

NATIONAL EMERGENCY

RESPONSE

Official Journal of the Australasian Institute of Emergency Services



A.I.E.S.

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A group of five emergency responders are hiking up a rocky, forested trail. They are wearing high-visibility orange and yellow gear, helmets, and carrying large backpacks. The terrain is rugged with many large rocks and some ferns. The background shows more trees and a hazy sky.

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HAS RETURNED**

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1, 460 Bourke Street, Melbourne
GPO Box 2466, Melbourne 3001
Ph: (03) 9937 0200
Email: contact@cwaustral.com.au
ACN: 30 086 202 093

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Kristi High
Associate Editor: Steve Jenkins FAIES
Send articles for inclusion to:
Email: editor@aies.net.au

WEBSITE

www.aies.net.au

WEBSITE CONTENT

The website has sections for each State as well as National Areas. If you have ideas for State Division content, please contact your State Secretary. For National content, email web@aies.net.au. Please be aware that all content must go past the National Secretary prior to web publication to ensure it meets required guidelines.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Official Journal of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services

Winter 2023 • National Emergency Response

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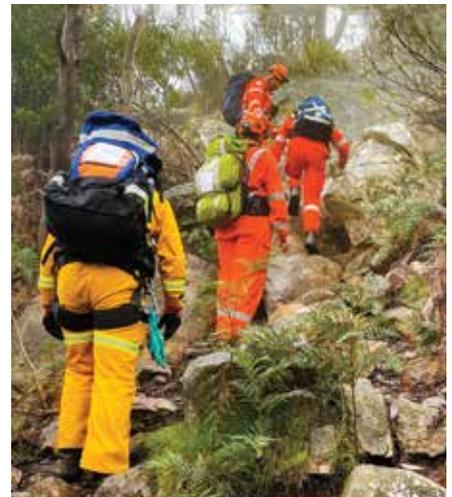
FRONT COVER

A hiker who injured herself near the peak of the Cathedral Ranges required the combined effort of emergency services to safely rescue her.

CFA crews and emergency service colleagues battled harsh conditions to reach the patient, with some remaining overnight before she was airlifted to safety the following day.

Read more at <https://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/news/hiker-rescued-in-cathedral-ranges>

Photo credit: Monbulk Fire & Rescue (CFA) SES Marysville Unit



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NEW MEMBERS

The Australasian Institute of Emergency Services is pleased to announce the following emergency services people joined the AIES between April-July 2023.

NAME	DIVISION	ORGANISATION
Chennell Allan	VIC	ARPANSA*
John Brown	NSW/ACT/INT	SES
Lucas Bryan	TAS	Tasmania Fire Service
Rhys Delaforce	VIC	VIVA Energy Aust
Jordan Grossman	VIC	Country Fire Authority
Mick Jackson	NSW/ACT/INT	Sydney Rail
Thomas Jowitt	SA/WA	Royal Perth & Bunbury Hospital
Gregory Martin	NSW/ACT/INT	City of Sydney Council
Patrick Quick	NSW/ACT/INT	Central Coast Council
Thomas Shannon	NSW/ACT/INT	Rural Fire Service
Kim Tolmie	NSW/ACT/INT	Toll Ambulance Rescue
Tara Turner	VIC	LYB Operation & Maintenance
Cathy Whiteman	NSW/ACT/INT	Western NSW Local Health District

* Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency



www.facebook.com/aies.online



<https://au.linkedin.com/company/australian-institute-of-emergency-services> or log in at au.linkedin.com and search for 'Australian Institute of Emergency Services' under 'Companies'.

Articles, photographs and short stories are sought for the *National Emergency Response Journal*. Please submit items for the next edition to editor@aies.net.au by **16 October 2023**. There is an annual award for the best article submitted by an AIES member.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Robert (Bob) **Maul**, LFAIES, JP (NSW)

National President

I am pleased to inform members that at our April 2023 AGM, held in Melbourne, the newly elected Queensland Division Emergency Management Committee President John Moy, MAIES, was appointed as a Director of the National Board of the Institute for a term of three years.

John is a long-time distinguished member of the Institute in Queensland and is a highly credentialed senior officer with the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. He currently holds the appointment of Business Operations Manager, Queensland School of Fire and Emergency Services Training. John also holds many academic qualifications and other awards.

I am equally pleased to inform members that the Board, at its last monthly meeting, appointed our National Webmaster, Costa Zakis, FAIES, as an Independent Director on the National Board. Costa is also a long-term member of the NSW AIES Division of the Institute and a highly credentialed and qualified officer of the NSW State Emergency Service. The National President has known him for over 30 years in both the SES and AIES organisations. The Board of Directors welcomes both appointments and is confident that both gentlemen will make significant contributions to the Institute in the years to come.

Recently, in accordance with the Board's wishes, the National President wrote a letter to the President of the Emergency Services Foundation (Victoria) suggesting that this organisation might consider affiliation with the AIES in the form of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Institute. At the date of writing this article the Institute has received a preliminary response from the Chief Executive Officer of that organisation indicating that the letter will be tabled at a meeting of the Foundation for consideration and reply.

Over the past 12 months both the NSW and Victoria Division Management Committees have issued quarterly

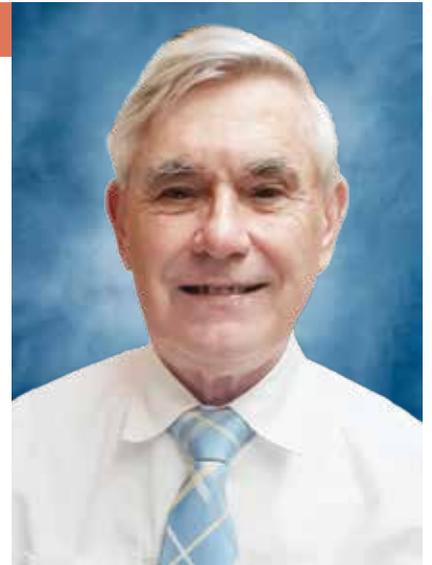
newsletters to their division members and these newsletters have been onforwarded to other State Division Committees for onforwarding to their members. The newsletters update division members on AIES activities being conducted in those states, including webinars, book club and AGM meetings, as well as information pertaining to emergency management conferences, seminars, training courses, etc. being run by government and private sector organisations throughout Australia.

These newsletters have been well received by our members. May I suggest that members read the newsletters as they may be eligible for, or interested in attending, any of the activities as listed in the newsletters.

The advent of the La Niña weather pattern in the last few months, bringing with it less rainfall across Australia, has brought a welcome change to those persons that suffered extensive damage to their properties and possessions along many river valley in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. The drier conditions have allowed many owners to repair, relocate or move back to their properties and houses. Unfortunately, that is not the case for many householders in several river valleys, particularly in the northern river and central west areas of NSW, where many residents are either still living in tents or caravans or in dilapidated buildings.

This is causing hardship for many families and is exacerbated by the fact that many may not receive moneys to repair their properties for some time. It is hoped that this situation will soon come to an end so that affected disaster victims can once again return to a normal life especially after the stressful events they have been put through in the past two years.

A panel of highly qualified emergency management practitioners who are Fellows of the Institute has been established by the Board under the chairmanship of Mr David Parsons



ESM, FAIES. The Panel will assess the qualifications, practices and emergency management experience presented to it by applicants to determine whether the CESM post-nominal can be granted. If in the affirmative the panel will recommend to the National Board that the applicants be granted the certification.

The Board, through the panel, will shortly provide members with a detailed memorandum of the scheme and points associated with the program including application documentation. Any enquiries relating to the post-nominal should be referred to president.nsw@aies.net.au

On behalf of my fellow directors and members of the Institute I would like to congratulate David Parsons, a member of the National Board, on being awarded the Emergency Services Medal in the June 2023 King's Birthday Honours list. David has been a long-serving executive member on the NSW Division AIES Management Committee and is currently a National Director of the AIES National Board. David held the position of Local SES Controller for the City of Blue Mountains Local Government Area for a very long time and is still a serving member of that unit. He is held in high regard by members of the SES, as well as members of the AIES throughout Australia.

