



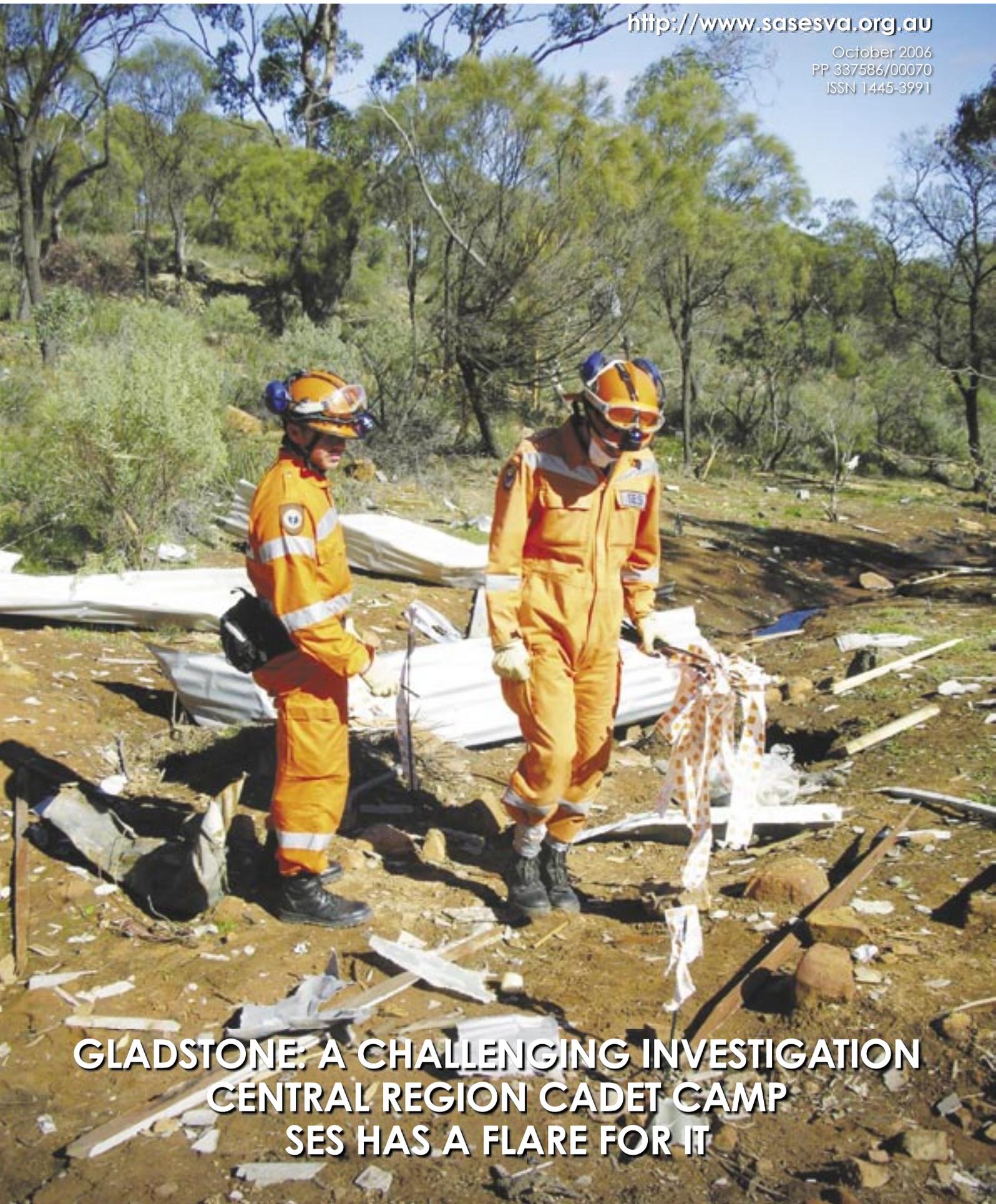
Frontline



Official Journal of the South Australia State Emergency Service Volunteers Association Inc.

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**GLADSTONE: A CHALLENGING INVESTIGATION
CENTRAL REGION CADET CAMP
SES HAS A FLARE FOR IT**

SASES Volunteers' Association Inc.
PO Box 72
O'Halloran Hill SA 5158



Frontline



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Countrywide Media

Level 2, 673 Bourke St,
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Postal: GPO Box 2466,
Melbourne 3001
PH: 03 9937 0200
FAX: 03 9937 0201
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On the cover: Part of the team that took part in the hazardous Gladstone search. Read more about it in this edition's feature article.

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executive committee

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Derren Halleday
Sturt Unit
PO Box 72, O'Halloran Hill 5158
P (08) 8346 0997
M 0417 834 801
E halleday@bigpond.net.au

CHAIRPERSON

Warren Hicks
Pt. Augusta SES Unit
PO Box 212, Pt. Augusta 5700
M 0419 867 712
H (08) 8641 0108
E hicksw@pass.sa.edu.au

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Gordon Hartley ESM
Eyre Headquarters Unit
PO Box 3220, Port Lincoln 5606
P (08) 8683 0504
M 0429 900 840
E sesehu@austarnet.com.au

TREASURER

David Ward ESM
Loxton SES Unit
PO Box 818, Loxton 5333
P (08) 8584 7540 Wk 8584 6641
M 0414 833 947
E wardavidw@yahoo.com

SECRETARY/

AMENITIES FUND

Louise Reynolds ESM
Sturt Unit
PO Box 72, O'Halloran Hill 5158
P (08) 8381 4264
M 0438 828 529
E reynolds@adelaide.on.net

FRONTLINE EDITOR

Allan Calleja
Tea Tree Gully Unit
8 Heaslip Cl, Adelaide, SA 5000
P (08) 8231 4001
M 0415 446 031
E allancalleja@netspace.net.au

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WELFARE & SAFETY

Warren Couzens
Berri Unit - Riverland
C/- Renmark Paringa Council
Human Resources Officer
PO Box 730, Renmark 5341
H 8582 2327 M 0418 822 347
Wk Ph 8586 6609 Fax 8586 6542
E warren@renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au

P.R.

