

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

### ***NEW SOUTH WALES***

**Mr Trevor James ANDERSON PSM**, 75 James Mileham Drive, Kellyville NSW 2155

Mr Anderson's dedication and commitment to the NSW Rural Fire Service commenced when he was appointed as Secretary to the Bush Fire Council in 1979. Since then, and in his many appointments within the Service, he has been instrumental in many changes to the organisation and its ever-expanding role in fire and emergency management. Mr Anderson is renowned for his dedication, commitment and professionalism in overseeing the delivery of critical services to the volunteers, including programs such as annual budgets and allocations, workers' compensation, insurance provisions and legal representation. Many of the services currently afforded volunteers are mainly the result of Mr Anderson's outstanding commitment. His many years of experience and dedication have been underpinned with his passion for serving the broader community and the many thousands of volunteer personnel that give so much of their time in support of others. Mr Anderson's commitment to the NSW Rural Fire Service has been nothing short of exemplary.

Awards include:

Public Service Medal, 1995.

**Mr Ronald John ASHTON OAM**, 71 River Road, Lake Tabourie NSW 2539

Mr Ashton joined the Tabourie Rural Fire Brigade in 1982 and was elected as Captain in 1992. He remained as Captain until 1995 when he took up the position of Group Captain, a position he still holds. He has served with distinction as a firefighter, Brigade Captain and Group Captain. He has been involved in bush fires in the Shoalhaven District and also out of area around New South Wales as well as in Victoria. He held the position of Divisional Commander during many Section 41F and Section 44 bush fire emergencies within the Shoalhaven District, and also fulfilled the role of Incident Controller on night shifts during many of these emergencies. He currently represents all of the volunteers within the Shoalhaven area on the Shoalhaven District Liaison Committee. Mr Ashton's service within the Shoalhaven District is distinguished in all its facets, and his professionalism throughout his 24 years' service has brought great credit upon himself and to the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Mr Ashton previously served in the Royal Australian Navy and, as a Warrant Officer, was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 1978 Honours List for his exceptional performance of duty.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

### **Superintendent Kam Daryl BAKER, PO Box 78, Gloucester NSW 2422**

Superintendent Baker has been a member of the NSW Rural Fire Service since 1980, and is currently a salaried serving officer in the position of Team Manager Manning District. He is considered by brigade members to be an inspirational leader and his guidance and inputs into the Senior Management Team in the Gloucester District have been invaluable. He has also been heavily involved as a specialist in air operations and is today recognised as the most experienced Air Operations Manager within New South Wales. He holds specialist qualifications in Air Attack, Air Observation, Aircraft Officer and Air Operations Manager. He assisted in the writing of the Airbase Operations Course and is highly regarded as an Instructor in Air Operations. Together with his extensive operational experience, including that as a Section 44 Incident Controller, Superintendent Baker has steered and moulded the Gloucester District of the NSW Rural Fire Service into a smooth running and functional district that provides a very high level of service to the community.

### **Chief Superintendent Michael John (Mick) BELTRAN, 22 Jamieson Street, Granville NSW 2142**

Chief Superintendent Beltran began his service with the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) with the Sutherland HQ Rural Fire Brigade as a volunteer in 1970 and, in 1979, he was appointed as a salaried Fire Control Officer, Campbelltown Council. In 1986, he was appointed as the Regional Officer, Albury. He is currently the acting Region Manager, Region East. Chief Superintendent Beltran has consistently demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the RFS through the promotion of training as well as providing positive leadership to his fellow salaried officers and volunteers in the Albury region. Since his appointment to Region East in 2003, he has provided leadership and support of a very high quality to the District Operations Staff and is recognised for his dedication and commitment in all operational matters. He has participated with considerable skill in an operational management capacity during some of the worst fire seasons in the history of New South Wales and he continues to foster and promote the culture of the RFS through his enthusiasm, dedication and total commitment to all Service personnel.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Keith David FERGUSON**, 52 Grose Road, Faulconbridge NSW 2776