A special mention must go to Paul Mackinder from NSW who was recently awarded the Order of St John in May.



Paul is one of only 20 volunteers to receive this prestigious award.

The Board also wishes to congratulate Ian Manock, the Secretary of the NSW Division who, at the Annual Meeting of the Board in April, was upgraded to the level of a Fellow of the Institute for his services to the Institute. Additionally, at the foregoing meeting AIES members Charles Blanch and Carl Peterson were presented with the Award for Excellence in Leadership and with a Certificate of Achievement respectively.

It is pleasing to note that the newly established AIES Health Emergency Management Special Group under the leadership of Sven Nilsson has conducted two webinars since its establishment in 2022 with 40 members in attendance. A further three-to-four HEMSIG webinars are scheduled in the next 12 months and anyone wishing to join the group should approach Sven via the email address secretary.nsw@aies.net.au. I should also like to record that Sven, as a member

of the AIES, participated in the review of the Advanced Diploma of Public Safety (Emergency Management), and that another of our members, Dwight Robinson, participated in the review of the AIDR *Managing Exercises Handbook* as a member of the AIDR Exercise Handbook Working Party.

Additionally, David Parsons, our NSW Division Management Committee President, was tasked and completed the writing of the AIDR *Incident Management Handbook*. The Board acknowledges with thanks the participation of our three AIES colleagues with these Australian emergency management educational qualifications and documents.

An extraordinary meeting of the NSW Division was held on 17 July 2023 to vote on amalgamation of the ACT Division with the NSW Division. The amalgamation was unanimously passed. The new division will in future be called the "NSW, ACT and International Division".

In ending this edition of my report to members I would like to mention that the AIES conducted a very successful and well attended 46th Annual General Meeting at a hotel near to the Tullamarine Airport in Melbourne on 1 April 2023 at night by both face-to-face and virtual means. It was gratifying to see so many Victorian members attending the venue of the meeting. The success of the activity was principally due to the efforts of our National Treasurer, Jenny Crump FAIES, and Victorian Appointed Director, Lt Colonel Doug Caulfield, who spent a considerable amount of their time in arranging and organising the meeting.

Our thanks also go to the guest speaker on the evening, a member of the Victorian Division, Mr Alan Eade ASM, KSt.J, MAIES who provided a most interesting address on the functions of, and the services, which St John Ambulance provides in Victoria and throughout Australia. ●

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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2022

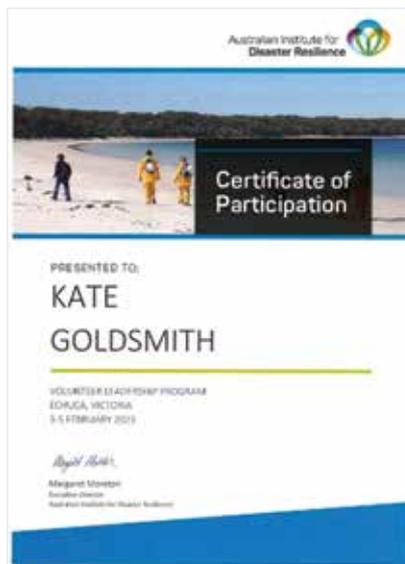
On the first weekend of February 2023 I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the AIDR Volunteer Leadership Program, through a sponsored position with Australasian Institute of Emergency Services (AIES).

By Kate **Goldsmith** MAIES

Acting Emergency Management Coordinator, Moira Shire Council

It was originally scheduled for October 2022, however, due to the recent flooding in north-east Victoria it had been postponed. It was well worth the wait, and the two Red Cross facilitators, Sally and Deb, were both informative and engaging. They were able to successfully create a safe and inclusive learning environment for the very diverse range of attendees over the three-day course.

Although working in local government is not part of the volunteering community, our role during an emergency event has a direct relationship with many facets of the volunteer community. My aim for involvement in the Volunteer Leadership Program was to help me to better assist during an emergency at an activated emergency relief centre. There are a large number of volunteers that present during an emergency event and quite often this can occur at the relief centres. Having the skills and knowledge of how to best manage these people and be able to get the best result for the community and the volunteers would be extremely beneficial for all. I also saw the benefit of strengthening the connection between volunteer groups and local government. Additionally, as a regional local government many of our emergency service first responders are, out of necessity, volunteers. During an emergency event, this volunteerism and community support swells to include a large number of additional spontaneous volunteers.



Volunteering covers so many aspects; there are the formal roles that are the 'visual volunteers' including the VICSES, CFA, sporting clubs, school groups, Rotary and other association groups. Caring for other people's children, assisting elderly neighbours to mow their lawn, reading a neighbour's mail because their eyesight has deteriorated or they are unable to read, translating legal or banking documents, helping write a letter or resume – these forms of volunteering, often going unnoticed, are an essential part of our communities. During this leadership program there was an important inclusion that highlighted the large number of these type of volunteers that go unrecorded.

The course also discussed some of the challenges that can be faced when

it comes to coordinating or leading volunteers within the dynamics of a group. People are very much individual in their needs, wants, thoughts and feelings. Although they may ultimately need to function as a group, the ability to adapt leadership skills to ensure the group can achieve the ultimate goal as one is essential. This must be done whilst addressing each of the individuals' needs, to be comfortable within the team as the task is carried out.

The course briefly touched on the Myers Briggs personality test method. The group individually answered questions to determine which of the many different attributes they most identified with. This was a revealing process for many of the group as they realised some of the key attributes of their personalities and that of other members. It was also interesting to acknowledge that their approach to situations and information varied depending on their personality traits. As quite an extroverted personality myself, it was interesting to learn that introverted people would much prefer an email, to me arriving at their desk to discuss my next brilliant idea! Having previously completed this assessment, it was interesting to determine that my results were different. I feel that this can be, in part, attributed to a more comfortable, stable and mentally healthy working environment.

I found all of the varying course attendees to be completely engaged in their learning, which was a credit to Deb and Sally and the delivery of their

material. With many members from the CFA, SES, Ambulance Victoria and Red Cross, it was interesting to hear their differing perspectives, often with similar leadership issues. Some of the challenges that the leaders and prospective leaders were experiencing involved conflict with other team members. It was encouraging to see that everyone was willing to listen and use the newly acquired leadership skills to help suggest solutions and approaches to solving the problems faced by the leaders.

It becomes apparent during this type of training course that certain attributes are required to become a good leader. It is important to recognise that people process information and learn in different ways. They may enjoy structure or contrastingly they may like to be spontaneous. Asking people to describe what they think makes a good leader can be quite a challenge; however, asking them to remember or visualise one of their favourite leaders and name one attribute or skill that they employed, becomes a much simpler task. People will remember how they felt with both effective and ineffective leaders. They will also remember how conflict situations were addressed and if they felt heard.

With many members from the CFA, SES, Ambulance Victoria and Red Cross, it was interesting to hear their differing perspectives, often with similar leadership issues.

The importance of listening to people entirely is essential. It is not enough to just hear what they are saying verbally, but also to note what their actions and behaviours are also expressing. Recognising that not everyone wants to talk through their issues immediately, some need time to process the situation before responding to the information, is also a key leadership skill. Our volunteer leaders are no different, requiring various leadership skills to manage the differing personalities and challenges within their teams or groups to achieve the set goal. Although, most importantly, they need to be supported from their leaders as well.

I feel that the program delivered all that it set out to, and I also achieved my aim for attending. I have made some new connections and contacts that

I hope, going forward, will be beneficial to us both. I will remember some key ideas from this program, including that developing good relationships with your team and others is essential; and getting to know your team members and ensuring that they feel heard, included and importantly safe to use their voice. These are some of the most important learnings that I can apply in my future leadership positions. In particular, acknowledging that our volunteers are completing these leadership roles often under immense pressure and sometimes without the necessary training and guidance that others have been offered.

