

SES Volunteers Association

Newsletter

July 2019

sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Phillip Petersen 1953 - 2019

It is with a heavy heart, that I advise SES Volunteers that Phillip Petersen ESM, highly respected and long term SES Volunteer, passed away after a short illness, on June 23rd, 2019, at the age of 65 years.

Phillip a retired and long term employee of Telstra, was truly altruistic in his actions in all of his Volunteer pursuits. These included scouting (Duke of Edinburgh Award), community radio, car rallying, World Rally Championships (a number of roles including tour guide), SES Volunteer (awarded the national Emergency Services Medal) and the Team Manager for the WA SES Team at the 2017 National Disaster Rescue Competition held in Hobart.

As an SES Volunteer, Phillip was a past Local manager of the Gosnells SES Unit, a Life Member of the Mandurah SES Unit, as well as a prominent past member of the Karratha and Gosnells SES units.

Phillip was an active member of the SES Volunteers Association from the mid 1990s, where he became a Vice President, before serving six years as the President (during his Presidency the SESVA won the prestigious Golden Swan Award).

Phillip was well known on the national level during his presidency, as he actively advocated far and wide for all SES Volunteers.

Phillip was also an active SES Volunteer Advisory Committee (SESVAC) member (a Ministerial appointment) from the early 2000s to the present time. Since 2013, Phillip served as the Deputy Chair of the SESVAC.

Phillip has always been held in high regard and well respected by SES Volunteers and those he served in the emergency services sector.

He coached and mentored many SES Volunteers and he will be sadly missed by us all, both as an SES Volunteer, coach, mentor and a good friend.

Phillip is survived by his wife Sue, sons Grant and Michael, daughter Erica and 2 grandchildren.

A notice announcing the time, date and place of a celebration of Phillip's life will be posted when details are known.

Gordon Hall ESM
President

FROM YOUR TEAM AT THE SESVA

What's in this edition:-

From the President

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AGM

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the SES Volunteers Association AGM for 2019 has been moved from the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre to the Adina Hotel next door to the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Timings, dates etc all remain the same.

MEMORABILIA

Don't forget the SESVA has a range of items that can help with recruitment and promotion of your Unit.

Just contact Bella at the SESVA office.

SES Volunteers Association of Western Australia (Inc)

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WAFES 2019 CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS

PLEASE SEND DETAILS OF YOUR UNIT'S NOMINATED DELEGATES TO THE SESVA OFFICE NOW

DFES have allocated each Volunteer Unit two conference places.

In order to ensure the most equitable allocation of conference places, SES Unit Managers need to advise the SESVA Office, using the nomination form previously provided, of the names of the two Unit members they wish to attend the conference

Units may wish to send more than two delegates to the Conference, and to try and accommodate this the SESVA is compiling a wait list of additional Members, and in the event some Units don't take up their conference places, these places can be re-distributed to members on the wait list.

Unit Managers should advise the SESVA Office of the names and contact details of Unit Members they wish to wait list.

Near the closing date for Regional (22/7/19) and then Metro (26/8/19) registrations, the SESVA will notify Unit Managers which wait listed SES Members will be able to register on line.

Only Volunteers on the wait list will be able to register.

The SESVA assists in the administration of the conference registration process so as many SES Volunteers as possible are given the opportunity to attend.

Don't wait for the last minute, submit your conference delegate Nominations sooner rather than later.

FUEL CARD

Application Process NOW OPEN

The online application form for the fuel card is now available through the DFES website.

The application period commenced 18 June 2019 and closes on Monday 15 July 2019.

It is anticipated the fuel cards will be sent out mid August 2019.

It is important to note that applications will only be accepted by the officers-in-charge of a BGU as they will be the designated card custodians.

SES RESCUE TRAINING

An Advisory Committee comprised of DFES staff and SES volunteers is currently working on a review of the requirements and training associated with SES Rescue. (i.e. BGR and the missing follow on package)

The Committee is looking at the expectations and requirements of SES to respond to incidents such as building collapse associated with the hazards of cyclone, storm, flood and earthquake.

A review of the current training is being undertaken and has identified a need to update the current Basic General Rescue course and develop another more advanced course that covers additional equipment and rescue techniques that are not in any current TRKs.

Part of the Committee's role is to also look at standard SES equipment lists and incorporate this equipment into the training to ensure consistency across the state.

The SESVA is involved in the Committee and will provide updates on this project as they occur.

GENERAL RESCUE UTILITY UPDATE

In seeking to deliver a Fit for Purpose General Rescue Utility (GRU), the Operational Fleet Project (OFP) has informed us there will be a delay to the build of the 'First of Type', which was expected by the end of June.

We understand the evaluation of supplier responses is taking longer than originally planned.

During the evaluation process it became apparent that some additional diligence had to be undertaken to ensure we get a successful outcome for the vehicle.

It's important that we get this right and that the final design meets requirements established through consultation with the GRU Project Advisory Team, which includes nine SES members.

Once the evaluation process is complete the 'First of Type' build will commence immediately.

OFP hopes to initiate this build in July, with end user trials occurring in August.

To keep updated on the progress visit the Operational Fleet Project website.

T/A ENDORSEMENTS

All Trainer Assessor endorsements, regardless of the level of the complexity or risk, have a duration of two years - however you have a further 12 months to deliver and maintain the competency.

This process ensures Trainer Assessors maintain currency in the delivery of their particular subjects.

What is the process involved in removing an endorsement?

If you have not delivered a course within two years, you will be contacted by the Academy and your region.

You then **have an additional 12 months** to work with the region to identify opportunities to deliver on a course to maintain your currency.

If you are still unable to deliver in that 12 month period the endorsement expires.

When the endorsement expires you will be notified and will then no longer have access to the training resources for the course in eAcademy and will not show on the endorsed list.

Not delivering a course, Trainer Assessors will automatically be given an additional twelve months to deliver a course which effectively is a three year period of endorsement.

It is only after not delivering a course in their particular subject for a full three years will that Trainer Assessor endorsement be removed.

ASSIGNED DELEGATE FORM

If your Unit wishes to have a vote at the AGM, please ensure the Assigned Delegate Form is completed and received by the Secretary by 4th September 2019.

That date will come quicker than many of us think, so please send in the form now.

No form, and unfortunately your Unit will not be able to vote at the AGM.

DFES COUNSELLING SERVICE REVIEW

Have your say!

Researchers from the Future of Work Institute at Curtin University are conducting a survey designed to gather information on your experiences and knowledge of the DFES free counselling service.

The DFES free counselling service (also known as an Employee Assistance Program- EAP) is designed to provide support to all emergency services personnel and their family members.

The researchers are interested in hearing from Volunteers who have used the service, Volunteers who have not used the service, and Volunteers who are not aware of the service.

Family members of Volunteers who have used the service will also have the opportunity to provide feedback, should they wish to do so, and can complete the family version of the survey.

The survey is completely anonymous, will take approximately 5-10 minutes of your time and the data is managed externally by the researchers at Curtin University.

The survey will be available at the end of June 2019, and the link to the survey can be accessed via the Volunteer Portal.

This is your opportunity to have your say and to help improve a service that can provide support to yourself, your family and your peers.

HOW TO KEEP INFORMED

Don't forget we have a website which keeps you informed of what is happening across the state in SES land.

We also have "the App".

And also, if you would like our newsletters, other relevant information etc forwarded direct to your email, just contact the SESVA office (sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au), and advise your details.