Dionie McNair
Tea Tree Gully Unit
E dionie_mcnair@hotmail.com

LIBRARY

Noel Hodges
E hodges@chariot.net.au

representatives

EYRE PENINSULA

Jim Darling ESM
Tumby Bay Unit
41 West Tee, Tumby Bay 5605
M 0428 882 213
Ph 8688 2221
E jimwd@ozemail.com.au

METRO NORTH

Trevor Bond
Tea Tree Gully Unit
PO Box 243, St Agnes 5097
H (08) 8263 5759
M 0417 859 196
Fax 8265 5405
E boncbool@arcom.com.au

MURRAY REGION

Dean Overton ESM
Kangaroo Island Unit
PO Box 460, Kingscote KI 5223
Ph/Fax (08) 8553 2374
M 0428 300 353
E kises@internode.on.net

SOUTH EAST

William Job (Bill)
Wattle Range Unit
PO Box 841, Milllicent 5280
M 0417 819 817
E wattle@seol.net.au
Deputy - Lucas Seebohn
Mt Gambier Unit
E lseebohn@hotmail.com

RIVERLAND

David Ward ESM
Loxton Unit
PO Box 818, Loxton 5333
Ph 8584 7540
Wk 8584 6641
M 0414 833 947
E wardavidw@yahoo.com

MID NORTH

Vacant

FLINDERS

Vacant

METRO EAST

Vacant

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Chairman's report



“There is not much the Association can do about problems if we don't know about them.”

With the financial year completed, most Units have been through the process of reviewing the year past and preparing reports for individual Unit general meetings. It is a time when the amount of hours spent on training and callouts is tallied up and people are surprised just how quickly this time adds up. I know from writing my own reports that this year has been busy and from talking to other Unit managers this would be the case for most Units across the State.

These reports now have more significance than in previous years as activity base funding is applied to all regions. Activity based funding has been trialled in the Riverland and West Coast regions and brings us into line with the Country Fire Service funds and their Units. It is supposed to mean less work for the volunteers, as there is no need to prepare a budget. Yet currently there is a proposal that Unit Managers within a region meet four times a year to discuss requests for funding with their Regional Commanders. This, to me, creates more work not less. There is also the potential for Units to miss out if they don't apply for extra funding and justify the proposal. I can also see some Units with people who have the skills and ability to write submissions being better off than some of the smaller Units where the bulk of the work on preparing submissions is left to the Unit Manager or Finance Officer. While the rationale behind the concept is sound and the model itself makes sense, I wonder where some of the costing figures come from, and while some may complain about budget cuts, remember to look in your shed or your neighbouring Unit's shed. Those new vehicle buildings need to be paid for. We will have to wait and see how practical and user friendly the new system becomes, after all it is a work in progress.

Last issue I mentioned that the first batch of new uniforms should have arrived by the time Frontline reached you. At my Unit they arrived

the same day except for mine and another member. There are still problems with the system of ordering and with quality control but these are being worked through as they arise. If there are any problems, could you pass them on to the Association so that we can keep track of how the process is working. This goes for problems with new vehicles as well. There is not much the Association can do about problems if we don't know about them.

Last meeting, the Committee sat down and revisited the Constitution of the Association, which was in need of some updating to reflect legislative, name and boundary changes that have taken place over the last few years. The draft version of this constitution is now ready for wider consultation with you, the members of the Association. I would encourage you to visit the Association's website and download a copy of the constitution and discuss the changes with other volunteers. We are looking for feedback and wish to ensure this new constitution not only takes into account the changes that have been forced on us but reflects what SES volunteers want. If all goes to plan, the new constitution will be voted on at the next Annual General Meeting which is scheduled for late October.

Another topic discussed at the meeting is the nominations for the Keith Lane Memorial Award, while State Headquarters is also looking for nominations for the South Australian Emergency Services Medal and Ministerial Commendations. So if you would like to nominate a fellow volunteer for their efforts throughout the year, now is the time to send in your nominations. Nominating is easy, deciding who gets these awards is the tough part.

Till next time, stay safe.

Warren Hicks
Chairman, SASESVA

from the
CEO's
desk



A very interesting meeting was held at the State Emergency Centre recently for the Central Region (mainly Metropolitan section) Unit Managers to discuss the issues around Call Receipt and Dispatch.

I was impressed by the enthusiasm to drive our service toward greater professionalism, but as always in large groups, there were a few negative elements that seemed to want SES to operate as they did somewhere back in the '60s.

There have been a few issues with CRD, which is expected, as we make such a massive change to our business ahead of impending communication technology introduction.

However, the direction remains positive and we are certainly paving the way to a new era for Emergency Services in terms of how we address our communication systems.

The SESVA has been actively involved in proceedings to date and no doubt our united front has assisted in achieving many of the outcomes that would otherwise have been more difficult.

We have some other issues to address in conjunction with the SESVA.

In my meetings with Units around the State, streamlining of administration, more direct support to Units for training and reimbursement of expenses to volunteers have been raised.

