



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

From the President

Welcome to the beginning of August, an indicator of how this calendar year is moving at great pace. And it's a momentous month for long serving Northshore SES volunteer and Lynton Street stalwart, Rhonda Hemsley who is retiring after 45 years service. Rhonda is to be celebrated at a special thank you function in Mount Hawthorn on 2nd August. Watch out for a story and photos in the next edition of the Newsletter.



There are many important elements for people in Western Australia to consider in the coming months with regard to the shaping of the future emergency management services provided to our communities.

The SES Volunteers Association has been actively gathering information and opinions from its community based members. The importance of this consultation is that at present, DFES has not released its position for the future. Of course the Department will, but I know that many communities may take it for granted that services will be provided.

The services in most communities are delivered by residents who choose to become leaders by up skilling, wearing a uniform with pride and responding to local and broader emergencies after months of training.

The greater balance is working together with the knowledge that we need to empower more people with enabling information about how to reduce the impact of hazards on our properties and the property of those around us. At present, activities are primarily focus on responding to emergency situations, but as our communities are rapidly becoming reliant of the services of others, are we setting all of us on a pathway to certain higher levels of impact?

Partnerships are by far the best way to reverse this trend and I sincerely hope that DFES and Government have been expansive in their assessments of current and future risks to us all. For our SES, I believe that we will continue with a platform of partnerships and empowerment for the best community outcomes; but this does take commitment from many people.

Thank you again and we trust that a global view on our future risks are shared to inform communities.

Greg Cook, President

SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc.) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9am Sunday 10th September 2023

Studio 2, Crown Perth, Great Eastern Hwy, Burswood

[Submit your Unit delegate nomination form by 9 September \(see form on the last page\)](#)



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



**SES Volunteers
Association of WA (Inc)**
One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

CONGRATULATIONS

Gnowangerup SES Awards Recipients



Gnowangerup SES held its awards night on Saturday 29th July at their well-appointed SES building. Gnowangerup SES unit turns out mostly for land search and road crash rescue, as well as for storm damage and fire support. In the past year, the unit of only 17 active members has performed 1,598 hours on callouts and 3,852 hours of training.

SESVA Vice President, Alan Hawke, was in attendance at the awards night along with Area Officer, Cam Famlonga, and Volunteer Management Support Officer, Sonya Smith, from the DFES Regional Office in Albany who are a great support to the unit and its members.

SES LONG SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

5-year medallion – Peter Kiddell, Marl Pool, Kelsey Blows, Carli Rooney and Shane Rooney.

10-year SES long service medal – Les Nayda (also past local manager).

20-year SES long service medal clasp – Jim Adams

NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

National Medal (for 15 years service) – Helen Kitching

1st clasp to the National Medal (for 25 years of service) – Peter Blows



L–R :

Peter Kiddell, Les Nayda,
Mark Pool, Kelsey Blows,
Helen Kitching, Manda Hanna
Peter Blows, Carli Rooney
Jim Adams, Shane Rooney.

The SES Volunteers Association congratulates all the award recipients; thank you for your long and diligent service, risking your lives or safety to protect or assist the community in times of emergency and natural disaster. Congratulation and well done also to Local Manager, Carli Rooney, and Deputy LM Mandy Hanna for a job well done organising the awards night.



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

SES Volunteer Advisory Committee (SES VAC)



On Wednesday, July 5, a new and invigorated SES Volunteer Advisory Committee met with Minister Stephen Dawson and DFES Commissioner, Mr Darren Klemm, at Dumas House. This was, for many attendees, their first time at Dumas House to meet with a Minister of the Crown and the establishment of the VAC.

Minister Dawson chaired this meeting which was convened to walk through and understand the Western Australian Governments' "Statement of Expectation". The Chair of the VAC was also elected from the twelve successful nominees that were appointed through recommendation and supported by State Cabinet. The Committee members are appointed for a three-year period.

The Statement of Expectation recognises that the Committee has the responsibility to provide advice to Minister Dawson and the DFES Commissioner, including;

- ◆ Engaging in matters of strategic importance relevant to your volunteer service that will inform the agenda.
- ◆ Providing recommendations about significant issues which are evidence-based and supported by research.
- ◆ Forsee significant issues impacting emergency services, broader readiness and service delivery, and emergency management services volunteering.
- ◆ Produce and publish an annual summary that provides an overview of key items or outcomes produced or contributed by the Committee.

Minister Dawson requires the Committee's combined knowledge and experience in contributions and functions to be future-focused and goal-orientated, with a view to contributing to enhance and advance emergency services volunteering.

