

VOLUNTEER



Government
of South Australia

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



The CFS took part in two major events recently at the Royal Adelaide Show at Wayville and Yorke Peninsula Field Days at Paskeville. Both displays were crowd pleasers, winning praise from the organisers by being named Best Outdoor Site at Paskeville and winning a Highly Commended Award for site presentation at Wayville. Full story and more pictures on pages 14 and 15.



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Front cover image: Taken by Pip McGowan, CFS Promotions Unit, at a Gumeracha Group training session at Brukunga.

Editorial Team – Managing Editor: Chris Metevelis. Editors: Haley Cahalan, Karina Loxton and Jon Carr. Tel (08) 8212 9849 (CFS Media Line). If you would like to contribute to *Volunteer*, send your photos and stories to: The Editor, *Volunteer*, GPO Box 2468, Adelaide SA 5001 or email: publicaffairs@cfs.sa.gov.au. Don't forget to include your name, address, brigade and a contact phone number. Photographs can be supplied digitally, via email or disc, in the largest file size possible or as original prints. Text can be supplied as hard copy or electronically, via email or disc as a Microsoft Word document. Comments and opinions expressed in *Volunteer* do not necessarily represent the views of the CFS. *Volunteer* is a free publication to all CFS volunteers.





CHIEF OFFICER Euan Ferguson

As I write we hurtle towards another summer. In my travels two things are clear - first: there is an abundant amount of grass growth across most of the State (fuelled by reasonable late winter/spring rains and unseasonably warm weather); second: fuels are drying and curing at a rapid rate.

Since last season there has been significant bushfire policy change arising from lessons learned from the Victorian bushfire tragedy. In South Australia, the Bushfire Task Force was formed following the Victorian Bushfires. The Task Force demonstrates effective integration of Government agencies working together to achieve a coordinated outcome, in this case, advice to Government and the community following recommendations of the Victorian Royal Commission. An action plan has been developed, consistent with the Victorian Royal Commission Interim Report recommendations. Key changes proposed by the task force include:

- Adopting a new National Bushfire Information and Warnings Framework
- Implementing revised Native Vegetation and Fire Regulations and delegations to CFS Officers
- Participating in a Heads of Public Land Fire Management Agency Agreement for resource sharing
- Participating in a Fuel Reduction Burning Cooperative Mount Lofty Ranges; South East; Flinders
- Adopting (through DECS) a policy for school closures on days forecast for 'Catastrophic' fire danger

- Adopting a Bushfire Awareness Week
- Adopting the National Telephone Emergency Warning System
- Amending the CFS policy on the use of CFS sirens to strongly recommend their use for community warnings
- Developing a position (with MFS and local government) for 'Neighbourhood Safer Places'
- Developing a standard (with Department of Planning and Local Government) for bushfire refuges
- Defining, with MFS, 'Urban Bushfire Risk Zones'
- Developing a single GRN Channel Plan for all fire emergency services
- Reviewing the SA Burns Plan.

The establishment of the Bushfire Task Force, which is led by CFS, demonstrates that the Government and the emergency services have been able to deliver an effective process of connecting Government to quickly review and reform all aspects of fire management in South Australia.

In addition to the major changes from the Bushfire Task Force, we have seen the amendments to the *Fire and Emergency Services Act* being enacted in November. These include substantial changes to the framework for bushfire mitigation and management across the State. In the next six months we will see a new State Bushfire Coordination Committee formed (which will take over the role of the Bushfire Task Force), followed by the establishment of new 'Fire Management Areas' and Bushfire Management Committees. Coupled with a new bushfire risk management planning framework, we are on the cusp of the most significant change in

bushfire mitigation and management in 25 years.

It is not surprising that everywhere that I travel there is evidence of great industry and focus on the task at hand. It was pleasing the Government has allocated an additional \$5.2m to bushfire awareness for this fire season. The challenge will be to sustain additional investment in order that CFS is able to meet the heightened expectations of Government, media and the public, following 'Black Saturday'. The recommendations from the Bushfire Task Force are wide ranging and I expect will be a continuing focus into 2010.

2009 has been a successful year, characterised by significant policy change from the Victorian bushfires, but also characterised by CFS "getting on with the job". It is appropriate that 2009 has seen the commissioning and awarding of the CFS Medal to members who have provided 10 or more years of diligent service. This is a small token of appreciation for the sacrifices and service you have given: selfless, diligent, well intended and offered without expectation of reward or recognition. The medal will be a well deserved and lasting memento of thanks and recognition for you and your family.

Finally, on behalf of all in the CFS leadership team, I wish you, your workmates and your family a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. I believe that we have a challenging fire season in the coming months, which reinforces our focus on 'Safety First'. In 2010, I want you all to come home safe, so take care of each other. Thank you for your service.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SAFECOM David Place

CFS volunteers know only too well that South Australia is embarking on a significant period of change in how the government and the community prepares for and responds to bushfires. SA's Bushfire Task Force, of which I am a member, is continuing to examine the issues arising from the Royal Commission into February's devastating Victorian bushfires.

The State Government has recently announced some initiatives and recommendations put forward by the Task Force to help elevate SA to a new state of fire readiness.

One of the priorities for SAFECOM is the development and delivery

of 'Emergency Alert', a national telephone messaging initiative that will complement existing emergency communication warning systems.

In the event of an emergency, warnings may be posted by SMS to the registered billing address of mobile phone owners and by voice recorded message to the landline location within the geographic area under threat. Telstra has completed the system to deliver the messages with the first stage set to be up and running by mid-December.

One of the key messages for this new system is for communities not to rely solely on receiving them - individuals and communities must regularly

check the CFS website, ABC Local Radio or FIVEaa and refer to their Bushfire Survival Plan in times of emerging danger.

Amendments to the *Fire and Emergency Services Act* have also seen changes including increasing the penalties for fire safety breaches and for urban bushfire risk areas to be established.

While there will be profound changes to the way we communicate with the community, we must not lose sight of the reason for all of these changes - making South Australia as fire safe as possible and ultimately, to save lives.

Have a safe and incident free fire season.



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VOLUNTEER - WELCOMES





MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

Hon. Michael Wright MP

It has been an incredibly busy few months leading up to the 2009/10 Fire Danger Season.

We saw an extremely successful Bushfire Awareness Week during October, where the wider community appeared to be genuinely receptive to many of the important bushfire safety and preparedness messages. The last thing we want to see is a repeat of the devastating fires that swept through parts of Victoria, which is why South Australians must immediately take measures to Prepare. Act and Survive this fire season.

Now is the time for everyone to take responsibility and prepare their properties to ensure they are bushfire ready, so that they don't risk their own lives and those of their families, neighbours and our dedicated firefighters this summer.

People need to ensure they become acquainted with the New Fire Danger Rating System and what the appropriate actions are in the Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic categories.

We are extremely fortunate to have such willing individuals who contribute their time and effort so generously to our emergency services. This summer we will have 15,000 CFS volunteers, as well as over 1000 MFS personnel and more than 2000 SES volunteers who'll be ready to protect South Australian communities this bushfire season.

The Government is committed to ensuring the Country Fire Service has access to the resources it needs to make its job as manageable as possible. We just announced an additional \$5.2 million dollars that will go towards helping all South Australians get bushfire ready for the impending fire danger season.

The aim of the extra funding is to provide a significant boost to bushfire community awareness and education, which will give everyone the chance to adequately prepare for the fire danger season and more importantly, survive the next major bushfire.

Part of the funding will be used for a television, print and radio

advertising campaign as well as compiling educational material that will enable people to familiarise themselves with the new warnings framework and help motivate them to take action so they are fully prepared.

I'd like to take the opportunity to again applaud the fierce dedication and continual courage shown by all of our volunteers. We simply couldn't do without your contribution to this State and you certainly do us all proud every time you respond to an emergency.

With drier than normal conditions predicted over the coming months, we are likely to face a very challenging summer. Nevertheless, I hope that there will be no major incidents and that you all have a chance to relax and spend time with loved ones. I know that should you be called upon, your commitment to protecting and defending the communities of South Australia will be steadfast. On behalf of all South Australians, I thank you and wish you all an enjoyable festive season.



CFSVA PRESIDENT

Ken Schutz

Over the last few months I have been reading many reports, media statements and articles about what has come out of the Royal Commission on the Black Saturday fires in Victoria earlier this year.

While I think there has been many good outcomes from the Royal Commission and some have already been implemented in South Australia and nationally, the question I ask is, "Will all the safeguards, procedures and laws that are and have been put into place, save us from having another Black Saturday or Wangary in our State or nationally?"

My thoughts are absolutely not!

Don't get me wrong, I believe that the Government and the fire services need to put these measures in place but until people, particularly in high fire danger areas, take responsibility for their own lives and property we will still have losses of human lives and property. Hopefully the number of human losses can be reduced but the loss of property will always be large while people live in high fire

danger areas and take for granted that it will never happen to them or a fire truck will be there to help them.

Our role, not necessarily as CFS volunteers but as citizens who have a better understanding of what needs to be done in getting people to take responsibility, is to talk to the general public, even if it is in general conversation and make them realise that we (the CFS volunteers) will not be able to defend each and every home in the event of a bushfire.

There is another interesting point that has come out of the Royal Commission, the fact that the right people with the right skills need to be in an Incident Management Team, not just a person with a certain rank or a number of certificates showing their accredited training in IC management and procedures. I believe CFS is further advanced in this line of thinking than the CFA from what's come out of the Royal Commission. However CFS are really only looking at having trained people at a Level 2 or 3 IMT. At the start

of any fire the person in charge is usually a captain or lieutenant, and then moves to a group officer and from there to a Level 1 IMT and so on. The decisions at an early stage of a fire can have a significant affect on the outcome and ultimately these decisions are made by volunteers who have been put into these positions, not always because they have the skills to run an incident but in many cases are the only person to put their hand up. We are fast losing volunteer officers and CFS staff who have broad experience in fighting bushfire.

People who are expected to undertake the extremely complex role of emergency management command need the foundation of a complete education, an education that includes exposure to hands on experience; not just training from a manual or management skills in running an office. They need an education that involves not only how to do things but also the attitudes, values, and understanding behind doing them.



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VOLUNTEER - WELCOMES

NEW WARNING SYSTEM

South Australians living in bushfire-prone areas will be given advice about what to do in advance of a bushfire under the new Fire Danger Rating system that has been adopted nationally.

In August of this year, a national Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) workshop was held with participants from fire and emergency services, government agencies, media organisations and community groups to develop new protocols in relation to bushfire advice and warnings.

Recent fires, including the Black

Saturday fires in Victoria earlier this year, have seen such extreme fire behaviour that it has become clear that new ways of measuring these extreme conditions and adequately warning the community about the likely impact of fires on their lives and property needed to be developed.

The main outcomes of the AFAC workshop were as follows:

- an amended Fire Danger Ratings framework (see table below)
- the identification of trigger points for communicating to the public during a fire
- new messages were developed and agreed for pre-fire and during

an actual fire – Advice; Watch and Act; Emergency Warning

- agreement to align bushfire warning language to the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP)
- adoption of a new national bushfire safety slogan PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

The six-tier system will provide clear direction on how people can survive a bushfire, depending on the Fire Danger Rating for a particular day.

The Catastrophic (Code Red) Fire Danger Rating is the new rating that refers to days when the Fire Danger Index (FDI) is in excess of 100, allowing us to better alert the

community to the higher level of bushfire threat on these days.

One of the other differences in this framework is that it connects the forecasted FDI to the predicted fire behaviour with specific actions people need to undertake to survive.

Our clear message to the community on days rated Catastrophic or Extreme is that the best option for their survival is to leave early, either on the night before or as early as possible in the morning.

Below is a table showing the Fire Danger Ratings and recommended actions.

FIRE DANGER RATING

RECOMMENDED ACTION

CATASTROPHIC FDI 100+

ACTION: Leaving early is the best option for your survival.

EXTREME FDI 75-99

ACTION: Leaving early is the safest option for your survival.

SEVERE FDI 50-74

ACTION: Leaving early is the safest option for your survival. Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it during a fire.

VERY HIGH FDI 25-49

ACTION: Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it.

HIGH FDI 12-24

ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.

LOW - MODERATE FDI 0-11

ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.

[PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

The Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission released its interim findings in August making 51 recommendations which triggered a process for all States and Territories to work towards a coordinated approach to bushfire prevention and mitigation.

SAFECOM played a significant part in the process by hosting a national workshop of fire and emergency services agencies to further develop

the Fire Danger Rating System which has resulted in the introduction of new categories of bushfire threat, including 'Severe' and 'Catastrophic'.

The Public Affairs team now has the task to convey these changes to the South Australian public and encourage people to be proactive in seeking information and advice from the CFS and taking a greater responsibility in bushfire prevention and their personal safety.

Through a cooperative planning process involving all States and Territories, the starting block for the Public Affairs challenge has now been captured in three key words which will become the cornerstone of all future bushfire prevention campaigns – PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

These are three simple, but significant words that will ultimately aim to reduce the level of complacency and prompt more people into action.

The Public Affairs team has also been engaging with CFS volunteers with its members participating in this year's Royal Adelaide Show and the Yorke Peninsula Field Days at Paskeville.

Both events were well received by the public and acclaimed by their organisers by being named the Best Outdoor Site at Paskeville and gaining a highly commended award for site presentation at the Royal Adelaide Show.



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

BUSHFIRE AWARENESS WEEK

It was a case of all hands to the pump in organising publicity opportunities and other activities for the inaugural Bushfire Awareness Week, which was held from October 19-26.

With only a few weeks to put plans into place, CFS volunteers worked closely with SAFECOM and CFS staff to help ensure all South Australians, wherever they live, are adequately prepared and know what to do in the event of a bushfire.

Positioned under the theme of

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE, activities included a range of Bushfire Ready meetings across the State and a special 3.5 hour Bushfire Information Hotline, partially staffed by CFS volunteers, which received 163 calls.

