



Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – February 2006

PLEASE TAKE EXTRA CARE ON THE ROADS!

The increase in road crashes in the Lyndoch area is alarming.

The Lyndoch CFS Brigade has been called to **18** road crashes in the last six months. This compares to **16** road crashes for the whole of last year.

Why are we so alarmed? In the past, most of the crashes we have attended occurred between January and June. Please help to reverse this statistic by slowing down and driving safely.

Of the 58 incidents so far this year, 19 have been road crashes.

- Two required extrication of the casualties using cutting and spreading equipment to facilitate ambulance evacuation.
- A further eight involved injuries that required ambulance evacuation.
- Nine involved minor injuries.

Even though some of the injuries may have been minor, there is still trauma for the family and friends of those involved.

All accidents result in shock to varying degrees.

Think about the impact:

- On family and friends who help those involved in accidents during often long-term recovery, and the many visits to hospitals.
- On members of the public first on the scene who get help and then try to get badly hurt people out of cars or just comfort them,
- On Emergency Services personnel, CFS, Police and Ambulance.
- The loss of the vehicle. In the case of cars, most are write offs resulting in having to make alternate transport arrangements until the vehicle is replaced.

What can we as road users do?

- Please wear seat belts, both front and rear and ensure children are secure. Time after time we see serious injuries where seatbelts have not been worn. Far better a few bruises than a broken body.
- Slow down. The maximum-posted speed may be 60kmh or 100kmh but this does not mean that it is always safe to travel at that speed, or that you have to travel at the maximum speed.
- Do not set such a tight schedule that possibly getting caught behind a slow moving vehicle

causes you to become frustrated and take unnecessary risks.

- Think about the safety of your passengers and the responsibility you as the driver have in getting them to the destination **ALIVE**, or at the very least without being stressed.
- Be patient and tolerant of other road users as they may not be a competent or attentive driver, like you!
- Be courteous to other road users. Courtesy is contagious.
- Drive to the conditions. Slow down when it is wet. Allow a greater distance to the vehicle in front of you in heavy traffic.
- If unfamiliar with the road, slow down to avoid hidden dangers and changes in road conditions.
- Do not drive even if you have only had a small amount of alcohol to drink or if you have taken any drugs. This includes prescription drugs. They may affect your reaction time.
- Do not drive if feeling tired or drowsy. Pull over for a short break or better still, change drivers. Better to arrive late than not at all.
- Check the condition of the car, ute, truck or tractor you intend to drive. Make sure the vehicle is mechanically sound particularly tyres and brakes. Be aware that you may not be covered by insurance if your vehicle is found to be defective in any way.

Personnel

We welcome several new faces and the return of a valued member to the brigade:

- Clare and Philip Tume have joined the brigade, Clare as an Active Auxiliary member, while Phillip has joined as a Cadet.
- Paul Jennings has joined as a Firefighter having relocated to Lyndoch. Paul brings with him several years of experience with the Cadell CFS brigade.
- Michael Lucas and family has returned after spending a year in England where Michael taught and pursued additional studies

Training

Basic Firefighter 1

A Basic Firefighter 1 course run over two weekends was completed on 15th January. The trainees comprised four from Lyndoch, four from Concordia and one from Crystal Brook. Lyndoch and Barossa Group Training Officer Vaughn Elsworth conducted the course with assistance from Lyndoch and Concordia brigade members.

The course includes Nationally Accredited training modules, a valuable addition to any resume.

Suppress Wildfire

A new CFS course, "Suppress Wildfire" will have its inaugural statewide delivery at Lyndoch. The course replaces the current Firefighter Level 2 course and will again be run by Vaughn Elsworth during February and March. This will allow Lyndoch brigade members to upskill with the bonus of National Accreditation.

Incidents Attended

December 2005:

- Lyndoch was responded to assist Williamstown at a smoke filled house on Yettie Rd. Lyndoch was stop called en-route.
- Williamstown and Lyndoch were called to a motor vehicle accident on Yettie Rd. Lyndoch was stop called en-route.
- Lyndoch responded to a smoke sighting at Rowland Flat. No fire was found but dust from harvesting was evident.
- The owners using a fire blanket and an off duty CFS member using a small fire extinguisher put out a fire in the Lyndoch Deli. The quick action limited damage in the kitchen area.
- Lyndoch checked on a haze in the Altona area. Nothing was found.
- Lyndoch received two calls for fixed alarm activation at Orlando Wyndham, Rowland Flat. Nothing found.
- Lyndoch attended a single vehicle rollover at Pioneer Antique corner, Rowland Flat.
- Williamstown and Lyndoch were called to Lyndoch Valley Road where a car and caravan had jack-knifed and hit a tree.
- Lyndoch was sent as part of the Barossa Group Strike Team responding to a stubble fire at Freeling.
- Lyndoch responded to a fixed alarm activation at Orlando Wyndham, Rowland Flat. Nothing found.
- Additional Lyndoch crews were placed on passive standby for the Freeling fire.
- Lyndoch responded to a collision between a car and truck on the Barossa Valley Highway east of Conservation Park Road. Two occupants of the car required ambulance transport to Gawler Hospital.
- Lyndoch cleaned up a small oil spill on the Barossa Valley Highway near the Lyndoch Institute.
- Lyndoch assisted Police to locate a vehicle involved in an earlier incident.
- Lyndoch was responded to assist Concordia at a grass fire off Cheek Avenue at Gawler. Stop called en-route.
- Lyndoch assisted Concordia and appliances from the Light Group to extinguish and mop up a crop and grass fire off Rosedale Road. A failed water pump on a header started the fire.