These will all have to be carefully thought through but are genuine issues and will no doubt be on the agenda at upcoming forums and meetings.

I would also like to acknowledge the Laura SES RCR team who have nominated for the World RCR Championships in South Africa in October this year.

SES is supporting them but they are also actively fundraising to reach the target budget.

There is a noticeable lift in the morale; not only in the Unit but also in the community. We will all strive to get them there. Volunteers will recall the recent tragic events within their community and I am urging all of you to get behind Laura and support them.

David Place

Chief Executive Officer
State Emergency Service South Australia

“However, the direction remains positive and we are certainly paving the way to a new era for Emergency Services in terms of how we address our communication systems.”

Executive Officer's report



“We are working within the services to solve these concerns before the SASESVA escalates the issue to the Minister formally for action.”

The issues raised over the last few months have been consistent with previous issues from the last *Frontline*. MFS Call Receipt and Dispatch and PPC are still winning the ratings war. PPC should be sorting itself out with all members able to order Orange gear through their region with the order forms already distributed. By the time this edition goes to print the second run of orange PPC should be distributed. Customs issues with the fabric may have some items delayed until mid October.

Our issues with the quality of MFS CRD continue. Discussions have taken place with MFS Management over the lack of contact details and priorities coming through on the message. This along with the usual frustrations that we get from callers mis-information is generally making the situation difficult. Part of the key to changing this is for Units to complete and submit grievance reports for every incident that does not have all the required details on the pager, (as per the supplied documentation). These grievances, along with the pressure that the SASESVA and SES management is applying, will move us towards a more acceptable outcome. I have met with the Minister and discussed these issues and others to keep her in the loop. We are working within the services to solve these concerns before the SASESVA escalates the issue to the Minister formally for action.

On matters that the SASESVA can manage directly, we have launched the Casual wear on our website and included an order form in this issue of *Frontline*. The garments are of the highest quality and will continue the pride that we have in our organisation. Please check out the website SASESVA.org.au and have a read of the order form. Advice from SHQ has asked that Units do not fund the casual wear from their Unit budgets, as it is not calculated into the activity based funding formula. The funding for these garments should come from the individual's pocket or fundraising accounts.

On the website we have also included a copy of the draft SASESVA Constitution for comment. It will be ratified at the AGM. (Details to be forwarded shortly.) Please have a look and comment straight back to the Chairperson or the Executive Officer.

At this busy time, the SASESVA will continue to push the issues that have been raised and promote the role of the SES Volunteer in our Emergency Services Community.

Derren Halleday
Executive Officer
SASESVA

Peter Nygaard



After the Gladstone incident, the SES has had a fairly quiet period in regard to major incidents. Most members of the SES and other emergency services that responded to the Gladstone explosion expressed their amazement at the scope of the devastation that confronted them. As the scene unfolded, it became apparent that there were a number of factors that required assessment before any action was taken. When our Units first arrived on the scene, employees of the explosives company had already entered the area where the initial explosion originated. They had assisted two injured employees to safety and commenced first aid. At that stage, three other employees were missing and when initial emergency services arrived at the scene, a decision was made not to race into the blast area on the grounds of safety. A short time later, CFS crews confirmed areas of extreme danger, including unexploded substances and toxic chemicals pooling in and around the site. To give an indication of the blast, debris was located kilometres away. As the week progressed, our members were subjected to quite a lot of pressure from bystanders who believed we should have been more 'proactive' with our search systems. Our members, in conjunction with other emergency service organisations, conducted a professional and safe campaign under stressful conditions in an extremely dangerous environment, without sustaining any injuries.

This leads on to personal protective equipment/clothing (PPE/PPC). Always remember that under the hierarchy of control measures, PPE/PPC are the "last resort".
1. Eliminate the hazard. 2. Substitute the hazard with something of a lesser risk. 3. Isolate the hazard. 4. Use engineering controls. 5. Use



“Most members of the SES and other emergency services that responded to the Gladstone explosion expressed their amazement at the scope of the devastation that confronted them.”

Peter Nygaard Continued

administrative controls. 6. Use PPE/PPC. It is a tendency to overlook the first five and go straight to PPE/PPC because we turn up to a task wearing PPC. Always look at the options when conducting the initial risk assessment on arrival at a task.

One of the attached photographs was taken at the 2006 Australasian Road Rescue Challenge conducted at the Adelaide Showgrounds. It highlights the risk of injury to road crash rescue



Above: An example of the risks rescuers face when having to cut people out of vehicles.

crews when attending accidents and having to cut people out of vehicles. This particular car was on its roof when the "patient" was rescued but it demonstrates the risks to rescuers in regard to sharp metal presenting a hazard to those on site.

Another development nearing fruition is the State OHSW Committee. Currently, I am contacting the elected volunteers and by the time this goes to print, will have conducted the first committee meeting with representatives from most regions, staff and volunteers. There is still room for more, so if you would like to represent your fellow members, please contact me at SHQ.

I still receive quite a lot of feedback from all areas of the service and appreciate your input. I welcome any type of feedback from you and am easily contacted at SHQ, so keep the information flowing in.

Stay safe.

Peter Nygaard

OHSW Officer
State Emergency Service
South Australia
nygaard.peter@safecom.sa.gov.au



from the **Editor**

By the time you get this, we're in the last few weeks before the closing of nominations for the Keith Lane Award. So, get your nominations in now.

In this issue, Peter Nygaard takes a look at issues surrounding the Gladstone blast.

