courses and refreshers will be conducted at the Mount Lofty Ranges Training Centre at Brunkunga. The majority of Level 3 courses will be run at the South Coast Training Centre at Hope Forest, with 3 courses also being held at Brunkunga. Levels 1 and 2 are to be run by the Group. Most of the other courses will be at Brookway Park.

The demands placed on both volunteer and headquarters instructors are ever increasing, as a total of 37 courses from Level 3 upwards have been allocated to Region 1 alone.

To assist with the administration of the volunteer courses, we ask that you acknowledge your nomination by the return date when course information is sent to you. Get in early to your group training officer with your preferred dates to ensure the course won't be cancelled from lack of numbers.

### Incident summary

The Region 1 office received a total of 671 incident reports during January/February 1990.

Major incidents include 2 dangerous substance incidents involving ammonia leaks; 3 grass/scrub fires greater than 20 hectares and 2 structure fires.

The dangerous substance incidents were refrigeration plants, ammonia leaks at Dandy Smallgoods, Mount Barker and Hardys Winery, McLaren Vale. Although minor leaks, the incidents showed that we all need to tighten up our procedures to reduce the risk of injury to ourselves. This applies to both first responding Brigades as well as DS Brigades.

The largest bushfire for the fire danger season to date was a grass/scrub fire at Bridgewater Park. The fire was attended by the Stirling Group with assistance from adjoining CFS Groups. The fire was divided into 3 sectors and was co-ordinated at forward control by Stirling 01. Westpac State Rescue 1 and 2 bombers assisted with suppression and Region 1 Comms. Brigade assisted with communications. Damage was limited due to the mild prevailing conditions. Estimates of damage in this populated area were 50 hectares burnt, 1 shed destroyed and 1 km fencing. Losses totalled \$10 000.

Two structure fires - house Stirling East \$100 000 damage  
- shed Port Elliot \$150 000 damage.

### Stirling Group Officer awarded AFSM

Congratulations to Geoff Knight of the Stirling CFS Group for being awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours list. Geoff has a distinguished record of 30 years service with the CFS and is a recipient of the National Medal. Geoff continues his work with the CFS as the Stirling group officer and fire prevention officer for the District Council of Stirling.

### Apology

The Region 1 office regrets not including Morphett Vale/Reynella/Hackham Brigade in the list of Brigades that assisted with MFS Mutual Aid in the recent ship fire at Outer Harbour. Congratulations is expressed to all Brigades on a job well done.

OIC Russell Grear, RO David Cant

### Hahndorf CFS wins district award

Motivation, teamwork and the willingness to change earned Hahndorf CFS Brigade the Mt. Barker Group Proficiency Trophy for 1989. The award is judged on overall performance of each brigade in every aspect of CFS activity. The Hahndorf Brigade's enthusiastic attitude to the task of adopting new systems and rules under the revised CFS Act, 'spirit of volunteerism', training, upgrading of the fire station and appliances and attendance at meetings and call outs was reflected by all Hahndorf's 41 active firefighters.



Pictured above group officer Peter Mew (right) presents the Mt. Barker Group Proficiency Trophy to Hahndorf Brigade captain Steve Grant, to the delight of fellow members of the Brigade. Photo reproduced courtesy 'The Courier', Mt. Barker.

### Vale



COLIN (DANNY) SPARROW  
MORPHETT VALE/REYNELLA/  
HACKHAM CFS

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Morphett Vale CFS volunteer member Danny Sparrow, on 29 December 1989.

Danny first joined the Morphett Vale CFS in 1958 and was a devoted member. From 1969-1975 Danny was brigade captain and deputy chief officer.

All CFS personnel express their sympathy to Danny's wife Hazel and family.

### Vale



TANIA SAMES  
HAHNDORF CFS

It is with sadness that we learn of the death of Tania Sames aged 23 years, a member of the Hahndorf Brigade.

Tania was a vibrant young person who brought cheer to everyone who came in contact with her.

As a result of an asthma attack Tania was called by God to Himself in peace.

A dedicated brigade and community member Tania was always ready to help in time of need and will be sadly missed by her many friends.

Our sincere condolences are extended to her parents Otto and Anna and sisters Heidi, Annette and Virginia and relatives, at their loss.

Region News continued page 7

### From the VFBA cont . . .

#### ID cards

The Association requested the Board to consider making available identity cards for all registered CFS firefighters. However, the Board does not consider it appropriate to issue cards to all members due to the difficulty in implementation. The Board will, however, consider issuing cards to senior firefighters.

#### Helmet markings

Once again the Association has not been able to convince the board that helmet markings for senior firefighters are essential, particularly with the increasing use of turnout coats in some regions. However, we don't give up easily and we are putting in a further submission to stress the operational need for such markings.



# Region 1

## DS Exercise

by Jasmin McAllister, Region 1 'Volunteer'  
Country Correspondent

On Friday 23rd February 1990 eight CFS appliances assembled for a Breathing Apparatus/Dangerous Substance exercise at Hope Forest/The Range.

Appliances from Aldinga Beach, Blackfellows Creek, Hope Forest, McLaren Vale, The Range, Sellicks, Willunga and Yundi along with group and district officers and a south coast training centre vehicle met at Hope Forest Hall at 1930 hours. Following a briefing, the exercises were run like simulated incidents with appliances and crews being dispatched to either the BA at the Range Hall or the DS at Hope Forest Training Centre, under the command of base - Exercise Control.

The exercise finished at 2200 hours with a debriefing. Apart from a few minor communication problems, the night exercise ran smoothly.

Interest was expressed in holding another Group DS exercise in 3 months, hosted by Willunga CFS.

# Region 2

## National Medals - Eudunda

Eudunda CFS members and families held their annual family day on February 11th. Service awards and training certificates were presented by A/RO Region 2 David Letheby, to crew members.



## LEAK DETECTION PROCEDURE FOR ALUMINIUM CYLINDERS (FRP)

### WARNING!

The following procedure **must** be adopted when refilling such cylinders.

All **aluminium** cylinders be checked for leaks at the time of filling. See leak check procedure below.

A When pressure reaches 50% of service pressure, approximately 105 bars, and again at full service pressure, 207 bars, apply soapy water and observe for leaks (bubbles) at:

## Robertstown acquires new equipment

Robertstown recently took possession of 2 x PA80 CABA sets and a full set of VAR equipment. The equipment will provide a valuable asset to the Robertstown area. Training in this new equipment has already begun with priority given to VAR training early this year. L Booth, S Cocks, G. Sickerdick and A Schmidt successfully completed a CABA Course at MFS headquarters in late 1989.

Robertstown has just completed its RAPID system (Rural Areas Property Identification) with many hours spent researching and documenting property owners' grid reference numbers. In the event of an emergency, the property owner's place is easily identified when their grid reference number is quoted.

## Training

Training this season is expected to be quite hectic, with course vacancies being limited. If you are looking to undertake a training course this year, please contact your Brigade or Group training officer to enable your early placement on a course.

Training is essential if your Brigade is going to function effectively in the 1990's so, if you haven't undertaken a training course to this date, how about giving one a try. I'm sure that you will enjoy yourself and no doubt you will make many new friends. Just ask someone who has been to Brookway Park.

Pictured below from left: A/RO David Letheby presents the Australian National Medal to Eudunda CFS firefighter Kym Booth for 17 years service, with Brigade captain M. Prior looking on. Photo courtesy Barossa News Pty. Ltd.

## Region 2 Training program for 1990:

March	2, 3, 4,	Dangerous Substance (Region 2/6 & 4)
March	9, 10, 11,	Vehicle Accident Rescue (State)
March	16, 17, 18,	Officers 'A' (State)
March	16, 17, 18	Instructors Workshop (State)
March	23, 24, 25,	Breathing Apparatus (Region 2)
April	6, 7, 8,	Level 3 (State)
April	27, 28, 29,	Level 3 (Region 2)
April	27, 28, 29	Instructors Workshop (State)
May	4, 5, 6,	Vehicle Accident Rescue (Region 2)
May	11, 12, 13,	Officers 'B' (State)
June	22, 23, 24,	Officers 'B' (State)
June	29, 30, 1 July	Officers 'A' (Region 2/3)
August	3, 4, 5,	Breathing Apparatus (State)
August	17, 18, 19	Level 3 (Region 2)
August	31, 1, 2, Sept.	Breathing Apparatus (State)
August	31, 1, 2, Sept.	Instructors (State)
September	21, 22, 23	Officers 'B' (State)
October	12, 13, 14,	Officers 'B' (State)
October	19, 20, 21,	Vehicle Accident Rescue (Region 2)
October	26, 27, 28,	Breathing Apparatus (State)
November	9, 10, 11	Officers 'B' (State)
November	16, 17, 18,	Vehicle Accident Rescue (State)
November	23, 24, 25,	Officers 'A' (State)
November	30, 1, 2, Dec.	Officers 'B' (State)
November	30, 1, 2, Dec.	Vehicle Accident Rescue (State)
December	7, 8, 9,	Officers 'B' (State)

## Incidents

Region 2 Brigades have been extremely busy this summer, tackling many small outbreaks of fire. All incidents have been brought under control in a most efficient manner, and reflect upon the Brigade's high levels of training and dedication. Thankfully most incidents have been easily contained and property damage has been minimal.

Notable incidents:  
Grass Fire, Palmer 200 ha - 17/1/90  
Grass Fire, Kalbeeba 120 ha - 6/2/90  
Dangerous Substance, Cudlee Creek - 15/2/90  
House Fire, Dublin \$60 000 - 16/2/90  
Scrub Fire, Cobbler Creek 40 ha - 14/2/90

It was pleasing to note that the Kalbeeba fire, east of Gawler received many favourable comments, from the public and media and especially from the landowner Dr. Law Smith. He wrote to the regional office and said, 'I'm very grateful to the CFS and its members for their rapid and efficient limitation and termination of the grass and stubble fire on my property Yaringa, and enclose \$2 000 as a contribution to the CFS.' Brigades involved can expect their proportion of the money shortly.

## WELL DONE!

OIC Des Packer, A/RO David Letheby

continued page 8

In the event defective cylinders are found in your Region, loan cylinders should be made available from your regional stock, or by negotiation with Brookway Park.

Repeated filling of a cylinder with a shoulder/neck leak may lead to catastrophic failure of the cylinder causing serious injury or death.



## Region 3

### Stansbury soapbox derby

The annual running of the Stansbury Soapbox Derby was held in Towler Street on Sunday 28 January. The function, sponsored by local business houses is used as a fund raising event and is organised by Stansbury CFS.

A large crowd was entertained by some very competitive racing from juniors [4/5 year olds], through various age groups to adult.

