



## "Taking Canberra by Storm"

Wednesday  
8 August 2012

Issue No 286

### Welcome to the Weekly Summary

#### WEATHER OUTLOOK

**Thursday 9**



**Min 2 Max 11**

Partly cloudy. Isolated showers until the afternoon.

**Friday 10**



**Min -1 Max 13**

Mostly sunny. Winds southwesterly 15 to 25 km/h tending southerly 35 to 50 km/h during the morning.

**Saturday 11**



**Min -1 Max 14**

Partly cloudy. Winds south to southwesterly 15 to 25 km/h.

**Sunday 12**



**Min 2 Max 15**

Partly cloudy. Winds south to southeasterly 15 to 25 km/h.

#### GENERAL

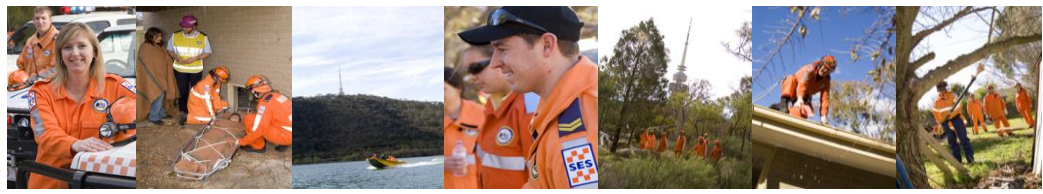
##### **Induction and Introductory Skills Training (IST)**

Last weekend the Induction and Introductory Skills Training program was held for 26 new ACTSES volunteers. The feedback from the participants on this program was that it was an outstanding success. Thank you to all members of the ACTSES who volunteered to provide some training, demonstrate the Service equipment, provide catering, or in any other way assisted on the weekend. The success of this Induction and IST Program is due in a large part to your input and participation.

The new members will join their Units this week. Please make them feel welcome, show them around, and introduce them to other members within your Unit.

##### **Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation**

In 2010-11 Queensland experienced unprecedented state-wide natural disaster events. In recognition of the response to the Queensland floods and to Cyclone Yasi the Queensland Government has issued the 2010-11 Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation. All members of the ACT State Emergency Service who deployed to Queensland as a part of one of our six taskforces are eligible to be awarded the Citation.



## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

The Citation is in the form of a bronze metal pin with a brown and white medal ribbon. This Citation is worn whenever the occasion calls for the wearing of medals or medal ribbons. The Citation is worn on the right hand side and is worn above any other medals worn on this side. If a name badge is being worn above existing medals/medal ribbons then the Citation is worn above the name badge. A miniature Citation is also provided for those occasions where it is appropriate to wear miniatures.

The ACTSES Chief Officer and the ACT Deputy Chief Officer will commence awarding the Citations at Unit training this coming Thursday evening. The following schedule for the awarding the Citations will take place:

Thursday 9 August	1900hrs	Tuggeranong SES Unit
	2000hrs	Woden SES Unit
	2000hrs	Gungahlin SES Unit
Thursday 16 August	1900hrs	Pialligo SES Unit
	1900hrs	Majura SES Unit
	2000hrs	Rivers SES Unit
Date and time to be advised		Belconnen SES Unit

Those members unable to be awarded their Citation at these times will have them awarded at a later date.



### **Protective Clothing Trial**

The Protective Clothing Trial that commenced last year has now been completed and the recommendations in the Report have been accepted by the Chief Officer. These recommendations will now be incorporated into any new one or two piece overalls that the ESA Resources Centre purchases. These new overalls will only be issued as a replacement for older worn out overalls under the fair wear and tear arrangements that currently exist.



## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

Thank you to all who took part in the trial or who contributed in any way. Your input, as always, is greatly appreciated.

### Upcoming Meetings

Members are advised that the following meetings are scheduled:

Meeting	Date	Location
National SES Week Meeting	08 Aug 12	Canberra Club
Training Support Group	29 Aug 12	Fairbairn HQ
Principal Advisory Group	05 Sep 12	Gungahlin JESC

### OPERATIONS

ACTSES has received 21 Requests for Assistance since 1 July 2012.

Over the past week teams from Rivers, Gungahlin and Belconnen SES Units, along with crews from ACT Fire & Rescue (ACTF&R) attended a number of storm incidents. The bulk of the incidents were for trees causing damage. A couple of houses sustained roof damage requiring temporary repair.

The ongoing relationship between ACTSES and ACTF&R ensures an effective and timely response to calls for assistance for storm and flood incidents. Well done to all the teams involved.

