



*Our South Australian CFS volunteers never cease to amaze us, as they give so much of their time to make others safe, protecting our state and volunteering for deployments interstate and overseas when needed.*

*Reflecting on the sacrifices CFS volunteers make in time alone, with the support of their families and employers, we are in awe of the economic value and community benefits. It makes us wonder where Australia would be without all of our CFS volunteers.*

*The primary purpose of the CFS Foundation is to provide CFS volunteers with the same unflinching support they give our entire community every day. With the support we receive from individuals and the community, it is vital to ensure we can continue to assist our volunteers now and well into the future.*

*To our valued CFS volunteers, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. Your selfless dedication is the cornerstone of our safety and resilience. And to our Sponsors, supporters and donors, we thank you for your unwavering loyalty and generosity.*

Gloria Berni  
Chief Executive Officer

## CFS UPDATE



Heading into the 23/24 bushfire season amidst one of the driest spring periods on record, our dedicated CFS volunteers embarked on the most intensive pre-season training regimen in CFS history.

This season also saw the introduction of the largest aviation fleet ever, including 4 Black Hawk helicopters, alongside enhanced training for Incident Management Controllers and Regional Commanders, ensuring the availability of top-tier skills.

Despite the conclusion of the Fire Ban season on April 30th, the risk of bushfires persists. Over 750 Country Fire Service (CFS) volunteers have already tackled more than 70 rural fire incidents, with 80% involving out-of-control burn-offs across the state. Dry fuel loads and minimal rainfall continue to elevate the risk of burn-offs escaping, so please consult the CFS website for guidance on conducting burn-offs safely.



Encouragingly, despite responding to 1,363 rural incidents and aerial support being deployed 179 times, the CFS proudly reports zero homes lost to bushfires during this bushfire season.

We are pleased to see these proactive measures mitigate the bushfire threat to South Australian communities.



## THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



## SOFTBALL FUNDRAISER - CFS

February 16th saw the 2nd CFS Softball round at Anembo Park in Littlehampton.

It was a beautiful balmy night and the competition in the Women's Premier League was hot on the field with Hills Heat playing Glenelg. The Men's A grade game featured Macclesfield vs Hahndorf with several players also being CFS volunteers.

There was plenty of fun for the family with CFS trucks from Littlehampton brigade in attendance and a race around the diamond with Smokey the CFS mascot.

Pirates Softball Team donated a whopping \$1000 and Spacequake Sports who broadcast the event donated \$500, plus there was lots of fundraising efforts by all the teams involved.

Thank you to the Hills Heat team manager, Lyn Adams for her boundless energy and ongoing support and to all the people who attended and supported the event.



Images: Lyn Adams, CFS Foundation Board member - Andrew Lawson, CFS Foundation CEO - Gloria Berni, Hon Joe Szakacs MP, Hon Dan Cregan MP, CFS Chief Officer - Brett Loughlin



## FUNDRAISER THANKYOU'S

We would like to express our gratitude to the following community groups and businesses whose recent fundraising endeavours made a noteworthy contribution to the CFS Foundation.

If you are interested in hosting a fundraiser for the CFS Foundation, please contact Alysha at [alysha@cfsfoundation.org.au](mailto:alysha@cfsfoundation.org.au) or register on-line via our website.

- o Bushfire Bikkies (Adelaide Hills Foods)
- o CFS Softball round
- o Rotary Club of Tea Tree Gully - Australia Day BBQ
- o Choo Roo Chilli Sauce
- o Hurley Group
- o Lions Club of Mount Gambier
- o Lions Club of Goolwa
- o Wallis Cinemas fundraiser
- o OTR Give
- o Direct Collect recycling



Photo of Gloria with Glenn Mitchell TTG Rotary Chairman



Wallis Cinema fundraiser - Michelle Wallis, Deanna Wallis, Alysha Baldock & Gloria Berni

## CROWS TICKETS THROUGH NATHAN VAN BERLO

During this footy season our proud Ambassador Nathan Van Berlo has been able to provide the CFS Foundation with tickets to the Crow's home games.

