



THE FIRE SERVICE FUND

2023 NEWSLETTER



**THE FIRE
SERVICE FUND**

Established 1936

THIS ISSUE

CHAIR'S REPORT

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

S.T.R.

WE WANT YOU

2022 RETIREMENT SOCIAL

RETIREE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

FALLEN FIREFIGHTER

FIRE SERVICE CREDIT UNION

SAFSRA

SAMFS GOLF CLUB

FSF BENEFITS

PROPERTY NEWS

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Firstly, welcome to the 2023 edition of the Fire Service Fund's newsletter.

Since our last newsletter, the Fund has once again been extremely busy during a period of transition following the COVID pandemic, as it continues to strive to provide the very best support and contemporary range of benefits to our members.

In addition to our core business, the Fund has been actively involved in a variety of other activities, with a brief snapshot provided below.

2022 Jack Crossman Memorial Retirement Social

Following the successful coordination and conduct of the 2018 and 2019 retirement socials on behalf of the Firefighter's Club, the Fund once again played a lead role in last year's function.

Despite several changes in date due to COVID restrictions, the annual retirement social was finally held on 12 August 2022 at the Festival Function Centre, Findon. With over 300 attendees the night provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise, reminisce, and celebrate the service and contribution of our retirees.

2023 MFS Retiree Presentation Ceremony

Notwithstanding the high number of retirees that were acknowledged at last year's retirement social, there was a significant number of former staff who were unable to attend the function. Although these staff would normally be provided with an opportunity to be formally recognised the following year, increased retirements has made this option increasingly difficult.

Consequently, the MFS and FSF collectively coordinated an interim retiree presentation ceremony at Adelaide Station on Thursday, 30 March 2023, where 17 retirees were formally recognised for their service.

Herbert Hedger Memorial Upgrade/Rededication

After our successful efforts in coordinating the funding and dedication of a memorial for Fireman Albert Greenman at West Terrace Cemetery in 2021, the Fund was recently involved in the restoration of the grave site of Fireman Herbert Hedger who lost his life after attending a fire in Adelaide in January 1914.

This project involved full refurbishment works to the headstone, footings, and perimeter structure, and represents a fitting tribute to the memory of one of our former firefighters who sadly lost their life in the line of duty.

CHAIR'S REPORT *(cont)*

MFS Wellness Program

The Fund currently commits \$5,000 per annum towards the MFS Wellness Program, and although this contribution was not expended during the 2021/22 financial year, these allocated funds accumulate each year. Consequently, in late 2022 the Fund contributed \$10,000 towards rehabilitation equipment that had been specifically selected in consultation with the MFS Wellness Department for the Noarlunga Command Fire Station.

Financial Overview

The Fund's performance in FY 2021/22 resulted in an operating profit of \$25,682, which reflects effective budgetary planning and financial management by our Managers and Committee of Management. During this period, the Fund provided \$158,752 in benefits to its members representing a \$28,502 increase from the previous year and contributed \$11,041 in donations to MFS clubs and organisations.

PROPERTY NEWS

Pleasingly, despite the COVID Control measure of a one day separation between bookings and periodic cancellations due to COVID infection affecting rentals levels, our properties have still proven popular amongst our members with an average occupancy rate of 55%.

A range of home improvements/maintenance works have also been made to our R&R properties, including repainting, TV upgrades, gutter and downpipe replacements, and a range of garden refurbishments and modifications. Capital work upgrades to the ground and first floor of our Chancery Lane property occurred prior to a new rental tenant moving in during August 2022.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Fund Managers

Our two Fund Managers, Noel and Fiona, have worked tirelessly on a day-to-day basis to support our members and ensure that business operations are maintained to a high standard. Noel and Fiona not only experienced an increased workload resulting from the pandemic but were heavily involved in all phases of the 2022 Jack Crossman Memorial Retirement Social. Without their efforts, commitment, and support, the Fund would not be able to meet its objectives and assist our members in a timely manner. Additionally, I would also like to thank Rodney Reynolds for his continued efforts over the last year. Despite stepping down from the Fund as an Assistant Fund Manager a few years ago, Rodney has maintained a valuable contract based supporting role managing our financial accounts in the cloud.

Committee of Management

I would also like to thank the Committee of Management (Chris Smith, David Scarce, Mike Pearce, John Bowes, Richard Gray, Anthony Brice, Peter Mason, Adam Waller, David Green, and Paul Mann) for their continued commitment and contribution to the Fund. They not only give up their time through their attendance at our monthly committee meetings, but regularly engage in the maintenance of our properties, and other supporting activities.

Fire Service Family Agencies

Once again, the Fund is reliant on the support from the Fire Service Family agencies to effectively promote and achieve its objectives. In particular, the Fire Service Credit Union has been instrumental to our success, therefore I would like to sincerely thank the CEO, Trish Ireland and the FSCU staff for their continued support during the year. Likewise, I would like to also acknowledge the wonderful support provided by the Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation. The Fund remains committed to assisting its members and families during their time of need, and this has been enhanced through the collaborative financial support that has been provided by both agencies.

Additionally, I would like to thank Employee Support Coordinator Brian Moon for his professionalism and conscientious approach to his role. Brian has developed a strong and enduring relationship with the Fund, and has been a valuable advocate in support of our members who may require and benefit from our assistance.

Finally, I would like to thank Chief Officer Michael Morgan who is the Patron-of-the-Fund for his continued support and strong interest in our endeavors. He remains a positive supporter for the work that we do and provides valuable representation when required.