- Lyndoch cleared a tree branch that had broken off and was dangling down blocking one lane of the Barossa Valley Highway at Rowland Flat.

January 2006 so far:

- Lyndoch assisted Concordia to mop-up a grass fire on a property off Dahlenburg Road Rosedale. A discarded cigarette butt started the fire.
- Lyndoch attended a collision between two trucks at the Rosedale turn off at Sandy Creek. Although a heavy tow truck was required to separate the vehicles, with no injuries to both truck drivers involved.
- Lyndoch cleared away a tree that had fallen and was blocking Krieg Road.
- Lyndoch assisted Williamstown at a collision between a truck and car at the junction of Balmoral Road and Williamstown Road Cockatoo Valley. Two occupants were transported to the Lyell McEwin hospital.
- Lyndoch sent two members to the fire in the Bundaleer forest.
- Lyndoch attended a fixed alarm activation in the Bistro at Yaldara Wines. It is likely that a spider set off the alarm.
- Lyndoch sent an appliance and crew to the Robertstown fire. In addition one member assisted with Incident Management at Region 2 HQ Willaston.

JUST A COUPLE OF REMINDERS !!!

- *Even if it has rained or is raining it is an offence to light a fire in the open in the fire danger season without a permit. Heavy penalties apply.*
- *When setting up gas powered bird scarers, please ensure they are clear of flammable vegetation and properly secured if on a stand.*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR LOCAL CFS BRIGADE, VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.lyndochcfs.com.au

General Business:

Jacque Edwards (08) 8524 4116 (Phone)
0407 244 002 (Mobile)
Neville Kies (08) 8524 4054 (Phone)
0417 245 128 (Mobile)

Fax (08) 85245128

Fire station attended:

7.30pm to 9.30pm Wednesdays - phone (08) 85245623.

Training:

Every Wednesday commencing at 7.30pm at the fire station.

Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – March 2006

EXCELLENT RESPONSE TO “COMMUNITY FIRE SAFE” AT ALTONA!

Forty people attended the first Community Fire Safe information meeting held at the home of Alan and Pat Spiller in Altona on 31st January

It was pleasing to see all of the age groups represented and more importantly that a group of residents has indicated a preparedness to continue with the Community Fire Safe Program.

Jeff Ayres, the CFS Facilitator for the Community Fire Safe Program and Justin Baxter from Dalkeith CFS gave a presentation on basic fire safety around the home. Phil Herrmann, our own Fire Prevention Officer from The Barossa Council and Lyndoch CFS members reinforced the key messages.

If you and your neighbours would like to have a similar presentation, please talk to any of the Lyndoch CFS members or contact the Brigade. The numbers are listed below.

Public Relations

Mc Leod's Daughters

Lyndoch and Concordia Brigades provided fire cover for the set of Mc Leod's Daughters at the old "Kingsford" homestead. Filming of scenes involving fire during the Fire Danger Season required a permit from the Light Council and two CFS appliances on the day. This job was a pleasant distraction from normal CFS activities.

Jacobs Creek

Lyndoch CFS Brigade provided assistance to Orlando Wyndham over several days at Jacobs Creek during filming of a new commercial for the Jacobs Creek brand. The commercial will be seen in Australia and overseas. Our larger appliance, Lyndoch 34, was used to pump water from Orlando Wyndham resources to help create a gentle babbling stream in what is normally a dry creek bed at this time of year.

Personnel

Richard Sanders has joined us for training over the last few weeks and after looking at what the Brigade has to offer has decided to join the Lyndoch CFS. Richard is currently studying at university.

Training

Suppress Wildfire/Basic Firefighter Level Two

Vaughn Elsworth has continued the inaugural statewide delivery of Suppress Wildfire, the replacement Level 2 Training module. The Lyndoch Brigade is providing feedback on course content and delivery.

Tanya Wutke the Region 2 training Officer has assisted with some of the sessions and observed one of the critical practical skills which involves the crew protecting themselves as a bushfire burns over the appliance.

We hope we never have to put burn over training to the test.

Incidents Attended

February 2006 so far:

- Lyndoch removed a tree branch that had fallen on to a truck at Yaldara Wines.
- Lyndoch removed yet another tree branch this time from a driveway in Gilbert Street Lyndoch.
- Lyndoch was called to a fire at Altona. It turned out to be visitors to the area who had set up a barbeque over a wood fire in a 200-litre drum.
- Lyndoch assisted by Concordia extinguished a car fire on the Barossa Valley Way near Geue's Corner. While the vehicle was gutted, no injuries occurred.
- Lyndoch assisted a Gilbert Street resident to remove a fallen tree.
- Lyndoch and Williamstown attended a two-vehicle road crash on Pimpala Road. SA Ambulance took one person to hospital. Two persons in the other vehicle escaped serious injury. Both vehicles were write offs.
- Lyndoch and Williamstown, on their way home from the previous incident, were diverted by request from SA Police to clean up a small oil spill on the corner of Filsell Road and Pimpala Road.
- Lyndoch and Tanunda were responded to a grass fire at Gomersal started by a slasher. Prompt action by landowners averted a serious fire.
- Williamstown, Lyndoch and Mt Crawford crews extinguished a grass and scrub fire on Warren Road near Williamstown. Mt Pleasant, Springton and Concordia were stop-called, as was a second appliance from Lyndoch. Sparks from an angle grinder caused the fire.
- Lyndoch extinguished a grass fire under a tree in the Georgetown Reserve on the corner of Lord Lyndoch Street and Colonel Light Drive. As the fire appeared to have been deliberately lit, SA Police attended the scene.

