



Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – March 2009

The following is the excerpt from the ISSUES Section of the Adelaide Advertiser on Thursday 12th February 2009.

BUSHFIRE ACTION PLAN

Households should have a written plan to document that their properties are prepared and that they have planned exactly what to do. People need to decide well in advance of any bushfire threat whether they will “stay and defend” or “go early”.

STAY OR GO

Houses will generally survive the initial passage of a bushfire if preparations and fuel reduction have been made. People who are well prepared can shelter in their homes. But you must be physically able to defend your home, mentally prepared to face a fire and able to stay with the house after the fire has passed. Once the decision to stay has been made, stick to it - last-minute panic evacuation is often fatal. If you are planning to go, you need to consider when you will leave, where you will go, how you will travel and what you will take.

HAZARDS AROUND HOME

Walk around your home and identify potential problem areas. Hazardous vegetation will increase fire intensity close to a home. Burning embers may ignite leaves in gutters. Exposed vents may allow entry of

sparks and embers. Woodpiles located close to a house may ignite and burn fiercely, as will dry and untreated timber decking. Other hazards include flammable material stored under decking or floors, gaps in eaves (may allow the entry of sparks and embers) and trees overhanging a house.

EQUIPMENT

The CFS recommends at least 5000 litres of water for firefighting (using a fire pump with hoses) or 22,000 litres if a sprinkler system is installed. Options for distributing water, however it is stored, include specialised firefighting hoses, long enough to go right around the house, and knapsack sprays. A 5hp petrol or diesel-powered pump with manual or electric start suits most situations. Another

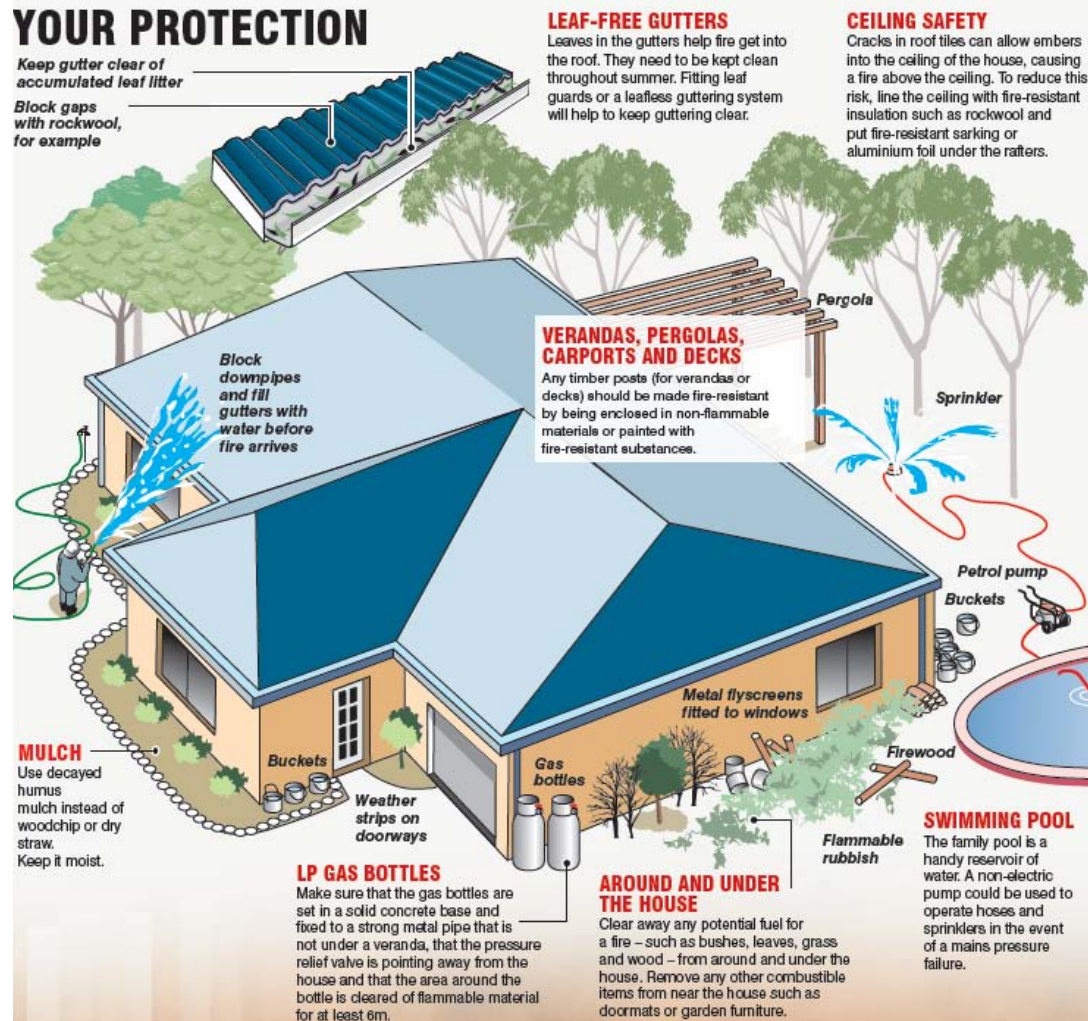
good form of protection is metal shutters over exposed windows. For information on where to obtain specialist equipment call the CFS on (08) 8463 4200.

