



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

R e s p o n s e

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NATIONAL EMERGENCY R e s p o n s e

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Autumn 2010 • National Emergency Response

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FRONTCOVER
Firefighters prepared for the upcoming LA-NYC tour with a practise run in Sydney in February.



AIES NEWS

AIES is pleased to announce the following emergency service people became members December 2009-March 2010:

NAME	ORGANISATION	STATE
Margaret Adams	Health Service	NSW
Adam Dent	Red Cross	VIC
Richard Hart	SES	NSW
Peter Kelly	AMSA	ACT
Andrew Luke	Rural Fire Service	NSW
Shay McAuley	St John Ambulance	ACT
Ian Townsley	St John Ambulance	Qld
Mr Ross Gatwood	Honorary	NSW

Members of the Institute are reminded that annual subscriptions for 2009/10 became due and payable from 1 August 2009. The subscription year for the Institute is from 1 August till the 31 July the next year in accordance with the Institute's Articles of Association. However, for financial purposes the Institute's financial year is from 1 January-31 December each year. Subscriptions are as follows:

- Member** \$50 per annum
- Fellow** \$60 per annum
- Corporations** \$250 per annum

Subscriptions are tax deductible. Corporations receive a bronze plaque as a certificate of membership and are permitted to place their logo, as well as a website link, on the AIES web site.

Members, Fellows and Life Fellows are permitted to use the post nominals MAIES, FAIES and LFAIES behind their names. Subscriptions still due should be paid to the relevant State Registrars whose addresses are shown elsewhere in this journal. Persons or organisations who are not members but wish to obtain the Institute's quarterly journal can obtain the magazine for a fee of \$30. This is to defray the cost of publishing and mailing the journal.

By order of the General Council

Robert A Maul

General Secretary/Registrar General Council

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LADIES	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	
BUST	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	
CB LENGTH	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	



Sizing Chart: Adults = Mens

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

John Rice, FAIES

National President

Since the last issue of *National Emergency Response*, the Institute continues to be busy with projects at both National and Divisional levels to support and recognise our members and the work they perform.

These include the AIES Young Volunteer Award, and the AIES Medal and Awards – a program designed to recognise individual excellence in the fields of emergency service operations, research, planning and training.

The National Board continues to examine ways to provide representation and improved services to our members and we are happy to hear of any recommendations or suggestions from members through the Division sub-committees.

It has been pleasing to note the recent number of applications being received for personal and corporate membership. An examination of our membership database continues to show our Institute as an organisation truly representative of all levels of the Emergency Services.

I would especially like to offer our warm welcome to the members of the Papua New Guinea emergency services who have recently applied for membership.

Towards the end of 2009 I was involved in a training program with the Papua New Guinea search and rescue authorities in Port Moresby. Like here in Australia, the members of the PNG emergency services are dedicated to excellence in their profession. However, the challenges they face in their normal day to day operations, despite their best efforts, are considerable. I look forward to hearing more from our PNG members and examining what support we, as an institute, can provide.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER AWARD

It is my privilege to announce the winner of the 2009/10 AIES Young Volunteer Award.

Proudly sponsored by the Emergency Response Division of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, this year's award has been made to St John Ambulance of Australia Cadet Leader Mickael Gieules.

19 year old Mickael, from Wentworthville in New South Wales, has been a volunteer with St John Ambulance Australia for over six years and is highly respected by his peers and supervisors alike for his work with the North Rocks Cadet Division. During 2008 Mickael was appointed to the NSW Youth Council as Communication Coordinator and over the following year he excelled in bringing more awareness and respect for youth within St John Ambulance.

Mickael is a member of the State Officer of Cadets Advisory Group where he represents the views of all St John youth and Cadets. His competence and the many hours he has dedicated as a young member of St John Ambulance has been further recognised through his appointment to his group's cadet training program as an instructor.

Mickael is a worthy role model for the other young volunteers with whom he comes in contact.

As the 2009/10 AIES Young Volunteer, Mickael will receive a fully sponsored voyage aboard the Royal Australian Navy Sail Training Ship Young Endeavour. Mickael will also receive a 12 month honorary Associate Membership of the Institute.

The Institute received a high calibre of nominations from all around Australia. Our congratulations are extended to all those who were nominated. Each nominee will receive a certificate of commendation.

Negotiations are currently underway to secure funding so that we may again offer the Young Volunteer Award during 2010/11. Further information will be posted on our website when final arrangements have been made.



CHANGES IN THE NSW SUB-DIVISION EXECUTIVE

Recently two members of the NSW Division resigned from their positions due to personal reasons. Unfortunately these resignations created some difficulties with the administration of the sub-division and the conduct of regular meetings.

On 19 January 2010 Vice President Anderson accepted the Board's appointment to the position of Division President. This appointment will remain in effect until the NSW Division 2010 Annual General Meeting.

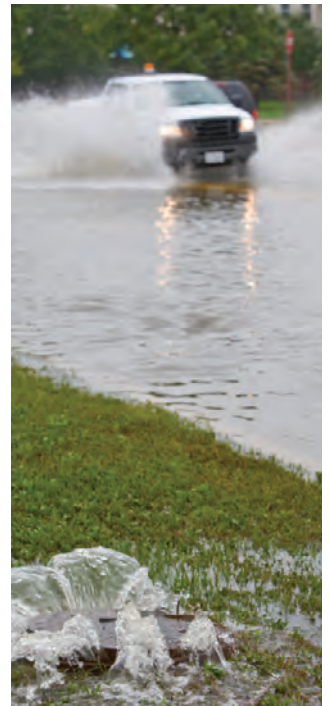
Mr Bill Hoyles MAIES and Mr David Hull MAIES were co-opted into the executive committee until the 2010 AGM at which time they can nominate for a permanent position on the executive. Mr Alan Holley FAIES and Mr Danny Fraticelli MAIES remain on the executive.

All members of the NSW Division can be assured of the continued support of the National Board in the operation of the Division and our New South Wales members.

Reminder: AIES AGM will be held in Melbourne on 18 April 2010 (see page 9 for details). ●

FOUR

CHALLENGES FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN AUSTRALIA



Where natural hazards meet communities, emergency management seeks to protect people and assets. Many agencies of government, councils and voluntary organisations are involved in the effort. But what are the challenges and problems which the emergency management sector faces in Australia today? Four major issues are identified, illustrations being sought mainly from the bushfire and flood contexts in the eastern states.

By ChasKeys, MAIES





ENGAGING COMMUNITIES



There are two principal means by which the emergency services engage with communities outside of responses to hazardous events. These are community education, which is largely specific to individual agents

such as floods, tropical cyclones, severe storms and bushfires, and warnings of the imminent occurrence of an event.

Educational initiatives, limited until recently to brochures which had little impact, have begun to develop over the last decade. Amongst the most noteworthy are Community Fireguard (initiated by the Victorian Country Fire Authority to guide people's responses to bushfires) and the NSW State Emergency Service's Business FloodSafe which is targeted at operators of commercial premises in flood-prone urban centres. These and similar initiatives elsewhere, based on close interaction with people at risk, show genuine signs of helping people to cope.

There are several views in the emergency services about the value of hazard education. One is that it is too hard and not worth the effort, because people won't listen to or heed the message: they are thought to be too focused on the exigencies of daily life to worry about occasional, seemingly vague threats like fires, floods or hailstorms which might (or might not) strike them at some unspecified future time. For years this view held

sway, but it is now being challenged and community education programmes are being developed in several areas to help people prepare for various hazards. Hazard education is becoming more sophisticated and rising above the tokenism of the past, but much remains to be done before real effectiveness can be claimed.

Warnings too are problematic. Done well, warning and the provision of information ahead of the heights of events can unlock for people the 'manageability' of emergencies. But there have been many cases of warnings being inadequate or non-existent. Among them were the 1998 Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race (which was hit by huge seas generated by winds associated with a deep low-pressure system), the 1999 Sydney hailstorm, the floods on the north coast of NSW in 2001, and the bushfires of 2003 (in the ACT), 2005 (in South Australia) and 2009 (in Victoria). These events all cost lives and/or property, and agencies were criticised in the media, in post-event public meetings and in coronial and other inquiries for failures in warning processes. Failures in warning processes were frequently revealed.

Often agencies react to criticisms by focusing on technological fixes like sirens, automated dial-out telephone systems and SMS-based communications. There is progress to be made in adopting new methods, but the cases noted show that the real problems are more fundamental. The warning task is often characterised by poor conceptualisation at the agency level, given low priority amongst the managerial functions to be performed and rendered in ways that confuse rather than empower people to act to protect their interests. Often, people are mystified by warnings, fail to recognise when warnings apply to their own situations and react only when the event has confirmed its arrival by which time it is often too late for effective action. One lesson is that warnings must be preceded by education about how to recognise them, what they mean and how people should react. Engagement must prepare people for warnings as well as for the events which they announce.

Another lesson might be learned from the anti-smoking campaigns

of recent decades. These have been very expensive and have produced gains only slowly: even now in Australia, one in six adults smoke and rates of take-up of tobacco in some groups remain stubbornly high. Nevertheless the campaigns have created many insights about techniques to get messages across. Emergency management agencies, noting such efforts, need to recognise that education must be resourced appropriately, sustained indefinitely and varied periodically in message and medium to ensure freshness.

Agencies must be prepared to experiment and innovate and to recognise the scale and difficulty of the task and the barriers of denial and complacency (not to mention the distractions of daily life) that must be overcome. True engagement is labour-intensive as well as costly, which discourages the adoption of effective methods. Especially this is problematic for the volunteer emergency services, notwithstanding the efforts of some of the community fire organisations in particular, because the time their members can devote to the effort is limited. Their effort is spent in training and response much more than in helping others to be ready.

But community engagement is an idea whose time has come. We cannot continue to have large numbers of people who do not understand the risks they face, who expect that the emergency services will always protect them and who respond poorly to emergencies. Somehow the resources, financial and human, must be found and here it must be said that governments have traditionally responded poorly to agency pleas for funding and the means refined to the task.