An Important Reminder

Should you see anyone lighting a fire or suspicious behaviour around Lyndoch's parks and reserves please call the Police immediately on:

Williamstown Police 8524 6288
Nuriootpa Police 8568 6620



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Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



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Grapevine Article – April 2006

TIME TO CHANGE THE BATTERY IN YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR!

Reminder

The Fire Danger Season remains in force until the 30th of April.

Time for Action!

- If you have not already done so, please change the batteries in your smoke alarms, including hard wired smoke alarms that have a battery back up.
- If your smoke alarms have long life back up batteries installed, it is a good idea to check just how long the batteries have been in use and ensure they are still serviceable.
- Vacuuming around smoke alarms to remove insects and spiders will help reduce accidental operation.
- After checking and/or replacing the batteries, please test all smoke alarms in your house.
- Please also review your escape plan and meeting point in case of a house fire and talk it through with your family.
- Please make sure your family knows the local emergency number 85244000 and can give your full address and a RAPID number if you have one.
- Now would also be a good time to clean the chimney or flue pipe ready for the cooler months. As well as cleaning out the soot, check the ceiling space to make sure there are no bird nests next to the chimney or flue pipe.

Be Alarmed!
change
your
smoke
alarm
battery

Change your clock,
change your smoke
alarm battery.
Sunday April 2,
end of daylight
saving.

Only working smoke
alarms save lives

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Training

Thank you to Concordia and Mt Pleasant brigades who supplied appliances and assessors to enable fourteen Lyndoch crew to complete the practical examination for "Suppress Wildfire", the replacement Level 2 Course.

Thanks must go to Vaughn Elsworth, Lyndoch's Training Officer for undertaking delivery of the pilot course for the state, also to Region 2 Training Officer Tanya Wutke who observed some of the sessions.

Personnel

We welcome Paul Preece to the brigade. Paul has recently shifted to Lyndoch with his family and works at Amcor's glass factory at Gawler.

Incidents Attended

- Lyndoch, Nuriootpa and Tanunda were dispatched to a collision between a motorcycle and a car on the Barossa Valley Way, north of Rowland Flat. The motorcyclist sustained serious injuries and was stabilized at the scene by SA Ambulance crews before being taken to hospital. The occupants of the car were treated for shock.

Thankfully, a very quiet month so far.

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Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



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Grapevine Article – May 2006

Before You Light Up That Heap Of Rubbish That Has Accumulated Over Summer, There Are A Few Things To Consider.

FIRST: THINK FIRE SAFETY!

1. Please ensure there is a four metre clear space around and above your rubbish heap.
2. If you think your rubbish heap is too big or too close to trees or buildings, make several smaller heaps in safer areas. Smaller heaps are likely to burn more efficiently anyway.
3. Please ensure you have a rake or shovel on hand together with a water hose that is capable of reaching to the far side of the fire.
4. Please do not leave the fire unattended at any time.
5. Please be considerate of your neighbours with regards to wind direction and smoke.

SECOND: THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) HAS STRICT RULES FOR DOMESTIC BACKYARD BURNING!

1. Backyard burning is only allowed **Monday to Saturday**.
2. Fires **must not be lit before 10am**.
3. Fires **must be completely extinguished by 3pm**.
4. **Only perfectly dry wood, paper and prunings can be burnt** in a clean hot burn.
5. Leaves, lawn clippings and other garden refuse should be composted or disposed of via the "Green Waste" pickup service. The Barossa Council encourages these options.
6. It is an offence to burn Treated Pine and items containing plastics.
7. Smoke that is offensive to neighbours is reportable.
8. The only fires allowed at night are home heaters and outside fires principally used for cooking or "comfort fires" not exceeding 1 metre by 1 metre, using clean dry wood.
9. Penalty - \$100 on the spot fine issued by The Barossa Council or the EPA.

Bonfires at locations outside township boundaries must not be burnt at night and must comply with items 1 to 7 above.

PLEASE NOTE:

These are EPA regulations, not CFS or The Barossa Council regulations.

The Barossa Council administers the regulations along with the EPA and SA Police.

The local CFS Fire Brigade only puts out the fires.

If you require further information on domestic or rural burning, pick up a "fact sheet" from your local Council Office or call Phil Herrmann at The Barossa Council on 85638444 or 0417 875559, **before you burn a hole in your pocket.**

BACKYARD MECHANICS PLEASE TAKE CARE

Since the beginning of January, there have been to our knowledge a number of incidents where persons have received serious burns. These injuries have resulted from persons pouring fuel directly into carburettors as they attempt to start engines.

The fuel has ignited and flashed over the person or persons close to the engine bay. This happens so quickly that quite often the fuel being used can be spilt over the engine resulting in unwanted damage to the vehicle or worse still, a person receiving severe burns.

In some cases, these incidents have caused minor burns to eyebrows and hair. Unfortunately, there have been both past and recent incidents of this type requiring extended hospitalisation and rehabilitation.

Training

- Vaughn Elsworth has completed a course in administering oxygen and defibrillation at the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga.
- Neville Kies and Richard Schiller have undertaken a reaccreditation course in chainsaw operation through the Logging Industry Training Association and CFS.
- Shane Emms attended a Road Crash Rescue seminar at Brukunga and has updated brigade members on improved techniques and issues facing crews at road crashes.
- Thank you to Jacque and Brenton Edwards for the use of their house for search and rescue training. A smoke generator was used to fill the house with smoke to simulate a burning building while crews using Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) located and retrieved casualties.

Incidents Attended

Another quiet month so far.