LANDSCAPING

Mown lawn or grazed green grass is most appropriate immediately surrounding buildings. Use low-hazard vegetation, such as salt-rich plants and succulent groundcovers, near buildings. Regularly clean and remove flammable plant debris, including pruning limbs which overhang the house, and keep undergrowth slashed. Position your driveway on the side of the house most likely to be impacted by fire. Position any planned tennis court or pool between the home and expected fire direction. Build a stone wall, earth mound, hedge or covered fence close to the house as a radiant heat shield. If located on a steep slope, terrace a garden and plant fire retardant species.

FUEL BREAKS

Prepare a 20m fuel-reduced zone around the home. Protect all outbuildings and sheds with a 4m cleared fuel break.



Fire station attended:

7.30pm to 9.30pm Wednesdays - Phone (08) 8524 5623 Fax: (08) 8524 5128

Training:

Every Wednesday commencing at 7.30pm at the fire station.



Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – April 2009



Lyndoch CFS History

May 9th 2009 will see the 30th year of registration of the Lyndoch CFS Brigade. As such, a working group has been put together to look at gathering historical information about the brigade both from 1979 to current day as well as its history as an EFS brigade and even prior to this.

We are still looking for any photos of crews or fires that crews attended that we may have copies of.

- 1) If you have any documentation or historical records of items that were purchased for the appliances or station during that time.
- 2) Contact details of past members who may have left the district.

The Lyndoch Historical Society in 2003 undertook a brief history in the writing of **The Lyndoch CFS – A Volunteer Organisation For The Benefit Of the Community.**

Fire Prevention for the Home

There are a number of items suitable for assisting with Fire Prevention in the Home. They are:

- Fire Extinguishers
- Fire Blankets
- Smoke Detectors

Fire Extinguishers

There are many fire extinguishers on the market, and knowing which one is suitable in the home environment can be a challenge. Some Extinguishers have specific purposes while others will meet many needs.

The principle of a fire extinguisher is to Starve, Smother, Cool or Inhibit the burning material and stop the chain reaction that generates the fire.



DRY CHEMICAL

The **Dry Chemical Extinguisher** is denoted by a red cylinder with a white stripe towards the neck.

Dry Chemical extinguishers are designed to be used with a wider variety of material – they can be used on wood & paper but are also designed to work with fuels and electrical. As we are dealing with a powder, there is no risk of electrocution. – A handy item for in the garage.

Dry Chemical extinguishers work by smothering and inhibiting the chemical reactions that occur.

Fire Blankets

The Fire blanket is a very useful item for in the kitchen as it's extremely effective when used correctly and does not leave the powdery residue that the Dry Chemical Extinguisher above does.

Follow the instructions on the package cover and once the burning material is covered, pat down around the edges to seal off the air, leave the blanket in place, turn off the source of heat and call the Fire Service.



Smoke Detectors

A **MUST** for any household. Placed in strategic locations throughout the house they are designed as an **EARLY WARNING** device.

Current building standards dictate that these must be in all new dwellings and must be hard wired.

CFS along with the MFS are actively advising all resident that have battery operated detectors to replace them if they are 10 years older or more. Visit the CFS Website (www.cfs.sa.gov.au) and look for the **SMOKE ALARM RETIREMENT CAMPAIGN** information on the right hand side of the screen.



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

Neville Kies

Captain - Lyndoch CFS Brigade
Mobile: 0417 245 128

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Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – May 2009



Lyndoch CFS 30th Birthday Celebrations



On the 9th of May 2009 the Lyndoch Country Fire Service will celebrate its 30th birthday. To mark this milestone the Brigade will be holding a celebration on Saturday the 9th of May. The celebrations begin at the Lyndoch CFS station at **12.30pm** for a 1pm gourmet barbeque.

Guests and former brigade members will be able to examine a display of past and present equipment as well vehicles, clothing and uniforms.

A short presentation will be made by the Lyndoch CFS History Committee detailing the brigade's history, its significant incidents and other important events in the brigades 30 years of service to the community.

The Brigade Captain, Neville Kies who is only the second person to hold the position in the brigade will also share his thoughts on the brigade's anniversary.

The Chief Officer, Euan Ferguson and Regional Commander John Hutchins will also be present at this event.

An afternoon tea will also be provided. This is an opportunity to reflect on 30 years of service to the community and state.

If you are a former member of the brigade or if you are simply interested in attending please contact either Jacque on 0407 224 002, Neville 0417 245 128 or Richard on 8524 5246 to RSVP.





We would also welcome anyone interested in joining the Lyndoch CFS Brigade as all your questions can be answered.

Incidents Attended – March / April

Since the beginning of March, Lyndoch CFS has responded to 9 incidents. While a number of these were Stop Calls, a number of them were grass fire related or had the potential to be a problem. Incident #55 highlights the importance of checking / monitoring incinerators if they are used. In this case a neighbour noticed and called the CFS. The potential was that this fire could have spread into pastoral paddocks or vineyards.