LAND USE MANAGEMENT



How we use land is a powerful determinant of our vulnerability to hazards. Building near bush, on floodplains or on foreshores creates vulnerability. Until recently these realities were rarely confronted by the emergency services

except in a time-of-impact, response-oriented sense, but lately a number of rural fire authorities have accepted part of the land use consent role traditionally performed by local government or provided advice as referral agencies. One SES organisation (the NSW SES) has actively supported councils opposing in the Land and Environment Court proposed floodplain developments which pose dangers to community safety. This change represents a radical shift for agencies long focused principally on real-time response to emergency situations.

Where it has occurred, the shift has brought emergency services into contact with state departments of planning and the judicial authorities responsible for settling disputes about the use of land. On occasions, voices are heard from planning agencies that emergency service agencies, opposing some developments, are obstructionist in their stances or opposed to development itself. This smacks of turf conflicts and a reluctance to accept views traditionally excluded from land use decision-making processes. More likely, emergency agencies are seeking caution in relation to developments which will significantly increase the quantum of vulnerability that communities are asked to bear aged-care facilities on floodplains or in bushfire-prone areas, for example, or large-scale residential or industrial developments in flood-labile locations.

Some planning agencies, it seems, have become captive to a gradual, pernicious political shift towards development in dangerous locations. Cases have been noted recently of large-scale residential or commercial developments being proposed for sites known to have been deeply inundated in the past. Some such developments will increase greatly the difficulty of the evacuation task which will one day have to be undertaken: not only will there be more people to evacuate, but the time available will be foreshortened. Adding substantial additional development in some environments will exacerbate well-researched, well-understood problems by exposing additional people and assets to flooding and rendering the management of events more difficult.

Courts can also be at fault, sometimes taking a narrow view of the public safety concern in these matters and agreeing that because society accepts

risks it is legitimate to approve proposals which will add to the quantum of risk that must be accepted including by emergency service personnel. Dubious part-solutions offered on behalf of development interests to overcome problems can be permitted, allowing (for example) aged-care facilities on floodplains regardless of the dangers of isolation that will be created or the potential for secondary hazards (such as fire or life-threatening illnesses) to arise during floods. Merely ensuring that floor levels are above those likely to be

We are in danger of no longer considering, after a serious event, whether a reengineering of communities in the interests of greater safety is warranted.

reached by very big floods is not always enough. We are in danger of permitting the age-old reality of ill-considered developments in high-risk environments to be perpetuated even though we understand with increasing clarity the nature of the problems we may have to deal with.

Sadly, too, regulation in relation to residences on floodplains has become, nationwide, obsessed with statistical standards in determining floor levels. It should be noted here that neither the 1percent Annual Exceedence Probability nor any other numerical standard bears any meaningful relationship to risks to life or property, and their rigid application in the absence of other considerations is inappropriate. In any case it is known that floods much higher than the 1percent flood will occur periodically. Until 2008 floodplain management practice in NSW was guided by an approach in which locally-defined (and variable) quantitative standards were applied in conjunction with considerations of the impacts of events more severe than the adopted design floods. By government fiat, however, this tempering of the statistical with the logical has been abandoned in a move to a single numerically-defined standard. The 1percent AEP standard now rules. A backward step has been taken, and an internationally well-regarded floodplain management regime has been weakened.

Sometimes political imperatives intrude on the management arena. Immediately after the calamitous Victorian bushfires of February 2009, the Prime Minister promised that "We will rebuild these communities, brick by brick, school by school, hall by hall." Kevin Rudd was expressing solidarity with those who had lost much, but his words carried a potential to prejudice debate away from the notion that pre-existing patterns of development in an inherently fire-prone environment should not be replicated unthinkingly during the recovery process.

Likewise the chair of the Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority was quoted in the press, three months after the fires, as suggesting that it was vital that the communities rebuild in the ways that they wanted. This, surely, is a recipe for not learning from experience, not rebuilding in more sustainable, less dangerous ways after a disaster and not insisting that recovery promotes resilience.

Australia's record is poor here. We are in danger of no longer considering, after a serious event, whether a re-engineering of communities in the interests of greater safety is warranted. During the nineteenth century, an era of simple housing and basic infrastructure, several oft-inundated towns or parts of them were removed from the floodplains on which they had ill-advisedly been built. In the mid-twentieth century it was proposed that the central business districts of Maitland and Lismore be re-sited off floodplains, but the proposals were costly and they were abandoned. When Nyngan's levees were overtopped in 1990 and virtually every house in the town was flooded, the question of relocating the town was not even raised. We have become less able to consider radical solutions.

Likewise, we have shied away from altering the structure of settlement at the interface between communities and areas of eucalypt forest. In essence



we eschew the opportunity to remove established settlements from hazardous environments. With limited exceptions, settlement configurations have been left to individuals and to economics. The populations of many rural floodplains declined markedly during the twentieth century, but this was due to forces of economic restructuring (including the virtual disappearance of share farming and farm labour forces and the enlargement of farms), not to policy driven by safety considerations.

Settlement patterns are not sacrosanct. They can be altered, as they have been in other countries after disasters: in the United States several towns were relocated after the great Mississippi flood of 1993 (a once-in-a-few-hundred-years event at most points along the river). But in Australia we are loath to take the opportunity which disaster creates to rebuild in ways that enhance community resilience. Rather, we modify our practices at the margin, for example by instituting minor changes to prescribed burning practices or by tinkering with building and planning regulations.

Disaster should encourage us to think of more far-reaching solutions. In some areas, dwellings have been removed from floodways and people prevented from building on the lowest parts of floodplains though this approach is in danger of dilution in many areas as memory fades after long periods without flooding. But equally, for example on Brisbane's creeks, many dwellings remain subject to over-floor inundation in events of 2-5 year recurrence intervals. Likewise our efforts to prevent people building in areas which are dangerously exposed to bushfires are piecemeal. We have no tradition of buying out large numbers of exposed properties at public expense (even gradually so as to spread the cost) and returning them to nature or to more fire-compatible uses.

Land exists, it seems, to be used at the largely unfettered whim of the owner. But it must be used in a safe, sustainable manner which demands that public safety criteria are given weight. We learn slowly: witness the residential development that has occurred in Brisbane in areas which were deeply inundated in the severe flood of 1974, and the oft-cited failure of Victoria and

South Australia to apply the lessons of the Ash Wednesday bushfires of 1983 to reconstruction. Not to allow safety and cost criteria as much weight as re-development represents a strange definition of progress in a world in which risk reduction in lifestyles is thought worthy of great public investment as in the case of campaigns against obesity, smoking and drinking before driving. There, we focus on long-term gains, but these seem not to drive our hazard management.

FRAGMENTATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCIES



Emergency management in Australia is a many-headed beast. The number of agencies with responsibilities for managing sources of risk is large and there is much confusion as far as agency roles are concerned. There

are also great differences between jurisdictions as far as managerial approaches are concerned, except in bushfire management where between-state similarities are greater than the differences. For flood management, though, the differences are so great that it is virtually certain that best practice is not being sought everywhere as a routine objective: many arrangements, indeed, do little to support good practice.

The comparison of Victoria and NSW is instructive. In NSW the SES is central to a system of unitary management in which it leads both the planning for flood operations and the coordination of real-time response. Thus the SES leads in devising the warning, evacuation and other strategies to be followed in an area, and it implements these treatments or coordinates their application when floods occur. In Victoria these roles are spread across a number of agencies. Local councils are responsible not just for land use planning on floodplains (as councils are in all states) but also for leading the planning for emergency responses to floods. Meanwhile the SES leads those responses except for evacuation operations which are controlled by

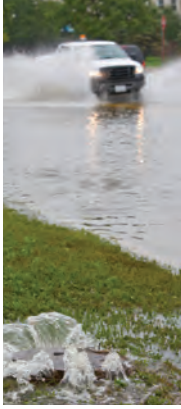
Victoria Police. Planning, evacuation and other aspects of response are led by different organisations in Victoria, and the central response agency (the SES) is at arm's length in the planning for the response. This contravenes the fundamental emergency management principle that planning and response are best led by the same agency.

Sometimes, operational control over local emergencies is exercised by elected people. It is common in Queensland for even tactical decision-making to be undertaken by political figures who may seek to influence the deployment, for example, of defence force assistance in contradiction of standing arrangements between the Commonwealth and the states. In the process, local emergency services personnel can be marginalised: a case, perhaps, of managers not being thought to have the necessary expertise. Politicians, untrained and inexperienced in emergency management, thus direct responses to severe storms. Yet no politician would consider interfering with procedures performed by medical practitioners in the way some do in directing the management of the impacts of severe storms.

Fragmentation is evident in relation to many emergency functions. Educating people about flood management is carried out quite differently in the various states. The educational responsibility is undefined or lies variously with councils and the SESs (with or without the assistance of other agencies) and is frequently carried out in a piecemeal fashion.

The complexity, fragmentation and uncertainty of arrangements make for many problems in applying educational initiatives. Moreover, past initiatives are easily undermined. In Maitland (NSW) during the 1980s the Public Works Department fixed markers to power poles to indicate the depths of floodwater in the record 1955 flood. But the markers have never been supported by the council, probably because of their presumed (and likely over-stated) impact on property values. Markers lost through pole replacement or taken by souvenir hunters and people fearing for their house prices are rusting and falling off the poles. The council has made no effort to replace them, and no other agency has challenged the unstated policy of neglect of a useful, low-cost educational initiative which is being stealthily eroded.

PREPARING FOR EVENTS



In the main, the emergency services attract people who are action- and field-oriented rather than managerially attuned. Some agency members have a deep-seated mistrust of 'planning', and this mistrust can be shared at high

levels in the emergency agencies. Training is also problematic. The skills inculcated in manual training activities are revered, which means that fire-fighting and rescue techniques and the operation of floodboats and chainsaws have high priority. But there is less emphasis on developing managerial skills including those of planning, educating and communicating. Yet training builds culture, and when the focus is on physical skills the culture can be narrow and the ways in which agencies define their approaches to their roles are affected. Agency personnel are not always encouraged to visualise or plan for situations they might need to manage for example, warning or evacuating large numbers of people.

