

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## International Firefighters' Day

Thursday, 3 May 2018

SA Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) and SA Country Fire Service (CFS) firefighters will pause tomorrow to mark International Firefighters' Day.

International Firefighters' Day, also known as St Florian's\* Day is held on 4 May every year as a day to reflect on the sacrifices firefighters make on a daily basis.

MFS and CFS firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty will be remembered.

MFS Chief Officer, Greg Crossman invited all South Australians to reflect on the contributions made by emergency service personnel, whether they be full-time, retained or volunteers.

"Each day our personnel put their lives on the line to save lives and protect property, preventing and minimising physical and economic loss to the community and it's important that we stop and reflect on this commitment," MFS Chief Officer Crossman said.

Firefighters within modern fire services respond to challenging and diverse emergencies including house fires, bushfires, hazardous material incidents, rescues, road crashes and incidents involving injuries and fatalities.

CFS Chief Officer Greg Nettleton encouraged South Australians to reflect on the significant number of hours volunteers contribute to their communities.

"Each year our volunteers willingly leave the comfort of their home to put themselves in harm's way in an effort to protect their communities.

"Their dedication puts their lives at risk and tragically CFS has lost 15 firefighters over the years, today we reflect on their sacrifice."

International Firefighters' Day also highlights the virtues held by firefighters including tact, loyalty, sympathy, explicitness, gallantry, dexterity, observation and perseverance.

Ten MFS firefighters lost their lives in the line of duty between 1862 and 1977, while 15 CFS firefighters have lost their lives.

**MFS Firefighters will observe the occasion at 8.30 am, Friday 4 May 2018, with a minute's silence at stations across Metropolitan Adelaide and regional South Australia (Port Pirie & Mount Gambier MFS stations).**

For more information about International Firefighters' Day visit [www.firefightersday.org/](http://www.firefightersday.org/)

*\*St Florian is the patron saint of all firefighters and was linked to firefighting in the Roman Empire.*

**For media enquiries telephone the  
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