

# "WATER OFF"

*NEWSLETTER OF THE  
RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS'  
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
(VICTORIAN BRANCH) INC.*



*February 2025 Vol 30 No 1  
Inc/No: A16839F*

**General Meeting  
\*NOTE\*  
Burnley Complex  
Burnley  
Wed 19th Feb, 2025  
at 10:30am**

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Retired SSO Trevor Watson February 2025

# **“GENERAL MEETING”**

## **Burnley Complex, Burnley**

### **Wednesday 19th Feb, 2025 at 10:30am.**

**Volunteers Required**  
**The Fire Services Museum needs past fire service members to assist on an occasional basis at the Museum**  
**Please contact**  
**Bryan Robertson**  
**0418 129 252**

**All Correspondence to:**  
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RFAV Secretary  
PO Box 93  
Numurkah 3636  
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or email at [rfavic1@gmail.com](mailto:rfavic1@gmail.com)

### **Non financial Members**

Members be advised if your newsletter has an expiry date of 2/1/2020 that means you have not paid your subs since 2019 therefore if no remuneration is received by the 2/1/22 your name will be automatically removed from the mailing list. If, for whatever reason any member is unable to meet this request please do not hesitate to call the secretary, (confidentiality is assured)

## **OFFICE BEARERS**

**President:** Alex Shepherd  
**Vice President:** Sam Capes  
**Sec./Treasurer:** Phil Cleary

### **General Committee:**

Col Harris  
Len Manning  
Mike McCumisky  
Ian Geddes  
Kevin Hede

**“Water Off”**  
**Editorial Staff**  
Colin Harris  
James Harris

## **Valē**

**Kevin Mottershed, Murray Wallis, Ray Quirk,**  
**Bill Killin, Sam Sangwell, Brian Noble.**

We offer our condolences to the families of these members who have gone on to a higher duty.

## **Sick List \* In Care Facility**

**Stan Cameron,**  
**\*Gary Spicer,**  
**John Williams,**  
**Bob Chiron,**  
**John Danby,**  
**Laurie Hookey,**  
**George McIntosh**

**Note:** If you know of any member who may be ill please notify a committee member.

## **Diary Dates**

**“GENERAL MEETING”**  
**Burnley Complex, Burnley**  
**Wed 19th Feb 2025 at**  
**10:30am.**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**EMR discussion and demonstration**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hello all,

First report for 2025! Interesting that it was only a quarter of a century ago we were being warned that planes were going to fall out of the sky and all computers were going to fail because they couldn't cope with clocking to the year 2000, and the world was going back to the Stone Age! Our politicians, newspapers and TV news still dream up things that will send us back to the Stone Age.

Enough of grumbling. Now, I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year with Family and Friends and looking forward to a year filled with love and good will and health. To our Friends and Family who are not enjoying the best of health I hope you feel a lot better soon. Good luck to all in another year. 25 Years ago sounds a lot less than a quarter of a century don't you think?

Alex Shepherd

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## SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT



Hi all,

"Happy New Year" to all our members, partners and families.

Well it's all over for another year and we're starting off with the first "Water Off" for 2025.

I would like to thank all those members who paid their dues. It makes the bank account look healthy again. If you didn't get an account you were up to date, however, there are some members still behind in the dues. If you don't want to be a member any longer, please give me a call.

Our next meeting we will be in class room No. 1 due to work being carried out. (Air conditioning contractors working in our normal meeting place).

Health is always a good topic to talk about at our meetings. An RFA firefighter from the EMR Dept. at Burnley Training Complex is booked as our Guest Speaker to come and talk about what EMR is about, as well as give our members a De-Fib and CPR demonstration. This is a chance for us all to learn about this life-saving skill. You never know when you may need it to help a partner, a neighbour or a stranger on day? You will have a chance to ask many questions.

Once again if anyone would like to take over the secretary/treasurer's job, all they have to do is put their hand up and give me a call. It is a most rewarding position. If it wasn't for my health I would stay on. We don't want to see the RFA close down, because of not finding another Secretary/Treasurer.

Phil Cleary

<p><b>Any enquiries call the Secretary:</b> <b>Mob. 0419 778 161 Email: rfavic1@gmail.com</b></p>
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## R.F.A. Member Trevor J. Watson

(Reg No. 1888 – His Story)

I was running late! The tape recorder I was to purchase had been superseded by a device called a “GoPro.” A snappy little camera which is now in the hands of the R.F.A. editor & can be used to record interviews, guest speakers, new FRV fire appliances and many other things.