CFS volunteers were also involved in ABC outside broadcasts at CFS stations at Belair, Tumby Bay and Naracoorte along with the MFS station at Renmark.

CFS Volunteers Association President Ken Schutz, issued a

joint media release with Emergency Service Minister Michael Wright warning of the threat to the lives of 15,000 CFS volunteers if property owners did not properly prepare their properties this fire season.

Particular thanks must go to Ray White (Norton Summit CFS). Two Adelaide Now videos – one featuring Ray Jackson (CFS Region 1 Fire Prevention Officer) and the other Leigh Miller (CFS Manager Prevention Services) – were filmed on his property. The videos showed

the measures that need to be taken to protect a property from a bushfire and also outlined the new Fire Ratings Framework. To date, the videos have been seen by about 1000 people. To view, go to Adelaide Now, click on video and then type in CFS in the search box.

Considerable media exposure was generated during the week with numerous stories in the print media and on television and an average of 20 radio news stories and 12 talkback radio segments each day.

NEW BUSHFIRE READY CAMPAIGN

The CFS and SAFECOM will spend almost \$3 million on this year's Bushfire Ready media campaign.

Developed following the State Government's pledge of an additional \$5.2 million to help all South Australians prepare for the upcoming fire danger season, the key elements of the expanded campaign are:

- A 12-page supplement in the *Sunday Mail* distributed on Sunday 8 November. The supplement will also be distributed via key regional publications and Messenger Newspapers about two weeks later.
- An advertising campaign comprising:
 - New television commercials – both 30 and 15 second versions – to be screened on metropolitan and regional media
 - New 30-second radio commercials
 - New press advertisements

- A new DVD with a bonus fridge magnet showing the new Fire Danger Ratings to be sent to 220,000 households in bushfire-risk areas during December
- A new A4 brochure about preparing a Bushfire Survival Plan
- Point-of-sale material for 300 plus local Australia Post outlets
- An interactive web microsite which will be accessed via the CFS website.

The new campaign draws heavily on market research conducted in April 2009 which indicated a large proportion of the community, while aware of the threat of bushfire, do not perceive that they are personally at risk. It will also draw attention to the fact that the threat of a bushfire is just as real for those living in Adelaide and suburbs on the urban fringe as it is to people living in the State's regional areas.

While the media campaign itself



Part of the 12-page newspaper supplement.

will not significantly change people's behaviour, it is expected to raise their awareness, prompting them to ask questions to find out more, and extend the reach of the CFS community education team.

The campaign's key messages are the introduction of a new national theme – PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE., increase awareness of the new national warnings framework and a

new telephone and text messaging warning system.

The campaign will 'open the door' for CFS community educators who have the greatest opportunity to influence people's behaviour. The additional funds will also boost the number of community educators out in the field, helping to promote the necessary tuition where it is needed most – at the grassroots level.

The team has also recently generated significant media exposure for Bushfire Awareness Week – a major feat given the dates were only confirmed two weeks out and there was minimal budget allocated.

In the coming weeks South Australians will be exposed to a series of radio, television and newspaper advertisements for the fire danger season media campaign, as well as a new PREPARE.ACT.SURVIVE.

campaign website which the Public Affairs team has been working on. A liftout has been distributed through the *Sunday Mail* and key regional and Messenger newspapers.

This campaign will be complemented by updating last year's DVD about bushfire safety and increasing the distribution from 40,000 to more than 200,000 households in high-risk areas.

Next month will see the Erickson

Airplane return to South Australia for the fire danger season which will be featured at a media event to be organised by the Public Affairs team to showcase some of the CFS firefighting aircraft.

This event will offer an opportunity to reinforce the slogan - PREPARE. ACT.SURVIVE. – in the hope it will encourage more people to consider planning for their safety, well ahead of any bushfire.

We hope that all our volunteers will have a safe fire danger season and we look forward to more of your contributions and stories for the next edition of *Volunteer*.

Karina Loxton, Chris Metevelis, Tara Rischmueller, Nicole Ely, Carmen Lewis, Haley Cahalan and Melissa Veal.



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VOLUNTEER - NEWS & UPDATES

CFS CRASH RESPONSE USED IN ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

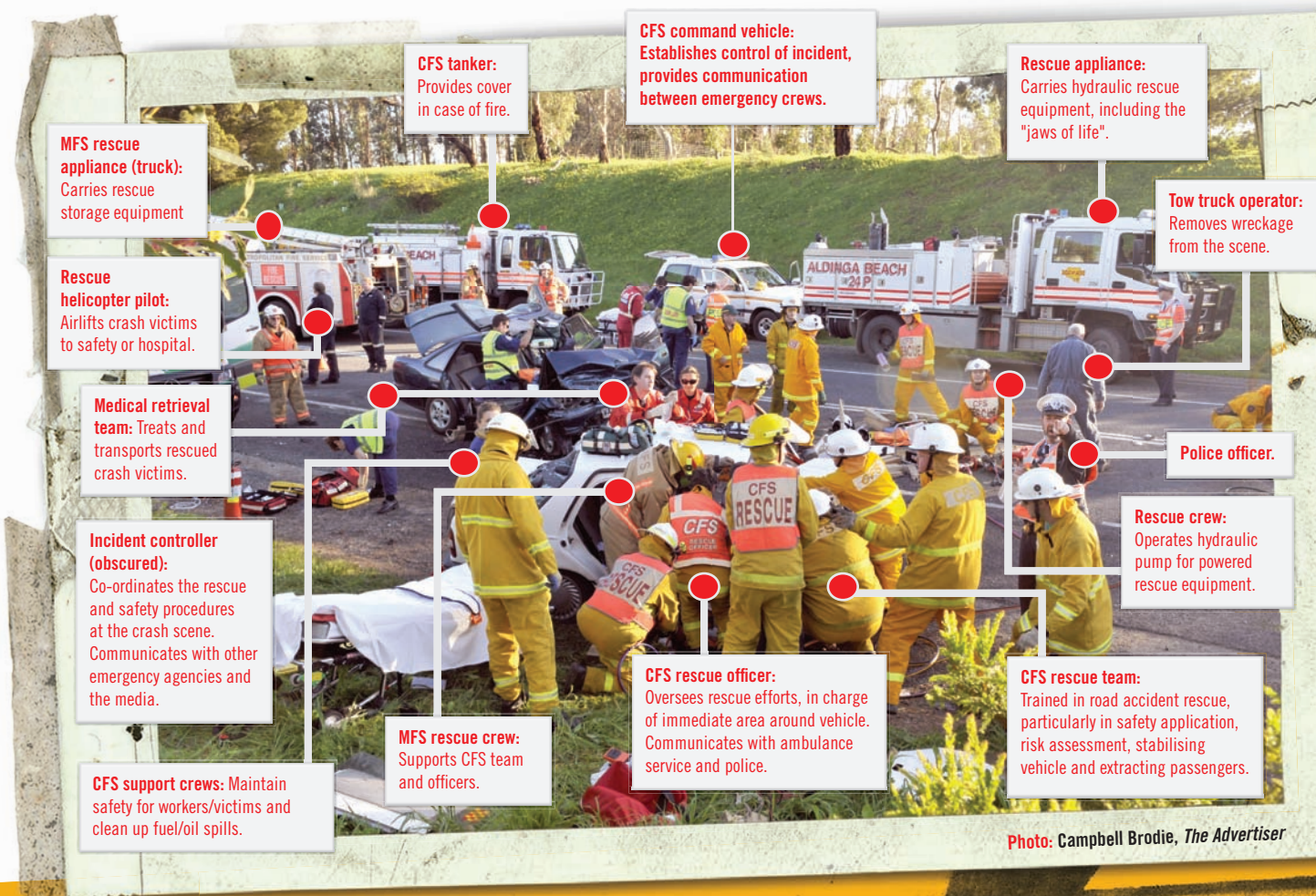
This photo which highlights the diversity of CFS volunteer responses to emergency incidents was featured in *The Advertiser* in August as part of

its 2009 Road Safety Campaign – Every 1 Counts.

The photograph was taken at a road crash near McLaren Vale and appeared with the headline “One

Crash, So Many People Affected” to illustrate the significance of motorists assuming responsibility for their safety and of others on South Australia’s roads.

The 30-year-old driver who survived this crash said he owed his life to the emergency workers including the CFS who retrieved him from the mangled wreckage.



WE OWE OUR LIVES TO RESCUERS, SAYS VICTIM

By: Doug Robertson, Police Reporter, *The Advertiser*

Road crash survivor Joe Atkins says he owes his life to South Australia's dedicated emergency workers.

More than 30 of the highly skilled professionals and volunteers combined to rescue Mr Atkins, 30, and his partner, 27, from their mangled Nissan Pulsar, after a high-speed collision near McLaren Vale. The couple lay trapped in

the twisted wreckage for about two hours.

Paramedics kept them alive and CFS, SES volunteers and police worked with precision as the jaws of life crunched away the metal that had pinned Mr Atkins' legs.

The couple was later airlifted to Flinders Medical Centre, where other professionals treated their serious injuries.

They remained in FMC while their injuries healed and Mr Atkins said the outcome would have been different if not for the emergency workers.

"I couldn't breathe and we both had severe internal injuries. If we hadn't got out of that car, we both would have been dead," he said. "We both feel like we shouldn't be here after that accident."

Each emergency worker on site had a role to play. But just being there

was enough to comfort Mr Atkins, who was in acute pain and regularly drifting into unconsciousness.

"I was really confused (when he first regained consciousness) but then someone over my shoulder told me what had happened," he said.

"I didn't know who it was but when the uniforms started appearing it was a bit more reassuring. That was all I needed to feel reassured."

DRIVER FATIGUE AND WORK DIARIES

NEWS & UPDATES - CFSVA

The CFSVA is pleased with the progress being made on the issue of carrying work diaries to document hours of driving. The Association, along with the CFS, has been working hard to get a commonsense and practical solution on this issue for CFS Volunteers.

We have been informed that the Hon. Patrick Conlon has approved a Ministerial Exemption from this

legislation for CFS Volunteers. This exemption is currently being worded by Parliamentary Counsel and will soon be gazetted. In the meantime SAPOL has been informed that the exemption will soon be in place.

The Association would like to remind volunteers that they should not drive while fatigued. CFS has a new policy in place, which can be obtained through regional

offices or on the CFS website at www.cfs.sa.gov.au

The Association would like to thank Minister Conlon for this exemption which will remove the disincentive to driving for CFS caused by this new regulation. We would also like to thank the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis, Minister for Volunteers, and the

Hon. Michael Wright, Minister for Emergency Services, for their assistance in reaching this solution. We will continue to work on this issue at the national level so that a similar solution can be reached under the National Road Rules, to ensure we don't have cross-border problems.

PRESENTATION TO CFS VOLUNTEER

A presentation was made to Peter Edgcumbe, member of Tantanoola Brigade at the Fire Expo. Peter has given many years of dedicated service to the Association as Vice President of the South East Branch and also as the SE Branch representative on the State

Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

SE Branch President Rex Hall presented Peter with a CFS watch. Peter is currently on leave from his brigade due to ill health, and the Association wishes him the very best in fighting his illness.



^ Peter Edgcumbe receives a CFS watch from Rex Hall for his years of service.

CFSVA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The CFSVA held its Annual General Meeting on October 13. It was an election year for some positions, and the following people were elected:

State Management Committee Executive

- Ray Bryant - Lower North Branch
- Roger Flavell - Mount Lofty Branch
- Russell Branson - Eyre Peninsula Branch

CFS Foundation Board

- Rob Styling (DGO Para Group) to join Robin Holmes (Burnside Brigade)

SAFECOM Board

- Wayne Thorley as member and Ken Schutz as proxy.

It was not an election year for the positions of State President and Vice President.

The Association welcomes Ray Bryant as the new Branch President

of the Lower North Branch. We also thank Glen Willson and Rex Hall for their hard work and dedication as serving members of the Executive.

David McGowan AFSM has stepped down from his position as the CFSVA nominee to the CFS Foundation Board, after many years as one of the driving forces behind this initiative. David helped establish a new direction for the Foundation, and we are sure that it will be of great benefit to volunteers in the future. Well done David and thank you for your contribution.

The Outcomes paper from the AGM can be read in the Members Only section of the website under State CFSVA News. You will also find there the reports presented by CFSVA representatives on CFS and SAFECOM Boards and committees.

ASSOCIATION CURRENT ISSUES

The following issues are currently being worked on by the Association:

- Code of Conduct into Hours of Work (CFSVA representative on the working party is Phil Richards from Millicent)
- Free entry for CFS and SES volunteers into SA National Parks
- 25 kph past red and blue lights at emergencies (Cabinet submission being forwarded by Minister Michael O'Brien, Minister for Road Safety)
- Driver fatigue legislation exemption
- SACAD and CRD issues (many thanks to CFSVA representative Jim Sandford)
- Triple 000 and SAAS issue.

PENNESHAW & DISTRICT CELEBRATES 55 YEARS

By: Stack Stevens

BRIGADE ANNIVERSARIES

Over 940 years of combined service was celebrated at the Penneshaw & District CFS awards lunch earlier this year.

The event also highlighted Graham Lloyd's extraordinary dedication to serving the community, by being recognised for 55 years of active service.

Guest speaker Chief Officer Euan Ferguson presented 25 members with National Medals, Life Memberships and 1st, 2nd and 3rd clasps and Long Service Awards.

About 130 past and present members, as well as members of the community who have supported the brigade over the past 55 years, gathered at the Penneshaw Town Hall for the awards lunch in recognition of their dedication.

Euan acknowledged the incredible service provided by volunteers and their commitment and sacrifice over many years and saved his highest praise for Graham Lloyd, who was presented with a Chief Officer Commendation in addition to a Gold Long Service Award for 50 years service and 3rd Clasp to his National Medal. Graham was a founding member of the brigade over 55 years ago.