### **Request for Assistance (RFA) Data Base**

All members are aware of the close relationship that ACTSES has with Canberra Connect and our management of 132500. However, members may not be aware of the good work that has been occurring behind the scenes to develop a data base that will allow more effective reporting and RFA management when an Incident Management Team has been established.

Staff members from Canberra Connect have been working closely with SES members from Pialligo SES Unit and ACTSES staff over a number of weeks to develop and trial a data base to add to our arsenal of tools that can be used for operational management.

Work is also underway to merge the new data base processes in the existing Work in an Operations Centre (WOC) manual. Once this has been completed, skills upgrade training and new WOC courses will be delivered.



## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

### LOGISTICS

#### **Storm Response Vehicle Project**

ACTSES has received the funding allocation to commission two new Storm Response 62 Vehicles this financial year, one each for the Woden and Majura SES Units. The Logistics and Resources Coordinator will provide more information as this project progresses. It is anticipated that these vehicles will be commissioned into service around March or April 2013.

#### **Catering Trailers and Catering Handbook**

ESA is currently undertaking a review of catering for both operations and training. As a result ACTSES will not be undertaking the scheduled refurbishments of the small catering trailers until the review has been completed. Additionally the review of the catering handbook will also be postponed until a decision can be reached about the future of catering needs and support to/from ACTSES.

### LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

#### **Induction and Introductory Skills Training (IST)**

The Induction Team would also like to pass on their thanks to all the volunteers who contributed to a great weekend. The stands were well run and enjoyed by the new recruits. Could the Commanders and Training Officers encourage the new recruits to complete the Training Evaluation form and email them to [john.brothers@act.gov.au](mailto:john.brothers@act.gov.au)

#### **Storm Water Damage (SWD)**

The SWD program continues this week at Majura SES Unit.

#### **General Rescue (GR)**

GR nominations close on the 22 August 2012. Nominations must be made through your Unit Training Officer.

#### **Team Leader (TL)**

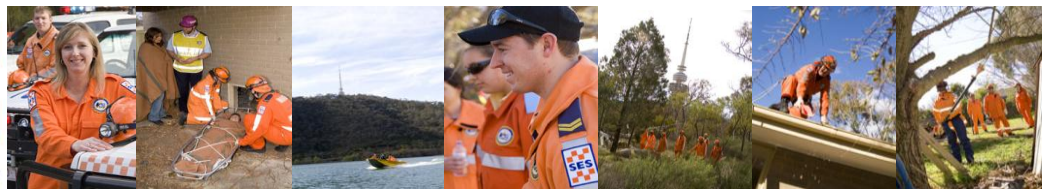
TL nominations close on the 24 August 2012. Nominations must be made through your Unit Training Officer.

#### **Team Leader Trainee Trainer Nominations**

There are four Team Leader Trainee Trainer positions available in the Team Leader course if anyone wants to become a trainer in this program. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must have completed Induction modules, First Aid (current), General Rescue, Storm Water Damage and Team Leader (NSW SES course);
- Must have been an active member for at least three years;
- Must be (or have been) a team/deputy team leader with 12 months experience;
- Must have actively contributed to Unit Management and volunteer training (not required to be an endorsed trainer);
- Must have actively participated as a team leader during operations;
- Must have demonstrable people communication and management skills;





## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

- Must be prepared to complete TAE Workplace Trainer and Assessor qualifications (at ACTSES expense);
- Nominations must be made through the Unit Training Officer and approved by the Unit Commander, and
- All nominations will be at the discretion of the Chief or Deputy Chief Officer.

Nominations are to be forwarded to the ACTSES learning and Development Coordinator by Friday 24 August 2012.

### Upcoming Training

The following training is scheduled:

Date of training	Nominations close	Training Event
11 Aug	03 Aug 12	Hume Training Centre familiarisation
29 Aug	22 Aug 12	GR Joint Unit Training – Tuggeranong Unit
15-16 Aug	ASAP	AIIMS - Hume
11-18 Sep	31 Aug 12	UMAP - Hume
14-16 Sep	24 Aug 12	Team Leaders Course - Hume

### WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### Workplace Inspection Reports

As part of the auditing process the Units have been busy finalising the Workplace Inspection Reports. Items raised in this report will be sent to the appropriate committee for discussion and action. Units now need to ensure their action items are completed. Once completed ensure that you notify [tracey.allen@act.gov.au](mailto:tracey.allen@act.gov.au) and [reece.colman@act.gov.au](mailto:reece.colman@act.gov.au)

During the recent IST, trainers were given the draft ACTSES Risk and Hazard form to use during their stand assessment to see if the layout assisted in identifying risks and hazards and ensuring controls were put in place to continue the activity in a safe manner. The feedback from those members who used the form was positive. The form will now be sent out to the Units for use.