Trevor was awaiting my arrival in the Community Centre’s Meeting Room at his retirement village in Vermont. He was bright and chirpy and was eager to tell me many stories about his life in the brigade & beyond. His cheeky grin told me a lot of words were about to be spoken

Trevor resigned from the MFB after serving 16 year. He climbed the dizzy heights to the rank of SSO back in April, 1970 He loved his job as an officer in the M.F.B.

Baby Trevor was born in 1940 at the Royal Women’s Hospital, Carlton. He had four siblings (1 sister and 3 brothers). Young Trevor attended various schools. He started at Fairfield Primary School, onto Bentleigh Primary and then to Brighton Technical School. (What ever happened to our Technical Schools?? – Ed). It was here that Trevor met some fellas who he would later meet, in the M.F.B. (Amazing!) those fellas were: Doug Overton, Brian Snelling (dec), and Dennis Weideman.

I asked Trevor about his early employment years. He started work at the tender age of 15 and a half. His first job was with an insurance company in the accounts section of the fire department! (Was this the beginning of his interest in fire?). As he was nearing 21 years of age, and a pay increase was imminent, the insurance company showed him the door!

Well, it was now time to find a real job! Not some clerical poncy job with an insurance company! He wanted a real job! So, with bold aspirations, Trevor presented himself to the “Orderly Box” at Eastern Hill and asked to see the person in charge and how to get into a fancy fireman’s uniform and wearing a bold brass hat!

Bill Aldridge was the chief at this time, followed by Mr. Jack Patterson. The year was 1962. His first fire was in a lift shaft at the “Raffles Restaurant” in Collins Street, Melbourne. By some sheer coincidence, this was the same eating venue that Trevor visited with his work colleague(s) years before when he was working at the insurance company. The officers in charge of the fire were swearing at each other and the heat was in the ongoing argument as to who was in charge or not, rather than in the small conflagration at the bottom of the lift well!

Trevor told me he worked with some fantastic, lovely and funny people in the MFB. He remembers lots of pranks, jokes, the many false alarms and fires he went to. He mentioned a massive fire at B.W.S. in 19/09/1972. Now, you RFA members will be thinking there was no B.W.S. (beer, wine & spirits) in those days. Well, my friends, B.W.S. stood for Bo Water Scott. The mob which has made 600+ million toilet rolls since its beginning way back when toilet paper was invented. The crew on his appliance from the old Surrey Hills fire station (Stn 21), were left high, cold and wet after all the trucks left the scene, considering they were 2<sup>nd</sup> on scene at this big job. SSO Watson contacted the District Station on his return to station and put his crew and fire truck out of commission due to smoke and heat inhalation. In those days, it was a crew of 2 or 3 firefighters on a fire appliance. (Wow! Unthinkable today!).

# Australian Fire Service Medal – New Year’s Day Honours

## WELL DONE! SSO. MURRAY TALBOT

Murray has spent over half of his 39-year career as FRV’s Firelighting Consequence Awareness Program (Fire-CAP) Coordinator, seeking to positively impact the trajectory of young people engaging in fire risk behaviour.

Murray’s empathetic, research-backed approach is nationally recognised, with the Fire-CAP program playing an instrumental role in rehabilitating young offenders and preventing recidivism.

As well as Murray’s considerable contributions to Fire-CAP, he has extensive experience as an operational fire-fighter.

In fact, it was his 16 years of service on the frontlines of emergency response that initially sparked his interest in safety education.



**The other recipients of this prestigious award are ACFO Mark Gunning & SSO Ben Schmidt.**

## A Little Story from the Past

I remember Lennie Cave from Western District, (43 Station) – Deer Park. I was stationed there for the odd shift back in 1974-5 and I don’t ever remember seeing deer in Deer Park. I suppose all the chemical companies out west killed the deer off years ago? We could probably use some of those chemicals today to eradicate the feral deer which are destroying the Dandenongs and other country areas in Victoria as I write this.

Now, back to the main story: Lennie Cave was an operational Senior Firefighter for many years. He then decided to become a champion driving instructor at the Metropolitan Fire Brigade’s Abbotsford Training College. He was a lovely bloke. Friendly and could tell a few stories. He the nick name of “FLANNEL TRAP” (People can be so unkind!).