I would highly recommend this short leadership course and I would encourage you to share its availability. Share the opportunity to all of your community and volunteer networks. It will only enhance your community and their ability to develop good leaders which in turn will benefit everyone. ●

To find out about courses, conferences or programs run by the Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience, visit aidr.org.au and send your selection to your member state division and enquire about AIES subsidies.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kate Goldsmith became a member of AIES in April 2022 as a result of a referral by an existing AIES member. She is currently studying at Charles Sturt University and has made substantial progress towards completion of a Bachelor of Emergency Management. Kate is employed with Moira Shire Council as the Acting Emergency Management Coordinator and is currently involved in the recovery aspects of the recent flood event that occurred along the Murray, Goulburn and Broken river systems within northern Victoria/southern New South Wales.

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DIVERSE CAREERS FOR ST JOHN WA TEAM CELEBRATED THIS INTERNATIONAL PARAMEDICS DAY

Nine St John WA paramedics have shared their experience on the organisation's social media channels to demonstrate the diverse career options available to mark the second ever International Paramedics Day.

Source: **St John WA**

This article was published on stjohnwa.com.au

The cross-section of the St John WA team work in clinical support, the STORC midwifery program, on road in emergency ambulance crews and supporting regional Triple Zero (000) response in some of Western Australia's most far-flung locations.

International Paramedics Day was launched on 8 July last year to honour Dominique-Jean Larrey, the man often referred to as the 'father of modern-day ambulance services'.

It's a day to recognise the valuable contributions paramedics make to society, and to educate the public on the wide variety of roles they undertake to keep their communities safe.

The theme for 2023 is 'What paramedics do' which is far more than responding in an ambulance vehicle to Triple Zero (000) call-outs.

Meet the "bunch" on the St John WA Instagram page over the coming days, because we couldn't stop at one day to celebrate the team (every day should be International Paramedics Day in our opinion). ●



Top L-R: Clinical Program Coordinator Sean Morris, Ambulance Paramedic Tiq Rehman, Clinical Support Coordinator Deane Coxall. Middle L-R: Critical Care Paramedic Intern Cornell Greyling, Capability Coordinator – Emergency Management Nik Stewart, Station Manager Andrew Lake. Bottom L-R: Resuscitation Improvement Coordinator Jason Belcher, Community Paramedic Carla Robson, Ambulance Paramedic and Registered Midwife Mel Gardiner.



Meeting local First Nations people conducting the Welcome to Country at the Frank Fisher Cup Reconciliation and Memorial Day in Chinchilla in May.

NAIDOC WEEK PROFILE: FIRST NATIONS EMPLOYMENT OFFICER ADRIAN COOLWELL

As NAIDOC week kicked off in the first week of July, one of Queensland Police's First Nations members reflected on his career with the service.

Source: **QPS Media**

*This article was published on
mypolice.qld.gov.au*

Adrian Coolwell, First Nations Employment Officer with the First Nations and Multicultural Affairs Unit, knows well the sweet taste of success; he also knows that it is not always straightforward.

The accomplished footballer, cricketer and proud First Nations man did not fulfil his initial dream of becoming a police officer, but chose another pathway to a diverse and fulfilling career in the QPS.

On his father's side, Mr Coolwell has Mununjhali heritage, the First Nations people from the Beaudesert area.

His mother, the well-known and respected Aunty Valda Coolwell who

sadly passed away in January this year, was from the Gooreng Gooreng and Gungalu people (both from central Queensland), and South Sea Islander background.

Aunty Valda was one of the first Aboriginal people to conduct traditional Welcome to Country ceremonies in south-east Queensland, and since her passing, Mr Coolwell has taken on some of that role.

He said his initial connection to policing came through the sport of rugby.

"I was playing first grade football for Wests and one day we played against the QPS team," Mr Coolwell said.

"Mal Meninga was on the team because he was a police officer at the time.

"My mother had a connection to Mal, because he also has South Sea Islander background, and she went to school with his father.

"I was getting ready to finish high school and wondering what to do with my life. My mother saw that Mal was a police officer and she said, 'You'd be good at that!'"

Mr Coolwell said he applied to join the QPS when he was 18, but was unsuccessful.

"It was 1978 and there were height restrictions in those days. They said I was too short and turned me down.

"It was a kick in the guts, but I got on with life and went off and did other things."

Mr Coolwell worked for stationery distributors Gordon and Gotch for the following decade, in the meantime following his passion for both football and cricket.

Height restrictions had ended in the QPS by around 1989 and he again applied to be a police officer, but was unsuccessful.

Once more, he sought other opportunities and completed a hospitality course which opened new doors.

"I worked in hospitality for the next 10 years and ended up being the duty manager at the Breakfast Creek Hotel," Mr Coolwell said.

"We would regularly have police rostered for special duties at the door, and I got to know some of the local officers.

"Around 1995, the Police Liaison Officer (PLO) program started in the QPS, and these officers encouraged me to join as a PLO.

"They acted as my referees and I became one of the first PLOs in the state.

"It was a different pathway into the QPS, and, nearly 30 years later, I have not looked back."

Mr Coolwell worked as a PLO in Brisbane and Fortitude Valley for the next five years, until a new opportunity arose.

"In 1999, my Inspector at the time, Kerry Smith, encouraged me to apply for the position of Watchhouse Officer.

"Watchhouse Officers look after the prisoners in the watchhouse. We feed them, look after any medical needs, make sure they are ready to go to court and keep them under observation.

"Having First Nations people in this position exerts a calming influence on prisoners who are of First Nations background themselves.

"It was a new program in 1999 and now there are many around the state, mainly in regional centres."

Despite being closer than ever to fulfilling his dream of becoming a police officer, Mr Coolwell decided to apply for the new role.

"When the Watchhouse Officer job came up, I had actually completed the First Nations Recruit Preparation

Course, with a view to applying for the Police Recruit Training program," Mr Coolwell said.

"At that time however, I had a little family and the Watchhouse Officer offered better money and the ability to stay in one place and not move around the state."

Mr Coolwell worked at the Brisbane Watchhouse for the next 13 years.

By 2012, with a wealth of experience working for the QPS, he was successful in applying for another new position, First Nations Employment Officer.

"I had some health issues at the time and the idea of a less stressful job that I still felt passionate about suited me," Mr Coolwell said.

"The boss asked if I was able to travel, and I said yes, and I haven't looked back.

"My first trip was to Thursday Island, and since then I have travelled all over the state."



Adrian Coolwell delivered the Acknowledgement to Country at the Queensland Cricket Awards held at Brisbane City Hall earlier this year.

Mr Coolwell said he spent around 50 per cent of his time travelling, attending recruiting events and building relationships in communities to encourage more First Nations people to apply to join the QPS.

"It's important to have more First Nations people in the job because that's how we will start to see real change around the whole country.

"We also need to set an example for our young kids, because if they see First Nations people as police officers, they will follow in their footsteps.

"Some of our applicants fall down in the literacy and numeracy areas, so the QPS runs preparation courses

to help get them up to scratch before they apply for the Recruit Training Program."

"Hopefully we will have approximately 15 people currently undertaking the six-week First Nations Recruit Preparation program in Townsville on track to apply to become police recruits."

This year, TAFE Queensland also introduced a new six-month training program to assist First Nations people interested in applying for government positions such as QPS, Australian Border Force or Australian Federal Police.

The QPS contributed to the curriculum for this program, which includes visits to the QPS Academy in Townsville.

Mr Coolwell said although his initial dream of becoming a police officer had not come to pass, he had enjoyed an incredible career in the QPS.