Welcome / Goodbye

While a little belated we would like to welcome the following members who have joined Lyndoch CFS over the past 3 months

-  Barry Brinkley – school teacher
-  Kym Pearce – transfer from Cummins CFS
-  Wayne Koch – aircraft engineer (retired)
-  Tom Smith – Cadet

Some of these members over the next 3 – 6 months will undertake the Basic Firefighting course before they are eligible to undertake operational duties – we wish them all the best.

We also say goodbye to Steven Urry who is moving to Greenock and will be transferring to Greenock CFS – we wish him all the best.

Group Training Night

On Wednesday 29th of April, Lyndoch CFS hosts the other brigades in the Group for a Training night – this type of get together occurs 3 times a year and is shared by the brigades making up the Barossa Group (Concordia, Eden Valley, Lyndoch, Mt Pleasant, Springton, Williamstown). The focus of this training event is on Communications, Map Reading and Navigation using GPS. So if you saw larger numbers than normal of CFS members wandering round at night – here's the reason why.

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Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – June 2009



30th Anniversary Celebrations

Lyndoch CFS would like to extend its thanks to all those who came to the 30th Anniversary of the Lyndoch CFS.

The 30th Anniversary celebrations for the Lyndoch CFS were a resounding success. The day saw a display of CFS equipment both past and present as well as a display of past and present Appliances. The original EFS / CFS Truck the International took pride of place and received a large amount of attention from members both past and present.



A delicious barbeque was cooked by members and enjoyed by all who were present. A brief overview of the brigades History was followed by a speech from the Brigade Captain Mr Neville Kies. The Chief Officer of the CFS Mr Euan Ferguson also spoke on the CFS and its foundations.

The celebrations were topped off with a cake provided by the Lyndoch Bakery. The day honored the founding members of the Lyndoch Brigade and looked towards a promising future. Thank you to all who attended and those who made the day possible.

Please visit the Lyndoch CFS Website over the next week or so for additional information on this history, as well as new photos. Click on the **Special Events** icon.

 **Special Events**

What's On!

With all the celebrations going on, things don't stop – the members of the Lyndoch CFS are actively training. The following have been undertaken by Lyndoch members this month.

- Check Installed Fire Safety Systems Course – 11 members
- Road Crash Rescue Seminar – 1 member
- Senior First Aid – 4 members
- Suppress Wildfire Training – 2 members

Fatality in the Lyndoch Area

On Wednesday 27th, Lyndoch CFS responded to a vehicle accident near Rowland Flat. The driver of this vehicle later died in hospital. Our condolences go to the family and friends.

This is about the 4th fatality this month in the Barossa Area. We as an Emergency Service ask all members of the public (young and old) to slow down, drive to the conditions and be attentive when driving. CFS has a motto – **“Safety First – Come Home Safe”**. This equally applies to all of us.



Congratulations – It's a Girl

Congratulations to Susan and Gavin Laycock – the 9th May saw the birth of a baby girl Lucy, a sister to Jed.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!

Lyndoch CFS will be receiving its new Fire Appliance within days – this new 34P Type appliance will replace the current Lyndoch 34.

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Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – July 2009

An Emergency Service Officer's view of a Vehicle Accident

With the number of fatalities that have occurred during the month of May (almost 4 times the same as May 2008) and a significant majority of those in the 18 – 25 year age group – the message of drive safely does not seem to be getting through to the drivers of today.

As a volunteer Ambulance officer for 8 years and a volunteer Firefighter for 13, there is no way to sugar coat, the trauma and tragic events that unfold at any accident and how quickly lives can change. Just as many of you remember significant events such as birthdays, emergency service personnel remember that first fatality. In my case, it was an 11 year old student drowning at a swimming carnival and irrespective of the fact that we worked on her for 30 minutes at the scene and in the hospital, there was nothing that could be done.

Imagine if you would a vehicle accident, where, as most statistics have it, it has crashed into a tree or stobie pole, impacting on the driver's side, a person is trapped in the driver's seat, unconscious. The first on scene is usually a passing motorist, they call 000. Then the first Fire Service or Ambulance crew arrive. At this point there is up to 8 emergency service personnel now dealing with the person / persons in the vehicle. Additional resources are called and the first Police officer arrives on scene.

An assessment is made by the Ambulance crew of the casualty(s) and possibly now another ambulance is called as well as the local Intensive Care Paramedic. By now we can have up to 20 Emergency Service personnel now dealing with this one individual. Ambos, work on what is called the Golden Hour – if a person can be extricated from the vehicle and on their way to the hospital within this time, they have an increased chance of survival. We haven't spoken about the casualty yet – what was this individual or group doing, coming back from a party, travelling to the movies – it now too late, whatever plans they had are now in pieces.

The person's trapped in the car, there doesn't look to be a mark on them but they are unconscious, the ambulance crew assess the impact of the vehicle and assume internal bleeding based on pulse, respirations, colour etc. They give them intravenous fluids (including blood), there is a rush to extricate the person as quickly and as safely as possible and get them on their way as they are still pumping fluids into them – as quick as it's going in, it's going out somewhere.