The story goes something like this, with the heading of **“Adding insult to injury”**

Our “fearless fireman” Leonard (Flannel Trap) Cave, was picking up some beer money by doing some part time driving. One day, the merry little chap (he wasn’t little by the way) was driving down the highway, when an ignorant motorist chopped him off whilst he was driving his truck. Strangely, our quiet little mate “did the block” and took off after this ignoramus. After a hectic 2 mile chase, our gallant boy caught up with him and cut him off and made him stop in the gutter. Len raced back to the car, ripped the car door open and screamed at the driver “out you!”- I’m going the thump the cr#p out of you! The driver of the said car unwound his 6 foot 2 inch frame and rapidly thumped the daylight out of our fearless Leonard (flannel trap) Cave. Then to round things off 100%, as the driver was leaving the sick and sorry Leonard, a blue van pulled up and out stepped a member of the constabulary who then proceeded to book our mate for driving a heavy vehicle at excessive speed on a public highway!

\*The un-named correspondent signed off - **ALL HEAD, NO BRAINS, but ALL HEART!**

## “Memories”

The other day whilst a couple of tradesmen were installing a new Roller shutter door that our youngest son had organised, I was introduced to them. One raised the question, did I know his late father-in-law **Jack Smith**, who had been a member of the MFB. My reply was incredibly positive. I most certainly do! He was a top firefighter from the old Hoddle Street Station No 10. I assured him he was most fortunate indeed, to have a person of his quality as an in- law. I did not want to waste his time with my ramblings. I left him with a closing comment. We as a society, are enriched because of people like your father-in law.

Well, later that night the old Brian went into overtime with flashbacks & ramblings of a be-gone time. With your indulgencies let us take a walk back to an earlier time in my brigade career, say about 1956/57. Hoddle Street station No10, was a great station. Busy, lots of calls, District Station for the old “B” District; many of the staff there, had not only great life experience skills but also were top firefighters. Remember no BAs on the Big Red Trucks back in those days. The following are some names that kept me from sleep. Bert Price, George Tanner, Danny Moriarty, Ross Coulter, Cliff Jorgensen, Clarrie Guthrie, Jack Steele, Bert Manning, Don Cameron, Bill McPherson, Merv Thatcher, Frank Hodgson, Danny Dickerson, Ivan Nunn, Kevin Motterhead & Jack Smith. Yes, I will have missed some of the rest of the crew however, that was more than enough to give you an idea. Now if I kept on with the names the old brain would have gone into melt-down! I hope this will jog the memories of other retirees. The Lord Raglan Hotel, the Hamburger shop, both gone due to the intersection roadway change. The reason I mentioned them you more than likely have heard of them? The Lord Raglan, most may have had a celebration drink or 2 for birthdays or whatever. In my case a celebrating drink for my forth-coming wedding day, back in 58. The Hamburger shop supplied many a late-night meal, or as in one case a boxing ring for one of the off-duty Station Officers who sorted out the three mugs who had attacked his son. I kid you not, he was very capable, especially in a storm. Here is another piece of useless info. Some years later, Bert Manning, when as an Assistant Chief Officer, given the task of establishing the Fire Protection department, I was instructed by the duty Station Officer at No 1 to report to Mr Manning’s office! On arrival and after been invited in, he informed me he was looking for a typist! My reply, sorry Boss! I am a one finger typist (I think someone had set him up telling him I was one?). Well, you should have heard him go off. Get out of my office, with a number of choice words! You little “S” added. My reply. Does that mean you do not need me boss? Both were laughing as I left his office. Good Times. I can only guess what would happen today. Yes, you are correct, I am from a bygone time and loving it!