- Lyndoch was responded to a smoke sighting on Pimpala Road. This turned out to be a small comfort fire.
- Lyndoch was responded to an illegal rubbish fire on Jollytown Road.

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Grapevine Article – June 2006

WINTER FIRE SAFETY IN YOUR HOME!

There are some basic things you can do to make sure that what are normal activities for many people do not result in the devastation and heartache for families that results from a fire in your home.

Do you dry clothes in front of the heater?

Radiant heat from domestic heaters will readily ignite fabrics particularly synthetics, including clothes, towels and curtains. Please ensure that:

- If damp clothes are dried overnight in front of a slow combustion heater that they are kept at least two metres from direct radiant heat.
- Freestanding heaters are placed so that they cannot be accidentally tipped over or bumped up against furniture or curtains.
- A fire screen is used in front of an open fire is to reduce the risk of a fire being started from sparks or a piece of timber rolling out of the fire.

Do you have candles burning in your home?

If so, please observe basic precautions which include:

- The candleholder is solid enough and stable enough to hold the candle securely.
- Not leaving candles unattended near soft furnishings or curtains.
- Not using candles as night-lights for children.
- Making sure candles are extinguished before you leave the room.
- Make sure candles are extinguished before you go to sleep.

Have you checked your electric blankets?

Each winter electric blankets cause a number of house fires. Some of the causes are:

- Frayed wiring at the controller or where wiring is attached to the mattress. If you see frayed wiring do not use the electric blanket.
- Damaged internal wiring. This can result from electric blankets being stored with tight folds, which damages the insulation around the heating coils.
- Electric blankets left switched on for extended periods. The heat build up can be enough to ignite the mattress or bedclothes.

Personnel

Congratulations to Lyndoch Lieutenant 3 Gavin Laycock on his engagement to Susan Hentschke. The Brigade wishes Gavin and Susan all the best for their future together.

Training

- Andrew Watson and Scott Barker are now accredited in Road Accident Rescue having been trained at the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga.
- Richard Sanders and Paul Preece are undertaking the Basic Fire Fighting 1 course run by Lyndoch Training Officer Vaughn Elsworth at the Barossa Group base at Williamstown. Trainers from brigades within the Barossa Group are assisting Vaughn.

Incidents Attended

- Lyndoch responded two appliances to a rubbish fire on Lindner Road. The Fire Prevention Officer from The Barossa Council issued an Expiation Notice for the illegal burning of plastics, rubber and general rubbish. Approximately 7000 litres of water was used to extinguish the fire.
- Lyndoch assisted Tanunda CFS crews to extinguish a haystack fire at Jacob's Creek. A rubbish fire the previous day had not been extinguished and spread to the adjacent haystack.
- Lyndoch cleared a fallen tree on Pimpala Road near the Tindo Club.
- Lyndoch cleared yet another fallen tree, this time on Jollytown Road.
- Concordia, Williamstown and Lyndoch were responded to a smoke alarm at the Sandy Creek School. Williamstown and Lyndoch were stop call en-route.
- Lyndoch was responded to a fixed alarm at the Orlando Wyndham winery at Rowland Flat. No cause was found.
- Lyndoch was responded a second time to the same fixed alarm at the Orlando Wyndham winery at Rowland Flat. Again, no cause was found.
- Lyndoch was called to extinguish an illegal rubbish fire in Johann Mattner Court.
- Nuriootpa and Lyndoch were responded to a serious single vehicle accident on Golfinks Road near the Tanunda Golf Course.

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Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



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Grapevine Article – July 2006

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOU WOULD DO IF YOU COULD SMELL LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) IN OR AROUND YOUR HOME?

LPG is a common fuel used for cooking, heating and for powering cars, trucks and forklifts. While equipment malfunctions are rare, there are some basic things that you can do if confronted with the smell of LPG and or a white vapour in the vicinity of LPG gas cylinders or LPG gas powered equipment.

- Firstly, evacuate people from the area without switching on or off any electrical device or using a naked flame that could ignite the gas. Close the door behind you.
- Next, call the CFS either on **85244000** if in Lyndoch or call **000**. Do this on a mobile phone or use a neighbours phone if a house is involved, do not re-enter a house or shed.
- If accessible from outside the house or shed, turn off the gas at the cylinder, or each cylinder if multiple cylinders are involved.
- While waiting for emergency services make sure nobody re-enters the building and warn neighbours about what has happened.
- Remember, LPG is heavier than air and will settle in low-lying areas including cupboards, wall cavities and across floors. This will need to be ventilated.

A word of warning. Ventilating a building is best left to trained firefighters. LPG mixed with air is extremely explosive and opening a door or window may produce a mix that could flash or explode on contact with an ignition source.

Refillable Gas Cylinders

Whilst on the subject of LPG, did you know that refillable LPG cylinders have a ten-year lifespan?

Every cylinder has the date of manufacture stamped on it, generally on the handle

If the cylinder is "out of date" they cannot by law be refilled. Refilling stations will reject "out of date" cylinders simply because the person filling an "out of date" cylinder faces a hefty fine if they break the law.

An "out of date" cylinder can be sent for testing or it may be more cost effective to just replace the cylinder

Training

While training continues every Wednesday night, specialist skills are kept up to date on a regular basis. The most recent example was a joint training night involving Concordia, Williamstown and Lyndoch brigades using a portable LPG training facility.

The gas fire produced by the facility gives firefighters the opportunity to practise approach and shut down techniques while experiencing the intense heat generated by gas fires.

