



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

MARCH 2024

NEWSLETTER

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe by email to sesva.office@ses.wa.asn.au

From the President



Hello to you!

I am saying this with thanks that our temperatures in most of the state are cooling as we move into March. While we have often experienced hot temperatures in March in years gone by, let's hope the hottest days are behind us all.

With the climate in mind, the SES has continued its community service operationally with examples such as its response to Ex-Tropical Cyclone Lincoln moving its way down the WA coast and moving inland; working in partnership with WA Police in searching for missing people; and assisting DFES workers and Bush Fire Brigades at fires throughout the state.

Thank you again to each SES member, their families, and employers for your ongoing support.

The message for March is a simple one and is based on the leadership role the SES plays in communities. They don't shout out loud about it, but demonstrate this through their actions.

- *Good leaders build products*
- *Great leaders build cultures*
- *Good leaders deliver results*
- *Great leaders develop people*
- *Good leaders have a vision*
- *Great leaders have values*
- *Good leaders are role models at work*
- *Great leaders are role models in life*

Author—Adam Grant

SES people are doing great things for great people in Western Australia. This month well known SES Mandurah Local Manager, Chris Stickland was awarded 'Local Legend' by the City of Mandurah. For more on Chris accepting his Award go to page 12.

Stay safe and create a safer place to live and work with the SES.

**Thank you again,
Greg Cook, President**

During 2024 the SESVA Newsletter will feature a series of articles on significant Cyclones and Storms in Western Australia starting with 1999, as 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of Cyclones Elaine and Vance's landfall in the Midwest and Pilbara respectively, resulting in a trail of destruction across the state. **More on page 4,5 & 6**



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from the SECRETARY'S desk

Email Allen Gale for more information sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au



**SES Volunteers
 Association**

**North East Metro
 Committee Vacancy**

The Association is inviting expressions of interest from passionate, energetic SES Volunteers to represent the units of the North East (Metro) Region on the SESVA Management Committee

ROLE of the SESVA

- ⇒ Advocate the view of SES Volunteers to all levels of Government, DFES and other agencies on matters affecting SES Volunteers and the way in which we serve our communities.
- ⇒ Promote and communicate knowledge and information for the benefit of SES Volunteers.
- ⇒ Provide an effective voice for SES Volunteers.

The SESVA has successfully advocated for SES Volunteers for many years.
 You can help to ensure the voice of North East Metro SES Volunteers is heard.

Interested? Send your *expression of interest* to Allen Gale sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au

Or phone Allen for a chat about the role — 0419 935 497



TRIBUTE TO JAMES REGAN

Jim (James) Regan lost his life on 2nd of April 2004 while on operational duty as a Volunteer with the State Emergency Service. This tragedy was the first time the life of an SES Volunteer was lost while on active duty in WA. The April edition of the Newsletter will be dedicated to the memory of Jim, who was thirty-six years of age twenty years ago. Jim had been a member of the Newman SES since October 1999. During a rescue attempt in the Karijini National Park, the father of two drowned.

WE WILL PAUSE TO REMEMBER JIM ON 2ND APRIL



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SUMMARY OF THE SESVA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 8th FEBRUARY 2024

Legislation Working Group

The Position Paper was approved at the December meeting and is being prepared for printing ready to share with units and for delivery to the FES Commissioner and Minister at presentations in the coming months. Recent changes implemented in Queensland, where a Chief Officer has been appointed for the SES under the expanded Police and Emergency Services, are a similar concept to that being proposed by the SESVA in WA.

NSESA Raffle

The raffle has taken off very well in WA. It is important to note that not all the funds raised in WA remained in WA after costs were taken into account. A second raffle is scheduled to commence in coming weeks, subject to permit sign off by WA Racing and Gaming. The result of the first raffle draw was published on the NSESA website and in the 10th February Weekend Australian newspaper.

Media and PR Strategy sub-committee – MCM nominations sought

The first meeting of the sub-committee will be held soon. Several SES Units have been invited to have representative members. Interested volunteers should contact Allen sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au. It is anticipated the group will meet three to four times a year.

Emergency Services 125th / SES 65th anniversary

The 125th anniversary of Emergency Services in WA coincides with the 65th anniversary of SES in WA. Management Committee members are going to contact their Units to determine the level of support for celebration of the SES WA 65th anniversary. Celebrations are being considered to align with WOW Day/Volunteer Week 18-24 May.

