

## SOUTHERN REGION

Spring again and after last summer's fires preparations will shortly commence for this summer, which we hope will be uneventful. Northern Tasmania has had more than its share of winter rains and floods which thankfully haven't had a large impact on our region. Nevertheless recent high winds and heavy rainfall have provided us with a taste of the potential problems that can occur.

SES now has a new Manager of Learning and Development (Nick Connolly) who should provide the regions with much awaited training support. Southern Region Municipal Coordinators are busy reviewing Municipal Emergency Management plans and it is hoped most plans will be updated by the end of the year. SRU are to be congratulated on their successful attendance at the National Disaster Rescue Competition, supported by a Huon Valley member.

The months to follow will see more changes and continued operations. With daylight saving upon us the time is right to ramp up training activities in preparation for any eventualities during the coming season. Thanks to all volunteers and their families for your dedication to the service and the community.

*Mark Nelson (Regional Manager South)*

We are now leaving the colder and wetter months behind and hopefully we will all get some well-deserved quiet time. The stats show that we have still been fairly busy throughout winter, so again I would like to say thank you to all volunteers and their families for the hours you have contributed. I would also like to say well done to the SRU +1 Team that travelled to Victoria for the National Disaster Rescue Competition (NDRC). The Team comprised of Andrew Webster T/L, Kerryn Gray, Andy Summers, Matthew Fishwick, Curtis Salter (SRU Volunteers) and Naomi Cassidy (Huon Valley) did extremely well finishing fourth overall. Having watched the team compete over the 2 days they should all be very proud on how they preformed. WELL DONE.

*Mark Dance (Regional Officer South)*

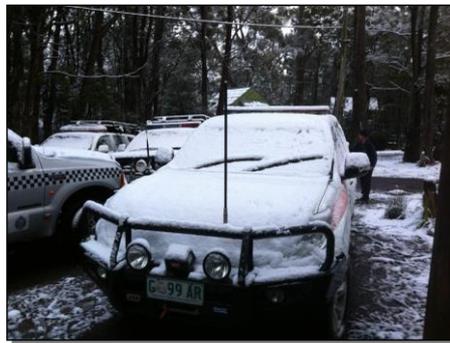
### Recent Operations

Once again we seem to have experienced it all this last quarter; searches, storms, flooding, assisting ambulance and RCR. This shows the diversity and range of skills that all SES volunteers know and have.



*NDRC TEAM 2013*

The Police SAREX was held again in August. The two day exercise involved Police, SES Volunteers, SES Staff and recreational groups. Saturday started with a nice covering of snow on the ground, but this didn't stop the volunteers heading off early that morning, then just to top the day off, the rain and wind commenced. The SAR Team should be very proud of how well they handle the environment and hazardous weather conditions when they are out searching for missing people.



*SAREX August 2013*

Recent high winds and rains brought a few jobs for Brighton and SRU. Below is a thank you letter to the Mercury for an SRU crew who attended a tree fallen onto a house. Well done to the team.

### Your Voice (The Mercury, Wednesday 9/10/2013)

#### SES TO THE RESCUE

*My heartfelt thanks to the wonderful group of SES volunteers who removed the tree from roof on Saturday. They are a lovely group of people who worked hard and quietly and did a great job in difficult conditions.*

*Agnes Frith  
Glenorchy*



Spring 2013  
Issue 35

# Southern Update

## STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

### Staff Contacts

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**Reg. Supp. Off.**  
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## Reminder to all

