

Colinton Courier

Newsletter of the Colinton Rural Fire Brigade * No 156* November 2014



Vern attends to Jeremy's head-wound

Committee 2014-2015:

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Senior Deputy: Nick Goldie
Deputies: Bob Morison, Jeremy Mears, Michael Burton, Barry Woolacott
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Training Officer: Jeremy Mears
Equipment Officers: Michael Burton, Karl Higgins
Community Awareness: Nick Goldie
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Permits: Graham Povey

NSW RFS Delegate: Jeremy Mears

Call out:

Nil



Total Fire Bans - new penalties:

The NSW Parliament recently passed new and tougher penalties for people who ignore Total Fire Ban declarations.

Under the new legislation offenders may be fined up to **\$132,000 and/or seven years imprisonment** if they light or allow a fire to escape their property on a Total Fire Ban day.

A jury can find someone guilty even if the person was not aware that a Total Fire Ban had been declared.

The new legislation also targets people who throw cigarettes, matches or other "fire objects" from vehicles.



First Aid:

A First Aid course was held at the Colinton station on Saturday and Sunday 25 & 26 October. Sixteen members, including three from Michelago, attended the course, which was presented by Cooma's Vern Dunning and Danny Barker (RFS Bombala). The comprehensive course covers most forms of accident, shock, snakebite, and basic medical procedures.

All NSW fire trucks now carry an AED (a defibrillator), and participants in the course learned to operate this life-saving technology, as well as the traditional CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation).

Every step is guided by the mnemonic DRSABCD:

- Danger – to self and others
- Response – is the casualty responding?
- Send for help
- Airway – clear and unobstructed?
- Breathing – normal?
- CPR
- Defibrillation

✎



EAR (Expired Air Resuscitation): Eliška gets up-close-and-personal

Working Bee:

On Saturday 1 November, several brigade members took part in a working bee to complete the catering trailer under the supervision of Barry (and Catering Officer Julith). The trailer is now almost complete, with internal shelving, drinking and washing water supplies, a generator and spectacular lighting inside and out. Thanks are specially due to Barry for his organisational skills.

✎



An exotic head wound in a cuppa?



Barry and Julith put the finishing touches to the trailer

Membership:

Membership: please pay by cash at training, or cheque to The Treasurer, Colinton Rural Fire Brigade, PO Box 4829, Kingston ACT 2604.

Membership fees: \$20.00 for adults, \$5.00 for juniors. Donations are always welcome. Please provide a return address so a receipt can be mailed to you.

Training:

The Colinton Brigade conducts training every month on the second Saturday, at 2.00 pm at the Station at Colinton. Everyone is welcome.

If possible, crews are asked to arrive at 1330 (1.30 pm) to check the trucks before training.



Michael and Jeremy setting up the lighting for the trailer



Items for **The Colinton Courier** to Nick Goldie at nickgoldie@bigpond.com

02 6235 9190

by the first Saturday each month, or to any Committee member. For production assistance we are grateful to:



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Views expressed in The Colinton Courier are not necessarily those of the editor, the Brigade, or the RFS.



**Essential numbers
Emergency 000**

Fire:

**Cooma Monaro Fire Control
(24 hrs)
1 300 722 164
02-6455 0455**

Fire:

**Captain and Permit Officer:
Graham Povey
02-6454 4150
0419 406 908**





Tony C receives his long-service medal from Captain Graham

Training 2 (Electricity):

Routine training for the Brigade takes place every second Saturday of each month. The November training took an unusual form: qualified electrician David Hogg of the Murrumbateman Brigade gave a presentation on the perils and precautions of rural electricity. Starting with a slide show, he detailed all the various forms of poles, cables, transformers and insulators. He then moved on to the wildly varying designs and set-up of domestic and commercial switchboards and power supplies (not forgetting the occasional totally illegal system in which the meter box is bypassed).

Leaving the air-conditioned training room, we took a critical look at the power supply to the station, with special attention to the dual supply – mains and solar.

The presentation finished with a short video on the theme “Things are not always what they seem” – the special problems that go with illicit drug laboratories, terrorist bomb making, and inept storage of flammables and toxins.

Altogether an interesting but sobering afternoon.



A message from the Captain:

The Fire Season has arrived.

Please make sure that your property is prepared.

Clear gutters, mow grass, remove flammable materials near buildings.

Re-visit your Bush Fire Survival Plan, and make sure every member of the family knows what to do.

Plan for farm animals, domestic animals and pets.

Prepare a survival kit: fire resistant clothing, hat, boots, gloves, mask, goggles, drinking water, portable UHF radio, battery-operated radio for monitoring the news.

Check water sources, pumps, hoses, junctions and tanks.

If you are a brigade member, please let the Call-Out Officer know when you will be available, and when you will be out-of-area.

Don't leave decisions to the last minute!

Contact Cooma Fire Control (6455 0455) or the Brigade for assistance.