Mr Ferguson has served the NSW Fire Brigades with distinction for over 49 years, during which time he has demonstrated exceptional leadership to the firefighters under his command; clearly evidenced in the efficiency of the Brigade over which he has stewardship. He was first appointed as a Retained Firefighter attached to the Willoughby Brigade in 1957, and was subsequently attached to the Springwood Brigade in 1963 following his move to the Blue Mountains area. Mr Ferguson's organisational and managerial skills of personnel and other resources during major bush fires in the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas have been second to none. He has also been particularly active within his local community where he was a member of a number of community and service organisations including Apex, Springwood Lions Club, Springwood Boys and Girls Club and the Springwood and Community Youth Club. In particular, his tireless service to the Springwood Blue Light Discos and youth activities was recognised in 2005 through the award of a NSW Police Force Commendation. Mr Ferguson is a well known and highly respected member of the Springwood community and has given distinguished service to the people of New South Wales and the NSW Fire Brigades.

**Superintendent Michael Stanley GUYMER**, Dolls Point NSW 2219

Superintendent Guymer was appointed to the NSW Fire Brigades in 1978. During his service, he has served with distinction in a variety of operational and managerial positions, including training and executive zone administrative positions. In 1999, he was appointed to the position of Principal Instructor Training South where he demonstrated a proactive and highly skilled ability to coordinate and manage the operational training of all firefighting staff in Region South. Since his appointment to the position of Zone Commander South 1 in early 2003, Superintendent Guymer has been directly responsible for influencing numerous improvements to fire service delivery and leading complementary and coordinated multi-agency emergency management. Superintendent Guymer is highly respected within the NSW Fire Brigades and his distinguished service to both the New South Wales community and the NSW Fire Brigades has been exemplary.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr John Edwin HARVEY**, 58 Ashby Island Road, Ashby NSW 2463

Mr Harvey first joined the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) in 1954 as a member of the Ashby Rural Fire Brigade. During his many years of active service, he has held a number of senior field positions including Deputy Captain, Senior Deputy Captain, Captain and, currently, Group Captain. He is also the Chairman of the Clarence Valley Zone Advisory Committee and, within this role, he has always strongly promoted the RFS. Mr Harvey has been involved in fighting many types of fires and has gained the respect and friendship of many members of the RFS across New South Wales during his appointments as Task Force Commander on several out-of-area Section 44 emergencies, including fires at Kosciusko, Tenterfield, Glen Innes and the Richmond Valley areas. With his heavy commitments and service to the community within the Maclean Shire, Mr Harvey has always placed the highest priority with the RFS and has never missed attending a fire when he has been called out to do so. He has remained an active and exemplary member for over 50 years.

**Mr Donald LUSCOMBE**, 11 Yandina Avenue, Winmalee NSW 2777

Mr Luscombe joined the Winmalee Rural Fire Brigade in 1976 as a volunteer member. Following outstanding service in many influential positions, including 7 years as the Winmalee Brigade's longest serving Captain, he was elected Group Captain in June 1998 and maintained this position until he stood down in May 2006. In addition, he was elected the volunteer representative on the Blue Mountains Bush Fire Management Committee in 1991; a position he still holds. Mr Luscombe also served as President of the NSW Rural Fire Service Association from 1998 to 2002 and was responsible for the establishment of many of the projects currently in place with the Association, including the establishment of the Rural Fire Fighters Foundation, of which he is still a Director. Mr Luscombe excelled in firefighting activities in the major bush fire emergencies in the Blue Mountains between 1976 and 2002, and also attended major bush fire emergencies at Mittagong, Sutherland, Gosford, Campbelltown, Bucketty and Taree. Mr Luscombe has given 30 years of outstanding, committed, dedicated and distinguished service to the NSW Rural Fire Service, the NSW Rural Fire Service Association and the New South Wales community.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Captain Raymond Joseph McTIERNAN**, 13 Caroline Street, Dubbo NSW 2830

Captain McTiernan has served the people of New South Wales and the NSW Fire Brigades for over many years, providing distinguished leadership and fire service. He was appointed to the NSW Fire Brigades as a Retained Firefighter in the early 1960s, and was appointed Captain of the Delroy Brigade in 1985, a position he still occupies. Captain McTiernan maintains a highly motivated and efficient Brigade who are very active within their community, providing very successful fire safety and education programs and regularly involving themselves in fundraising activities. Captain McTiernan is held in high regard within the community and the NSW Fire Brigades, and has played a major role in campaigning for improved firefighting resources within the Dubbo Fire District that have resulted in permanent firefighters being attached to the Dubbo Fire Station on the 10/14 hour roster system.

