



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Every time volunteers respond to a bushfire, road crash rescue or emergency incident, they put themselves on the frontline to protect our communities. This fire danger season alone, CFS volunteers attended more than 12,000 incidents - and that figure doesn't include training, community engagement or countless volunteer hours behind the scenes.

Over the past year, the CFS Foundation has supported several volunteers injured in the line of duty. Every situation is different, but each one is a powerful reminder of the courage, commitment and selflessness shown by our volunteers every day.

Our support goes far beyond financial assistance - we also fund brigade equipment and station improvements, providing grants and wellbeing support programs, recognising volunteer service and helping strengthen the resilience and connection of the wider CFS community.

This year also brought heartbreaking loss with the passing of volunteer Peter Curtis while undertaking remote firefighting operations on the Eyre Peninsula. Peter's dedication and service will never be forgotten and the Foundation was honoured to support his family during such a difficult time.

The CFS Foundation remains proud to stand alongside our volunteers and their families - supporting them through recovery, hardship and beyond.

Gloria Berni



Peter Curtis



DEEP CREEK BUSHFIRES

In early February, bushfires tore through the area between Deep Creek National Park and Cape Jervis, threatening lives, homes and communities. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of CFS volunteers working tirelessly through the night, the fire was stopped just 1km from the township of Cape Jervis.

What followed was more than 10 days of relentless firefighting operations, with approximately 4,592 hectares burnt across a 60km fire perimeter. The Deep Creek fire demanded a massive multi-agency and interstate response, with crews united in their mission to protect lives, property and the environment.

At the height of the campaign, an average of 100 fire trucks operated around the clock each day, supported by approximately 500 firefighters on the fireground daily. In total, around 5,000 firefighters contributed to the response effort across the incident.

From above, firefighting aircraft played a critical role, completing 1,072 water drops and delivering more than 3.2 million litres of water onto the fireground.

Behind every firefighter was an incredible wave of community support. We sincerely thank the businesses, volunteers and community members who kept crews fuelled with meals, refreshments and treats throughout the campaign - including the much-loved Krispy Kreme doughnuts personally delivered in the trusty Mitsubishi Triton by CFS Wellbeing Officer, Jana Wurriehausen.

The Deep Creek response was a powerful reminder of the dedication of our CFS volunteers and the strength of the communities standing beside them.



THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



APPRECIATION HAMPERS FOR DEEP CREEK FIREFIGHTERS

Following the Deep Creek bushfires, an incredible show of community support helped recognise the tireless efforts of the many CFS volunteers who responded to the emergency.

Sammie from Limitless Quality Solutions generously co-ordinated Appreciation Hampers to thank the volunteers and brigades involved in the firefighting campaign.

Thanks to the support of local brewers, McLaren Vale wineries and South Australian businesses including Bickford's Australia and Arnott's Biscuits, enough donations were collected to create 48 hampers for CFS brigades.

While it wasn't possible to provide hampers to every brigade involved - with more than 150 brigades responding across the campaign - the generosity behind the initiative was deeply appreciated and reflected the gratitude felt across the community.

To every volunteer who answered the call during the Deep Creek fires – THANK YOU. Your commitment, courage and long hours on the fireground did not go unnoticed.

And a very special thank you to Sammie for turning a thoughtful idea into such a meaningful gesture of appreciation.



RAA GRANTS DELIVER VALUABLE SUPPORT TO CFS BRIGADES

In addition to supporting the employment of an additional Road Crash Rescue Training Officer, the RAA has further strengthened its commitment to South Australian CFS volunteers through a generous \$75,000 contribution to the CFS Foundation's to fund a CFS Small Equipment & Wellbeing Grants program.

CFS brigades across the state were invited to apply for a grant of up to \$2,000 to assist with the purchase of small operational equipment and wellbeing initiatives designed to support volunteers both on and off the fireground.

The response from brigades was overwhelming, with more than 95 brigades submitting applications valued at over \$167,000 - highlighting the strong demand for additional resources and the importance of programs such as this.

The CFS Foundation is now working closely with CFS management to review and prioritise applications, with the aim of supporting as many brigades and volunteers as possible.

The Foundation sincerely thanks the RAA for its continued partnership and commitment to improving the safety, wellbeing and operational capability of CFS volunteers throughout South Australia.



STRENGTHENING ROAD CRASH RESCUE TRAINING CAPABILITY

We are excited to announce the appointment of Tom Phelan as State Training Delivery Officer – Road Crash Rescue (RCR) within the Urban Team at the State Training Centre, Brukunga.

This three year position has been made possible through the generous support and funding of the RAA in partnership with the CFS Foundation, reflecting a strong shared commitment to improving road crash rescue capability across South Australia.

Tom brings valuable experience from the Infrastructure and Logistics Team, with strong knowledge of specialist equipment, fleet, and operational support systems, which will support the continued development and delivery of RCR and Heavy Rescue training.

