



# CFSVA

# BULLETIN

**AUGUST  
2013**

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION**

The Country Fire Service Volunteers Association (CFSVA) is recognised as an association under the SA Fire and Emergency Services act 2005. The association represents SA Country Fire Service (CFS) brigades and is empowered to take such steps as may be reasonably available to it to protect and progress the interests and welfare of CFS volunteers.

This bulletin provides an update on some of the news and current affairs affecting CFS members.

**\*\*\*\*\* GOOD NEWS \*\*\*\*\***

## **CFS VOLUNTEER NATIONAL PARKS PASSES WILL COMMENCE DISTRIBUTION IN SEPTEMBER.**

We hope the CFS volunteers continue to enjoy this pass and are pleased that the DENR will continue to provide the passes in the future.

For any queries contact CFSVA office on (08) 82446500 or email [kirsti.oliver@cfsva.org.au](mailto:kirsti.oliver@cfsva.org.au)

## **CFSVA Annual General Meeting/General Meeting**

The CFSVA Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 9:30am followed by the General Meeting at 10:15am – 12:30pm at the Transport Training Centre 17 Wurriga Street Regency Park. A light lunch will be provided on the day, for catering purposes could you please advise if you are attending.

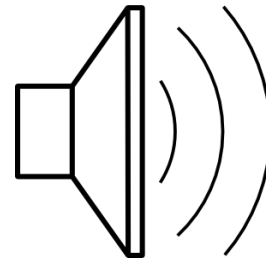
### **CFSVA Office**

CFS volunteers are welcome to drop into the CFSVA office at 17 Wurriga Street Regency Park when in Adelaide.

**Phone (08) 8244 6500**

## **FOR SALE**

# **SIREN**



### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

**400-440 volts**

**5 hp**

**3 phase**

**6.9 amps**

**2910 hz**

**Motor number IAR4610 4485-104-552  
Siren has been completely re wound and is  
in excellent working order.**

**\$1000 or reasonable offer.**

**CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS & PHOTOS:**

**Grant Wood - Captain**



**Country Fire Service Aldgate**

**Mobile - 0407 606476**

**Station (when manned) 08 8370 8210**

**Duty phone 0438560 033**

# CFSVA Meeting Outcomes and Current Issues August 2013

## **Workers Compensation and Rehabilitation Act (1986) (Protection for firefighters) Amendment Bill 2012**

### **“A move in the right direction”**

Minister O'Brien recently confirmed that Government is looking at options to include CFS volunteers within this legislation. The Minister has been quoted as saying “Our aim is to ensure equity between professional and volunteer firefighters as far as possible.” The CFSVA is very pleased with this announcement and that the CFSVA's extensive campaign has resulted in this Government mind shift. The CFSVA continues to maintain that fire, smoke and hazardous situations do not discriminate between paid and volunteer firefighters therefore neither should this legislation. The CFSVA supports the Private Members Bill introduced into the Upper House by Tammy Frank – Greens MLC which was passed by the Upper House on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013 and currently sit in the Lower House. This Bill affords all firefighters regardless of whether a volunteers or paid firefighter the same level of compensation should they unfortunately contract one of 12 specified cancers scientifically linked with the act of fighting fires. The Government has previously made mention of awaiting the findings of the Monash University Study in 2014 or beyond before deciding whether volunteers are to be included in the legislation, yet Monash University has indicated that the aim of their study is to look at methods to improve the health and well-being of firefighters not to reaffirm the connection between the firefighting and the 12 specified cancers which has already been established and internationally recognised. The State Government has also viewed the proposed Tasmanian model which is currently before the Tasmanian Parliament. This model identifies the number of incidents attended as the criteria for determining eligibility to claim compensation. The CFSVA does not support the Tasmanian model, on the basis that just one exposure to a specific carcinogen may be the necessary trigger for one of the specified cancers, whilst the number of incidents attended only increase the risk. The CFSVA Rally scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2013 was postponed, but dependent on the outcome of this matter may still be on the agenda. Thank you to all the many volunteers who pledged their support.

### **25kph past emergency vehicles**

The 25kph past emergency vehicles Bill has now passed through both houses of Parliament, but has now stalled in bureaucracy. The next phase of promulgating the Bill into legislation followed by a public education campaign prior to the implementation of the Bill should commence shortly, however given that it impacts across agencies the implementation process will be complicated. In the meantime the CFSVA reminds all volunteers that it essential to create a safe workplace or work environment for the protection of volunteers responding to emergencies and that all necessary steps to create this same work environment must be followed.

### **CFSVA Election Policies**

The CFSVA is currently conducting roadshows around the state to present to CFS volunteers the CFSVA Election policies that have formulated over the last 18 months in preparation for the March 2014 state election. The CFSVA has so far travelled to the South East and Sheoak Log with several more presentation scheduled for the coming weeks. Each presentation has been well received and a clear pattern relating to the significance of the policies is emerging. The key aim of the roadshow is to take the policies back out to CFS groups so that the policies can be prioritised and the main areas of interest or concern for CFS volunteers identified before preparing the final document ready for presentation to politicians.

If you would like to arrange for the CFSVA to come and present these policies to your group or in your area please contact either your Branch President of the CFSVA so that arrangements can be made. The presentation takes approximately 1 – 1.5 hours and please bear in mind that this is a limited opportunity as it will soon be necessary for the CFSVA to finalise the document as the lead time to the state election is narrowing quickly.

### **Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)**

The CFSVA welcomes Stewart Germaine to the Management Committee as its YAC delegate.

Stewart who is the Captain of the Minlaton Brigade recently attended his first YAC meeting and provided a report to the CFSVA Management Committee in Kadina on Tuesday.

### **The CFSVA website**

The CFSVA new website is currently in the development stage and it is anticipated will be launched shortly. The website will be more user friendly and will allow CFSVA staff to update our site on a regular basis. The new CFSVA website will no longer contain a “members only” section as one of the prime aims of the site will be to promote CFS membership and encourage new members. Further much of the information required by CFS volunteers is contained within the E-Connect Volunteer Portal. Facebook and Twitter will also form part of this new CFSVA website.

### **CFSVA Membership Card**

The CFSVA continues to progress the CFSVA membership card, with the idea of developing a mutually beneficial relationship between local businesses and volunteers, as well as providing volunteers with a sense of community recognition. The CFSVA has commenced its approach to suppliers to join this program as a means of showing their support for CFS volunteers and would also like to include CFS volunteers who own and operate their own businesses. A list of participating businesses will be included on the CFSVA website.

If you are aware of any businesses that may be interested in participated either as a supplier or volunteer owned and operated business could you please forward contact details of the business to the CFSVA by email: [admin@cfsva.org.au](mailto:admin@cfsva.org.au)

### **E - Connect Project. – Roll out of Services**

All sites within Region 5 were completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2013. In total broadband services and hardware have been deployed to 325 sites across schedules 1 – 5. Region 6 rollout commenced on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2013, with a total of 34 brigades and units within this group.

CFS management have approved the deployment of an ADSL service to all CFS Regional HQ Offices to assist volunteers with accessing the new environment when working from these locations. CFS Region 1, 2, 3 and 4 HQ offices have been completed, with Region 5 and 6 still to be completed. As part of the Office 365 environment all volunteers have been provided with their own personal mailboxes and have access to a range of distribution listings. Recently the CFSVA was provided a demonstration of the Volunteer Portal and was very impressed with the information offered through this site and encourages all volunteers to logon and discover what the site has to offer.

If you have not received your logon details or are having trouble logging in please contact the IT Helpdesk on 8463 4125, weekdays from 8am to 9pm.