



November 2017

Overview

The past month has been full of activity, including the opening of the new Harvey co-location building for the SES and bushfire brigades, meeting with the Minister and Department of Premier and Cabinet, and the presentation of team shirts to the 2017 NDRC Team (WA).

Below I have outlined some of the current activities, including the support the SES Volunteers have received from FES Commissioner Darren Klemm.

National Disaster Rescue Challenge

The 2017 NDRC team, including the Manager, Phillip Petersen, and Coach Mark Geary, were presented with their team shirts and hat at a special function on 2 November at the Gosnells unit. These were presented by the FES Commissioner Darren Klemm and myself.

At this function, a number of people were acknowledged, including the team trainer Eno, DOs Will Blackshaw and Scott Hares, for the support and assistance they gave the team in preparing for the Rescue Challenge in Hobart.

TeamWA departs Perth airport (T1) at 0530am 9 November (you are welcome to come and see them off at 430am) and will return from Hobart on Monday 13 November.

TeamWA members are; Lawrence Bilson (Bayswater), Cary Wintle (Bayswater), Jo Brown (Bayswater), Ant Rees (Stirling), Doug Head (Swan), Ian Milne (Kalamunda), Cathy Inman (Kalamunda) and Matt Pestell (Gosnells).



Chaplaincy Service

DFES have advised, by circular, that the Chaplaincy service for the first responders has now ceased. DFES will no longer provide the pastoral care of a chaplain but has moved to a psychological support response model.

Please provide any feedback on change to this model to this Association at

sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au

WAESVHAS

The WA Emergency Services Volunteer Hardship Assistance Scheme is progressing and the SESVA has appointed David Worth as the representative for SES Volunteers. All matters are treated confidentially and can be discussed, in the first instance, with your unit Local Manager or the SESVA regional representative.

Harvey SES

On 14 October the Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon Fran Logan, MLA, and FES Commissioner Darren Klemm, officially opened the new emergency services centre which houses the Harvey State Emergency Service (SES) and the Harvey Hills Bush Fire Brigade (BFB).

This is a great achievement by all agencies involved, as this new building is a well thought out facility for the SES Unit and the Bushfire Brigade.





from the Presidents desk...

SESVA

Gordon Hall
SES Volunteers Association



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Travel Reimbursement

The SESVA has had it confirmed by DFES, that SES Volunteers can now apply for travel expenses where they attend DFES approved activities. All approval must be before the event and approved by the Local Manager and District Officer.

Claim forms are via the link below

<https://shared.dfes.wa.gov.au/forms/finance/forms/FIN034-Volunteer-Expenses-Reimbursement-Claim-Activities-Form.pdf>

Bunnings Great Aussie BBQ

The annual Bunnings sausage sizzle is used by many emergency service Brigades Groups or Units as an annual fundraiser. Once again Bunnings are supporting this event and it will be held on 20 January 2018.

This Association, along with the VFRSA and AVBFB, are involved in the production of a video to support the Volunteers.

Volunteer Fuel Card

The Volunteer Fuel Card has been extended again to each Brigade, Group or Unit. This year it will be \$1000 and is for the benefit of all Volunteers. In the past only about half of the money was used, so all Volunteers should ensure they share it around and use all of it this time.

Details will be advised shortly by DFES on how to reapply.

FES Commissioner

Commissioner Klemm has been extremely busy visiting the various services, and in relation to the SES, we have been served well. The visits included the opening of the Harvey building, attendance at the Rockingham-Kwinana SES 40th Anniversary function and the presentation of the Team Shirts for the 2017 NDRC Team (WA).

These visits have been greatly appreciated by the SES Volunteers.

Metro Exercise Prepare

This exercise, organised by DFES District Officers, was a great opportunity for SES units to gain experience in rescue and other skills. Six teams from the metropolitan area participated, with Bayswater (picture) for the second year in a row being the top scorer. The preparation and organisation by DFES staff made it very successful.

The staff were assisted by a number of senior Volunteers and the 2017 NDRC Team



Meeting with DPC and Minister

The SESVA committee have been busy ensuring the SES is not left out of any government restructure to cater for some of the recommendations of the Ferguson report into the Waroona Fires.

This has included meetings with the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Minister for Emergency Services, providing input on where the SES should be in any future restructure and changes that need to be considered to ensure the SES Volunteers are supported effectively in their assistance to their community.

We will keep all SES Volunteers up to date as changes are advised.

Cheers

Gordon Hall
SESVA President
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