



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As 2025 draws to a close, we reflect on another year marked by support, generosity and unwavering community spirit. Throughout the year, the CFS Foundation has continued to provide vital assistance to our volunteers and their families in times of need, while also strengthening CFS brigades in meaningful ways.

From fundraising events and community partnerships to the generous contributions of individuals and local businesses, every act of kindness has helped strengthen our mission. Together, we have made a lasting difference in the lives of those who give so much of themselves to protect others.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our supporters, sponsors, and volunteers for your continued commitment.

As we enter the bushfire season, we encourage everyone to stay safe, especially our brave CFS volunteers who are already busy attending bushfires around the State.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Gloria Berni
Chief Executive Officer

REMEMBERING CFS FIREFIGHTER PETER CURTIS

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of CFS firefighter Peter Curtis on Sunday 23 November while undertaking remote firefighting on the Eyre Peninsula.

At the time, Peter was serving with a National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) brigade strike team, deployed to assist with a scrub fire in Pinkawillinie Conservation Park, west of Kimba. This deployment was part of a co-ordinated effort to protect both the park and surrounding communities under challenging conditions.

Peter dedicated his life to safeguarding South Australia's landscapes and communities. Beyond his commitment to service, he was a caring and considerate person, loved by all who knew him. His loss will be profoundly felt across our organisations and within the broader community.

We extend our deepest condolences to Peter's family, friends, colleagues and fellow brigade members.

The core purpose of the CFS Foundation is to support our selfless volunteers at tragic times like these.

Rest in peace, Peter.



DONATE NOW TO SUPPORT OUR BRAVE CFS VOLUNTEERS

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible
Your support is greatly appreciated.



THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS





THE MITSUBISHI TRITON Keeping Us Connected Across the State

We are very grateful to Mitsubishi Motors Australia for giving us the use of a Mitsubishi Triton, which has become an invaluable asset to the Foundation throughout the year. The Triton has allowed us to travel efficiently and safely to communities right across South Australia, helping us stay connected with CFS volunteers, supporters and regional events.

This hardworking vehicle has certainly earned its stripes - covering impressive distances from Millicent in the South East all the way to Streaky Bay on the West Coast. Its reliability, comfort and durability have made our statewide travel easier and ensured we can continue showing up for the CFS community wherever we're needed.

Thank you to Mitsubishi Motors Australia for their generous support and for helping us go the distance!

CFS FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

We are thrilled to share that our recent CFS Foundation Luncheon was our biggest and most successful yet raising just over \$25,000.

This achievement would not have been possible without the contributions of our amazing sponsors, supporters, and donors. A special thank you to all the businesses and individuals who generously donated items for our silent and live auctions and the wine wall - your contributions helped create an unforgettable experience for our guests.

We would also like to extend sincere thanks to Thorn Clarke Wines, for being our inaugural Wine Sponsor.

Most importantly, we want to thank everyone who attended and supported the luncheon, including our wonderful MC, Brenton Ragless and guest speaker, Nik Stanley. Your presence and enthusiasm brought the event to life and helped us surpass our fundraising goals - your support is deeply appreciated.

Together, we have not only raised essential funds but also strengthened the incredible community that surrounds the CFS Foundation. We look forward to seeing you at our future events and continuing this important work together.

Special thanks to the following businesses who donated a major prize for our Live Auction:

- Premier of South Australia
- Ecopia Retreat, Kangaroo Island
- Baillie Resorts - The Louise, Barossa
- RAA prize pack
- Mitsubishi Motors Australia
- Thorn Clarke Wines
- Tony & Leonie Lange

Thank you for making a difference!



TRAINING SEASON IGNITES AT PARA RESERVE BRIGADE

Firefighting training is underway, and last Monday CFS Foundation CEO Gloria Berni joined the Para Reserve and Salisbury brigades for a live fire exercise behind the Penfield Golf Course.

Approximately twenty five volunteers and six appliances, including a bulk water carrier, practised managing a controlled scrub burn. Gloria noted how quickly fire behaviour shifted with even the slightest change in wind - an important reminder of its unpredictability.

Senior firefighters instructed newer members through effective fire control and hose drills while the team worked with precision in intense heat. Gloria said the experience highlighted "the extraordinary commitment, resilience and courage" of CFS volunteers who face far more extreme conditions to keep communities safe.



YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC) – Emerging Leaders Program

The Foundation was proud to support this year's Youth Advisory Council's - Emerging Leaders Program, which brought together around 70 enthusiastic young CFS volunteers from across the state.