While this is going on with the Ambo's the traffic has been stopped, CFS are protecting the scene and setting up a landing site for the rescue helicopter, here are another group

of individuals arriving to assist this individual (Pilot, Senior Registrar, Intensive Care Nurse). Another CFS appliance arrives as does Major Crash. We now have upwards of 30 people looking out for this one individual who has for some reason been in a rush to get somewhere.

Possibly now, the Police have some details and are contacting parents, partners or heaven forbid next of kin. The person is finally extricated, and loaded onto the helicopter and flown the 20 – 30 minutes to the Royal Adelaide. They're taken into surgery to fix, the bleeding, broken bones, bruising of the brain. Whether they survive is in the hands of the Gods. If they survive the first 24 hours, there is hope – are they going to be able to walk again – who knows?

So, 30 plus people have looked after this injured person in the opening scenario, they walk away with these images, they go home and talk to their partners, the parents of the injured or in the worst case the deceased go through a grieving process, which affects not only them but their immediate family and friends. Did they give themselves a chance?

As a final example, and this was a while ago, as an Ambo I responded to a car versus truck. The drivers of the car had cut across the front of the truck, clipped a phone box, gone through the front windscreen on his car, the phone box and hit his head on the wall of the house about 1.5 metres up leaving a red splodge mark where his head had made contact. We stabilised him, took him to the local hospital where he was then transported to the Royal Adelaide. As a caring group we rang later on that day to ask how he was – the reply shocked us all. He'll be OK, it's the 2nd time he's done this.

Our goal as Firefighters, Ambulance Officers and Police is about saving lives – for us to do that we have to have a chance – are you giving us, and more importantly yourself one? I leave you to ponder this question.

Yours-in-service

Vaughn Elsworth
Lieutenant 3 – Lyndoch CFS

Thank You

Lyndoch CFS would like to extend its sincere thanks to the Management of Yaldara Estate Winery for the use of their facility for a recent Check Installed Fire Safety Systems Course. The ability to utilise a local facility for realistic training and developing robust response planning assists both organisations.

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Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – August 2009



Lyndoch Response: July 08 – June 09

The table below represents the callouts attended by Lyndoch CFS over the past 12 months (July 2008 – June 2009).

110 - Building Fire	5
150 - Mobile Property (Vehicle Fire)	2
162 - Scrub Grass Fire	1
163 - Grass or Stubble Fire	9
169 - Other Outside Fire	2
180 - Outside Rubbish Fire	10
322 - Vehicle Accident with Injuries	9
352 - Vehicle Accident with No Injuries	3
430 - Heat Related Electrical	1
530 - Severe Weather	1
539 - Tree Down	9
540 - Other Assistance	5
621 - Investigation (Smoke)	3
709 - Fixed Alarm	6
751 - Private Alarm	3
921 - Did Not Arrive (Stop Call)	2
Strike Team / Task Force	2

Lyndoch CFS attended a total of 73 Incident this period. These numbers are consistent with the previous 12 months and do represent a 25% drop from the figures in 2006 / 2007.

Vehicle accidents took approximately 16% of the total calls, a slight increase from the previous year.

It was pleasing to see that the number of grass / stubble fires attended did drop from previous years. This indicates that Lyndoch residents are more aware of the dangers associated with these types of fires and also aware of the council and fire danger season rules and regulations.

Are you prepared!

While it might seem that the Fire Danger season is a long way off? It could be as little as 12 weeks before we are in the Fire Danger Season. As a result Lyndoch CFS members are themselves beginning the preparation process. The likely hood of a Victorian catastrophe is not on the cards although a fire in the surrounding Conservation Parks could lead to embers landing in gutters within the township – as such should this occur it's likely CFS members will be out responding to these issues leaving their home unprotected. As such these members are now thinking about how to make their houses safer against this form of fire attack.

Fire station attended:

7.30pm to 9.30pm Wednesdays - Phone (08) 8524 5623 Fax: (08) 8524 5128

New Appliance

Lyndoch 34P has arrived. You may have noticed a new appliance around Lyndoch Station. The appliance arrived on June 9th. The appliance came with a standard set of equipment and over the past couple of week's additional equipment removed off the old appliance has been added. Lyndoch 34P is the primary response vehicle for Structure Fires and Vehicle Accidents holding the brigades Breathing Apparatus and Road Crash Rapid Intervention Equipment.

As a requirement for the new vehicle, 8 of the regular drivers were required to undertake a driver familiarisation session and undertake a ½ day driving session with an external driving instructor to ensure that they were confident with the handling of the vehicle and still had a sound understanding of the driving rules governing them and other drivers on the road. As a result you may see an increased presence of Lyndoch 34P on the road as drivers regularly take the appliance for driver training around the surrounding areas.



Brigade Elections

Brigade members are reminded that all positions will be declared vacant on Wednesday 5th August for the Annual General Meeting of the Lyndoch CFS. Nominations can be forwarded through the Brigade Admin Officer and nomination forms are available from the station. All members are asked to attend this meeting. Meeting starts at 1930hrs.

