

# media release

## SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## Firefighters spread the gift of giving this Christmas

Tuesday, 04 December 2018

A firefighter's mother who lost everything in a house fire 30 years ago is now helping a Riverland resident to rebuild after experiencing a devastating house fire.

Her generosity is being facilitated by the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation (APFF) charity, whose members consist of Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) and Aviation Rescue Firefighters (ARFF) who volunteer their time. Country Fire Service (CFS) firefighters are also assisting.

In the early hours of 14 November 2018, the CFS and MFS responded to triple zero calls reporting a house fire at Winkie near Berri.

The home, which was well ablaze when firefighters arrived, could not be saved resulting in an estimated \$80,000 worth of fire damage.

Around the same time, MFS Station Officer Paul McIntosh's mother was moving into aged care, selling her house and wishing to donate her household items.

"I approached the APFF in regards to donating Mum's furniture, white goods and kitchen items to families who may have been affected by fire. That's when I was told about the incident in the Riverland where the occupant was left with nothing," explained Station Officer McIntosh.

"Back in 1989 – 1990 my parents lost their house and belongings in an arson attack. With the help of generous friends and family they managed to get back on track and rebuild what they lost. Having been in a similar situation, I knew my mum would be more than happy to help," MFS Station Officer McIntosh continued.

The APFF is also donating vouchers worth \$1000 to assist with Christmas gifts and will be paying for the cost to deliver the furniture and other items.

A media opportunity will be held in the Riverland on Wednesday 5 December 2018.

**For media enquiries please telephone the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770**

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