In the bushfire arena, there is little planning to support the 'prepare well and defend or evacuate early' policy, which is accepted virtually throughout the nation. The internal contradictions of the policy arising for example from the fact that sometimes there will be no warnings to help people define their risk or to work out what constitutes early in the life of an event have been glossed over. So too has the inconsistency underlying the fact that some fires are so severe that firefighters will withdraw whereas people who have prepared well and stayed to defend will reach the situation in which they cannot evacuate. Appropriate shelters in defensible locations have not been provided, evacuees being left largely on their own, and many who live in dangerous environments do not understand the implications of the 'prepare well and defend or evacuate' policy. Both the planning and the education are seriously flawed, as becomes all too clear in very severe events like those of February 2009 in Victoria.

Planning for floods is also flawed. In many areas there are no response plans to guide those who manage flooding, and the quality of the plans that do exist varies greatly between states. Many plans fail to define the warning strategies that should be utilised in floods of differing severity, and few spell out how mass evacuations will be staged even where a known potential exists for thousands of people to have to leave (sometimes in very challenging time frames). Nor are all sources of flooding equally well planned for: the focus has been mainly on riverine flooding, with little note taken in most states of the potential for flooding caused by dam operations, dam failure, severe thunderstorms, storm surges or tsunamis.

There are other differences in the conceptualisation of the scope of the flood planning that is undertaken. In NSW, for example, local flood plans seek to guide responses to floods of all potential severities from nuisance floods to floods beyond the scale of the worst experienced since European settlement. A conscious attempt has been made to compile flood intelligence (information on the effects of flooding of different severities in specified locations) for floods greater in scale than the 1 percent AEP event, which means that warning, evacuation and other strategies can be devised for extreme floods and that SES operatives are sensitised to the potential for such floods in their areas. In Victoria, by contrast, some municipal flood response plans deal only with floods up to the 1 percent event as the worst credible case scenario. The risk is that such plans will not adequately anticipate very big, highly consequential events.

Queensland, by contrast again, largely lacks specific planning for floods beyond what is contained in the relatively generic all-hazards (general disaster) plans. The same is true in other states except in a few council areas where the risk of flooding has been well appreciated.

Often the sense persists that plans are foisted on responders rather than being developed with their input. Sometimes responders are not familiar with planning processes or feel threatened by or are unwilling to contribute to them, and the resulting separation of planners and responders

exacerbates the responders' lack of trust in plans. Inadequate planning also means that responders learn their management task largely during floods, with attendant ramifications for things to be left undone, done poorly or done at inappropriate times (for example, too late). Moreover the operational experience of past generations of responders is not captured for the benefit of their successors. This is a problem when floods occur infrequently in an area as is often the case.

With some exceptions the conclusion is unavoidable that advance planning for the moment of floods, bushfires and the other hazards of nature remains immature in Australia. The same is true in relation to planning in the real time of developing events: the Victorian Royal Commission on the 2009 bushfires heard that real-time intelligence gathering and planning were secondary in the thinking of fire managers to the application of resources. This comment can be made about the emergency services sector at large.

SUMMARY

Australia's emergency managers face many challenges. A higher priority must be given to intelligence and planning so the nature of the response task can be better appreciated beforehand, more effective warning systems developed and response operations properly defined and optimally supported. Likewise performance could be strengthened by ensuring jurisdictional arrangements reflect good practice. There is also a need for better supported community engagement processes and for a stronger focus on the building of long-term community resilience. Several of these matters are inter-related.

This is a slightly expanded version of an article that was first published in the Risk Frontiers Quarterly Newsletter (Vol 8, No 4, July 2009). Permission for republication was granted by Risk Frontiers ((Macquarie University) and the author.

Chas Keys is an Associate of Risk Frontiers and a member of AIES. He was an active member of the NSW SES for 14 years, the last seven as Deputy Director General. Chas trained as a social scientist and holds BA and MA degrees from the University of Auckland and a PhD from the University of Alberta, Canada. ●

NOTICE OF 2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

All Members of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services are cordially invited to attend the **2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES to be held at IBIS Hotel, 15 Therry Street, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA on 19 APRIL 2010 commencing at 7pm**

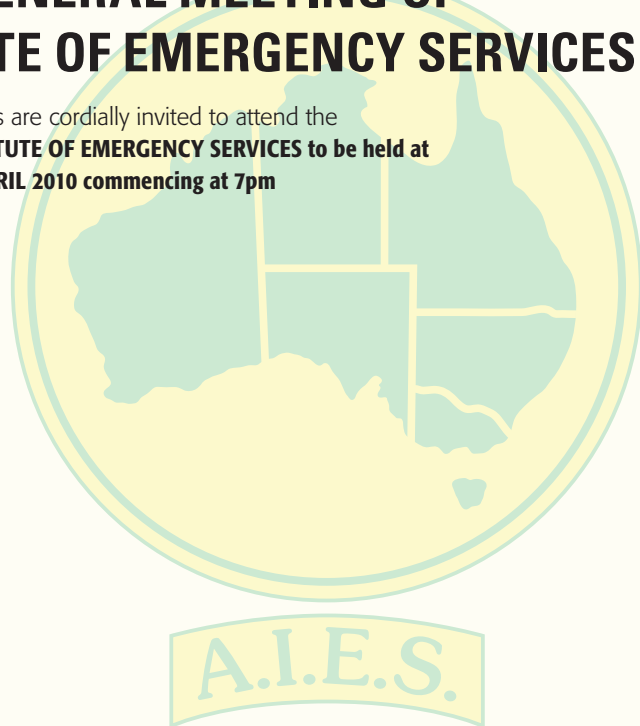
The Order of Business shall be:

Welcome
Apologies
Confirmation of Minutes of 2009 Meeting and Matters Arising Therefrom
President's Report
General Secretary/Registrar's Report
Notices of Motion
General Business

By order of the Board of Directors

Robert A Maul

General Registrar/Company Secretary, AIES



IN BRIEF

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Based on the adage that a 'picture is worth a thousand words', the Attorney-General's Department is searching for the best photographs to recognise emergency management volunteers in action. The theme is Emergency Management Volunteers – Thank You.



The competition is open to professional and amateur photographers of all ages.

Photographs must have been taken between 1 July 2008 and 24 March 2010. Entries close 31 March 2010. National winning entries and State/Territory highly commended entries will be announced at an awards ceremony at the commencement of National Volunteer Week, 10-16 May 2010.

Further information available at www.ema.gov.au

VOLUNTEERING SURVEY

The National Survey of Volunteering Issues 2009, conducted by Volunteering Australia, has provided insight into the issues affecting volunteering in Australia.

The report found that costs of volunteering remains a significant impost with 44 percent of volunteers' ability or desire to volunteer affected. The most common cost problems were fuel (84.6 percent) and telephone charges (65.4 percent). Only 17 percent of volunteers reported that their organisation offered full reimbursement of their out of pocket expenses. 27 percent of organisations said that out of pocket expenses had a negative impact on their ability to attract, recruit, train and retain volunteers.

The full report can be downloaded from www.volunteeringaustralia.org/survey



IMO CAMPAIGN



Australian Government
Australian Maritime Safety Authority

The Government has taken its campaign for greater compensation from merchant vessels spilling fuel (bunker) oil and causing environmental damage to the peak International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

Minister Transport and Infrastructure The Hon. Anthony Albanese addressed the IMO General Assembly in London recently to impress the importance of lifting existing compensation liability limits.

The inadequacy of the existing compensation regime was exposed by the Pacific Adventurer accident off Queensland's coast last year. In that incident the shipowner was not legally required to pay all the clean-up and compensation costs.

The IMO will consider the Australian proposal this year.



Senior NSW policeman Greg Randall, left, takes aim with the F88 Austeyr under the watchful supervision of junior police officer and Army Reservist Corporal Sheldon Klotz.

LIFT TAKE BOSSES 0



An invitation to visit their Army Reserve employees on deployment saw three senior officers of NSW Police head to the Solomon Islands recently as part of Exercise Boss Lift.

Senior NSW policemen Max Mitchell, left, and Greg Randall chat to children at Gifu Primary School near Honiara in Solomon Islands.



S POLICE VERSEAS

Conducted by the Department of Defence's Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support Division (CRESD), Exercise Boss Lift allows employers to experience first hand their civilian employee's Reserve role and duties while deployed overseas.

In early November, Superintendents Max Mitchell (Newcastle) and Peter McErlaine (Maroubra) and Detective Inspector Greg Randall (State Crime Command) joined with 17 other employers to travel to the Solomon Islands for a four-day visit to the Combined Task Force 635 Rotation 19 – the Australian Defence Force contribution to the

Regional Assistance Mission Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

The visit gave Superintendent McErlain an opportunity to catch up with one of his sergeants, Russell Thomas, who is a Warrant Officer Class 2 in the Army Reserve with 21 years' service.

"It is good to see him and good to know that he is actually over here as I thought he could possibly be just on a tropical holiday," Superintendent McErlain said.

"I appreciated the invitation to come over and see Russell and it's good that he's looking fit and healthy as well."

Warrant Officer Thomas was equally as pleased to see his boss and the two wasted little time in catching up.

"It's great – good to have the boss over so he can see what we actually do here and the way we do our training," he said.

"He can get to see what he's given to the Army and what I can bring back to police."

Superintendent McErlain said the absence of a member for long periods of Reserve may impact on police operations.

"Russ is one of around 15 sergeants in my command at Maroubra and to lose someone as capable and confident as him from the workplace for long periods of time does impact at the coal face," he said.

"Having said that, the leadership and the decision making qualities he uses as a Reservist only enhances the skills he brings back to policing."

For Detective Inspector Greg Randall, catching up with Detective Sergeant Sheldon Klotz was a reunion of a policing team that had been operating together for the past six years.

"As a small unit of around half a dozen officers, and as Sheldon is a very good operator, I had some trepidation about him going away for that period of time," Detective Inspector Randall said.

"But when he explained what it was about and the skills he would gain over here and bring back to our workplace, I knew it would be worthwhile.

"As I said, he had been a very hard worker and it would be good for him to have this experience deploying

as a Reservist."

Detective Inspector Randall said that seeing his Reservist employee in the operational environment reinforced to him the value of Army Reserve.

"Sheldon and his fellow officers are doing a fantastic job representing our country and they are being exposed to a diverse range of operational duties that enhances their personal development and leadership skills, which will provide benefit to the NSW Police Force," he said.

Superintendent Max Mitchell visited reservist Kurt Greenwood, a senior constable posted to general duties at Newcastle who is attached to signal operations within the ADF Reserve.