**Mr Leslie Graham STEWART**, 105 Sternbeck Road, Bucketty NSW 2250

Mr Stewart is a foundation member and life member of the Bucketty Rural Fire Brigade having joined the Brigade in 1979. He rose quickly through the ranks of firefighters, becoming the Deputy Captain in 1980 and Senior Deputy Captain in 1982. He was promoted to Captain in 1986 and remained in this position until 1991, and was appointed Deputy Group Captain in 1992 for the Western Sector. Mr Stewart has been part of the Senior Management Team of the District since 1991 and he has been active in the needs for brigades and personnel, not only within the Western Sector but also across the District. He has always been a strong advocate of training in all forms throughout the district and he served as a member of the Local Training Committee. During the 1994 bush fire emergency, Mr Stewart proved to be a wealth of local knowledge on both the landscape and local fire behaviour, and was successful in keeping morale high in local brigades and sharing this with visiting Country Fire Authority crews from Victoria who were assisting the local brigades. Mr Stewart has also been instrumental in the instruction and development of newer members of local brigades. He is a champion of the volunteers and their cause and is well respected in Bucketty and in the Western Sector for his work in the NSW Rural Fire Service and in the local communities.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

### **VICTORIA**

**Chief Fire Officer Gregory Robert ALLISEY,**  
23 Tantani Street, Frankston North Vic 3199

Chief Fire Officer Allisey has provided distinguished service in the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in Victoria for over 40 years as a volunteer and career firefighter/officer. His dedication and perseverance have ensured significant progress in areas of Brigade management, investigations into firefighter deaths and major fires, development of operational procedures and the development, and management of CFA relationships with the National Fire Authority - Fiji. This latter achievement led to his being appointed as Chief Fire Officer at the National Fire Authority - Fiji in 2005. Chief Fire Officer Allisey has made a significant contribution to the overall management/leadership at both Station and Regional level. This has been complemented by secondments to Victoria Police and to the National Fire Authority - Fiji. He has also been a leader of many multi-agency teams including CFA/Metropolitan Fire Brigade Memorandum of Understanding and joint procedures with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

**Mr Edwin Frank COLVERSON,** 92 Settlement Road, Yarra Junction Vic 3797

Mr Colverson has provided outstanding service to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in Victoria through his loyal and dedicated commitment as a volunteer firefighter in his local community. He has devoted much of his life to the development of his own personal skills and the skills of many other CFA volunteers. He has been an active campaigner and initiator of improvement at all levels, from junior members at Yarra Junction to the Regional Planning Committee within Region 13. He is very well regarded and respected in his community and throughout the broader CFA community as a result of his unselfish attitude and passion for the CFA.

**Mr John Michael DODEMAIDE,** 6 Davies Avenue, Melton South Vic 3338

Mr Dodemaide has provided dedicated, distinguished and outstanding service to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and to the community of Victoria, particularly the Melton community, in the area of fire and emergency services, emergency management and volunteer community service; including 32 years as second-in-command of the wholly-volunteer CFA Melton Urban Fire Brigade.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Terence Francis HEDT**, 46-62 Flinders Street, Little River Vic 3211

Mr Hedt has provided outstanding service to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in Victoria. He is the longest serving Captain in the history of the Little River CFA and has attended all of the major incidents in the Brigade's area since joining the Brigade in 1966. Having served as Lieutenant in 1973 and 1974, he was promoted in 1975 to Captain, a position he has held ever since. He is a veteran of the 1969 Lara fires and commanded fire crews in the 1985 fires and many other incidents, and has led the Brigade in total turnouts in every year since 1975. He has volunteered as a Strike Team leader and has attended fires at Sydney, Trentham, North East Victoria and Cann River when additional volunteers have been required. His outstanding contribution to the Brigade includes leading the fire prevention efforts of the Brigade to win the Fire Prevention Competition for the whole of Victoria in 1987/1988 and for Region 7 in 1992. He has also acted as Deputy Group Officer, Group Officer and Group Secretary and continues as a Deputy Group Officer today.

**Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Peter Robert HOLMES**,  
27 Glenwood Avenue, Glen Waverley Vic 3150

Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Holmes has provided outstanding service and leadership in the development of relationships between the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) and other emergency service organisations within Victoria in the field of counter-terrorism planning and response, and has also contributed significantly to strategic planning within the Operations Directorate of the MFB. Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Holmes joined the MFB in 1977 and progressed through the various ranks until his promotion to the rank of Commander. As a Commander he performed most management roles within Central and Southern Zones before being appointed to his current position at Western Zone Command.

**Mr Dennis William MATTHEWS**, 67 Harnham Drive, Bairnsdale Vic 3875

Mr Matthews has provided distinguished and extended service in the management of fire in rural Victoria, particularly in the forested areas of East Gippsland. He has led the control effort in many complex and difficult fire incidents in the forest of rural Victoria over three decades. He has conveyed his extensive understanding of forest fire behaviour to local communities clearly and with empathy and honesty, and this has raised communication of emergency situations to a new level. Mr Matthews has also trained and mentored many staff in forest fire management both in fire control and, as importantly, in the use of fire in proper forest and park management.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Rainer Malcolm REINBOLD**, 4 Quamby Court, Viewbank Vic 3084

Mr Reinbold has provided outstanding service, leadership and contribution to the initiation, promotion, development and delivery of fire safety programs in Victoria through community engagement. Since joining the Metropolitan Fire Brigade in 1986 Mr Reinbold, through his commitment and professional dedication, has overcome the barriers that make community engagement difficult for station-based firefighters whilst also recognising the complexity, sensitivities and potential difficulties involved with working with the various groups within the community.

**Mr Nicholas Patrick RYAN**, Wandong Vic 3758

Mr Ryan has provided distinguished service and leadership in the management of aircraft in the tactical response to fire throughout Victoria. Victoria is a world leader in the use of aircraft in the tactical response to fire because of his work and the State Aircraft Unit which he leads. He has successfully taken aerial firefighting from the initial use in forest fire control to grassland. In doing so, he has developed the partnership arrangements between the Country Fire Authority and Department of Sustainability and Environment to include aerial fire suppression work across Victoria. Mr Ryan has set and maintains very high standards, especially in air safety, and his unit has an exemplary safety record under the most difficult flying conditions.

## **QUEENSLAND**

**Mr Paul William ADCOCK**, 24 Highfields Road, Highfields Qld 4352

Mr Adcock has displayed outstanding dedication and commitment to advancing rural fire volunteering issues through his leadership within Rural Operations, Queensland Fire and Rescue (QFRS), and to the broader rural fire service fraternity at both the State and national Level. As Director, Rural Operations, he has been instrumental in advancing strategic rural fire issues not only for the QFRS but also at the national level through the Council of Australian Governments Bushfire Inquiry Report. Mr Adcock has impressed many with his analytical skills and his capacity to offer a reasoned and considered critique based on quality research, good evidence and sound judgement. He has led the direction of training for volunteers and proposed a revised training program that will see role-based training being delivered to over 44,000 rural volunteers. He has also been instrumental in leading the change for Rural Operations with the adoption of the Statewide Integrated Operational Planning Process, Operations Doctrine, and rewrite of the Rural Fire Brigades Manual. Mr Adcock is held in very high regard by his peers and external stakeholders such as the Rural Fire Brigades Association of Queensland.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Leonard Alan JEAUVONS**, 22 North Road, Lower Beechmont Qld 4211