DFES Pregnancy and Intended Parents Policy – feedback sought

The Committee discussed to implications of the Policy for volunteers. President will respond to DFES on the Policy following further input from the Management Committee members.

Fit For Role – request for feedback to DFES

The related documents have been sent to all SES units and an on-line meeting is scheduled for Thursday 14 March for all units to participate in. SES presenters from the eastern states will provide information based on their experience of the concept to enable a clear understanding of how the Fit For Role project would impact SES WA if it was to be implement.

To contact the SESVA Secretary, call or message

Mobile: 0419 935 479 **Email:** sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au



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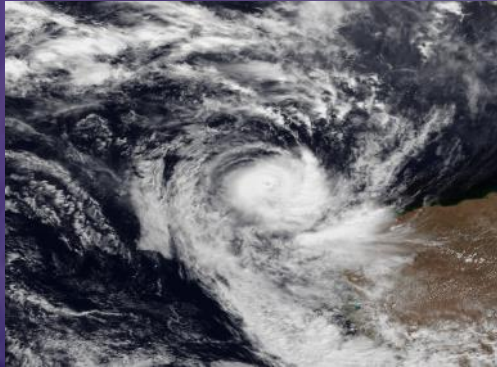
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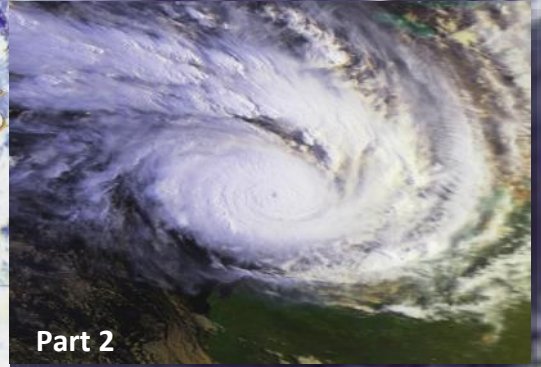
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TROPICAL CYCLONES VANCE AND ELAINE



Part 2

March 2024 marks the 25th anniversary of when Cyclones Vance and Elaine wreaked havoc across Western Australia. Part 2 of the series focuses on some personal recollections of this destructive weather event

THE FLOODS – AS I SAW IT

BY KEN DEWHIRST – WANNEROO SES UNIT

Saturday March 20, 4.15pm: Allen Gale rings. Can I organise a team to Moora to help with some sandbagging and local flood damage.

5.15pm: Three vehicles leave with sand bags, shovels, plastics and a team of nine.

7.15pm: Arrived at Moora, introductions all round, have a cuppa. Let's find what's up.

8.15pm: Back after a recce of town with ALM Ronice, yes, they do have a local flooding problem. A few houses very wet, others looking a bit damp. Still nothing a few bags and a bit of sweat can't handle. This should be very wet by morning. Let's go bagging.

Flash house, slate floor. Why bag it? Just lift the furniture, oh well, maybe he's someone, just help now ask questions later.

Hello here's Northam.

"Hi girls and boys hope you remember how to sandbag"

"Trust you to be here to watch us."

Great bunch, straight into it. They tell me Stirling and Swan are here as well. All the more the better, might be out of here by morning. Houses, businesses, sandbagged. Fridges and furniture lifted up on blocks. Front end loaders dropping bucket loads of sand at the houses. We fill the bags. There must be an easier way than this after all these years. All the red lights, looks very official, about time too. Orange lights mean nothing anymore. Red should be on all our vehicles. Where are the TV cameras now? This is what it is all about. Country and Metro units working side by side, sharing a laugh, sharing the load, giving help where it's needed. Cruisers, utes, trucks and trailers,

teams and equipment everywhere, this is what we train for, it makes you feel good, real goosebumpy.

11.45pm: Back to reality. Back to the unit. Time for a rethink, let's see what's happening. Some units will sleep others will keep watch on the water, monitor until morning.

Stirling needs a jump start on their truck. Batteries drowned, when it went under the water.

12.30am: Bayswater here to feed us some tea. What? Hamburgers, you have to be kidding.

1.00am: In the sheets, had a hot shower, sleepville

1.15am: All out! The floods have hit and rising fast, leave your gear, we'll get it later on in the morning.