Equipment ranged from basic, although well constructed soapboxes, through to streamlined fibreglass fully-encapsulated models complete with special racing tyres.

Following the presentation of trophies, service awards including a number of 10 year certificates were presented to members of Stansbury CFS.

### Southern Yorke Peninsula's great salt run

SYP's second Great Salt Run organised by the Lions Club of Yorketown and District, was held in near perfect weather on Sunday, 21 January.

Teams, pushing empty wheel-barrows, started from the Lions Clubrooms at Yorketown and travelled via Seven Roads to Lake Fowler, where they collected their load of 12.5 kg of salt. Then the dash (a mere 16 km) to the home of the salt industry of the early 1900's - the clifftops of Edithburgh.

The Salt Run attracted good support from the public, who took up vantage points along the route. A large crowd congregated at the finish line. There was a high level of enthusiasm and the entry of an all-girls team, the 'Salt Bags', came as a surprise to many, especially to their husbands/boy friends!

The day took on an international flavour, with the inclusion of Mads Clausen, an exchange student from Denmark, 'roped in' as a member of the Edithburgh CFS team. Staying with the Bartram family of Edithburgh for 12 months, Mads, who is used to somewhat milder summer temperatures had been having grave doubts about Australians and what they do in such temperatures. Sunday must have confirmed his worse fears - 'mad dogs and Australians go out in the noon-day sun'.

Mads couldn't be located when the team was lined up at the finish line for a photograph, but a search party eventually located him reclining, fully clothed in the shallows of the Edithburgh swimming pool!

Winners were Yorketown CFS, in 1 hour, 17 minutes, 1 second. Team members were Randall Quick, Tim Mackinlay, Adrian Gutsche, Craig Loechel, Mark Buckland and Wayne Haylock. In Second place, (1 hour, 19 minutes, 26 seconds) was the Edithburgh Sports Club team. Third place (1 hour, 19 minutes, 41 seconds) went to Edithburgh CFS comprising Shane Butfield, Bryan Clifford, Mads Clausen, Brenton Crosby, Roger Klingberg, Mike Natt. The Yorketown Football Club (1 hour, 25 minutes, 28 seconds) was fourth and the all girls 'Salt Bags' came home in fifth position in 1 hour, 37 minutes, 59 seconds.

Lions Club president, Peter Gates, assisted by secretary, Jim Lyall, presented trophies and medallions.

Article courtesy of Yorke Peninsula Country Times.

### Group Officer retires

Central Yorke Peninsula CFS group officer Hedley Schulz has retired after serving the community for some 25 years.

Having held the position of council appointed fire control officer for some time, Hedley was involved in forming the South Kilkerran CFS in February 1967 and became that Brigade's first president and officer in charge, a position he held until 1976. With the change of name from EFS to CFS Hedley was elected to the position of supervisor, later to become group officer, and successfully fulfilled the role until his retirement in late 1989.

Hedley is to be commended for his long, active and dedicated service to the community and the Country Fire Service.

To Hedley Schulz we say thanks for a job well done and extend best wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement.

OIC Winston Bryant

## Region 4

### Fires

The fire season has been an active one for Region 4 with many Brigades involved with a number of incidents. Of particular interest were the two fires in early January near Wilmington. Although neither fire resulted in large areas being burnt, both required extensive resource management. This was carried out in a professional and competent manner by the Group and Brigade officers from the area and the staff of the Wilmington base. The chain of command functioned well and no major problems were highlighted at the resultant debrief.

Carrieton, a district without a CFS Brigade experienced a fire of over 800 hectares in early February. Two CFS units from Ororoo and one from Hawker assisted a large number of local private units to contain this fire. Yongala, Wilmington and Quorn responded appliances but these were turned back prior to arriving at the scene.

### New office location

The Region 4 office is relocating to new premises on Highway 1, Port Augusta. This larger office can be found at 21 Victoria Parade (Highway 1). All contact numbers, addresses remain the same but an invitation is extended to all volunteers to drop in for a 'cuppa' if passing through the Port.

### Reporting of incidents

24 hour reporting of incidents by all Brigades is improving and we commend this, however if you have trouble getting through after hours on (086) 42 2399 call headquarters direct on (08) 297 7000. The commo operators will take details and if need be, page the regional duty officer.

### New groups

The CFS Board has registered the Clare & District CFS Group and the Peterborough District CFS Group, with Butch Bennett and Peter Malycha as the respective group officers. The regional office wishes both groups well with the tasks ahead.

### Bushfire prevention

Now that the fire season is drawing to a close, it is a good opportunity for everyone to look at bushfire prevention strategies in your areas. Your local Prevention Committee will be collating a report by May so all Brigades should be preparing feedback to that Group through their delegate.

### Training

A regional training program has been circulated to all Brigades throughout the region. Nominations will be sought in the near future for relevant courses.

OIC Tony Secker, RO Ross Pagram

### Region 9 - New Region Fires - pastoral areas

The 1989/90 fire season has been busy in the pastoral areas and has seen Yunta, Mintabie and Roxby Downs Brigades quite active with grass and scrub fires. The Kingoonya Brigade has also had its fair share with several fires throughout the area.

The largest of all these fires was the Ernabella/Mimilli fire, attended by the Mintabie Brigade, which was conservatively estimated at 900000 hectares burnt.

### New CFS unit - Cockburn

The CFS Board has agreed to the establishment of a CFS Brigade at Cockburn on the Barrier Highway. This Brigade has been provided with a 4WD International appliance by the CFS Board. The Brigade has sourced and built a shed to house the vehicle. This brigade has a very large area of responsibility from the NSW border to halfway to Yunta, which is the next nearest CFS Brigade along the Barrier Highway. We wish this Brigade well for the future in their role.

### New CFS unit - Far North & Flinders NPWS

The NPWS has registered their firefighting forces in the Far North and Flinders Districts as a new CFS Brigade. As such they operate like any other CFS Brigade with a set chain of command and area of responsibility.

### Replacement appliances

Iron Baron CFS has been advised that their appliance will be replaced by the CFS Board this year. Plans are well in hand also to upgrade the appliances at Andamooka and Coober Pedy.

### New office location

The Region 9 office has relocated to new premises on Highway 1 Port Augusta. If passing through Port Augusta, please feel free to drop in. The phone number and postal address remain the same.

### Information

All Brigades are requested to send in any stories or information that can be printed in this magazine. Remember this is your magazine.



continued page 9



This is the first time a separate Region 9 article has been written.

## REGION 9 IS NOW OFFICIALLY A REGION IN ITS OWN RIGHT AND HAS BEEN GAZETTED AS SUCH. IT CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING BRIGADES:

ANDAMOOKA  
COCKBURN  
COOPER PEDY  
EASTERN DISTRICTS  
IRON BARON  
IRON KNOB  
KINGOONIA  
LEIGH CREEK  
MARLA  
MARREE  
MINTABIE  
ROXBY DOWNS  
WILPENA  
YUNTA  
FAR NORTHERN FLINDERS (YET TO BE FORMED INTO CFS BRIGADE)

OIC Tony Secker, RO Ross Pagram

## News from the North East

by Roslyn Breeding, 'Volunteer' Country Correspondent, Teetulpa Station, Yunta.

Volunteers of the Yunta Fire Brigade have responded to a number of call-outs over the summer months. The Flying Scotsman steam-train was accompanied by Yunta 61 as it journeyed through the North East on 30th October 1989. Fires caused by trains are a constant concern in the district as was demonstrated on 12th November 1989, when sparks from the Indian Pacific ignited 25 fires within a 30 km. stretch of track. Yunta, Peterborough and private appliances attended the fires which were contained between the railway line and the AN graded fire-breaks.

Several fires, none major, have occurred on pastoral properties in the North East with lightning being a common cause. Other causes included a vehicle exhaust, a dropped cigarette and a homestead incinerator.

The border township of Cockburn now has its own CFS unit which will alleviate the necessity for Yunta 41 to travel up to 130 kms, to attend a fatal vehicle accident and fire, as was the case earlier this year.

Local volunteers took part in a night search when a station employee failed to return home by dusk. A foot-sore, but otherwise well, station-hand arrived home - without his motor bike, at 2300 hours.

At the instigation of the North East Regional Fire Fighting Association, a UHF Repeater tower was erected 22 kms north of Yunta, and became operational on 27th November. With most pastoralists, and some town residents, having sets, UHF radio has been used extensively in the case of fires and other emergencies.

A meeting was held on 13th December, 1989, to discuss the feasibility of combining Yunta's CFS Brigade and the State Emergency Services unit. In attendance were representatives of CFS, SES, SA Police Department, St. John Ambulance Brigade and local volunteers. It was resolved that the Yunta Brigades of the CFS and SES would be run as a combined body having one controlling officer. A SES training course and a first aid course are planned for the next few months in the North East.

## Region 5

### Murray Sherwell honoured

Officer in charge CFS Region 5 Mr. Murray Sherwell, from Naracoorte has been awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal for his efforts on behalf of the CFS and all rural fire fighting during the past 43 years.

Mr. Sherwell, 59, 'rather humbled', said he was honoured to accept the award, not only on behalf of himself and his family, but for the CFS.

'It reflects on the service the organisation provides rural areas', Mr. Sherwell said.

His fire fighting career began as a volunteer at Wimmera, Victoria, before moving to Nhill, spending 20 years at Bordertown as a volunteer and finally joining the CFS as a full time career in 1979 after becoming a volunteer regional officer at Bordertown with the Country Fire Brigades Association in 1968.

CFS chief executive officer, Mr. Donald Macarthur, said the honours system now recognised fire service after the discontinuation of the Imperial (Queen's) Fire Service Medal.

'Murray has been dedicated to the fire service for many years and fully deserves his award', said Mr. Macarthur.



R O Murray Sherwell  
Officer in Charge Region 5

## Region 6

### Incidents

Whilst most Brigades in the region have had some activity over the past few weeks, at this point it has been a relatively mild summer with no major fires in any areas. No time for complacency, there is more summer to come.

### 616 years of service

Monday 26th February was a big day for the Lower Eyre Peninsula Group. Three appliances were commissioned, - Mt. Hope, Karkoo and the new special purpose Cummins 58. At the same ceremony, service certificates representing 616 years of service were present by chief executive officer, Mr. Donald Macarthur, making this a very special occasion.

The regional spare appliance is no longer - although still showing the call sign of State 56, it is now stationed at Nundroo, and is the appliance of the Far West CFS Brigade. All the best to those who will crew the unit.

## Training

The Regional Training Committee met in early February, discussions centred around the training program for this year. Please remember, if you have nominated for a training course, please make every effort to honour that nomination - the courses are programed and run for you.