Nathan Van Berlo, Assistant coach for the Adelaide Crows and Ambassador for the CFS Foundation hosted a Q & A session, where he spoke openly about leadership, staying calm under pressure and the role of mindfulness in high-stress situations. Delegates were quick to draw parallels between the intensity of AFL competition and the real-life challenges they face on the fireground. His insights sparked thoughtful discussion and left many feeling motivated and inspired.

In all, the Emerging Leaders Program was a great success - an uplifting, engaging and meaningful opportunity to support, inspire and empower the next generation of CFS leaders.



CFS TRAINING TEAM POLO SHIRTS

Four more CFS volunteers recently joined the CFS Training Team and were proudly presented with their distinctive CFS Training Team polo shirts by Hannah Davis from Flinders Port Holdings at the State Training Centre in Brukunga.

These trainers bring a wealth of experience and deep operational knowledge from their many years with the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) and those learning under their guidance will no doubt benefit greatly from the skills, insights and real-world expertise they generously share.

These distinctive polo shirts are a small but meaningful way to recognise their commitment and we extend our sincere thanks to Flinders Port Holdings for their generosity and ongoing support.



POLICE CREDIT UNION BREWS SUPPORT FOR CFS BRIGADES

We are delighted to acknowledge the generous support of Police Credit Union, who have rolled out another 20 Nespresso coffee machines for CFS brigades across South Australia.

These coffee machines will make a meaningful difference to our volunteers, giving them a simple comfort and a much-needed moment of warmth during long shifts and training nights.

On behalf of our dedicated volunteers, we extend our sincere thanks to Police Credit Union for their ongoing commitment to supporting emergency services and the wellbeing of those who serve our communities.



Pictured are five brigades from the South East who received coffee machines this year.

ELECTRANET – Supporting Our Frontline Volunteers

Over many years, ElectraNet's generous sponsorship has played a vital role in equipping CFS brigades across South Australia with the tools they need to respond swiftly and safely to emergencies. Through their sponsorship of the Foundation, they have helped fund an impressive range of essential items – from Defibrillators and Thermal Imaging Cameras to Atmospheric Monitors, LED portable lighting, communication gear and more.

Recently they supported the installation of CABA Units (Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus) at the Seaford CFS. We extend our sincere thanks to ElectraNet for their continued commitment to supporting our volunteers. Their investment ensures our brigades remain well-prepared, well-equipped and ready to answer the call when emergencies strike.



FAREWELL TO ALYSHA AND A WARM WELCOME TO MEL!

After seven dedicated years with the Foundation, we sadly said goodbye to Alysha, who has managed our admin and social media with enthusiasm, creativity and care. Alysha has been wonderful to work with - always bringing a smile, a positive attitude and a passion for supporting our CFS volunteers. We'll miss her dearly but are so excited to see her embark on a new chapter in her career. We wish her every happiness and success in the future.

As one door closes, another opens and we're thrilled to welcome Mel to the team! Mel joins us as our new Administration Officer and also works part-time on the CFS Air Desk. With her experience and friendly nature, we know she'll be a fantastic addition to the team.

Welcome, Mel ... and thank you, Alysha.



TRIPLE 0 CHARITY BALL

The 2025 Triple 0 Charity Ball was a spectacular evening of celebration, fun and community spirit, bringing together supporters from across South Australia to honour the incredible work of our emergency services.

Proudly supporting four vital charities – the CFS Foundation, Police Legacy, the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation, and the Stafford Wulff Paramedicine Scholarship – the Ball once again highlighted the strength and resilience of those who dedicate their lives to keeping our community safe.

It was not only a night of purpose, but also a wonderful opportunity for guests to come together, reconnect and simply enjoy themselves. With vibrant live entertainment, exciting auction items and heartfelt stories, the room was filled with colour, energy and plenty of laughter. The atmosphere captured exactly what the event represents – community, camaraderie and the joy of being together.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, donated, sponsored or contributed to making the Triple 0 Charity Ball such an outstanding success. Your generosity helps us continue our mission to stand beside those who stand on the frontline for us all.



Leave a lasting gift in your Will

Leaving a bequest to the CFS Foundation can make a real difference to the CFS volunteers and their families who have suffered death, injury, loss or property damage while in the line of service.

Supporters interested in leaving a legacy to CFS Foundation can contact the Foundation on 1300 270 278 for a confidential discussion.



THORN-CLARKE CELLAR DOOR

266 Gawler Park Road, Angaston
open Friday - Sunday, 10am-5pm

wine tasting, platters, golf driving range, bottle sales, BYO picnics welcome



20% OFF all wines

in Cellar Door for CFS volunteers, simply mention this ad to redeem.

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Supporting Volunteer Firefighters

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