1.30am: Check out the main street. Shopowners trying to pack up stock, throw a few sandbags in the doorway. Too late, the water's already over them, Forget the

WESTERN ALERT Winter 1999 43



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MOORA FLOOD STORY - by Tracy Jenzen

Excerpt from Winter 1999 Western Alert

It was March 20 and I was sitting comfortably in my home watching television. Outside the sky was black. The phone rang. I was advised that we were required to attend localised flooding in the town site of Moora. We, my husband and I who are both members of the Wanneroo State Emergency Service (SES) headed to the unit where we prepared vehicles for storm damage repair. On the drive up there we had no idea what to expect when we arrived. For the first part of our journey into the town site it just looked like it had received a big downpour with mud puddles on the sides of the road. But as we drove further in some of the roads were about 60cm deep in water. After sandbagging a few houses and preparing people for evacuation we settled in for the evening. We were awoken by the Local Manager of Moora knocking on the doors about 3am, waking all the volunteers from various Perth metropolitan units advising there was flash flooding heading our way.

We got up and it was extremely cold putting our wet overalls back on. The adrenaline started to rush as we made our way to the Local SES Unit not knowing what to expect. On our way to their headquarters driving past the bridge the water was starting to rise. Our first job was to try and limit the damage to the local businesses. We headed on our way and within a matter of minutes the water had progressed about 20-30 metres further into the town site. On arriving at the main street where the shops were, we commenced sandbagging. As we were sandbagging the water started to lap over the top of the bags and it was realised that there was no way we were going to be able to stop the water from getting in. We were then called to assist in the evacuation of the old people's home and the hospital. The water level at the bridge made it almost impossible to cross. We started

to evacuate the patients into buses. The patients were transported to the local high school.

It was only after arriving at the high school that we realised how bad the situation had become. Since we had arrived only light rainfall seemed to fall, which made it all so much more unbelievable that there was so much water in Moora itself. The water continued to rise and some of the streets were waist high in water. Houses were devastated, carpets and furniture ruined. I could only imagine how the residents were feeling, having lost everything they hold dear; having to basically start their lives again. By the time we left Moora on Sunday night the local SES Unit HQ was also severely damaged by water.

On returning to Perth the 15 members of the Wanneroo Unit who attended over the three days discussed with the other members of the unit the devastation that they had seen and experienced. It was then decided that as a unit we would make a donation to the Moora SES to be dispersed amongst the members to help them make a new start. On Monday night 12 April, seven members of the Wanneroo Unit made the trip back to Moora. The devastation was more apparent than before. My heart went out to the locals who had nothing left, no homes, furniture, clothing - not a thing. The businesses who lost not only their homes but their livelihood as well. Not knowing whether they will be able to rebuild what they had lost. Our members took with them to Moora a cheque and a birthday cake for the member of the Moora unit



Moora and Wanneroo crew after cheque presentation

who celebrated her birthday on the day the floods started.

On arriving at the Moora SES headquarters, we found the local members were trying to put the unit back into a workable state as much as they could with no carpet and equipment, all of which had been saturated. We lent a helping hand and then went back to one of the member's homes where we handed over the cheque and presented the birthday girl with a cake. The emotion of the members was overwhelming. We had a few drinks and discussed the unbelievable events that were still fresh in our minds. Everyone there seemed to have a different story to tell and everyone seemed to see things in a very different manner.

As the experiences and stories that the members had of Moora differed so much, the members of the Wanneroo Unit are looking to make a memento of the events that took place that weekend in March. Anyone willing to put their experiences on paper is asked to let the members of the Wanneroo SES Unit have a copy. These can be forwarded to PO Box 146 Joondalup WA 6919.

NOTE: Two other Wanneroo volunteers have set the ball rolling. Their stories appear on the following pages.



