



**S E S**

**STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE - KALBARRI**

February 2016

**Operation in January :- None.**

**Training and other activities:-**

**Sunday 3rd :- Flood Boat Training.**

With the temporary deployment of the Carnarvon flood boat to Kalbarri, the opportunity arose for extensive continuation training for qualified crews and familiarization training for new volunteers in the relatively calm if shallow river estuary.

With two large flood boats and the shallow water rescue zodiac there was ample opportunity for volunteers to get 'hands-on' experience.

Man overboard drills, powering up to (and maintaining position) to jetty pillars to simulate the skills necessary to extract a person stranded up a tree in flood waters were just two of the practical training exercises.

**Sunday 10th :- Flood Boat Training.**

With a relatively low swell in the ocean the two flood boats were taken out through the river mouth to continue training of crew and skipper boat handling in more challenging water conditions.

The activities included multiple boat handling and towing using the tow 'bra'. Boat handling at speed in the swells off the cliffs was very useful experience as was the less exciting but necessary boat wash-down and maintenance requirements after returning to the unit. ....



**February 2016 Scheduled Activities**

| Date    | Time | Activity  | Organiser(s)   |
|---------|------|---|----------------|
| Monday  | 1st  | 18:45 Vehicle checks, Team challenge.                         | Steve C        |
| Monday  | 15th | 18:45 Roll out of new D4 equipment—Tower Descend/Ascend/Belay | Steve C/SteveD |
| Monday  | 29th | 18:45 Communications, Waern (cross-band), HF, Clarkes Mast    | Garry          |
| Fridays |      | Fundraising Meat/Seafood packs /Community Engagement          | Mac            |

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## Kalbarri SES February report (continued).

### Sunday 24th :- Cliff Training

An early morning start (to beat the higher temperatures later in the day) was organized for cliff rescue training at Hawk's Head.

This was continuation training necessary to maintain skill and equipment familiarity levels of this highly technical and safety conscious activity.

Selecting and setting up 'bomb-proof' anchors, is the first mandatory requirement. Using techniques for sharing less capable anchor points to produce one that is secure is a common practice when out in the bush.

Then practicing the drills required to set up the Larkin frame for sending the stretcher and escort safely over the edge to perform a rescue.

This is where the escort must have complete confidence and trust in his team mates—that they have set the systems up securely and safely. This is why the role of cliff rescue team leader is so highly skilled and experienced.

Here Steve takes a 'selfy' overlooking the escort hanging out there over the gorge.



### 26th Australia Day

Each Australia Day Kalbarri SES sets up a presentation display on the foreshore to promote its activities with the local community and visitors.

The recently acquired rescue mule was on display which was obtained by local fundraising and a grant from Lotterywest. This will be used to stretcher transport casualties more safely over rugged 'goat' tracks (like 'The Loop' trail) . . . [Mac Holt]