SES teams were heavily involved in the aftermath of that tragic incident.

On another note, we keep hearing about how Roxby Downs is booming with an expansion of the mine and great future ahead, but it's been a struggle for the SES team up there.

However, the community spirit is thriving and you can read how Lol Wilton has done wonders to maintain the strength in numbers.

Lots of other stuff to read as well.

Remember, you can always contribute via my home address or email me at allancalleja@netspace.net.au.

Our next edition deadline is early December, so start sending in stuff now.

Happy Reading.

Allan Calleja
Editor

And after much of the initial gruesome work was done by SES and other volunteers, the next job was to find out what happened. No easy task and many dangers still existed.

Peter Adams, former television and radio journalist and now of SafeWork SA, gives us this overview of what was then to come...

GLADSTONE

A CHALLENGING INVESTIGATION

The safety problems of investigating the destruction of the Quin Investments factory on May 9 did not end once the active involvement of emergency services was over.

With the completion of the emergency phase, the site was handed over to SafeWork SA on Saturday 13 May, and so began one of the most challenging, painstaking and demanding investigations ever embarked upon by the agency.

Destruction of the factory was total.

Where once a sizeable building stood, there now lay

“Up to eight investigators were part of the initial joint agency recovery effort involving SES Volunteers and provided technical advice during the emergency phase of the incident.”

a smouldering open air ruin laden with hazards.

SafeWork SA had actually been on site from the very outset.

Up to eight investigators were part of the initial joint agency recovery effort involving SES Volunteers and provided technical advice during the emergency phase of the incident.

SafeWork SA Executive Director Michele Patterson (herself a former senior OHS inspector and now President of the International Association of Labour Inspection) was one of the members of the team

which included professional investigators, explosives experts, industrial chemists, and chemical engineers.

They knew only too well what hazards lay on-site, and so the investigation would be an exercise in OHS management as well as detective work on a grand scale.

Confronting SafeWork SA inspectors on a daily basis was a raft of occupational health and safety hazards, namely:

- traces of asbestos dust,
- TNT,
- potassium hydroxide,
- ingredients for explosives,
- protruding nails and screws,
- shredded metal,
- material suspended in trees,
- sunburn,
- dehydration,
- bee stings.

Every day before venturing onto the site, investigating

teams had to wear Personal Protective Equipment including coveralls, boots, hardhats, dust masks, safety glasses, and gloves.

Upon breaking for lunch and at the end of every day's work, the coveralls would be disposed of, and boots and other equipment washed down and decontaminated.

Fortunately, there were no injuries on site during the time investigators were there.

While the region has endured drought over the winter, it was a blessing for SafeWork SA's investigators.

Conditions on the site daily were cool, crisp, clear and dry.

The lack of rain also helped in the process of evidence recovery, by not washing off tell-tale chemical traces from debris destined for examination by experts in Adelaide.

The primary evidence collection continued on-site until 27 June, when a semi-trailer was loaded with 14 secured containers, 12 large pieces of plant, one box of evidence bags, and a box of factory floor sweepings, all to be transported to Adelaide for the next phase of investigation.

The site itself has now been handed back to Quin Investments for repatriation, a process also likely to take many months.

The company has signalled its intention not to use the old factory site for any further production, but is keen to renew work at a second site nearby.

SafeWork SA has stipulated strict conditions for any resumption of production, and wants the planned process and all equipment to be used scrutinised by independent experts before it considers any restart.

In the meantime at a secure warehouse in Adelaide, some 2,000 pieces of plant recovered from the site are being reassembled in a bid to determine the cause of the explosion.

Assisting SafeWork SA investigators is Professor John Price, the head of Monash University's School of Industrial Engineering, himself an expert investigator of industrial accidents including Victoria's Longford disaster.

Pieces will also be analysed by a specialist testing facility, and other experts will be brought on board over time.

It is an investigation that is colossal in its scope and complexity, with much riding on its answers.

By Peter Adams
SafeWork SA



Onkaparinga SES members and Road Crash Rescue vehicle.

NEW VEHICLES

A ceremony at the Lobethal CFS/Onkaparinga SES station on Sunday, June 4, saw the commissioning of two new State Emergency vehicles and a CFS 24P appliance. In a unique arrangement, CFS brigades within the Onkaparinga CFS Group also form the Onkaparinga SES Unit based at Lobethal.

Inited dignitaries attending the ceremony were the Honourable Carmel Zollo, Minister for Emergency Services, Mr Mark Goldsworthy MP, representatives of the SA Country Fire Service, Mr David Place, SES Chief Officer and Mr John Thorne, SES Regional Commander.

In her speech, Carmel Zollo praised the volunteers for their dedication in the service to the community, especially in their dual role as members of the Country Fire Service and State Emergency Service. The Minister then invited the captain of the Lobethal CFS, Mr Geoff Weidenhofer, to accept the keys to the specifically designed Road Crash Rescue vehicle. Mr Peter Wicks, Unit Manager Onkaparinga SES, accepted the keys for the general purpose Salvage/Rescue vehicle from the Minister.

After the commissioning ceremony, Mr David Place, SES Chief Officer, presented Certificates of Appreciation to delegates of the Onkaparinga SES from Lobethal, Woodside, Oakbank/Balhannah and Lenswood/Forest Range for their assistance to the community of Virginia during the flood crisis in November, 2005.

The recent additions to the Lobethal station were commemorated with a plaque, unveiled jointly by Carmel Zollo and Mr Mark Goldsworthy MP. The additions include a new PPE storage area and a meeting/training room.