Incidents Attended – June 2006

Lyndoch brigade:

- Attended Lyndoch Primary School to assist with the burning of a large heap of prunings that had accumulated over the years. It is pleasing to note that the Lyndoch Primary School will use environmentally friendly methods for disposing of garden waste in the future including composting.
- Responded to a fixed alarm at Orlando Wyndham Winery at Rowland Flat. The detector was cleaned and the alarm system reset.
- Assisted Concordia brigade at the Sandy Creek Oval to set up a landing site for the rescue helicopter. The rescue helicopter was used to evacuate two children injured during an accident on Yettie Road attended to by the Williamstown road crash rescue crew.
- Attended Lyndoch Valley Family Centre Kindergarten after staff had noticed a LPG gas smell when opening the building. Staff turned off the LPG cylinders and ventilated the building. The Kindergarten was closed for the day awaiting a technician to trace the source. Williamstown brigade was also responded but was stop called en route.
- Responded to a reported large bonfire on Jollytown Road. This turned out to be a "comfort fire" at a private function.

Annual General Meeting

The Lyndoch CFS Brigade Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd August at the Fire Station commencing at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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Grapevine Article – August 2006

IT'S BEEN A BUSY TWELVE MONTHS FOR LYNDOKH CFS MEMBERS

The brigade was responded to 106 incidents during 2005/06. This compares to 117 incidents in 2004/05.

The continuing high level of emergency responses means that we are looking for more volunteers, particularly to run the station during daytime incidents.

We would like to hear from anyone who can spare an hour or two occasionally and has basic office skills or is prepared to learn. We will provide the training.

This may present an opportunity for ladies in the local community to become involved in the brigade on a part time basis.

Please call Glyn Schirmer on 85244503 if you would like to know more or just call in at the station any Wednesday night after 7.30pm.

A breakdown of the 2005/06 incidents the brigade attended appears below:

6	Grass / stubble fire	13	Tree down
5	Rubbish fire	10	Fixed alarm
4	Building fire	3	Private fire alarm
4	Controlled burn	1	Equipment malfunction
3	Vehicle fire		
3	Investigation (smoke)	2	Combustible / Flammable leak
2	Scrub / grass fire	2	Hazardous Material Incident
1	Haystack fire		
1	Tree fire	1	Water and smoke damage
14	Vehicle accident with injuries	7	Other assistance
1	Vehicle accident rescue	3	Assist other agencies
10	Vehicle accident no injuries	1	Cover assignment
		1	Stop call
6	Severe weather		
2	Flood		

Incidents Attended

The brigade has responded to ten incidents so far in 2006/07.

- Removed a fallen tree on Pimpala Road.
- Responded to assist Williamstown at a chimney fire. Stop called en route.
- Attended a motor vehicle accident involving two vehicles on Barossa Valley Way near Rowland Flat. Fortunately only minor injuries and damage resulted.
- Responded to make safe a large gum tree branch that had partly broken off a tree in the Council reserve on the corner of Gilbert Street and Jollytown Road.
- Attended a fixed alarm at the Jacobs Creek Visitor Centre. Smoke from cooking had set off the alarm.
- Called to an illegal backyard rubbish burn in Nicholas Court. Green garden waste and compostable material were being burnt on a Sunday in contravention of EPA and Council rules. The Fire Prevention Officer from The Barossa Council attended and issued an expiation notice.
- Attended a fixed alarm at the Jacobs Creek Visitor Centre. Smoke from cooking had set off the alarm.
- Assisted Williamstown at a chimney fire at a Yettie Road, Williamstown address. Concordia was also responded but stop called en route. Fortunately the only damage was from smoke.
- Called to assist Concordia and Gawler MFS at a vehicle fire on Balmoral Road. Stop called en-route.
- Recovered a vehicle that had been driven down an embankment, in a private driveway off Altona Road. As

the vehicle had come to rest on top of a water meter, SA Water was also responded. However, the vehicle was moved without damaging the meter.

The two chimney fires highlight the need for regular flue cleaning and inspection of mortar joints in old stone or brick chimneys, particularly in the space between the ceiling and roof. This may require the removal of roofing material to satisfactorily inspect the cavity between the roof and ceiling where a flat roof is used or the flue cannot be accessed via the roof space. If a metal flue is inserted in an old chimney and it does not extend all the way to the top it is wise to regularly clear the build up of soot around the flue and in the fireplace cavity.

General Warning to the Community

IF YOU HAVE HALOGEN DOWNLIGHTS IT IS WORTH YOUR TIME TO CHECK THAT THEY ARE NOT A FIRE WAITING TO HAPPEN.

Recent media reports highlighted the problems that can be caused by halogen downlights whether they are 12volt transformer type or 240volt type.

These downlights generate enormous amounts of heat during operation.

A fire caused by an overheating downlight recently destroyed a house undergoing renovations in Adelaide.

Some of the fire risks are:

- Halogen downlights placed next to timberwork in the roof space.

- Halogen downlights surrounded by insulation.
- Halogen downlight transformers not properly fixed to allow adequate ventilation.
- Wiring for halogen downlights resting against the light fixture.

If you have observed any malfunction of your downlights e.g. lights dimming, cutting out or perhaps blowing globes on a regular basis or have any doubts about your downlights, please have them checked by an electrician as soon as possible.

Training

Lyndoch Brigade and Barossa Group Training Officer Vaughn Elsworth has been extremely busy conducting training locally, around South Australia and in the Northern Territory. This has included:

- Training of sixteen instructors from the Northern Territory Fire Service and Bushfire NT at Alice Springs in delivery of the CFS developed Basic Fire Fighter Level 1 course. The Northern Territory Fire Service has adopted the CFS course that includes Nationally Accredited modules. The sixteen instructors will then train their own crews.
- A Basic Fire Fighter course run at Barossa Control, Williamstown, assisted by members of other brigades in the Barossa Group.
- Providing training at Dalkeith, Clare, Blackwood and Kadina to upskill Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) operators involved in Hazardous Materials incidents to lift their training to comply with the National Standard.