The Tumby Bay Group recently ran a successful Level 1 on a Sunday/Monday combination. I believe the same format is to be followed for a forthcoming Level 2.

## Competitions

The Region 6 VFBA executive also met in February. This band of dedicated 'furies' travelled to Wudinna and spent a considerable time in discussion. One of the topics was competitions. These are to be held at Port Lincoln on 5th August. Enter a team, you're guaranteed to have some fun and enjoy the experience. If you can't enter a team this year, at least keep the date free to come along and see how it's down for next year.

## Articles

As a reminder - any Group or Brigade who wish an item to be published in the 'Volunteer', please lodge your copy via the Region 6 headquarters. Remember it's your magazine - use it to publish your articles.

OIC Chris Martin

## Region 7

### New office complex

The Murray Bridge regional office has moved to the new complex at 6 Third Street, Murray Bridge. The new complex offers improved reception, meeting, communications and operational facilities. The communications system is expected to be completed very shortly.

## Training

The 1990 training program has been circularized. Brigades and Groups are requested to have their nominations in early for both regional and state courses. Brigades and Groups wishing to conduct Level 1 and 2 are asked to forward those requests through the regional office to the Regional Training Committee. This will ensure all courses have the required resources available to them.

OIC Andrew Lawson

### National Medal presentation

by John Campbell, Captain, Murray Bridge CFS

Murray Bridge CFS volunteer Kevin Newman has been recognised for his service to the CFS with the presentation of a National Medal and Service bar. Kevin has been associated with the CFS for 27 years and recently received his 15 year National Medal and 10 year bar.

Kevin joined the organisation in the days of EFS in November 1962 at Woodside. He was eager to complete all training schools being held at that time and proved to be a keen supporter of their competitions team.

After 14 years service in the Woodside Brigade Kevin spent a further 3 years with the Mt. Barker CFS and 8 years with the Mypolonga CFS Brigade. Kevin has been attached to the Murray Bridge CFS Brigade for the last 2 years and lately settled into operating the base radio.

Congratulations Kevin!



## Country Correspondents

In past issues of the 'Volunteer' the opportunity to become a Country Correspondent was presented to readers.

A number of individuals from CFS Brigades around the State have at times submitted an article or two, and on each occasion the author has been acknowledged. One of the more regular writers has been Murray Bridge Brigade captain John Campbell.

The Editor acknowledges the contributions made and wishes to make it known that the time and trouble it took to submit articles is appreciated.

It is with great pleasure and high hopes that the first two official volunteer Country Correspondents are introduced to you.

But first a word on the country correspondent scheme itself:

- The country correspondent does not exclude anyone else from writing in, or contributing to the 'Volunteer'.
- The correspondent is not designed to replace all other avenues for obtaining regional news. It is merely one of the many avenues through which the Editor of the 'Volunteer' attempts to gather information.

### Mrs. Roslyn Breeding - Region 9 Volunteer Country Correspondent

Mrs. Roslyn Breeding has been appointed as the 'Volunteer' official volunteer correspondent for the North East Pastoral Area.

Roslyn was born at Mallala and grew up at Gawler. In 1976 she went to the North East for a one-year employment position, met and married Warren Breeding in 1979 and has lived at Teetulp Station Yunta since then.

Roslyn is the editor of the Yunta North East News (free community newspaper) and her interests revolve around her family - and various community activities.

Roslyn and Warren have two children - Simon aged 7 years and Angela aged 5 years.



Roslyn Breeding

### Jasmin McAllister - Region 1 Volunteer Country Correspondent

Jasmin McAllister has been appointed as the 'Volunteer' official volunteer correspondent for Region 1.

Jasmin, 18 years, is studying for a Bachelor of Education in Dance at the South Australian College of Advanced Education.

Jasmin is a member of the McLaren Vale CFS Brigade and is involved in qualifying in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Silver Medal section. Her skills in journalism to date involve in-house school publications.

We wish our new correspondents well with their future endeavours.



Jasmin E. McAllister

## ALL FIRES DON'T DESTROY FAUNA

Recent studies at Penola and Kuitpo Forests on the effects of prescribed burning on small, ground-dwelling native mammals have proved that some individuals can survive fires and recolonise their habitat - but only if the shrub layer is not completely burnt.

The marsupial mouse, bush rat, swamp rat, dunnart, silky mouse and bandicoot are all native mammals that depend upon low shrubs and litter for food and shelter. Any fire that totally burns this vegetation destroys their homes - and usually destroys them too.

When an animal is able to escape the effects of the fire in its habitat area, it has to be allowed enough unburnt, unburnt land to re-establish itself - otherwise it will need to encroach into the territory of other animals and will probably die anyway.

It takes up to five years of plant regeneration until there is sufficient food and shelter for species to return to the area. The plants will grow again, or even different species grow, but the animals have to survive in the unburnt patches or be able to move into the regenerated area from unburnt areas nearby.

South Australia isn't like other States where large areas of native forests are common. The Woods and Forests Department manages about 20,000 hectares of native forest - and this area is smaller than many of the individual forestry reserves in the other States.

All of our native forest now occurs as 'islands' surrounded by pine plantation or open farmland. These islands are very susceptible to disturbances, such as weed invasions, the results of firewood collection, recreational vehicles and, particularly, fire.

Our habitat islands are very important

for the animals that now exclusively depend upon them for food, friends and shelter. Any activity that excessively damages the amount of cover, food and shelter that these areas provide, affects the dependent population of animals.

By studying capture patterns with burn patterns, it has been found that animal populations increase within a few years of a fire because the ground cover is not too thick - as it would be in an older forest environment. This shows that prescribed burning is not detrimental to the animal populations - as long as the area is not overburnt.

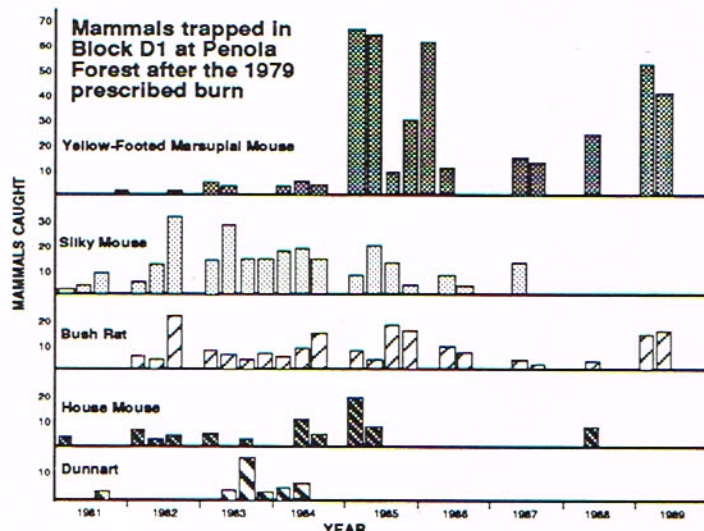
Prescribed burning is essential to remove fire hazards such as excessive leaf litter and bracken but, with care and pre-planning, an area can be burnt to leave a mosaic of untouched bush for the animals.

We all have responsibility of ensuring these plants and animals are present and can be appreciated by future generations - because these areas are 'living museums'.

Woods and Forests has been managing many areas of native forest since 1875. Many have been burnt in wildfires and many have been prescribe burnt. The results of the mammal trapping studies at Kuitpo and the continuing study at Penola is proving that the Department's widely practiced Prescribed Burning Policy of minimising canopy scorch and maintaining a mosaic of burnt and unburnt patches in the shrubs will allow plants and animals to survive for future generations.

Article reproduced courtesy W & F 'Timber News'

By Brian Gepp, Forest Operations





## 1990 NZI Rural Fire Safety Awards

The presentation of awards for one of the biggest rural fire safety contests in Australia; the 1990 New Zealand Insurance Rural Fire Safety Awards was held in Adelaide on Friday 9 March.

A record \$12 000 worth of cash and prizes was awarded to property owners from the Barossa Valley Hills and Lower Murray, Mid-Northern Agricultural, Yorke Peninsula, Riverland & Lower North, South East and Eyre Peninsula judged the most fire safety conscious farmers for 1989/90.

### Winners

**STATE - Murray & Colleen & Graeme and Bronwyn Gerschwitz of Minnipa.**

**REGION -**

**Barossa Valley & Lower Murray**

1st Mark & Marilyn Phillips, Eudunda

2nd Don & Joy Pfitzner, Eudunda

3rd Bob & Lorall Barr, Pinery

**Mid-North**

1st John & Beverley Young, Port Pirie

2nd Paul & Yvonne Wurst, Appila

3rd Tom & Laurel Ferme, Wandearah

**Yorke Peninsula**

1st Graham & Bev Taylor, Kulpara via Kadina

2nd Malcolm & Ute Gersch, Maitland

3rd Kel & Margaret Yelland, Kadina

**Riverland & Lower North**

1st Allan & Leila Schiller, Pinnaroo

2nd Don & Joy McKenzie, Pinnaroo

3rd Adrian & Jill McConchie, Pinnaroo

**South East**

1st Allan & Joan Auld, Kalangadoo

2nd Jon & Pam Prance, Millicent

3rd Robert & Jannette Boord, Naracoorte

**Eyre Peninsula**

1st Murray & Colleen, & Graeme & Bronwyn Gerschwitz, Minnipa

2nd Lester & Celestine Barnes, Cummins

3rd Jim & Sally Lawrie, Ungarra

Regional finalists received \$1000 cash, 2nd place - 2 FFE fire extinguishers and 3rd placegetters - 1 FFE fire extinguisher.

### Progress

The Hon. Ron Roberts MLC represented the Minister of Emergency Services at the NZI awards.

Mr. Roberts spoke on the commitment made by the regional finalists and NZI Insurance and of the progress made by the CFS in development and implementation of bushfire prevention strategies designed to minimise the impact of bushfires on community assets, in the areas of land management, building and development and education and publicity.

Mr. Roberts outlined the following achievements:

- establishment of a Bushfire Prevention Unit in 1986
- proclamation of a new Country Fires Act in September last year. The most progressive legislation of its kind in Australia.

- publication of the booklet 'Guidelines for Bushfire Prevention Planning' and a start to the preparation of specific bushfire prevention plans.
- the incorporation of basic bushfire safety features into the Building Act and Regulations for buildings in designated bushfire prone areas.
- controls on subdivision in areas with an unacceptably high level of bushfire risk; and
- provision of an advisory service by the CFS to planning authorities on the siting, design and vegetation modification required to build safely in high hazard areas of the State.

Mr. Roberts said 'while some progress has been made in the areas of public education and awareness of the need for self help, public apathy is still the major barrier to be overcome'.