At the conclusion of the formalities, Captain Weidenhofer invited the dignitaries and guests to afternoon tea and to inspect the new vehicles and building additions.

By Klaus Stichel

Communications Officer, Lobethal CFS



Above: Captain Geoff Weidenhofer accepting the keys to the SES Road Crash Rescue vehicle.

Below: Equipment storage on Road Crash Rescue vehicle.



THIS IS REAL FRONTIER STUFF!

Roxby Downs is definitely facing a bright future with the planned expansion of the town.

With that will come more people but the transient nature of the labour force has posed a problem for the SES there. However, Unit Manager Lol Wilton's enthusiasm and energy has overcome any shortcomings. Lol and husband John, who works at the mine as a crane supervisor, moved there in 1998. Having been a member of the Cairns Coast Guard and that town's local SES, she quickly signed up to the Roxby Downs SES Unit after seeing an advertisement in the local paper. The Unit was in desperate need of volunteers. She's now been part of the SES for five years. Late last year, many casual employees had left the township and numbers for the SES yet again dwindled and they faced a hard task of ensuring that there was sufficient numbers to cover all shifts. Kerri Moss, Administration Officer at Roxby Downs SES says, "Back at the beginning of 2006, we were down to 6 active

members. We really needed to do some recruiting. "An intensive campaign by Lol Wilton, Unit Manager, together with Cindy McCourt, Sue Gage and myself netted us nine new recruits. "Excellent. Now all we needed to do was train them! "Our Training Officer then informed us that he had been posted for work and would be leaving us. "This left the 5 remaining active members to perform the training. "With some juggling to ensure that the right people were available to perform the training (some of our members are on a 4 day, 4 off, 4 night 4 off roster), we managed to get the recruits through basic with the comment from Sue Gage, who did the assessment, that we were one of the best units that she had seen. "We are now training members to ensure they have the skills we need for the types of call-outs that we get, i.e. Road Crash, Land Search and Storm Damage (not that we ever get any rain). "We're pretty proud of the results of our hard work."

The Roxby Downs SES Unit.



The Roxby Downs SES Unit.

Lol Wilton adds. "At Christmas we only had two on call." She says it was a back to basics recruitment drive. "We did a shop front promotion for two days and had support from the local Community Club and with word of mouth, managed to sign up and train another nine or so." The local community is right behind the SES. "We were Charity of the Month at the local Community Club and we are at present applying for an allowance from BHP. It gives \$10 an hour a month for every employee who is involved in volunteer work.

We have more than 8, so you work it out because in the last six months, those employees did 400 hours. We would use the money towards training so it goes to the volunteers." Lol and her team aren't shy about being out there in the community. Last year they won the most outrageous float in the local Christmas parade with a car wreck. It was certainly different for a Christmas pageant! "We threw out lollies and had water squirts. Everyone had a good time." Like any SES Unit, there are

Lol and Kaylene.





The Roxby Downs SES Unit Christmas Pageant Float.



Debrief.



Josh.



Lol, Leigh and Ros.

real challenges, but unique to Roxby Downs of course is its terrain and coverage.

They sometimes have to travel 200 kilometres for an incident.

"If it doesn't rain behind you things are ok. Last year we had to travel for 16 hours to and from a road accident. It should have taken three hours, but the Borefield Road is unsealed and on our return it rained and you can't travel on a dirt road. So we had to continue west to come out to Coober Pedy to the highway. We had one person

"Our crew is very dedicated. It's comprised of mums, dads, grandmothers, accountants, painters, electricians, students, just to name a few. Eight of the members are multi serviced (volunteers in SES - CFS - SAAS).

"In the country, this is not a conflict of interest but an indication of the community spirit that Roxby Downs has. It also keeps the emergency services close together.

"This year we introduced cadets to the SES now that we have the numbers in place to

"The Roxby Downs SES has a fantastic group of people."

who had to get home because they had to work at 6am.

"We were lucky as all the petrol stations along the way opened up as we came by. That was all arranged by Headquarters. People are very good like that in the country."

"The RXDSES has a fantastic group of people.

"We share our building with the CFS and we recently had a combined working bee and 19 SES and 7 CFS members turned up for it.

"We started at 0830 and worked to 1700 with a BBQ lunch. The day was very successful not only in the work that was achieved but the social side of it as well.

run them. We now have 4.

"My goal for this Unit is to have the infrastructure in place to serve the community before the Olympic Dam Mine expands and the Roxby Downs township increases to the 10,000 people that is expected.

"Our workload will surely be doubled and it is important for our transition to take place in a smooth and gradual process and not suddenly wake up and find that we are not prepared. We are very fortunate to have the support from the team at North Region which makes my job very easy."

By Allan Calleja



Above: Pageant preparation..

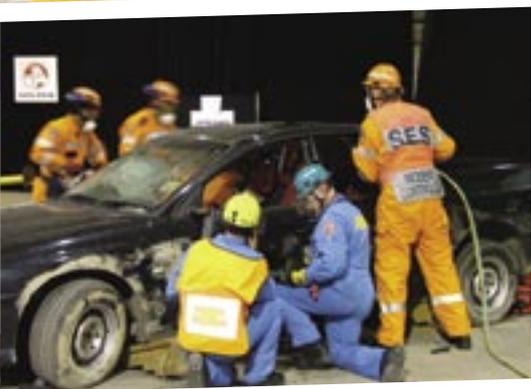
Below: Lol and Karen.





Images from the recent Road Crash Rescue Competition.







CENTRAL REGION

On the first weekend of July the Central Region Cadets attended a camp.

