

# From The Chief Officer.....



Number 94

*"Our mission is to protect lives and property"*

11<sup>th</sup> October 2013

## CFA Project Expo

CFA is conducting a Project Expo next Monday, 14th October between 10.30 and 3.30 at the Whitehorse Club East Burwood. All CFA members and agency partners are welcome. The Expo provides an opportunity to have a look at the latest CFA projects - including specialist appliances, radio and communication technology, uniforms, warnings, community engagement, heat stress research and training props. There will be presentations from project managers every 20 minutes from 11am until 3pm as well as displays running all day.

## Grampians Region CFA Wins Defence Reserves Employer Support Award:

Recently Acting Grampians Regional Director **Michael Boatman** and CFA Eureka Group **BASO Sherene Mounier (nee Harrison)** attended the Defence Reserves Support Council awards night in Melbourne. Michael, on behalf of RD **Don Kelly**, accepted an employer support award for support shown to Sherene who wears another hat as a Private soldier in the Royal Australian Transport Corps. CFA recognises and congratulates our CFA Defence Reservists. We strive to support our Defence Reservists in their busy and important role.

## Chief Officer's Leadership Development Program'

Over the next 12 months I'll be running a leadership development program for 20 volunteers across the state. The objective of the program is to enhance and broaden members' understanding, capability and confidence as CFA leaders. The focus will be on:

- the importance of introspection and self-reflection;
- relationships, networks and teams;
- personal development;
- Mission Command and the Leaders' Intent;
- leadership in emergency and crisis situations.

The program is supported by the Volunteer Support Program.

## Engaging diverse communities

Congratulations to the **Dandenong Fire Brigade and District 8 staff** on their upcoming community event which will introduce football to over 100 culturally and linguistically diverse children. The event will take place on Thursday 17 October in Dandenong North in **partnership with the AFL**. This is an example of great work brigades do with multicultural communities. If you're interested in better engaging local multicultural communities I encourage you to download the Engaging Multicultural Communities booklet (Brigades Online > Community > Community Development > Engaging Diverse Communities) which provides a range of practical tips and strategies. Hard copies of the booklet are available from [volsupportprogram@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:volsupportprogram@cfa.vic.gov.au) or your district office.

## Level 3 Incident Controller Evaluation

Recently a number of senior officers from CFA HQs have assessed for Level 3 Incident Controller. I have been very impressed with the depth and breadth of evaluation and the practical rigour applied through the process. The first stage was completing numerical and psychometric testing followed by a discussion with an experienced Psychologist. A highlight was the scenario testing at Fiskville. I commend those who put the program together, including those who assessed and questioned. The **Incident Management Training Project Team** are continually learning, taking on feedback, comparing with overseas agencies and adapting. My thanks to **Louise Salter, Alistair Drayton, Emma Court and the whole team**. This is a quality process. Keep up the great effort!

*"Know Thyself"*

- The Dalai Lama