Emergency Services Foundation Alumni
NEWSLETTER  Edition 3 November 2009

The Future
Impacts & Opportunities

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PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS PUBLICATION
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since our last newsletter your Alumni has sought to fine tune our Rules and Procedures document and focus on achieving the main objectives described in it. “To assist the Emergency Services Foundation to:
• support potential applicants to apply for the ESF scholarship
• disseminate knowledge gained by scholarship recipients for the benefit of all emergency services in Victoria”.

Supporting Potential Applicants
To this end, the Alumni hosted two information nights this year both of which were attended by about 14 prospective applicants and several Alumni members. The result has been a significant improvement in the quality of applications received from the various agencies with some candidates holding over their proposals in order to improve their relevance and chances of success.

To make the process of applying for a scholarship simpler, a ‘Scholarship Time Line’ and an amended ‘Scholarship Application Pack’ have been prepared in order to streamline the scholarship process. The ‘Scholarship Pack’ which contains a ‘travel diary’, ‘check list’ and ‘financial section’ with expense forms and clear details of what the ESF Treasurer requires will be provided to successful applicants.

Disseminating Knowledge Gained By Scholarship Recipients For The Benefit Of All Emergency Services In Victoria
Alumni management team members scoured their respective agencies for copies of past scholarship reports, many of which were completed several years ago and have been seen by very few people other than the writer.

Through sheer hard work and persistence, over 27 papers have now been recovered and placed on the ESF website. They will also be offered to other emergency service knowledge banks, such as the AFAC website.

Raising The Profile Of The ESF And Scholarship Recipients
The Alumni has cooperated closely with the organisers of the ESF’s annual Emergency Management Conference. For the second year in succession, the Alumni had a booth, staffed by Alumni members, which displayed examples of previous scholarships and gave out information to prospective scholarship applicants. The booth, which was enhanced by the presence of the “Firebike” – the subject of a recent scholarship study tour, was very well attended.

Presentations by scholarship recipients are now an integral part of the conference program as is the Conference Dinner hosted by the Alumni. This year about 80 conference attendees from several emergency services joined many members of the ESF Board, Alumni members and guest speakers in what was a very well received event. The profile of the Alumni was enhanced by new banners which are now available for all future Alumni events.

Currently, we are working on an annual achievement award for a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the aims and objectives of the Alumni to be presented at an appropriate moment during the Emergency Management Conference.

Finally, I should mention that the tragic events of 7 February had a significant impact on the workloads of most Alumni Management Team members a number of whom have had to resign from the team due to their work commitments.

I ask all Alumni members to please consider joining the Management Team so that we can gain a wider range of input and share the workload.

Keith Adamson
President Emergency Service Foundation Alumni
ALUMNI MANAGEMENT TEAM

President
Keith Adamson (MFB)

Deputy President
Neil Bumpstead (CFA)

Deputy President
Stephen Warren (SES)

Minute Secretary
Jenny Davis (ESF)

PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS

Scholarship & Knowledge Network
Function: Assist applicants to apply for Emergency Services Foundation scholarships and assist the Emergency Services Foundation to select scholarship recipients. Establish a library of reports from Emergency Services Foundation scholarship recipients, and build links with other relevant sources of knowledge

Director
Adam Smibert (MFB)

Deputy Director
Greg Gibson (Ambulance Victoria)

Promotions
Function: Inform Alumni members and external stakeholders about events, and other learning opportunities provided by the Alumni and the Emergency Services Foundation

Director
Greg McWILLIAM (Vicpol)

Deputy Director
VACANT

Events
Function: Coordinate events to promote the Alumni and assist learning on topics of relevance to Victorian emergency services

Director
VACANT

Deputy Director
Roy Marshall (MFB)
ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

MANAGEMENT TEAM CONTACT LIST

Members of the Emergency Services Foundation Alumni are available to be contacted on the following details.

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ALUMNI VACANCIES

There are currently vacant positions on the Promotions and Events portfolios. We also welcome members to join as part of the Management Team. If you are interested in applying for any of these positions please contact Jenny Davis, ESF Alumni Administrative Secretary.

CONTACT US
Jenny Davis (Administrative Secretary) - Emergency Services Foundation
Email: JDAVIS@mfb.vic.gov.au
Ph: 0406003765
Members of the Alumni would like to congratulate the following recipients of the 2009 Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship and wish them well in their studies and travel.

**Julie Harris (MFB)**

**TOPIC** - Knowledge transfer of vulnerable groups amongst various agencies.

Julie is a Community Ageing Strategist with the MFB Community Education Department. The aim of Julie’s proposal is to seek first hand knowledge of the variety of approaches being taken in the United Kingdom in relation to engagement with high fire risk groups including older people and people with a disability. Whilst the initial focus is on prevention the aim is to also investigate planning and processes related to large scale emergencies and these groups. With an ageing population it is essential that fire and other emergency services develop inclusive practice to ensure the future challenges can be met in ways which are strategic and sustainable.