Richard Schiller has recently been accredited in Road Accident Rescue at the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga

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Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – September 2006

KNOWING WHAT TO DO SAVED THE DAY FOR THE LYNDOCH CAFÉ TAKEAWAY!

After a small fire at the Lyndoch Café Take Away last year, owner Lyn Crompton learnt how to use a Fire Extinguisher and Fire Blanket efficiently and how to safely deal with a fire in the kitchen.

These skills were tested on Saturday 5th August when a gas pipe ruptured under the deep fryer and the pilot flame ignited escaping LPG. The resultant explosion and fire had the potential to develop in to a serious incident, but this was averted by Lyn's quick actions.

Lyn did all the right things in the right order:

- Called out to let other staff know there was a fire and asked them to call the CFS and evacuate any customers.
- Grabbed the fully charged and tested dry chemical fire extinguisher that was located next to the access doorway.
- Extinguished the gas fire safely before it spread to the already hot cooking oil.
- Put a lid on the deep fryer just in case the fire reignited.
- Went outside and isolated the gas supply at the cylinder.
- Monitored the scene and ventilated the kitchen until the CFS crew arrived.

Although shocked by the incident and her instinctive reaction, Lyn was soon focussing on being able to use the cooking facilities again.

The attending CFS crew were very impressed by Lyn's quick action and after confirming the situation was under control, helped out by locating a gas technician to repair the damaged gas pipe and the control unit burnt in the fire.

Well done Lyn and staff!

If this incident strikes a chord with you, and you think you or your employees would benefit from being shown how to use a fire extinguisher efficiently, please contact us on the numbers listed below.

Fire Prevention

In preparation for haymaking, please check mowers, rakes and balers and do pre-season maintenance on bearings, belts, chains and drive shafts to minimize the chance of overloaded or overheating equipment. While you may prevent a fire, you will probably also avoid costly damage, downtime and repairs,

While you are checking the machinery, don't forget to fill, check and test firefighting equipment that you may rely on if a fire does start. The right equipment

and quick action to extinguish a small fire have obvious benefits.

It is also time to spray grass around the home, sheds and fence lines as part of your fire prevention strategy. Once the grass has died off, removal of dead grass, leaf litter, twigs and old timber will remove a potential path for fire to reach your buildings.

Training

Lyndoch, Concordia and Mt Pleasant crews attended the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga for a nighttime search and rescue exercise using Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA). It was a good opportunity to train in a multi-level, hot and smoke logged environment at night and experience the difficulty in finding casualties and recovering them. Thank you to Region 2 Training Officer Tanya Wutke also Lyndoch and Group Training Officer Vaughn Elsworth for organising the training.

Incidents Attended

Lyndoch crews were responded to:

- The Lyndoch Café Take Away following a fire under a deep fryer.
- A rubbish fire at Altona. No action was required.
- A reported pump fire on Pimpala Road. This turned out to be a controlled burn-off of leaf litter.
- Orlando Wyndham winery at Rowland Flat where an angle grinder had set off a fixed alarm. A stop call was received.
- Extinguish a rubbish fire on Filsell Road.
- Remove a vehicle that was stuck on a culvert on Jollytown Road.

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Neville Kies - Lyndoch Brigade Captain



Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – October 2006

DO IT NOW!

After the driest winter on record and with no significant rain forecast, preparing for the fast approaching Fire Danger Season requires immediate action.

Keep in mind that:

- Autumn growth has added to the already significant fuel load around the district.
- Winter vegetation is drying rapidly creating an early and therefore very long Fire Danger Season.
- The Fire Danger Season may be brought forward from the usual 1 st December start.
- Lyndoch CFS crews have been dispatched to two grass fires already this year.

Actions should include:

- Thinking, "fire safe" for all activities.
- Cleaning up around houses, sheds and fence lines with a view to eliminating paths for fire.
- Disposing of rubbish adjacent to buildings that could provide fuel for a fire.
- Discussing with your family or employees your plans to "stay" or "go" in the event of a major fire.
- Developing or revisiting your escape plans, both for your home and for your property. This applies to everyone.
- Filling and testing fire fighting equipment and making sure potential operators know how to use it safely and efficiently.
- Preparing a suitable fire fighting pack including clothing, food and drinking water.

If you are going to burn rubbish, please remember:

- The Fire Danger Season has been bought forward and starts on 15th October 2006. Check with The Barossa Council if in doubt.
- You have a responsibility to ensure that the fire does NOT get away.
- Burning is only permitted between 10am and 3pm Monday to Saturday.
- Only dry garden prunings and dry wood can be burnt.
- Burning of green prunings, mulch, plastics of any kind or treated pine is illegal and persons doing so can expect a hefty fine.

Despite publicity by The Barossa Council regarding the EPA rules for backyard burning and reminders by the Lyndoch CFS through " The Lyndoch Grapevine", illegal backyard burning continues in and around Lyndoch.

Please note:

- If the CFS is called to a fire, regardless of its type or location, we are required to respond.
- SA Police may also be called.
- If the fire is considered to be illegal, the Fire Prevention Officer from The Barossa Council will be notified. The Fire Prevention Officer will assess the incident and issue the appropriate warning or fine.

Training

Corey Dunn from the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga provided an overview of the CFS Air Operations Training Course. Concordia and Williamstown crews joined Lyndoch crews for this session. The overview gave an insight into the number and type of rotary and fixed wing aircraft, their capabilities and how they are used in fire fighting strategies across the state.