Peter Reynolds

Chair

IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

In November 2022, the Fire Service Fund held its annual dinner where several guests were formally recognised for their outstanding service and contribution to the Fund. During the dinner Acting Chief Officer, Paul Fletcher AFSM was invited to present Life Membership certificates to Richard Gray AFSM, Anthony Brice, and Noel Johnson. Additionally, the Fund Chair, Peter Reynolds had the pleasure of presenting 'Certificates of Appreciation' to Carol Langley and Bill Warburton for their support and service to the Fund and its members.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Richard Gray AFSM - Joined FSF Committee - Oct 2006



Acting Chief Officer Paul Fletcher and Richard Gray

In recognition of his outstanding contribution, long and dedicated service to the Fund, and in particular the Committee of Management.

Richard is one of our longer serving Committee Members and has been active both at Committee Meetings and with The Fund's houses. Apart from working bees Richard was responsible for and managed installation of solar heating to Normanville and Black Point. He also undertook, with assistance of his son, to re-key all the Fund's houses so that only one key needed to be issued to tenants, whilst Caretakers and Committee could use a "master key" to operate all locks including off-limit storerooms.

Richard is currently on leave as he transitions to retirement, therefore we wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

Anthony Brice - Joined FSF Committee – Jun 2009

In recognition of his outstanding contribution, long and dedicated service to the Fund, and in particular the Committee of Management.

Anthony is also a long serving Committee Member. Apart from his regular attendance at active participation on a range of issues at Committee meetings, Anthony, over the years has put a lot of time, effort and travel looking after and improving The Fund's house properties. Anthony has been and continues to be one of the go-to people when we have a problem at one of the houses. At times he has left at short notice to visit a property for some problem or other, whilst during his regular visits he does a thorough inspection and reports back to management of issues requiring or will soon need to require attention.

Anthony Brings valuable carpentry and other practical building skills to his work, which has been reflected in the quality installation of the stained-



Acting Chief Officer Paul Fletcher and Anthony Brice

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Noel Johnson - Joined FSF as Manager - 1998



Acting Chief Officer Paul Fletcher and Fund Manager, Noel Johnson

In recognition of his outstanding contribution, long and dedicated service to the Fund, and its members.

Noel commenced with the Fund in 1998, bringing extensive financial, administrative skills & expertise to the position. His contribution and efforts as a manager are unparalleled and are instrumental in the Fund's success. Notably in overseeing the R&R property changes and the running of our current properties.

Noel consistently provides sound judgement, systematic approach, unwavering support, and practical advice to the Committee. As a highly accomplished wordsmith, his comments are an enjoyable highlight.

He has developed a strong and positive rapport with key stakeholders ensuring the Fund's objectives are achieved.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Carol Langley - Fire Service Credit Union

In recognition of her outstanding service and support to the Fund, and its members.

Prior to her retirement, Carol was a popular and long-standing member of the FSCU team, and was congratulated for her long and dedicated service, and thanked for the excellent service that she provided to our Managers and members for over 20 years.

Carol was always prepared to take on our various and not infrequent requests and problems at any time, with good grace and a helpful attitude. These extended from queries and problems with The Fund's banking arrangements and accounts through to bookings and queries of The Fund's properties.

Whilst we have always and continue to receive the same very high level of service and "helpfulness" from all Credit Union staff, the fact that Carol spent most time "on the front counter" made her the "go-to" person for such a long period, Carol – we thank you for your commitment, support, and services.



FSF Chair, Peter Reynolds and Carol Langley

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Bill Warburton - Fund's Painting/Maintenance Contractor.



FSF Chair, Peter Reynolds and Bill Warburton

In recognition of his outstanding service and support to the Fund, and its members.

For nearly 20 years Bill and his team have been on-tap to support the Fund's painting program across our properties. Bill has not only undertaken painting and associated maintenance on an annual basis but has always made himself available at short notice to address urgent repairs or undertake remedial work.

Bill has also offered his invaluable advice in recommending contemporary colour schemes to further modernise our properties.

In addition to our four R&R homes, Bill has also undertaken painting and modernising of our Chancery Lane property, which involved the opening of the ground floor office area prior to the occupancy of our new tenants.

WE WANT YOU

Have you considered becoming a member of the Fund's Committee of Management?

The Fund is keen to attract enthusiastic and hard-working individuals from across the MFS who have a desire to make a positive contribution towards the welfare and wellbeing of its members. In particular, we are looking for younger members from the organisation who not only possess some social media skills, but those can offer some fresh ideas and new approaches in the work that we do to ensure that we meet the contemporary needs of our members.



If you believe that you have the necessary skills, determination, and willingness to make a difference, and are looking for some further challenges within our dynamic team environment, we look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you would like any further information regarding a potential position on the Fund's Committee of Management, please do not hesitate to contact either myself, current Committee members or one of the Fund Managers (Noel Johnson & Fiona Ward)

We look forward to hearing from you soon and joining our outstanding team!!!

S. T. R.

Stroke: Remember the first three letters

Stroke Identification - It only takes a minute to read this.

A stroke is always a medical emergency. The longer a stroke remains untreated, the greater the chance of stroke-related brain damage.

The symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. The lack of awareness on how to check for a stroke can lead to disaster.

A Neurologist says that he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke... totally. The trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed and correct medical care to the stroke victim within those 3 hours.