"My pathway into the QPS may not have been straightforward, but I think that if you want something badly enough, then you find a way.

"I wanted to be a first grade football player, and I did it, playing for Wests. I also wanted to play first grade cricket, and I did this too, playing with Valleys.

"If you want something, then you put your mind to it.

"Even if policing is not right for you, there are jobs such as PLOs, Watchhouse Officers, Protective Security Officers and administrative roles.

"There are opportunities for everyone.

"I'm glad I kept my options open. Police officers have to retire at 60, but I am 63 and still working. I'm enjoying what I'm doing now and I want to keep doing it."

Although his role as First Nations Employment Officer is full-time, Mr Coolwell maintains his strong connection with sport.

He and his family are great supporters of the State of Origin and he is the current Manager of the Queensland First Nations Cricket team that competes in the National Indigenous Championships each year.

Several members of the cricket team over the past eight years have made the transition to policing and are now serving around the state. ●

RECENTLY RELEASED REPORTS ON THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

It is well documented that the effects of climate change impact directly and indirectly on many, if not every, area of emergency management. Below are summaries and links to three recent reports that speak of the impacts of climate change on communities, people's mental health and young people, including the impacts of floods, fire and drought along with many other areas relevant to us in our many roles within the field of emergency management.

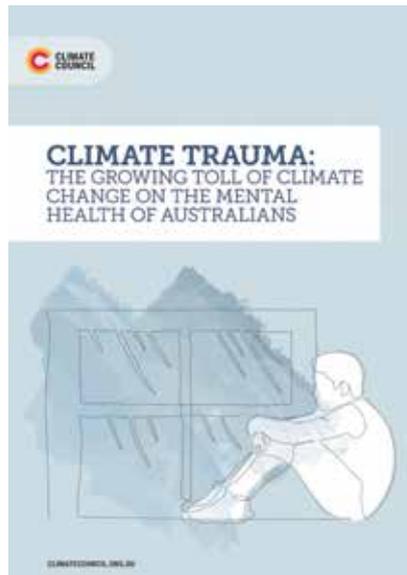
Source: **Australasian Women in Emergencies Network**

This article was published on www.awenetwork.org.au

In February 2023 the Climate Council, in conjunction with Beyond Blue, published a report titled *Climate Trauma: The growing toll of climate change on the mental health of Australians*. The report identifies challenges in the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. The rise of new and emerging threats, such as cyberwarfare and pandemics. The growing importance of international cooperation in emergency management. The evolution of emergency management as new technologies become available.

The report highlights future developments expected to have a measurable impact on emergency management practices in Australia, including:

- The development of new communication technologies, such as social media and mobile apps, are making it easier for emergency managers to communicate with the public and coordinate response efforts.
- The growth of community resilience, highlighting that emergency managers will need to focus on building resilience by educating the public about risks, developing disaster preparedness plans, and creating social support networks.
- The use of artificial intelligence (AI). As reported, AI is already being used in emergency management for



tasks such as identifying potential hazards, predicting the impact of disasters, and coordinating response efforts. In the future, AI is likely to become even more sophisticated, enabling emergency managers to make better decisions and save lives.

The report has 11 key recommendations, including:

- Greater mental health support for firefighters and other emergency responders (including volunteers).
- Take action on climate change. The government should prioritise taking practical action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- To put communities first, with communities affected by climate change being at the heart of all adaptation and resilience building efforts. This includes providing mental health support, as well as financial and other assistance.
- Build resilience around the mental health impacts of climate change. This means educating people about the risks, and helping them to develop coping mechanisms.

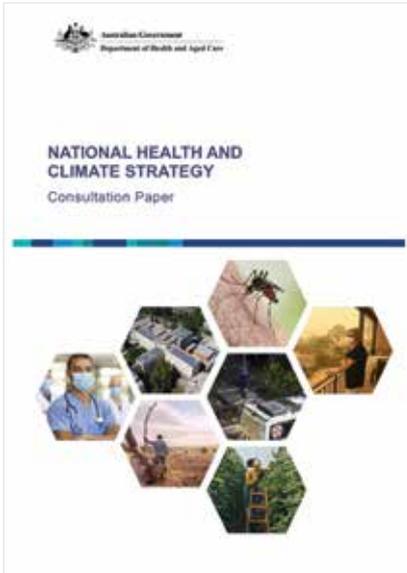
The full report can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/2xk4rxpb>

The *National Health and Climate Strategy consultation paper* released in June 2023 outlines the need for a National Health and Climate Strategy, given the increasing impacts of climate change on health. It notes that climate change is already affecting the health of Australians, and the impacts are likely to worsen in the future. The overarching purpose of the Strategy is to protect the health and wellbeing of Australians from the impacts of climate change.

The Strategy's objectives include to:

- Measure and report on health system greenhouse gas emissions, so progress in reducing emissions can be tracked and quantified.



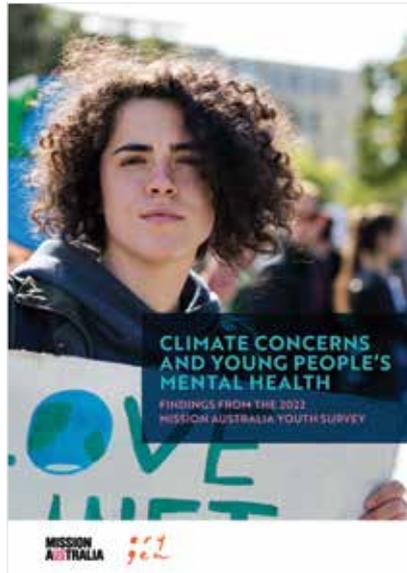


- Accelerate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the health system.
- Strengthen the resilience of the health system and communities to anticipate and respond to the health impacts of climate change.
- Maximise the synergies between good climate policy and public health policy by working across policy areas to lessen the impact of climate change on the social and cultural determinants of health and wellbeing.

The Strategy focuses on a number of key areas, including:

- Extreme weather events; including reducing the health impacts of extreme weather events, such as bushfires, floods, and heatwaves. This will include measures to improve early warning systems, disaster preparedness, and response.
- The health impacts of air pollution, which is a major contributor to respiratory diseases such as asthma and lung cancer. This will include measures to improve air quality standards and reduce emissions from transport and industry.
- Reducing the health impacts of water insecurity, which is a growing problem in Australia. This will include measures to improve water quality and access, and to reduce the risks of water-borne diseases.
- Food security by reducing the health impacts of food insecurity, which is also a growing problem in Australia. This will include measures to improve food production and distribution, and to reduce the risks of food-borne diseases.

It is important to highlight to all AWE members that the consultation paper is calling for public input into the development of the Strategy with feedback open until 24 July 2023. Feedback on the strategy can be provided here: <https://tinyurl.com/e595d33v>. Full consultation paper can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/453cputy>.



Mission Australia and Orygen released a report in April titled *Climate Concerns and Young People's Mental Health* which found that young people are increasingly concerned about climate change and that these concerns are having a negative impact on their mental health. The report cites a number of studies that have found that young people who are worried about climate change are more likely to experience anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Additionally, the report found young people who have experienced climate-related disasters, such as bushfires and floods, are more likely to suffer from mental health problems. These problems can persist for years after the disaster, and they can make it difficult for young people to cope with the challenges of everyday life.

The report makes a number of recommendations for improving emergency management in order to reduce the impact of climate change on young people's mental health.

These recommendations include:

- Increasing public awareness of the mental health risks associated with climate change.
- Developing training programs for emergency responders on how to identify and support young people with mental health conditions.
- Integrating mental health services into disaster recovery plans.

The report also recommends that governments invest in early warning systems and disaster preparedness planning.

In addition to the recommendations outlined in the report, a number of other things that can be done to improve emergency management and reduce the impact of climate change on young people's mental health are highlighted; these include:

- Building resilient communities that are able to withstand the effects of climate change.
- Providing support to young people who have been affected by climate-related disasters.