'It is still difficult to motivate people to take the action necessary to safeguard their own lives and property,' he said.

'Like the CFS, New Zealand Insurance recognises that this apathy must be overcome. Accordingly for the past five years NZI has helped break down the barriers by running a farmer's incentive and fire prevention advisory program', said Mr. Roberts.

### Aim

The annual NZI Rural Fire Safety Awards are designed to:

- promote the active participation of the State's rural land holders in improved farm fire protection practices; and
- raise the level of awareness and the standard of fire protection on rural properties.

The ultimate aim of NZI in conjunction with CFS and other land managers is to reduce the incidence and impact of fires.

### Judging

Preliminary judging of the 51 entrants across the State was undertaken by the local NZI representatives supported by CFS

officers in each of the six zones and the likely top four placegetters in each zone were identified.

The chief judge Mr. Bill Green, retired CFS superintendent bushfire research and prevention then visited each of the properties to choose the six zone winners and from them, an overall State winner.

Each property was judged on fire protection measures in and around the home, sheds, paddocks and fence lines and on the maintenance and location of farm firefighting equipment.

Every entrant received a 'feed back report', in the form of a written assessment of their farm fire prevention practices.

### 300 entries

The NZI Rural Fire Safety Awards supported by the CFS have been running for five years with prizemoney totalling almost \$30 000. During this time over 300 rural properties have entered the competitions.

Over this period the media has widely publicised the awards and covered stories on fire protection measures undertaken by properties judged in the awards.

### NZI honoured

Following the Rural Fire Safety Awards a 'surprise presentation' of a special "Operation Firesafe Award" was made by CFS executive officer Mr. Alan Ferris to NZI manager marketing, business and rural division NSW, Mr. Chris Cassar and NZI manager SA country branch Mr. Scott Armstrong, as an expression of gratitude from the CFS and the community.

Mr. Ferris said the award was given in recognition of the positive and practical role played by New Zealand Insurance Australia Limited in working with the CFS to encourage the rural community of SA to better protect their homes, families, livestock and properties against the threat of fire.



Pictured above inspecting the Operation Firesafe Award presented to NZI Insurance; from left: Member of the Legislative Council Ron Roberts, CFS executive officer Alan Ferris, chief judge Bill Green, NZI manager SA country branch Scott Armstrong and NZI manager marketing, business and rural division NSW Chris Cassar.



# TECHNICAL ASPECTS

## Tackling Building Fires

by RO Mike Gent, Building Fire Safety

'Every fire is different', I was told as a young firefighter. Whilst this is true, and we learn from every experience, we can categorise small building fires to some extent and plan ahead.

An article like this can only cover a narrow field otherwise it would become a manual of firemanship. The intention is to make you think about how you would tackle a probable fire in a building within your area of turnout. Not a large building because you should already have pre-planned how you would tackle any large building in your area - if you haven't, get started.

First imagine a fire in a single storey house. The call has been delayed and when you get there, the place is well alight, not much smoke because the roof is involved as well and it has vented itself. Got the picture?

If anyone is inside, it's too late, you can't risk firefighter's lives and in any case no one could possibly enter such an inferno.

This fire is easy, there is little to save. The decisions are, protect any nearby buildings and go for a fast knock down with large diameter hose lines. Remember to attack the base of the fire letting the steam do the work at roof space level. Pouring water at holes in the roof looks spectacular on TV but is inefficient. **Tackle the base of the fire first.**

Our second small building fire has been discovered early, we are there within minutes, no flame is visible but plenty of smoke is evident. First question, is anyone inside?

IF YES - Don CABA and start a search, taking in a hose reel. Consider ventilating to aid searchers.

IF NO - Be certain its No! from someone reliable. Don CABA and find the fire, taking in a hose reel.

Arriving at a building with only smoke visible means you have to find the fire before you can put it out. That may seem a simple statement, but so often firefighters will pour water into smoke, the rule is: **if you can't see flame turn your water off.**

We need to find the fire, get some clues, ask and observe, just as a detective at a crime would do; only we are short on time.

A shouted question to bystanders might be 'Who called up?', 'Who lives here?'. The one who answers is probably a witness to the early stages of the fire.

The next question of this person is,

'Where did the fire start?' If you get a straight answer such as in the kitchen, lounge or bedroom, ask which part of the house so that you can enter and find the seat of the fire quickly. Confirmation by observation of cracked windows in that part of the building will help.

An answer such as, smoke seen coming from under roof tiles confirmed by observation that the windows are not yet smoke blackened will lead you to suspect a roof fire. This will need to be carefully ventilated without actually going on the roof. It can be most embarrassing to start using a high pressure spray in a building full of smoke only to find that the fire is in the roof.

Talking and planning at drill nights, sharing experiences with younger members to give them valuable experience, will all help.

Remember the rules:

- (1) Always aim water at the base of a fire.
- (2) Never aim water at smoke.
- (3) Ask questions to find out where the fire is.
- (4) Observe by touch and smell as well as eyesight to determine where and what, is on fire.
- (5) At all times you must look after your own safety and the safety of others around you.

That last point is what prompted this article. We were to reproduce an article by Francis Brannigan from 'Speaking of Fire' in the US it was entitled "Know Your Enemy", and discussed the problems of building stability in fires. The article was good for the usual type of construction in the US but every country has its more common types of construction, even States in Australia differ. Country areas of NSW have a lot of timber with fibro clad buildings. Here in SA we tend to have stone for older homes, later buildings have been built of all brick while today the most modern consist of all timber, with a brick wall surround, after the roof has been put on. The brick walls in the latest buildings support nothing, they are there for appearance and to give weather protection. They are actually stabilised by wall ties (thin pieces of metal) to the timber load bearing frame. If you are not familiar with the construction have a look at a new dwelling being built. This will help you understand how that construction will behave in a fire.

You will see that doorways are a

strengthened area, to you this means safety should a roof start to collapse when you are in the building.

Doorways are usually resting on sleeper walls (floor supports), again a safer place to be if a house built on a slope has a fire under it and you are inside when the floor burns through!

Look at the various types of building construction in your area. Think and talk amongst yourselves about how these buildings might behave in a fire.

Tiles falling off a roof fire will chop your hose, so don't get hose lines parallel to such a fire.

Modern roof construction of factory made light frames burn through much faster than a carpenter's 'cut on site' type of rafter, ridge and purlin.

Fire can travel through the cavities of timber frame construction with brick 'veneer'. The lesson here is, to make sure the fire is out. A small room fire is put out and the fire scene left. A call later to a fire in the same building gives us a bad name.

Check by feeling and smelling, by noting any discolouration of the plasterboard linings in all rooms and if doubtful lift a few tiles over the cavity outer wall, smell and feel for smoke, watch for heat shimmering the air. A fire in a cavity can smoulder for a long time and can be most difficult to trace.

Learn about signs of collapse from training notes.

During any fire, these tell tale signs must be noted and a warning given. If you are the officer in charge of a fire you must be on the lookout for the safety of your crew.

**'If in doubt get out', - is yet another rule.**

**'If in doubt turn out'.** Another rule often ignored. You get a call and decide to go and have a look before turning out the fire appliance. **Never** ever do this, even if you have had two or three false calls to a building with an automatic fire detection system installed. **Every fire call must have the response of a crew and fire appliance.** There is no exception to this rule. At a Coroner's Inquest after a fire in which someone was injured or died, you can imagine how you would feel standing there in the cold light of day saying, 'I thought it best to go and have a look first'.

### Arson dob-in plan for SA

A 'Reward Scheme' that provides cash incentives for people to 'dob in' arsonists is likely to be operating in SA within three months.

The scheme, organised by the Insurance Council of Australia, already is operating successfully in NSW and Victoria. Five people have been charged with arson offences since the scheme was introduced in Victoria.

Like the successful Neighbourhood Watch crime prevention scheme, the new plan relies heavily on public support and

acceptance. It provides rewards of up to \$25,000 to people who provide information leading to the conviction of arsonists.

ICA executives and SA police have been discussing implementation of the scheme for several weeks. ICA's SA regional manager, Mr Noel Thompson, said the introduction of the scheme in SA was a 'step in the right direction'.

There are two instances for which rewards may be recommended for information leading to the conviction of an arsonist:

- Where a property owner, insured by a member of the ICA or other participating insurance companies, destroys property to make a fraudulent claim; and
- Where a third party deliberately sets fire to a property leaving the owner an innocent victim.





## Mt. Bold fire

On the 4th March, 1990 a bushfire near Mt. Bold Reservoir burnt an area of 200 hectares in dense native bushland. Approximately 50 appliances with excess of 300 firefighters fought the blaze.

Smoke that blanketed the Adelaide Hills and metropolitan area was evidence of the fire's intensity. Fire embers drifted over the Adelaide Hills up to 15 kms from the fire, but did not start spot fires except in the immediate area.

The main operational problem was the inaccessibility of the terrain, making it difficult for firefighters to directly attack the fire front. Firefighters on foot using rake hoes secured a 20 metre width break around the fire perimeter. Westpac State Rescue 1 provided assistance to ground crews giving direction and location of major fire fronts. Two bombing aircraft aided suppression efforts by dropping foam retardant. The newly formed Cherry Gardens airstrip was used and the local Cherry Gardens CFS provided aerial support.

The fire was divided into 3 sectors and sector commanders provided the Incident Commander, Barker 01, with situation reports as the incident developed. The strategy for control was to backburn the western and northern boundaries of the fire during the calm night conditions and to contain the fire within these breaks. This proved to be successful and the fire was controlled within a few hours.

The fire burnt in Engineering and Water Supply and Woods & Forests land, and within the Echunga Police Training Reserve. These three services assisted with fire control. Functional services that provided support to the volunteers were the St. John volunteer first aid unit and paid Ambulance staff, Police and the SES.

Catering was provided by the Barker CFS Group and supported by the Stirling Group and Salvation Army.

Damage to property was minimal due to the efforts of the firefighters and the mild fire weather conditions. No stock or property losses were reported. Firefighter casualties were limited to eye washes, abrasions and heat exhaustion.

The region 1 staff wish to express their thanks to all volunteers who assisted with firefighting and support roles.

cont. page 16

## Millbrook/Gumeracha fire

The Adelaide Hills faced its largest bushfire since Ash Wednesday, when at 1410 hours on Thursday, 8th March, a fire broke out near the former Chain of Ponds township.



The fire was visible from most of Adelaide and moved in an easterly direction towards the township of Gumeracha, destroying approximately 750 hectares.

Land burnt consisted of grazing land, new vineyards, pine plantations and scrub country between Inglewood and Gumeracha.

Weather conditions assisted with the spread of fire, the day had a temperature of 32°C, R.H. 10% and winds from the west north west at 46 kph.