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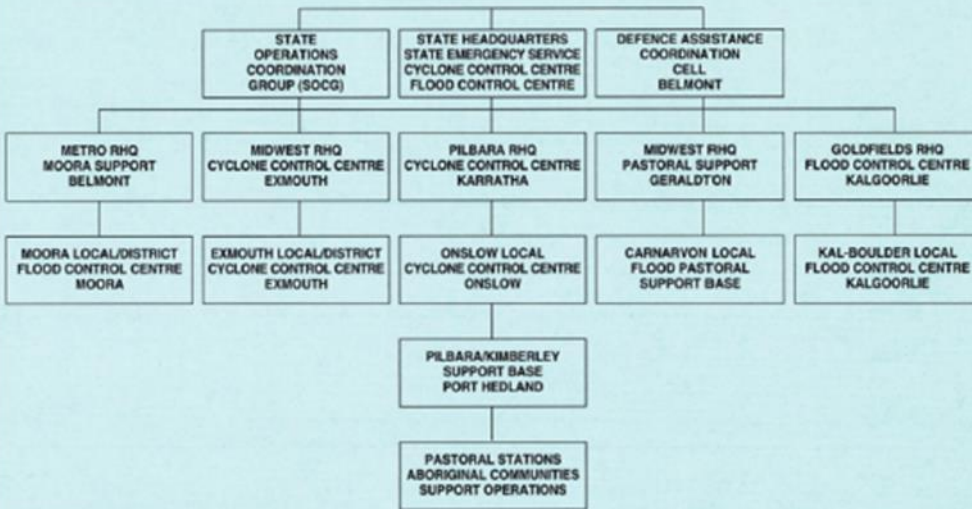
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VANCE/MOORA



COMMAND AND COORDINATION



WESTERN ALERT Winter 1999 37



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY



Women in Emergency Services, Defence & Police are ELIGIBLE FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Available Now: Partial scholarships for women in

Police, Defence & Emergency Services

ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per person,

for one of four leadership and workplace skill development programs.

A new round of scholarships have been released for women's workplace skill and leadership development programs.

Through its industry partner network, Women & Leadership Australia engage with associations and organisations like SESVA to raise awareness and take action to achieve gender equity.

This support is valuable and helps to create development opportunities for women throughout the country, including limited scholarships.

These scholarships are aimed at encouraging more women to increase their impact at work, progress their career, and step into leadership roles.

**Registrations of interest close on 22nd March 2024. Via the
Women & Leadership Australia website
<https://www.wla.edu.au/industry/pdes/>**



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VESPIIA

Veterans, Emergency
Services & Police
Industry Institute
Australia

VESPIIA hosted a special event for WA First Responders SES Volunteers in honour of **International Women's Day**.

This inaugural event was specifically designed to celebrate and honour the remarkable women who contribute significantly to the first responder, defence and defence industry communities.

In the spirit of **International Women's Day** the event aimed to highlight the exceptional achievements, resilience and indomitable spirit of women within the first responder community.

The event offered participants the opportunity to engage with Brigadier Amanda Williamson and Dr. Gayle Christie in an insightful panel session to explore the theme of "Count Her In: Invest in Women, Accelerate Progress."

Participants were able to connect with fellow first responders and industry professionals and included an open panel session with special guests.

International Women's Day Events will be held annually. The SESVA will engage with VESPIIA to circulate event and registration information to all SES Units.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
MARCH 8, 2024

Let's #InspireInclusion to help forge a better, more inclusive world for women



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Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

Applications open for the 2024 Volunteer Leadership Program

The Volunteer Leadership Program provides an introduction to volunteer leadership and management in an emergency management context. It is attended by emergency services and not-for-profit volunteers who are involved in emergency response and recovery.

The program is a unique opportunity to network with like-minded people and build your capability as a leader in disaster resilience.

The Volunteer Leadership Program will be held at the Ingot Hotel in Perth from 1630 hours Friday 12 April to 1430 hours Sunday 14 April inclusive.

The costs of the residency program are covered by AIDR with DFES covering travel expenses for successful applicants.

New leaders are encouraged to consider applying for this opportunity.

Applications will close with AIDR on Friday 15 March 2024.

If you have recently taken up your first leadership role or you have leadership aspirations, talk to your unit Manager about applying.

Follow this link for details about the application process on the DFES Volunteer Hub.

[Volunteer Leadership Program | DFES Department of Fire and Emergency Services](#)



For support about the application and endorsement process, you can contact your DFES Manager through your Unit Manager. For further questions regarding this opportunity, contact Christine West - Manager Academic Pathways.

Email: AcademicPathways@dfes.wa.gov.au



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Get Ready For

WOW DAY

22 May 2024

**This year is also the 65th anniversary
of the SES in WA**

**So we're developing some great ways
to help SES Units**

Celebrate!



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SES WA WOW DAY



To help celebrate WOW Day the SESVA have produced this Special Picture Frame for SES Units to use during their WOW Events.

If you'd like to borrow one please contact the SESVA Office:

sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

0499 619 287

The frames are about 1.4 m square and double sided with a generic side to use for recruitment and education programs.

We are currently working on distributing these frames to the Regional Areas.



