



The State Emergency Service Volunteers Association

Changing Lives in a Changing World

Presented by

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Changing Lives in a Changing World



SES Volunteers Across Australia

More than - 30 000



SES Roles as First Responders

Varies depending on Jurisdiction

- Storm Damage
- Cyclone
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Tsunami
- Road Crash Rescue
- Vertical/Cliff rescue
- Cave Rescue
- Land Search
- Fire support
- Resupply



Where did the State Emergency Service Come From

- 1936** Commonwealth and State Governments agree;
Each State be responsible for protecting their population against Gas attack
And train personnel for essential civil defence services
- 1939** Dept of Defence was appointed as authority for national defence plans
Directorate of Civilian Defence and State Cooperation was set up
- 1941** Department of Home Security was set up under separate Ministerial Direction



NES in WW2 - Interesting



Changing Lives in a Changing World



Commonwealth Government Owned the;

Provision of National Guidance and Coordination for Civil Defence

1959

In a ministerial statement in 1959, Interior Minister Gordon Freeth said,

“It is a basic principle that the States are responsible for the development of their own civil defence planning and programs with the Commonwealth providing national guidance and coordination as necessary”.

This principle has never been challenged and remains the basis of the Commonwealth Government’s involvement in civil defence.



SES Units Formed – State by State

NSW	1955 after extensive flooding of the Murray-Darling river system and many lives lost SES & CDO formed in 1972
WA	1959 – and then back to CD & Emergency Service in 1961 – back to WA SES in 1974
Qld	1975 from QCD in 1961
Vic	1975
SA	1974 Name changed from CD to SES SA
Tas	1976 as SES Tas
NT	1978 – part of the establishment of Self Government
ACT	2004 as SES; previously ACT Emergency Service from 1974



SES Volunteers and Staff Numbers by Jurisdiction

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Units</u>
Queensland	121	6600	309
New South Wales	368	9001	251
Victoria	150	5600	149
South Australia	66	1580	66
Northern Territory	13	351	22
Australian Capital Territory	8	325	8
Tasmania	24	550	31
Western Australia	14	1920	66



What Needs to be Satisfied



Examples of Cost of Major Disasters

Newcastle Earthquake 1989

13 Lives lost

Cost > \$10B

Queensland Floods 2010-11

33 Lives lost

Cost > \$7B

Black Saturday Bushfires 2009

173 Lives Lost

Cost > \$3.8B



Cost in \$Billion

Tangible Costs in Grey

Intangible Costs in Orange

NATIONAL
DISASTER
RESCUE
CHALLENGE
TASMANIA
2017



Formation of the NSESVA

- There was an identified need to provide a national representation for the SES Volunteers
- With the Support of the NSW SES VA, the NSESVA was established in 2015
- The NSESVA was established as a not-for-profit entity
- By 2017 seven of the eight jurisdictions had joined the NSESVA
- Tasmania has just officially formed their State Association and are now eligible to join



NSESVA Strategy

The NSESVA was Established to;

- Bring together all SES Volunteer Associations from all jurisdictions
- Advance the SES Volunteers value and worth through National representation
- Represent the SES Volunteers at a National level
- Develop consistent positions on national matters for all SES Volunteers
- To lead and influence change at a national level



NSESVA Corporate Plan

Governance

- Each jurisdiction has a Director on the Board
- There is a Chair, deputy Chair and a Secretary/Treasurer appointed
- There is a set of Governance Documents covering all areas of the business
- There is a National Council as a working group for research and advice on issues

Advocacy

- Advocacy models have been set up to operate at a national level

Profile Growth

- An Engagement Plan has been developed on communicating with a diverse audience



Role of the National SES Volunteers Association

- Provides advocacy at a national level – representing all SES Volunteers
- Assists State Associations where requested
- Provides financial assistance on endorsed matters of SES National interest
- Represents all SES Volunteers at the National Emergency Services Memorial Service
- Represents all SES Volunteers on the Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum



Some Achievements of the NSESVA

- Assisted three jurisdictions in establishing their SES Volunteers Association
- Built an Alliance with the Council of Australian Volunteer Fire Associations (CAVFA)
- Annual attendance and wreath laying at the National Emergency Services Memorial
- Engaged the Dept of Home Affairs on SES Volunteer matters
- Establishing a National Raffle to provide funds to support the SES Volunteers
- AFAC – Associate membership
- Working closely with the Australian Council of SESs (ACSES)
- Joined AEMVF (Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum)



NSESVA and AFAC

AFAC – Associate membership and representation on the following Committees;

- **Volunteer Management Technical Group**
- **SES Fitness for Role Steering Committee**
- **AIDR Dranzsen Forum**
- **BNHCRC - Adapting the Sector Advisory Group**
- **AIDR Spontaneous Volunteer Handbook Working Group**
(now completed and handbook printed)



SES Volunteer Association Websites

NSESVA www.nsesva.org.au

NSW SESVA www.nswsesva.org.au

Qld SESVA www.qldsesva.org.au

Vic ESA www.vesa.com.au

SA SESVA www.sasesva.org.au

WA SESVA www.ses-wa.asn.au

ACT www.actsesva.org.au

NT **Work in progress**



SES Volunteers support is requested in some unusual matters

- In July the final testing of the Matagarup Bridge in WA was conducted
- Fifty SES Volunteers were required to jump, run and walk in a synchronised time manner
- Sensors on the bridge detected the movement as more than 3000 kgs hit the bridge on each step
- The damping devices were then tuned and the movement of the bridge decreased dramatically
- Here is a short video on the day

<https://www.facebook.com/dfeswa/videos/2066400236735627/>



Are there any Question?