Mr Jeavons consistently displays outstanding dedication and commitment in working to achieve the safety of Gold Coast communities from the impacts of bushfire. Until his election as the Gold Coast Group Officer in 2001, he was the Chairperson and First Officer of the Lower Beechmont Rural Fire Brigade. His personal and professional behaviour and values in his role as Group Officer set him apart as a leader and an example to the community. He has been instrumental in advancing the administration, resourcing, training and operational response of volunteer rural fire brigades in the Gold Coast Rural Fire Brigades Group. The knowledge and experience he has gained has been used to advance the concept and implementation of the rural fire brigades group structure throughout Queensland. Through a process of negotiation, determination and the application of his skill and vision, Mr Jeavons has successfully achieved an agreed structure, guaranteeing the future operational funding for all brigades in the Gold Coast area, and has managed the sensitive process of introducing the fair and equitable collection and distribution of funds utilised for rural fire brigade management. He has also been the driving force behind the establishment of a Gold Coast Group Headquarters facility and support infrastructure to further support brigades. Mr Jeavons possesses vast operational experience, and his firefighting and leadership qualities were displayed during the 2004/2005 fire season when he was the principal incident controller for a number of fires which were burning in the Gold Coast area over a five day period. He was responsible for the management and deployment of all available urban and rural resources deployed in the Gold Coast.

**Mr Gary Bruce LITTLEWOOD**, 12 Andrea Street, Tarragindi Qld 4121

Mr Littlewood has provided exemplary and distinguished service to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) in establishing world class specialist rescue capability. He has taken the lead in investigating, developing and implementing the role and functions of technical rescue and urban search and rescue into the QFRS. This has included many years of research and the subsequent development of training programs, standards and policies. He has also provided and encouraged improved rescue techniques to the Queensland Ambulance Service, State Emergency Service and the Queensland Police Service. As the Manager, Special Operations, Mr Littlewood has led the design, development and implementation of the QFRS specialist rescue cell at the Queensland Combined Emergency Services Academy. The rescue cell has combined trench rescue, structural collapse and vertical rescue props, and the centre is now known for its excellence, with other State and Territory fire services frequently using the facilities for training. Mr Littlewood has represented the QFRS and Australia on several national and international deployments, including the Thredbo landslide, Taiwan earthquake and the Indonesian fire situation, and represented Australia at the 2005 International Search and Rescue Advisory Group meeting held in Estonia.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Graeme Douglas THOM**, 21 Novak Street, Everton Park Qld 4053

Mr Thom is a firefighter and has made an outstanding contribution to the enhancement of fire safety and to the development the State Community Safety Unit, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS). He is currently the Executive Manager of the Unit, a position in which he has led the State in a range of community safety and protection initiatives that have addressed a range of critical life safety issues, and has been the driving force behind the introduction of domestic smoke alarm legislation in Queensland. Even through the numerous challenges that have arisen out of tragedies such as the Childers Backpacker Hotel and the Sandgate boarding house fire, Mr Thom's outstanding leadership has demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the QFRS and the community safety cause. His dedication and tireless work have also been seen at a national level in his endeavour to improve the fire safety of all Australians by striving to improve the Building Code of Australia and Australian Standards through work with the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) as Chair of the AFAC Built Environment Committee, as a member of the AFAC Community Safety Strategy Group, and as a Director of the Fire Protection Association of Australia Board.

### ***WESTERN AUSTRALIA***

**Mr Edmond Leo (Eddy) BROOKS**, 2 Ranford Way, Hillarys WA 6025

Mr Brooks has been a member of the Fire and Rescue Service of Western Australia for over 30 years. During this period he has seen many significant changes, including the introduction of the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) as the umbrella organisation responsible for Fire and Rescue Service, Bush Fire Service, State Emergency Service, Volunteer Marine Rescue Services, Emergency Management Service and Unexploded Ordnance within Western Australia. Since the founding of FESA, Mr Brooks has been a steady and guiding influence for personnel, both for the Fire and Rescue Service and the Bush Fire Service. He has always done his utmost to promote the new organisation whilst being prepared to sacrifice his own personal sense of loss of identity of the Fire and Rescue Service organization, including its history and culture. Throughout his career Mr Brooks has been innovative; he has developed programs, procedures and policies that have contributed greatly to a safer community in Western Australia. For example, he developed and initiated the Juvenile and Family Fire Awareness program that helps to identify those young people who are either caught or suspected of having lit fires and offers education and treatment options to discourage them from lighting other fires. Mr Brooks has a strong standing within the community and is a well respected public officer. He consistently displays strong, dedicated and tireless leadership during emergencies, while at the same time showing compassion, sympathy and understanding to those around him.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Phillip Mark CRIBB**, 4 Parker Avenue, Sorrento WA 6020