While the brigade has developed significantly since its days in a

tin shed and Landrover, Graham's years as training officer, captain, mentor and firefighter has been the cornerstone of the brigade. At 73, he shows no signs of slowing up and still is one of the first to respond for any incident.

A lasting memory will be the quiet satisfaction on his charcoal stained face following a hard day fighting the Mount Flat Fire. Even though he was the oldest man on the fireground, he looked the freshest and most satisfied.

Over recent years he has continued to support training and maintenance, and with the support of other members on Sunday mornings has raised over \$20,000 from bottle collection.

Jayne Bates read out a letter from Graham Connell who, with Graham, was an officer in the early 1950s. It too recognised the incredible contribution Graham gave in the early development of the Kangaroo Island EFS/CFS.

The brigade would like to thank the many sponsors who supported the event with donations and food, the friends and members who assisted Sue Pearson with the lunch and Libby Barrios for assisting with the months of research and arrangements.

PENNESHAW CFS SERVICE MEDALS

Kath Lloyd

Life Membership
Silver Long Service 25 yrs

Hartley Willson

Gold Long Service 35 yrs
1st Clasp

Barry Howard

1st & 2nd Clasp to National Medal
Life Member
Gold Long Service 35 yrs

Graham Trethewey

National Medal
Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs

Kevin Howard

National Medal
Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs
Certificate of Service 30 yrs
1st Clasp

Paul Buick

National Medal
Life Member
Gold Long Service 35 yrs
1st & 2nd Clasp

Mos Howard

Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs

Jeff Buick

National Medal
Life Member
Bronze Long Service 15 yrs

Trevor Davis

Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs
1st Clasp

Mitch Willson

National Medal
Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs
1st Clasp

Ashleigh Bates

Life Member
Gold Long Service 35 yrs
1st & 2nd Clasp

Barry Nettle

National Medal
Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs
1st Clasp

Bev Willson

Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs

Glen Willson

National Medal
Life Member
Silver Long Service 25 yrs
1st Clasp

Dennis Carey

National Medal
Life Member
Bronze Long Service 15 yrs

Graham Lloyd

Gold Long Service 50 yrs
3rd Clasp

Keith Langley

Bronze Long Service 15 yrs

10 Year Certificates

Jimmy Howard
Shane Bates



Members of the Penneshaw community helped to celebrate the CFS Brigade's 55th anniversary.





^ Celebrating 55 years of the Penneshaw & District CFS, from left, founding secretary (1953-1958) Fred Wilson, CFS Chief Officer Euan Ferguson, Graham Lloyd (first captain and recipient of the Chief Officer's Award and 50-year Service Award), Glen Willson, (Brigade Captain), and Hartley Willson (Life Membership and founding treasurer).

^ Penneshaw CFS Brigade members who received service medals.

CLARENDON 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Seven months of planning went into a special day for Clarendon CFS Brigade to celebrate its 70th anniversary, with 120 guests attending a gathering at the fire station on 20 September.

Vice president Rob Tyler and current Captain Phil Scroop co-hosted the event with invited guests entertained by past and present captains' stories of the history and progress of this valuable link in the Mawson Group.

Training Officer (LT2) Sue Leslie read out a poem (see separate item on this page) which she had composed and received requests for copies from CFS Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Lawson.

CFS medals were awarded to 14 Clarendon members for service from 10 to 30 years, with Andrew Lawson congratulating them for a job well done.

Recent building works of a dedicated crew changing area and a store room was commissioned by Region One Commander Chris Martin, with Mawson Group Officer Peter Venning and Past Clarendon Captain Glynn Williams, cutting a ribbon with a Halligan tool.

The Mayor of The City of

Onkaparinga Lorraine Rosenberg also spoke highly of the work done by all CFS volunteers and distinguished guests were presented with a bottle of wine from some of our local producers.

The Brigade was presented with a 70th Year plaque by DCO Andrew Lawson and Phil Scroop willingly accepted the plaque on behalf of the Brigade. Other awards for Fire Phone Operators and Events Coordinators were also presented.

The Brigade was surprised by some past members travelling from Victoria and the Riverland to attend the ceremony.

√ Clarendon CFS service medal recipients from left, Mick Bulman, Mike Guilfoyle, Phil Scroop, Tom Millar and Glynn Williams.



>> Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Lawson and Clarendon Captain Phil Scroop.



Remember

If the siren sounds today
This is what I ask —
Keep me safe and mindful
of the work that is at task.

Help me remember all I've learned
So I can give my all
To quench the flame, to dam the flood,
help creatures great and small.

To remember all the triumphs
but heed the tragedies
And remember what I've learned from these
To change the way I see.

Remember those who have now passed
Those who once had fought
The legacy they've left us
The lessons that they have taught.

To lead by my example
and with passion and accuracy
And encourage all my team mates
To be all that they can be.

Support those who may flounder
Compassion to those who fall
Remember that we've all been there
It happens to us all.

To change the things I know I can
To accept what I can't do
But have the wisdom to remember
the difference between the two.

And when I feel like giving up
When my spirit has no reserve
To step back and remember
why I first chose to serve.

Sue Leslie, Clarendon CFS, 20/9/09
Written for all CFS members across the
Chain of Command

75 YEARS AT CHERRY GARDENS

The Cherry Gardens Country Fire Service Brigade celebrated 75 years of service to the community with an open day and afternoon tea on October 18.

About 120 people attended, including Chief Officer Euan Ferguson and Regional Commander Chris Martin, who presented a number of CFS Service Medals and Life Memberships.

Former members were also honoured as part of the official ceremony, with certificates presented by the Regional Commander.

Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg unveiled a plaque, which recognises the members of the Ladies Auxiliary and their contribution.

A brief history of the Cherry Gardens CFS Brigade...

It was following the disastrous fires of 1939 (the worst fire in the district before Ash Wednesday) when after a week of over 100F temperatures that a fire started in Happy Valley on Tuesday 10 January.

This fire was ignited by a pump motor and burnt through Cherry Gardens and in a path that stretched to Strathalbyn with ferocious speed and fanned by a hot north wind.

A second fire started on Friday the 13th near an old mine adjacent to Oakridge Road where there was enough unburnt stubble and grass for the fire to pass over the same area again.



As a result of this fire the Meadows Council provided local firefighters a further 12 four gallon knapsacks (20 litre).

In the years to follow the Council provided more knapsacks and members of the community also bought their own until progressively most homes in the community had a knapsack, which were stored full and

carried as the firefighters walked to the fire.

It was at the request of the Cherry Gardens Agricultural Bureau that the Cherry Gardens Fire Fighting Committee was founded in December 1934.

There was no mains water so drums and tins of water were

positioned at strategic locations around the district.

The natural leaders of the district were appointed fire officers, among the early fire officers were Ken Jacobs and Ross Coats with Jack Jacobs, Ken Lewis and Murray Watchman.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CALL RECEIPT AND DISPATCH (SACAD)

By: Malim Watts, CFS Manager Operations Planning

A SAFECOM South Australian Call Receipt and Dispatch (SACAD) Project Governance model has been developed to include a series of assurance functions for consideration by the SAFECOM SACAD Agency Implementation Board.

Although many of these assurance roles are still at management or technical levels, a number of them reflect a need to gain business input from personnel at the operational levels within the CFS, MFS and SES.

Projects that engage effectively with all levels of the business are more

likely to achieve far greater support and take up of the new capability.

BRG MEMBERSHIP

The CFS Business Reference Group (BRG) is chaired by Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Lawson and includes:

- Terry May – KI Group Officer - CFS Region 1
- Jim Mitchell – Angaston Deputy Group Officer - CFS Region 2
- Lisa Bryant – Regional Operations Planning Officer - CFS Region 2
- Terry Franklin – Operations Brigade Captain – CFS Region 3

- Peter Smallacombe – Group Officer - CFS Region 4
- Bluey Devine – Regional Operations Planning Officer - CFS Region 4
- Bob Davis – Mt Gambier Group Ops Brigade Captain - CFS Region 5
- Brenton Hastie – Regional Operations Planning Officer - CFS Region 5
- Barry Hetherington – LEP Group Officer - CFS Region 6
- Andrew Hoyle – SAFECOM SACAD Project Manager
- Bo Gacic – SAFECOM SACAD Business Analyst

- Gary Bau – State Operations Planning Officer CRD
- Malim Watts – Manager Operations Planning
- Jim Sandford – CFSVA representative.

SACAD FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In this edition of the *Volunteer*, you'll find a flyer outlining how you can find SACAD Frequently Asked Questions on the CFS website. Your regional representative can also provide you with more information.

CRIMSON ACCESS FOR GROUPS AND BRIGADES

By: Haley Cahalan

The CFS is committed to and focused on using the Critical Resource and Incident Information Management System (CRIIMSON) to continually improve the operational information flow. CRIIMSON is the CFS-endorsed system for staff transferring operational information and has been available for staff since 1 July 2005 and has now been made accessible to volunteers via a PIRSA-secure site.

Currently the following groups/brigades have been trained and have had CRIIMSON access provided:

- Lower Eyre Peninsula Group
- Tumby Bay Group
- Cleve Group
- Region One Ops Brigade
- Region Two Ops Brigade
- State Headquarters Ops Brigade
- Kangaroo Island Group
- Mawson Group
- Sturt Group

- Woomera Emergency Services and Woomera CFS
- Strathalbyn Group.

Training is planned for the following areas:

- Crystal Brook
- Stirling North
- Melrose
- Jamestown
- Para
- Gumeracha
- Angaston
- Yorke Peninsula.

CRIIMSON has not been mandated for volunteer input, however is available for groups and brigades should they wish to provide operational information in a timely fashion.

If CRIIMSON is not available then the contingency is to use the hard copy/electronic version of the forms and transfer via fax or email.

CRIIMSON does not remove the need for reporting via the Chain of Command, but assists with the transfer of information through the Chain of Command.

The COSOs and SOPs for notifications must continue and it should not be assumed that personnel are watching CRIIMSON waiting for information to be populated.

Follow-up phone calls to Group Officers, Regional Coordinators and the State Coordinator is still a requirement to ensure that the required personnel who need to know the information are kept in the loop.

The following operational information is available for CFS volunteers to input or view within CRIIMSON as they see fit:

- Situation Reports
- Incident Logs – All personnel need to maintain a log either electronic or hand-written.

- Emergency Warning Messages (Read Only)
- Watch & Act Messages (Read Only)
- Levels of Preparedness (Read Only)
- Resource Tracking (mainly used by Adelaide Fire)
- Air Operations Resource Tracking (Read Only)
- Road Closures
- Burn Offs, plus weather requests for prescribed burns
- Weather Requests
- Incident Action Plan (when new development completed)
- Online AIRS reporting (when development is completed early in 2010).

Groups wishing to arrange CRIIMSON training should contact their Regional Training Officer who will contact the Manager Operational Information to arrange a suitable training time.

HYDRATION AND NUTRITION ON THE FIREGROUND

Summer is now upon us and with it a return to fire fighting and having to endure excessive heat and physical activity with the added risk of dehydration and fatigue due to inadequate fluid intake and poor diet.

Some volunteers don't eat breakfast and if called out during the morning will most probably miss out on lunch as well which means they are most likely to suffer from fatigue and could be pulled off the fireground and sent to hospital.

We wouldn't start on a road trip to Sydney without putting fuel in the car yet many volunteers wouldn't think about making sure they have adequate food and water intake before going to an incident.

During the summer fire season it is essential that if you are on call

you must ensure that you eat in the morning and around midday. We cannot guarantee that food will be supplied during the initial stages of an incident.

Brigades should carry emergency ration packs on their appliances and these should be eaten if you have had no other food that day. The types of food that you eat should be low in fat but high in carbohydrates for energy.

The body requires fluids to maintain its natural cooling system. Water is the best source because it gets into your system immediately and doesn't put stress on your kidneys which have to filter the impurities found in other drinks. Soft drinks and flavoured milks have no benefits whatsoever and in fact will do more harm than good.

Isotonic drinks like Gatorade and

Powerade are beneficial if you have not eaten but must be used in moderation as they have a high sodium content which can have a detrimental effect on your system.

On a hot day it's recommended you start drinking water early in the day, to ensure that if you are called out, you are already hydrated.

Some volunteers will only start drinking when they are on the way to a fire but don't realise they are playing a deadly game of catch up and are likely to feel the effects of dehydration during the incident.

Others only start to drink when they feel thirsty and these people are at

most risk as the body only lets you know this when your hydration levels are critically low. This is manageable if you are not active but in a fire fighting situation it is likely to lead to heat-related illness.

Remember, always carry sufficient quantities of fresh drinking water with you on the appliance and drink at least 150ml to 200ml every 10 to 15 minutes.

To minimise fatigue take short breaks regularly, drink frequently, pace yourself and rotate your tasks.

Don't become a casualty this summer. It's bad for your health and impacts your crew.

By: Mike Guilfoyle, CFS OHS and Welfare Officer



CFS FIELD DAYS WINNER

The CFS took part in one of the most anticipated events on Yorke Peninsula in September – the biennial Field Days at Paskeville, and it was an outstanding success.

The CFS marquee was among 700 exhibitors of agricultural products and farming machinery in what is considered to be the biggest event of its kind in South Australia.

On the first day of the three-day event, organisers named the CFS display Best Outdoor Site.

Regional Prevention Officer at CFS Region 2 and event coordinator Sonia Post said she was pleased with the result.

"This award recognises the efforts of Region 2 staff, our volunteers, CFS Community Education, the CFS Heritage Committee, Weetulta cadets and SAFECOM Public Affairs," she said.

The judges noted the CFS site stood out for being welcoming with a captivating historic display featuring vintage fire trucks, while its volunteers and staff were friendly and engaging.

"What we set out to achieve was to present a display that aroused public interest and encouraged visitors to inquire about the CFS and its fire prevention messages," Sonia said.