"Kurt is a general practitioner of policing, and coming over here, watching him functioning as a corporal with other ADF members around him, how he conducts himself, his leadership skills, his planning and his decision making have really opened my eyes as to his capability when he returns home," Superintendent Mitchell said.

"I would describe it (Exercise Boss Lift) as a tremendous experience, not only from a personal perspective, but also seeing the schools at Gifu and the Deaf School in addition to experiencing what the Reservists are involved in was outstanding.

"Their community spirit and what the Australian Army is doing here has to be applauded.

"It's been very enlightening for me to come over and watch what our Reserve members can do not only for our country but for the people of the Solomon Islands."

During the four days, the three officers took battlefield tours, shot on the range under the tutelage of their Reservists, visited schools with the Army and toured Honiara.

"Boss Lift is primarily about bringing employers of Reservists, that is their civilian employers, to operational or training areas to facilitate an awareness of what the Reservist does in that environment," said Head CRESD Major General Greg Melick.

"This awareness also includes the benefits of that training or experience that the Reservist can take back into their every day jobs." ●

ADAPTING TO NEW CHALLENGES

This speech by Federal Minister for Home Affairs The Hon. Brendan O'Connor was made at the Police Federation of Australia Conference in Canberra on Tuesday 17 November 2009. Its purpose was to talk about shared challenges in policing and the Commonwealth Government's policy responses to today's issues. Among the delegates attending this conference were President Police Federation of Australia Vince Kelly, CEO Police Federation of Australia Mark Burgess and members of state and territory police forces.



Minister for Home Affairs The Hon. Brendan O'Connor

The policing environment and challenges that we face are changing rapidly. Globalisation, the internet, new forms of communications, terrorism, emerging forms of organised crime and the relative stages of development of countries in Australia's region have all increased the complexities and demands on Australian police.

So how do we as a country support police to adapt and increase capability to meet new challenges?

Today, I want to talk to you about initiatives the Government is undertaking to address these issues.

I will focus first on the work that is underway to provide support and protection to you, the men and women at the front line of policing.

The Rudd Government has made commitments in the areas of workplace relations, occupational health and safety and specifically, in relation to police resourcing and policy.

We are committed to keeping you safe at work both within Australia and during international deployments. We are also committed to recognising your skills and addressing issues of workforce planning, recruitment and retention.

I would also like to briefly examine some of the key initiatives the Government is taking to support law enforcement in significant areas of crime.

NATIONAL REVIEW INTO OH&S

The first issue I would like to touch upon today is the critical area of occupational health and safety, the proposed Model Occupational Health and Safety Laws and how they may affect your members.

Let me start by saying that the Police Federation of Australia (PFA) has put to me, very firmly, how important occupational health and safety is to you and your members.

The PFA, through its own submissions and through its work with the ACTU, want to keep the welfare of workers at the centre of any model laws, and to find a mechanism that does this equally for police. Even though – as you well understand – policing work takes place in very difficult and challenging environments. As a former Union Official, I am not surprised by your position. Occupational health and safety is a priority for unions and professional associations alike.

As you know, model laws are needed because currently each State and Territory has its own set of rules and differing standards for occupational health and safety - for both police and other workers.

If we are to apply the principles of fairness and equity, it does not make sense to have rules and standards determined on a State by State basis.

Quite frankly the differences that have evolved over time can no longer be justified.

Last year, the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Julia Gillard announced a National Review into Model Occupational Health and Safety Laws.

The review has examined the occupational health and safety legislation in each State, Territory and Commonwealth jurisdiction and recommended an optimal structure and content of a model Occupational Health and Safety Act that could be adopted in all jurisdictions.

Model legislation was subsequently released for public comment and the PFA has made written and direct submissions to this process.

The draft Act proposes limited exemptions that currently exist in the Commonwealth OH&S Act, namely for national security, defence and certain AFP operations. It does not propose any police force be exempt from complying with core safety obligations including appropriate training, safety gear or safe systems of work. Police agencies, like other employers, would be subject to enforcement action for breaches.

The Minister proposes to report to the Workplace Relations Minister's Council in December, and subsequently to propose finalised legislation and regulations for presentation to the Parliament next year.

I understand your concerns, particularly the question of what type of police operations that could be exempt and how this might affect the

obligations of employers and the safety of individual members.

I want to assure you the Government will carefully consider and respond to these concerns. The guiding principles here are that workers, and police no less, have the right to a safe workplace.

The safety of police officers must be the guiding principle behind operational decisions.

If there are to be any exemptions under certain circumstances, I can indicate to you I do not support an unfettered approach.

And I agree with the PFA when it said in its Submission to the Review last year:

"A robust occupational health and safety system that promotes the proactive assessment and management of risks, is vital to ensuring the continued safe delivery of high quality policing services to the Australian Community"

COMPENSATION FOR POLICE SERVING OVERSEAS

The second issue is compensation arrangements for police serving overseas and how we propose to deal with this.

I know this is an issue of interest to you because your CEO, Mark Burgess, raises it with me every time we meet.

As you are aware, prior to 2004, police were covered by the Veteran's Entitlements Act which was effectively closed in July 2004 when the Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Act was introduced.

As this Act was specifically for the military, police overseas service were not included, instead they were included in the Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act.

In 2005, interim arrangements were agreed to by the Howard Government and it is these arrangements that both the leadership of the Australian Federal Police and the Rudd Government believe can, and indeed should be improved upon.

Today, we have police officers serving in many locations as diverse as Afghanistan, closer to home in the Solomon Islands, or in Cyprus where we have been since 1964. Some of these locations place our officers under considerable risk.

I want legislation that will cater specifically for police and police operations overseas. This legislation should provide entitlements and arrangements that are as good as arrangements for the military. No matter what other agencies think, I see no reason to not recognise, through workers' compensation arrangements, the comparability of certain high risk roles

performed overseas.

The precise detail of the legislation will be formalised next year following the outcome of a review into compensation arrangements.

This review is chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Mr Ian Campbell, and he has been directed to report back to the Government by March of next year.

We will deliver improved compensation arrangements, remove grey areas and provide officers who serve overseas and their families with greater security. In the meantime both the AFP Commissioner and I are open to interim arrangements to improve the benefits available to police officers should they be injured in the course of an overseas deployment.

NATIONAL POLICE REGISTRATION SCHEME

The Australian Government is also supportive of the concept of a National Police Registration Scheme to better recognise your qualifications and provide consistent standards across jurisdictions. We have said that we are supportive of this despite the lukewarm response of some.

Such a scheme can assist in addressing other significant contemporary policing issues such as:

- professional recognition
- education and training
- and employment opportunities for police officers

I believe a national registration scheme, providing greater professional recognition and portability of training will assist all jurisdictions in recruiting and retaining police.

Consultation and a detailed assessment of the benefits of implementing a National Police Registration Scheme are needed to secure the support of States and Territory Police Forces.

As members might be aware, at the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management meeting in June this year - after a compelling and challenging presentation by the PFA I might add - it was agreed that a national working party be formed.

With this in mind, I welcome the inclusion of the Police Federation of Australia as a member of the Senior Officers' Group working party, along with representatives from each Australian policing jurisdiction.

This work also complements

a recommendation from the soon to be released, Federal Audit of Police Capabilities, (known as the Beale Review) that supports a study of the national policing workforce. I will speak more about the Beale Review shortly.

This study would examine barriers to the development of a national policing labour market and provide States, Territories and indeed the Commonwealth with guidance for reforms and a solid basis for workforce planning.

I look forward to the results the working party will bring back to Ministerial Council next year.

FIVE POINT PLAN FOR THE AFP

Some of these issues and of course the Beale Review arise from our commitment to respond to the PFA's concerns.

As some of you may be aware, during the 2007 election, the Government also announced a 'Five Point Plan for the AFP'.

This consisted of:

- boosting the number of AFP sworn officers by 500
- conducting a Federal Audit of police capabilities
- establishing a National Crime Database to share resources and information and bolster a national approach to policing
- creating a retention and recruitment program
- expanding the recruitment of Indigenous Australians

ADDITIONAL POLICE 500 MEASURE

The 2008 Federal Budget provided \$191.9 million dollars to the Australian Federal Police to underpin the plan to recruit 500 police officers over five years.

The intention is to recruit against targeted Federal agent investigative roles and, as a result, improve the capability of the AFP to progress high impact criminal investigations.

The investment is also aimed at reducing attrition rates within the AFP so that we retain critical policing experience and expertise.

The spread of funding is aimed at investing in additional police over a five year time frame. The AFP has met its target of recruiting 30 officers in 2008/09 and I am informed is on track to meet its 2009/10 target.

Recruitment of the remaining additional officers is progressing, with an escalation and the largest number of officers expected to enter the AFP between 2012 and 2013.

I think the success of the 500 measure

can be best measured by the fact that from the time we took Government, through to 30 June 2009 sworn officer numbers have increased by 146.

This represents an increase of more than five per cent.

RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

The additional 500 police measure is also supported by a new recruitment and retention program.

This program is providing the AFP with the tools it needs to maintain a sustainable, flexible workforce and to provide career paths and options for existing and new officers.

INDIGENOUS RECRUITMENT IN THE AFP

The AFP's successful expansion of the graduate program for Indigenous Australians is also strongly supported by the Rudd Government.

The recruitment of Indigenous officers is a step forward in the closing the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

The AFP's Indigenous employment strategy includes an inaugural Indigenous Graduate Program that commenced with its first recruits earlier this year.

To make further inroads the AFP is conducting research on the perceptions of the organisation as a potential employer to indigenous Australians,

women, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

This research will inform the development of a strategy to support the targeted recruitment of these key groups so that the AFP reflects more broadly the demographics of Australian society.

FEDERAL AUDIT OF POLICE CAPABILITIES

Another aspect of the Five Point Plan for the AFP is the Federal audit of police capabilities, known as the Beale Review. I expect the Government to be releasing the recommendations of the Beale Review in the coming months but I'd like to inform you of its important elements.

The Audit was established to examine and report on the AFP's capabilities to meet current and future demands, looking at least five years ahead.

Earlier this year, Roger Beale presented me with the final audit report titled *New Realities: National Policing in the 21st Century*.