RECOGNIZING A STROKE – S.T.R. The 3 steps

S - Ask the individual to smile, check if the smile is lopsided or only one side of the mouth lifts. Then ask them to stick out their tongue. Check if the tongue is crooked and/or goes to one side.

T - Ask the individual to talk, speak a simple sentence like “I love Chicken Soup”. Check if the words show any slurring, is the pronunciation the same as their normal voice.

R - Ask the individual to raise both of their arms and keep them up for 30 seconds.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 000 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

It's estimated more than 27,400 Australians will have a stroke for the first time this year, that's one stroke every 19 minutes.

For further information:

- <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/stroke>
- <https://strokefoundation.org.au>

2022 JACK CROSSMAN MEMORIAL RETIREMENT SOCIAL

After a three year hiatus resulting from the COVID pandemic the Jack Crossman Memorial Retirement Social finally returned as one of the key events on the fire service calendar. In 2022, a new location and format was sought to cater for the increased number of retirees, and on Friday, 12 August 2022, over 300 guests attended the Festival Function Centre, Findon to not only recognise and celebrate the service of 42 retirees, but pause and reflect on the service of four former serving members who had sadly lost their lives since the 2019 retirement social.



The venue not only afforded ample room to support the participant numbers, but provided good food, popular beverages and wonderful ambience, and will once again be used to host this year's function on Friday, 18 August 2023. Despite the high number of recipients, the Master-of-Ceremonies, Scott Rogers not only ensured that the function ran smoothly, but added his own personal touch of humour throughout the night.



The Master-of-Ceremonies, Scott Rogers



Peter Mason providing the opening address

Notwithstanding the delivery of the Vale Address by Peter Mason that recognised the passing of former MFS staff, the most poignant part of the night comprised the remembrance and presentation of gifts by the Chief Officer, Michael Morgan, and the CEO FSCU, Trish Ireland to the widows and families of four former serving members listed below.



MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan delivers his address

David MCKENZIE	
Start Date:	- 16 February 1987
Passed Away:	- 27 July 2019
Years of Service:	- 32 years and 5 months
Rank:	- Senior Firefighter
Served:	- Adelaide, Norwood, Glen Osmond, Angle Park, and Oakdon
Awards:	- National Medal with 1 st Clasp - MFS Exemplary Service Medal

Graham VASS	
Start Date:	- 18 July 1983
Passed Away:	- 30 November 2019
Years of Service:	- 36 years and 4 months
Rank:	- Station Officer
Served:	- Ridgehaven, Golden Grove, Largs North, Adelaide, Special Operations, and Learning & Development
Awards:	- National Medal with 1 st and 2 nd Clasp - MFS Exemplary Service Medal

Andrew ECKERT	
Start Date:	- 11 March 1985
Passed Away:	- 2 April 2020
Years of Service:	- 35 years
Rank:	- Station Officer
Served:	- Thebarton, Brooklyn Park, Adelaide, Glen Osmond, and Wellness & Safety
Awards:	- National Medal with 1 st and 2 nd Clasp - MFS Exemplary Service Medal

Jamie WILLIAMS	
Start Date:	- 4 September 2006
Passed Away:	- 15 June 2020
Years of Service:	- 13 years and 9 months
Rank:	- Senior Firefighter
Served:	- Adelaide, Elizabeth, and Communications
Awards:	- MFS Exemplary Service Medal

During the function, Chief Officer Morgan not only acknowledged the wonderful commitment, dedicated service, and amazing work of the retirees, but also thanked the families for the support that they had provided throughout the careers of each recipient.

Each individual presentation was supported by a power-point presentation displayed throughout the venue that included the recipient's photo (Some markedly different to today) and service history, which was well coordinated by retired member and IT Guru, Trevor Ward.



Trevor Ward coordinating the AV requirements on the night



Reminiscing by current & former Regional Operations staff

Following the formal presentation to all retirees, Billy Boyle provided a response on behalf of all retirees, and despite his reluctance and modest approach to public speaking, his words of wisdom resulted in a standing ovation.



Billy Boyle responding on behalf of the retirees



Billy Boyle receives a standing ovation

In addition to recognising the retirees, the evening also afforded an opportunity to acknowledge the commitment and contribution that the Fire Service Credit Union (FSCU) has provided to its members over the last 50 years.



The FSCU's 50th Anniversary Cake



Jeff Swann & FSCU staff cutting the 50th anniversary cake

Since 1972, the FSCU has provided wonderful financial support, tailored specifically to the needs of emergency service members and their families, and has played an integral role in the success of the annual retirement socials. Once again the FSCU kindly managed table bookings and payments, arranged nametags, and assisted with seating on the night, and to celebrate this important milestone, the FSCU kindly provided dessert in the form of a 50 year anniversary cake.

Congratulations to the FSCU on this fantastic achievement, and many thanks to Trish Ireland and the wonderful FSCU team for their amazing efforts and continued support towards the running of this very important event.



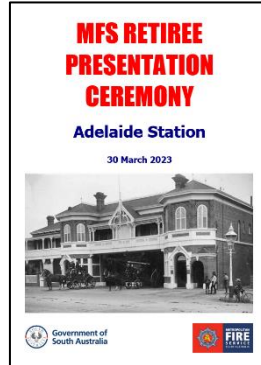
*Additional photos available via the SAFSRA website (<https://safsra.com.au/jack-crossman-memorial-retirement-social/nggallery/jack-crossman-memorial-retirement-social/2022-retirement-social>)

Finally, in addition to the fabulous efforts of the FSCU staff, it would be remiss not to acknowledge the hard work and efforts of the Organising Committee and support staff that contributed to the success of this event. Consequently, special thanks to Noel & Fiona from the Fund (Liaison with retirees and coordination of gifts), Peter Mason (Host), Scott Rogers (MC), Trevor Ward (IT Guru), Chris Smith (Photographer), Heather Dunstone & Jessica Graham (Service history), and Vicki Jurasic (Certificates of Service) for their contribution and support.

