May 2021 NEWSLETTER



CFS FOUNDATION

pporting Volunteer Firefighter

Summer 2021

South Australian communities have once again been ravaged by devastating bushfires. Early January saw the Blackford bushfire cause horrific devastation in our South East, where approximately 90% of the landscape destroyed was owned by CFS volunteers. And later in January, the Cherry Gardens blaze in the Adelaide Hills saw thousands of hectares of bushland lost plus several homes, vehicles, sheds and buildings.

In addition to being able to provide immediate financial assistance to those CFS volunteers in the aftermath of these bushfires, the CFS Foundation is also preparing for the long-term impact caused by the distress of these recent traumatic events.

It is important to highlight that CFS volunteers are on call every day of the year. Not only do they fight fires, they also render assistance for road crash rescues and chemical spills and assist other agencies such as the MFS and SA Ambulance Service when necessary.

The tireless work they do to help protect and support South Australians is immeasurable. As a Foundation, we are investigating ways to provide ongoing support for all CFS volunteers now and into the future.

Today we are again seeking your support for those CFS volunteers who continue to place their lives in danger to keep your community safe. The work of our CFS volunteers makes a very special contribution and a tax deductible donation will ensure there are sufficient funds to support our CFS volunteers in their time of need.





OUR MAJOR SPONSORS







BRENTON RAGLESS CFS Volunteer & CFS Foundation Ambassador

Usually seen spruiking the efforts of CFS volunteers on Channel Nine, News Presenter and CFS Foundation Ambassador, Brenton Ragless has never lost sight of his CFS roots and is still a keen volunteer – but probably not where you'd expect.

He is now a volunteer with the CFS Region One Air Operations Brigade at Cherry Gardens. With aerial firefighting efforts increasing across the country, it's a sector within the CFS he was keen to pursue and learn more about.

While Brenton loved all aspects of station life and misses riding out on the fire trucks, he has enjoyed responding to the air strip – re-filling the bombers with foam and water which is very different to frontline firefighting, but just as rewarding.

This January was a very busy time at the Air Operations Brigade dealing with the Cherry Gardens bushfire as the fire was adjacent the air strip, and there were seven fixed-wing aircraft on constant rotation!

Brenton said "I consider it a true privilege to represent the CFS Foundation and support our selfless CFS volunteers."

To read Brenton's full story, please visit our website – cfsfoundation.org.au



CFS VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING OUR INTERSTATE COLLEAGUES

In March, as regions in New South Wales suffered from the deluge of floods, our South Australian emergency personnel from CFS, SES and Dept of Env & Water, answered the call for help and flew to Sydney to contribute their expertise in order to assist NSW teams deal with the worsening flood situation.

We thank our teams for their efforts in helping our interstate counterparts.











New Ambassador – Nathan Van Berlo

We are proud to welcome Nathan Van Berlo as an Ambassador for the CFS Foundation. Nathan recognises the value CFS Volunteers provide to our communities and is excited to see how he can provide some positive assistance to the Foundation.

"It's a great honour to be involved with such a wonderful and proud organisation and I encourage people to donate so we can provide support to CFS volunteers and their families when they most need it".

Nespresso Coffee Machines for CFS Brigades

Our major sponsor Police Credit Union (PCU) recognises the hours and commitment our CFS volunteers make to the community. As a 'thank you', they came up with a thoughtful initiative of donating Nespresso Coffee Machines to various brigades, to help make our volunteers time at the brigade a little more enjoyable.

With CFS brigades located all around South Australia – PCU plan to roll out 20 coffee machines per year, which is a sensational feat.

PCU are also providing other special offers specifically for our CFS volunteers and we thank them for their support.



WORKPLACE GIVING

Workplace giving is a simple and easy way to donate regularly to show your support to our incredible CFS volunteers. By selecting the CFS Foundation for Workplace Giving, you nominate your dollar amount from your pre-tax salary each week/fortnight and it will simply be automatically deducted.

To make an even bigger impact with your donation, encourage your workplace and/or workmates to match your donation. You'll be supporting our CFS volunteers not only in their time of need but also supporting programs and initiatives which provide auxiliary services, equipment and infrastructure to SACFS brigades. Your contribution no matter how big or small has an impact and is fully tax deductible.

For more information on ways to support us, please visit our website or contact our office for more information.

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