**Mick Hermans (Victoria Police)**

**TOPIC** - To consider the impacts of civil disturbance, obedience and public order in U.K identifying best practice mechanisms in the emergency management of racial/religious events and the conflicts, as part of event management.

Mick is an Inspector with the Centre For Emergency Management Department. The Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship Scheme, offered Mick an opportunity to investigate worlds best practice in terms of event deployment and critical incident management (in the context of events). In the course of this scholarship he investigated three very different policing (and emergency service) environments:

- French Police (National Police, Gendarme and Military)
- Northern Ireland Police Service
- London Metropolitan Police Service

All three agencies revealed interesting insights into event planning and deployment. Northern Ireland, for example, involved exposure to the 'Northern Ireland Marching Season' where police planned for and deployed in response to the large scale public disorder, involving firearms and improvised explosive devices. The tour culminated in attendance at the Notting Hill Carnival in London. This event is the World’s second largest outdoor carnival (behind Rio) and involves a daily deployment of over 6,000 emergency services personnel.
Members of the Alumni would like to congratulate the following recipients of the 2009 Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship and wish them well in their studies and travel.

**Michael Whitty (MFB)**

**TOPIC** - To consider expanded use of thermal imaging technology for responders.

Leading Fire Fighter Mick Whitty recently spent three weeks in the US researching how thermal imaging cameras were being used in fire departments across the country. Mick visited many well known fire departments including LAFD, LA County, Fairfax County, Baltimore County, FDNY and the University of Maryland Fire Rescue Institute, as well as attending Firehouse Expo and fire and emergency services convention. Findings from the trip showed that the advantages of thermal imaging technology to fire fighter safety, the community and overall results in structure fires is not only remarkable, but not limited to just structure fires.

**Peter Kueffer (VIC SES)**

**TOPIC** - To identify best practice on responder resistance and resilience.

Peter will undertake research in Developing and Enhancing Resistance and Resilience in Emergency Responders. Travelling to the USA Peter will visit agencies including the Secret Service, Bureau of Tobacco, Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives, New York Police Department, New Jersey State Police and Baltimore City Fire Department. Peter will also meet with academic staff from John Hopkins University, University of Maryland and Loyola College. Peter will use the outcome of his studies and travel to develop a training package in Resilience which can be used to manage risk to the psychological safety of emergency responders.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL, WE LOOK FORWARD TO READING THE FINDINGS FROM YOUR STUDIES**

Can previous scholarship recipients please forward an electronic copy of their final study/travel report including photographs to Jenny Davis, ESF Alumni Administrative Secretary email JDAVIS@mfb.vic.gov.au. If you need assistance Jenny can be contacted on phone number 0406003765.


We hope to feature at least one recipients report in each upcoming newsletter.
This year’s annual Emergency Management Conference 2009 was held on Monday and Tuesday the 20th and 21st July 2009 at the Sebel Albert Park.

This year’s keynote speaker was Debra Amesqua, Chief of the City of Madison Fire Department in Wisconsin USA. Debra was named Chief on January 15, 1996. She is the ninth Chief in the Department’s history and the first woman to hold the position. At the time of her appointment, she was one of only seven women Chiefs among the 32,000 Fire Departments in the Country.

Debra spoke about the City of Madison Fire Department and its initiatives on diversity, the challenges faced, the strategies adopted and outcomes achieved. The City of Madison Fire Department can be found at http://www.cityofmadison.com/fire/index.html

The conference proved to be a resounding success and our ESF Conference Committee are already planning next year’s conference.

The Alumni was well represented with an information booth which was manned over the 2 day period by Alumni members. Interest in the Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship and the Alumni was very high and we look forward to being at the 2010 EMC Conference.

This year marked the second Emergency Management Conference Dinner that was hosted by the ESF Alumni. The dinner was held at The Sebel Hotel in Albert Park and was attended by approximately 90 people, including members of the Emergency Services, Government and the private sector. The evenings host was David Mann and the night proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by all and once again provided a great venue for networking.

The guest speaker was Ms Leonie Young Chief Executive Officer of Beyond Blue. Leonie has been the CEO of Beyond Blue since 15 September 2003 and spoke about depression and how it affects people from all walks of life. She gave us an insight into some of the signs of depression and what we might do to help a friend, family member or colleague who is a sufferer. We also heard about the great work Beyond Blue is doing to raise awareness of the condition and the assistance and support they offer sufferers and their families.