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

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Mobile: 0417 245 128

Training:

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Lyndoch CFS

Grapevine Article – September 2009



Brigade Election Results

The Brigade Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 5th August 2009 and all positions were declared vacant. It was excellent to see such a positive turnout to the elections this year. At the conclusion of the meeting the following people were successful in the positions as indicated and are officeholders until 2011. We wish them all well over the next 2 years

Captain	Neville Kies
Lieutenant 1	Shane Emms
Lieutenant 2	Gavin Laycock
Lieutenant 3	Vaughn Elsworth
Senior 1	Reuben Batten
Senior 2	David Pritchard

Administrations Coordinator	Jacque Edwards
Training Coordinator	Vaughn Elsworth
Assistant Training Coordinator	Paul Preece
Communications Coordinator	Shane Emms
Logistics Coordinator	Mick McNally
Equipment Coordinator	Paul Preece
OH&S Representative	Andrew Nesbitt
Brigade Liaison Officer	Richard Sanders
Cadet Coordinator	Richard Sanders

Management Committee

President	Brenton Edwards
Vice President	Andrew Nesbitt
Captain (Ex-Officio)	Neville Kies
Admin Coordinator (Ex-Officio)	Jacque Edwards
Brigade Representative 1	Gavin Laycock
Brigade Representative 2	Vaughn Elsworth
Brigade Representative 3	Andrew Watson

Ring 000

As of the 12th of August 2008, the Lyndoch CFS local emergency number of **8524 4000** has ceased operation. People calling this number to contact the CFS will hear a recorded message advising them to call Triple-Zero (000) and request the Fire Service. This change is in-line with the National adoption of the Rural Addressing System which will overtime replace the Rapid Number System that a number of residents have.



Should you wish to find out general information you are more than welcome to ring 8524 5623 on a Wednesday Training night from 7.00pm or alternatively contact the Brigade Captain on 0417 245 128.

Road Crash Training – Vehicles Required

From time to time we put this request out to the wider community. To assist with the training of our road crash operators in maintaining their skills we are always on the lookout for vehicles which may not work but are complete with wheels and glass (engine not required). Should you have a vehicle that you believe may be useful to us please contact the Brigade Captain?

RAAF Visit

On Wednesday 9th September, the Lyndoch CFS brigade will be visiting the Fire Service at the RAAF Base Edinburgh. Transfield Services manage this function and the opportunity has occurred courtesy of Dave Pollitt who works on the fire crew out there. Cadets need to get a consent form from the brigade and return it ASAP. It is envisaged that an appliance and a number of private vehicles will leave no later than 6.45pm from Lyndoch Station and return no later than 9.45pm on that day.

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Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – October 2009



Are You Prepared?

It is likely that the Fire Danger season will start early again this year as it did last. It is therefore important that you begin preparing your house and surroundings now rather than leave it to the last minute. The gentle rains of late have prompted consistent growth and this should be dealt with before we enter the Summer Months. The warmer weather we are also having is now starting to dry off this new growth of grasses.

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.

Don't forget the gutters – it's amazing how much litter ends up in the gutters during winter and early autumn.



The devastating Victorian bushfires of February 7 2009 has accelerated, and provided a renewed focus, for bushfire preparedness in this State.

A Bushfire Task Force was established in March 2009 to analyse key issues arising from the Victorian bushfires and Royal Commission and to look into

immediate, medium and longer term strategies required to improve bushfire management practices in South Australia.

On Thursday, 10 September 2009, the State Government announced some of the initiatives and recommendations put forward by the Task Force that will be implemented to help elevate South Australia to a new state of fire readiness. Key initiatives announced include:

- A [new telephone and text messaging warning system](#) - alerts relating to the most severe fire threats will be sent to landline and mobile phones based on the owner's billing address for the 2009-2010 Bushfire season.
- The adoption of a new national framework for [fire warnings](#) which includes an enhanced Fire Danger Rating system incorporating a new category of Catastrophic (Code Red) and new warning categories.
- New legislation simplifying the rules about managing [native vegetation](#) for bushfire prevention.
- The introduction of a new theme - **PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.** - to reinforce the message that people won't survive a bushfire unless they are prepared and take the appropriate actions to survive
- Conducting a "Bushfire Prevention and Awareness Week"
- [DEH](#), Forestry SA and SA Water working closer together to reduce fuel loads on public land.

As initiatives are rolled out, this web page will be updated so please visit this page regularly.

For More information on this please visit the CFS Website – www.cfs.sa.gov.au and click on the red and white **Bushfire Ready** Banner on the right hand side.

Information on the new Native Vegetation Rules can be found at www.nvc.sa.gov.au and then click on the **New Rules for Native Vegetation** Banner.