The full report is located here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2zubn5kv>

It is evident through these reports and many others that the response by emergency services, government and community will need to continue to adapt and evolve in the face of increasing challenges presented by climate change and natural disasters. With these challenges comes opportunity to improve systems and outcomes for individuals, communities and emergency services moving forward. ●

**Australasian
Women in
Emergencies
Network**

THE SA PRESIDENT'S GONG HAS RETURNED

The family of former SA Division President Barry Presgrave FAIES has discovered the infamous President's Gong.

By Ashleigh **Buck**

Commissioned and donated by the late Barry Presgrave, it was discovered amongst his estate and has been kindly returned to its rightful place within the SA Division of the AIES.

Barry was elected to the position of SA Division President and Board Chairman of the AIES in 1989, where he stayed for 25 years.

In 2007, he was appointed a Life Fellow of the Institute, recognised for his work as the President covering South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia for those many years.

Born at Henley Beach, the eldest son of Lt Colonel Ewen Cave and Elsie May Presgrave, Barry Ewen Presgrave was one of a kind. Alongside his Fellow status of the AIES, he was the recipient of an Order of Australia, held the title of Justice of the Peace and was a respected retired Detective Chief Inspector. Barry was a true supporter of his community, giving 100 per cent to everything he undertook.

One of his proudest moments was being awarded the Member of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2023, recognising his significant service to veterans and emergency service organisations. He was sadly unable to receive the honour himself, passing away at the age of 85 on 26 February 2023.

A passionate member, co-founder and later President of the West Beach Surf Life Saving Club, and a member of the Board of Examiners of the Surf Life Saving Association, Barry gave his total commitment to this organisation, founded in 1955. He was a life member, and a Vice Patron.

Barry completed his National Service in the Army at Woodside in 1956 and went on to serve with distinction in the CMF (later Army Reserve) for some 32 years, retiring with the rank of Captain.



The President's Gong.

He was appointed the inaugural National President of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia, and also held the position of President of the South Australian State Branch for six years.

At the age of 16, Barry applied to become a Police Cadet.

His interview was conducted by an old WW2 Army Buddy of his father, Sgt (Punchy) Hearn, who encouraged him to 'live a little' before applying to the force. Taking this advice, Barry put his police career on hold until the age of 21.

In the early 1960s, Barry serviced in several postings inclusive of uniform patrol dues, and the Vice and Anti-Larrikin Squads. In 1985, he was commissioned to the rank of Inspector, taking charge of the Payneham Patrol base. Shortly after, he was promoted to Detective Chief Inspector in charge of Port Adelaide CIB, working with his brother Kym and sister Margaret.

During his time in the force, he was awarded the prestigious Medal of





Former SA Division President Barry Presgrave FAIES.



Wendy Presgrave (bottom middle) received Barry's Order of Australia Medal from The Honourable Frances Adamson AC (bottom left). Other family members were present. Picture top L-R: Cathy Marzhan, Stephen Buck and Matthew Buck.



Barry with family members.

“Alongside his Fellow status of the AIES, he was the recipient of an Order of Australia, held the title of Justice of the Peace and was a respected retired Detective Chief Inspector. Barry was a true supporter of his community, giving 100 per cent to everything he undertook.”

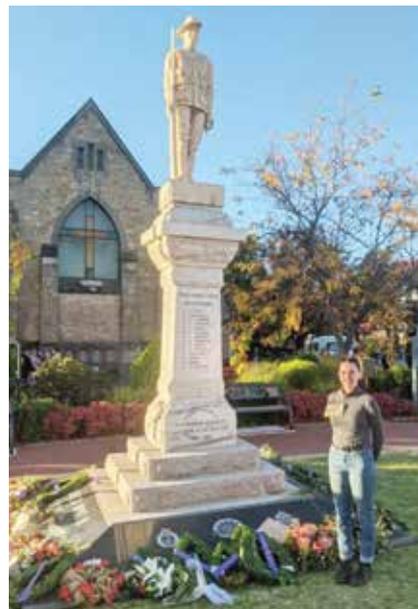
the Order of Australia in 1988 for his outstanding contributions to many areas of the community, especially the Police Blue Light organisation, Surf Life Saving and the Army Reserve.

Barry retired in 1994, after a five-year posting as Chief of Detectives at Elizabeth CIB. He continued as an active Justice of the Peace within the community of Blackwood, as well as the Mitcham council chambers and library.

Following retirement, Barry and his wife Wendy moved to Blackwood, and

here, their baby was born – Medals, Mementos and More, a medal mounting and heritage framing business that served ex-service organisations, RSLs and the veteran community. Barry sold his business in 2008, passing the baton to another family in Blackwood.

After living a full life, Barry leaves behind his loving wife, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, and wonderful great-grandchildren. His legacy will never be forgotten and will live on through his family. ●



Ashleigh Buck is the granddaughter of Barry Presgrave and author of this article. Here she proudly wears a set of Barry's medals on ANZAC day, the dawn service she always attended with her grandfather.

VICTORIA DIVISION NEWS

By Doug **Caulfield** OAM, RFD, FAIES

The AIES Victoria Division Annual Meeting was held on Friday 20 January at the Aviary Hotel in Abbotsford, Melbourne.

We were pleased to host 14 members and guests who enjoyed hearing from our special guest speaker, CFA Commander Mark Owens MEmergMgt, MAIES.

Mark provided an insight into the award-winning program – Natural Hazards Research Australia 'Disaster Challenge' – he co-produced to improve emergency preparedness and prevention information in real time to tourists and workers in Victoria's Alpine region using free Wi-Fi hubs.

Several presentations were made at the meeting including:

- Presentation of Fellow status Certificate awarded to current Secretary, Bill Little FAIES
- 30 Year Long Service Award Certificate and lapel pin awarded to Adrian Stafferton MAIES
- 20 Year Long Service Award Certificate and lapel pin awarded to Mark Owens MAIES
- 10 Year Long Service Award Certificate and lapel pin awarded to Brett Aimers MAIES
- 10 Year Long Service Award Certificate and lapel pin awarded to Rodney Young MAIES ●



AIES Victoria Division members congregated for the Annual Meeting in January 2023.



Bill Little FAIES presented with his Fellow Certificate and lapel pin.



Adrian Stafferton MAIES presented with his 30 Year Certificate and lapel pin.



Guest Speaker Commander Mark Owens MAIES receives his 20-year Certificate and lapel pin.



Rod Young MAIES presented with his 10-year Certificate and lapel pin.



Brett Aimers MAIES presented with his 10 Year Certificate.



Commander Mark Owens MAIES was the proud recipient of an AIES Challenge Coin in appreciation of his presentation to the AGM.

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(L-R) Ron Jones (40 years), Patron Betty Parssey, Neil Wright (20 years) and Peter Geard (30 years).

ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

The Tasmania Division of AIES annual dinner was held on 4 March 2023 at the Claremont RSL. Of the 30 people in attendance, we were pleased to host nine AIES members.

By Ron Jones LFAIES

*Immediate Past President,
Tasmania Division*

Our Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Scott Clarke and Greg Webster was present in his new role.

The dinner followed the Division's Annual General Meeting, which included the presentation certificates and clasps, and acknowledgements for the Returned Services League (Tasmania Branch), Emergency Service Awards and PJ Parssey Memorial Award.

The first series of awards were to our members and AIES Long Service certificates and clasps.

Ron Jones LFAIES, Neil Wright ESM, FAIES and Peter Geard OAM, ESM, JP, FAIES were awarded certificates and clasps. Les Batchelor LFAIES and Scott Clarke AFSM, MAIES were awarded clasps. Malcolm Barron MAIES was also

awarded a clasp, however, was not available to attend the dinner and will be presented with his clasp at a later date.

We were pleased to once again welcome PJ Parssey patron, Betty Parssey, to our event to hand out the clasps and certificates.