This year's camp was held at Woodhouse. The weather was wet and wild and the creek running through the centre of the campsite was brimming at its banks. We were greeted by a gentleman named Woodie when we first arrived on the Friday night. It took us a while to get to Woodhouse as we got lost in the fog. Woodie took us on a night walk around the property. By the time we got back to the campsite our shoes and pants were already soaking.

When we woke up the next morning, we were offered a wonderful breakfast prepared by the catering team. All the meals on the camp were of a high quality and very filling. After breakfast, we had our photos taken in preparation for our IDs. We were split into teams and the day began. There were six activities that each group had to complete. The activities included storm damage, orienteering, land search, and flood diversion. The weather didn't dampen our spirits and all groups completed the tasks successfully.

In between activities and meals, a lot of time was spent in front of the heaters warming up, drying clothes, shoes and uniforms.

A true highlight of the camp was the fire that was kept alight through the efforts of one cadet in particular who would just not give up.

At the end of the camp, a winning team was announced. *Team Two* won as the best overall for the weekend and received an award.

We all had a great time on the camp and on behalf of all the cadets, I would like to thank all the coordinators and helpers of this year's camp. We are all looking forward to the committee organising future camps.

By **Damica Mazzeo**
Eastern Suburbs Cadet





CADET CAMP





SES HAS A FLARE FOR IT

Students from Port Lincoln High School's Seafood Industry Pathways course recently had the chance to work with local SES volunteers to put into practice some of the theory relating to marine safety equipment.

Students had already completed a safety at sea course with instructors from the Australian Fishing Academy, looking at fire safety and survival at sea.

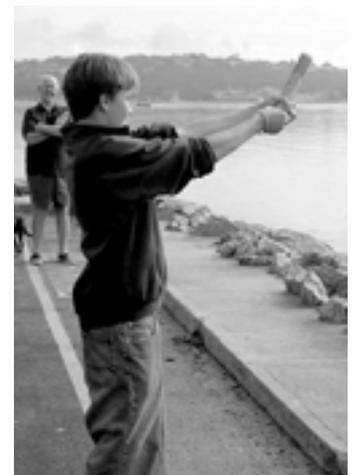
Tony Brown and Ernie Irwin, SES volunteers with many years experience in search and rescue in the local area demonstrated the variety of equipment available and explained the correct and safe procedure when discharging flares.

Under supervision, students were then given the opportunity to set off both hand held and rocket flares, invaluable experience if they

ever find themselves in an emergency situation. Weather conditions were perfect with good visibility and calm conditions giving students a good opportunity to see the effects of each flare.

Staff and students would like to thank both Tony and Ernie for their time and acknowledge the support Port Lincoln SES volunteers have provided to Seafood Pathways classes for a number of years now. No request for assistance with a range of demonstrations and workshops has ever been declined. Many thanks!

By Chris Mesecke



GIRLS ON FIRE!

WIFF (Women in Fire Fighting) 2006

Hi, I'm Merise Adamson. I am an SES volunteer from Prospect SES and I work for Lightforce Australia at Hindmarsh.



Merise Adamson.

“The first day, the room was filled with what seemed to be about 1000 women and a very, very thin scattering of men.”

AIIMS Workshop.



I was privileged enough to be asked to attend the WIFF (Women In Fire Fighting) 2006 conference in Sydney June 6th- 9th to represent the women in SES for South Australia in the emergency services.

Upon arriving at the airport to depart Adelaide for Sydney, I met up with seven other girls who were going. Andrea Haigh from Volunteer Management Branch; attendees from CFS were Rhonda Russ & Ann Letcher from Eyre Peninsula, Pip McGowan, Kelly Wing, Shirley Chomel, Julie Lovett & Narelle Rawnsley (CFS staff).

David Baker (SAFECOM) was the only man going with us girls to look after us.

After an enjoyable flight arriving in Sydney Tuesday afternoon and staying at the Hotel Ibis on Darling Harbour, with some also staying at the Novotel on Darling Harbour, we arrived at our motel and had a bit of trouble with check-in (they didn't have us listed) but it was soon sorted out.

The conference was being held at the Sydney Convention Centre (only a hundred metres from our hotel).

The first day, the room was filled with what seemed to be about 1000 women and a very, very thin scattering of men.

Belinda Green was the MC.

Amongst a variety of subjects brought up during that day was about an emergency services union and how it has concerns about women in the services banding together at a conference. There were no representatives from their area at the conference.

The main discussion that caught my eye was about the length of time that women have served in the emergency services within Australia.

They also had four women present who were serving in the emergency services during the World War II period. We all had the opportunity to meet them.

There was then a parade of period outfits (uniforms, PPE) that these women had to wear right up to the current day. The ladies were presented with flowers and other things. They were called the amazons of NSW WOMEN IN AUXILIARY FIRE.

There were many presentations that day including one from two ladies from the United States of America about Cobb County Fire Department.

Thursday was split up into workshops and group sessions for urban brigades and rural brigades.

I went to a few, one being about balancing work, family and fire, mainly for women who work full time and also have children etc. and the ways to go about it.

The next was strength, how to get it and how to keep it. This was about gym training and how to build up your strength for fighting fires (no, no, no, not building muscles!).

I have a program if anyone is interested in this.

Another was planning for your career, giving advice on how to be strong, achieve your goals and not minimise your abilities in the eyes of others. It was directed towards fire but also applies to women in emergency services.

One of the areas of concern was ill fitting PPE - all male sizes no female sizing, problems in fitting uniforms. There were also concerns about communication, OH&S, part-time work vs. day/night worker, paid staff vs. volunteers, unions, pregnancy, training, looking after children.



