



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The SES Volunteers Monthly Newsletter is an opportunity for me to say hello to you all, to thank Gordon Hall the outgoing President and I look forward to a number of activities based listening to the needs of member units.

To answer some questions about me that you may have?

I started my SES Volunteering at the Northam SES Unit in 1996. From Northam I gained experience with the York SES Unit as an Acting Unit Manager. After my time in the Midland/Goldfields District I served in Port Hedland. Returning to Perth I joined the Regional Operations Section and from there I moved to the Communications Support Unit where I have been for last 10 Years.

Whilst they are some of the locations I have served in SES, great opportunities have been given to understand how SES Units work by working as a Team Member, Team Leader, Unit Administration Officer, Deputy Unit Manager and Local Manager.

The best thing about the time within the SES is simply there has not been an activity that has not provided learning opportunities and the comradery within the orange family.

This is not only in WA but also across the nation during deployments.

During the first few months since the election at the 2019 AGM, I will be concentrating on talking with as many Units as possible. Yes if possible, all 68 and wish that could be face to face but logic says the telephone will be the main method.

I do have an advantage that my job takes me around the state, so from time to time, I look forward to visiting you in your home communities.

Things for us all to think about now and the immediate future is the DFES Project drafting the new Emergency Services Legislation.

What does it mean for the SES?

This will be a very topical question for us all to address in coming months.

Once again, I look to working with you to promote the wins and successes that SES Volunteers achieved day in day out.

We need to share success and be proud to be orange.

Greg Cook
President

FROM YOUR TEAM AT THE SESVA

What's in this edition:-

From the President

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SESVA AGM

The SES Volunteers Association AGM was conducted on 8th September 2019 at the Adina Hotel in Perth.

Gordon Hall retired as President, after serving in that role for six years and previously as Secretary for two years.

The newly elected President is Greg Cook from CSU.

Other results of the election are:

Vice President	- Phil Bresser
Kimberley Representative	- Leah O'Neill
Pilbara Representative	- Trevor Patton
Lower South West Representative	- Jonathan Boswell
South West Representative	- Brian Kyrwood



SESVA AGM CONTINUED

Regions which do not have a duly elected representative as a result of the election are:

South Coastal
South East
Goldfields/Midlands

If you are interested in becoming the representative for your vacant region please contact the Secretary at sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au

FUTURE WAFES CONFERENCES

The phenomenal amount of work put in by a number of staff in organising and preparing for the three day conference is acknowledged by the SESVA.

There has been a lot of feedback, both good and constructive about the conferences.

The comments and feedback included the lack of relevance of many of the speakers for the general SES Volunteers' needs in today's very busy and demanding world.

In general terms the feedback is such that we now have to question whether an annual Perth based conference is providing what many of the Volunteers require to undertake their roles in the Emergency Services and the community.

The service streams have relevance however, these have been reduced to less than half the conference time with the rest going to speakers who are looking at a much larger picture than most Volunteers look at.

By morning teatime Sunday, a high proportion of the Volunteers have either departed for home or are looking at heading home to their families.

This Association has provided DFES with input that there be a Perth based Volunteers Conference every second year.

Every other year, a one-day conference in each Region would be conducted with presentations and information relevant to the key Volunteers in each of the services.

Please contact your SESVA Regional Representative and tell them your thoughts.

GORDON HALL RETIRES

Gordon Hall retires as SESVA President

Gordon has served the past six years as President and the two years previously as Secretary, and this has been very busy but rewarding time for him.

There have been many achievements of the Association during that time, and many friendships built with DFES staff, other Associations and most importantly, SES Volunteers.

Gordon would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the DFES staff, and departments, and Volunteers for their dedication, support and assistance to the SESVA team during this period.

Gordon said "Without their support we would not have been able to achieve the many things we have for the SES Volunteers over the past six years."

He also said "The support by the VA Committee members, Sub-Committee members, and long term committee members, John Capes, and Secretary Lin Booth, are the ones who have put the SESVA where they are today – a positive force working together for the betterment of the SES Volunteers and the Communities they serve."

Meanwhile Gordon is not really slowing down, he has much work to do as the Chair of the SESVAC and Chair of the National SESVA.

Thank you Gordon for everything you have accomplished for the SES Volunteers over the past eight years.

HOW TO KEEP INFORMED

Don't forget we have a website which keeps you informed of what is happening across the state in SES land.

We also have "the App".

And also, if you would like our newsletters, other relevant information etc forwarded direct to your email, just contact the SESVA office (sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au), and advise your details.