Peter Reynolds
Function Coordinator

2023 MFS INTERIM RETIREE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Despite a strong attendance of retirees at the 2022 Jack Crossman Memorial Retirement Social, there were still a further 37 retirees including seven regional members, who were either unavailable or unable to attend at the last minute due to COVID infection who had yet to be formally recognised for their service. Whilst these staff would normally be invited to attend and be acknowledged at the following year's retirement social, based on the current high separation levels and increasing number of new retirees it was identified that there would be limited capacity to appropriately recognise the service of all members at one annual function.



Following discussions with the Chief Officer which highlighted the above challenges, approval was provided to conduct a Retiree Presentation Ceremony at Adelaide Station with support from the FSF. Consequently, on Thursday, 30 March 2023, 17 retirees were recognised for their service in the engine room at Adelaide Station.



Attending retirees prior to the presentation



Attending VIPs, distinguished guests, family, and friends

The ceremony was conducted by the Master-of-Ceremonies, Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Greg Howard, and although it could not fully replicate the atmosphere experienced at the annual retirement socials, it still offered a wonderful opportunity to formally recognise and celebrate the service and contribution of the attending MFS retirees in front of their peer group and families.



CMDR Peter Reynolds and A/ACFO Greg Howard at the start of the ceremony



MFS executive team, senior management, and on-shift personnel

Prior to the introduction and presentation of each retiree, the Chief Officer provided a short address where he thanked the 17 retirees for their dedicated service, and acknowledged the valuable support of their families. Mr Morgan not only discussed the broad depth of positions and skills of the retirees, but highlighted the 614 years of collective service, with an average of 36 years per person that had been provided to the MFS and SA community by the recipients.



MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan delivers his address



Trish Ireland & DCO Fletcher presenting retirement gifts to Phil Marsden

Following the Chief Officer's address, the Master-of-Ceremonies introduced each retiree and provided them with an opportunity to discuss any memorable highlights from their career, prior to each retiree receiving their retirement gifts from Chief Officer Morgan, Deputy Chief Officer Fletcher, and Trish Ireland.

After the presentations, former Commander, Allan Foster who was the longest serving attending retiree with 42 years of service, provided an informative response on behalf of all recipients that focused on the extensive changes and improvements that had occurred during the careers of the recipients, and the amazing camaraderie and friendships that had been forged during this period of service with the MFS.



Allan Foster responding on behalf of the retirees



Post ceremony refreshments in the engine room

*Additional photos available via the SAFSRA website (<https://safsra.com.au/jack-crossman-memorial-retirement-social/nggallery/jack-crossman-memorial-retirement-social/mfs-retiree-presentation-ceremony-30-march-2023>)

The ceremony concluded with a presentation to retired MFS member, Trevor Ward who was formally recognised for his outstanding contribution and support to the annual retirement social and retired members, and was followed by drinks and refreshments in the engine room.

Finally, special thanks to Noel & Fiona from the Fund (Liaison with retirees and coordination of gifts), Greg Howard (MC), Chris Smith (Photographer), Vicki Jurasic (Certificates of Service), and B Shift crews from Adelaide Station for their contribution and support in facilitating this event.

Peter Reynolds
Event Coordinator

HERBERT BRAND HEDGER – FALLEN FIREFIGHTER

Background Information

Herbert Brand Hedger or Bert as he was affectionately known, was born to parents Henry John Brand and Ann (Henton) Hedger the youngest sibling to sister Annie Elizabeth and brother Henry (Hinton) in Saint Saviours Jersey in the Channel Islands in 1872.

While in the Channel Islands, his occupation was recorded by census as a gardener and also a butcher on the island of Guernsey.

In March 1902, Herbert, his wife Emily, and their two children Henry aged 5, and Nellie aged 3, migrated to South Australia via London by sea on the Royal Mail Steamer (RMS) Ormuz, a sailing steamship.

On the 16 July 1905, Herbert joined the South Australian Fire Brigade, whilst residing at 13 Birrell Street, Norwood, a short distance from the Town Hall, and original site of the Norwood Fire Station.

Herbert and Emily Hedger became the parents of their third child Herbert, on 30 September 1909.

On 30 January 1914, at the age of 41, Herbert Hedger died, leaving behind a widow and three children.

Buttery and Sons Furniture Manufacturers Factory Fire

In the early hours of Monday, 5 January 1914, Herbert Hedger, Norwood Brigade Foreman, attended the fire at Buttery and Sons Furniture Manufacturers Factory on the corner of Young and Rundle Streets, Kent Town.

The two-storey wood/iron structure was well alight with reports flames were shooting up to 100 feet into the air.



Fireman Herbert Brand Hedger



Source: State Library of SA, Fire Damage at Buttery Brothers, PRG 280/1/33/121

Shortly after his arrival, the roof of the premises collapsed causing a huge flame to shoot across the road knocking Herbert off his feet.

The heat from the blast was so intense it scorched the paint on the doors of houses opposite.

