



The Murray Unit News

2010—Issue 1

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this newsletter (MUN) is to keep our members informed of courses, events, weekly training, callouts and general happenings around the unit and its members. MUN will hopefully be informative. But like most things, for this to succeed, I require information from you the members. Your opinions, observations, events you attended, anything, if you wish to let the other members know, drop me a line.

While this MUN will contain a fair bit of information as it will cover from December 2009, the future issues of MUN will be sent out on an irregular basis – as information comes to hand.

OFFICIAL UNIT OPENING

Firstly, a big thank you to all members that pitched in to help get the unit ready for the opening. I guess most of us now know how to assemble furniture, especially when it arrives with only days to spare. The last two pieces of furniture (ordered from McLernons) arrived on December 30th.

The opening went off without a hitch thanks to MC Mark Casotti. The only downer was some confusion over who was supposed to invite whom. Our apologies to Paul Leiper and Nick Elrick for this oversight.

After the opening it was almost an “old boys” reunion in the training room as former Murray members Will Norris, Paul Dwyer, Phil Bresser, Phil Rance and Des McLean (first Murray SES coordinator back in the 80’s) told old war stories. Des presented the unit with one of the first helmets used by the SES. I’m sure that will take pride of place amongst the units’ memorabilia.

At 1800 hours members from Mandurah SES arrived to enjoy a chit-chat and BBQ to help celebrate the opening. Although only a small group, I believe everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks to those that prepared the food and helped to clean up.

NOTE: I don’t understand why, but everyone stayed clear of the unit for the next few days – anyone would think they spend too much time there. ☺



COCK-EYED BOB (NOT OUR MANAGER) CAUSES ROOF DAMAGE

Wednesday, December 16th was our last training night for the year and it was to start with car park duties with the Council for their Street Christmas Party. But instead we attended Steve and Sharon Hogg's house in North Yunderup to "party" on their roof. As we all turned out for this job I won't go into details but I will say it was a job well done by all. The only member not to turn up was Steve (just because he was in Karratha at the time he thinks he can get out of it). As for repairs to the roof, timing sucks a bit, right when businesses are winding down for Christmas.



OUR FIRST NIGHT BACK—FEBRUARY 10

Our first night of "training" will be Wednesday February 10. South West District Manager (North), Paul Leiper will also be attending. The night will be informal as we will be sorting out some lockers and conducting interviews with all members to "get a feel" for the rest of the year.

UNIT "ARMED"

The alarm system for the unit is now armed. All we need now is someone to tell us how to use it. The arming and disarming is easy enough, but there are some procedures we need to sort out when it comes to contact with the monitoring company and what some of the other functions are on the key pad.

PEOPLE WE DEAL WITH

From time to time you may hear names mentioned in conversations regarding the unit but are unfamiliar with those names. Below is a list of people we most commonly associate with.

Mark Casotti	Shire of Murray	Community Emergency Service Coordinator
Rob Marlborough	Shire of Murray	Manager Governance
Dale Burton	Shire of Murray	Manager of Building Services
Peter Thurkle	Bush Fire Brigade	Chief Fire Control Officer
Andy Blackley	Shire of Murray	Workshop Supervisor
Paul Leiper	SWRHQ - SES	SW District Manager – North
Nick Elrick	SWRHQ - SES	SW District Manager – South

ISSUES CONCERNING THE BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT

Some of the issues concerning the building are listed below and we'll keep you informed of the progress of these issues.

- Electrical fault – Red 2 phase in shed GPO's continually trips.
- One GPO in shed to be changed from 10 amps to 15 amps to accommodate heavy duty equipment like welders.
- Electrical Fault – Kitchen wall mounted water boiler appears not to like Wednesday nights as it shuts itself down (the GPO it is plugged into does not work but it's not tripped???)
- Paper towels to be sourced for dispensers in toilets and kitchen.
- Liquid hand cleaner to be sourced for dispensers in toilets and kitchen.
- It has been suggested we continue the pavers on the sand areas surrounding the building. Apply for a grant to fund.
- Stores are to be enclosed and have a mezzanine floor. Apply for a grant to fund.
- Map light box to be built to suit table in the Operations Room.
- Small steel work bench to be made for maintenance area in shed.
- Exterior hand washing sink to be established – not sure where yet (drainage issue).
- Funding has been approved to refurbish the Welfare van.
- Excess (old) furniture to be disposed of.