#ThankyouSES

WEAR ORANGE WEDNESDAY TO SUPPORT SES VOLUNTEERS



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Chris Stickland ESM, Local Manager Mandurah SES Awarded “Local Legend” by the City of Mandurah Mayor

At the City of Mandurah Council meeting on 27 February Mayor, Rhys Williams, presented Chris with the Local Legend Award.

Mayor Williams spoke about the many years that Chris has exhibited true community spirit as a driving force in the Mandurah State Emergency Service as well as his dedication and advocacy for emergency service cadets and youth in emergency services.

Mayor Williams went on to say these are amazing examples of active citizenship within our community.

Chris has been a Volunteer with the State Emergency Service since 1986, as well as being the Local Manager of the Mandurah State Emergency Service since 2010.

Chris has won a number of awards, including the Peter Keillor Award (SES Volunteer of the year) in 1997 and the Australian Emergency Services Medal in 2005.

It is this dedication that has strengthened the foundations of our city and helped build resilience in the pro-activity of our emergency response for the safety of our community and our neighbours.

Chris was nominated for the Local Legend Award, as a recognition of local people/groups in our community who are contributing to a stronger future for Mandurah.

Mayor Williams thanked Chris for his dedication and service to our community.

Chris thanked the Mayor and Councillors for this award and went on to speak about the importance of the SES in Mandurah and the dedication and passion of more than 80 SES Volunteers in the unit.



Well done Chris!



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Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket in the 1st SESVA raffle for WA.

The funds raised will benefit the community based SES units and the SES volunteers in WA.

The WA-TAS raffle 01 was drawn 2nd February 2024

1st Prize: \$5,000 Harvey Norman Gift Card was won by **Ticket No:** 25010012629

Results of the draw were published in *The Australian* 'Public Notice' section on 7th February and on the NSESVA website the same day as the draw.

WA-TAS Raffle No. 2

The next SES raffle commenced 4th March and will be drawn 31st May 2024.

Let your WA family, friends, and colleagues know that they can purchase a \$2 ticket now to support SES volunteers in WA and receive a chance to **win a \$5,000 Coles-Myer gift.**

Simply share the phone number and website link below:

National SESVA call centre **1300 804 562**

[Buy tickets and support the National SESVA \(nationalsesvaraffle.org.au\)](http://nationalsesvaraffle.org.au)

The funds raised in WA once expenses are taken into account stay in WA, meaning the Volunteer Association in WA, with the support of the National SESVA, will soon be able to fund beneficial activities for SES volunteers in WA by offering some rewards and additional activities, as well as creating new opportunities and funding new volunteer development projects **For the benefit of SES volunteers.**

DFES provides adequate funding to enable the SESVA to represent the views and interests of SES Volunteers. Funds raised through the raffles will be used primarily to connect SES volunteers with people, programs and education that will help them achieve their objectives, including but not limited to the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Access to training and development | • Sponsorships for volunteers |
| • Access to a welfare fund | • Volunteer resources support service |
| • Grants for volunteers' services | • Facilities for use by volunteers and their families |



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The Annual Wellbeing Challenge is back! GETTING STARTED....

As part of Thriving at DFES, we are excited to announce that the Annual Wellbeing Challenge is back for the month of March. The theme for the Challenge this year is to focus on yourself through self-kindness, gratitude and motivation. The purpose of this Challenge is to provide you with a fun and engaging list of activities to help build and sustain your health, wellbeing and social connection.

Round up your team and encourage each other to tick off the activities from 1 March to 31 March 2024. Approaching this as a team challenge will encourage connection and allow you to share in the collective and social benefits.

REGISTER by emailing: thriving@dfes.wa.gov.au

Click below to download or print out the Annual Wellbeing Challenge Tracker

[Annual Wellbeing Challenge Bingo \(2024\) \(dfes.wa.gov.au\)](https://dfes.wa.gov.au)

We recommend printing this in A3 colour.

Feeling extra motivated? Try completing this challenge solo or compete within your team to see who can accomplish the greatest number of activities individually.

We would love to know who is taking up this Challenge so we can celebrate your successes, learn from your experiences and **enter in the draw to win a prize pack!**

Please email thriving@dfes.wa.gov.au to sign up for the challenge!

Thriving at DFES

Mental Health and Wellbeing
Strategy 2021-2023



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2024 WAFES AWARDS

The 2024 WAFES Awards nominations are NOW OPEN

Nominate an individual or group today who has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

If you nominate a finalist, you will receive an invitation to the 2024 WAFES Awards gala dinner.