Despite the firefighters' efforts there was little hope of saving the building due to the high quantity of furniture and flammable materials. Firefighters focused on preventing the fire from spreading to neighbouring houses and within half an hour the fire was under control, however the factory had been destroyed.

Although Hedger was burned about the face, he continued to work for several days until his health deteriorated to the point that he was admitted to Adelaide Hospital on 21 January 1914.

On 30 January 1914, Herbert Hedger succumbed to his injuries, and died some 25 days after attending the fire. Although little was known at the time about shock or smoke inhalation, Hedger's treating doctor cited that it was probable that the injuries sustained at the fire had caused his death. Despite the coroner scoffing at the idea, Hedger's widow was the first person to receive a compensation payout, and as such his death was recorded as a line-of-duty-death.

The Funeral

On Sunday, 1 February 1914, Herbert Hedger was afforded a Fireman's funeral that left his residence in Norwood via Wakefield and Grote Street to the West Terrace Cemetery.

Herbert's coffin was mounted upon the same horse carriage and drawn by the same pair of horses that had carried him to the fatal fire.



Source: State Library of SA, Funeral of Fireman Herbert Hedger, B40287 & B40288 (The Observer Newspaper, 7 February 1914, page 31)

From East Terrace, the funeral cortege was led by a large contingent of firemen on foot. As the procession passed the Wakefield Street station, the men on duty lined up in full dress uniform saluted the coffin, then stood with bowed heads until the cortege had passed.

Spectators also lined the route to the cemetery, and bowed heads which testified to the respect in which the dead fireman was held.



Source: State Library of SA, Funeral of Fireman Herbert Hedger, B40286 (The Observer Newspaper, 7 February 1914, page 31)

Fire Service Fund Involvement

In late May 2021, Fire Service Fund representatives and Dr David Sweet from the University of South Australia met with the CEO of the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, Mr Robert Pitt to review the successful dedication memorial service that had been conducted at the West Terrace Cemetery following major restoration works to the unmarked grave of Fireman Albert Green. During the meeting, the Fund learnt that the gravesite of Fireman Herbert Hedger who had lost his life in a line of duty death on 30 January 1914, 25 days after his attendance at a furniture factory fire in Rundle Street, Kent Town, was in a state of disrepair and required major refurbishment works to avoid further damage.

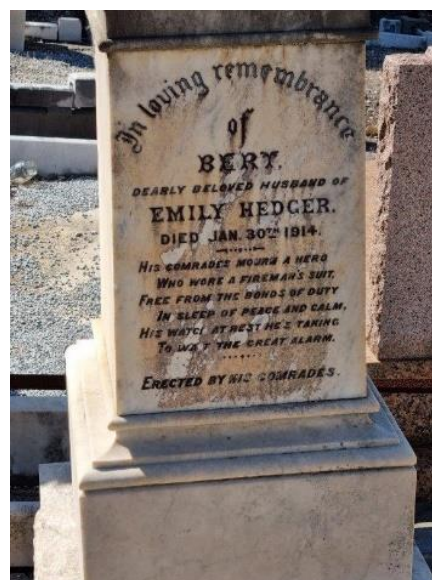
Following a visit to the West Terrace Cemetery in early July 2021 which reinforced the poor condition of the gravesite, the Fund offered its support to coordinate its restoration in consultation with the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, with the intent of returning the memorial to its original state as at the time of construction.



Inscription on Herbert Hedger's headstone

HIS COMRADES MOURN A HERO
 WHO WORE A FIREMAN'S SUIT
 FREE FROM THE BONDS OF DUTY
 IN SLEEP OF PEACE AND CALM
 HIS WATCH AT REST HE'S TAKING
 TO WAIT THE GREAT ALARM

 ERECTED BY HIS COMRADES



Pre-Restoration of Fireman Herbert Hedger's Gravesite, West Terrace Cemetery, 04 July 2022

With support from Adelaide Cemeteries Authority staff, the Fund reengaged with Tillett Memorials who had previously completed restoration works on Albert Greenman's gravesite, to discuss the specific requirements of the refurbishment which would also include the addition of a plaque with background information regarding his line of death.



Post-Restoration of Fireman Herbert Hedger's Gravesite, West Terrace Cemetery, 14 October 2023

After the completion of restoration works in early October 2022, the Fund commenced initial planning for a rededication memorial service and sought to locate any living relatives of Herbert Hedger. Despite some limited initial success, with the support of former MFS Firefighter and Historian, Dr David Sweet, favourable contact was made with current family members of Herbert Hedger.

In February 2023, approval was provided by the MFS Chief Officer, Mr. Michael Morgan to conduct a formal rededication memorial service on 4 May 2023 (St Florian's Day). Consequently, the MFS commenced the coordination of the service with key involvement from the Fire Service Fund, CFS, and the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, with invitations extended to key government dignitaries, Emergency Services representatives, MFS retired members, and most importantly family members of Herbert Hedger.

Herbert Hedger Rededication Memorial Service

On Thursday, 4 May 2023, the Herbert Hedger Rededication Memorial Service was conducted at the West Terrace Cemetery. The service not only provided a fitting tribute in memory of Herbert Hedger following the wonderful restoration works to his gravesite, but an opportunity to recognise the selfless dedication and bravery of firefighters worldwide by coinciding with St Florian's Day (International Firefighters Day).