The Audit makes around 40 recommendations and a number of findings across a range of topics such as policing across the Commonwealth, linkages with states and territory policing, the AFP's budget and governance structures, international deployments, aviation security and community policing.

While I am not able to pre-empt the outcomes I anticipate the changes arising out of this important piece of work will represent positive reform in the AFP and further improvements in the role it plays nationally.

PRIORITIES IN CRIME FIGHTING

I would like to turn to some of the Government's broader law and order priorities and the work that is being done on these priorities.

The three crime types I want to mention today are:

- serious and organised crime
- terrorism
- and child sex offences

Let me start here by acknowledging the enormous commitment and efforts of you and your members in these areas.

They are the crimes that all jurisdictions have committed to combating through national and local cooperation as well as being a senior level priority.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

We now estimate that the value of the

illicit economy resulting from organised crime is between 10 and 15 billion dollars each year.

Without any doubt these illicit profits come at significant cost to the Australian economy and legitimate businesses.

As a result of efforts of all Australian police forces and agencies including the Australian Crime Commission, we know more now about the individuals and groups responsible for organised crime.

They are profit-driven, resourceful and capable of responding rapidly and flexibly to opportunities for their illegal activities.

They respond quickly to counter emerging threats to their operations.

That's why the Prime Minister has committed the Australian Government to developing a forward-looking strategic policy framework to outline the Commonwealth's role in combating serious and organised crime.

NATIONAL RESPONSE TO ORGANISED CRIME

As many of you may be aware, the Commonwealth and the States and Territories have committed to a comprehensive national response to organised crime through the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.

The measures agreed include provisions to support:

- covert police investigations and intelligence gathering
- national protocols on cross-border investigations
- and information sharing

The measures will also facilitate access to telecommunications interception for criminal organisation offences.

To reduce the incentives for organised crime, it is proposed that enhanced criminal asset confiscation arrangements will be put in place.

Jurisdictions have also agreed to a systematic approach to working with industry to combat organised crime, with a particular focus on the financial services.

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME BILLS

This year the Commonwealth has introduced two packages of legislative reforms to improve the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of organised crime.

If passed, the legislation currently before the Parliament will implement commitments made by



the Commonwealth as part of the national response.

The proposed legislation includes measures to strengthen criminal asset confiscation, such as freezing orders, and to target unexplained wealth.

The legislation will if passed introduce new criminal offences targeting those involved in organised crime while also enhancing money laundering, bribery and drug importation offences.

The legislation also aims to strengthen police powers to investigate organised crime by implementing model laws for controlled operations, assumed identities and witness identity protection, and boosting search and seizure powers and the ability to access electronic data.

ORGANISED CRIME STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The Government has also been developing the Commonwealth Organised Crime Strategic Framework, which I expect will be released in (early 2010).

The Framework will enhance the existing efforts of law enforcement agencies to detect, investigate and prosecute organised crime, by establishing a clear, coordinated and comprehensive response to the highest priority threats.

It is not possible for Australia, or indeed any one country, to counter the threat of organised crime alone.

The Australian Government will continue to work with partners in the States and Territories, and overseas, to prevent and disrupt organised crime operating across borders.

This could include sharing of intelligence, initiating and developing bilateral and multilateral frameworks and seeking opportunities for international collaboration through existing forums.

COUNTER TERRORISM WHITE PAPER

Turning now to counter terrorism.

For any Government, protecting Australia's national security and its borders is its highest responsibility.

When the Prime Minister delivered the first National Security Statement last December, he committed to a Counter-Terrorism White Paper.

As a nation, Australia is blessed with a number of national security advantages, and cursed with a few significant challenges as well.

On the one hand Australia is politically stable and economically prosperous, and

it has many natural resources, to draw on.

While major conflicts or threats from our neighbours are regarded unlikely in the foreseeable future, we do face possible threats to our overall national well-being and we are an island which presents physical and logistical challenges when it comes to border security.

Threats come from home-grown and imported terrorism, cyber crime, border infringements, natural disasters, pandemics, espionage and interference by foreign governments and organisations.

We need to have agencies and capabilities in place to anticipate, prevent and mitigate against all of these threats.

The 2008 Federal Budget provided \$191.9 million dollars to the Australian Federal Police to underpin the plan to recruit 500 police officers over five years.

The intention is to recruit against targeted Federal agent investigative roles and, as a result, improve the capability of the AFP to progress high impact criminal investigations.

TERRORISM

And an obvious starting point for protecting Australians from terrorism is to ensure that our legal framework is sustainable, proportionate and robust.

The Attorney-General recently released a discussion paper on reforms to our National Security Legislation for public consultation.

The consultation period has now closed. The Government will be considering that feedback with a view to introducing amended legislation early next year.

We will respond with long term strategies to reduce the likelihood of home grown terrorism.

The Government is committed to developing a national approach to countering violent extremism and to identify and disrupt violent extremists from harming our communities.

The work will of course involve States and Territories, and their police forces, relevant Commonwealth agencies and communities.

REFORMS TO CHILD SEX-RELATED OFFENCES

A further crime fighting priority, and one very important to me, is child-sex related offences and the reforms the Government is working on to combat these crimes.

These offences damage the most vulnerable people in our society.

As you know, Australia already plays a strong and active role in addressing the exploitation of children, both domestically and through supporting international law enforcement efforts.

The Government recently announced proposals for a significant package of reforms to the Commonwealth's child sexual exploitation offences.

The proposed reforms are aimed at ensuring that the Commonwealth's offences reflect the best approaches possible both domestically and internationally.

The reforms will modernise our laws by strengthening child sex tourism laws and will introduce new offences related

to child pornography or child abuse material overseas.

This will ensure among other things that behaviour involving sexual offences against children committed by Australians within Australia, is also criminalised when committed by Australians overseas.

Rapidly changing technologies and the anonymity that the internet provides have resulted in unprecedented opportunities for child sex offenders.

The reforms will also strengthen offences so that child sexual exploitation is comprehensively covered whether committed online or through other devices such as mobile phones or through the mail.

While Australia has a strong framework in place to criminalise online child sexual exploitation, our reforms will ensure that the offences capture contemporary offending.

CONCLUSION

I'd like to conclude by underlining this Government's commitment to supporting your work. Making sure that the right policies, programs and laws are in place to underpin the work that you do.

The PFA have made me acutely aware of your priorities and I can assure you that we will continue to work hard to support you and the work that you and all your members do. ●

NEW COUNTER PIRACY GUIDELINES RELEASED

The Australian Government has published new guidelines outlining measures shipping operators and seafarers should take in order to detect, deter and prevent piracy and robbery at sea.

New Counter Piracy Advisory Guidelines were launched by the Minister Infrastructure and Transport The Hon. Anthony Albanese during his attendance at the International Maritime Organisation's General Assembly in London – one of a number of international organisations that have strongly supported the development of this document.

The Guidelines recommend:

- Masters should prepare anti-piracy training practices and procedures that ensure that the ship's crew have a good working knowledge and understanding of the basic security measures and requirements for preventing or delaying unauthorised access to the ship whilst at sea, at anchor or alongside a port berth.
- Masters should prepare an emergency communication plan, to include all essential emergency contact numbers and pre-prepared messages. Such communication plans should be readily at hand or permanently displayed near the communications console on the ships bridge for instant reference in any piracy or robbery at sea related incident.

While the Guidelines are primarily designed for international commercial shipping, they also provide advice to the operators of fishing vessels and pleasure yachts.

The Guidelines were developed by the Inspector of Transport Security, Mick Palmer AO APM.

The resurgence of piracy – particularly in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia – poses a serious threat to world trade. Within our immediate region of South East Asia there were 50 incidents of piracy in 2009.

However, coordinated action by the region's governments has significantly reduced incidents of piracy within the Malacca Straits to just two in 2008 – down from 12 the previous year.

The Australian economy is particularly reliant on the global maritime industry,

with 99 percent of exports transported by sea. The Government is acting to make sure an appropriate framework is in place to safeguard the maritime industry and the many Australians who travel through international waters every year.

The new Guidelines complement other anti-piracy measures the Government has taken, including:

- Co-sponsoring a resolution at the United Nations to strengthen international efforts to fight piracy
- Deploying two Anzac-class frigates and an AP-3C Orion patrol aircraft as part

BACKGROUND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTER PIRACY ADVISORY GUIDELINES

On 2 February 2009, the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, The Hon. Anthony Albanese, directed the Inspector of Transport Security, Mick Palmer, to conduct an Inquiry under the Inspector of Transport Security Act 2006, into International Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea as a serious international transport security matter of concern to the Australian Federal Government.

The purpose of the Inquiry was to gain an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the impact or potential impact of current worldwide acts of piracy on Australian maritime trade.

It also assessed prevailing levels of shipping security and identifying ways in which security arrangements for Australian international shipping and foreign registered international shipping carrying Australian cargo and their crews could be further improved.

As part of the Inquiry process the Inspector worked closely with the International Maritime Organization (IMO)



of international efforts to deter piracy in the Gulf of Aden;

- Providing two enforcement experts to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime Counter Piracy Program in Nairobi to assisting Kenyan authorities process apprehended piracy suspects.
- The new Guidelines are now available to Australian seafarers and can be obtained by emailing the Office of Inspector of Transport Security at oits@infrastructure.gov.au ●

and the international shipping industry. It drew heavily from Maritime Circulars and Best Management Practices in developing the Advisory Guidelines aimed at providing a broad range of advice for ship owners, ship masters and crew, for both piracy on the high seas and robbery at sea in the territorial waters of a State.

While the current incidents of piracy and hijacking for ransom in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia pose a particularly serious threat to world trade, the potential threat to international shipping and crew from piracy and robbery at sea attacks is one which has global proportions.

The Advisory Guidelines outline preventive measures recommended to be considered to detect, deter and prevent piracy and robbery at sea attacks wherever they may occur. Whilst the primary focus is on international commercial shipping, advice is also provided for fishing vessels and pleasure yachts transiting piracy and robbery at sea risk waters.

The development of the Guidelines has been strongly supported by the Australian shipping industry, IMO, International Maritime Bureau and international shipping industry peak bodies.