This investment by the RAA will directly enhance training capacity across the state, enabling increased delivery of RCR courses, 24P upskilling, revalidations and Heavy Rescue training aligned with new appliance rollouts.

We thank the RAA for their ongoing commitment to strengthening operational readiness and supporting the capability of our members.



CFS FOUNDATION FUNDING 2 VOLUNTEERS TO ATTEND 'INTERSCHUTZ' IN HANNOVER, GERMANY.

The CFS Foundation is happy to announce that we have supported 2 experienced CFS volunteers - Kingsley Group Officer, Grant Fensom whose home brigade is Port MacDonnell and Lower Eyre Peninsula Group Officer, Kym Eagle whose home brigade is White Flat to attend 'Interschutz 2026' in June – which is the world's largest fire and rescue conference and exhibition, held in Hannover, Germany.

Taking place every four to five years, Interschutz attracts around 85,000 attendees and more than 1,300 exhibitors from 61 countries, showcasing the latest innovations in firefighting, rescue and emergency management.

This opportunity will allow the volunteers to engage directly with global leaders in emergency services and explore new developments in vehicles, equipment, communications, and safety systems. Their insights will help inform future capability planning and support ongoing improvements across the SACFS.

Their participation reflects the CFS Foundation's commitment to supporting volunteer development and strengthening the capability, safety, and resilience of the CFS into the future.



NATHAN VAN BERLO VISITS ATHELSTONE CFS

CFS Foundation Ambassador Nathan Van Berlo recently visited the Athelstone CFS Brigade where he spoke with members during a team building and leadership development session.

Nathan shared lessons from his professional sporting career, focusing on leading under pressure, building trust in strong teams and communicating clearly in fast-changing situations. His talk resonated with volunteers, who often work in stressful emergency situations where teamwork and quick decisions are crucial.

The CFS Foundation acknowledges the ongoing support of Ambassadors like Nathan, whose involvement helps strengthen volunteer capability and reinforces the shared values of leadership, service, and community.



POLICE CREDIT UNION SURPRISES VOLUNTEERS WITH TREATS.

Our dedicated CFS volunteers are always grateful for a little treat during training nights, and on May 4th (International Firefighters' Day), Glenn from Police Credit Union (PCU) delivered just that.

Glenn, the manager at PCU Tea Tree Plaza paid a special visit to the Tea Tree Gully CFS Brigade during training, arriving with a generous supply of delicious Fruchocs as a thank you for the brigade's ongoing dedication and service to the community.

The thoughtful gesture was warmly appreciated by volunteers, highlighting the strong support Police Credit Union continues to show for South Australia's emergency service personnel.



NEW MITSUBISHI TRITON

A big thank you to Mitsubishi for our new Mitsubishi Triton!

This vehicle plays an important role in supporting the work we do for CFS volunteers and brigades across South Australia and makes collecting community donations a breeze. The vehicle is sturdy, spacious and super handy when we are travelling around South Australia.

Thankyou Mitsubishi Motors Australia for your ongoing support of the Foundation.

25TH CFS FOUNDATION

Supporting Volunteer Firefighters
Anniversary

CFS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 25 YEARS!

This October, the CFS Foundation proudly celebrates 25 years of supporting South Australian CFS volunteers and their families.

To celebrate this significant milestone, the Foundation will host a special luncheon on Friday 23 October 2026 in the Banquet Room at the Adelaide Festival Centre.

Guests are invited to join us for an afternoon of celebration, reflection and fundraising as we recognise the tremendous work of the CFS Foundation over the past 25 years.

Tickets are now available for \$150 per person and can be purchased via [Try Booking.com/DMONV](https://www.trybooking.com/DMONV) or admin@cfsfoundation.org.au



SEEKING AUCTION ITEMS!!



WE ARE NOW SEEKING DONATIONS OF ITEMS, EXPERIENCES OR SERVICES FOR OUR UPCOMING SILENT AND LIVE

All contributions - big or small will help support our fundraising efforts and are greatly appreciated.

If you are able to donate, please get in touch with us.

FUNDRAISERS AND EVENTS

Earlier this year, several wonderful businesses, organisations and individuals held fundraising events for the CFS Foundation and we are truly grateful for their efforts.

Thank you to :

- Hills heat softball
- Sammie – Limitless Quality Solutions
- Ginny Pig Distillery
- Elders Clare
- Victor Harbor High School
- Highbury Hotel bingo night
- Elders Real Estate Clare
- And everyone else who donated or held a fundraiser for the CFS Foundation.

Your support makes a real difference to our volunteers and their families. Thank you for standing with the CFS community.

Leave a lasting gift in your Will

Contact the Foundation on 1300 270 278 for more information



Donate now to support our brave CFS volunteers

Support the CFS Foundation to continue its vital work in supporting our SA CFS volunteers. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

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