Arrival of the Official Party



MFS & CFS Appliances



Combined MFS & CFS Honour Guard

Importantly, those in attendance not only remembered and honoured Herbert and 26 other South Australian firefighters who sadly lost their lives in the line of duty, but were afforded a poignant reminder of the inherent risks and dangers faced by firefighters as they reflected on the tragic loss of First Class Firefighter Izabella Nash from Queensland.



Guests in attendance at the Herbert Hedger Rededication Memorial Service



Master-of-Ceremonies, Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Jeff Swann

During the service Senior Firefighter Col Heinjus sang the national anthem before being invited back to the lectern by Chaplain Simon Johnson to lead everyone in the hymn, 'Go Bury Thy Sorrow', that was sung at Herbert Hedger's funeral in 1914.



Master-of-Ceremonies, Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Jeff Swann



Chaplain Simon Johnson and Senior Firefighter Col Heinjus

As part of St Florian's Day activities, the service comprised strong representation from both MFS and CFS personnel which included a combined Honour Guard and active participation by both Chief Officers.



CFS Chief Officer Brett Loughlin recites the Firefighter's Prayer



MFS Chief Officer Michael Morgan delivers his address

The great grandson of Herbert Hedger, Paul Hedger, provided an overview of Herbert's life, and conveyed his thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Hedger family to everyone involved in the restoration of the gravesite and the conduct of the memorial service.



Paul Hedger delivers an address on behalf of the Hedger family



The Hon Joe Szakacs MP delivers his address

The Minister for Emergency Services, The Hon Joe Szakacs MP provided the key address which included a brief overview of Florian, the Patron Saint of Firefighters who was credited with creating a firefighting capability by training an elite group of soldiers. Additionally, he also extended his gratitude for the commitment and service that firefighters from both agencies make in serving and protecting South Australian communities.



Blake & Chloe Hedger



The Hon Steve Georganas MP



The Hon Joe Szakacs MP

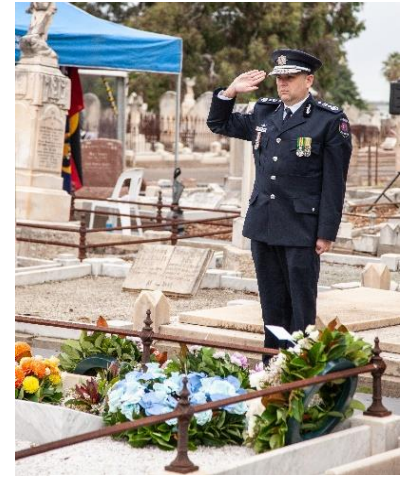
During the latter part of the service, Hedger family members, and key dignitaries were invited to lay wreaths.



Mr Adrian Pederick MP



MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan



CFS Chief Officer, Brett Loughlin

Following the service, a video was kindly produced by Mr John Gilbert from the MFS' Learning & Development Department, which can now be accessed via the link below:

- [Herbert Hedger Rededication Memorial Service Video](#)



Chief Officer Loughlin & Chief Officer Morgan with Hedger family members



The MFS & CFS Chief Officers with Stirling CFS Brigade members



Mr Adrian Pederick MP with Blake & Chloe Hedger, and C Shift crews



Hedger family members with MFS staff and attending guests

*Additional photos available via the SAFSRA website (<https://safsra.com.au/st-florinas-day-international-firefighters-day-rededication-service-herbert-hedger-grave-site-west-terrace-cemetary/nggallery>)

Finally, special thanks to Noel & Fiona from the Fund (Liaison with Adelaide Cemeteries Authority & Hedger family), Jeff Swann (MC), Rob Dridan (Photographer), John Gilbert (Video Production), Col Heinjus (National Anthem), Simon Johnson (Chaplain), C Shift crews, Belair & Stirling CFS Brigades, and the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority for their contribution and support in facilitating this event.

Peter Reynolds
Event Coordinator

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE RETIREES ASSOCIATION



Email: admin@safsra.com.au



The SAFSRA has proven to be a great way to keep people in touch, www.safsra.com.au our website content, specifically the Photo Gallery has grown with historical photos of stations, legends & social get togethers.

The Website & Facebook page are the key modes for communication with our members, keeping you informed & in touch with the SAFSRA family. Membership is free and you can join via the website.



**SAFSRA South Aust Fire
Service Retirees Assoc**

Private group

To maintain our members' privacy most of the website is for members only and our Facebook is also members only. If you are not on social media, please contact the FSF to be included on the SAFSRA mailing list.

It's great to see our members adding photos, old & new, to the website & adding Facebook posts about our legends, our stations and their memories, people, places, and events. This often opens great memories for many, leading to a running discussion between members and often turning to good humour and banter being posted. We also encourage that if any of our members are having a tough time or are unwell and open for their old workmates to get in touch, just to contact us so we can see what support we can provide. With almost 500 members to date it's a great way to stay in touch or just see what's happening.



SAFSRA Bi-Monthly lunch gathering

Our Bi-monthly retirees' lunches have proved very popular, and partners are welcome to attend. We also have members who arrange their own local get together and provide information on our facebook page. Currently there are semi-regular lunches conducted in Seacliff and Gawler, and ad hoc coffee catchups.



Board Members Johnno Johnson, Taffy Owen and Chris Smith recently met with the MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan and A/ACFO Corporates Services, Rob Prime to discuss the restoration of the Shand Mason and the possibility of establishing a Firefighters' Shed.