CERTIFICATE AND CLASP RECIPIENTS

RON JONES

Ron Jones, immediate Past President of the Tasmanian Committee, was presented with a 40-year certificate. Betty Parssey presented Ron with this award as it was her late husband Peter who supported Ron's nomination to become a member of the AIES. Ron has received several awards within the Institute including the Medal of

Excellence. He has extensive experience working in management and operations at the Tasmania SES and Tasmania Fire Service and is presently a member of the Sprent Fire Brigade. Ron is the main catalyst and instigator of the Tasmanian Radio Broadcaster Volunteer Emergency Service Awards (VESA) and RSL Tasmania Emergency Service Awards. He is a PJ Parssey Award winner, being awarded the distinction in 1993. To date there has been over 74 VESA presentations recognising the fantastic work of over 200 emergency service volunteers from all walks of life from all over Tasmania.

The RSL Tasmania Emergency Service Awards, which are open to career and volunteer emergency service personnel, have been running for 10 years.



Betty Parssey and Neil Wright (20 years).

NEIL WRIGHT

Neil is a Committee Member of AIES Tasmania Division and was awarded a 20-year certificate and clasp. Neil was recently awarded the Emergency Services Medal, along with Leon Smith MAIES, in the last honours list.

Neil has put extensive time into the Tasmania SES and has been deployed interstate.



Peter Geard (30 years), AIES Tasmania Division President Greg Webster and Betty Parssey.

PETER GEARD

Peter is a Committee Member of the AIES Tasmania Division and was awarded a 30-year certificate and a 35-year clasp. He is a PJ Parssey Award winner and a life member of several emergency services, having served over 47 years at the Tasmania Fire Service and SES, and is still a very active member of both.

LES BATCHELOR

Les is a Chaplain, serving in diverse areas and places including the Royal Hobart Hospital and City Mission in the fields of administration, welfare and Chaplaincy. He was presented a 35-year clasp and will have served his 40 years this year. Les has been a member of the Board for many years, often in the role of Treasurer.



Betty Parssey and Scott Clarke.

SCOTT CLARKE

Scott is the Vice President of the AIES Tasmania Division and was presented with a five-year clasp. He is a member of various emergency groups and has experience in mine rescue, Tasmania Fire Service (TFS), SES and St John Ambulance. He has worked at various levels within emergency management in Tasmania including training and organising TFS competitions. He is currently Vice President of the AIES Tasmania Division.

RSL TASMANIA EMERGENCY SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to our three nominees for this award – Adrian Jones, Graeme Midgley, and our winner David Nichols. All members were nominated by their local RSL as members of at least one Tasmanian emergency service within the state.

Our southern Tasmanian nominee Adrian Jones was a second officer at Lachlan and is remote area trained. He is involved in SES in the Derwent Valley.

David Nichols was our northern nominee who has been involved in the Tasmania Fire Service, Ambulance Tasmania and is currently the First Officer at Prospect.

North western nominee, Graeme Midgley, is involved with the Tasmania Fire Service at Forth and is currently Brigade Chief. He is also a Group Officer for his local area.

All members were presented with plaques by Ron Jones on behalf of the RSL. David received his Personnel State Winner trophy and Perpetual Shield.



(L-R) Greg Webster with Tim and Vanessa Henry.

PJ PARSSEY AWARD – VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICE AWARDS

There were four people selected for the VESA from each corner of the state, of which one was selected by the AIES Tasmanian Committee to be the PJ Parssey Memorial Award winner.

SOUTHERN NOMINEE

Matthew Fishwick is a volunteer in several fields of emergency management including SES and Tasmania Fire Service (TFS). He has had extensive deployment to the mainland and state-wide in both fields. He is a representative with the Retained Volunteers Members of the TFS.

NORTHERN NOMINEE

Vanessa Henry is a volunteer with St John Ambulance. She has held extensive roles in the 16 years since joining. Some of her appointments and work involves state and national boards and committees.

NORTH WESTERN NOMINEE

Greg Kelly has been a first officer in the Tasmania Fire Service at Devonport for a number of years. He is responsible for more than 25 volunteer members. This station also has a full-time presence which means he supports career staff also.

WEST COAST NOMINEE

Paul Edwards is a volunteer at the Queenstown Fire Station. He is currently the third officer having been in the Tasmania Fire Service since 1999. He is also involved in mine rescue.

Congratulation to our winner, Vanessa Henry. All nominees were presented with certificates from the AIES Tasmania Division and plaques by Betty Parssey. ●



Betty Parssey announces Vanessa Henry as the PJ Parssey Memorial Award winner.



Tasmanian Committee Members with PJ Parssey memorial Award Winner Vanessa Henry. (L-R) Ron Jones, Greg Webster, Peter Geard, Vanessa Henry, winner, Neil Wright, Les Batchelor and Scott Clarke.



PJ Parssey nominees (L-R) Paul Edwards, Matthew Fishwick, Greg Webster, Vanessa Henry and Greg Kelly.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL, AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Congratulations to two outstanding AIES Tasmania Division members – Neil Wright and Leon Smith – who were recognised for their outstanding commitment to the Tasmanian emergency services sector by being awarded the Emergency Service Medal in the 2023 Australia Day Honours.

NEIL WRIGHT ESM FAIES

Neil has been an active volunteer with the Tasmania Fire Service for 21 years as well as the State Emergency Service for 25 years. Neil has held various operational and management positions within both services and is highly respected by all who know him. Neil joined the Tasmanian AIES in 2001 and the Tasmanian Management Committee in 2011, holding various positions over this time including Registrar/Secretary.



LEON (ALFY) SMITH ESM MAIES

Leon has been a proactive member of the Tasmania Fire Service for 32 years as well as the SES for five years. Leon joined the Tasmanian Fire Service in 1985 as a mechanic and worked his way to a managerial role. Leon has been involved in many changes and updates to improve the safety of the Tasmanian Fire Services' fleet. One of his most outstanding achievements was the development of the Compressed Air Foam Systems, which was adapted nationally and internationally.





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REDFEST FESTIVAL

AIES NATIONAL AWARDS AND VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICE AWARDS

While touring Tasmania to present the Tasmania Radio Broadcaster (ARN) Volunteer Emergency Service Awards (VESA), I used that time to also present some AIES National Awards and other outstanding awards that were unable to be presented during COVID-19.

By Ron Jones LFAIES

*Immediate Past President,
Tasmania Division*

My first stop was the west coast to present the 7XS VESA to Paul Edwards of the Queenstown Fire Brigade for outstanding service to the fire brigade and his community. Still in the west, I presented Robert Butterfield

ESM, MAIES, Deputy Mayor, West Coast Council with his 10-year AIES membership certificate and lapel badge. I had the great privilege to present the Florence Nightingale of Ambulance Tasmania to Vicki McKenzie and the AIES National Certificate of Commendation for her outstanding commitment to Ambulance Tasmania and in particular the after-care support within her community.

My last presentation in the west was to Brian "Knocka" Knowles for his RSL Tasmania Emergency Service Award Winner plaque from last year's awards. Brian was an Ambulance Tasmania volunteer based in Strahan.

My next port of call was to the Devonport Fire Station for the 7AD/7BU/SeaFM VESA presentations. This year's winner, Greg Kelly, is a First Officer of the Volunteer Brigade which supports the career firefighters. Gavin Pearce MP presented Greg his winner's trophy on behalf of the radio station.

While at this function I was honoured to present Lucas Bryan the AIES National Award of Excellence for his outstanding commitment to the Tasmania Fire Service and so many other community groups over many years.



Paul Edwards, 7XS Volunteer Emergency Service Award.



Robert Butterfield, 10 year AIES Membership Certificate and Lapel Badge.



(L-R) Ambulance Tasmania local paramedic next to Vicki McKenzie with her AIES National Award of Commendation, Brian Knowles with his Tasmanian RSL Emergency Service Award, and Ron Jones.



