

State Emergency Service **Media Release**



Tuesday, 27 October, 2015

SES Enfield Unit celebrates 50th birthday next month

The SA State Emergency Service's Enfield Unit will celebrate its 50th birthday next month.

One of the oldest and most active State Emergency Service (SES) units, Enfield was originally a Civil Defence unit set up primarily to help the community handle the aftermath if an atomic bomb was dropped on Adelaide.

The unit's colorful history – which includes helping evacuees fleeing Darwin for Adelaide following Cyclone Tracy in 1974 – will be very much to the fore at a celebratory event planned for Saturday, 7 November (from 2.45pm for 3pm) at the unit in Hoods Road, Northfield and attended by about 200 invited guests.

At the event, Enfield Unit Manager Fred Lawrence will provide guests with a brief overview of the unit's history while the Minister for Emergency Services Tony Piccolo will unveil a commemorative plaque.

A small museum has also been set up at the unit featuring a working signal radio, old Civil Defence and SES uniforms, photographs, training manuals and newspaper clippings from the unit's first 30 years.

"We have been very fortunate in finding some of the unit's former unit managers, controllers and members, many of which will be joining us on the day," Mr Lawrence said.

SES Chief Officer Chris Beattie said the Enfield unit had responded to 336 taskings over the past five years.

"Enfield responds not only to day-to-day incidents such as flood and storm damage and search and rescue, but it also has members with a wide range of specialised skills," Mr Beattie said.

"This means it also responds to incidents such as vertical rescue, structural collapse, swiftwater rescue, air observation and confined space rescue, all of which require very specific skills.

"Enfield is also one of our largest units with 52 members, including 10 cadets. About a third of the members have been with the SES for more than five years," Mr Beattie said.

Enfield SES Unit, like all SES units is always on the lookout for new members. Training is held Wednesday nights, from 7pm. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Enfield Unit on 0417 083 413 or the Volunteer Recruitment Hotline on 1300 364 587.

Media are invited to attend the celebratory event at Enfield SES Unit.

Time: 2.45pm for 3pm

Date: Saturday, 7 November, 2015

Where: Enfield SES Unit, Hoods Road, Northfield

For media enquires telephone the SES Media Line on (08) 8211 6176

For SES response in floods or storms telephone 132 500. If the matter is life threatening telephone 000
www.ses.sa.gov.au