

President's Forward



Spare a thought for our northern neighbours, who have had Cyclone Debbie show her full force and now are dealing with the aftermath. While our own members have been busy locally in different parts of NSW during March as severe thunderstorms created RFAs - unfortunately for some communities, they were hit multiple times... and as per Murphy's Law, just after they had either completed any outstanding RFAs or when they were almost completed. And then Richmond Tweed happened and again we saw our members deploying from all over the State to help their fellow volunteers respond - a response that will take a good many weeks to complete.

We again saw the importance of strong inter-agency ties, where we can call on other resources to make our responses easier - and therefore more effective for the community. But not all of the jobs we attended were success stories. We saw loss of life and total devastation. I would ask that you take on every job you attend or read about, that we are there as responders. We are there to make people's lives safer, and easier. Our job is not to judge how they got into the situation they are in, it is to make sure they are safe and in a better position when we leave than when we got there.

We can encourage people to make better decisions through robust preparedness messaging and situational awareness, but when we are in the act of helping them, let's focus on that. Keep each other and yourselves safe.

Until next month,

Charlie Moir ESM

What's been happening in the Volunteers Association?

WOW Day Merchandise

We have limited quantities of SES WOW Day merchandise available for pre-order! Make sure you check out the NSW SES Volunteers Association store to secure yours! Items include lapel pins, button badges, caps and t-shirts.

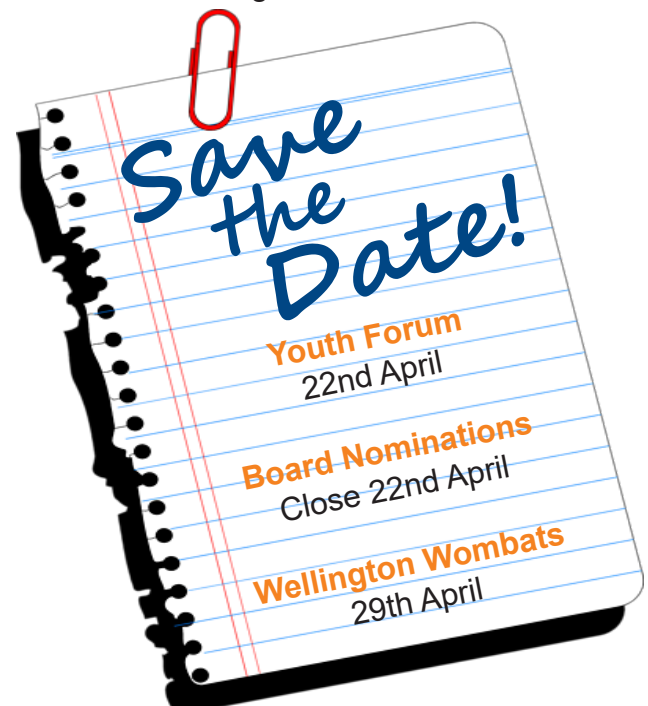
SES Branded Merchandise

All the SES Branded Merchandise is now available for purchase online through the site.

You must be logged in to purchase SES Branded merchandise. All Prices will now include GST (this adjustment is being done now)

Merchandise is:

- SES Solitude Travel Trolley Bag
- SES Climber Back Pack
- SES Eureka Ladies Polo Shirt Navy
- SES Eureka Mens Polo Shirt Navy
- SES Frost Bonded Fleece Ladies Jacket
- SES Frost Bonded Mens Fleece Jacket
- SES Thermal Mug



National Defence, Police and Emergency Services Women's Leadership Summit

We nominated three female Volunteers, alongside the three female NSW SES Volunteers Association Directors to attend the National Defence, Police and Emergency Services Women's Leadership Summit in Canberra on Friday 24th March.

All attendees reported they found it to be very informative and provided some valuable life lessons from some Key Women Leaders that shared their stories on progressing through the ranks in a male dominated workforce and the challenges they still face today as women leaders in the workforce.

Youth Forum

We also recently released an Expression of Interest for the Youth of the NSW SES to be involved in the Youth Forum being held at the Associations Head office on Saturday 22nd April from 10am - 3pm.

If you are under the age of 25 and are interested in being involved in this opportunity, please contact the office on 1300 073 782 or email office@nswsesva.org.au

2016 Grant and Funding Recipients

All recipients of Volunteers Association Funding are reminded to contact our Finance Manager; Alina to ensure your funding is reconciled before the end of Financial Year.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING...

2017 Wellington Wombats by providing cold weather jackets, marques and tables.



Our last raffle was drawn on the 10th March, with all of the winners coming from NSW. The major prize winner received a \$20,000 VISA Debit card.

Opportunities Open!

There's no better time to compare and save on Health Insurance. With an industry average rise of 4.84%, HCF members will be better off with Australia's largest not-for-profit fund average increase of just 3.65%. Access HCF's Corporate products through Member Advantage. To see how to enjoy your savings, visit the NSW SES VA Member Benefits website or call 1300 853 352 for more information.

Board Positions

Keep in mind nominations are open for positions on the NSW SES Volunteers Association Board. Contact the office for more information.

Database Draw

Surnames beginning with C,P,J,X,Q will be in the draw to win a \$50 voucher - Member's choice of Bunnings or iTunes voucher. There will also be a random winner drawn from all of our members.

Your member contact details must be up-to-date in our database to be eligible