Mr Cribb joined the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) in 1979 as a probationary Firefighter stationed at Perth. During his 27 years of service, he has served as Station Officer and District Officer in various locations throughout FESA. He was appointed to District Manager, Fire Investigation and Analysis Unit, in 1999. This position involves ensuring FESA has trained and competent fire investigation officers to conduct fire scene examinations to establish the origin and cause of fires they attend to support firefighters. Mr Cribb has had direct input into a wide range of fire prevention initiatives within and external to the FESA Community Safety Division. In conjunction with the Western Australian Police and the Department of Conservation and Land Management, he developed an arson information network to focus on arson reporting. The development of this network has seen an increase in the apprehension of persons lighting fires. Mr Cribb is self-motivated and extremely committed to improving fire investigation and prevention within the community.

**Mr Terrence Gordon HUNTER**, 2 Venn Street, Collie WA 6225

Over the last 35 years, Mr Hunter has actively participated in a number of community organisations in Collie, including the Police and Citizens Youth Club, the Bush Fire Service, the State Emergency Service, the Rotary Club of Collie, St John Ambulance and Apex. During this time he has shown a willingness to contribute significantly at both member and committee levels, as well as holding executive positions such as President on several occasions. He has been a member of the Collie Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade for over 30 years, and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the Shire of Collie for 25 years. He has been the South West representative on the Bush Fire Consultative Committee since its inception in 1999, and President of the Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades of WA since 2002. Mr Hunter has made and continues to make an outstanding and very significant contribution towards the safety and well-being of the Collie community and of the community of Western Australia.

## ***SOUTH AUSTRALIA***

**Mr Euan Arthur FERGUSON**, 19 Coppin Street, Glengowrie SA 5044

Mr Ferguson joined the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) as Deputy Chief Officer in 2001, after serving six years with the Victorian Country Fire Authority in a wide range of operational and planning roles. One month later he commenced duties as Chief Officer ultimately responsible for the safe, effective and efficient operations of the CFS, and also responsible for the management and administration of the organisation. Mr Ferguson has displayed exemplary leadership through many initiatives. His drive, initiative and leadership qualities have led to an ongoing commitment to a safety culture across the entire service, and have resulted in a wide range of key improvements in the CFS systems of work and business management processes.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr Robin George HOLMES**, 474 Kensington Road, Wattle Park SA 5066

Mr Holmes joined the Burnside Brigade of the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) in 1977. He has held many positions within the Brigade and has been heavily involved in numerous operational and Hazardous Materials (HazMat) responses, including Ash Wednesday 1980 and 1983, Langhorne Creek flooding 1992, the Sydney bushfires 1994, and Black Tuesday 2005. He was also closely involved with the development of HazMat capabilities across South Australia, taking a lead role in the redesign and building of the current style vehicles. An integral part of the Brigade Management Committee, Mr Holmes has held the positions of President, Logistics Officer, Finance Officer, and Bushfire Representative on the Burnside Council. His active involvement with the CFS Foundation assists in ensuring the welfare of CFS volunteers injured in the line of CFS duty, illness or distress, and increasing the awareness of the role of volunteer firefighters, thereby enhancing the firefighting capacity and expertise of CFS volunteers. Mr Holmes' contribution to the CFS at all levels has been phenomenal. His guiding force in many initiatives within the CFS and the emergency services in general is testament to his commitment to the organisation. His willingness to participate in a wide range of forums beyond that normally expected of a volunteer is commendable.