"It's a huge credit and acknowledgement of the teamwork and the passionate sense of community demonstrated by everyone involved."

CFS Region 2 Commander John Hutchins also congratulated Sonia for her personal efforts.

"Sonia deserves the loudest applause for organising the design of this year's display and for

coordinating our presence at the Paskeville Field Days during the past three years," he said.

The CFS display featured bushfire prevention and safety messages and highlighted the work of its volunteers who have served the Clare Valley over many years.

The CFS Heritage Committee also had a strong presence with its President Rex Hall in attendance who brought along several restored fire trucks to make up part of the display.

Sonia said the hard work put in by her team paid off with many people visiting the site and showing interest in the CFS and bushfire prevention including the new Fire Danger Ratings system and community information messages.

"The CFS is changing the way it will be communicating to the public this fire danger season, as part of a new national framework," she said.

"So it wasn't surprising that there was interest in sections of our display that included information about the new scaled Fire Danger Ratings system with new categories of threat relating to the Fire Danger Index such as 'Severe' and 'Catastrophic'."

The Yorke Peninsula Field Days also presented an opportunity for the CFS to highlight new national branding initiatives that captures key bushfire safety messages in three words – PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

"This slogan identifies three levels of responsibility that's expected of everyone in anticipation of a bushfire," Sonia said.

The Yorke Peninsula Field Days is the oldest community event of its kind in Australia with its first held in 1894, it now attracts about 50,000 visitors.



^ Smokey joins in the fun of colouring in at Paskeville.



>> Children's favourite mascot - Smokey.



Two legends meet at Paskeville – Smokey and Merv Hughes.



It's amazing what you'll find in a CFS Field Days show bag.



CFS staff and volunteers with some of the historic vehicles that were on display at Paskeville.



^ Part of the CFS team responsible for this year's winning display at Paskeville.

The CFS again had an active presence at this year's Royal Adelaide Show, and for the first time took part in a joint SAFECOM display which combined the CFS, SES and Volunteer Strategy & Support (VSS) in the one marquee.

The CFS display concentrated on the 'Come and Join Us' message, while the SES offered information about its 'Flood Watch' program which was launched this year, and the VSS promoted volunteering in the two agencies.

The display also gained the attention of the Show's organisers who announced it had won a Highly Commended Award for site presentation.

CFS members were involved in crewing the stand over nine days and helped to set up and dismantle the site. Salisbury CFS members put in many hours to lay the sand and turf for the floor and set up the display area.

CFS Infrastructure and Logistics provided a new Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) to showcase alongside the marquee, for comment and display to the public.

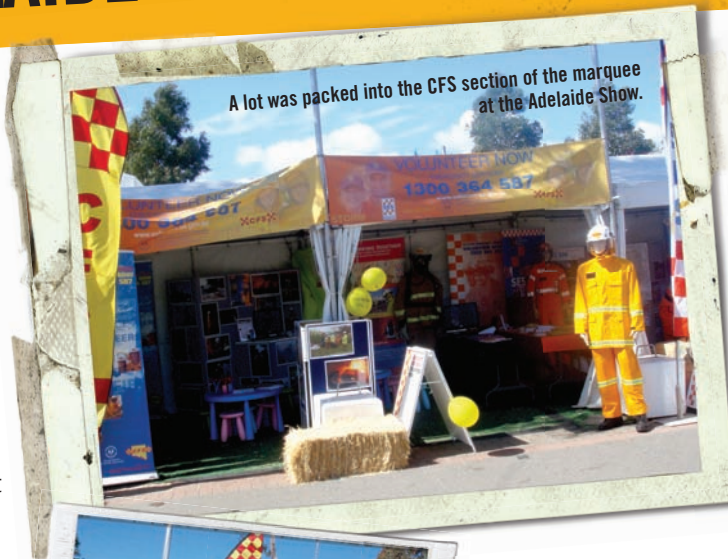
CFS also provided an example of

the PPE used by members, from Proban Level 1, to the PBI Gold Level 3 structural set with Breathing Apparatus, next to a Tyvek Splash Suit which is used in Hazardous Material incidents (HazMat).

The CFS Promotions Unit also provided a collection of current incident photographs, depicting the role and responsibilities of CFS members. A computer with this website was also in place, along with a powerpoint display of incident and activity pictures.

Members involved in this year's Royal Adelaide Show were from the following brigades:

- Aldinga Beach
- Basket Range
- Bridgewater
- Edithburgh
- Morphett Vale
- Nairne
- Norton Summit
- Port Vincent
- Salisbury
- Sellicks
- State Operations Support
- Stirling
- Tea Tree Gully.



<< The CFS, SES and SAFECOM marquee at the Royal Adelaide Show.

>> Some of the volunteers who staffed the joint CFS, SES and SAFECOM stand at this year's Royal Adelaide Show.



EVENTS

DALKEITH SHOWCASES FIRE RESISTANT PLANT GARDEN

By: Haley Cahalan and David Lamplough

Two years ago members of the Dalkeith Country Fire Service Brigade started work on a shared vision to raise community awareness of rural landscaping as a preparedness measure for bushfires.

They were looking to create a dedicated area which showed fire resistant plants and suggested planting options. It could also be a source of additional information and examples of constructing effective fire breaks around residential properties.

Over that time, members of the Dalkeith brigade have seen its vision come to reality, through lots of hard work and dedication. Their work was showcased on October 17 when Chief Officer Euan Ferguson officially opened the garden at the brigade's 15th birthday celebrations

and presented a number of volunteers with CFS Service Medals and one National Medal.

The garden consists of about 80 plants (with more on the way) with 38 individual plant species, native and exotic trees, shrubs, grasses, groundcovers and herbs. Numerous fire breaks have been created and some 15 tonnes of imported rubble, 100 kilograms of imported soil and a new fire access gate were all part of the works.

The Dalkeith brigade is hoping that the garden may be useful for school visits, Community Fire Groups and Neighbourhood Watch groups.

Dalkeith brigade member Eric Schneider has played a major role in establishing the fire resistant plant garden. He has many hopes for the

educational prospects surrounding the garden, and is keen for it to be dedicated as a commemorative garden for past and present members of the brigade who have given outstanding service to their community.

"For those who have passed on it will be a legacy for tomorrow's members to reflect upon, while for those still with us, let it be a celebration for their years of service," he said.

Dalkeith - a look back in time...

My name is David Lamplough and I am a life member of the SA CFS at Dalkeith (just north of Smithfield). I joined the (then) Emergency Fire Service 37 years ago in October 1972 at Smithfield (R-2).

The Brigade at that time (1972) was responding to about 68 to 70 calls for assistance per year, which made it one of the busier brigades in the State. We had an old Chevy Blitz and a very new Bedford appliance. After a couple of years the old Blitz was replaced with a C-1300 International 4X4 which was in service through to the late 1980s.

Some 15 years ago the old brigades of Smithfield and neighbouring station at Evanston Gardens were merged to become a new Brigade called Dalkeith CFS and we are a part of the Para Group.

Since 1972 the brigade has seen many changes in appliances, equipment and training.

Over the years, Dalkeith has been involved in many interstate deployments in addition to travelling to many parts of South Australia to help other areas in their times of need.

We currently operate four appliances and with the growth in the district we are looking forward with enthusiasm towards contributing to the safety of the district.

We have just recently had an open day and medal presentations for service. I have just been presented with the new Service Medal and the 30 year clasp. Guests included Chief Officer Euan Ferguson and his wife, and the Mayor of the City of Playford Martin Lindsal and his wife.

MOUNT LOFTY FIRE TOWER CAN USE YOUR HELP

By: John Warren, Acting Captain Mount Lofty Fire Tower Brigade

The Mount Lofty fire tower will be operating again during the Fire Danger Season (2009-10) but it needs your help.

South Australia's largest and tallest smoke alarm will be back in operation this season to help protect Hills properties and residents, but like all smoke alarms its batteries (operating staff) wear out over time and need replacing. As such, we are currently short of members, but you can help.

Whether you are:

- A current CFS member who has aged gracefully like our Tower, no longer feeling the urge to leap on and off an appliance but would like to remain active within the service;
- An SES or St Johns member looking for other ways to serve the community during the summer months;

- A member of the general public with an afternoon or two each month to spare;
- Or any of the above who would like to involve members of your family or friends in their volunteer activities.

You are needed to work in South Australia's highest office in the CFS, with airconditioned comfort and the best views in Adelaide.

Training at all levels is provided from auxiliary membership to fully qualified firefighter and includes operating the PAWS (Portable Automated Weather Station) unit.

If you are interested in protecting the community (plus keeping an eye on your own property) please phone the Brigade Duty Officer on 0428 971 399 for further details.



GET TO KNOW THE VSS NEWS & UPDATES

The Volunteer Strategy and Support Branch (VSS) has some new faces (and some old ones) so we thought this would be a good time to let you know a little bit about us - what we do and how we can assist you in your volunteering role.

VSS provides a number of services to volunteers such as:

- Training in 'Effective People Skills', 'Workplace Dignity', 'Recruitment Planning' and the 'Brigade Health Check'
- Assistance with recruitment and retention of volunteers
- Advice on issues for young people
- Information, support and practical assistance on good brigade management.

Volunteer Support Officers (VSO's) are located in each CFS region and provide a link to the team in headquarters. If you have any suggestions about how VSS can provide you with support or assistance, please contact your local VSO or any of the headquarters staff on the numbers displayed in the box.

Over the past few months, the VSS Branch has been involved in promoting the CFS at both the Royal

Adelaide Show where the combined CFS/SES/SAFECOM stand won a commendation for 'Best Outdoor Stand'. VSS also assisted the CFS at the Paskeville Field Days where the CFS won 'Best Outdoor Display'. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time to be involved in these events.

The VSS Branch also ran a successful recognition evening for volunteers and their employers (including self-employed volunteers) at the Port Elliot Brigade with over 190 people attending. The SAFECOM Board (including Euan Ferguson) attended the event where volunteers were able to enjoy a barbeque tea - also during the evening, 43 award certificates were presented to CFS volunteers and their employers, thanking and recognising them for their work and contribution to the CFS.

In the next three months, VSS will be looking at strategies to assist with retention of volunteers through a pilot mentoring program, as well as how to recognise the valuable role of volunteers and the employers that support them as part of our

Volunteer and Employer Recognition and Support Program Review. If you want any information on these

programs, or would like to provide your ideas, please contact Toni Richardson on the number below.

CFS Region 1 – Julie Francis – 0408 792 765
CFS Region 2 – Jason Druwitt – 0419 847 410
CFS Region 3 – David Baker – 0408 792 764
CFS Region 4 – Peter Shalley – 0428 792 763
CFS Region 5 – Margaret Ludwig – 0408 792 766
CFS Region 6 – Jain Mentieth – 8682 4266

MANAGER – MARK GROOTE
 – 8463 4100

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT – TONI RICHARDSON
 – 8463 4101

YOUTH PROGRAMS OFFICER – FELICITY HOPKINSON
 – 8463 4106

PROJECT OFFICER – JOANNA BOND
 – 8463 4103

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICER – SHANNON DOUGLAS
 – 8463 4102

You can also email us at VSS@safecom.sa.gov.au

MEDAL RECOGNITION FOR CFS VOLUNTEERS

Almost 8000 Country Fire Service members have been officially recognised for significant service to the organisation, as part of a new Service Medal that began rolling out in September.

The prestigious CFS Service Medal, an initiative of the CFS Volunteers Association, is being awarded for 10 years of diligent service to the CFS. For each 10 year increment, a clasp corresponding to those years will be added to the medal.

Hundreds of ceremonies have been held across South Australia at Brigade, Group and Region level to formally recognise members who are entitled to receive a CFS Service Medal.

A total of 7947 medals are being presented to recipients from every CFS brigade in the State.

Five CFS members, George Polomka AFSM (Region 1), Maxwell Cooper (Region 2), Richard Keynes (Region 3), Alan Davidson (Region 4) and

Maxwell Slee (Region 4) were awarded the 60-year clasp with their medal and another 90 volunteers have received the 50-year clasp.

CFS Chief Officer Euan Ferguson said he was delighted to be able to officially recognise the good work of members who have willingly given their time over many years.

"The awarding of almost 8000 medals recognises the significant experience and dedication of our CFS men and women," he said.

"What this means is that almost 8000 members, including at least one from every brigade across the State, have been a part of the CFS for more than 10 years - this is an extraordinary effort.

"I congratulate all those who will receive the inaugural CFS Service Medals."

The traditional insignia of the CFS, the eight-pointed star, was chosen for the medal. The star is recognised by fire services all over the world. It is the



FULL-SIZE MEDAL

The full-size medal is worn on the right breast of the CFS dress uniform when attending day functions (customarily before 1700 hrs unless specifically authorised for evening wear) such as Anzac Day, Remembrance Day or other CFS ceremonies. The top of the medal ribbon is to be positioned below the name tag. Ribbon bars are not to be worn at the same time as medals.

MINIATURE MEDAL

The miniature medal is intended for evening wear (after 1700 hrs). It is worn on occasions such as official receptions and dinners. With all other types of dress, the miniature medal is worn like the full-size medal on the right breast, with the top of the ribbon positioned below the name tag. Ribbon bars are not to be worn at the same time.

RIBBON BAR

The ribbon bar may be worn with all forms of dress at the discretion of the holder, with the exception of the CFS field uniform (yellow and green). It should not be worn at the same time as the full-size or miniature medal. Where possible, the ribbon bar is worn centrally above the right breast pocket. When a name tag is worn the name tag should be positioned below the ribbon.

LAPEL BADGE

A lapel badge may be worn on civilian clothes at any time. Only one badge should be worn at a given time and not when other insignia pieces are worn.