7AD 2023 – Gavin Pearce presenting VESA Award to Greg Kelly.



7AD 2023 – Lucas Bryan National Award of Excellence.



7AD 2023 – Sylvia Sayer Presentation.

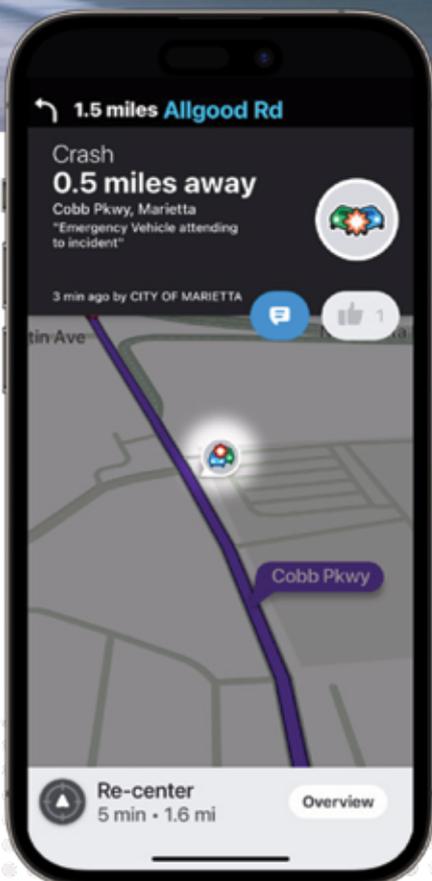
My final presentation for the night was to Sylvia Sayer, General Manager of Northern Tasmanian Broadcasters (ARN) for their ongoing support of the Tasmanian emergency service volunteers through their Volunteer Emergency Service Awards (VESA)

and their ongoing support for me in helping coordinate the awards every year. There have been over 74 awards presented since its inception with over 200 volunteers recognised.

continued on page 23

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My next stop was Launceston to present the LAFM/ChilliFM/7SD VESA awards at the fabulous new St John Ambulance Northern Headquarters.

After a quick welcome, Manager of LAFM Natalie Castle presented Ken Claridge from the Prospect Fire Brigade his winner's trophy from the previous year.

The next presentation was to our current LAFM VESA winner and PJ Parssey Memorial Award winner Vanessa Henry from St John Ambulance. After Natalie presented Vanessa with her winner's trophy, she thanked everyone for their support on her journey and presented small gifts to those close to her. Vanessa has been an outstanding achiever local and nationally with St John Ambulance.

The last presentation for the night was the AIES National Award of Commendation to Rodney Sweetnam of the Prospect Fire Brigade for his outstanding commitment to the fire services in Victoria and Tasmania including his work with the Tasmanian Fire Commission.

Down in Hobart I visited the 7HOFM Radio Station to present two VESA awards. The first was to last year's winner, Pam Heiermann, President of the Volunteer Ambulance Officers Association Tasmania, for her with outstanding volunteer work with Ambulance Tasmania, St John Ambulance and SES.



LAFM General Manager Natalie Castle presents Vanessa Henry with her Volunteer Emergency Service Award.



LAFM VESA 2023 – Rodney Sweetnam AIES National Award of Commendation.



7HOFM VESA 2023 – Ron with last years winner Pam Heiermann and 7HOFM General Manager Greg Scealy.



7HOFM VESA 2023 – Ron with this years winner Matthew Fishwick and Station Manager Greg Scealy.

The next presentation was to this year's VESA winner, Matthew Fishwick, who is involved with the Southern Region SES Headquarters Unit and Fern Tree Fire Brigade. Matthew holds positions in management, store, volunteer support and has been to the mainland to help with fires and floods in our northern neighbours.

All presentations were done by the 7HOFM General Manager Greg Scealy with the help of Office Manager Chelsea Reid.

Thanks to the radio stations and their fantastic staff involved in running the VESA awards and supporting our emergency service volunteers. ●

VALE

AIES Tasmania Division pays its respects to two members who have sadly passed away.

We thank Ted and Bob for their friendship, support and the laughter they brought to the Tasmanian Members.



Edward (Ted) Witt.

EDWARD (TED) WITT FAIES

Ted was the Radio and Communications Officer for the Tasmanian SES and was a founding member of the Tasmanian Committee and Board member. Ted was our first Registrar and remained an active member until he retired in 1997 and moved to Queensland to be closer to his family.



Bob Graf receiving his Honorary Fellow Membership.

ROBERT (BOB) GRAF HFAIES

Through close friendship with some of our Committee members, Bob offered his services as an accountant to the Tasmanian AIES, pro gratis for nearly 30 years before this function was handed over to the National Board. Bob was first made an Honorary Member of the Tasmania Division and in 2016 we granted him Honorary Fellow of the AIES as a recognition of our appreciation for his support of our Division.





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MEMBERS AWARDED FOR SERVICE FROM NSW, ACT AND INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

By David Parsons **ESM FAIES**

President, AIES NSW, ACT and INT Division



David Parsons, Blue Mountains State Emergency Service.

DAVID PARSONS AUSTRALIAN HONOURS AWARDS, EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL

AIES NSW President David Parsons FAIES was awarded the Emergency Services Medal in the King's Birthday Awards.

David has served as a volunteer with the NSW State Emergency Service for over 46 years in many roles including decades as a Local and Deputy Local Controller in the Blue Mountains.

David served as an inaugural District Emergency Management Officer before managing Sydney Water's Emergency Management and Counter Terrorism Program.

He has served on the national Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Working Group and the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council

following the 9/11 terrorist attack in New York City.

Most recently, David has authored the *Emergency Planning Handbook* and *Incident Management Handbook* in AIDR's Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection.

Well known in the sector through decades of teaching, he was a frequent lecturer at the former Australian Emergency Management Institute and now teaches at the Charles Sturt University Emergency Management Undergraduate Program, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience Master Class series, Australian Centre for Incident Management Solutions and Response and Recovery Aotearoa New Zealand.

David has recently been honoured by the awarding of Life Membership of the NSW State Emergency Service.



EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL

The Emergency Services Medal was instituted in 1999 to recognise those who have rendered distinguished service as a member of an Australian emergency service. It is awarded to both those in state services and voluntary organisations. The Emergency Services Medal also recognises people who are involved in emergency management, training or education.



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Paul Mackinder with Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC.

PAUL MACKINDER THE ORDER OF ST JOHN

Paul Mackinder has received the Order of St John during the St John Ambulance Investiture Ceremony held at Government House in Sydney on 3 May.

Paul was one of only 20 St John Ambulance volunteers across NSW awarded in recognition for going above and beyond to devote their time, effort, and expertise helping others.

Membership within the Order of St John is an honour sanctioned by the Governor-General on behalf of

The Order's Sovereign Head, King Charles III.

Paul joined St John Ambulance as a Cadet in 1992 with the Port Adelaide Nursing Cadet Division and is now Superintendent at the Broken Hill Division.

He was deployed to support communities through the 2019 and 2020 bushfires and uses his professional knowledge to train officers for both St John Ambulance Broken Hill Division and Sydney's Cadet Division.

Admitted in the Order to the Grade of Member, Paul has performed over



Order of St John.

2,600 hours of service at public events and over 1,900 hours of administrative and logistical support.

Chief Executive Officer of NSW St John Ambulance Sarah Lance said that volunteers are the heart of the organisation and help to build safer and more resilient communities.

"These volunteers have made significant contributions to their communities through their ongoing dedication to St John Ambulance. We are proud to recognise them and the incredible impacts they continue to make," she said.

IAN MANOCK NATIONAL MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE AND FELLOW STATUS

NSW member and Divisional Secretary Ian Manock has been elevated to the status of Fellow of the AIES and awarded a National Medal for Excellence.