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Where can I get more information:

There is a vast amount of information out there for all – much of it on the internet. The CFS Website – www.cfs.sa.gov.au has the following information available by clicking on the **Community Information** heading and choosing **Prepare – Act – Survive**. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and look under the section **Fact Sheets – Preparing for Bushfires**:

Preparing your Property for Bushfire	detailed information as to the measures that can be taken in preparing property for the bushfire season
Identifying Hazards around your Home	Information to aid you to identify the things around the outside of your home that may easily burn and become embers and those areas that may be vulnerable to ember attack.
Preparing Yourself for Bushfires	the emotional and physical preparations necessary for bushfire
Bushfire Behaviour	comprehensive information about bushfire including differences in fuel, weather effects and the stages of a bushfire
Days of High Fire Danger	outlining what high fire danger is, the Fire Danger Ratings and Fire Ban Districts
Bushfire Survival Kits	what you need for a survival, relocation and recovery kit
Personal Survival -	information relating to heat stress, dehydration and burn injuries
Fuel Breaks	how to reduce and maintain defensible space between your home and property.
How Houses Burn	information as to how houses burn and the stages of a bushfire

This is by no means an exhaustive list, but it's a starting point. If you require more information check the CFS website regularly for updates as well as contact the **Bushfire Information Hotline** on **1300 362 361**



Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – November 2009



Prepare – Act - Survive

In the week of the 19th to 23rd of October CFS had a major campaign to update residents on the actions they need to consider taking in preparation for the oncoming Fire Season. **PREPARE – ACT – SURVIVE**, has come as a consequence of the Victorian Fires and is a national program that all States and Territories have adopted.

As not all residents may have access to the Internet we have provided you with three of these documents as part of the Lyndoch Grapevine for November 2009

Fact Sheet: PREPARE – ACT – SURVIVE	This fact sheet looks at what we mean with these 3 words – It can be as simple as deciding that you are going to leave your property on a day when the Fire Danger Rating at specific ratings (see the Fire Danger Ratings Fact Sheet). All members of the family need to be clear on this.
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Fact Sheet: Bushfire Watch & Act and Emergency Messages	This fact sheet explains the messages you will need to listen out for on the radio during fires that may either be in your area of likely to impact upon your area. The messages may assist you in making an informed decision.
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You should also listen to the Radio (ABC or FIVEaa) as well as checking the CFS website.

Fact Sheet: Fire Danger Ratings	This fact sheet assists you in relating the information provided from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). This rating will be given in the evening news the night before and is based on a whole range of information collected by the BOM. This information can also be obtained from the BOM website.
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CFS FACT SHEET

FIRE DANGER RATING



To help you assess your level of bushfire risk, it is important that you understand the Fire Danger Rating. The rating is forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology each day and is an early indicator for you of the potential danger, should a bushfire start on that day. The rating provides a classification of the expected fire behaviour on a given day.

The Fire Danger Rating is determined by the Fire Danger Index (FDI). The Fire Danger Index is a combination of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, vegetation and drought factors. The Fire Danger Rating is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology after 4pm the day before and is available at www.bom.gov.au.

A Fire Danger Index of 1 (a Fire Danger Rating of Low-Moderate) means that a fire will not burn, or will burn so slowly that its control presents little difficulty. A Fire Danger Index in excess of 100 (a rating of Catastrophic) means that fire will burn so fast and so hot that it is virtually impossible to control.

Fire Danger Rating	Recommended Action and Potential Fire Behaviour and Impact
CATASTROPHIC FDI 100+	<p>ACTION: For your survival, leaving is the best option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Flames will be higher than roof tops. Thousands of embers will be blown around. Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 20 km ahead of the fire. There is a very high likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die or be injured. Thousands of homes and businesses will be destroyed. House construction standards do not go beyond a Fire Danger Index of 100. Well prepared, constructed and actively defended homes may not be safe during a fire.
EXTREME FDI 75-99	<p>ACTION: Leaving is the safest option for your survival.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable, unpredictable and fast moving. Flames will be higher than roof tops. Thousands of embers will be blown around. Spot fires will move quickly and come from many directions, up to 6 km ahead of the fire. There is a likelihood that people in the path of the fire will die and be injured. Hundreds of homes will be destroyed. Only well prepared, well constructed and actively defended houses are likely to offer safety during a fire.
SEVERE FDI 50-74	<p>ACTION: Leaving is the safest option for your survival. Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it during a fire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires will be uncontrollable and move quickly. Flames may be higher than roof tops. Expect embers to be blown around. Spot fires may occur up to 4 km ahead of the fire. There is a chance people may die and be injured. Some homes and businesses will be destroyed. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire.
VERY HIGH FDI 25-49	<p>ACTION: Only stay if you and your home are well prepared and you can actively defend it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be difficult to control. Flames may burn into the tree tops. Expect embers to be blown ahead of the fire. Spot fires may occur up to 2 km ahead of the fire. There is a low chance people may die or be injured. Some homes and businesses may be damaged or destroyed. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire.
HIGH FDI 12-24	<p>ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be controlled. Expect embers to be blown ahead of the fire. Spot fires can occur close to the main fire. Loss of life is highly unlikely and damage to property will be limited. Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire.
LOW - MODERATE FDI 0-11	<p>ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires can be easily controlled. Little to no risk to life and property.

For more information, go to www.cfs.sa.gov.au.



Government
of South Australia

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



CFS FACT SHEET

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



Being Bushfire Ready is a shared responsibility between the Government, fire agencies and the community. If you live, work or travel in an area where bushfires can occur, then you need to prepare a bushfire survival plan ahead of time and practise it regularly. Ensure that you are well prepared and stay well informed to assist you in making decisions to improve your safety and chances of survival.