A special mention should also be made regarding one of our hardest workers, Trevor Ward. He has been front and centre of several events where SAFSRA members have been involved. He is a regular attendee at the APFF Coffee Club mornings, regularly organises the BBQ for Open Days, volunteers for the APFF Christmas Pageant loading, and also visits/helps individual retirees at their time of need.

For his commitment and outstanding work with the retirees, Trevor was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and plaque by MFS Chief Officer, Michael Morgan at the recent MFS Retiree Presentation Ceremony conducted at Adelaide Station on Thursday, 30 March 2023.



Presentation by Chief Officer Morgan to Trevor Ward

There are also several other regular workers who put themselves forward to assist with these events. They are a great team and always make the task fun and have a great time whilst they work extremely hard.



Adelaide Station Open Day



Pageant Loading Group



St Kilda School Holiday BBQ



Noarlunga Station Open Day

SAFSRA COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	: John 'Johnno' Johnson
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	: Fiona Ward
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	: Trevor Ward
WELFARE OFFICER	: Kevin 'Billy' Boyle
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	: Chris Smith, Rick Ewens, Malcolm 'Taffy' Owen, Scott Pearson & Jeff Strachan

Associate Members - Any spouse/partner of a FULL Member and other employees of associations affiliated with the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service shall be eligible to apply for associate membership of the Association.



SAFSRA Caravan Club

Private group · 78 members

We also have a Facebook page as the SAFSRA Caravan Club. This group is for retired SAMFS firefighters who also enjoy caravanning and keeping in touch during our journeys. It can be used to share our locations, tips, recommendations or whatever we like. With any luck we can catch up at a camp spot or help another member who may be experiencing some difficulties. This page is to be enjoyed by any fireies who love to hook up the van and head out on the road.



CALLING ALL BOWLERS READY TO GET BACK INTO THE SWING

The last 3 years, due to the pandemic, the Australasian Championships were cancelled and with social distancing playing any game of bowls became problematic.

Now that things are (hopefully) returning to normal it's time to dust off your bowls and start looking forward to hitting the green.

We know that there are many current & Retired Fire Service that are/have been involved in playing bowls and we would like to hear from you so that we can organise some game days in the future.

Contact Details	Greg Edmonds	Email:	geelunga@adam.com.au
		Phone:	0409 883 745
	John Edmonds	Phone:	0438 373 138

Vale – Barry Hughes

The Fire Service Fund's Committee and Management are very saddened to learn of the sudden passing of former Fund Manager Barry Hughes. Barry held this position for over 8 years until his retirement.

In paying tribute Peter Reynolds, The Fund's Chairman, stated "Barry was a consummate professional and contributed markedly in promoting and supporting the objectives of The Fund in his former managerial role. Following his retirement, I always looked forward to chatting to Barry at our annual dinners and greatly admired his humility, humour, and positive approach to life. He will be sadly missed."

Barry passed away on 12 June 2023.

SAMFS GOLF CLUB



President: Matt Watherston
Captain: Steve Hann
Treasurer: Graeme Masters
Secretary: Andy Bell
A.B.N. 13759583135

The SAMFS Golf Club would like to thank The Fire Service Fund for its support.

All firefighters are welcome & encouraged to attend and play.

We have annual events including Club championships contested over 2 rounds, Jeff Bray Shield & Life Members Cup match play event. We also play inter-service matches.

The "Red & Blue Shield" against the SAPOL Golf Club is now in its 59th year and will be held on the 22 September 2023 and the "RAAFter BURner Shield" against Defence Golf SA started as a match against the RAAF in 1978 and will be held on 1st September 2023.

The 2023 "Australasian Fire Brigades Golf Championship" is scheduled for the week starting Sunday 13th August 2023 at Darwin Golf Club in Darwin, NT.



For more info - Email: matthew.watherston@eso.sa.gov.au / Phone: 0414 600 045 (M)