Photograph of the Gumeracha bushfire 'north-east front' (off Checkers Hill Road) 3 kms from Gumeracha. Photographer Roseworthy CFS Bridge lieutenant Peter Ashcroft.

Police set up and maintained road blocks.

A total of some 80 appliances, including CFS, Woods and Forests, National Parks and Wildlife Service and SAMFS attended, with a personnel count estimated to be 600 over various shifts during the first 24 hours. Firefighters on the ground were given aerial support in the form of Westpac State Rescue 1 and 3 aerial bombers, operating from both Kersbrook and Woodside airstrips.

At the height of the fire, plans were made to evacuate the Gumeracha District Soldiers Memorial Hospital. Fire appliances and CFS volunteers were on standby near the building and elderly citizens complex across the road.

Sightseers who had flocked from Adelaide were ordered out by police.

The blaze was halted by firefighters and 3 aerial bombers, when it was about 500 metres from Gumeracha and the nearby fruit-growing hamlet of Forreton.

The fire was contained after 6 hours, with many hotspots being patrolled for the following week. The fire is one of a number of fires in the area this summer and is being closely investigated by the Police Fire Investigation Unit.

Reported damage totalled \$500000 to the Kersbrook pine plantation owned by Woods and Forests, \$70000 to a shearing shed,

\$7000 to a private vehicle, 50 sheep were burnt and extensive damage resulted to native vegetation owned by the E & WS. 3 CFS volunteer firefighters were admitted to hospital for treatment and released.

Region 2 headquarters would like to thank all those people concerned for a difficult job well done.

## Courage & skill

On Thursday afternoon (8 March 1990) I ran, started the pumps, secured the stock and caught the horse. I parked my car by the escape route opened the gates, shifted the sprinklers and waited.

The sky turned red and, as I looked a yellow plane (water bomber) flew over the hill behind me. It flew just above the trees, circled over my house and plunged down into the depths of the thick smoke. As it came out my little girl said 'It's like a honeybee'.

cont. page 14



Blackfellows Creek CFS volunteers mop up the fire south of the Police Training Reserve at Echunga.

Photograph reproduced courtesy 'The Courier' Mt. Barker.



## Courage & skill cont.

As I listened I could hear the CFS units in attendance at the Millbrook/Gumeracha fire calling on their radios.

May I publicly thank those people who showed such courage and skill to protect their community.

We owe you a great deal.  
Het Maynard  
Gumeracha

## Scott Creek fire

A major fire that started on Thursday 22 March 1990 at 1614 hours, on the Dorset Vale Road south of Cherry Gardens was contained by 1600 hours Friday 23 March.

The Scott Creek fire burnt an estimated 300 hectares of grass and scrubland in inaccessible vegetation along with 4 sheds and 4 sheep. The bushfire moved through a section of the Scott Creek Conservation Park on private and E&WS land, in steep gullies and isolated terrain.

CFS volunteer firefighters, NPWS, W&F and E&WS personnel were supported by 2 aerial bombers and Westpac State Rescue one helicopter.

The aerial bombers based at Cherry Gardens airstrip ran fire retardant and aerial foam drops on the fire flanks and front until dusk on Thursday and throughout the next day.

Fire appliances placed strategically on the access tracks, ran long hose lines down in to the steep gullies where the volunteers combatted the fire on foot. A bulldozer assisted fire crews in preparing fire breaks. Fresh crews were rostered for the night time patrols.

Backburning was done throughout Thursday evening on the SW and SE flanks. Firefighters were hampered by hot spots.

Early Friday morning Task Forces from neighbouring regions assisted with the changeover of all weary fire crews.

Firefighters were taxed all of Friday by the heat, and shifting winds which created hot spots along the fire edge. The added burden of the need for water and other resources also had to be met.

A major forward control point was established next to the Cherry Gardens airstrip to meet the needs of the volunteer firefighters. Catering was ably handled by local CFS Groups supported by the Salvation Army.

Dense scrub and steep gullies on the northern flank and Onkaparinga River kept fire crews busy all day working to contain the fire. Co-operation between services was excellent and through a joint effort, the firefighters contained the blaze within existing breaks and land features.

At the height of the fire flames reached over 25 metres in the tree tops. A total of 65 fire appliances supported by 9 water tankers fought the blaze, aided by 2 aerial bombers and Westpac State Rescue one. Firefighters numbered 400.

The size of the operation, involved co-ordination by a team of key people carrying out specific functions. As the fire built up the Australian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIIMS) was introduced into the fire management/control. Functions of senior CFS volunteer officers involved incident control, incident command, planning and logistics. This left the Incident Controller free to co-ordinate and manage the fire safely.

By 1700 hours Friday many crews and

appliances were being stood down. Fresh CFS volunteer firefighters brought in with 26 appliances and 4 water tankers worked throughout Friday night mopping up and extinguishing a vast amount of burning trees, logs and scrub inside the fire perimeter.

Some stumps continued to smoulder for days causing a smoke haze which drifted across nearby districts of Clarendon and Happy Valley.

Aerial bombers again made foam drops on Saturday to dampen the area to assist ground crews. Brigades remained at the fire area for almost a week to complete the mopping up.

In paying a special tribute to the true 'heroes' at the fire fight, Mr. Tony Wiedeman Regional officer operations said 'that volunteer firefighters and support personnel combatted the fire for over 36 hours'. The untiring effort made by so many people is a tribute to the contribution volunteers and their employers give towards our communities protection,' said Mr. Wiedeman.

The Scott Creek (706 hectare) conservation park has suffered from a spate of bushfires over the past 5 years, reported NPWS resource protection officer Mr. Geoff Chapman.

'These fires have significantly reduced the refuge of the locally endangered southern brown bandicoot and other wildlife, including the short-beaked echidna and western grey kangaroo.'

'The fires have also resulted in an increase in weeds like the 'bone seed', which is a prolific seeder after fire,' said Mr. Chapman.

## FIRE BAN - EXTREME

Extreme fire weather conditions, temp. 34.5°, RH down to 21.8%, winds NE gusting to 45-50 kph on Monday 26 March resulted in CFS brigades in high fire risk areas being on active standby.

The Mt. Lofty Ranges experienced the most dangerous fire weather conditions for this fire danger season.

A quick response from the standby crews enabled the combatant forces supported by aerial bombers to achieve a rapid knockdown of all fires.

Throughout Monday 26 March, Country Fire Service Brigades were called out to 17 different incidents which involved scrub fires, grass fires, trees set alight, a vehicle fire and fires that originated in dumps. Others were false alarms and smoke sightings nothing found. These incidents stretched from the north at Kokatha Station (near Birdsville Track); west to Port Lincoln; at Pinnaroo in the Murrumbidgee and south to Cockaleechee and Ungarra on Eyre Peninsula, at Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island, along with fires in the Mt. Lofty Ranges.

## Paint it white!

A gate is hard to see in the smokey darkness of a major fire . . . so one Charleston land owner has painted his gates and gateposts white.

Onkaparinga group supervisor Cam Stafford described the action by Ken Teakle of 'Goonhilly Downs' as "a shining example of fire consciousness and awareness".

'The CFS is criticised from time to time when fences are cut especially when a gate is nearby', Mr. Stafford said.

'When fire fighters are under pressure during a grass fire, and there is a lot of smoke around - which doesn't enhance

## One Tree Hill fire

The One Tree Hill fire reported at 1112 hours Monday 26 March, in scrub near Kestrel Road off Karwin Road, 5km north of Kersbrook on private land, was contained by 1230 hours, through the quick action of the first responding crews and the use of aerial bombers.

The fire headed south and burnt 20 hectares of private land in native forest and scrub/woodland and grass adjacent to the Mt. Crawford Forest Reserve. Some fencing was destroyed.

Damage estimate \$2,000.

18 CFS, 6 W&F, 2 NPWS appliances and 3 water tankers attended. Police, St. John and E&WS provided support roles.

Two (2) Fixed wing aerial bombers working out of the Kersbrook airstrip did aerial foam and fire retardant drops. Two (2) additional aerial bombers were called in from the SE Region to provide backup support.

The fire was believed to have started by an angle grinder. Police have reported a person.

## Knott Hill and Wicks Road fires

### (KUITPO FOREST)

Mt. Lofty firetower reported 2 fires at Knott Hill and Wicks Road, within the Kuitpo Forest at 1257 hours Monday 26 March. The fires were contained by 1428 hours.

Barker Group actioned the report as a 'Third Alarm' under their Incident Response Plan. Immediate response by local Brigades and arrival of 4 aerial bombers within 15 minutes of the fire call resulted in a rapid control of the fires.

The Knott Hill fire burnt approximately 2 hectares of pines and eucalyptus while the Wicks Road fire burnt 1/2 hectare of pines.

16 Country Fire Service appliances, 3 Woods & Forests, 3 water tankers and 4 aerial bombers fought the fire, directed by the Westpac State Rescue One helicopter.

CFS chief operations officer Mr. Howard McBeth thanked all CFS Brigades who remained on standby, for their dedication. 'The community should be comforted to know that CFS volunteers were there to protect them on this extremely fire prone - hot and windy day, as and when the need arose,' said Mr. McBeth.



visibility - it is surprisingly easy to miss a gate.

'Anything that makes a gate stand out is an advantage'.

Fences presented a big problem to fire fighters, delaying the fire units while doing nothing - of course - to limit the blaze.

White gates and gateposts would make it much easier for them to see access points to a property, saving time and fencing wire.

Mr. Stafford said this idea was only one feature of a well-run property distinguished by detailed attention to fire hazards.

'The owner has made sure the road verges are maintained and the homestead and shed areas are well protected by green belts', he said.



## Other incidents -

January to March 1990

### JANUARY 1990

4 - **MUNDUNNEY FIRE** - (N-E of Spalding) Boorowie CFS and 20 private units attended. Cause - lightning. Area burnt 160 hectares of grass and scrub in rugged hills.

7 - **BLACK HILL FIRE** - over 38 fire appliances and 300 firefighters battled a blaze in Black Hill Conservation Park. Area burnt 100 hectares of scrub land.

15 - **HORROCKS PASS FIRE** - (Lower Flinders Ranges, 18 km N-E of Wilmington) 110 firefighters comprising of 10 CFS appliances, 25 private farm units, 2 aerial fire bombers and Westpac State Rescue 1 attended. Area burnt 90 hectares - light scrub, grassland and fence lines.

22 - **MELROSE FIRE** - Melrose CFS attended. Cause - fault in diesel driven water pump. Area burnt 45 hectares of farmland.