Prepare

Preparing to leave early is the safest option for your survival.

Whether you choose to leave early to go to a safer place or to stay and defend your well prepared home, preparation is the key to survival:

- Prepare your Bushfire Survival Plan well before the fire season
- Prepare for those days when the forecasted fire danger rating is increasing
- Prepare for when a fire is close to you
- Prepare your home and your property to survive the fire front, showers of embers and radiant heat
- Even if your plan is to leave early, the more you prepare your home and property the greater the chance is that your home will survive the fire
- If you prepare your property but don't feel able to stay and defend it, then plan to leave early. Make this part of your Bushfire Survival Plan
- If you prepare to leave early, consider where you will go, how you will get there safely and what you will take
- If you are planning to stay and defend, prepare for a frightening experience
- Find out what equipment you need and determine what you will do if things do not go according to plan.

Act

Fires can threaten suddenly and without warning. Be prepared to act without receiving any emergency warning. The CFS does not guarantee a fire truck will be there to protect your property so you need to:

- Know what the Bushfire Risk is for your area
- On a daily basis, know what the forecast Fire Danger Rating is for the area you are in
- Act decisively the moment you know there is danger
- Watch for signs of fire, especially smoke and flames
- Put your plans into action (avoid a 'wait and see' response)
- Look and listen for information on television, radio, internet, mobile phones and by speaking with neighbours:
 - CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au
 - CFS Bushfire Information Hotline: 1300 362 361
 - On local ABC radio and FIVEaa.

Survive

Your survival and safety depends on the decisions you make. The safest place during a fire is away from a fire. Being involved in a fire may be one of the most dangerous and traumatic experiences of your life.

Make sure you are Bushfire Ready this summer- it's important you prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan.

For help and advice on what to do about your Bushfire Survival Plan visit the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au or call your local CFS regional office or Council.



CFS FACT SHEET

BUSHFIRE WATCH & ACT AND EMERGENCY MESSAGES



Fire can threaten suddenly and without warning so you should always be ready to act.

The CFS will provide as much information as possible to help you make an informed decision however you may not always receive an official warning directly.

Monitor the CFS website www.cfs.sa.gov.au and your local ABC Radio station or FIVEaa on a battery powered radio. It is recommended you do not rely on a single source for emergency information.

There are three levels of messages that can be issued during a bushfire on radio and the CFS website. You need to understand the different messages and what they mean for you. These messages will alert you to danger so that you can take action.

However, if you are in a bushfire prone area it is important that you remain vigilant during the summer and do not rely solely on these messages as there is no guarantee you will receive one in time. A bushfire may impact upon you more quickly than CFS is able to respond.

The three levels of messages are:

- **Emergency Warning - *Bushfire Emergency Warning message.***

An Emergency Warning message is the highest level of message. The message tells you that you will be impacted by fire and you need to take action immediately. This message will be preceded by an emergency warning signal (a siren sound) to get your attention. The message will also contain information about the severity of the fire, time to impact and what you should do.

- **Watch and Act - *Bushfire Watch and Act message.***

A Watch and Act message alerts you that a fire is approaching, conditions are changing, and that your life may come under threat. You need to act now to prepare for the approaching fire front and protect yourself and your family.

- **Advice - *Bushfire Advice message.***

A fire has started. There is no immediate danger. This is general information to keep you up to date with developments. A fire may pose no threat to life or property because:

- It is a small, controllable fire
- It is a fuel reduction burn being conducted by fire agencies
- It is a fire burning in a remote area away from people, homes or structures.

You should take all of these messages seriously and consider the information carefully.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the SA Country Fire Service

For more information about preparing a Bushfire Survival Plan, about bushfire safety or current incidents visit the CFS website: www.cfs.sa.gov.au

For more information during a bushfire or for further advice call the CFS Bushfire Information Hotline on **1300 362 361**.

Are you interested in becoming a CFS Volunteer

Following the demonstration on Wednesday 25th November a number of you may have thought that you would like to volunteer, but what do you need to do?

- 1) Come along on a Wednesday night between 7.30pm and 9.00pm and watch us as we train
- 2) If you're still interested we need to give you a piece of paper to obtain a police check
- 3) Once the police check comes back "all clear" the brigade votes to confirm there is a vacancy in the brigade and you begin a 3 month probationary period.
- 4) Depending on the role you then take on – Firefighter or Operational Support – you will be required to complete the Basic Firefighting course within the first 6 months of joining.
- 5) At the completion of the 3 month probationary period another vote is taken to official endorse you as a member of the brigade.

Lyndoch CFS is always looking for people who work in the town to assist us in Day crewing. CFS provides all the training and equipment you require. Safety is not an option for us, it's part of our way of life.

For **cadets**, the path is a little different.

- 1) There is no police check
- 2) Cadets meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and as a general rule – training on these nights usually focus on basic skills so all personnel can join in.
- 3) Cadets must be 11 years of age.
- 4) On the first night there is usually a discussion held with the Cadet Coordinator or the Brigade Captain where the rules of the brigade are explained

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

Neville Kies

Captain - Lyndoch CFS Brigade
Mobile: 0417 245 128



Lyndoch CFS Grapevine Article – December 2009



ALTONA AND LYNDOCH "DODGED A BULLET" ON THURSDAY 19TH AND FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, POSSIBLY WHILE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WERE SLEEPING

A lightning strike at about 11pm on Thursday 19th ignited scrub about one kilometre from Altona and not more than three and half kilometres from the centre of Lyndoch.

