



**The Country Fire Service
Volunteers Association**

"Representing the interests of CFS Members"

Working together with CFS REGIONAL COMMITTEES

BULLETIN

19th May 2015

EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR REFORM – UPDATE

The Minister recent announcement in relation to sector reform does not mean the end of sector reform, but indicates a change in direction.

At this time the Minister has committed to the following:

- A Commissioner will not be appointed
- Proposed structural reforms will be set aside
- The 13 working groups will continue to be formed to provide advice in relation to reform and to achieve best results

The Minister's announcement also indicates that he has listened and addressed issues raised by the CFSVA, and will allow time for the working groups to be formed and deliver their reports prior to progressing sector reform.

The Minister's announcement, however does not rule out the appointment of a Commissioner nor structural changes in the future, but at least allows the working groups time to provide their input before any changes are implemented. Hopefully this will provide transparency to the reform process as well as clear directions and definable outcomes.

The CFSVA has been strong in the fact that it supports sector reform but insists that it be conducted in an open and transparent manner and provides clear outcomes for the emergency services sector.

Chief Officer Nettleton recently advised that "from a CFS perspective it means we will enter fire season 2015/16 as we have in previous years. There will be no change to the way CFS conducts operations except for some changes that have come about as a result of action reviews of incidents and lesson learnt." The Chief encourages volunteers and staff to focus on preparing for the next bushfire season, particularly as the Bureau of Meteorology has recently issued an El Niño report.

The CFSVA urges volunteers to remain involved with the sector reform process by nominating for the various working groups and by providing input into the reform process at every opportunity. This will ensure that you play a part in shaping the future of the emergency services in South Australia.

The SAFECOM Board has convened an extraordinary meeting on Monday 25th May 2015 to determine the way ahead following the Minister's announcement. Following this meeting more information will become available.

SAMPSON FLAT BUSHFIRE VOLUNTEER THANK YOU BBQ

The Premier of South Australia, the Hon Jay Weatherill MP, has indicated that he will be hosting a BBQ to thank the volunteers who participated in the Sampson Flat and Tantanoola fires at Federation Park, Albert Street Gumeracha on Sunday 21st June 2015 between 2:00 – 4:00pm.

The CFSVA has received some strong responses from many volunteers in relation to this event and encourages volunteers with a strong opinion to provide your comments directly to the Premier at email: dpc@sa.gov.au. RSVP for the event should be directed to <http://sampsonflat-volunteer-thankyou-bbq.eventbrite.com.au> or by telephoning the Department of Premier and Cabinet on 8226 3631 by Friday 12 June 2015.

SA VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS MUSEUM REUNION – OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND



SA VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS MUSEUM Inc

SACFS volunteers are invited to the South Australian Fire Fighters Museum (SAVFFM) Reunion on the October long weekend.

The three day reunion to be held in Naracoorte will commence with a dinner on Saturday the 3rd October, with a parade of fire trucks ranging from horse drawn to newly delivered appliances, as well as trade displays, blessing of the fleet and other entertainment. SAVFFM Chairman Rex Hall ASFM has said that the last reunion held 5 years ago attracted around 300 people who gathered to reminisce and share CFS stories.

This is a good opportunity to see how the CFS has evolved over the years and to catch up with other volunteers. Hope to see you there.

To register your interest for the event please email Rex Hall at gadang@rbm.com.au

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