All the girls.

Below: The Amazons of NSW Women in Auxiliary Fire.

I believe South Australia is the only state that caters for pregnant women in the fire & emergency services.

Next was a gentleman by the name of Greg Paterson discussing diversity in recruiting, getting his point across about fireman vs. firewomen vs. firefighters.

I think he was more upset than the women!

Last of all was the lecture on New Zealand emergency services presented by Brigade Captain Serena Groot-Jans.

This opened up a few eyes for they are a really tight-knit unit dealing with a high level of motor vehicle accidents and they have also put out an education booklet "Be Firewise".

On Thursday night, we went to the Dockside Function Centre. The dinner was a bit different, but very nice for some.

Special guest speaker for the evening was Elle McFeast (comedienne Libby Gorr). What a laugh! Music was good and so was the wine - I never got to empty one glass! I was a bit seedy next morning ... got home late.

Friday morning was a bit slow.

I think that a fair few were late home from the evening before.

Being day three, they had a scenario and divided us into three groups. We had to apply an Incident Management Team to a fire scenario using the AIIMS System (Australian Inter-agency Incident Management System). This opened up a whole new world to me as I had never worked at that level before in managing incidents.

I would like to thank the Volunteer Management Branch (SAFECOM) who sponsored me and the two volunteer support officers who attended - David Baker and Andrea Haigh.

We all received WIFF backpacks (with goodies) for attending the conference.

Many thanks to everyone for giving me the opportunity to attend.

It did indeed open up my eyes. We arrived back in Adelaide on Friday 9th June about 5pm.

By Merise Adamson
Business Administrator
Prospect SES



Below: The Formal Dinner.



\$1000 Reward

Get your colleague a chance at history, \$1000 cash plus a night's accommodation and reward yourselves with a **BBQ PACK** by nominating him or her for the **Keith Lane Memorial Award**.

It's our reward to an outstanding individual and you can celebrate when we give your winning unit **\$100 of goodies for a BBQ**.

The winner of the Keith Lane Memorial Award gets a plaque, **\$1000 cash** and more.

The winner will be announced during SES Week and presented with the award on Parade Day.

Speak to your Unit Manager. Nominations close at the end of this month, so send yours in NOW!



The Keith Lane Memorial Award is presented annually by the SES Volunteers Association and Countrywide Media, publishers of Frontline.

KEITH LANE MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATION

Tea Tree Gully is proud of its leader and has sent this in to nominate colleague Nigel Woods...

Nomination for Nigel Woods of Tea Tree Gully SES, for the Keith Lane Memorial Award, June 2006.

At Tea Tree Gully SES Unit we have the great fortune to have many talented and committed volunteers who give so freely to the local and wider community. Yet among this galaxy of volunteers in our Star Emergency Service, there are some stars which shine even brighter than the others, with a gravitational pull that draws out the best in those around them. Nigel Woods is one such example, a star in his own right and a guiding example to so many others both within our local Unit and further afield.

Nigel Scott Woods, now our Rescue Officer, made his arrival into the orbit of the Tea Tree Gully Unit on the 12th of February 1992, bringing with him some unique skills, including his studies of mining attained at the University of South Australia, and post graduate qualifications from Monash University in Victoria, in reliability engineering.

Little did Nige know what was in store for him, after attending a "Light Rescue Course" in early 1992. His real baptism was later that year at the flooding of Two Wells. It is in those first few months when you start to attend call outs and start putting it all into practice that you decide if this SES stuff is really for you. Well SES is Nige through and through, and it continues to play a pivotal role in his life.

Nige went on to not only attain accreditation for himself, but is qualified at Instructor Level in: Basic Rescue, Advanced Rescue, Map Reading and Navigation, Land Search Operations and Vertical Rescue in all three levels, and has attained his Train Small Groups and Workplace Assessment accreditation. It is one of his favourite things about SES: teaching and passing on skills, helping and watching others learn. With such a passion for skill development, we all benefit from Nige's commitment and dedication.

To further develop his personal skill level, Nige was one of only a handful of volunteers who took unpaid leave from employment for three weeks in September 2005 to attain accreditation in Urban Search and Rescue Technician, Category 2 in New South Wales.

Ever the model volunteer, he assisted the bush fire fighting efforts in 2006 near the South Australian and Victorian border by driving one of the New South Wales appliances to Brukunga.

Nige's commitment to the Tea Tree Gully SES Unit has seen him, alongside his team mates, proudly represent the Unit at six National Disaster Rescue Competitions, being part of the winning team twice: in 1994 and 2001, overall receiving two firsts and three thirds. Nige also has fond memories of receiving a gold medal at the South Australian Police and Emergency Service games in 2002.

While deceptively casual about his stellar achievements, and life in general, Nige's 120kg frame and gentle nature belies his physical



"A shining example at Tea Tree Gully, Nige is a star that is never out of reach..."

endurance having for the last nine years attended no less than twelve gym classes per week, including step aerobics, boxing, boxercise, pump, tae-bo, step attack and weights. Nige definitely leads by example.

A shining example at Tea Tree Gully, Nige is a star that is never out of reach, he can often be found at the Unit on the weekends at the request of other members wishing to practice their skills under guided supervision. Although Nige is always willing to help and teach, he never gives answers away, he helps you work things out for yourself, and thus truly learn. It is said that the highest form of learning is evident when one is able to teach what they know to others.