Cheers Ant (Retired Superintendent - John Berry)

### **Peer support is available to Retired Firefighters and Associated Members**

#### **FRV**

**Employee Assistance Coordinator**

**Irina Tchernitskaia – PH: 0407 665 174**

**Email:- [irina.tchernitskaia@frv.vic.gov.au](mailto:irina.tchernitskaia@frv.vic.gov.au)**

**Peer Coordinators**

**Chloe Henderson PH: 0417 538 289**

**Scott Darcy PH: 0429 771 849**

**Email:- [sdarcy@frv.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdarcy@frv.vic.gov.au)**

**Retirees**

**John Howe PH: 9729 0984—MO: 0417 112 993**

**Tony Branchflower Retired SSO MO: 0400 695 622**

**Peer Coordinator Trent Egan**

**PH: 0448 071 299**

**Email:- [Careerpeercoordinator@frv.vic.gov.au](mailto:Careerpeercoordinator@frv.vic.gov.au)**

## **NOTICE**

**For all future RFA membership payments, electronic transfers, internet banking etc RFA new banking details are as follows:**

**GOULBURN MURRAY**

**Credit Union**

**BSB 803 078 - Account No 37460**

**Any queries, contact:  
Phil Cleary - Secretary**

## **Firefighter Jennifer Wood**



Earlier this year, mum of six Jennifer Wood graduated as a member of FRV's newest recruit cohort. Since completing her training at the FRV Academy in Craigieburn, Jenn has been stationed at FS26 Croydon.

Tell us a bit about yourself:

I started as a Recruit Firefighter in February and graduated at the end of June. Before that, I was a stay-at-home mum for nine years. I've got six young kids between the ages of nine and three.

I'm originally from overseas – I came to Australia to do a doctorate degree in physio and then ended up staying here and meeting my partner.

You obviously have a busy home life with six young kids! What made you want to become a firefighter? At my eldest's kinder, one of the dads was a firefighter. I loved hearing his stories and asking about the job. The more I learnt about it, the more I knew firefighting was something I wanted to pursue. However, with young kids I really needed to wait until I had the time and ability to commit to the role.

When they opened applications last time, my youngest twins were two, and it felt like the right time for me to go for my dream job. I thought I'd just give it a try because it usually takes a few years to get in. I worked hard and got lucky – it worked out the first time.

Tell us about your recruitment experience – how long did it take for you to join FRV, and what was the process like for you?

It's a huge process. FRV hosted a presentation by the Women's Support unit (WSU) over Teams. [The presentation made it clear that women were encouraged to apply regardless of their previous experience.] They said, "Even if you've been a stay-at-home mum, we welcome your application."

There was also an emphasis on visiting stations to see what it's like in the job. I think I did nine station visits, and with each visit I learnt more and more. People were so willing to give me their time, which reaffirmed that joining FRV was something I wanted to do.

I had to work a lot on the physical side of things. A friend who's already a firefighter got me in early to show me how heavy the hoses are. I realised that I needed to put more time into strength training. I'd always been a regular at the gym, but I changed my focus to help develop my strength. I also learnt some techniques to manage the equipment, which is another huge part of it.

I enjoyed the recruitment process. It took a lot longer than what I thought, but the extra time helped me better understand the job.

How did your time at the FRV Academy prepare you for the job?

The Academy is quite different to station life, but they've a lot to teach you in a short period of time. It's amazing how many props we had to work with at the Academy, which helped prepare me for the basics. That's what you need before going out on station and experiencing incidents in real life.

## Fire Rescue Victoria – Emergency Medical Response

**At our February R.F.A. General Meeting, we have a specialist EMR presentation**



In Victoria, calls to Triple Zero (000) for a person who is unconscious, not breathing or has no pulse, are responded to by Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) firefighters in addition to the nearest ambulance.

Since 2001, firefighters in metropolitan Melbourne have been trained to perform EMR as part of their emergency response role, being dispatched at the same time as Ambulance Victoria (AV) paramedics to life threatening emergencies. This EMR response was extended to outer metropolitan and regional areas in Victoria in 2008. Since 2011 the EMR program has been rolled out to all FRV stations in Victoria.

Since the implementation of FRV EMR the community has benefited from quicker response times resulting in improved outcomes for many patients. New data from Ambulance Victoria (Jan 2020) confirms that Victoria is one of the safest places in the world to have a cardiac arrest. FRV EMR is one of the positive contributing factors to this statistic.

Emergency Medical Response (EMR) aims to improve survival rates by reducing response times to patients in sudden cardiac arrest and other conditions that present an imminent threat to life. As a part of their role, FRV Firefighters can expect to attend a number of different medical emergencies such as; cardiac arrest, stroke, drowning, anaphylaxis and drug overdose.

FRV's response to medical emergencies is additional to the normal ambulance response - firefighters do not take the place of Ambulance Victoria paramedics. Firefighters work with paramedics to provide the quickest medical intervention possible, in order to better the chance of survival. FRV EMR trained firefighters are currently first on scene at approximately 50 per cent of calls they are responded to.