A meeting was held recently between us and SOM. The issues above are being addressed or will be in the near future.

One of the things we do have now are user guides/manuals for most of the gear in the unit, ie Air Conditioners, Hot Water Service, etc.

CHRISTMAS DAY "CALLOUT"

Bob received a call from ComCen (FESA Communication Centre) with a request for assistance in finding a lost horse at Point Heron late on Christmas morning. Thank you Bob for rejecting that one. I do hope they found their horse but I also think the request was a bit unrealistic.

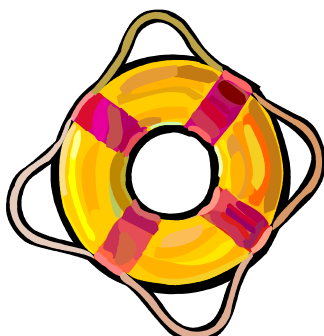
BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We will be holding a fund raiser on March 20 and 21 at Bunnings in Mandurah. Margaret has arranged for the Murray SES to have the Sausage Sizzle tent out the front door of Bunnings for the weekend. A roster will be placed on the notice board so if you can spare an hour or four to help, it would be greatly appreciated.



FLOOD BOAT

On February 6th I'll be "blowing the cobwebs" off our flood boat now that it is registered. If anyone is interested in joining me, please phone me and let me know. I'll just be giving it a decent run in the inlet and maybe practice some manoeuvres like emergency stops—exciting!



KNOTS TO PRACTICE

Bowline—Loop

Use:

To form a loop which will not slip, but unties easily.

Method:

1. Measure off the size of the loop required and create a small loop in the standing part of the rope by passing the end over the standing part.
2. Bring the end of the rope up through the small loop and around the back of the standing part.
3. Continue by pulling the end of the rope back down through the small loop.
4. Pull tight.