Mr. Greg Cook was elected by the Committee members to the role of Chair. The Association through the Chair will seek permission to publish the names of those SES volunteers that have formed the SES Volunteer Advisory Committee.

Welcome to the world...Isla Rose Murphy....arrived 31st July 10:53pm

CONGRATULATIONS TO

David Murphy (SES Comms Support Unit and Belmont SES Unit) and former CSU member, Annie.....sister to Ayden and Sophie.



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

SES MERCHANDISE PRE-ORDERS

ORDER YOUR SES MERCHANDISE & COLLECT IT AT THE
WAFES CONFERENCE

Contact SESVA Office on **0499 619 287** or send an email to
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

The full range of merchandise and pricing is on the SESVA website
<https://ses-wa.asn.au/sesva-merchandise/>



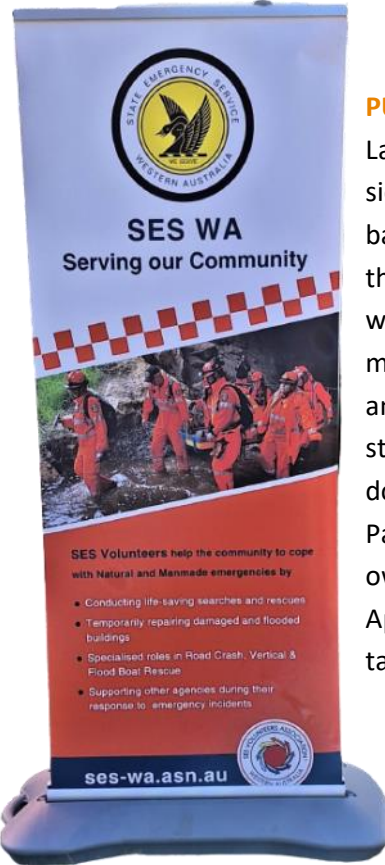
PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers
Association of WA (Inc)
One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>



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.

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
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au
 0499 619 287

TEAR DROP BANNER

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



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



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
 Belmont WA 6104
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers
Association of WA (Inc)
One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

My **Unit**

My Unit is a new section of the Newsletter where a different SES Unit can be featured in every edition.

My Unit will showcase a brief history, achievements, challenges, personalities and notable contributions of the Unit since its establishment, supported by photos.

We want to feature Your Unit on the My Unit page.

Our readers will be interested in an article of a Units significant operations, examples of community engagement and any developments or changes that have occurred over the years, along with historical photos, photos of training exercises and events.

Will you send us information and images about Your Unit?

- ⇒ Send us engaging information suitable for the SESVA Newsletter.
- ⇒ Share details of your Unit's journey from its establishment to the present day along with photoseither black and white or coloured.
- ⇒ Tell us of significant milestones and capture the essence of the Unit's activities and achievements.

My Unit will feature the **Stirling SES Unit** in the September edition of the SESVA Newsletter.

We hope to feature all 64 SES Units in WA over the next 6 years.....

Your Unit could be next to be featured.....send us some information.....make sure you include interesting photos and illustrations when submitting to **My Unit**.

Ask for help by contacting Bella. Send **My Unit** content and images to Bella sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au





SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

Local Government Grant Scheme

Capital Grants

Most SES units are funded by the Local Government Grant Scheme (LGGS). Details and FAQs can be found at <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/emergency-services-levy>. We are informed that the framework for the LGGS has been 'drafted, utilising current governance structures'.¹ The SES Volunteers Association is not consulted on the framework or annual changes to the scheme.

Volunteer FES units are funded direct from DFES, as are some regional SES units. The governance rules around those funding arrangements falls under the Financial Management Act and Treasury Instructions.² Therefore, the following does not necessarily apply for those DFES funded units.

Along with operational grants, DFES also provides local governments with grants for capital expenditure. Capital grants are for vehicles, trailers and boats, new buildings and facilities, modifications to existing buildings and facilities, and major items of equipment costing more than \$5,000 per item.

Local governments must submit capital grant applications each year, usually by March, for the following financial year. All capital grant applications are collated and submitted to a capital grants committee for consideration.³

It is therefore critical that SES unit management works collaboratively with their regional office and local government administration to have capital grants applied for each year in the prescribed form. The capital grant submission must be specific to the unit's endorsed role, for example storm damage. Capital grant applications will also need to be supported with a business case and written support of the regional superintendent. Don't be surprised if it takes repeated requests for a grant application to be approved.

Unfortunately, SES units are not advised by DFES on the success or otherwise of their applications. Approved applications are notified by DFES to the local government. Declined applications are not notified at all!

