

# From The Chief Officer.....



Number 69

*"Our mission is to protect lives and property"* 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## "Control Line" 2012:

Once again, I congratulate the Bayswater Fire Brigade for conducting its ninth annual "Control Line" Masterclass on 16<sup>th</sup> November. This year it attracted over 200 people from 40 agencies across Australia to discuss the theme of: "Dimensions of Leadership". I always hear great reviews from "Control Line" participants. **Operations Manager Mick Harris** told me he has been attending Control Line for a number of years and always finds them stimulating, thought provoking and relevant. I have heard from many who attended that **Police Chief Cynthia Renaud** from Folsom, California provided an outstanding presentation on the complex leadership challenges in the initial stages of major emergencies. **Congratulations to Captain Diana Ferguson and to the Bayswater brigade members** for its outstanding leadership in providing such an excellent forum. "Control Line" has firmly positioned itself as a stellar Masterclass event where emergency managers, leaders and practitioners come together from across the sector to learn and share ideas on how we can better manage emergencies.

## Radio Replacement Program Now Complete:

**Darren Grundy** who is managing the roll-out of the Radio Replacement project, advises that the Transportable Bag Radio program was completed at the end of November. The 7 week program commenced in the north west of the state in early October. Using 3 teams, approximately 110 brigades were visited. 1,749 Transportable Bag Radios were deployed across all Districts without any difficulties. This heralds the final stage of the Radio Replacement Program, which is a significant achievement for CFA. Congratulations and well done to all who were involved in the roll-out!

## 2013 AFAC and Bushfire CRC Conference in Melbourne – Abstracts Invited:

The organising Committee for the 2013 AFAC / Bushfire CRC Conference has invited abstracts for posters and presentations for the conference. In 2013 the conference will be held in Melbourne from September 2 to 5 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The theme for this year's conference is **"Shaping Tomorrow Together"** reflecting that emergency services will need to work together collaboratively with the community and other partners from the education, health, business and research sectors, and all levels of government, to shape our future. The Conference program will address a number of **principle topics:**

- The need for transformational change.
- How emergency management is responding to future challenges.
- Creating public value.
- Large scale disasters. What should be done differently?
- Risk management: taking a risk based approach for the future.

For more information go to: [http://www.afac2013.org/program/call\\_for\\_abstracts](http://www.afac2013.org/program/call_for_abstracts)

## Male Health Victoria

Hard on the heels of the popular **"Movember"**, CFA has recently joined the **Male Health Network** ('MHV'). MHV is an incorporated state-wide professional network and peak body aimed at improving the health and wellbeing outcomes of men and boys. A representative of the CFA Organisational Wellbeing team attended the recent inaugural Male Health Victoria ("MHV") gathering which coincided with International Men's Day on the 19th November 2012. Articles have been posted on CFA News & Media with highlights and information relating to the conference. Brigades and workgroups can register to receive the MHV newsletter directly at the MHV website <http://www.malehealthvic.org.au/> For more information, go to: <http://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/news-in-brief/item/175-.html>

## Traffic Management Points:

A reminder that CFA members will need the new photo ID membership card to get access through Traffic Management Points this fire season. Traffic Management Point Access Stickers can still be obtained for **Private Firefighting Equipment (yellow)** and there is a **Temporary Sticker (Pink)** that can be issued for a particular incident. Contact your District HQ's for issuing of these stickers.

***"Leaders must embrace the idea that no single agency, jurisdiction, or profession can be successful on its own in complex incidents."***  
- Jim Schwartz