Some of our CFS volunteers were regionally based and winning the tickets has allowed them to clock off from responsibilities and enjoy the game by spending the weekend in Adelaide.

For some CFS volunteers, this was the first time they had experienced visiting Adelaide Oval.

This was a wonderful gesture from Nathan and the Adelaide Crows and a fantastic opportunity to give back to CFS volunteers who give so much to their community.



Some of the CFS volunteers who won tickets to the Adelaide Crows home games





Terry Schutz  
Swanport Group Officer

## CFS VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Terry Schutz has been a CFS volunteer for 25 years and is currently the Swanport Group Officer, located near Murray Bridge.

Terry was deployed to Canada in 2023 to assist in battling the relentless Kimiwan Fire. What followed was a gruelling 39-day ordeal that tested both his physical and mental resilience working on a tough 14 days on and 2 days off schedule.

Unlike the familiar terrain of Australia where fire trucks roar into action at the first sign of trouble, the Canadian wilderness presented a vastly different battleground. "There are no fire trucks used in wildfire firefighting in Canada," Terry reveals, "everything's footwork... so we would have to walk in or get dropped in by helicopter, so we spent a lot of time walking in the forest,"

Yet, the dangers extended beyond the blaze itself. Encounters with grizzly bears, moose, and even wolves added an extra layer of danger to an already hazardous

mission. "We would often see bears while driving and more worryingly while we were walking in the forest," Terry recalls.

Throughout his deployment, Terry witnessed the sheer scale of devastation caused by the wildfires. Around nine large fires raged concurrently, with the Kimiwan Fire alone devouring an area equivalent to 150,000 hectares. And it didn't stop there; the fire kept growing, adding another 50,000 hectares in just 28 days.

Despite the immense challenges, Terry emerged from the experience with a newfound appreciation for both the resilience of nature and the human spirit.



## TREATS FOR BRIGADES

Several brigades were kept busy earlier this year dealing with the fires that were close to suburbia in the Highbury district. The CFS Foundation co-ordinated a thank you surprise for several brigades with support from OTR and Krispy Kreme.

CFS brigades Montacute, Paracombe, Athelstone, Norton Summit, Cherryville & Piccadilly brigades enjoyed delicious Krispy Kreme donuts and drinks thanks to our supporters OTR & Krispy Kreme during a training session after the fires. It was a fantastic opportunity for our CEO Gloria, Jen from OTR and Carly from Krispy Kreme to mingle with the CFS volunteers and hear about what it's like on the fire ground. It was also an opportunity for the CFS volunteers to unwind and debrief about the incident.

The CFS Foundation always values businesses that jump at the chance to show appreciation of those who protect and keep the community safe.



## PEOPLE'S FIRST COMMUNITY LOTTERY

For only \$2 per ticket you can be in the draw for your chance to win some incredible prizes and show your support of the CFS Foundation at the same time!

Scan this QR code to buy your tickets  
or  
visit the [People's First Community Lottery website](#)  
and choose THE CFS FOUNDATION



1st Prize

Toyota Kluger Hybrid GX  
RRP \$63,861

Tickets only  
**\$2**

Buy your **\$2 tickets** in the People First Community Lottery to support us and go into the draw for a chance to win one of **51 prizes worth over \$300,000!**

\*for further details and the T&C's please visit [communitylottery.com.au](http://communitylottery.com.au)  
Competition closes 25th July 2024

*Your support is greatly appreciated*

### CFS FOUNDATION INC.

37 Richmond Road,  
Keswick SA 5035

GPO BOX 2468,  
Adelaide SA 5001



CFS FOUNDATION  
Supporting Volunteer Firefighters

P: 1300 270 278  
E: [admin@cfsfoundation.org.au](mailto:admin@cfsfoundation.org.au)  
W: [cfsfoundation.org.au](http://cfsfoundation.org.au)