FRV Firefighters complete specialist EMR training where they learn skills such as advanced CPR, supply oxygen and first aid, use of defibrillators and how to respond to many other life-threatening medical scenarios.

Once qualified in EMR, FRV firefighters are required to take part in ongoing training each year that is facilitated by Ambulance Victoria, to keep their EMR knowledge and skills up to date. They must also complete a recertification course every 3 years.

FRV Firefighters are supported in their role as emergency medical responders by clinical follow-up sessions provided by Ambulance Victoria as well as operational debriefs where questions can be answered and lessons learned.

FRV provides a broad range of services to their EMR Firefighters to support them to deal with the trauma they are exposed to in this role. These support services include psychological services, proactive and ongoing preventative mental health programs, regular wellbeing checks, counselling and coaching.

It is a high priority for FRV to ensure that it maintains a supportive organisational structure and team culture both on and off station to effectively support its EMR responders and keep them functioning at their best.

## **The Quiet Alarm: Caring for Your Mental Health is not Selfish**

Leaving active service is a major life change especially for firefighters. It often means a dramatic change in routine. The responsibilities, discipline, and sacrifices like missing out of the Christmas family dinners are already challenging. When you leave the service, – everything changes almost overnight. What used to be a busy, structured life can now feel quiet and empty. As the sirens fade - so too, can the distractions of work. This calm and peaceful situation can bring unresolved trauma and PTSD into the forefront of your mind.

This article explores how active service affects your mental health. It also examines the impact of unprocessed trauma or PTSD on you and your loved ones. Finally, it offers three practical strategies to help you stay mentally strong.

### **The Ripple Effect on Partners and Friends**

Firefighters are familiar with destruction, suffering and loss. After years of responding to emergencies you have seen it all. Those situations and experiences often leave a lasting impression of distress.

On the job, camaraderie among peers can help to ease the emotional burden. The shared understanding of traumatic and horrible experiences creates a support no one else can provide in those moments.

When active service ends, this dynamic shifts. The structure and rhythm of work disappears, leaving space for past experiences to resurface. Nightmares, flashbacks, and guilt may emerge. Without the built-in support of peers, many former firefighters feel isolated and alone.

Unprocessed trauma doesn't just affect you; it also impacts those closest to you—especially your partner. They may not fully understand the depth of firefighting trauma or know how to help. Sharing distressing memories can unintentionally burden them, leaving them feeling helpless, anxious, or even frustrated. In some cases, this can lead to “second-hand trauma,” where your loved one experiences stress from trying to support you. Acknowledging your trauma and validating your feelings can create a supportive environment for healing. Without this, unresolved trauma can lead to mood swings, withdrawal, and strained communication, which may create distance in your relationships over time.

### **Why Professional Counselling Matters**

Seeking professional help doesn't mean you're weak—it means you've been strong for too long. Allowing yourself to work with a counsellor can be a critical step in healing trauma and PTSD. Professional counselling offers a safe, judgment-free space where you can talk openly about your experiences. A therapist can help you process your trauma, identify triggers, and develop personalized coping strategies.

Counselling can also help you improve communication with your loved ones, fostering understanding and mutual support.

### **Three Practical Strategies to Stay Mentally Strong**

While counselling is essential, there are other steps you can take to maintain your mental health. Incorporating these into your routine can restore stability and improve well-being:

**Stay physically and mentally active:** Exercise releases endorphins, which boost mood and reduce stress. Activities like running, team sports, or swimming improve physical health, while hobbies like yoga or fishing nurture your mind.

**Engage in hobbies:** Pursue activities you enjoy or have always wanted to try, such as gardening, dancing, or public speaking. These hobbies can bring joy and a sense of accomplishment.

**Volunteer:** Join a community group or mentor younger people in their pursuits. Staying connected with former colleagues through regular coffee catch-up's or meetings can also maintain a sense of camaraderie.

## **A New Chapter – new beginnings**

Leaving active service doesn't mean leaving behind your identity as a firefighter. Instead, it's an opportunity to start a new chapter. One where you can explore possibilities, heal from the past, and build a fulfilling life outside the firehouse.

Taking care of your mental health is a key part of this journey. It requires the same courage you've shown throughout your career. Addressing past traumas and seeking help can make this transition smoother and more peaceful.