60 YEARS OF SERVICE — MEDAL RECIPIENTS

George Polomka AFSM — 61 years of service - Athelstone Brigade

Maxwell Cooper — 62 years of service — Forrestone Brigade

Richard Keynes - 67 years of service — Keyneton Brigade

Alan Davidson - 62 years of service — Gulnare Brigade

Maxwell Slee - 62 years of service — Willmington Brigade

Cross of Saint John, which originally emerged from the Maltese Cross. Used by the Knights of Saint John during the Crusades in Jerusalem, the points of the Maltese Cross represented eight virtues of Knighthood, which over time firefighters have adopted.

The eight virtues of the CFS volunteer are:

- Tact
- Loyalty
- Dexterity
- Observation
- Sympathy
- Explicitness

- Gallantry
- Perseverance.

The medal is suspended from a ribbon with vertical stripes in red, yellow and white. Red represents the threat of fire and danger to the community, yellow is the healing sun and common colour of a firefighter's protective clothing, and white symbolises the unity of agencies working together with the community against common threats and for the peace that comes with a resilient community.

CFS CREW BAG



Sick of looking for your CFS overalls?

Carry them with you in an approved CFS bag. Made from durable 11oz canvas with yellow handles and pockets each end and one side.

Large Crew Bag: \$50

Extra Large Crew Bag: \$55

We also manufacture ute seat covers, swags and camper units for tray top utes.



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CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT FIRE SAFETY FROM CFS

By: Therese Pedler and Cummins Area School representatives

CFS Community Education Officer Therese Pedler and District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula General Inspector David Hall recently visited the Cummins Library to talk to a group of children about fire safety.

The children from the Child Parent Centre and students from Reception to Year 4 at Cummins Area School learnt fire safety rules and how to stay safe in the event of a fire.

Using puppets and games, Therese helped the children remember important rules such as:

- Stop, drop, cover, roll
- Crawl down low, go, go, go.

Therese explained to the children that if the fire is inside the home they are safest outside, however if the fire

is outside (for example a bushfire) they are safest in their own home.

She also talked about wearing everyday items such as boots, jeans, non-flammable jumpers, bike helmets and goggles for protective clothing and stressed the importance of respecting "good fires" such as candles, matches and campfires in order to prevent them from becoming a "bad fire".

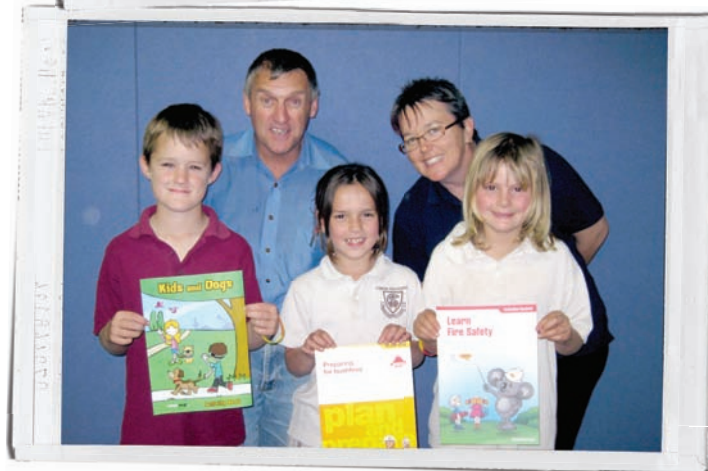
Therese used lots of colour, movement and repetition to convey these very important messages.

The students received a variety of activity books, colour-ins and fun items to take home.

Feedback from staff was positive and Therese and David have been invited back to give their talk on an annual basis.



Students at Cummins get the chance to try on the CFS firefighting gear.



Learning about bushfire safety at Cummins Area School, with Community Education Officer Therese Pedler and local council General Inspector David Hall.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

FIRE SAFETY TRAINING FOR PORT LINCOLN NURSING HOME STAFF

By: Therese Pedler

CFS Community Education staff have visited the Matthew Flinders Nursing Home in Port Lincoln to talk about bushfire safety.

Two compulsory training days were held to inform the nursing home staff about the use of fire extinguishers, evacuation methods from a building, Occupational Health and Safety and budgets, in addition to bushfire safety information.

About 100 staff, responsible for the care of 68 permanent high dependant patients, took part in the training.

Some staff were already members of Community Fire Safe groups in and around Port Lincoln.

The training sessions were very well received with positive feedback conveyed to the CFS Community Education staff.



Matthew Flinders nursing home staff learning about bushfire safety.

T-CARD MODULE

By: Leanne Adams, CFS Incident Management Project Officer

T-cards are an important tool that we use to manage and track our resources (people and vehicles) during incidents.

They assist crew leaders, strike team leaders, sector and division commanders and incident controllers to determine the resources they have at their disposal to combat an incident.

Furthermore, the information from T-cards is also used to identify how many people need to be catered for and/or accommodated during an incident.

They also assist us managing the health, safety and welfare of our personnel.

Last year new T-cards were issued

for all appliances, command vehicles, group control centres and regional control centres and kits were assembled to assist in the management of T-cards at Staging Areas.

A T-Card module has been developed which will be sent out to all Brigades and Groups in the near future.

This will enable us to gain a better understanding of why and how T-cards are used and to offer greater consistency in their use across the State which in turn should result in more efficient and effective resource management and the provision of logistical support such as catering and accommodation.



^ T-Cards are used to manage resources during incidents.

PLANNING OFFICERS COURSE

By: Leanne Adams

A Planning Officers course recently run by the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) was held at the CFS State Training Centre.

Participants from around the State attended and found the course to be very valuable.

Along with the QFRS sessions that were run by Eddie Lacko and Tim Akers, there were some excellent sessions run by local presenters including: Duncan Tippins from the Bureau of Meteorology; Jim Crabb from the DEH's Mapping Support Unit; Gary Bau (CFS) on Communications Planning; David Pearce (CFS) on Air Operations; Chris Metevelis (SAFECOM) on managing media during incidents; plus a field trip in Belair National Park with Richard Coombe (DEH), where participants tested fuel samples and assessed fuel hazards.

It is hoped that CFS and DEH will be able to run more Planning Officers courses in the future.



^ Rod Cunningham, Sandra Fawcett, Janet Kelly, Ray Brownbill and George Kozminski conducting fuel moisture sampling.



>> Richard Coombe from the Department of Environment and Heritage instructs course participants on fuel hazard assessment including slope, fuel loads and fuel arrangement.

CADET CAMP AT NARACOORTE CAVES

Region 5 Cadets have held their annual camp and combined caving with a day at the Region 5 Training Centre.

Cadets and leaders enjoyed an overnight stay on Friday and Saturday in the bunkhouse accommodation at the World Heritage-listed Naracoorte Caves.

Saturday's action was based around two sessions of guided adventure caving which involved going underground into caves, working together as a team and assisting each other through some of the smaller gaps and crawl spaces.

The cadets had lots of opportunities to earn points for their team by being cooperative around the campsite, assisting with meal preparation and cleanup and participating in various sporting activities and games.

Early Sunday morning they made the short journey to the Region 5 Training Centre to enjoy a round robin of events.

These included hose work on the hot fire pad, four-man competition wet

drill (and some did get very wet!), a compass navigation course and a search and rescue exercise using the Breathing Apparatus complex, drag mats and face masks.

This day was made possible by the valuable input of several volunteers and regional staff who gave their time to supervise equipment and coordinate activities.

CFSVA SE President Rex Hall presented a signed copy of his first book 'Forty Five Flaming Years' to the best all round cadet, Sam Drummond.

The cadets wished to leave their mark on the training centre by contributing to the future and seized the opportunity to plant almost 60 native trees along the driveway entrance.

As these cadets continue to visit this training centre in the coming years they will be able to check on the growth of "their" tree.

The Regional Cadet Committee are now keen for similar citizenship actions to be undertaken at every Regional Cadet gathering.



^ Cadets taking part in a guided tour of the Naracoorte Caves.



<< Native trees were planted by cadets along the driveway entrance to the Region 5 Training Centre.

CADETS FAR NORTH CADET CAMP

By: Graeme Austin, Woomera CFS Captain

Cadets from Woomera, Andamooka and Roxby Downs enjoyed an exciting two-day camp with CFS captains Brett Atkins, Anne Legg and Graeme Austin during the year.

The camp took place in Woomera and involved 23 cadets and 12 cadet leaders and helpers.

The group started their weekend with a visit to the Australian Defence Force air base for a guided tour of the hangars and aircraft. This was a big hit with all thoroughly enjoying the tour.

After the tour, the cadets were divided into three groups and given ribbons to identify their allotted team - Blue, White and Black - with leaders each allocated a group and

tasked to come up with a name for themselves and a theme song.

Later we went on a tour of the Marine Centre and the Heritage Centre's museum which was particularly enjoyable before heading back to the Lockett Pavilion for afternoon tea which was followed by games of soccer in the school gymnasium.

The Black Team won the soccer.

The evening was spent eating marshmallows over a bonfire at the Ponds before travelling to the movie theatre to watch 'Ink Heart'.

Sunday started with breakfast prepared by Mick, Jaya, Shelley and helpers and the rest of the morning was spent competing in groups for drills and games that included dry and wet hose, holey bucket, memory



^ CFS cadets from Woomera, Andamooka and Roxby Downs with leaders, helpers and captains during their cadet camp.

games and a first aid information and practical session.

After an excellent lunch the cadets packed up their belongings, cleaned up the oval and Lockett Pavilion and packed up all the equipment.

Photos were then taken with the Ranga Roos (Blue Team) declared the camp's winner with a total score of 465. Emo Nemo (Black Team) scored 420 and White Elmos

(White Team) accumulated 395 points. Points were scored or lost for teamwork, knowledge and times depending on each event.

Again a big 'Thank You' goes to PA&CI Martins - Joe and Mick, The Eldo Hotel, The Heritage Centre, The Woomera Area School, The Woomera Board, Marcus Jones and Defence personnel.

Without your support the camp would not have been as successful.



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CONSOLIDATING ROAD CRASH RESCUE RESOURCES

By: Mark Thomason, Manager Operational Improvement

Participants took part in a training exercise involving a Coaster bus lying across a car.



While the road toll has sadly made the news far too many

times in 2009, this year has been one of unification amongst the Road Crash Rescue (RCR) sector in South Australia.

Currently our three rescue agencies – the SA Metropolitan Fire Service, SA Country Fire and SA State Emergency Service – are combining their skills and expertise both in the field and behind the scenes in the training departments.

A select group of training personnel from each agency are busy working together to develop a single Training Resource Kit for implementation across the sector, with the aim of standardising training materials

and methods to ultimately enhance the extrications performed on South Australia's roads.

While the training materials are being researched and developed, the SA CFS recently convened a professional development opportunity for the RCR Trainer Assessors from each agency.

Earlier this year, the State Training Centre hosted a day of specialised training focusing on Heavy Vehicle Rescues.

With the support of CHUBB Fire Safety's Adelaide consultant Barrie Cole, HOLMATRO International Rescue Specialist Brendon Morris was brought in for the day to deliver both theoretical and practical training. Brendon is

based in the Netherlands and travels the world as a practitioner of both Road Rescue and Urban Search and Rescue as well as a technical advisor to HOLMATRO Rescue Equipment.

The day was attended by about 25 trainers from the MFS, CFS and SES. After the morning theory session attendees were shown a range of HOLMATRO products and then took part in applying their skills, knowledge and rescue tools supplied to a scenario which involved a Coaster bus lying across a passenger vehicle.

The scenario allowed the trainers to share their knowledge and experiences in solving the techniques to best achieve the required outcome.

Clearly demonstrated was the enthusiasm and respect each agency had for their fellow rescuers to work alongside each other and achieve a common goal.

This first unified training opportunity is to be a platform for the future development of Road Crash Rescue trainers and training delivery in South Australia.

With our State's rescuers (career and volunteer) working from a common standard, we can only be progressing towards achieving more effective extrications and in turn enhancing the chances of survival for those who are unfortunate enough to be requiring our services.

CUTTING EDGE HISTORY CREATED

By: Coreyjay Frazer, State Officer Training – Specialist Rescue

There are not too many specialist areas within the CFS, SES and MFS that can all deliver the same operational service to the community; however Road Accident Rescue is definitely an exception.

While the three agencies of SAFECOM are all working to establish and implement one unified training resource kit, the CFS and SES have taken a major step forward by facilitating a joint agency 'Undertake Road Accident Rescue' course at Burra.

While this course addressed a specific community need, it was also the first time the CFS has delivered the course to members of the SES.

Along with a team of volunteer 'Undertake Road Accident Rescue' Trainer-Assessors, I felt privileged to be a part of this historic event.

The course started on the Friday night and concluded on the Sunday afternoon. It was attended by nine members of the Burra community from both agencies and additional CFS members from Region 4 filled the remaining positions on the course. Over the duration of the weekend the trainees learnt and practiced extrication techniques on 14 vehicle wrecks.

Each member completed:

- Various stabilisation techniques
- Casualty handling techniques
- Multiple extrication techniques such as:
 - Full side outs
 - Roof flaps
 - Foot well exposures
 - Dash lifts.

The course participants also completed several theory sessions.

Due to the weather forecasts, the practical components of the course were moved inside a local 'Truck Yard's' main shed. It was warm and dry and a huge bonus to have access to.

Every person who attended wanted to learn and the cooperation between everyone was good. At times I forgot we had two different agencies there. At the end of the day, apart from some minor differences in PPC we were all doing the exact same extrication techniques with the same hydraulic equipment we use on the road.

Regional courses can only work well when there are great people supporting them behind the scenes and with this in mind I would like to pass on my thanks to:

Using the jaws of life to cut through the wreckage of a vehicle.



- Chris Taylor – for his work leading up to the weekend with all the planning and acquiring the vehicle wrecks.
- Tom Quin – Fed and catered for us like kings (he was rewarded with being extricated from the final scenario).

- Andy Thomas – Catered for us and was there all weekend to fix any logistical issues.
- Andy McBride – For the unlimited use of his property and forklift. It was a pleasure to take the course to the regional area and we would be very happy to return there again.