Firefighters from all brigades were invited to nominate to complete the training module in their own time and receive accreditation.

Thank you to Barossa Group Training Officer Vaughn Elsworth for organising this session and the Lyndoch Primary School for providing the venue.

Congratulations to Paul Preece who is now an accredited Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) operator. The nationally accredited CABA course is run at the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga.

Incidents Attended

Lyndoch crews were responded to:

- A brush fence fire on Rushall Road . Quick action by a neighbour in reporting the fire and then using a garden hose to put out the fire helped to minimise the damage. The suspicious nature of the fire required S A Police attendance.
- A rubbish fire at Altona. A rubbish fire had rekindled and was put out by the property owner.
- Assist a property owner to burn the reeds in a section of Lyndoch Creek.
- A reported illegal rubbish fire at Altona. This turned out to be a comfort fire.
- Assist Williamstown at a road crash near Kersbrook involving two cars and reports of a person trapped. A stop call was received en-route.

- A road crash on Pimpala Road near Lyndoch. Williamstown was also responded and assisted at the scene. SA Ambulance transported the driver and passenger from one of the vehicles to Gawler Hospital. A Magna sedan involved in the rear end collision was considered a write-off.
- A grass fire at a Needles Road property. Williamstown, Concordia and Lyndoch crews were responded. Williamstown crews mopped up the scene while both Lyndoch and Concordia were given stop calls en route.
- Assist a property owner at Rowland Flat to burn timber and other dry material cleared from the North Para River.

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Grapevine Article – November 2006

AN EARLY FIRE DANGER SEASON AND NO RAIN MEANS EVERYONE NEEDS TO TAKE EXTRA CARE!

The media has provided graphic coverage of the increased fire risks faced right across South Australia this year and the fact that arrests for arson have already been recorded.

Anyone ignoring fire bans or burning without a permit can expect zero tolerance from SA Police.

Should you observe any suspicious behaviour or unusual activity please do not hesitate to call local Police with as much detail as possible.

The detail would ideally include registration number, colour, make and model of a vehicle and a description of the person or persons involved.

In the meantime, please be fire conscious in everyday activities. This includes; making sure that car exhausts are in good condition and that you do not park in dry grass, taking time to check all farm equipment before, during and after use also having appropriate fire fighting equipment at the ready whenever there is any risk of fire.

If a fire does start please get someone to call the Lyndoch CFS immediately on **8524 4000** or just call **000**. We would rather be on our way to the fire and be stop called than have the situation escalate and get out of control. More often than not small fires that are not immediately contained become big fires.

Taking extra care also should also include driving. Oil, rubber and grit accumulating on our roads during this extraordinarily dry weather will become very slippery with any amount of rain. Please slow down when it rains.

Training Award

Lyndoch brigade has again achieved the Chief Officer's Training Award.

Vaughn Elsworth, Lyndoch's Training Officer, accepted the award presented by Russell Somerville, the Group Officer from the Barossa Group.

The award recognises that the Lyndoch Brigade members have successfully completed all of the basic and specialised training requirements to satisfy brigade operational responsibilities.

Training

Every Lyndoch CFS Brigade member is being retrained in the "Dead-man Zone" and "Burn-over Protection".

This training reinforces the need to constantly watch fire behaviour, reinforces how deadly it is to be caught in a fire and what we need to do to provide ourselves with the maximum protection as a bushfire burns over and around a fire appliance.

We never want to have to use this skill.

Personnel

We welcome James Christian and Roy Malone to the brigade. James and Roy will shortly undertake a Basic Fire

Fighter course, James will become a "firefighter" while Roy will take on roles as an "operational auxiliary" member.

An "operational auxiliary" role allows contribution at many levels including: blacking out after a fire has been controlled, radio communications, equipment maintenance, appliance recommissioning and many other operational support roles.

If you would like to join the Lyndoch CFS come and talk to us. The CFS not only offers free nationally accredited fire and rescue training, but also provides a great opportunity to "put something back into the community" through a variety of roles.

Incidents Attended

Lyndoch responded crews to:

- Assist Williamstown and Concordia at a head-on crash involving two vehicles between Sandy Creek and Cockatoo Valley. Two casualties were airlifted to Adelaide from the scene.
- Assist at a controlled burn in the North Para River at McGuigan Yaldara.
- Assist Concordia. Lyndoch was stop called after it was established that paging equipment had malfunctioned.
- Extinguish a rubbish fire on a Pimpala Road property. SA Police reported the property owner as a Total Fire Ban was current for the Mt Lofty Ranges.
- Extinguish an illegal rubbish fire on Tweedies Gully Road. The Fire Prevention Officer from The Barossa Council also attended the incident.
- Assist Concordia extinguish a vehicle fire that had spread to grass and scrub on Green Gully Road in the Goldfields area.
- Extinguish a rubbish fire on Jollytown Road. As the Fire Danger Season had been declared, SA Police also attended and spoke to the property owner.
- A single vehicle rollover between Lyndoch and Sandy Creek. The only occupant was lucky to have sustained only minor injuries. The utility was considered a write-off.
- A single vehicle accident on Pimpala Road. A vehicle had left the road and hit a tree. Williamstown and Concordia crews also responded and assisted in the retrieval of the driver who was taken directly to the Royal Adelaide Hospital with serious injuries. Considering the damage to the vehicle, the driver was very lucky to escape with just serious injuries.

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Grapevine Article – December 2006

FARM FIRE UNITS SET TO INCREASE LOCAL FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITY!