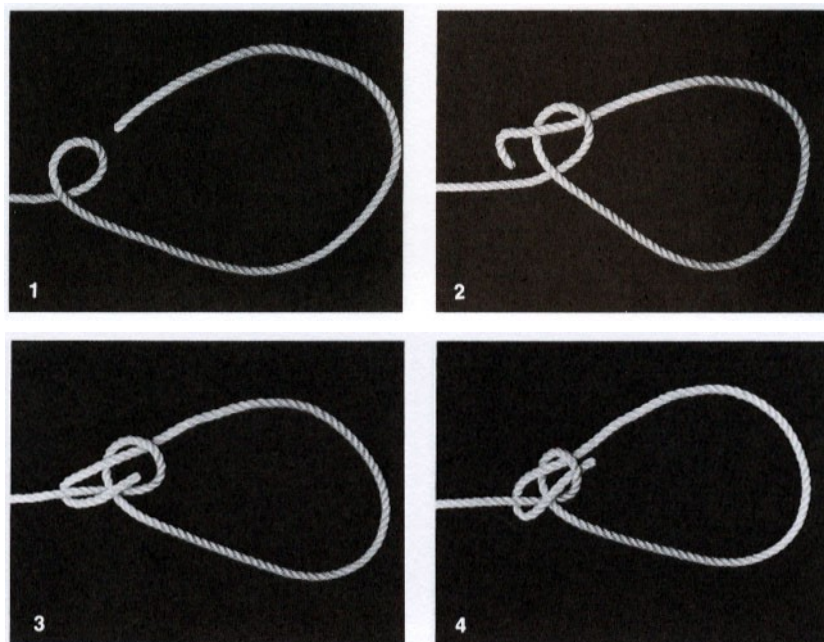


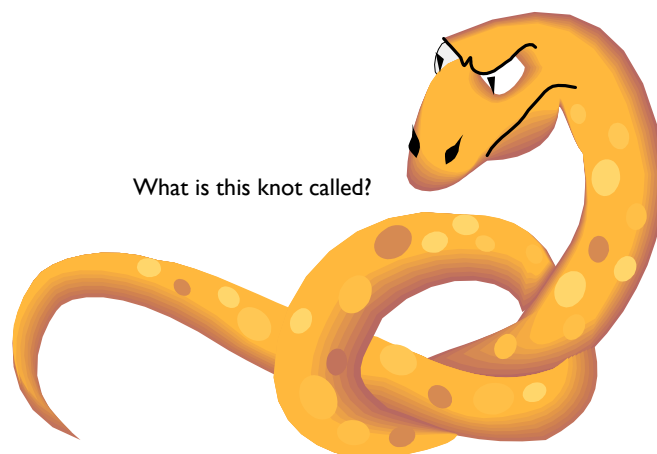
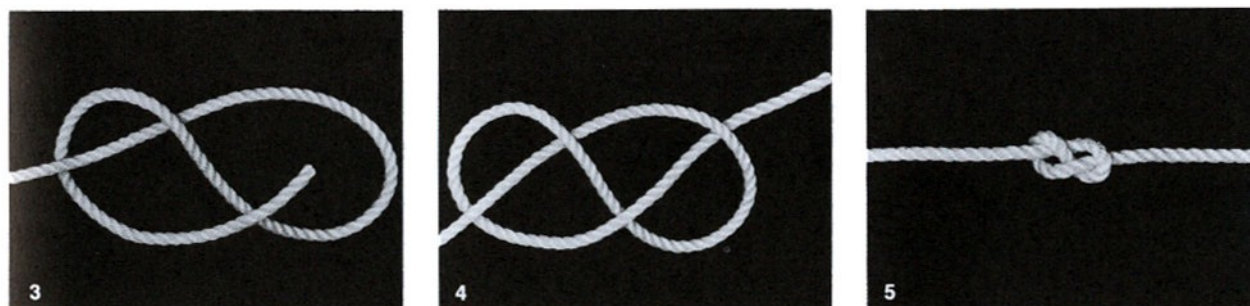
Figure of Eight Knot—Stopper Knot

Use:

Preventing a rope running through a block. Commonly used for the sheets of a sailing boat.

Method:

1. Pass the end of the rope over the standing part.
2. Take the end under the standing part away from the loop.
3. Bring the end of the rope back up over itself towards the loop.
4. Pass the end down through the loop.
5. Pull tight.



What is this knot called?

TRAINING

UNIT WEEKLY TRAINING SCHEDULE

Training subject to change

NOTE: All nights will start with a ten minute knot session.

Date	Topic	Conducted by
February 10	Interviews, Lockers, Course Nominations, Informal night	
February 17	Basic Communications Instruction	Trevor
February 24	Pacing and Observation Skills	Bob / Trevor / Kim
March 3	First Aid	Chris & Janine (Mand.)
March 10	Operations Overview	Bob
March 17	Vehicle Recovery	Kim
March 24	Map & Navigation	Bob / Trevor
March 31	Social Event (any member can volunteer to organise)	
April 7	PPE, Rope Care	Kim / Trevor
April 14	Anchors & Ladders	Kim / Trevor
April 21	Storm Damage Hazards & Tarpaulins	Kim / Trevor
April 28	Storm Damage Exercise	Kim / Trevor

SOUTH WEST TRAINING SCHEDULE

Nominations for the courses listed below need to be submitted ASAP.

Courses are subject to changes.

Date(s)	Topic	Venue
March 5 to 6	Senior First Aid	Murray SES
May 1 to 2	Storm and Water Damage Operations	Murray SES

South West Training calendar was not available at time of publishing this newsletter.