RURAL MEMBERS WELCOME NEW TRAINING OFFICER

By: Brenton Eden, CFS Training Manager

The Rural Training Team has now returned to full strength, with the appointment of Scott Haynes to the team.

Scott is now based at Wilmington, continuing the focus of 'working from

home' which is allowing the training department to appoint the best possible candidates from across the State.

Scott was previously employed as an Itinerant Teacher, working for the 'Open Access College' from the 'School of the

Air' in Port Augusta, and remains a member of the Wilmington Brigade.

Scott recently hit the ground running by joining Phil Tapscott who both provided training for CFS members in Maree.



▲ New Rural Training Officer Scott Haynes who is based at Wilmington.

TWO ADDITIONS TO THE RURAL TRAINING TEAM

The Rural Training Team which now comprises five members including Michael Mathew (Project Manager), Vaughn Elsworth and Robin Geytenbeek, recently developed a new quarterly newsletter – the Rural Firefighting Training Newsletter.

The newsletter is posted on the CFS website and contains updates of the team's activities, in addition to course and Rural Training information.

Also two new members have joined the Rural Training Team - Matt Davis and Scott Haynes who agreed to reveal a little about themselves.

Scott Haynes

Brigade: Wilmington

Volunteer Service: Four years

Position within the Brigade:

Lieutenant 1, Brigade Training Coordinator

Training Background: Brigade Training Coordinator for two years, teacher for eight years. Taught primary, secondary and mature age students in South Australia and the UK. Arts Degree, Grad. Dip. in Education, and Cert. IV in Training and Assessment.

Previous Employment: Itinerant Teacher - School of the Air, Port Augusta

What attracted you to the position: My experiences as a volunteer with the SACFS and converting an interest into a career path.

What do you love about the job: Working with volunteers to build upon their existing skills and further their

>> Matt Davis.



own interests. Working in an adult education and training environment, travelling to different parts of the State and meeting new people. Working alongside and training people who are as equally passionate and committed to the CFS.

Matt Davis

Brigade: Woodside/Nairne

Volunteer Service: 20 years

Position within the Brigade: Brigade firefighter

Training Background: For the past 14 years I have been involved in training from Brigade Training Coordinator, Group Training Coordinator, OBAOC trainer/

assessor, HAZMAT trainer/assessor, URAR trainer/assessor, Bushfire Investigation trainer/assessor, CFB course assistant, Aircrew training (Aircraft Officer, Air Observers) and plus all the things that fall under the rural banner.

Previous Employment: Technical Support Officer (SACFS)

What attracted you to the position:

The chance to have a direct working relationship with volunteers and be able to help them get the best out of their time with the service.

What do you love about the job:

Variety and being able to pass on some of my knowledge and experiences to others.

SAFE BEHAVIOUR AND DECISION-MAKING

By: Mark Thomason, Manager Operational Improvement

An important research project within the Bushfire CRC has examined safe behaviour and decision-making.

Initial research identified that fire fighting - despite heavy reliance on fire prediction, hazard models, fire control and suppression technologies - is ultimately a human activity. It requires individual firefighters to form risk assessments and initiate courses of action therefore requiring that individuals be aware of and give adequate attention to, the safety implications of any decisions they might implement.

Previous research suggests that human decision-making ability deteriorates in rapidly changing and relatively unpredictable situations such as a bushfire. It is unclear however, precisely what factors cause such a decline in decision-making ability, particularly with regard to threats to safety.

Research undertaken by a La Trobe University team in collaboration with fire fighting agencies, aims to increase the understanding of the human factors affecting decision-making that could compromise safety on the fireground.

Human factors including the effects of physical and mental stress, group pressures at crew and agency level, and the firefighters' own thought processes were important aspects of the research.

A series of workshops has been held to communicate findings to fire agencies and seek guidance to determine where these could be improved.

Within the CFS a number of programs have been developed and implemented addressing these findings.

The CFS conducts several courses such as Suppress Wildfire Tactical

Command and Leadership, Strike Team Leader and Sector Commander training which discusses fire behaviour. In addition, the Command and Leadership Task Group are reviewing After Action Review and Debrief processes and developing processes to capture and analyse human factors and how change can be made to the CFS systems of work.

The CFS will continue to work on the findings from this project and promote the Safety First culture. For more information, email the Manager Operational Improvement at thomason.mark@cfs.sa.gov.au

KI ROAD ACCIDENT TRAINING

By: Coreyjay Frazer, State Training Officer

Back in 2007 during the Kangaroo Island fires, close friendships were formed and exposure to the uniqueness of the island was certainly at the forefront of many of my conversations.

One of those conversations between the Group Officer, a Deputy Group Officer, the Group Training Coordinator and myself revealed a strong drive for the members of the two CFS RCR brigades to attend an initial Undertake Road Accident Rescue course in their own community.

So with the challenge firmly planted on my shoulders, the State Training Centre and the Group

worked together to secure a date and venue to facilitate the inaugural Undertake Road Accident Rescue course on Kangaroo Island.

It is now a pleasure to advise the rest of the State that we achieved this challenge in early August this year.

Through countless hours of planning, negotiating and resourcing between the GO, GTC, GLO, R1 RTO and I, the course was a great success. Further to this, we also took the opportunity to deliver a URAR Upskill in parallel to the main course. All in all Kangaroo Island now has 12 new URAR volunteers and two reaccredited volunteers

ready to respond to crashes across the Island.

The weekend was made even more pleasurable due to the fact the course was predominately delivered under the shelter of a very large bulk storage shed. The local SAAS volunteers were also involved in the event. On the Sunday their unit brought in 20 recruits for their training day and we were able to integrate a few of them into the rescue scenarios to provide a realistic dimension to the training.

While sincerely thanking the volunteers who attended the course

and who assisted in the planning for the course, I must also take the opportunity to thank the volunteer URAR Trainer Assessors who gave up yet another full day before the course started, in addition to their weekend and did not return home until after midnight on the Sunday. Without these volunteer Trainer Assessors there would not have been a course for anyone to attend.

We are now looking forward to travelling back to the island in the years to come to strengthen those friendships and continue providing training that meets the community's needs.



Some of the CFS volunteers who took part in the training exercise on Kangaroo Island.

CFS VOLUNTEER ON-LINE LEARNING

By: Bronte Moran, Coordinator Training and Development, SAFECOM

In July this year, SAFECOM and CFS mailed a questionnaire to randomly selected CFS volunteers which was used to obtain information about volunteer access to computers and the Internet, and source opinions about using computers to deliver learning opportunities.

Thank you to all those volunteers who completed and returned the questionnaire.

The conclusion from the survey is that the majority of CFS volunteers with a computer would welcome the

opportunity to access e-learning, as long as their concerns about its design and use are considered.

The majority of volunteers who participated in the survey identified many of the advantages that can be gained from using computers to support learning (e-learning). These included the ability to complete the learning in their own time and at their own pace, less time away from home and work, and improved access to training.

When asked to name what topics or type of learning they would like

to see presented as e-learning, the majority suggested it could be used for pre-course learning and/or refresher training for any topic.

The survey also identified concerns for the development of e-learning, particularly finding the time and motivation to complete the learning.

Other concerns raised included having opportunities to ask questions and discuss the learning, a lack of confidence in using a computer, that it should not replace 'hands-on' training and the quality

of the e-learning. Any plans for the use of e-learning, therefore, will include approaches that address these concerns.

SAFECOM is currently supporting a pilot program to experiment with the development and delivery of e-learning for fire and emergency service staff and volunteers. The pilot will extend into the first part of 2010 and, together with the information provided by the questionnaire, will result in recommendations on e-learning.

STRATHALBYN'S "TOE TAPPING" FUNDRAISER

By: Graeme McVitty, Strathalbyn CFS Brigade

A few months ago the Strathalbyn CFS Brigade attended in full force at the local Town Hall on High Street. However it wasn't to put out a fire or for any emergency but rather for a fundraising event that had everyone toe-tapping to the dynamic beat of South Australia's favourite rock-n-roll duo The Party Cats.

After setting up their equipment with eager help from Strath members, Peter Tilbrook (lead guitar/vocalist), Brian 'Davvo' Davidge (bass guitar/vocalist) and their roadie, Benny Warburton, were shown around the fire station on

Forrest Road and shouted tea at Ruffinos Pizzeria which is next door to the Town Hall.

With The Party Cats bashing out non-stop favourites from the 50s and 60s, and drawing in the party goers who literally filled the dance floor to shoulder-rubbing and head-bobbing capacity, everyone felt sad when The Midnight Hour arrived and the show had to come to an end.

However, the Strath Crew and the happy crowd all agreed that there should be a similar event next year, with arrangements already in place for Saturday 10 July and over 100 tickets already sold.



▲ From left, Don Maddern (Brigade Captain), Benny Warburton, Peter Tilbrook, Chris Luscombe and Brian 'Davvo' Davidge during the Party Cats inspection of the Strathalbyn CFS Group Base. Photo: Graeme McVitty

This year's event raised around \$7,000 for the construction of a hard surface and dedicated Road Crash Rescue Training Pad, which included a \$500 donation from the Strathalbyn and District Lions Club and \$510 from fevered bidding for

an autographed and certificated photo of the legendary 1960s rock and roll band, The Masters Apprentices.

The photo was donated by Peter Tilbrook, a former member of the band.

WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT COMPLETED AT MORPHETT VALE CFS

By: Peter Venning, Mawson Group Officer

Local State MP Leon Bignell formally commissioned a rainwater retention system at the Morphett Vale CFS Station earlier this year.

With financial assistance from the CFS, the Mawson CFS Group were able to complete a project that involved the Clarendon, McLaren Flat and Morphett Vale fire stations.

Tanks with a capacity of 5,000 litres were installed at McLaren Flat and Clarendon for the purposes of collecting rainwater for training and fire fighting.

Work at Morphett Vale took into consideration benefits for the Hackham Sports and Social Club which co-share the site with the CFS.

A system now exists to capture rainwater from the fire station roof and deliver it into a 22,000 litre and a 5,000 litre rainwater tank below.

This system enables the sports club to use rainwater for its shower facilities.

The CFS benefits by having an onsite water supply which can be used for training and then pumped back into one of the tanks for re-use.

Thanks must go to Project Manager Ian Tavener (Mawson Deputy Group Officer) who spent many hours ensuring this initiative was completed on time and on budget.

✓ State MP Leon Bignell tests his fire fighting skills assisted by Simon Skuce of Morphett Vale CFS, with Ian Tavener from the Mawson CFS Group and Lorraine Donaghay from the Hackham Sports and Social Club, looking on.



LEADERS AND EAGLES

By: Lyndon Polgreen, Yorke Valley Group

In late August the Yorke Valley Group, with members of Southern Yorke, Barossa, Gumeracha Groups and Region 2 Ops attended the Leaders and Eagles course at Moolooloo Station in the Flinders Ranges.

Strike team leaders were appointed on the first day and these positions were rotated throughout the trip, as were the drivers every two hours. After the dreaded T-cards were handed to the strike team leader, our trip began.

On arrival at Moolooloo Station we were assigned our rooms in the shearer's quarters, which were built in the 1860s, unpacked the four vehicles before having the first meal cooked by station owner Lesley Slade.

After our meal, we were introduced to our instructors Bob Kearney, Geoff Capper, John Thorne, Vaughn Elsworth and Scott Haynes.

Day 2 started with a harsh wake up call at 0600hrs, followed by a full breakfast.

The morning's formal lessons consisted of linking leadership values, the styles of leadership, team motivating and group dynamics.

After a quick lunch we changed two flat tyres on our vehicles, before receiving maps to locate Aboriginal rock carvings which had been carved into hard rock in the creek bed by the Adnyamathana people who have called

this area their home for 40,000 years. Bob explained how these carvings acted as a guide to indicate where food and water could be found in the area.

We later headed to Moolooloo Hill, where a cairn has been placed for Pamela Lulham Murray-White who established Operation Flinders with Bob Kearney, to give disadvantaged children the opportunity to learn bush skills, work together and improve their wayward lives.

Pamela's ashes were spread on Moolooloo Hill, known as "Moonbeams Rest" when she passed away in 1995.

The next stop was the former copper mine site at Nuccaleena where we explored the town's uninhabited buildings and ruins, before returning to the shearers' quarters for an evening meal and a DVD movie.

On the third day we covered COSO, OMG, SOPs functions and tasks of leaders, effective communication, SMEACS and debriefings. Lunch was followed by a trek to Hannigans Gap where we were introduced to bush tucker and identifying what can and can't be eaten.

On the final day after breakfast we packed our vehicles and presented Keith and Lesley and our instructors certificates of appreciation before heading off to Wilpena Pound and then home.

I highly recommend anyone who has the opportunity to take part in this course at Moolooloo. The huge experience and knowledge of the instructors made this course truly memorable. It was a great weekend of fellowship and learning in the spectacular Flinders Ranges.



Left to right, back row: Bob Kearney, Geoff Capper, Scott Haynes, Tim Ferguson, Andrew Cadd, Ian Marschall, Jeff Jackson, Wally Cook, Lindsay Harper, Luke Addison, Graham Johnson, Lyndon Polgreen, Jon Carmichael.

Front row: Vaughn Elsworth, John Thorne, Col Bridgman, Paul Mortimer, Simon Worwood, Chris Hull, Graham Cook, Tom Hannon.

Photo: Andrew Cadd

LYNDOKH CFS ROAD CRASH TRAINING EXERCISE

By: Shane Emms, Lyndoch CFS

In August, I organised a mock training exercise involving Lyndoch CFS and the Gawler St Johns (Adult and Cadet Division) purported to have taken place opposite the Lyndoch Oval.

On short notice, Sue from the Cadet Division of Gawler St Johns arranged nine cadets and an adult with appropriate make-up to highlight injuries including open wound fractures, head and face lacerations, black eyes, bruising and bleeding. They all looked the part and played their roles extremely well.