A joint initiative between the SA Country Fire Service and the SA Farmers Federation has resulted in Joint Guidelines for Operating Farm Fire Units that are being adopted statewide.

Farm Fire Units will mainly be used when fighting crop, stubble, grass and scrub fires on local farming and grazing properties.

Some forty-five people representing farmers and graziers, CFS, SAFF, SA Police, Light and Barossa Councils, Forestry SA, Conservation Council of SA and CSR Altona Landcare, attended a presentation given by Lyndoch CFS members at the Rowland Flat Community Centre.

Following a BBQ, a typical Farm Fire Unit was demonstrated using Tim Barritt's vehicle. Also on display was a similarly equipped vehicle from Forestry SA. Examples of equipment and clothing requirements, load security, personal protective equipment and hydration were explained.

The presentation showed how Farm Fire Units would be "Logging On" and "Tagging" with CFS appliances, communication procedures, incident coordination, fire suppression and roadworthiness issues.

The final presentation was based on the Black Tuesday Fire on the Eyre Peninsula that graphically showed the issues to be faced if owners choose to defend their property against a bushfire.

Lyndoch CFS is fortunate to have farmers and graziers in the area who already have well equipped Farm Fire Units and are experienced in fire fighting and prepared to share detailed knowledge of tracks, access points and availability of water in the cropping areas and the hills zone.

Positive feedback means that an increased level of cooperation will result from development of these arrangements and sharing of knowledge.

A REMINDER TO ALL:

On days of high and extreme fire danger each household must make its own decision to:

STAY AND DEFEND, this means being fully prepared;

Or

GO EARLY, this means leaving the area early in the day;

- Listen for Bushfire Messages. A radio with battery backup is recommended.
- In extreme conditions electricity may be cut, mobile and landline telephones may not work and water supply especially through above ground or shallow buried poly pipes could fail.
- People who are well prepared and take shelter in their homes have a good chance of surviving a bushfire. A house can survive a bushfire if small fires that may have started in and around the house, particularly in the roof space and eaves are extinguished.
- **The deadliest option is late evacuation.**
- Residents should not risk being caught in a bushfire whilst in a vehicle or on foot.
- Smoke in the air, therefore in your car's Oxygen Sensor, may prevent the engine from starting.
- Radiant heat is a killer in a bushfire. Cover up to protect all exposed skin from this invisible heat, and take shelter inside a building.
- Sparks and embers most commonly ignite buildings. Buildings will generally survive the initial passage of a bushfire providing adequate preparations have been made.

If sheltering in a building keep an eye on what is going on around you as the fire front passes. Check the ceiling space regularly. Move outside the building if it catches fire and you cannot extinguish the fire. Conditions outside may still be hazardous – caution is required.

Incidents Attended

- Lyndoch joined many other brigades at a fire in the Para Wirra National Park off Basnett Road. Fixed wing water bombers attacked the fire that was quickly contained and mopped up. A vehicle had run off the road and set the scrub alight.
- Williamstown, Concordia and Lyndoch were responded to a single vehicle accident on Pimpala Road. Lyndoch was stop-called en-route.
- Lyndoch and Williamstown were called to a two-vehicle accident on Gilbert Street near Colonel Light Drive. Williamstown was stop-called en-route. SA Ambulance took one person to hospital. Both vehicles were driveable but one had sustained significant panel damage.
- Lyndoch joined other brigades from the Barossa Group as a "Strike Team" at a large scrub fire at One Tree Hill. The fire, thought to have been started by lightning and, fanned by strong winds, quickly developed to a large fire. Appliances from as far away as Truro responded to this fire.

- While Lyndoch, Concordia and Williamstown brigades had crews committed to the One Tree Hill fire, lightning struck a transformer on a property off Hoffnungstahl Road. Fortunately the property owner was quickly on site and monitored the scene as the transformer had caught fire. Both Lyndoch and Williamstown found extra crews to attend this incident, while the Lyndoch crew already at the One Tree Hill Fire was also diverted to the scene.
- The same night, Lyndoch sent an appliance and crew to assist in mopping up the One Tree Hill fire.
- The following day Lyndoch helped crew the Concordia appliance in mopping up the One Tree Hill fire.
- Lyndoch was responded to a grass fire off the Palmer to Cook's Hill Road near Mt Pleasant. Fortunately local brigades contained the fire quickly and Lyndoch was stop-called en-route.
- Lyndoch sent an appliance to continue mopping up the One Tree Hill Fire three days after the incident occurred such was the difficulty of access to the large area that had been burnt.

Theft from Fire Station

Someone has helped themselves to the Lyndoch Brigade's can and bottle collection. Approximately \$30 worth was stolen. If you have any knowledge of this theft please give the details to Williamstown Police.

If you have a guilty conscience, an envelope containing proceeds of the sale slipped under the door would restore some faith.

Training

Vaughn Elsworth, Lyndoch and Barossa Group Training Officer conducted a Basic Fire Fighter Course at Mt Pleasant for fifteen new fire fighters including Lyndoch's James Christian. James can now attend incidents and gain further practical skills.

Personnel

We bid farewell to two members of the Lyndoch CFS Brigade.

Michael Lucas and family are relocating to Adelaide to be closer to work and sporting commitments.

Wayne Allen has joined the Australian Defence Forces and will shortly commence his basic training at Kapooka in NSW.

We thank Michael and Wayne for their input to the Lyndoch CFS Brigade and wish them all the best as they pursue their respective futures.

The departure of Michael and Wayne means we have two vacancies to fill. If you have thought about joining the CFS, now would be a good time to give us a call. The numbers are listed below.

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