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In 2010 the Melbourne Fire Brigade, in conjunction with the Australian Fire Services, will run from Los Angeles to New York, finishing at the World Trade Centre site to commemorate the lives lost in the horrific 9/11 terrorist attacks. The route will pass through the cities of Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Arizona, Albuquerque, Oklahoma, Houston, New Orleans, Mississippi, Memphis, Charlottesville, Washington, Baltimore, Pennsylvania, and end in New York.

Tour of Duty

21 October - 11 September 2010



INTO THE FLAMES WHEN OTHERS FLEE

Paul Ritchie, MFB

Event organiser of Tour of Duty LA-New York commemorative run

The morning of 11 September 2001 would have started like any other day in New York City; it was sunny, and there was not a cloud in the sky as the working men and women of that great metropolis prepared for their day.

Breakfast could have been toast, corn flakes, eggs or just coffee, as people busied themselves to get to work and get their children off to school.

This would have been no different for the emergency service workers of New York.

These people, irrespective of colour or creed, were driven by one simple principle: to assist people in danger and save lives, even if it meant putting their lives in harm's way.

Another group of people also awoke that day: 19 individuals whose intention was to take lives and create a world based on fear, hatred and recrimination. These two world views were to clash at 8.45am, the aftermath of which we are still confronted by today.

Exactly 411 emergency workers who woke that day did not return home. Each was someone's son or daughter, father or brother, cousin or friend, and all had committed themselves to the saving of others, while others had committed themselves to the taking of innocents.

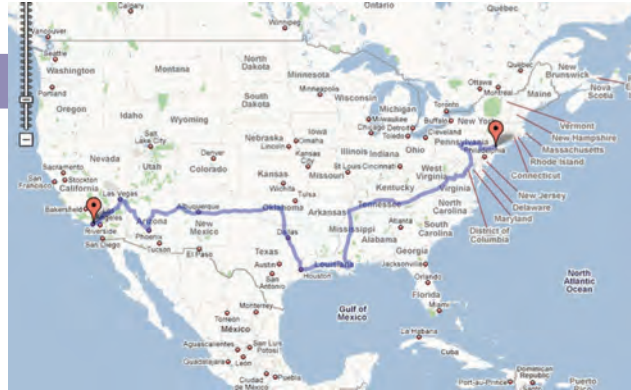
The values that are represented by those heroes reflect the self sacrifice and community spirit that is embodied by every firefighter, policeman and emergency service operator worldwide, and the atrocities of their murder at the hands of fanatics will remain the epitome of good constant struggle against evil.

With the passing of time and with the ever-changing world events dominating our collective consciousness, the self-sacrifice and calamity of that fateful day may fade.

On the back of the successful Gallipoli to London run the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade, will run with its US colleagues from Los Angeles to the World Trade Centre in New York, finishing at 8.46am on 11 September 2010, nine years to the minute since the first plane hit tower one.

The run will be a living embodiment of the values and attributes that those brave emergency workers displayed on that fateful morning. Their self-sacrifice must never be forgotten, and the run will in some small way ensure that even with the passage of time, the debt we owe those brave men and women has not diminished.

Australian and US firefighters running the breadth of America together encapsulates the shared struggles that both nations faced in the 20th century, and in no small way reflects our shared destiny in confronting evil in this century.



Route map (above) and summary and schedule (below).

LEG	DISTANCE (km)	HOURS	DAYS
Los Angeles	0		
San Bernadino	85	7	0
Victorville	130	11	0
Barstow	178	15	0
Baker	284	24	0
Jean	382	32	1
Las Vegas	444	37	2
Henderson	483	40	2
Grasshopper Junction	594	50	2
Wikieup	711	59	2
Wickenburg	825	69	3
Sun City	886	74	3
Phoenix	907	76	3
Flagstaff	1120	93	4
Albuquerque	1610	135	6
Oklahoma	2470	206	9
Dallas	2780	232	10
Houston	3130	261	11
New Orleans	3660	305	13
Memphis	4330	361	15
Nashville	4650	388	16
Charlottesville	5490	458	19
Washington	5690	474	20
Baltimore	5753	479	20
Pennsylvania	5960	497	21
Jacksonville	6000	500	21
Bloomsburg	6100	508	21
Christmas	6180	515	21
Allentown	6230	519	22
Springfield	6330	528	22
New York	6376	531	22
Total	6376	531	22



Firies' run a practical reflection

John Howard, Patron of Tour of Duty

Few leaders can identify in their tenure an event of such magnitude that it truly changed the course of history and even fewer can attest to being at that event.

On the morning of 11 September, 2001, I was preparing for a media conference in the offices of the Australian Embassy in Washington, when the terrible news of the first attack on the World Trade Centre filtered through.

Initially I thought it was a terrible accident, however events moved at pace and, with the attack on tower two and the subsequent explosion at the Pentagon, it became apparent that America was under attack, and by a quirk of fate the leader of one of the US's staunchest allies was in the midst of it.

I was scheduled to speak at a joint sitting of the US Congress the next day, an opportunity that could not go ahead. I instead went to Congress to express Australia's support, and my entourage was the only party allowed into the chamber. The emotion of the moment and shared grief left an indelible mark upon my consciousness, for the 11 September attack was not just on America, but on all things that our great freedom-loving societies stand for, as subsequent attacks have shown.

The US–Australian alliance has transcended the test of time. We stood side by side in all the major conflicts of the 20th century, endured depressions and the tribulation of worldwide natural disasters, and together we faced and defeated the scourges of totalitarian ideologies of the 20th century. I knew at that moment that together again we would have to face an even more invidious challenge, that of religious extremism in the 21st century.

The Los Angeles to New York 2010 run is a practical reflection of the values and the aspirations that two great freedom-loving societies enjoy. The run rejects the notions of exclusion, of hatred and above all of extreme ideologies. The run rather

embraces the enlightenment of life, its liberties and freedom's and it rejoices in the goodness that is the essence of the human race. But ultimately it

honours the brave men and women of the emergency services who sacrificed their futures on that fateful day to ensure that others could live: the very embodiment of those values.

I am honoured to be the Patron of this run and to support the endeavours and exertions of committed firefighters from Australia and the US who have undertaken it, to ensure that the sacrifice and suffering of that fateful day will not fade into the history books.



Former Prime Minister John Howard is honoured to be the Patron of the LA-NYC run.



David Koch from Channel 7's Sunrise program interviews organiser of the LA-New York 9/11 commemorative tour at a recent Sydney practise run.

PARTICIPANTS AND TRAINING

The completion of set milestones and time-trials has been the criteria for selection and participants in the run.

Committed to the run are 18 firefighters, three support crew and three crew.

The run will be fully escorted with firefighters joining the run as it passes through.

The training program has been developed by the Fire Brigade Fitness Co-ordinator, with assistance from AFL football clubs' fitness advisors.

A series of training runs are organised, including a recent run across Sydney Harbour Bridge which attracted widespread media attention.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Each dawn of the 22-day journey will be dedicated to the individuals whose lives were tragically taken in their tour of duty.

Funds raised will be donated to charities nominated by the Firefighters and Emergency Services of America.

This run is a statement of hope for the future of a world consumed by financial gloom and terrorist alerts. This run reflects the better values of humanity, mateship, camaraderie and self-sacrifice.

THE MELBOURNE FIRE BRIGADE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Established in 1977, the club has undertaken over 50 long-distance road and other races, including the following highlights:

- 1983 Around Australia relay for the Red Cross – 15,600 km in 44 days
- 1985 Darwin to Melbourne charity run – world record distance relay run
- 1991 Around Australia relay, retaining the Guinness Book of Records longest non-stop relay in shortest time – 17,500 km in 50 days
- 2005, 2006, 2007 ANZAC memorial runs Canberra to Melbourne – 1100 km, finishing at the MCG before the Essendon V Collingwood match
- 2008 MFB Running Club – Great Anzac Run, Gallipoli to London (44,000 kms)

In its 30-year history, the MFB has raised over \$2 million for various charities.

In 2006 the Club humbly accepted the ANZAC of the Year award from the RSL, for its achievement with the Canberra to Melbourne ANZAC Day Run.

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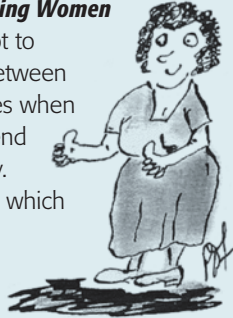
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ONE STOP BUSHFIRE INFORMATION FOR HOUSEHOLDS

By Jennifer **Filmer** OAM, MAIES

Extract from *Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women*

Be careful not to get caught between two small fires when trying to defend your property. The speed at which fires join will surprise you.



Jenny Filmer's book *"Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women"* is a one-stop resource for households in urban and rural Australia.

Extract from *Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women*

SURVIVORS STORY: THE BEAUTIFUL BASIL

When requested I speak to primary school groups about bushfire preparedness. It always amazes me that schools identify the smallest children as the ones that need that advice. Everyone needs it. I know the theory is the children will take the information home and educate the family but I don't know of one family that will plan their nutritional requirements on the basis that their 5 year old made chocolate

crackles and they were yummy.

But you work with what you have so our conversation in fire preparedness moves to my beloved aged Shetland pony Basil. "I have a special room in the house where I put Basil when we are threatened by bushfires" I say. The audience lights up and we actively discuss their pets and their special needs.

The next day I receive numerous phone calls from parents "You told my child to bring the horse inside". "That's right" I say "and while I have you on the phone there are a few more things you need to know about fire".

Everyone is a winner.

Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women was published in Australia in October 2009.

It grew out of a program developed in 1993 to provide bushfire information to rural women.

Demographic changes produced female rural and semi rural residents who did not have a traditional bushfire fighting background.

Many rural women asked their men folk what to do during a bushfire and a frequent response was "Don't worry Darling; I will take care of you".

At the first sign of smoke the men folk drove merrily out the farm gate to man fire fighting vehicles, leaving the women to protect the house, family, visitors, stock and themselves.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT FIRE FIGHTING FOR NON FIREFIGHTING WOMEN

- Every family is different. You cannot deliver an emergency safety message as though people are one homogeneous group. This book provides a variety of resources that can be utilized depending on the family's abilities.
- Minority groups that are not

traditionally recognised as such like single parents or parents with two sets of children in different locations, feel particularly vulnerable. This book is an excellent resource for all.

- Many people who are wheelchair bound, yet live independently can get more information tailored to their needs, in case they are caught with limited options.