The scenario was based on an emergency incident that involved a push bike, bus and car, with Gawler St

Johns signaling the start of the exercise by being first on scene and the Lyndoch CFS being activated for a response.

CFS officers arranged their crews for each appliance and in a short time they were on scene.

Gawler St Johns supplied two vehicles with eight members on the scene where they treated multiple injuries, including two people trapped in a car.

Another person had several injuries after being hit by a bus and there were several others injured on the bus including the driver and passengers.

St Johns carried out triage while the Lyndoch CFS Brigade members extricated two people from the car

and helped to remove others from the bus.

The exercise ran very well from both services involved and we all gained experience and confidence from the opportunity of training with another emergency service.

St Johns Commander Rob Smith said members of his team also enjoyed themselves and benefited from the exercise.

We will be arranging another exercise with Gawler St Johns in the near future involving a grass and scrub fire.

From all of us at Lyndoch CFS we say "Thank you Gawler St Johns Division and well done!"

TRURO CFS BRIGADE OPEN DAY

By: Barossa Valley Leader

The Truro CFS Brigade held an Open Day in July and distributed native plants to members of the community.

These trees are intended for planting in the Truro area.

The Brigade also provided a sausage sizzle for the visitors who came to the Open Day and visited their local CFS station.

The Truro CFS is a member of Trees For Life and is committed to helping with the greening of Truro.

Over the past year, the CFS has watered the area on the Truro-Eudunda Road which was planted on Tree Day 2008.

BULK WATER CARRIER FOR JERVOIS BRIGADE

The Jervois Brigade has officially commissioned its 'Hook-Lift' Bulk Water Carrier which features a 9,000 litre tank.

The bulk water tank is a prototype that has already been used in the Riverland.

Swanport Group Officer Wayne Thorley and Captain Andrew Willis both complimented the innovation and teamwork that has resulted in these two concept PODS.

A number of Region 3 staff including its former Regional Commander Chris Martin, Infrastructure and Logistics Manager Arthur Tindall and Vehicles and Equipment Manager Sandy Paterson have worked hard to achieve this result.

This concept has the potential to significantly increase the flexibility and range of specialist appliance applications across the State.

MONARTO KILN FIRE

By: Neil Turner AFSM, Deputy Group Officer, Swanport Group

A wood processing kiln was completely destroyed by fire when a cooling fan failed at Recut Industries in Monarto earlier this year.

The Murray Bridge, Monarto and Callington brigades quickly responded to find steam and smoke visible from one corner of the kiln visible at the time.

The kiln was heavily insulated and well clad both inside and out, hampering efforts of firefighters to put water on the roof and walls for cooling.

Swanport Group Deputy Group Officer Neil Turner AFSM said the only way to attack the fire was to open the access doors.

"If this was done it would allow oxygen in and the end result would have been inevitable," he said.

"After much discussion with both the owner and the company manager the

decision was made to open one access door, up wind, at the rear of the kiln.

"This was the only door that could be opened without putting our firefighters at risk."

The CFS advised the owner that the kiln was likely to be completely destroyed if the door was opened, and that is exactly what happened next.

The oxygen fuelled the fire, resulting in a situation change from a contained fire within the kiln to total collapse in approximately one hour.

All that firefighters could do was asset protection works, which went exceptionally well.

The kiln was a total loss, with its value placed at \$500,000.

This was the Recut Industries major kiln, with the company estimating it will take six months before work is brought back to full production with a new kiln.



The new Jervois Bulk Water Carrier.

COORONG GROUP TRAINING DAY

By: Sue Mickan, DGO Coorong Group

In August the Coorong CFS Group held a Group Training day at Coonalpyn which was well attended by 68 volunteers, trainers/assessors and operational support personnel.

The day consisted of four round-robin drills - simulated grass fire; scrub fire, pumping and draughting, and fire investigation.

Training for operational support personnel was also a feature giving trainees experience in setting up a staging area and communications.

The volunteers were catered for by

the ladies of the local football club and there were many praises for their wonderful meal.

The Group Training Coordinator, Peter Lauterbach was very pleased with the event having 13 of the 15 brigades attending.

The group arranged for the new Coorong BWC9 and the R3 IMT/ Staging Area pod to be available on the day for use with the drills and staging and for the volunteers to familiarise themselves with the equipment.

MALLEE STUDENT AND CFS MEMBER NAMED RURAL AMBASSADOR

A Pinnaroo CFS Brigade member who is also a high school student in the drought-stricken region of the State, has been named SA Young Rural Ambassador.

Pinnaroo Year 12 student Jeremy Schutz, 17, who is studying at Lamerook Regional Community School, was one of eight finalists.

The Young Rural Ambassador Award identifies and encourages passionate young people to become more involved with their local

show and associations and the Royal Adelaide Show in September each year.

Jeremy is involved in a school-based apprenticeship in metal fabrication and is also a member of the Pinnaroo Football Club.

He represented the Pinnaroo Show and Murraylands Show Association in the award because of his involvement in the speed shear and sheep yard dog trials at the Pinnaroo Show.

He was surprised to be named the winner and was a special guest of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society during the Royal Adelaide Show.

"In this role I would like to bring more people to my local show and embrace this opportunity to get my word out there and help out as much as I can in my community," he said.

ABB Grain administration officer Sarah Francis, 20, from Maitland, was runner-up.

The award is run through the Agricultural Societies Council of SA.



Flames engulf the Recut Industries kiln at Monarto
Photo: David Millan.

SA Young Rural
Ambassador
Jeremy Schutz
Photo: Stock
Journal.



SERVICE MEDAL FOR NAPPERBY CFS STALWART

By: Shane Fantinel, Napperby CFS Brigade Captain

In August, long serving member of Napperby CFS Maurice Walter was presented with a Volunteer Support and Service Medal.

Maurice has been a member of the Napperby CFS since 1980 when the brigade operated out of a small shed on North Terrace and when fire calls were received through an old fashioned telephone box! The brigade's fire appliance was an ex-army Blitz, which was later changed to an International.

Maurice's involvement with the CFS brigade has been broad. We saw him in the role as a firefighter, an administrative officer, president of the management committee and coordinator of numerous fire track inspections.

In more recent years he has offered the service of his private vehicle to ferry change of crews back and forward from the fire ground and

three years ago drove Spencer Group Car 1 as it led a strike team back from the Willunga fire.

Maurice's love of the countryside saw him being instrumental in the need for logistics training within our brigade. He brought to our attention the importance of accurate map reading skills and application of the Global Positioning System (GPS). CFS has taken these skills further through the impending move to the SA Computer Aided Despatch (SACAD) system for all call outs.

In 1993 everyone was aware of the pressure Maurice was under in liaising with the then district council over the building of a new base station for Pirie CFS Group.

This was eventually situated at North Terrace Napperby and what people see today at that location bears testimony to the dedicated work put in by Maurice.



^ Volunteer Support and Service Medal recipient Maurice Walter with Napperby CFS Brigade captain Shane Fantinel (left) and Region 4 Ops Planning Officer Bluey Devine

I am sure that all present would agree that Maurice is truly worthy of this Service Award.

Congratulations Maurie! May it be an inspiration to all current members and those who follow in your footsteps.

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- 12oz Heavy Duty Canvas
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\$67⁰⁰



All bags can have the Brigade name stencilled.



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Vest Holder: ^

- 12oz Heavy Duty Canvas
- Holds 3 vests plus large torch



\$50⁰⁰

^ Drink Bottle Holder:

- 12oz Heavy Duty Canvas
- Holds 8 drink bottles

\$50⁰⁰

Note Pad & Radio Holder:

- 12oz Heavy Duty Canvas ^



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the CFS
since 1983*

NEW FACILITY SETS EMERGENCY SERVICES BENCHMARK

A \$2.6 million state-of-the-art combined emergency services facility was officially opened in Mount Gambier in August by local Member for Parliament Rory McEwen.

The facility is a purpose-built Level 3 Incident Management Centre, for the shared coordination of major incidents for the Country Fire Service, State Emergency Service and ForestrySA.

The State Government-funded facility has been built to Post Disaster Standards for emergency services and features lighting for night-time training, a 30-metre tower for radio requirements and parking for up to six CFS and SES appliances.

The response of 377 CFS Group and Operations Brigade members and 22 SES members will be coordinated from the facility, which also houses the FSA District Office.

In opening the facility CFS Chief Officer Euan Ferguson praised the cooperative efforts of the organisations in bringing the project to fruition and the volunteers and staff for their advice along the way.

"The fact that we have this fine facility is a real symbol of the commitment of these three agencies," he said.

"This is a major milestone for the South East.

"We recognise the significant value of the timber industry in this region. We remember Ash Wednesday, the Caroline fire and cost on the forestry industry.

"With the support of our volunteer firefighters, this facility will help keep those fires small, and it means we can better manage bushfire risk in the South East and the region's economic powerhouse which is forestry."



^ From left, Stuart Macleod, Brett Merritt, Brian Farmer, Rory McEwen, Islay Robertson, Scott Turner and Euan Ferguson at the opening of the new emergency services facility in Mount Gambier.

"This facility is great because it is large enough that there are offices for privacy and quiet and open areas for easy communication with room for a full IMT response of 22 people."

"I think this is a great outcome for the CFS, SES, FSA and for the community in terms of managing risk in an emergency."



^ District Council of Grant Mayor Steve Perriman.



^ Mount Gambier Ops Brigade Captain, Bob Davis.

<< Regional Training Officer Scott Murray with his wife Adele and children Callum and Archie.

CFS VETERAN PRAISES NEW JOINT FACILITY

By: Haley Cahalan

I had the great pleasure of having a brief coffee and chat with long-time Mount Gambier CFS member Ron Johnson AFSM, who was very pleased to be at the opening of the town's joint emergency services facility recently.

Ron Johnson AFSM typifies the volunteer spirit that the Country Fire Service exemplifies.

The lively character has clocked up almost 55 years of volunteer service, starting with the EFS in 1955.

But ask him and he's sure it's more like 61 years - not that he'll ever make a fuss over it though.

Ron lights up when he speaks about his time with the CFS, saying he joined the then EFS because frankly, it sounded like a whole lot of fun.

"I liked to play with radios and maps, plus I was a farmer with land and grass, there are fires on land and grass and somebody's got to put them out," he said.

From HF to VHF to GRN, Ron, with his passion for radio, has seen some progressive changes in technology.

While inactive on the fire fighting front these days, Ron remains an active member of the Mount Gambier CFS Logistics Group, fuelling his passion for radio, maps and computers.

"I wouldn't try and run after a fire, but I can look after the phones and maps and assist those who are more active than I am," he says.

A devoted supporter and member of the CFS, Ron was very happy to see the opening of the new joint emergency services facility in Mount Gambier, labelling it "magnificent".

"This facility streamlines our communications," he said.

"We get on well and work together as a team - we're fortunate like that here."

Even with so many years of volunteering behind him, Ron isn't expecting to hang up his hat just yet, thanks mainly to the support of his wife.

"None of this would have been possible without my wife, Shirley, who is an honourable member of the CFS," he said.



From left, CFS Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Lawson with Ron Johnson and Ron Telford at the opening of the new joint facility in Mount Gambier.

LYNDOCH CFS ROAD CRASH TRAINING EXERCISE

By: Margaret Ludwig

The two area schools in Region 5 - Lucindale and Keith - took part in a project in September to raise awareness of road safety.

These two schools were identified as having children most at risk, based on statistics for serious vehicle crashes in recent years in the catchment areas of these schools.

A group of students at each school, worked with professional film producers for a week who split into teams with each focusing on a particular cause of road crashes and developing 30 second advertisements and short documentaries to tell the story of their chosen topic.

The community of Lucindale was very involved with the information gathering and filming of these items and almost the entire community

attended the premiere screening at the Lucindale Town Hall.

This was a red carpet event with the young film makers arriving in a limousine and walking the carpet into the hall. They all took their turn on stage and presented the background behind their ads and movies.

The eight volunteer ambulance officers and the members of the Lucindale CFS Brigade were all in uniform and keen to recruit more people to join them. The rear of the hall held a display of Lucindale's road crash rescue equipment which attracted interest from the general public.

The advertisements and films are planned to be progressively shown on local television over the coming months.

WATTLE RANGE AWARDS

The Wattle Range Group began planning for their award ceremony in 2008 and this year held a large recognition event in the Millicent Civic and Arts Centre, with almost 300 people attending.

Group Officer Michael Kemp and a small committee comprising his wife Judy and the Deputy Group Officers, decorated the hall with a CFS theme of red and gold.

Tables sported the old 'Top Guard' helmets with helium filled balloons and streamers.

Regional Commander Brett Merritt assisted with the presentations and the evening

concluded with some special awards for members of the community who have very generously donated their time or goods to the Group over many years.

The evening concluded with a live band and lots of catch up for members present.

A range of awards were presented to 149 people, from a 10-year service star to several 45-year long service badges.

Many received National Medals and clasps and a total of 89 people were awarded life membership of the SA Country Fire Service.



Some of the CFS volunteers who took part in the road safety awareness project.
Photo: Jane Innes

SILO FIRE TRAINING ON EYRE PENINSULA

✓ Jessica Truman (Streaky Bay CFS) and Leon Veitch (Cootra CFS) changing cylinders in preparation for their next drill.

A smoke-filled silo at the ABB Thevenard silo complex in August gave 13 CFS volunteers from the Eyre Peninsula a taste of structural fire fighting and the use of breathing apparatus.

The CFS ran an initial breathing apparatus course at the silos to accredit the volunteers for the use of this equipment in a real-life smoke-logged fire or search situation.

The trainees, from Ceduna, Streaky Bay, Kimba, Cootra, Port Lincoln and Tumby Bay, completed their theory training at the Ceduna Emergency Services Complex, and used ABB's facilities for all the practical skills.