Nominations CLOSE 25th March at 9am.

For more information visit the WAFES Awards website dfes.wa.gov.au/wafesawards

The awards recognise the achievements of volunteers and DFES staff who have demonstrated a high level of commitment to emergency services over the past 12 months.

The Youth Awards are for volunteers under the age of 25 who have stood out amongst their peers.

Nominate an individual or group today who has gone above and beyond the line of duty. If you nominate a finalist, you will receive an invitation to the 2024 WAFES Awards gala dinner. Cash prizes are also up for grabs for volunteer finalists and winners!

Need help writing a nomination? Refer to our handy guide for examples which is available [online](#).

For award criteria and to make a submission, visit dfes.wa.gov.au/wafesawards

Nominations close on Monday 25 March at 9am.



SES Volunteers Association of Western Australia Incorporated acknowledges the funding from the Department of Fire & Emergency Services that support the operation of the Association.



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SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

MARCH 2024

NEWSLETTER

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My Unit.. COCKBURN SES Unit

After two unsuccessful attempts to form a Unit, The City of Cockburn Voluntary State Emergency Service officially commenced in December 1981 with 6 members growing to 23 in February 1982 with Oleg Milosaljevic as Unit Manager appointed by the City of Cockburn. Council provided a house in Spearwood as a base and equipment was supplied by WASES, although Cockburn Cement donated the funds to purchase a secondhand Landrover 4wd Station Wagon.

By June 1983 a new home was found in the form of the old Council Parks & Garden Depot in Kent Street, Spearwood. Funds provided for modifications to the building were insufficient so members used their trades and skills to do the work themselves. The building and fit out was always a work in progress for as long as it was occupied. It wasn't until February, 1988 that the Kent Street building was officially opened by the then Mayor of Cockburn, Mr. Don Miguel. Membership by then had grown to 40. The Unit stayed in these very ad hoc premises until the Cockburn Emergency Services building in Buckley Street, Cockburn was completed in September 2012 where we are currently housed in co-location with the South Coogee Bushfire Brigade.

Fundraising was a very important part of the function of the Unit as well as being operational in the early years to meet the shortfall in funding for equipment required. Members assisted the Police with the running of the Blue Light Discos, marshalling the Fremantle Festival Parade and Blessing of the Fleet in Fremantle as well as the St. Patrick's Day Parade along with many other events and PR duties. The implementation of the Emergency Services Levy took the pressure off members to fundraise for much needed equipment not provided by WASES & FESA and allowed them to concentrate on training and operational duties.

It wasn't until late 1988 that the Unit could afford the purchase and operational expense of an initial 7 pagers which were circulated on a weekly basis to Rescue Team members to activate them in call out situations. It sped up the old process of having to ring individual members on their landlines – no mobile phones then!

Oleg Milosaljevic remained Unit Manager until the end of 1992 when he and his wife, Nellie, left the Unit. Since then the Managers have been – Robert Hopkins, Robert Odgers, Brendan Bradley, Keith Drayton, Enrico di Russo, Keith Drayton (2nd term), Michael Mullins, Drew Devereux, Steve Wells, Drew Devereux (acting), Ian Dury and 2020 to date Allison Lamb who is supported by the Deputy Manager, Kevin Fraser.



Cockburn SES volunteers with South Coogee Bushfire Brigade volunteers and Fire and Rescue Service firefighters in front of Cockburn Emergency Services building.— they were collocated while a new fire station was built nearby in Cockburn Central.



A 'young' Keith Drayton.



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My Unit.. COCKBURN SES cont'd

It took a number of years to formulate a Constitution and this was finally achieved in December 1994 with the Unit becoming an incorporated body. Twenty years later in March 2014, the Constitution was brought into line with modern legal requirements and the name of the Unit changed to Cockburn State Emergency Service (Inc.).

During the past 42 years of operation there have been many Unit activations – some almost overwhelming by their magnitude such as the May 1994 storms where this Unit alone received over 300 calls for assistance. Others had a profound impact - notably the searches for both James Godden and Gerard Ross in 1997 where sadly these young boys had met with foul play. We have even been the victim of our own emergency when in March 2010 the Unit Base took a direct hit from lightning, damaging our radio communications and other equipment.