24 - **PORT NOARLUNGA FIRE** - 11 appliances and 3 tankers [Morphett Vale (4); Port Noarlunga (2); McLaren Vale (1); NPWS (2); Council tankers (2); SAMFS (2)] attended. The fire was contained within 2 hours. Area burnt 50 hectares of grassland on the Onkaparinga River Flats.

27 - **CLARE DUMP FIRE** - Clare and Sevenhill/Penwortham CFS attended. Fire burnt for 5 hours. Sections were backburnt to increase safety at the dump.

30 - **ROXBY DOWNS FIRE** - (10 km south of township) Roxby Downs and Andamooka Brigades attended. Area burnt 12 hectares.

### FEBRUARY

6 - **KALBEEBA FIRE** - 25 CFS Brigades, 150 volunteers, 2 bombers and Westpac State Rescue 1 attended. Cause - spark from slasher on farm property. Area burnt 80 hectares.

10 - **PHILLIPS SCRUB FIRE** - (4 km north of Francis, SE) 4 CFS, 2 CFA, 1 farm unit and grader (30 volunteers) attended scrub fire. Cause - lightning.

11 - **TANUNDA FIRE** - Nuriootpa, Angaston, Tanunda and Eden Valley CFS Brigades attended a grass/scrub fire. Cause - slasher hit a rock and sparked blaze. Area burnt 14 hectares.

14 - **SALISBURY HEIGHTS FIRE** - 70 firefighters, fire bomber and Westpac State Rescue 1 attended. Area burnt 35 hectares grass/scrubland and fencing.

15 - **BRIDGEWATER FIRE** - (30 km north of Bridgewater) 39 CFS appliances including Brigades from Bridgewater, East Torrens, Mt. Barker and Onkaparinga districts attended with 2 bomber aircraft. Firefighters saved a home being licked by flames - the 2-storey house was not connected to a water supply. Area burnt 50 hectares - pine plantation, part of Wotton's Scrub Reserve, grazing land, trees and 1 shed. Aldgate/Stirling St. John rescue vehicle treated 5 firefighters for smoke injury to eyes.

20 - **MAITLAND FIRE** - (3 km west of Maitland) Maitland, South Kilkerran CFS and 4 farm units attended. Cause - overheated slasher bearing. Area burnt 80 hectares stubble.

21 - **KIMBA FIRE** - (15 km east of Kimba) 3 CFS appliances and 40 firefighters combatted fires for 3 hours on 2 properties. Cause - 'burn off' with permit, adequate fire breaks and equipment got out of control when a **whirl wind picked up flames** and threw them on to the next paddock.

24 - **PORT LINCOLN FIRE** - White Flat and Lincoln appliances (2 MFS and 5 CFS) - 50 firefighters fought blaze for 5½ hours. Cause - spark from a horse's hoof. Area burnt 20 hectares hilly scrubland. 1 house was threatened-saved. SES and Salvation Army provided refreshments.

28 - **WAIKERIE FIRE** - Waikerie CFS were quick to respond. 1 CFS volunteer received hospital treatment for an electric shock. Fire destroyed timber framed house.



A CFS volunteer gives directions at the scene of the blaze at Bridgewater. Photograph reproduced courtesy 'The Courier' Mt. Barker.

## Vale



### PETER DONALD STACY BURNSIDE CFS

Peter Stacy past away in the line of duty at 7.00 pm on 23 March 1990 at a vehicle accident at Clarendon. Peter was aged 25 years.

Peter was an active and respected firefighter in the Burnside CFS Brigade. He had given his volunteer time for 3 years and during that time achieved training success with Level 1 to 3 courses and vehicle accident rescue accreditation.

Peter was one of the team of professionals who attended numerous fire callouts, vehicle accident rescues and supported the SA Metropolitan Fire Service under the Mutual Aid Plan, all in the public interest.

A committed CFS volunteer Brigade member Peter had the respect and friendship of his fellow firefighters.

His untimely death was a shock to all members of the CFS volunteer service.

Peter was the youngest son of Joy and the late Donald Stacy and brother of David and Brian and sister Jenny.

To his family, relatives and friends we extend our sincere sympathies and offer our condolences.

Peter will be sadly missed by all.

## Thank you

The Burnside CFS thanks all those people and organisations who assisted the Brigade and its members at the Clarendon accident.

The support provided in the next week was greatly appreciated and has helped the Brigade and the family members through this period.

George Adler  
Captain, Burnside CFS  
Peter Sanders  
Group Officer, Burnside CFS

## Other incidents -

January to March 1990

### MARCH

5 - **CLEVE FIRE** - (7 km S-E of Cleve) Cleve CFS Brigade attended. Cause - 'burn off' on farming property with permit, a 4 metre fire break and good farm management practices got out of control when a **whirl wind picked up the fire**.

8 - **BINNUM FIRE** - local and neighbouring CFS Brigades attended. Cause - oxy equipment used to cut metal pins in sleepers set fire to pile of railway sleepers. Fire spread to 2 farm properties. Area burnt 24 hectares of grazing land, 500 m of fence line, 2 sheds, 106 bales of hay, 500 pine posts and 25 stud rams and ewes. Damage estimate \$31,400.

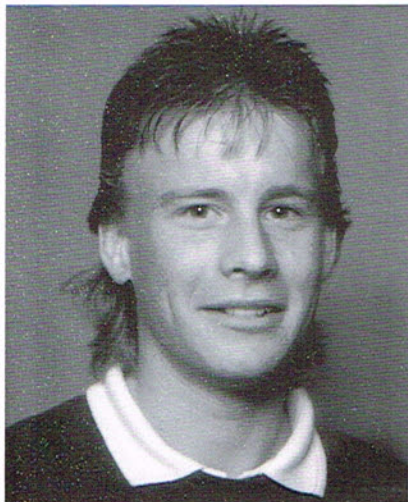




# Bushfire outbreak

## A firefighters experience

by David Finlayson, Volunteer Firefighter, Blackwood CFS



Mr. David Finlayson Blackwood CFS

David Finlayson is a year 12 student at Blackwood High School. Aged 17½ years, David is also a first year CFS volunteer firefighter with the Blackwood CFS Brigade, and was formerly captain of the Mitcham Hills CFS Cadet Brigade.

*This is his account of the first 'Big' fire he and other young crew members have been called out to attend.*

Fire sirens sounded throughout the Blackwood area on 4 March, at approximately 1830 hours, heralding the call for CFS appliances to combat a bushfire.

### Reunion

Everyone was down at the fire station for Blackwood CFS's 40 Birthday/Reunion. We grabbed our gear and headed to the appliance.

### Task Force

After the pager tones Oscar Charlie came over the radio telling us that we were to be part of a Task Force to go to a fire at Mt. Bold. Someone grabbed the two water bottles and some food to take with us.

Within two minutes we were heading through Coromandel Valley to Acklands Hill Road. On reaching Acklands Hill Road the crew could see a huge pall of grey black smoke rising from over the hills at Mt. Bold.

### Procedures

When you are sent on a Task Force to another area before you do anything you have to report to the Forward Control Point. The Forward Control was situated on the side of a dirt road in a green paddock.

In the paddock was the CFS and Police communications vans and the Incident Controller who co-ordinates the whole fire scene.

A group of locals were nearby. They had either been evacuated or had come to help.

As soon as we got to the Control Point our captain Malcolm Merritt went to see the officers in the communications van to determine where we were to be deployed.

Our unit, Blackwood CFS and two other CFS appliances were directed to the front of the fire.

We went into the fire on a small track following the head of the fire. It was no use trying to fight the fire from behind we needed to get in front of it. There was no other way of getting ahead of the fire other than going straight through the most intense part of the fire, the head.

The only water we had was the water in our appliances, as at that stage all water tankers were committed, so we had to conserve water and only use it when it was absolutely necessary.

The p.t.o. was put in gear and there was a person on each side of the appliance armed with a high pressure line, to protect us and the appliance.

### Expectations

This was the first 'big' fire that I and a few others had ever been to, so we did not quite know what to expect.

When we started off along the track everyone was looking with eager eyes ahead at all the events before us.

When we got nearer to the front of the fire both sides of the track were totally ablaze.

### Radiant heat

One of the important things we learnt in our Level 1 & 2 training was that radiant heat is the biggest killer. Any bare skin at this point felt as if it was burning which meant everybody dropped to the floor of the crew space to escape it.

After we got about 200 metres in front of the fire we stopped to assess the situation. The first thing we noticed after passing through the front was that the intense heat had warped and buckled some parts of the appliance. The map we had, showed another track off to the left of the one we were on, a little way down the track. This we thought we could use to our advantage as a fire break. When we found this track our captain and the captains from the other two units had a quick conference and decided to light a backburn, from the track towards the fire.

The feeling from this point on was absolutely incredible, knowing that in the next 5 minutes the most intense part of the fire, with flames about 20 metres high was coming directly towards us. If anything went wrong, on or all of us could be burnt to death.

### Wind

Again I was thinking of the things I had learnt in Level 1 & 2. A fire creates its own weather. As it needs oxygen to burn the fire sucks in air from all around it creating strong gusty winds in all directions. Hot ash, bark and sticks were dropping all around us and all the light had disappeared because of the smoke. It had become very eerie very quickly.

I had been delegated a knapsack to control spot fires ahead of the front, along with three others. The other crew members were operating the four high pressure lines from the appliances. My heart rate was up and the adrenalin was pumping. Communicating with each other was becoming increasingly difficult. Yelling was the only option because of the huge noise from the fire.

A couple of spot fires started just over the track. People were running everywhere.

Our knapsacks quickly got them under control.

### Air

Breathing was becoming laboured. As well as the smoke and ash, the only air to breathe was super heated. Because of the gusty winds there was no place to get out of the hot winds, which made it even worse.

### Trapped

Two more spot fires started 20-40 metres over the track. Duncan and I jumped the fence to get to these. The only way to get to them was straight through the thick bushes about 2 metres high amongst tall stringy barks.

When we were fighting these spot fires the main fire was nearly in a half circle around us. This was the first time I thought I was going to die, and I could not think of anything worse than being burnt alive.

With the fire close to where we were, the others at the appliance thought we had been trapped by the fire. This caused a bit of concern. As we were running, crashing and falling through the bushes we could hear people yelling out to us trying to locate us. Thankfully we made it back through the bushes to the track and the appliance, where we could slow down and get our minds back on the task.

### More fires

Getting back did not mean a slower pace. We all still worked hard until the main front passed, which took about 15 minutes of sheer hell.

With all the work we put in to those 15 minutes we still only managed to knock out about half of the main front. The other half hit a patch of scrub which was not as densely vegetated and slowed right down.

Spot fires from the front landed about 500 metres ahead which 4 of us with knapsacks could not control. These spot fires eventually grew bigger and created a new front which swept across the Police Rifle Range.