The format of the course was based on the content currently used for courses at the State Training Centre, Brukunga and was facilitated by volunteers from Region 1 and 6.

With all trainees being 'local' to the region, they were able to complete the course and not have the added travel to and from Adelaide.

The aim was to bring the training to the volunteers to help lessen the impact on their time.

The added bonus was that the practical drills were conducted in a facility that may one day become a real-life situation.

Re-accreditation courses have been held in Wudinna for the past two years using a similar setup.

The weekend was made possible through the support of the Project Manager Garth Hogarth, and team of Trainers and Assessors Lisa West, George Kozminski, Justin Woolford, Tristan Baldock (all Region 6), Glen Roberts, Wayne Bowman, Garth Hogarth and Peter Elwell (Region 1 / STC).

A special mention goes to Mark Hewitson (Group Officer - Western Eyre Group) who arranged catering, access to the sites and provided appliances and group/logistics vehicles.



The briefing prior to the drill inside the silo complex.

TACTICAL TRAINING EXERCISE

By: Justin Woolford, Region 6 Training Officer

The Caralue and Western Eyre Groups recently held group training field days to maintain skills and allow for networking between volunteers.

The activities centred on updating skills for the upcoming fire danger season, based on local risks. Volunteers participated in several exercises, including draughting, the

skills maintenance drills, hose work, communications, GPS navigation, scrub/grassfire drills, defensive LPG and tactical exercise.

About 30 participants joined in the activities each day. The event was supported by Region 6 staff and volunteer trainers/assessors from different groups.



Hose advancement during a defensive LPG exercise.

STUDENTS CONFRONTED BY ROAD CRASH REALITIES

By: Justin Woolford, Region 6 Training Officer

A mock road crash exercise was conducted by the Streaky Bay and District Road Safety Group as part of an awareness campaign, in August.

The event was designed to highlight to senior secondary school students the potentially devastating outcomes when a decision to drive is combined with drug and alcohol consumption.

Fifty students from Streaky Bay Area School, Miltaburra Area School and Karcultaby Area School participated, along with involvement from Streaky Bay and Wirrulla CFS, Streaky Bay SAAS, Streaky Bay Hospital and SAPOL Eyre & Western LSA.

The scenario involved people travelling in a car which hit a tree when the driver lost control.

It was simulated that speed, inattention, drugs, alcohol and not wearing seatbelts were significant factors that contributed to the

crash, resulting in the death of one occupant, another being seriously injured and two others sustaining minor injuries.

CFS volunteer Brian Wilkinson who was part of the Road Safety Group planning process said it was an effective demonstration.

"The aim was to give a visual impact of what could happen when bad choices are made like getting into a car with a driver under the influence of alcohol."

The exercise covered all aspects of an emergency including initiating a '000' call to the ambulance service, the extrication of casualties, crime scene investigations, alcohol and drug testing and interviewing the driver.

The students also took part in an open forum where they asked questions of representatives of SAAS, SAPOL, CFS and health workers.

FACES IN THE CROWD

By: Chris Metevelis

DUD NICOLLE - HAPPY VALLEY CFS LEGEND

Earlier this year the CFS Happy Valley Brigade celebrated its 70th anniversary and paid tribute to one of its founding members – 88-year-old Dudley (Dud) Nicolle – who attended a special function to mark this milestone.

Dud and the Brigade's first Captain, Dick Candy, 94, are its two surviving members who helped establish the unit in 1939 in the aftermath of bushfires that swept through the small township in Adelaide's foothills and left a path of destruction that went as far as Strathalbyn.

Dud recalls these fires with clarity which provided the impetus to motivate him as an 18-year-old and 17 other men to establish the Happy Valley Brigade.

"At that time, no one in the history of Happy Valley had seen anything like it to compare it with," he said.

"This fire burned for five days and five nights during the State's greatest ever recorded heatwave but no one lost their life in its path because the Hills' population was not as great as today."

The early days of the Happy Valley Brigade were tough but its members were driven by a commitment to move forward and ensure the town was better prepared for bushfires in the future.

The first Brigade meeting took

place at the Happy Valley School and its members held barn dances at an old shearing shed and later at the local cinema to raise money for equipment.

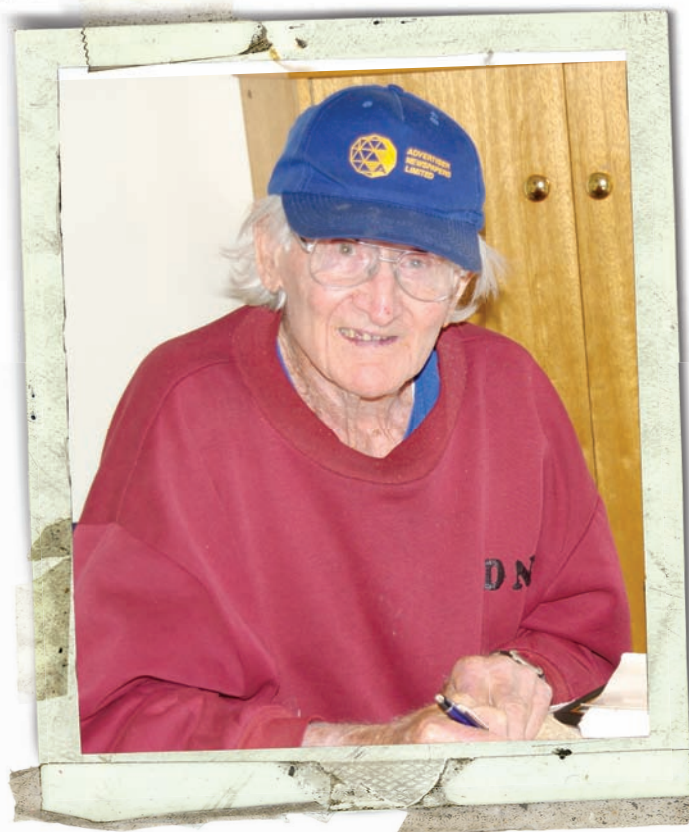
The Brigade's first equipment in its earliest years comprised a few four-gallon knapsacks on Dick Candy's old V8 Ford tray top truck with a 100-gallon water tank and hand-operated water pump.

Dud's other passion besides fighting fires has been his motorbikes. He was a foundation member of the Tapleys Hill Motorcycle Club and enjoyed 35 years of competitive riding, adding amongst his achievements a trophy for the most events won over three consecutive years between 1946 and 1948.

He described his motorbike riding days as "the happiest years of my life".

"As well as riding motorbikes I also played cricket for Happy Valley and later Reynella in the Southern Cricket Association 1951/52 team when I won the B-Grade Bowling Trophy by taking 51 wickets with an average of five," Dud said.

In 1948 a bout of tonsillitis and subsequent surgery confined Dud to a three-week period of rest. He used the opportunity to buy a seven-tonne Maple Leaf tipper which marked the start of a carting career involving tip trucks.



▲ Dud Nicolle at home recounting Happy Valley's history.

In 1999 Dud clocked up 60 years of service as a volunteer firefighter and although he is no longer on active duty, his involvement with the Happy Valley Brigade is ongoing – a total of 70 years!

In February 1999 Dud was presented with a 60 year certificate of service with the Happy Valley Brigade which was signed by the former Chief Officer of the CFS, Stuart Ellis.

"I'm an Honorary Life Member with the provision to attend meetings and vote," he said.

Dud singles out his mother for being a guiding influence on his pride and enthusiasm towards his local community. Born in 1890 as Daisy Myrtle Mason, she was one of Happy Valley's pioneers and became the town's 'temporary' post mistress in 1914, whose duties included delivering the mail bag by horse to O'Halloran Hill twice a day.

"My mother wanted me to be a dispatch rider (for the Post Office) but she said to me whatever you do, I want you to defend the name of Happy Valley," Dud said.

He went on to defend the small township by helping to establish the local fire brigade and over the years even fought administrative battles with municipalities to change the town's name which he proudly boasts victories on every occasion.

"Happy Valley means a lot to me and I have even defended it five times when there was talk about changing its name."

In 1984 Dud was presented with the City of Happy Valley Civic Award for his services to the community.

Dud's mother retired from her 'temporary' job in 1977 aged 87, accomplishing an extraordinary career with the Post Office spanning 63 years!

Dud has also been a foundation member of the Christies and Noarlunga Sand Carter's Association, the Southern Vales Cooperative and the Happy Valley Memorial Institute.

Dud now spends much of his time researching and documenting virtually everything written about Happy Valley.

In 1994 he also researched and published a book about the history of the Happy Valley CFS and its foundation members.

In his book he wrote about his life and even paid tribute to his teacher Miss Norma McCarthy who looked after a classroom of students from years one to seven. At the height of the Great Depression he left school at the age of 12 because his parents couldn't afford to send him to secondary school. However what Dud lacked in education he made up for it through hard work and solid commitment.

Dud summarised his motivation and enthusiasm for Happy Valley in one quote: "When things go wrong as they often will, I often say, 'When you're feeling crook and hardest hit, laugh and joke but never quit!'"



PHABULOUS PHOTOS

Simply send in your photo with the name of the photographer and / or name of submitter, address, telephone number and brigade name (if applicable) with a description of the photo and / or details of the incident at which the photo was taken.

Post photos to: CFS Public Affairs, GPO Box 2468, Adelaide, SA, 5001.

Photos can be posted either as hard copies or on a CD in the largest file size available.

Alternatively email photos to: publicaffairs@safecom.sa.gov.au

When emailing photos please do not reduce the size. Sometimes Outlook asks if you want to keep original size or send smaller. If the file size is reduced, the quality is affected and therefore the photo may not be able to be published in a large size.

The winner receives a \$50 gift voucher of their choice.



^ Scrub fire near Basket Range.
Photo: Pip McGowan



^ One Tree Hill firefighter Dave McKenzie at the Bibaringa fire earlier this year.
Photo: Roger Brown

>> Morphett Vale Brigade training exercise.
Photo: Matt Bonser



^ CFS Stirling Brigade burn off at Heathfield.
Photo: Peter Fanning



CFS TRAUMA TEDDY ACCEPTS HIGH OFFICE

The Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Lawson presented the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce with a CFS Trauma Teddy during a Medal Investiture at Government House in September.

The Governor has a collection of around 80 Teddy Bears which have

been given to him by a wide range of organisations and agencies which he represents as their patron or supports in some way.

The Governor and his wife were very pleased to be able to add a CFS Trauma Teddy to their collection and it now has pride of place on the piano in the front room.



The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce with a CFS trauma teddy.



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VOLUNTEER - PHABULOUS PHOTOS

OBITUARY

Jodie Williams 6 January 1977 – 30 September 2009

Jodie Williams (nee Pedler) died in the Modbury Hospital on the evening of September 30 after a brave battle with cancer.

Jodie worked at the CFS prior to her transfer to the ESAU Volunteer Management Branch. She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004 when she was pregnant with her daughter, Sarah. She returned to work for a short time before giving birth to her son, Evan.

Jodie worked with the CFS and ESAU/SAFECOM for 10 years and is remembered as a friendly, conscientious and caring person.

Sympathy is extended to her husband Andrew and two children.



THANK YOU CFS

Life Membership and thanks for Hamley Bridge members

On Sunday 23 August 2009 I visited the Hamley Bridge Country Fire Service.

I met and spoke with many of the volunteers who give their time and risk their own safety for the protection of their community.

I was especially proud to present Mr Tony Bell and Mr Gavin Hyde with Life Membership of the Country Fire Service, Life Membership of the Hamley Bridge Brigade and 30 year service medals.

We should never forget that these

>> From left, Fred Holtmann (Hamley Bridge CFS Captain), Tony Bell, Gavin Hyde and Nick Champion MP.

volunteers put their lives on the line to protect us and our property, and it is important that their fine work is recognised and celebrated by the whole community.

I want to thank Captain Fred Holtmann for his kind invitation to attend on the day, and thank all the volunteers of the Hamley Bridge CFS for their continued work and commitment.

**Nick Champion MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR
WAKEFIELD**



>> Marysville CFA Second Lieutenant Travis Gleeson (right), accepts a cheque from CFS Langhorne Creek Brigade Captain Brett Cleggett. Photo: Rae Cleggett

Langhorne Creek helps CFA Brigade

A community tea in Langhorne Creek was held to raise money for the Marysville Country Fire Authority (CFA) brigade.

Many members of the Langhorne Creek CFS are actively involved in the sporting community which was behind a decision to raise money for their interstate counterparts.

The community tea, organised by local ladies Margaret James and Debbie Potts, was well supported by locals and all sporting groups, raising \$1200, with a further \$300 donated by the Langhorne Creek CFS, to bring the total to \$1500.

Langhorne Creek CFS members Brett and Rae Cleggett, and their two sons, delivered the money to the Marysville CFA brigade on July 6, on their way to

New South Wales for a holiday. The money will be spent on equipment to benefit the CFA brigade.

Mrs Cleggett said it was an honour to donate the money to the CFA brigade.

"It was a very humbling experience to be amongst these volunteer firefighters, who had fought to protect their community, but in the process lost so much themselves," she said.

"With true Aussie spirit, they are still willing to put their lives at risk to continue protecting their community while at the same time trying to rebuild their lives."

The Marysville CFA thanked the Langhorne Creek community and CFS members and their families for their generosity.



Thanks to CFSVA

The Blackwood CFS would like to thank the CFSVA for their donation that allowed our Brigade to say "Thank You."

The funds were put to good use at our Appreciation Night where Brigade members and their partners were transported to a tropical paradise (even though the temperature was hovering around 8 degrees!).

The evening provided members with an opportunity to unwind in a social atmosphere and re-energise for the 2009/2010 season.

We would like to extend a huge



^ A "tropical paradise" for Blackwood CFS Appreciation Night.

thank you to the CFSVA for the opportunity to say "Thank You" to our members.

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CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: 1300 362 361

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W: www.cfsva.org.au

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