Cockburn SES has managed to maintain quite a large long term core of members who over the years have risen through the ranks of training and management to meet the ongoing needs of the Unit. Many members have become Trainer Assessors in a variety of skills to continually meet the training needs of this Unit and assist others across the State.



Members have travelled interstate and intrastate for cyclone disaster relief, and our Trainer Assessors have been as far south as Ravensthorpe, to Kununurra in the north and even as far afield as Christmas Island to deliver courses when called upon.

The Unit has continued to rise to meet the challenges of changing times and technologies and has a vibrant leadership team initiating new ideas and training methods which is testament to the number of volunteers in the Unit and the longevity of many of the members.

Finally, we are proud that four of our members have been nominated over the years for the Peter Keillor Award for Excellence – Ruth Odgers, May Bowser, Sean McLaughlin and Keith Drayton with Keith being the 2012 recipient, and the 2021 SES Youth Award Winner Alex Corinaldesi. Alex also won the 2014 Cadet of the Year and in 2015 won the Under 25's Active Citizenship Award from the City of Cockburn.



Alex Corinaldesi accepting his Under 25's Active Citizenship Award from the Mayor of Cockburn



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Days Gone By A Proud Heritage

Regional News

Life Members for Gosnells SES Unit



(L to R) Doug Parker, Ken Clark, Jim Ridgwell, Phil Peterson and Terry Reynolds.

A heavy responsibility lies on the shoulders of Local Unit Coordinators. They are responsible for the management and operational effectiveness of their Unit which involves managing considerable human, financial and physical resources.

Gosnells Unit took the step of recognising the service of past Local Unit Coordinators by making them life members.

At a presentation ceremony held at the Unit's headquarters in Maddington, four past Coordinators were presented with their life member certificates by Mr Mike Devereaux,

Councillor of the City of Gosnells.

The four recipients were:
Doug Parker, Deputy Town Clerk, City of Gosnells. Doug was the Coordinator in the early years when Gosnells was a Shire and at the time when the Shire had a combined Bushfire Brigade and a Civil Defence Service.

Ken Clark, former Councillor and Deputy Mayor, City of Gosnells. Ken was instrumental in starting up the current Gosnells Unit in 1979.

Terry Reynolds, Volunteer Support Officer, WASES. Terry was the Deputy Coordinator to Ken Clark and assisted him in creating the Unit.

After Ken retired in 1986, Terry took over the role.

Jim Ridgwell, Deputy Coordinator Gosnells SES Unit.

Jim was a founding member of the Unit in the early 1980s along with Ken and Terry. As Training Officer he assisted with the establishment of the Unit and became Deputy Coordinator to Terry. Terry retired in 1989 and Jim then became Coordinator. In 1993, Jim stood down to become Deputy to the current Coordinator, Phil Peterson.

Today the Gosnells SES Unit is well established and still has a number of volunteers from the early founding days.

New Flood Boat for Belmont SES Unit



The new Belmont SES Flood Rescue Boat.

It has been over 100 years since the last major flooding of the Swan River. Now, the Belmont State Emergency Service (SES) Unit is ready to respond to this natural disaster, with a new Flood Boat jointly funded by the City of Belmont and a Commonwealth Subsidy programme for Emergency Services.

The Belmont SES will use the boat, as yet unnamed, to help flood susceptible areas on the Swan River, to cope with this natural disaster.

The new boat can evacuate up to ten people at one time or carry supplies/sandbags to areas of need. It is also equipped to help the WA Water Police carry out river searches on the Swan.

The boat will be manned by SES volunteers trained in boat handling, life saving and a power boat rescue. There will also be a support crew of two volunteers to assist in re-supply and recovery of the craft plus other land based tasks to support boat operations.

Western Alert, Winter, 1996 53



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PULL UP BANNER

Large double sided pull up banner on base that can be filled with water to maintain safety and stability in outdoor settings. Packs away in its own carry bag. Approx. 2 metres tall.



SES WA GAZEBO —3 X 3 metres. Packs away into a wheeled carry case for ease of handling and transport.

TEAR DROP BANNER

Approximately four metres tall. This high impact banner comes with a heavy steel base and ground spike.



Mundaring Unit use the Gazebo and Banners at a recent public event.



**GAZEBO & BANNERS NOW AVAILABLE
for your Unit to borrow
FREE OF CHARGE**

**SES UNITS CAN BORROW THESE ITEMS FOR
PROMOTIONAL/PUBLIC RELATIONS EVENTS**

For more information contact Bella

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0499 619 287



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