It is only good fortune that the wind had shifted from the North/West to the South taking this bushfire away from Altona and Lyndoch, as it was a very serious fire in difficult terrain. By the time CFS crews arrived the bushfire had started to "crown" (burn in the tree canopy) and was starting spot fires ahead of the main front.

Appliances as close as Lyndoch, Williamstown, Angaston and Nuriootpa responded as did some 15 – 20 other appliances over the subsequent days from as far as Brukunga and Summertown in the Adelaide Hills. Local Farm Fire units also assisted in the initial stages and provided valuable support in monitoring the fire over the subsequent days. The sheer response of these entire units enabled the fire to be contained to some 40 acres (approx 16 Hectares).

How serious was this bushfire?

When the bushfire started the Fire Danger Rating for the day in the Mt Lofty area would have been **high** with winds gusting to 65km. This category means:

ACTION: Know where to get more information and monitor the situation for any changes.

- Fires can be controlled. Expect embers to be blown ahead of the fire. Spot fires can occur close to the main fire.
- Loss of life is highly unlikely and damage to property will be limited.
- Well prepared and actively defended houses can offer safety during a fire.

Fire station attended:

7.30pm to 9.30pm Wednesdays - Phone (08) 8524 5623 Fax: (08) 8524 5128

Training:

Every Wednesday commencing at 7.30pm at the fire station.

Mopping up continued on Friday and Saturday, with CFS crews coming from far and wide to assist. A Thermal Imaging Camera was used to locate many of the "hot spots" complemented by checking and re-checking for signs of heat. Despite the 30mm of rain over Friday and Saturday nights, a crew from Lyndoch was still putting out the last of the burning stumps on Sunday.

What could have been the impact on Altona and Lyndoch?

Given the number of properties in Altona and Lyndoch that have unmown grass under shrubs and trees leading up to buildings it is likely that embers reaching these properties would have started multiple fires. Houses and buildings would have come under simultaneous serious threat and it would have taken considerable skill and luck to successfully defend some properties.

Surely there would have been enough an appliance to protect my place!

While this bushfire was being fought, a Strike Team made up of appliances from Williamstown, Concordia, Nuriootpa and Truro led by the Barossa Group Officer in Barossa Car 1, was already assisting crews to deal with one of the eleven fires burning on Yorke Peninsula. Barossa Car 1 was in part crewed by Lyndoch personnel.

It is clear that on a day when there are multiple fires around the state, resources will be stretched.

Realising the seriousness of this bushfire Lyndoch CFS would like to thank:

- Landowners who patrolled the higher peaks of the Barossa Ranges above Lyndoch checking for any sign of bushfires started by the lightning.
- The Farm Fire Units, The Barossa Council and individuals that assisted with this bushfire.
- The Barossa & Angaston Group & Deputy Group Officers who co-ordinated the response to this fire.
- All of the CFS crews that responded to help contain this bushfire.
- The CFS crews that backfilled fire stations whose appliances and crews were away from the area.
- All of the CFS crews that helped over the following days to make the area safe.

Your hard work and support is greatly appreciated.

Key messages for residents of Altona and Lyndoch that should be learnt from this bushfire:

- Altona and Lyndoch communities live in a bushfire risk area
- Altona and Lyndoch communities are not immune from bushfires.
- Bushfires can strike at any time, day or night.
- Even at night the Fire Danger Rating can be in the very high category.
- Fire appliance and crews may already be committed and therefore not available to protect our property.
- Everybody needs to have a Bushfire Survival Plan. Clearly this includes Altona and Lyndoch residents.
- If you have not prepared your property for a bushfire you need to start now.

When the **Prepare, Act, Survive**. Bushfire Survival DVD package arrives in the post please take the time to watch it and prepare your Bushfire Survival Plan. It is not "Junk Mail" and may well save your family's life.

Thank You – Community Support

Lyndoch CFS would like to extend its thanks to you, the community of Lyndoch for your support of our Community Exercise which we ran on Wednesday 25th of November at the Lyndoch Green. While the weather turned a little dark and a light rain fell it was great to see everyone stayed on. Special thanks must go to:

- South Australian Ambulances Service (SAAS) for their crew
- SA Police – Major Crash as well as 2 Highway Patrol from Gawler
- CFS Region 2 – Communications Van & Crew
- Concordia CFS – their presence as a support to the Lyndoch CFS Brigade
- Region 2 – Regional Commander – John Hutchins
- Barossa Group Officer – Campbell Black
- The crews of Lyndoch 34P & 24
- Shane Emms – Lieutenant 1 – for acting as MC as well as coordinating the coming together of all these services.

Fire station attended:

7.30pm to 9.30pm Wednesdays - Phone (08) 8524 5623 Fax: (08) 8524 5128

Training:

Every Wednesday commencing at 7.30pm at the fire station.