

Fallen firefighter Louise Hincks honoured with memorial garden at Happy Valley CFS Brigade

A memorial garden has opened in Adelaide's south in honour of fallen volunteer firefighter Louise Hincks.

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The garden was opened at the Happy Valley Country Fire Service, where Ms Hincks was a much-loved and respected member of the brigade.

Country Fire Service Chief Officer Brett Loughlin said Ms Hincks made a "truly significant impact on so many lives".

A memorial stone surrounded by flowers, behind it is a white bench

The garden includes the firefighter rose as well as an assortment of Louise Hincks's favourite cherry blossom trees.(ABC News: Evelyn Manfield)

"Alongside her most important roles of mother, wife, daughter and sister, Louise was a great friend, colleague and first responder who always made the time to help others," he said.

Happy Valley brigade chief Mike Patterson said the garden was funded by donations from the community as well as contributions from the State Government, the CFS Foundation and the City of Onkaparinga council.

"It is a place that we can now be able to spend time, remember Louise and take time out to reflect whenever we want to," he said.

Ms Hincks's daughters Alice and Addie Fleming expressed their gratitude to the members of the Happy Valley brigade, who they described as their family, and spoke of their mother's devotion to helping others. Alice said her mother had a lifelong dedication to the CFS, which she joined at 16.

Four pot plants with orange flowers and green leaves surround a memorial stone covered with a CFS flag The Happy Valley brigade hopes the garden will be a place of memorial and reflection.(ABC News: Evelyn Manfield)

"She would never stop and take a break and when she finally did that bloody pager would go off and she would be out the door again, loving every minute of it," she said.

Alice and Addie are CFS cadets and plan to join the Happy Valley brigade in the next couple of years.

"We knew we wanted to join before mum had passed away, however we are now even more passionate to join because we want to continue her legacy as the legend and hero she really was," Alice said.

Ms Hincks's husband Lindsay said the garden was a place of memorial and reflection.

"Louise would be embarrassed, but also a little bit excited about this garden in her honour," he said.

The coffin of a volunteer firefighter at her funeral.

More than 600 people attended Louise Hincks's funeral in February. (Supplied: CFS)

Mr Hincks said he and his wife had an agreement to never go out to emergency jobs in the same team or in the same appliance.

"You can always plan for something, but I tell you what — when it comes to fruition you just have to work through it and take it day by day," he said.

Premier Peter Malinauskas also gave tribute to Ms Hincks's dedication to helping others and the commitment of CFS volunteers more broadly.

"This selflessness, while representative of Louise's unwavering sense of duty, it is also representative of our state's CFS volunteers more broadly who readily drop everything to go where they are needed most," he said.

"We trust the CFS because they are always there for South Australians in fires, today in floods, in all natural disasters."

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