### CISM

*(Critical Incident Stress Management)*

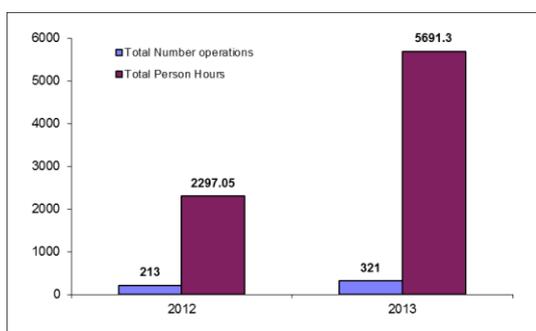
**24 HOUR CONTACT**

**0427 181 207**

Emergency Service work, by its very nature, exposes personnel to incidents not normally experienced by the general public. The exposure to these incidents might lead to critical incident stress. Stress is a general term to describe a person's response to demands in their environment. Critical incident stress refers to strong emotional and/or physical reactions to abnormal incidents. These reactions are commonplace and are normal. In fact, up to 87% of all emergency service personnel are affected by critical incident stress at some time during their career. There are many signs that indicate stress and can include the following: Disturbed sleep, irritability, upset stomach, headaches, depression, grief, confusion, fatigue, inability to make decisions and poor concentration.

It has been shown that dealing with these reactions at an early stage minimises their impact. For more information check your unit for the CISM brochure or contact Southern Regional Staff.

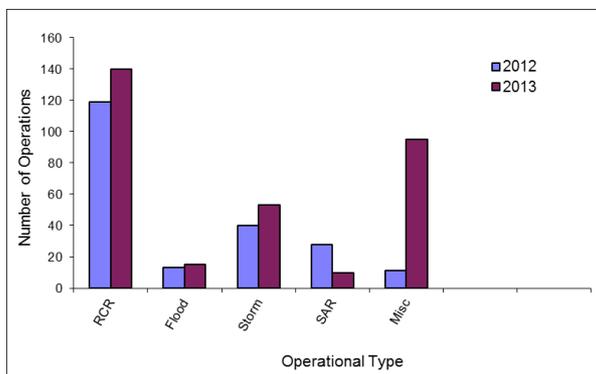
## Job Tally



Total operations and hours are much higher compared to this period last year, in particular Miscellaneous Ops (mostly fires) and RCR.

Well done to all volunteers for your contribution to SES and the community, an amazing effort.

*Fay Evans (Regional Support Officer South)*



Jan. to September	2012	2013
SRU operations	47	112
Huon Valley	51	51
Derwent Valley	30	54
Brighton	16	13
Southern Midlands	36	36
Glamorgan/Spr. Bay	10	28
Tasman	0	10
Cent. Highlands	10	4
SAR Team	10	7
Bruny	3	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>318</b>

**Please note that this data is based on incident reports received by Regional staff. It is important that all units fill out their forms and get them in to HQ in a timely manner.**

## Training News

During the last three months training in the Southern Region has been progressing along at a steady pace. In July we ran a Skills Trainer Course which was held at Southern Region Headquarters in our new training room. It was great to see participants attend from various units which will boost our list of qualified Trainers throughout the Region. With the aim of increasing our number of trainer & assessors an Assessor Skill Set Course was also conducted in August. It has been quiet a few years since we ran an assessors course so it was great to see it well attended. Over the last few months we have also been upgrading our current trainers & assessors to the new TAE units of competencies as part of Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, in order to meet our requirements as a Registered Training Organisation.

In September a Storm & Water Damage Course was conducted at Mornington. From the feedback I received I would like to congratulate and thank Paul Branch and his training team from the Southern Regional Unit for the work they put into conducting this for the region. Some of the participants will be seeing me in the near future as I go around undertaking their final assessments; I know they will be looking forward to it.

Over the last few months I have been busy assisting the Tasmania Team train for the National Disaster Rescue Competition. The team undertook various types of training that included general rescue skills, rescue at heights, USAR, casualty care and heavy rescue. As a lead up to the competition a full day training activity was conducted at TFS Cambridge Training Complex, where various stands were set up to test their skills. Thanks go to Dale Fletcher-Jones, Paul Branch and his team for setting up great scenarios and John Mackonis for his effort in training the team. I would like to congratulate the Team for coming fourth at the competition, they represented the State well.

**Upcoming Training Courses:**

- USAR Cat 1 - 2nd November 2013
- DF Operator - 3rd November 2013
- Land Search Operations - 16th & 17th November 2013
- RCR Team Members - 7th & 8th December 2013

*Adrian Webster (Regional Training Officer South)*

**PHOTO GALLERY**

All photos are from the National Disaster Rescue Competition 2013.