- Employers can use this resource to factor bushfire impact into risk management of their business.
- This book assists public bushfire information of firefighting based organisations reaching the target audience at an acceptable level.

The original program, a single day of practical and theory, was a success. The value of the content was recognised nationally and in 2003 I received an Order of Australia partly for this program.

The Victorian fires of 2009 sent us back to the drawing board. Could we face the summer of 2010 knowing that we had knowledge that other non firefighters needed to stay safe?

We knew that publishing a book was a long process. In addition to the time to write the manuscript, we did not have time to rely on a publisher to get it on the shelves. The message had to be concise, accurate, uncomplicated, cater to all reading levels, plus non readers, and delivered to a national audience that was still recovering from the impact of the Victorian fires.

Almost 40 years of firefighting experience on three continents gave us the knowledge; the history of the program gave us the confidence. A large part of Australia was still in the grip of drought, the next fire season was looming with dire warnings, so time was not on our side.

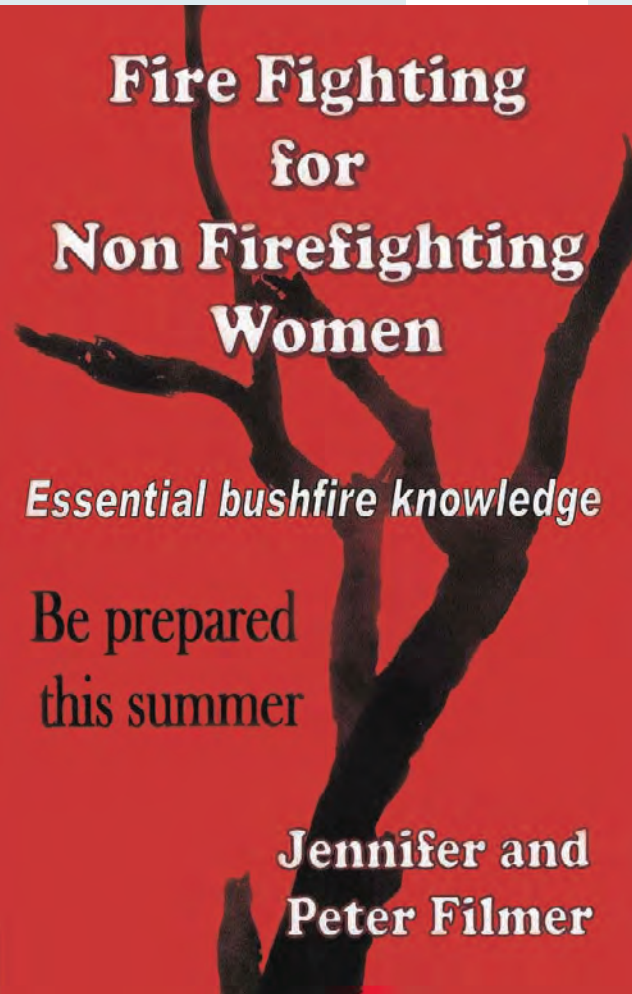
The message of an unpalatable topic had to be delivered in a user friendly manner and released before October 2009.

Internationally recognised artist Peter Filmer provided drawings, I wrote the manuscript, we edited, designed the cover, built a website and negotiated with printers. The book is designed to give tools to survive bushfires both physically and psychologically. It is for all the family with key information highlighted by knowledgeable people, a number of survivor's stories, a detailed fire plan, communications tree, gutter sand bag pattern, labels for pets and telephones etc. This is a one stop bushfire information source for households.

Although the title *Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women* may make you think customers would be predominately women, this is not so. Men are often at a disadvantage of having it assumed that they gain traditionally male information (like how to install a pump) by osmosis. Men are reading the book in their sheds, on holidays and recommending it to others.

Many customers come with accompanying stories or fear in their hearts. Books have been purchased in sets for discussion groups, as gifts and many customers come back to purchase additional copies. Workplaces recognised the impact of natural disasters on their workforce and in an effort to assist their employees have provided access to these books and requested us to speak on the subject. Government departments have purchased copies to provide safety information to employees who undertake home visits in rural areas during summer and may be exposed to bushfires.

Emergency organisations are often operationally focused. There will never be enough tankers, volunteers, aircraft, hoses etc to stand beside every resident of Australia during bushfires. Every individual is their own first responder and it should be our aim to provide as much information, in as many ways as possible, to assist them during bushfires. We know that our book has opened up this pathway. The country does not have the luxury of time. Every house lost and every person burnt has a cost greater than that recognised on the front pages of newspapers. The individual suffering goes on long after the interest dies down. Information is the key as some people will not have a choice when the warnings go out. ●



Bushfires are not unique to rural areas – they also occur in urban and semi urban areas.

Fire Fighting for Non Firefighting Women is a concise, comprehensive book developed to benefit non firefighting women, and the whole family, and contain straightforward information including:

- a comprehensive fire plan
- key points indicated by drawings
- gutter sandbag pattern
- phone tree list
- labels for the main phone and pets
- a check list of things to have ready

For more information or to view the book log on at www.clearbooks.com.au

COAG MEETING ADDRESSING NATURAL DISASTERS, SECURITY

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) held its 28th meeting in Brisbane on 7 December 2009. The Prime Minister, Premiers, Chief Ministers and the President of the Australian Local Government Association were joined by Treasurers for the meeting.

National security and community safety was featured and a briefing on Australia's national security arrangements was received from the National Security Adviser Mr Duncan Lewis, AO.

NATURAL DISASTER ARRANGEMENTS

Following decisions at its 30 April 2009 meeting, COAG agreed to a range of measures to improve Australia's natural disaster arrangements. Given the expected increased regularity and severity of natural disasters arising from extreme weather events, governments recognise that a national, coordinated and cooperative effort is required to strengthen Australia's capacity to withstand and recover from emergencies and disasters. COAG therefore agreed to a new whole-of-nation, 'resilience' based approach to natural disaster policy and programs, which recognises that a disaster resilient community is one that works together to understand and manage the risks that it confronts. Governments, at all levels, have a significant role to play in strengthening the nation's resilience to disasters. To this end, COAG agreed to a range of measures to improve Australia's natural disaster arrangements through more efficient and effective funding arrangements for natural disaster mitigation, relief and recovery; strengthened coordination and partnership between the Commonwealth and State governments in preparation for, and in response to, disasters; and the introduction of a framework for improving the interoperability of radio-communications equipment used by emergency services. COAG also noted recent actions taken by the Commonwealth and State governments to improve

national capabilities for responding to disasters. At its 30 April 2009 meeting, COAG agreed to develop a national telephone-based emergency warning system and COAG today noted that this system – known as Emergency Alert – is being rolled out. It will provide emergency service agencies another tool with which to warn and advise the public in the event of emergencies. COAG also welcomed implementation of national emergency call centre surge capacity arrangements, under which the Commonwealth will provide a surge capability to the States should their local emergency call centre capacity be overwhelmed following a disaster.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Critical infrastructure is essential to Australia's national security, economic prosperity and social well-being. COAG noted that the effective protection of critical infrastructure is reliant on a strong, collaborative partnership between governments and critical infrastructure owners and operators.

COAG noted that there are areas of common government responsibility where critical infrastructure activities need to be closely co-ordinated. To help achieve this improved co-ordination, COAG agreed to create a new committee, the National Critical Infrastructure Resilience Committee, both as a national co-ordination mechanism for critical infrastructure resilience, as well as to enhance and replace existing co-ordination mechanisms.

The National Critical Infrastructure Resilience Committee will develop working relationships with relevant Ministerial Councils and Committees, and undertake further work in relation to the roles and responsibilities of



COAG has agreed to a range of measures to improve Australia's natural disaster arrangements.

respective governments as they relate to the concept of 'critical infrastructure resilience.'

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR HUMAN INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

COAG noted that updates have been made to the *National Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic* and associated documents that reflect contemporary experience with the H1N1 pandemic in 2009.

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

All Australian governments aspire to an Australia where women and their children live free from violence in safe communities. Informed by the National Council to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children's *Time for Action* report, significant progress has been made in developing a National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children. COAG will consider the National Plan, including an initial three-year action plan, in the first half of 2010. ●



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Garry Coombes AM*South Australian Division*

As a final year teaching student in 1962, a spur of the moment decision to do a First Aid course led Garry Coombes to a second career in

voluntary emergency services.

Joining St John Ambulance on completion of the course, Mr Coombes pursued parallel careers in vocational education and training, and ambulance and community First Aid services.

Over the next 30 years as a volunteer ambulance officer, Mr Coombes came in contact with the full range of emergency services, kindling an interest in the importance of preparedness and collaboration between services to ensure effective coordinated responses to communities in times of need.

Local leadership roles brought together a passion for community education and a commitment to the development of strong community-based volunteer emergency services.

Moving from local leadership and volunteer ambulance officer roles to state level positions in St John Ambulance culminated in 1996 with a six year term as State Commissioner. This was followed in 2002 by election to the position of Chair of the State Board of St John. This role also encompassed membership of the National St John Board. Following completion of his term as Board Chair, Mr Coombes is now the St John Board director responsible for St John training services in South Australia. He also maintains a uniformed role as a State Staff Officer, working mainly in emergency response management.

Mr Coombes has been a member of a number of State level emergency management committees, which has enabled him to influence and encourage the extension of volunteer involvement in emergency management and foster the development of community commitment to emergency service and preparedness. He currently represents St John on the SA State Recovery Committee, part of South Australia's statutory emergency response arrangements.

Since retiring in 2001 Mr Coombes and his wife Jeanette manage REVISE, a volunteer organisation placing retired teachers in remote locations, supporting children learning through Schools of the Air.

Mr Coombes received national recognition for his lifelong contribution to volunteering with St John and service to the community in the 2009 Australia Day Honours being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia Medal.

William (Bill) Vernon Timm*South Australian Division*

Bill Timm became a Fellow on 10 April 2006 after many years of membership to the Institute and service on the Board.

Mr Timm's impressive resume starts in the United States and includes Washington State Public Health Association, guest lecturer at the Fort Sam Houston School of Medical Services in CBR, NBC warfare, CEO of the Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Public Health District for eight years and military service in the Medical Service Corps retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He has a Masters Degree in Human Resource Management and Hospital Administration.