**Mr Grant Nigel LUPTON**, 26 Beviss Street, North Adelaide SA 5006

Mr Lupton joined the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) as the Chief Officer in 2002 at a time of change within the Emergency Services of South Australia. He is an exemplary Chief Officer, willing to pass on his broad-based knowledge to others, particularly in the strategic planning, organisational governance and strong leadership that he demonstrates. Mr Lupton is an extremely valuable member of the MFS, and the standards that he has set in applying direction, realigning the organisational structure and reporting lines, team spirit and accountability throughout the organisation have always been of the highest order. During his career he has been a mentor to his subordinates, allowing personnel to pursue the same standards that he has set. His fairness, equity and decision making have ensured that not only has the MFS Executive benefited from his service but fellow firefighters at all ranks have benefited also. His enthusiasm for the profession of firefighting highlights his dedication to the MFS and to the community of South Australia.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

### **TASMANIA**

**Mr Damien John KILLALEA**, 15A Broughton Avenue, Mount Nelson Tas 7007

Mr Killalea joined the Rural Fires Board of Tasmania as a Cadet Fire Control Officer in 1979, and has moved through a range of positions in the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS), from District Officer working in the field to Training Officer and then Manager of the TFS Training Division. In 1996 he was appointed Brigade Chief, Hobart Brigade, and was appointed to his current position as Director of Community Fire Safety in 1998. Mr Killalea has made significant outstanding contributions in every position in which he has served. As Director of Community Fire Safety he established the division and brought an innovative approach to assist TFS place greater focus on the fostering of fire safety throughout the Tasmanian community. In addition, Mr Killalea has made a significant national contribution to fire safety through his committed involvement in the Australasian Fire Authorities Council.

**Mrs Shirley Ann MEERS**, Henty Main Road, Zeehan Tas 7469

Mrs Meers joined the Zeehan Brigade, Tasmania Fire Service, as a volunteer firefighter in 1983. Since then she has actively participated in the Brigade with distinction in both an operational and administrative capacity. In 1994 she was elected as Fourth Officer, becoming one of the Service's first female officers. Since then she has served as third officer and, since 2001, as Second Officer of the Brigade. In addition, for the last five years she has been a Fire Permit Officer. As a totally committed and a quiet achiever, Mrs Meers' service to her local West Coast community has been exemplary.

## **AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)**

**Mr David Roy STOTT**, 4 Shannon Drive, Port Sorell Tas 7307

Mr Stott commenced in the Wesley Vale Brigade Tasmania Fire Service in 1977 as a junior volunteer member and continued with the Brigade until 1986 as a volunteer firefighter. He transferred to the Port Sorell Brigade in 1988, serving as Brigade Chief between 1989 and 1991 before becoming Fourth Officer in 1996. In 2001 he was elected as Second Officer, continuing in that position until the present. Mr Stott has been actively involved in both Brigades. As an officer in the Port Sorell Brigade he has provided exemplary leadership, particularly assisting in the management and training of senior members and support of junior members.

## ***AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY***

**Chief Officer David Laurence PRINCE**, Flynn ACT 2615

Chief Officer Prince joined the ACT Fire Brigade (ACTFB) in 1981. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to duty and a strong commitment to the provision of modern, professional fire services to the community of the Australian Capital Territory. In February 2003, soon after the devastating bushfires, he assumed the role of Acting Fire Commissioner. The bushfires had had a devastating impact on the staff of the ACTFB. Much of the rebuilding of the structure and morale of the ACTFB has been as a direct result of his tireless efforts. It was his enthusiastic and persistent drive and commitment, coupled with the esteem with which he is held within the ACTFB, that facilitated this rebuilding. He continued as the Acting Fire Commissioner for 16 months until he was appointed the substantive Chief Officer of the ACTFB in July 2004. Chief Officer Prince leads by example and has a reputation of always acting with the best interests of the ACTFB and the community at heart. His personal integrity is highly regarded by ACTFB members and he is acknowledged as being dignified and compassionate when managing difficult circumstances. In June 2006, Chief Officer Prince was appointed as the acting Commissioner, ACT Emergency Services Agency, following organisational changes; he is currently responsible for managing the re-integration of the emergency services into an existing government department.