END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER



This year has seen our CFS volunteers respond to bushfires, floods, car accidents and other incident demands, deepening our appreciation and admiration for the selfless work they do. Our South Australian CFS volunteers have remained exceptionally active throughout the year, responding to over 10,000 incidents. Among these, they tackled more than 2,000 road crash rescue situations, nearly 1,400 rural fires, 156 hazardous material incidents, and 366 structure fires across South Australia. Additionally, our volunteers addressed 3,875 special service incidents, ranging from severe weather events to providing medical assistance for the SA Ambulance Service.

They never cease to amaze us, as they give so much of their time to make others safe, keeping our state protected and lending a hand interstate and overseas when called upon.

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

And now they will face a long few months at the ready to attend any emergency before they see any sign of reprieve.

The paramount aim of the CFS Foundation is to provide support to CFS volunteers who are impacted while in the line of duty, so please show your support to our dedicated CFS volunteers this summer.

Simply donate via registering a fundraiser via the button below

## **REGISTER HERE**

Every dollar makes a difference in the lives of CFS who are impacted by their volunteer duties.



### NARACOORTE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR **REX HALL AND HIS BOOK (HIS LEGACY)**

CFS volunteer and historian, Rex Hall dedicated a lifetime of service to the EFS (SA Emergency Fire Service) and then the CFS (SA Country Fire Service). He was involved in all aspects of the organisation including firefighting, training and incident management.

In early 2000 Rex took it upon himself to preserve the history of the EFS and CFS, starting with the development of the SA Volunteer Firefighters Museum in Naracoorte followed by several books on the history of South Australian volunteer firefighting.

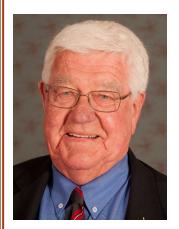




Photo (L to R) Karen Bath, CFS Board Member Andrew Lawson AFSM, CFS Foundation CEO Gloria Berni and Deputy CFS Fire Chief Georgie Cornish at Rex's memorial.

Sadly, Rex passed away on 2 June 2023 and a memorial service was held in Naracoorte which was attended by hundreds of CFS volunteers and friends from all over the State.

The publication of his last book "Volunteer Firefighting in South Australia" was underwritten by the CFS Foundation and launched at Rex's memorial service. The book is now available for purchase from our office for \$45 + p&h.

**RIP Vale Rex Hall** 

If you wish to buy a copy, please email Alysha - alysha@cfsfoundation.org.au

#### THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS















ARC 2023

In July, the CFS Foundation exhibited at the Australasian Rescue Challenge 2023 (ARC2023) expo which saw over 250 Emergency Services personnel from Australia, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom compete to take out the winning title.

This challenge provides Emergency Service personnel with the opportunity to demonstrate their skills, techniques and knowledge through a range of re-enacted road crash rescue challenges. Challenges are based on real emergency scenarios, providing the community with a realistic insight into the experience of emergency services personnel.

The CFS Foundation also hosted the ARC2023 volunteer Welcome Dinner and Swapfest at the Adelaide Showground which was a great opportunity for the teams to mingle and swap memorabilia in a relaxed environment.

This was an amazing event, showcasing the many talents of our Emergency Services personnel and volunteers.





Photos from the Exhibition, Thankyou Dinner and action shot of the SA CFS volunteers competing.

#### **CFS FOUNDATION WELLBEING OFFICER**

The CFS Wellbeing Officer, Jana Wurriehausen, whose position is sponsored by the CFS Foundation and supported by SA Power Networks, continues to deliver Mental Health 1st Aid training to CFS volunteers around South Australia.

Our CFS volunteers frequently encounter potentially traumatic situations that can profoundly affect their mental health well-being and the well-being of their families. This program aims to empower and instil confidence in participants to enable them to approach fellow CFS volunteers who might be grappling with difficulties and provide structured, well-intentioned assistance. Between January and July 2023, a total of 22 training courses were conducted across the state, resulting in 222 members receiving this crucial training to date.

We are proud to be able to continue to provide this vital support to our selfless CFS volunteers. Well Done to Jana for dedicating so much of her time and passion to this role.



"Smokey" the Comfort Koala on location at Sheoak Log.

Jana - Wellbeing Officer

### **RAA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRAILER**

We would like to express our gratitude to the RAA for their generous sponsorship of the CFS Community Engagement Trailer in Region 1. Their commitment to supporting initiatives that promote community safety and resilience is truly commendable.

Thanks to the RAA's contribution, we have been able to enhance our outreach efforts and bring crucial fire safety information directly to communities. The CFS Community Engagement Trailer serves as a vital resource, and the RAA's support has played a pivotal role in making this project a reality. Their dedication to fostering community well-being aligns seamlessly with our mission, and we are sincerely thankful for their partnership in creating a safer and more informed environment for everyone.



The new SA CFS Community Engagement Trailer is out on location.

### ATMOSPHERIC MONITORS

Through our sponsorship with ElectraNet, the CFS Foundation has been able to purchase vital equipment for local SA Country Fire Service brigades over the years and now we are proud to be able to provide the very first Atmospheric Monitors to South Australian CFS brigades. These monitors are vital in ensuring the air is non-toxic before CFS volunteers enter burning buildings.

Pictured are members of the Morphett Vale CFS brigade who were thrilled to be the first brigade to receive the Atmospheric Monitors.

We appreciate the ongoing support from ElectraNet.



Pictured are members of the Morphett Vale CFS brigade with ElectraNet CEO, Simon Emms and CFS Foundation CEO, Gloria Berni receiving their Atmospheric Monitor



Milang CFS Brigade receiving their coffee machine from PCU.

## **COFFEE MACHINES**

Recently the CFS Foundation, in partnership with one of our major Sponsors Police Credit Union, launched another opportunity for 20 CFS brigades to win a Nespresso coffee machine!

This is now the 6th time that this competition has been run - that's 120 coffee machines in 120 CFS Brigades! Amazing! A coffee machine might seem like a small gesture however, CFS volunteers can now enjoy a delicious coffee while attending training sessions, brigade meetings or after a long night volunteering on the ground fighting fires.

A huge thank you to PCU for their generosity in supporting our CFS volunteers.

### **CFS FOUNDATION LUNCHEON**

This year's CFS Foundation Corporate Luncheon was held at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg where over 150 guests, including representatives from our sponsors and supporters enjoyed lunch whilst listening to stories from our heroic CFS volunteers.

Almost \$17,000 was raised through a wine wall, raffle, silent auction and live auction and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to making this day such a great success.

The CFS Foundation relies on the support from the public and organisations to continue providing support to those who risk their lives to protect our communities. We wish to extend a big thank you to all the businesses who kindly donated vouchers and products towards our event.





#### FUN AT THE MFS FIRE STATION AFTER THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

After this year's Adelaide Christmas Pageant in the City, the doors to the Adelaide MFS station were opened and thousands of families came in to be involved in the MFS Open Day.

The CFS Foundation had a popcorn stand which was hugely popular and we also sold a number of Comfort Koalas and other small items.

It was a good opportunity to build our relationship with the MFS and other emergency services who also supported this event and we are looking forward to being involved again next year.



# **DONATE NOW**

to support our brave CFS volunteers

Support the CFS Foundation to continue it's vital work in supporting our South Australian CFS volunteers. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

**CFS FOUNDATION INC.** 37 Richmond Road,

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Your support is greatly appreciated

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