Migrating from the USA to Australia in 1987 after surviving the disaster of the eruption of Mt St Helens, Mr Timm began a career in public health and disaster management in Adelaide. He was director of Pika Wiya Health Services in Port Augusta, later finding his way into the Counter Disaster Program in the Department of Human Services until retiring in September 2001.

He enjoyed his work in Disaster Management having taken many Emergency Management Australia courses where he often spoke as a guest lecturer on the multi-faceted lessons of the Mt St Helens disaster and recovery. The highlight of his career was coordinating the medical services and recovery efforts during

the eruption of Mt St Helens, which set the stage to becoming involved in the Counter Disaster program for the Health and Medical Services in South Australia during the last eight years of his public service career.

Mr Timm is a keen sailor and is a past President of the Gig Harbor Yacht Club in Washington State. He enjoys the vast beauty of Australia's blue waters where he sailed his 36 foot yawl, Refuge, to Australia from the USA. He now lives in Eden Valley South Australia, near the Barossa Valley, having traded sailing on the high seas to living under the red gums and enjoying the fruit of the vines.

Jan Burgess, FAIES*South Australian Registrar*

While working in secretarial, sales and marketing roles, Ms Burgess joined the Australian Army Reserves in 1976.

As a member of the Womens Royal

Australian Army Corps, detached to 48 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery Corps located at Keswick Barracks in South Australia, Ms Burgess was advised early on to never admit she could type otherwise she would end up in the Orderly Room as a clerk. This was good advice.

After successfully completing an Operator Command Post course she was the first female assigned to this role on the gun line. She also qualified as a Safety Assistant, Signaler, Driver and Clerk ensuring that on-duty time was interesting and varied.

Ms Burgess served 22 years over two stints in the Army Reserve over a period of 25 years, attaining the rank of Sergeant

When she retired from the Army Reserves, Ms Burgess joined the SA State Emergency Service Headquarter Unit and put her military skills of radio telephone procedures and map reading to good use in the SES call centre.

Ms Burgess has served as Registrar for the SA Division of the AIES since 2007 and was appointed a Fellow of the Institute in 2009. ●



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ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED BY DISASTERS

The Australian Government has committed to the provision of a coordinated approach to delivering recovery assistance to Australians in response to onshore and offshore disasters and critical incidents.

The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) provides a one-off immediate payment of \$1,000 per eligible adult and \$400 per child to assist in the recovery of individuals and families who are adversely affected by a major disaster. The payment is delivered by Centrelink on behalf of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

The Minister for FaHCSIA has authority under the *Social Security Act 1991* to activate the AGDRP for a major disaster. In determining if an event constitutes a major disaster the Minister considers the number of individuals affected, the impact on individuals and families, the extent to which the scale or nature of the disaster is unusual and whether the relevant state/territory has the capacity to adequately respond.

This report also notes where communities have been supported by the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) program. This provides partial reimbursement to the states and territories for natural disaster relief and recovery expenditure. The NDRRA covers a range of measures including personal hardship and distress assistance and the restoration or replacement of essential public assets.

The NDRRA is administered through Emergency Management Australia (EMA), which is a division of the Attorney-General's Department. Under the NDRRA, where assistance is provided to individuals, the level of support and criteria is determined by the relevant State or Territory.

The Government provided support to individuals affected by these disasters in 2009:

NSW (MID-NORTH COAST) FLOODING, NOVEMBER 2009

On 5 November 2009, extreme rainfall hit the Mid-North Coast of New South Wales. Over 48 hours, 528mm of rain was recorded in the Coffs Harbour area and 351mm in Bellingen which caused

minor to moderate river flooding and localised flash flooding in the region. A Natural Disaster was declared for the NSW shires of Nambucca, Bellingen, Kempsey and Coffs Harbour.

Statistics up to 2 December 2009

Claims received: 4162 (3436 granted)

Expenditure: \$4.12 million

Closing Date: 10 May 2010

SAMOAN TSUNAMI AND SUMATRA EARTHQUAKES, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009

On 6 October 2009, the Australian Government announced financial assistance to help Australians affected by the Samoan tsunami that occurred on 30 September 2009 and Sumatra earthquakes that occurred on 30 September and 1 October 2009.

Samoa statistics up to 27 November 2009

Claims received: 850 (202 granted)

Funeral Assistance: 5 (\$25,000)

Expenditure: \$50,800

Closing Date: 6 April 2010

Sumatra statistics up to 27 November 2009

Claims received: 59 (50 granted)

Expenditure: \$266,000

Closing Date: 6 April 2010

QLD (SOUTH-EAST)/NSW (NORTHERN) FLOODS, MAY 2009

On 20 May 2009, storms and associated flooding affected south-east Queensland, the north coast and northern rivers regions of New South Wales, causing torrential rain of up to 405mm, winds of up to 130km/h and large waves on the coast.

Statistics up to 20 November 2009

Claims received: 19,326 (15,303 Granted)

Expenditure: \$18,989,100

Closing Date: 25 November 2009

NSW (NORTHERN) FLOODS, MARCH 2009

The Australian Government is providing assistance through the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements and one-off ex-gratia assistance to those affected by

the March 2009 floods in Northern New South Wales who were still affected by the floods as at 29 September 2009.

Statistics up to 2 December 2009

Claims received: 13 (11 Granted)

Expenditure: \$11,000

Closing Date: 18 December 2009

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES, JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2009

This series of bushfires started in Victoria on 29 January 2009 and continued into February 2009, reaching its peak on Black Saturday, 7 February 2009.

The Australian Government is providing assistance through the NDRRA and also assistance through the Income Recovery Subsidy (an ex-gratia payment paid fortnightly, equivalent to an ongoing income support payment) and ex-gratia funeral/memorial assistance payment of \$5,000.

Statistics up to 27 November 2009

Claims received: 58,972 (57,165

Granted) (closed 7 August 2009)

IRS: 4021

Funeral/memorial: 176 (\$880,000)

Expenditure: \$80.6 Million

Closing Date: 28 February 2010

QLD (NORTH & NORTH-WESTERN) FLOODS, JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2009

On 12 January 2009, a rain depression caused by ex tropical cyclone Charlotte exacerbated monsoonal flooding in the north-western Queensland region, isolating communities for an extended period.

On 31 January 2009, tropical cyclone Ellie caused a rain depression in far north/northern Queensland resulting in substantial flooding to townships between Townsville and Cairns. On 6 and 7 February 2009, further heavy rain caused additional flooding.

Statistics up to 13 November 2009

Claims received: 42,287 (37,169 Granted)

IRS: 3190

Funeral/Memorial: 2 (\$10,000)

Expenditure: \$44.8 Million

Closing Date: 7 August 2009 ●



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NATIONAL COUNCIL

The General Registrar
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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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VICTORIA

The Registrar – VIC Division of Australian Institute of
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THE INSTITUTE'S AIMS

To provide a professional body for the study of the roles and functions of Emergency Services and Emergency Management Organisations throughout Australia, and the promotion and advancement of professional standards in these and associated services.

THE INSTITUTE'S OBJECTIVES

- To raise the status and advance the interests of the profession of emergency management and counter disaster services administration.
- To represent generally the views and interests of the profession and to promote a high standard of integrity and efficiency in the skills of emergency and counter disaster administration.
- To provide opportunities for association among members and students to promote and protect their mutual interest.
- To facilitate full interchange of concepts and techniques amongst members.
- To bring to the notice of the public such matters that are deemed to be important for safety and protection of the community and to promote research and development of emergency services generally.
- To establish a national organisation to foster international co-operation in counter-disaster services administration.

THE INSTITUTE OFFERS

- An opportunity to be part of a progressive Australia-wide Institute dedicated to the progression and recognition of the Emergency Service role in the community.
- An independent forum where you can be heard and your opinions shared with other emergency service members.
- A journal with information from institutes and other sources around the world in addition to the interchange of views between Divisions in Australia, as well as access to the Institute website.
- Reduced fees for members at Institute Seminars and Conferences and an information service supplied by professional experienced officers.
- A Certificate of Membership.
- The opportunity to use the initials of the particular membership status after your name.

- Corporate members receive a bronze plaque free of charge and can advertise on the AIES website, as well as provide articles for inclusion in the Institute's journal.

MEMBERSHIP

Costs

Nomination Fee:	\$20.00
Annual Subscription:	\$50.00
Fellows:	\$60.00
Corporate Subscription:	\$250.00

Note: Institute Fees may be tax deductible.

Classes

There are four classes of membership:

- Members • Fellows • Life Fellows • Corporate

There are five categories of affiliation with the Institute that may be offered to persons who do not meet the requirements for membership:

- Associate • Student Member • Retired Member
- Honorary Member • Honorary Fellow

Eligibility

Applications for membership will be considered from persons who are at least twenty-one years of age and who:

- Are members of a permanent emergency service or associated service with at least two years experience, or
- Are volunteer members of emergency or associated services with a minimum of four years experience as an emergency services member.

Admission as a member may be granted if in the opinion of the General Council the applicant meets all other conditions of membership and passes such examinations and/or other tests as may be required by General Council.

MEMBERS

Our members come from

- Ambulance Service • Community Services • Emergency Equipment Industry • Emergency Management Organisations
- Fire Services • Health, Medical and Nursing Services • Mines Rescue • Police Service • Safety Officers • SES • Transport Services
- Volunteer Marine Rescue • Volunteer Rescue Associations



AIES CONTACTS

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NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE JOURNAL

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EMERGENCY SERVICES ACKNOWLEDGED AT BLACK SATURDAY ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Thousands of residents and visitors to Kinglake gathered at the local football ground for a memorial service marking the first anniversary of the Victorian Black Saturday Bushfires on Sunday 7 February 2010.

Children released butterflies before the crowd of about 2000 formed a guard of honour for the Country Fire Authority firefighters, State Emergency Service volunteers and other emergency service and relief workers who toiled to save lives on Black Saturday.

The memorial service began at the time fire ripped through Kinglake - between 5pm and 6pm on 7 Saturday 2009.

Other areas affected by the devastating bushfires, which claimed the lives of 173 people, marked the anniversary in their own special way and Victorians paused for a minute's silence at 12pm. ●

CFA Public Affairs photographer: Keith Pakenham





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