

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



Regional MFS stations on parade

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

All 17 regional MFS stations are currently taking part in annual proficiency and operational assessments, to showcase skills, community spirit and commitment to public safety.

The MFS Deputy Chief Officer, Mick Smith and Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith have already visited nine regional stations since assessments began in March.

Three of the most outstanding MFS regional stations will be selected for awards once the assessments are completed by the end of June.

Regional stations are vying for the Regional Commander's trophy, Regional Operations trophy and the highest honour; the Chief Officer's trophy.

MFS Deputy Chief Officer, Mick Smith says despite the element of competition, the visits are designed to be a positive learning and development experience for all firefighters.

"We test their compliance with procedures, safety standards, uniforms, station presentation, appliance care and maintenance and practical fire fighting skills.

"The MFS continues to be impressed with the standard of excellence and community engagement regional firefighters show during their annual assessments," Deputy Chief Officer Smith says.

MFS Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith says while all firefighters are dedicated to helping others, regional firefighters in particular show a strong connection to their community.

"So far the Deputy Chief Officer and I have visited stations at Tanunda, Victor Harbor, Port Pirie, Loxton, Burra, Moonta, Peterborough, Port Lincoln and Murray Bridge, and are very pleased with what we've seen.

"At every station we've been struck by the stories of community engagement we hear that go above and beyond general fire fighting," Commander Smith says.

During the visits several MFS firefighters have received National Medals, 1st and 2nd clasps in recognition of 15, 25 and 35 years of service.

Deputy Chief Officer, Mick Smith and Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith will soon visit MFS stations at Port Augusta, Whyalla, Wallaroo, Kadina, Renmark, Berri, Mount Gambier and Kapunda.

Media wishing to interview Deputy Chief Officer, Mick Smith or Commander of Regional Operations, Chris Smith are encouraged to call the MFS Media Line on 8204 3770.

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

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