Later in the night, probably about 2300-2330 hours, we proceeded to the Rifle Range to protect a couple of buildings threatened by the fire.

### Relief

Sometime after 2400 hours our crew, Blackwood CFS was stood down as a new batch of relief crews were coming in.

*This article was printed as a tribute to the 19000 registered South Australian CFS volunteer firefighters who protect our community from the ravages of fire and other incidents.*

**'THERE IS NO MUST...  
THEY DO IT BECAUSE THEY CARE'**





## A day in the life of a CFS Volunteer

'A thankless task for CFS', by Helen Callander, The Bunyip, Gawler

Captain Mainwaring would have enjoyed it.

Not that I am suggesting the District of Light CFS Group is 'anything less than professional', but their organisation carryings on would have delighted him.

Five brigades took part in a day of training exercises recently. Group officer Ross Dawkins was controller and supervised the operation.

I was welcomed aboard (no mean feat - it is an enormous step up to the front cab of the CFS vehicle). First of all he showed me over the nerve centre of the whole thing - the Communications Van.

Two radio officers logged radio messages in and out and passed the information on to the exercise co-ordinator. His job was to plot the positions of the various teams on a map. 'Playing draughts', the others called it.

As well as radio contact the van co-ordinated operations by way of telephones, maps and charts, a fax machine and photocopier. In the event of a fire the situation of units in the field can be relayed to headquarters instantly.

### Controls

The communications van was run by a generator. For the purposes of a running fire it also had weather controls set up for wind velocity, temperature and humidity.

Outside the van, supervisors at each point used hand-held 'portable radio' units and it is anticipated pagers will replace alarm sirens in the future.

There is a list of eleven exercises for each group to complete. They range from driving instruction (backing a vehicle through a number of obstructions, using mirrors, not using mirrors, jump-starting a car and changing a flat tyre) to extinguishing an oil fire in the rubbish dump.

State Emergency personnel, St. John Ambulance Volunteers and ETSA officers all co-operated to help stage the various exercises for the CFS teams.

At the search and rescue operation Paul Ennis from Northern Districts State

Emergency Services assessed the way the teams handled a situation of two missing persons.

For the purpose of the exercise it was stated that a father had gone looking for a missing boy and neither had returned.

In an abandoned farmhouse the boy (a dummy) was located down a deep well (presumed dead) and the father was down a cellar with a badly broken leg.

When the team eventually found the 'father' he was delirious and calling out for 'George'. They established that 'George' was a dog and two men went looking for him.

### Chance

'Now they shouldn't do that', Paul said to me. George is a red herring. They should comfort the man and tell him George is OK and wait for him. The patient is the priority. Those blokes could get lost themselves while they are out looking for the dog'.

'And they shouldn't presume the boy is dead - they should climb down there and get him out; he may only be unconscious. There may still be a chance to save him'.

Following discussion about the best way to get the man out of the cellar, a splint was made and with rope he was brought to the surface.

In a genuine case St. John Ambulance personnel would then take over the care of the patient.

Another exercise was extinguishing a gas fire. With a curtain of water shielding them from the heat of the flames the five person team moved into the blaze close enough to be able to turn the gas tap off.

Retreat was in the same tight compact group in case of reignition. With the oil fire the correct procedure was to use the hose as a broom to sweep off the surface.

'How do you cope with a tanker fire?' someone asked. I am not sure if 'with big steps, quickly' is the official answer!

### Procedure

At Templers substation the ETSA officer explained their fire procedures to the teams. It was a hard-hat area so I waited in the truck and overheard a message to the communications van.

'Who is supposed to be coming to the simulated vehicle accident? over.'

'Feeling is but they are filling up with water, over', was the reply.

In the middle of all the activity a message was received about a genuine incident and next minute we were roaring off with the siren going.

A car had rolled over on the bypass and had split its fuel tank. Mudla Wirra CFS stopped practising and got on with the real job.

I had a brief word with student Kathy Burbidge after they had finished dispersing the split fuel.

She told me that Mudla Wirra CFS is based at Roseworthy College and there were three students and two staff members on board that day. They train every Monday night, as do many of the other brigades.

### Debrief

After all the exercises were complete they teams were 'debriefed' to learn where they had made mistakes.

It was a successful day and I couldn't help thinking about the hours of time and effort put in by volunteers in the interest of community safety. It is unglamorous and frequently dangerous work.

So much media attention is given to destructive vandals and people who have no thought for others.

It seemed ironic that Roseworthy CFS shed was broken into twice during the week of the field exercise day!

**Footnote:** Going down into wells and sewers must never be contemplated without CABA.

## Oh what a feeling!

### A PARTY'S COMING

Smokey The Koala's party will again join the Life. Be in it and Off Road Show (SA Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs) program at 'LEISURE DAY IN THE PARK' at BONYTHON PARK, SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER 1990.

An audience of over 40,000 is expected to attend. Come 'n be entertained by Smokey The Koala; Life. Be in it games; come 'n try; come 'n learn; come 'n watch; kite flying; our friends from the Burnside CFS Brigade and a very special surprise guest.

More information to follow in next issue.

Pictured right Burnside CFS members enact the Toyota television commercial at the kite flying segment of last year's Life. Be in it/Smokey's program.



For many years the Burnside CFS Brigade have strongly supported Smokey's annual Birthday Party and their expertise in working with and co-ordinating the many children's entertainment activities within the program has been highly praised by participating organisations and the public alike.

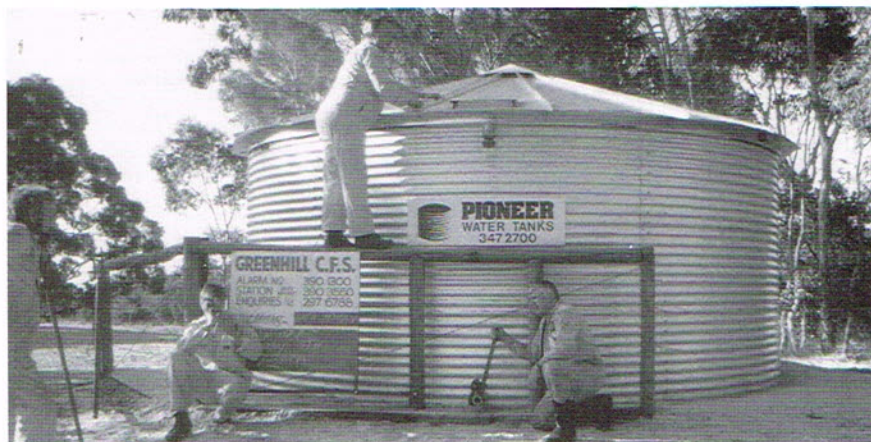
Thankyou Burnside CFS for your personal contributions to our children's safety and well being.



by David Sanders, Captain Greenhill CFS

The Greenhill CFS Brigade thanks the residents of Greenhill for their support and Tim Harper of Pioneer Tanks for his personal supervision with the assembly of the unit.

R. J. Watkins  
District Ranger  
Lofty District  
National Parks and Wildlife Service



Pictured above during assembly of the water tank from left Graeme Blakey (with crowbar), Scott Sard (resting), Brian Sard (on rail) and captain Dave Sanders.

Dear Sir,

Staff at Echunga were impressed by the professionalism displayed which brings credit to the Country Fire Service as a whole.

Please pass on my appreciation to the units concerned.

Yours faithfully,  
P. M. Hurley  
Acting Commissioner of Police

I am pleased to see the increasing co-ordination with in the CFS between volunteer CFS Brigades and National Parks and Wildlife Service and Woods and Forests Brigades.

Testimony of this, is of the last 37 fires that NPWS Brigades have attended only 15 started in National Parks.

Similarly Woods and Forests have responded with CFS Brigades to incidents outside of their normal area of responsibility.

Зренивац.

Howard McBeth  
Chief Operations Officer



Sir,

On behalf of the SA Police Department and myself, I would like to congratulate all members of the Strathalbyn CFS/SES and St. John Ambulance personnel, in dealing with the fatal car accident on Tuesday the 7th November 1989, at 14 Murray Road, Strathalbyn.

The relatively calm and professional manner in which all personnel carried out their duties under somewhat emotional, and less than desirable circumstances, was a credit to all, and no doubt in other circumstances would have resulted in preserving a life.

In particular I would like to thank those members directly involved in cutting the victim free from the vehicle.

I would further like to comment on the effective way in which the CFS vehicles were used to control traffic, providing a protective area for the Ambulance Doctor and other emergency vehicles and workers in which to operate, and the effective traffic control itself, as conducted by your personnel.

As always, an excellent job which should be reassuring to the community at large, that such dedicated and professional volunteers are always ready to assist in times of human crisis.

Yours etc.

J. Parsons  
S.C.F.C. 2658/7

Article reproduced courtesy  
'The Southern Argus'.

Winners of the statewide 'Fire—Friend or Foe Poster/Essay Competition' were recently announced by the Premier Mr. John Bannon.

Chosen from 1200 entries, Sally Cameron, 10, of Mt. Gambier's St. Martin's Lutheran School, won the primary school category, and Stephanie Hester, 14 of Tranmere, of Loreto College, won the secondary school category.

Their prizes include airfares to Canberra and Sydney with their parents (courtesy of Ansett), morning tea with the Governor-General, Mr. Hayden, at Government House and a visit to Sydney's Taronga Park Zoo and Aquarium with members of the NSW Fire Brigade.

Sally's entry was a project with the theme "fire is a wonderful slave but a terrible master" and Stephanie's entry was an essay about a girl coming to terms with losing her friend in a bushfire.

The CFS competition was established by Mr. Frank Butterfield, an Adelaide Hills resident, to increase public awareness of the dangers of fire and the importance of prevention methods.

This year's judging panel included Dame Roma Mitchell and director general of education Dr. Ken Boston.

Mr. Buttfield said it did not take long for the judges to select Sally's project, which was of a very high standard.

A large percentage of the record entries received this year were submitted by children from the South East.

CFS chief executive officer Mr. Donald Macarthur was delighted with the record response from schools and praised Mr. Buttfield for his initiative and energy in setting up the competition and making it the success it was.



## Injured firefighter making progress

The SAMFS firefighter who was badly burnt in an explosion aboard the sheep carrier Mukairish Alsades at Port Adelaide on November 19, Mr. Brian (Bart) Bartholomaeus, is well known to many CFS Brigades throughout the State.

District officer Bartholomaeus, who sustained 35% burns to his body in the incident, is now recuperating at his Morphett Vale home after several weeks in the Royal Adelaide Hospital burns unit.

He does not expect to return to duty for about six months.