All of these outstanding attributes lead us at Tea Tree Gully SES to proudly nominate Nigel Woods, one of our own, for the accolade of the Keith Lane Memorial Award.

SASESVA Casual Promotional Wear

Name:

Delivery Address:.....

Member ID Number:.....

Item No.	Type	Description	unit	Fixed Retail price to SES members inc GST	No. of Items To Be Ordered	Size	\$ Totals
VAPS1	Polo Shirt	Navy blue Micromesh Cool Dry Polo Shirt with knitted collar "STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE" and knitted cuffs "RESCUE". SES Logo on left hand chest. No Pocket. Sizes small to 4XL, custom made available	each	\$40.00			
VAPS1L	Polo Shirt	As above in ladies cut (no pockets)	each	\$40.00			
VAPS2	Polo Shirt	Navy blue Micromesh Cool Dry Polo Shirt with knitted collar "STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE" and knitted cuffs "RESCUE". SES Logo on left hand chest. With Pocket. Sizes small to 4XL, custom made available	each	\$42.00			
VAPS3	Polo Shirt	Blue/White Cross Dye Polo Shirt with knitted collar "STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE" and knitted cuffs "RESCUE". SES Logo on left hand chest. No Pocket. Sizes small to 4XL, custom made available	each	\$38.00			
VASPS3L	Polo Shirt	As above in ladies cut (no pockets)	each	\$38.00			
VAPS4	Polo Shirt	Blue/White Cross Dye Polo Shirt with knitted collar "STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE" and knitted cuffs "RESCUE". SES Logo on left hand chest. With Pocket. Sizes small to 4XL, custom made available	each	\$40.00			
VAV1	Vest	Shower proof Reversible Vest with Polar Fleece inner and full zip with SES logo on the outside left hand chest. Johnny Bobbin brand. Sizes small to 3XL	each	\$38.00			
VAPF1	Polar Fleece 1/2 Zip	Navy blue 1/2 Zip Polar Fleece Jumper with SES logo on Left hand chest. Winning Spirit. Sizes XXS to 5 XL	each	\$35.00			
VAPF2	Polar Fleece Jacket	Navy blue full zip Bonded Polar Fleece Jacket with SES logo on Left hand chest. Winning Spirit. Sizes Small to 5XL	each	\$40.00			
VAWBH	Wide brim hat	Akubra style, Synthetic, Putty colour, with SES logo embroidered on front. Bushie plus brand Size Small 55 to 57cm Large 59 to 61cm	each	\$38.00			
				Total \$ of order			
				Total \$ for delivery			
				Total \$			

Cost for delivering anywhere in South Australia

- Up to 5 garments \$12.00
- Up to 10 garments \$15.00
- Up to 25 garments \$20.00
- Up to 50 garments \$35.00

Send Completed order to Louise Reynolds with a cheque for the total amount.
 Cheques and or orders to be sent to PO Box 72, O'Halloran Hill 5158
 Orders can alternatively be e-mailed to reynolds@adelaide.on.net
 or faxed to 8370 2879
 Orders will not be processed until payment received
 If the garments are picked up from SHQ L10 within 7 days no charge



Top row: Full Zip Polar Fleece Jacket, Vest, 1/2 Zip Polar Fleece Jacket
Bottom row: Polo Shirt Range

letters

July 5, 2006

Mr Ty Lloyd
SES Central Region

Dear Mr Lloyd

We met under unusual circumstances; I was the driver of the gold Hyundai involved in the 5 (or 6?) car shunt on Dry Creek Bridge on the afternoon of Friday June 23.

In the circumstances, I did not identify you fully at the time, but your central office has suggested that the officer who helped us on that day almost certainly was Ty Lloyd of Central Region. If that person was not you, then somewhere else in SES is one heck of a good officer - please give him my regards!

I just wanted to say again how much several of us benefited from your calm and informed presence on the scene. In retrospect, I am pleased I did not have to try to exit through the driver's side window, and I must say I was agreeably surprised at how well the safety engineering worked on a small Korean hatchback. In insurance terms, it was a 'total loss', but it had done its job.

Beyond that, I was most grateful for your advice and calm control at the scene immediately after the collisions. I know that Ms Jenni Chalmers, who was in the car in front of me, was similarly grateful.

I have not been involved in anything like that before, but I know that it could have been much more distressing for several of us if we had not had your guidance.

Certainly we wish you and the SES well in the future.

Yours sincerely

Ian Kirkgaard

Potato Pye

4 Lge Potatoes.
1 tbs Oil.
1 Lge Onion (Finely Chopped).
25 grams Butter or Marg.
½ Cup Bacon Pieces (Finely Chopped).
2 tbs Milk.
4 Eggs.
¼ Cup Grated Cheese.
Salad to serve.

Method:

1. Wash and scrub potatoes and wrap in foil and place on an oven tray.
 2. Cook in a moderate oven (180° C) or (350° F) for approx 1hr or until cooked through.
 3. Heat oil in pan, add bacon and onion, stir until onion is soft, drain.
 4. Remove tops from potatoes and using a spoon scoop out the potato pulp leaving a 2mm shell.
 5. Combine potato pulp, butter or marg and milk in a bowl, mash well, stir in onion & bacon, mixing well, using spoon fill potato shell with mix.
 6. Cook in a moderate oven for about 10 to 15 mins or until heated through.
 7. Poach eggs in shallow pan of simmering water until they are just cooked.
 8. Place an egg on top of each potato, sprinkle with grated cheese, return to oven until cheese has melted.
 9. Season with salt & pepper and serve with salad.
- Pye.