The National Medal for Excellence recognises a lifetime dedication to emergency management and commitment to emergency management education in Australia. Ian has been a member of the AIES for over 30 years.

Ian served for three years with the Royal Air Force as a General Duties Pilot and 13 years with the Royal Hong Kong Police in the Inspectorate ranks with an operational involvement in managing the effects of emergency and disaster situations.

Ian joined the Tasmanian State Emergency Service in 1990 as an Assistant Regional Officer and then Regional Emergency Management Officer.

He continued in operational response roles but also commenced increased involvement in emergency/disaster



Ian Manock.

management planning, preparedness and recovery at both industry and also community levels.

Ian obtained an undergraduate degree in Emergency Management whilst with the Tasmania SES.

He first joined the AIES in 1992 and in 1999 joined Charles Sturt University as a lecturer in their Emergency Management programs.

In 2002 Ian completed a Master of Emergency Management, and during this time was responsible for managing

and teaching a series of emergency management subjects (Planning, Operations Management and Recovery).

Ian took over as the Coordinator/Director of the undergraduate and post-graduate Emergency Management programs at CSU in 2005 and has delivered emergency management presentations within overseas training programs in New Zealand, Canada, India and Malaysia and presented at numerous Australian conferences and workshops.

Ian further expanded the faculty to include a Masters Program and PhD program. Across the emergency management sector Ian has touched the lives of thousands of emergency services and emergency management officers. Under his guidance the Charles Sturt Emergency Management qualifications have become the dominant qualifications in the Australian Emergency Management sector. Ian's long-term commitment to emergency management education has been critical to the professionalisation of emergency management in Australia.

CHARLIE BLANCH NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

The National Award for Excellence recognises the outstanding work undertaken by Charlie Blanch in establishing New Zealand's Emergency Management Assistance Team program.

Charlie has taken the concept of 'fly-away teams' from a report recommendation and turned it into a very successful program recruiting, equipping, training and deploying highly trained personnel to support emergency management teams across New Zealand during emergencies.

The highly successful Emergency Management Assistance Team program has been deployed dozens of times in New Zealand.

Charlie is a manager and alternative National Controller within the New Zealand National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) with experience responding to a range of emergencies at local and national levels in the UK and NZ, as well as within the United Nations system.

In readiness phases he leads the Deployable Capabilities team, whose work includes the development of a multi-strand accreditation framework for the New Zealand Response Teams.

New Zealand Response Teams are volunteer-based teams at local government level, who deliver multi-strand specialist rescue as well as wider incident support functions to their communities.

The framework is being used to develop a pathway to ensure minimum standards and interoperability is enhanced. His team also undertakes coordination of surge-staff deployments to EOCs, training and support to NEMA deployed staff, and the ongoing development and operation of the New Zealand Emergency Management Assistance Team (EMAT).

EMAT is a flagship programme under a ministerial reform programme to establish multi-disciplinary 'fly-in' team capability to support command, control and coordination activity in an affected agency. EMAT maintains a cadre of approximately 40 highly trained staff from local and central government able to live and operate in an austere post-disaster environment, supported by five deployable coordination centres and



Charlie Blanch.



specialist humanitarian logistics support from Fire & Emergency New Zealand.

Before joining NEMA to lead the establishment of EMAT, he was the Director Emergency Management at New Zealand Ministry of Health for eight years where he led the health sector response to national events including the Canterbury earthquake sequence and other national security threats and hazards including pandemic readiness.

Charlie also co-led New Zealand's Joint External Evaluation (JEE) under the IHR (2005) monitoring and evaluation programme, as was part of the JEE team for Federated States of Micronesia.

A global mentor and verifier under the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Medical Team (EMT) programme, Charlie was deployed to Sierra Leone for three months during the 2015 Ebola surge response as the country coordinator for EMTs, as well as working with the WHO programme team to develop technical standards and supported delivery of the Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell course in Macao in 2018.

He has also led assessment, coordination and training for the New Zealand Medical Assistance Team (NZMAT) including their classification under the WHO EMT framework,

and worked extensively with the Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT), including secondment to the National Critical Care Trauma Response Centre, participation within the AUSMAT Team Leader cadre. Work has included leading EMT initial assessments, as well as coordinating joint NZMAT/AUSMAT deployments as the senior health official within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade emergency taskforce in Wellington.

Charlie's early career was an emergency manager within London Fire Brigade, working with their Special Operations Group on pan-London readiness, prior to a secondment to the London Resilience Team where he provided secretariat support to the pan-London Exercise and CBRN programmes.

He is a Certified Emergency Manager through the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), and has postgraduate qualifications in Public Health, a professional diploma in humanitarian assistance, and a BSc (Hons) in International Disaster Engineering & Management. Charlie also completed a range of controller development courses, including the Response & Recovery Aotearoa New Zealand Tier One Response & Recovery Leader Development programme.

Elevated to AIES Fellow status



CRAIG RONAN ESM

Craig has been a member of the AIES since 1996 and a member of the NSW State Emergency Service both as a volunteer and paid staff for over 34 years. Craig currently holds the role of the Coordinator of Hazard Planning for both SES Western Zone and SES Southern Zone NSW.



GREG SNAPE

Greg has been a member of the AIES since 1991, a member of the SES since 1980 and a member of the RFS since 2014. Greg started his emergency management career at Ashfield SES and now serves with Stroud Unit as Deputy Local Commander.



GRAEME CRAIG ESM

Graeme has been a member of the AIES since 1996. Graeme joined the NSW State Emergency Service at Ryde in 1993. He was appointed Local Controller in December 1995, appointed Deputy Far West Region Controller in 2007 and appointed Manager – Business Service Support, Northern Zone in 2018.



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MERCHANDISE

The AIES now has polo shirts and caps available for purchase. Pictures of the shirts and caps are shown below.

To make an order:

- Complete and return this order form to the following email address: treasurer@aies.net.au
- or post to PO Box 2469, Chermside Centre, Qld 4032
- or by telephoning 0418 726 224 (after business hours)

Inquiries are to be directed to treasurer@aies.net.au or by telephoning 0418 726 224.

Allow 4-5 weeks for delivery as some sizes may not be in stock.

Invoice for payment will be issued once goods are in stock.

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM



Polo Shirt

\$40 each
including postage & handling fee



Cap

\$12.50 each
including postage & handling fee

NB: The best way to find a shirt that fits: lay a polo flat on a table and measure under the armpit, from armpit to armpit then match to get the sizing below.

POLO SIZE	MEASUREMENTS	QUANTITY
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Small	Chest 51 – Front Length 70	
Medium	Chest 54 – Front Length 72.5	
Large	Chest 58 – Front Length 75	
X Large	Chest 61 – Front Length 77.5	
2X Large	Chest 63 – Front Length 80	
3X Large	Chest 66 – Front Length 82.5	
4X Large	Chest 68 – Front Length 85	
5X Large	Chest 71 – Front Length 87.5	
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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 Australasia, 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 Australasia-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
Annual Subscription: \$60.00
Fellows: \$80.00
Corporate Subscription: \$500.00
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 eighteen years of age and who:
• Are members of a permanent emergency service or associated service, or
• Are volunteer members of emergency or associated services.

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.

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Our members come from
• Ambulance Service • Community Services • Emergency Equipment Industry • Emergency Management Organisations
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AIES CONTACTS

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Email: enquiries@aies.net.au

PO Box 2469,
Chermside Centre, Qld 4032

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Holy Sakyamuni Buddha was born in ancient India 2,567 years ago. Buddhists celebrate His holy birthday during the Bathing Buddha Festival or Vesak Day.

During the celebrations, many Buddhists would bath statues of the young Buddha, give offerings to ordained Buddhist sangha, and remind themselves of Buddha's teaching of tolerance, compassion, wisdom and joy.

Wishing all readers very happy Bathing Buddha Festival and Vesak Day.