### RESPECT, EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

#### What is Diversity?

*Workplace diversity is about recognising the value of individual differences and integrating these into the workplace. Diversity can include gender, language, ethnicity, cultural background, age, sexual orientation, religious belief and family responsibilities.*

There are many forms of diversity in our Units and in the community. The challenge for all of us is to embrace the differences of people, and to ensure that work practices and culture are harmonious. By accepting difference, we open our mind to new ideas and different ways to approach a situation.



## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

*A culture that values diversity is characterised by:*

- *A workforce that reflects the community;*
- *Acceptance and integration of differences in the workplace;*
- *No barriers to employment or other work opportunities;*
- *Diverse skills and knowledge used in the workplace;*
- *Employees not disadvantaged due to their individual differences;*
- *Inclusive policies, practices and behaviours; and*
- *Work/life balance and alternative work arrangements in place to meet the diverse needs of employees.*

The *Discrimination Act 1991* aims to eliminate as far as possible, discrimination in the areas of work and promotes the recognition and acceptance within the community of the equality of men and women.

*ACT Public Service, Respect, Equity and Diversity Framework.*

If you require any further information regarding RED, contact one of the officers below;  
Tracey Allen – [tracey.allen@act.gov.au](mailto:tracey.allen@act.gov.au) or 0478 407 407  
Chris Flanagan – [christopher.flanagan@act.gov.au](mailto:christopher.flanagan@act.gov.au) or 0414 264 170

### COMMUNITY LIAISON MATTERS

#### **Canberra Times Fun Run**

The organisers of the Canberra Times Fun Run have requested 40 volunteers to help with traffic control on Sunday 9 September 2012. This is too much of a commitment for one Unit to take on so it is hoped that this can be a joint effort from all ACTSES Units. Please canvass your volunteers to see if they are interested in helping out on the day and let Clive Gibbs know the names by the 9 August 2012. If you would like to take on the role of SES Commander for this event, email [clive.gibbs@act.gov.au](mailto:clive.gibbs@act.gov.au) with your nomination.

#### **Induction and IST**

As part of the policy review, new processes were implemented for this recruitment round for the new recruits. The feedback received from both the new recruits and the Units have been positive. Please encourage your new recruits to send in any feedback in relation to the recruitment process to [clive.gibbs@act.gov.au](mailto:clive.gibbs@act.gov.au) and training feedback to [john.brothers@act.gov.au](mailto:john.brothers@act.gov.au). The information will be used to finalise the draft policy to ensure that the ACTSES and ESA continues to deliver a high standard of service to the members.

#### **Table of Community Activities**

The following community activities are planned for August, September and October 2012. Please contact Clive Gibbs on 6207 8462 or [clive.gibbs@act.gov.au](mailto:clive.gibbs@act.gov.au) if you are able to assist. Those activities shown in RED below indicate that assistance is still required.



## “Taking Canberra by Storm”

Date	Event	Time	Venue	Type of assistance	# Req	Unit Confirmed
8 Sept	Majura Primary School Fete	10:00-14:00	Majura Primary School	Community Stall Paddy	4-6	Majura Confirmed
9 Sep	Canberra Times Fun Run	09:15	Yamba Dr Phillip to Commonwealth Pk	Traffic Marshalling	40	
13 – 15 Sep	Lifecycle	48hr Charity Cycling Event	Lake Burley Griffin	Traffic Marshalling	5	
28 Sep	National Police Remembrance Day	09:00 – 18:00	National Police Memorial Kings Park	Traffic Management	5-10	Woden Confirmed
27 Oct	Nara Candle Festival	17:00 – 21:00	Peace Park Canberra	Traffic marshalling	25	Woden Confirmed
28 Oct	RFS Open Day	08:00 – 15:30	AFS Hangar Monaro Hwy	Traffic Marshalling	6	Woden Confirmed
4 Nov	Chapman School Fete	12:00-16:00	Chapman Primary School	Display Paddy	4-6	Rivers Confirmed
17 Nov	Harrison School Annual Fair	15:00 – 19:00	Harrison School	Display Paddy	4-6	