The Alumni would like to acknowledge and thank its fantastic sponsors who helped make the evenings a wonderful success. We look forward to working with you again next year. When you support these businesses mention the ESF Alumni.

VICTORIA POLICE
http://www.police.vic.gov.au

EMERGENCY SERVICES TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
www.esta.vic.gov.au

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ALUMNI DINNER
In September 2009 the Alumni hosted an information night for those interested in applying for a 2010 Scholarship.

Shane Wright (Scholarship Selection Panel Chair) provided a detailed overview of the application and selection panel process, and prospective applicants had the opportunity to network with Alumni members about their scholarship proposals.

Neil Bumpstead (Alumni Deputy President) presented his scholarship topic, Integrated Emergency Services - Marine Emergency Response.

Applications for the 2010 Emergency Services Foundation Scholarships are now open and all emergency services personnel are encouraged to apply.

Applications are invited from Ambulance Victoria, Australian Red Cross, Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association, CFA, Department of Human Services, Department of Primary Industry, DSE, Life Saving Victoria, Marine Safety Victoria, MFB, Parks Victoria, St John Ambulance, Victoria Police, and Victorian SES. If you know someone who should apply, maybe your encouragement is all they need.

To assist with the application process the Alumni have developed a new Scholarship Application Information Pack which is available at http://www.esf.com.au/files/scholarships/ESFApplicationInfo.pdf

More information on applying for a scholarship can be found at http://www.esf.com.au/scholarships.htm

If you know someone who needs assistance with their application please contact Jenny Davis on 0406 003 765 or email jdavis@mfb.vic.gov.au who will put them in touch with an Alumni member.
Scholarship Awards Luncheon - 26 November 2009
2008 scholarship awardees will receive their scholarship certificates at the ESF Scholarship Awards Luncheon held at Raheen where they will present their scholarship topics to ESF Directors.

2010 Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship Timeline
- 1st September – 8th January - Scholarship Applications Open,
- 8th January – 12th February - Agencies Submit Applications To ESF For Approval Process,
- March 2010 - ESF Selection Committee Meet To Shortlist Applications,
- 23rd - 24th March – Interviews Conducted,
- End April – Successful Applicants Notified

February 2010—Alumni Conference
In February 2010 we look forward to hosting a conference about the new Statewide Emergency Management Arrangements. This event is still in the early stages of planning and updates will be available through our website and newsletters.

2010 Emergency Management Conference - 20th and 21st July 2010
The EMC 2010 conference ‘Resilient Communities’ will be held on the 20th and 21st July 2010 at The Sebel Hotel 65 Queens Road, Melbourne.

The Alumni will once again be hosting a dinner and look forward to presenting interesting speakers on the night.

For more information keep an eye on our website http://www.esf.com.au

It’s with great sadness that we have accepted the resignation of two of our foundation Alumni members Rod Harris (Director - Events) and Helen Bull (Director - Promotions), who are unable to continue with their contribution due to other commitments.

Paul Jennings (Director - Scholarship) and Shane Wright (Deputy Director - Scholarship) have also resigned from the Directorship of their portfolios, but will remain on the Management Team.

We acknowledge the wonderful contributions they’ve made to the Alumni and wish them the very best for the future.
ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Emergency Services Foundation Alumni is open to the following:

- Previous Emergency Services Foundation Scholarship recipients.
- Current and former members of the Emergency Services Foundation Board.
- Awardees of scholarships that may be approved from time to time by the Management Team of the Alumni.
- Member of another Alumni that has as its basis the provision of emergency services to the community of Victoria.

Membership entitles you to a newsletter, discounts for professional development, social events and an ESF Alumni membership pin.

If you would like to join please complete the application form and forward payment as indicated below.

Further Information
Jenny Davis
Administrative Secretary
Emergency Services Foundation Alumni
JDAVIS@mfb.vic.gov.au or 0406 003 765.

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1. Your Details

- Title (eg Mr Mrs Ms Dr) or Rank .................................................................
- Surname ...................................................Given Name ...........................
- Organisation .............................................................................................
- Address .....................................................................................................
- Suburb .................................................. Postcode ..............................
- Phone (w) .......................... Phone (mob) ...........................................
- E-Mail Address ..............................................................
- Year Awarded Scholarship .................................................................
- Is A Copy Of Your Scholarship Paper Available YES / NO (Please Provide A Copy)

2. Payment Options

Annual membership fee $50
At present we are only able to accept payment by cheque (or by cash upon arrangement)
Please make cheques payable to Emergency Services Foundation Alumni

Please mail this application form and your cheque to:

Ms Jenny Davis
Administrative Secretary
Emergency Services Foundation Alumni
PO Box 151
East Melbourne 8002