### **Remember:**

You have faced fires, chaos, and emergencies.

Facing yourself with honesty and care is the bravest act of all.

Written by:

**Julie Wacker | Counsellor & Life Coach | E: [me@juliewacker.com.au](mailto:me@juliewacker.com.au) | P: (03) 8007 2065**

## **New Year's Eve – Fireworks & Injuries**

(An article from ex-MFB Ken Copeland, living in Holland)

### **Mad with fireworks:**

Plastic surgeons have treated 62 fireworks victims so far. That is 8 more than last year, reports the Dutch Society for Plastic Surgery. Of all victims, half were under eighteen years old.

The majority of the victims were treated around New Year's Eve. Only 16 percent had already sustained injuries before December 30. **Among other things, five hand amputations were performed. Eighteen fingers and six thumbs were also lost.**

"The severity of the injuries remains worrying, with many young victims and serious amputations as a result of illegal fireworks," says plastic surgeon Annkatrinen van de Kar

A growing number of police officers have had enough of the way they become targets during the New Year festivities and are accusing the government of failing to act to end the chaos, the AD reported on Monday afternoon. They also want an immediate ban on consumer fireworks.

The claim is made in an internal police memo and gives "an in-depth view of the frustration and desperation within the police force," the paper said.

During the New Year celebrations, police and emergency service workers came under attack in a number of towns and villages, and over 200 people were arrested. In Amsterdam, riot police fired warning shots and in Culemborg they used teargas to break up the mobs.

There are similar incidents every year and this is making both police officers and their families fear for their safety, the memo said, adding that "there is a systematic lack of respect and appreciation for emergency service workers."

The memo calls for a nationwide ban on consumer fireworks and more serious punishments for people who attack the police and **fire brigade**. "Many police officers feel the current strategy of talking tough and doing little is far from enough," the paper said.

# Australia Day – “To become True Blue”

## (The Un-Official Guide to become a Real Aussie – by a Bogan friend in Queensland)

The content of Australia’s “New Citizen Questionnaire” has received quite a bit of publicity lately and we believe that to truly assimilate you should be able to answer the following:

### **LANGUAGE:**

Do you understand the meaning, but unable to explain the origin of the term “died in the a#se?”

Are these terms related: Chuck a sickie, chuck a spaz or chuck a Uey?

Explain the following passage: “In the arvo last Chissey, the rels rocked up for a barbie, some bev-vies and a few snags. After a Bex and a lie down, we opened the pressies, scoffed all the chock-ies, bickies and lollies. Then we drained a few tinnies and later on, Mum did her block after Dad and Steve had a barney and had a biffa.”

### **CUSTOMS:**

Macca, Chooka and Wayno are driving to Surfers Paradise in their Torana. If they are travelling at 100km/h while listening to Barnsey, Farnsey and Acca Dacca, how many slabs of beer will each person on average consume between flashing a brown eye and having a slash?

Complete the following sentences:

“If the van is rockin’ don’t bother .....?”

“You’re going home in the back of a .....wagon?”

“Fair suck of the .....?”

Have you ever been on the giving or receiving end of a wedgie?

Do you have a friend or relative who has a car in their front yard “up on blocks?” Is his name Keith and does he have a wife called Cheryl?

### **FOOD:**

Does your family regularly eat a dish involving mincemeat, cabbage, curry powder & a packet of chicken noodle soup, called Chow Mein, Chop Suey or Kai See Ming?

What are the ingredients in a rissole?

Demonstrate the correct procedure for eating a Tim Tam?

What purple root vegetable beginning with the letter “B” must be in a hamburger?

### **CULTURE:**

Do you own or have you ever owned a lawn-mower, a pair of thongs, an Esky or Ugg boots?

Who is the most Australian, Kevin “Bloody” Wilson, John “True Blue” Williamson, Kylie Minogue or Warnie?

Is there someone you are only mates with because they own a tractor or have a pool?

Would you love to have a beer with Duncan? And Why?

## Those Courageous Firefighters from the Past

(An MFB Report Form, dated 19/03/84 stated the following from the past)

“The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1920, instructed the Chief Officer Mr. H. B. Lee to report on the availability of obtaining a standard medal or other recognition to be awarded by the Board in cases of outstanding bravery.”

Resulting from Mr. Lee’s recommendations the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board Valour Medal was instituted during 1921.

This article will be in the next edition of Water Off.

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