Mr. Bartholomaeus was on duty at the sheep carrier in his role as MFS Hazards officer, monitoring heat levels within the ship's hold, when a sudden rise in temperature was noticed. He immediately went below to inform other firefighters of the danger, and was just leaving the area with the men when an explosion occurred.

His actions in alerting the men and clearing them from the area have been highly praised.

*Bart, from all your friends within the CFS we wish you a speedy recovery.*

## Mukairish Alsades

(MY EXPERIENCE)

by Brian Bartholomaeus, District Officer SAMFS.

The Mukairish Alsades - well I didn't spend too much time there. Late afternoon on 18.11.89 I arrived at Outer Harbor, met a representative from ETSA who had brought an imaging camera to assist the SAMFS in pin pointing the fire area, and after talking to supt. Mace and district officer Byrne proceeded via pilot boat to the ship.

Once on board we checked the ship plans and made one inspection of both the Port and Starboard Holds.

We found burning in the Starboard hold but none in the Port hold. The fire appeared stable

and I then notified the harbor master and captain of our findings. The harbor master then allowed the ship to proceed to Outer Harbor so further Fire Fighting Operations could proceed.

On arrival I reported to the incident commander and then with a BA team completed further inspection of the hold. Monitor readings of CO, O<sub>2</sub> and other flammable gases confirmed my initial findings and work proceeded in the application of CO<sub>2</sub> and deployment of protection lines.

In all I was covering the areas from 14 level to 6 level. Whilst a crew of men were assisting 2 ships crew at level 14, I noticed a quick build up of CO and evacuated the area back to the middle of the ship. The build up continued so we evacuated back up to Level 6. On Level 6 I moved to the top of the hold area and continued monitoring. Shortly after entering this area where crew were working at the top opening of the hold, I again noticed a quick build up of CO and evacuated all crew. I was about to follow when the explosion occurred. After the explosion I started to walk towards the gang plank and a fellow fire fighter came up and assisted me. Off to hospital - although conscious I did not have much idea of time - and that state continued for a few days.

Having been admitted to the Burns Unit the team of doctors and sisters cleaned up my burnt areas and settled me into a bed with liberal doses of morphine. The next few days proved very difficult as I had to call on all the facts I have ever learnt about critical incident stress. Each night the dark nightmares - the thoughts of where did it go wrong. What did I miss - what would have happened if I didn't pick up the CO build up.

I remember waking up one night just before my first skin graft and I had been hallucinating. I asked the night sister what had been happening and she said, 'You have had a beauty for the last ½ hour.' 'Was it black or visible?' I told her I could see it all, she said, 'you're on the way up now.' Another boost of morphine and back to sleep.

Onto skin grafts and after theatre, I couldn't move. My whole stomach area had been stripped of skin and replaced with a dressing. The skin was transferred to my hands and right leg. You can't move because if you do you pull every section where the work has been performed.

Each day the staff changed the dressings - check grafts and do any work needed. Seven days later you attempt to walk and physio starts - stiff legs and hands - work on them every couple of hours. Then onto second operation and the rest of the grafts and it starts all over again.

I am now out of hospital and home. I must attend RAH regularly for checks and physio.

I will have to wear pressure garments for 12-18 months, but I count myself very lucky to be still around.

I would like to take the opportunity to say an enormous thank you to all of my fellow firefighters - mates and friends who sent their well wishes, cards etc.

You cannot have any idea how much it meant to my wife and I.

Finally, if you are ever burnt you could be in no better place in the world than the Royal Adelaide Hospital burns unit. They are magnificent.

## Working together

The Mukairish Alsades incident did provide the opportunity for the emergency services, particularly the Fire Services, to demonstrate how effectively they can work side by side. Volunteers from many CFS Brigades took turns in staffing MFS Stations during this period and responded to many fires and automatic alarms in conjunction with MFS crews. The mutual respect that was created between staff from both services was totally believable and demonstrated the true value of mutual aid. It also proved that it is not the colour of the fire appliances or uniforms that is most important but the calibre of the person inside them.

On behalf of the SAMFS, I wish to thank the members of the Country Fire Service, State Emergency Service, St. John Ambulance and Police for their support and co-operation during this incident.

David A. Grubb  
Chief Officer  
SA Metropolitan Fire Service  
Extract courtesy SAMFS 'Turn-out'

## STAMP OF APPROVAL - 10TH ANNIVERSARY

South Australia's Westpac State Rescue helicopter service celebrated its 10th Anniversary on 19 March 1990 with a mission to rescue a bag of mail and transport it to the Adelaide Airport.

The mail bag however was no ordinary cargo. It contained a quantity of special souvenir philatelic covers issued to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Westpac State Rescue helicopter service in SA.

The philatelic covers feature an attractive colour design of Westpac State Rescue one on the front and back. The envelope (back) includes a brief explanation of the service, its uniqueness and incorporates user services logos.

The covers endorsed 'carried by Helicopter VH-BJX (the registration) Adelaide City - Adelaide Airport', are available from all South Australian branches of Westpac. The cost is \$5. To mark the 10th Anniversary, Australia Post produced a commemorative pictorial post mark available to collectors.

The philatelic cover bears the \$1 Rescue and Emergency stamp.

An STA bus displaying Westpac State Rescue One collected the mail bag from the GPO Adelaide Philatelic Sales Centre and under Police escort travelled in a convoy along King William Street to the Torrens Parade Ground, where the 'mail' was "rescued" by Westpac State Rescue One.

The convoy included a Police Star Force vehicle, Country Fire Service appliance, St. John Ambulance vehicle and the Surf Lifesaving Association with rescue craft.

These services along with the South Australian Health Commission represent the user services associated with Westpac State Rescue One.



Pictured above from left: Westpac Banking Corporation manager community affairs Allan Gibson with the minister of emergency services John Klunder display the special 'souvenir mail' and commemorative postmark and stamp.



## Thanks CFS from the National Parks and Wildlife Service

Although the fire season is not finished at the deadline of the March issue of the 'Volunteer'. I thank CFS volunteers and staff and other volunteer organisations who have helped in managing fires that have burnt the community's conservation and recreation parks.

I was impressed by the quick action taken at the large fire which affected Blackhill Conservation Park this season (refer page 1). This shows the benefit of local interaction in getting the job done. Increasing local interaction was the major reason why NPWS Office at Tintinara was opened last year. This will further help fire management in that area.

There has been a number of fires that have affected our heritage from deliberate arson and carelessness this fire season. (see Table I below for the number of fires entering parks).

If some of our parks keep being burnt at the rate they are currently being affected, and Blackhill is a good example, the native flora and fauna will be lost. The National Parks and Wildlife Service is currently investigating suspicious fires with the aim of taking steps to try to prevent these fires in future.

Table I is a summary of the fires that the CFS brigades and the National Parks and Wildlife Service were involved in up to 1 March 1990.

FIRE TYPE	NUMBERS
Started outside a park and burnt into a park	10
Started in a park and burnt out (deliberate lighting suspected)	1
Started on a park and remained there	14
Fires not on parks that the National Parks and Wildlife Service helped with	12
Control burns on Parks	2
	39

Thanks again CFS.

*B Leaver*



Mr. Bruce Leaver  
Director  
National Parks and Wildlife Service



### Carry a camera

Roseworthy CFS Brigade lieutenant Peter Ashcroft advised the 'Volunteer' that Roseworthy CFS carry a camera on their appliance at all times.

- The purpose being:
- to keep a photographic record of all incidents.
  - use photos in discussion at training nights.
  - use photos socially.
  - photos of incidents to accompany Brigade articles for 'Volunteer' and local newspaper coverage.

Perhaps other Brigades may wish to adopt Roseworthy CFS Brigades idea. The 'Volunteer' could certainly use your photographs.

## VOLUNTEER MAILING LIST

Dear Reader,

If you wish to *Receive* or *Cancel* your bimonthly journal "Volunteer" or wish to advise of a *Change of Address* please complete and return this section immediately to: "Volunteer", c/o Country Fire Services, P.O. Box 758, Cowandilla S.A. 5033.

Name: .....

Address (old).....

Brigade Secretary.....

Brigade.....

Address (new).....

Number of copies received or required.....

please tick  
appropriate  
box

I wish to cancel "Volunteer" free  
subscription ☐

I wish to receive "Volunteer" ☐

Please note Change of Address ☐

\*"Volunteer" is printed primarily for free issue  
to every registered C.F.S. Volunteer Fire Fighter.

## COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES

### HEADQUARTERS:

#### KESWICK

20 Richmond Road  
P.O. Box 758, Cowandilla, S.A. 5033  
Telephone (08) 297 6788  
Facsimile (08) 297 8897

### FIRE SERVICES TRAINING CENTRE BROOKWAY PARK

Brookway Drive, Campbelltown, S.A. 5074  
Telephone (08) 337 6858  
Facsimile (08) 365 0245

### REGIONAL OFFICES:

#### GAWLER

2/29 Adelaide Road  
P.O. Box 656, Gawler, S.A. 5118  
Telephone (085) 22 6917  
Telephone (085) 22 6827  
Facsimile (085) 22 6404

#### MURRAY BRIDGE

6 Third Street,  
P.O. Box 1371, Murray Bridge, S.A. 5253  
Telephone (085) 32 6777  
Telephone (085) 32 6800  
Facsimile (085) 32 6220

#### NARACOORTE

Arthur Street  
P.O. Box 8, Naracoorte, S.A. 5271  
Telephone (087) 62 2311  
Facsimile (087) 62 1865

#### PORT AUGUSTA

23 Stirling Road  
P.O. Box 2080, Port Augusta, S.A. 5700  
Telephone (086) 42 2399  
Facsimile (086) 41 0176

#### PORT AUGUSTA

21 Victoria Parade (Highway 1)  
P.O. Box 555, Port Lincoln, S.A. 5606  
Telephone (086) 82 4266  
Facsimile (086) 82 6569

#### STIRLING

6 Druids Avenue  
P.O. Box 197, Stirling, S.A. 5152  
Telephone (08) 339 6700  
Facsimile (08) 339 3689



### VOLUNTEER

Volunteer is published bi-monthly by the S.A. Volunteer Fire Brigades Association with the endorsement and support of the Country Fire Services Board, South Australia.

Correspondence to the Editor,  
'Volunteer'

Country Fire Services  
P.O. Box 758, Cowandilla, S.A. 5033  
Telephone (08) 297 6788  
Facsimile (08) 297 8897

Correspondence to the Secretary,  
S.A. Volunteer Fire Brigades Association  
Box 182, Echunga, S.A. 5153  
Telephone (08) 388 8396

## Commendation Barmera CFS

... to follow next issue