Many units have aging vehicles that are past their replacement date. The reality is that there are too many assets, new requests or requiring replacement, and too few funds to go around. DFES is also a relatively small government department and suppliers have bigger customers to satisfy. Unit managers will therefore need to work resolutely with their regional Natural Hazards District Officers for their unit to be prioritised ahead of other FES brigades, groups and units.

References:

1. Manual for Capital and Operating Grants 2023/24, December 2022, version 21.0, page 2. [Publications \(dfes.wa.gov.au\)](#)
2. SAP 5.5.F – SES Unit Finance, para 4. [Logon | DFES Department of Fire and Emergency Services](#) then search for **SAP 5.5.F**
3. For a fuller understanding of the process, see Manual for Capital and Operating Grants 2023/24 page 7-19.



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>



Preparations for the MidWest-Gascoyne Regional Exercise are well under way

Are you up for the Challenge? Do you want to put your skills to the test?

If so, the MidWest-Gascoyne Regional Exercise weekend is on again. The scenarios are fully realistic which will challenge you and expose you to the full gambit of SES operations and leave you with a feeling of “this is what it is all about.”

The MWG exercise will be conducted in the area around the Wagoe campsite facility approximately 20 kilometres south of Kalbarri.

- Arrive Friday for a kick off Saturday morning
- Round Robin training Saturday morning
- Scenarios Saturday afternoon
- Fellowship Saturday night around a fire
- Scenarios Sunday morning.
- If you like, stay Sunday afternoon and have a look around and leave Monday morning.

Wagoe is a popular reef fishing spot, which offers chalet style accommodation as well as caravan bays. We have booked the whole camp. There are 8 chalets which you can swag in or you can utilise the caravan park section.

The “deal”:

Self cater for all meals except Saturday night—big fire, stew and damper.....it doesn't get any better!

What to bring:

Own sleeping gear, own food, basic SES equipment (GPS, Compasses and of course full PPE)

Interested? Let Steve at Kalbarri know ASAP by email sesva.midwestgascoyne@ses-wa.asn.au



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers
Association of WA (Inc)
One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

Design an SES Mascot!

Many Units indicated they would welcome having access to an SES Mascot to use for their Unit's promotional events .

You're invited to help design the best Mascot!

Submit your Mascot ideas, including your

preferred animal

Colour schemes

clothing designs

Sketches

...AND YOUR NAME :-))

We'd love to see your design drawings - these can be simple rough sketches or fully rendered graphic designs.



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva_office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers
Association of WA (Inc)
One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 **NEWSLETTER**

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

Opportunities to expand your Volunteering experiences start here.....

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Do you have a lot to offer as an SES volunteer?

Do you want to be part of a team with the SESVA?

- ⇒ The Team that'll work to build a positive public perception of SES volunteers?
- ⇒ The Team that'll work to enhance community awareness of SES volunteers?
- ⇒ The Team that'll work on ensuring suitable recognition of SES volunteers?

The SESVA is seeking expressions of interest from SES volunteers for membership of a new SESVA Team:

Media And Public Relations Strategy Sub-Committee

This Team will play a crucial role in maximising the benefits for SES Units by enhancing the visibility, reputation, and relationship of SES Units.

Some of the strategies likely to be addressed by the Team include:

- ⇒ **communication to the public and media outlets;**
- ⇒ **effective public relations programs;**
- ⇒ **conservation of SES history in WA; and**
- ⇒ **acknowledgement of SES volunteers.**

You're Interested Aren't You?

Email Bella sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au explaining in less than 1 page what you'll bring to the Team!



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

One Association - Many Values

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

To make sure you receive the SESVA Newsletter monthly, subscribe via the link: <https://ses-wa.asn.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

A fillable PDF form is available upon request by calling Bella on 0499 619 287 or send an email to sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

SES VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION of WA (Inc)

MEMBER DELEGATE FORM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

09:00am Studio 2, Crown Burswood

SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

Please complete Unit email address details to ensure your Unit can be contacted.

UNIT NAME	
SES REGION	
UNIT POSTAL ADDRESS	

MEMBER DELEGATE	
NAME	
POSTAL ADDRESS	
PHONE	MOBILE
EMAIL ADDRESS ksak	
SIGNATURE	DATE

UNIT AUTHORISING OFFICER	
NAME	
POSITION	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
SIGNATURE	DATE

Do you wish to receive the TEAMS Meeting Link to attend the AGM: Yes/No?

If YES, please advise Email address: _____

Completed forms must be returned by close of business on 9th September 2023

Please return via email, marked; **Attention SESVA Returning Officer**

Email: sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au

Returning forms to any other email address may result in the form not being received by the Returning Officer in time.



PO Box 3218 (91 Leake St)
Belmont WA 6104
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au
www.ses-wa.asn.au