Preventing Skin Cancer

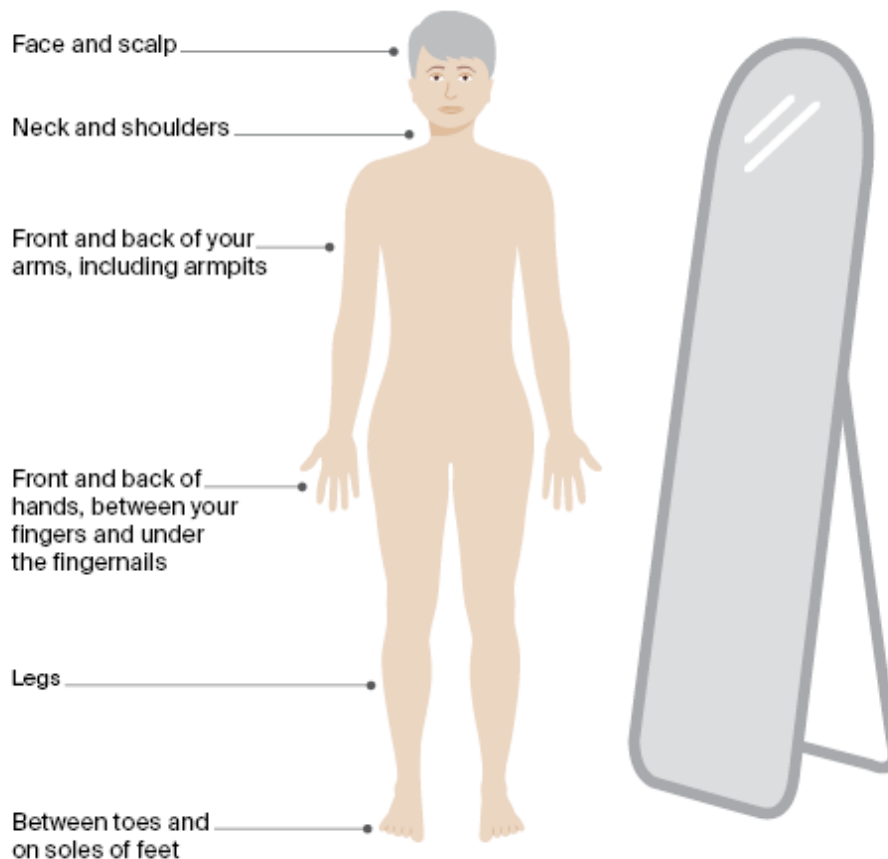


Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

Early detection of melanoma gives you a 99 per cent likelihood of being cured, while allowing a melanoma to grow unnoticed reduces your chances of survival to just 50 per cent.

Check for signs of skin cancer – Get to know your skin

How to check your skin



In addition to self-checks, you should also see a doctor/dermatologist for a full-body skin examination at least once a year.

FIRE SERVICE FUND – SKIN SCAN REBATE

Reimbursement of up to \$50.00 for gap payments 2 Claims per calendar year

BENEFITS



FULL MEMBER

FULL MEMBER

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

With Private Health cover paid through the Fund

Without Private Health cover paid through the Fund

Retire personnel or the spouse of a deceased former Member, and Regional SAMFS employees

MEMBERSHIP FEES

\$9 per fortnight

\$12 per fortnight

\$55 per annum

HOSPITAL EXCESS - Reimbursement of one hospital excess per year
BUPA \$250, NIB \$200, Health Partners \$300

✓

X

✓

DEATH BENEFIT

Payable for death of member or partner

\$5,000

\$5,000

X

FUNERAL BENEFIT

Payable for death of member or partner

\$5,000

\$5,000

\$3,750

SICK & ACCIDENT BENEFIT

Member may be entitled to a benefit per fortnight if exhausted all sick leave

✓

✓

X

REST & REHABILITATION PROPERTIES

Access to four properties to rent

✓

✓

✓

AMBULANCE BENEFIT

Reimbursement of ambulance subscription
when service is used in a calendar year

✓

✓

✓

WILLS/POWER OF ATTORNEY BENEFIT

Reimbursement of \$100 per document to the maximum of \$200
(Claimable every five years)

✓

✓

✓

SKIN SCAN BENEFIT

Reimbursement of up to \$50 – 2 Claims per calendar year.

✓

✓

✓

* For full description of benefits and conditions please visit www.fsfsa.org.au

FIRE SERVICE FUND PROPERTIES

Black Point



Moonta Bay



Normanville



Middleton



Adelaide



YEAR IN REVIEW:

Once again, the rest and rehabilitation properties proved popular with FSF members with peak times booking out as soon as they become available.

The Covid surcharge of \$20.00 per booking has now been removed, but the nightly rent has increased by \$5.00 per night to cover the increases in power usage, insurance and rates.

Black Point

- Replaced Guttering and Down Pipe
- Replaced Bunk Beds

Middleton

- Replaced and upgraded Television.
- Dining Chairs reupholstered.

Normanville

- Replaced and upgraded Television.
- Updated exterior
- Internal painting
- Rear Garden upgrade

Chancery Lane

The previous ground floor tenants, Veris Pty Ltd, vacated the premises at the end of 2021 as due to an expansion of their business they required a bigger office. As they had been tenants for a long time the area needed a major update to attract new tenants. Our New Tenant, Driving Force Promotions Pty Ltd, moved in on 1st August.

- Ground Floor Bathroom
- Ground Floor Kitchen
- Ground Floor Carpet
- Ground Floor Painted

The 1st floor wet areas were also in need of an upgrade to cope with the staffing increase and needs of the tenant so both floors were done.

- 1st Floor Kitchen
- 1st Floor Bathroom

FIRE SERVICE FUND REST & REHABILITATION HOUSES



Our Houses are available to FSF Members & their families with our highly competitive prices starting from \$90.00 per night up to \$150.00 per night for peak periods.

	Sleeps	BEDS			PRICE PER NIGHT		
		Queen	Single	Bunk	Mon-Thu	Fri-Sun	Peak
Black Point	10	2	0	3	\$90	\$100	\$130
Middleton	10	2	2	2	\$115	\$120	\$150
Moonta Bay	10	2	2	2	\$90	\$100	\$130
Normanville	8	1	2	2	\$115	\$120	\$150

Peak Periods are defined as Easter, School Holidays, Long Weekends (cost calculated per night)

Bookings taken up to 6 months in advance – Payment of Rental due on booking.

Book via the Fire Service Credit Union

Availability Calendar & Further information can be found on the FSF Website <http://fsfsa.org.au/>

NORMANVILLE



Rest & Rehab House

"Naturally Nice" Normanville is the smallest of the Fund's Houses. Only 77km from the city and a short stroll to the beach, shops, cafes and the historic Normanville Hotel makes it a favourite weekend get-away for our members and families.



This year the house got an update with the exterior roller door, gables, and trims all now sporting a new colour plus a new larger smart TV. **The house sleeps 8 people over 3 bedrooms**

Main Bedroom – Queen sized Bed
+ en suite & walk in robe

2nd Bedroom – 2 x Single Beds
+ walk in robe

3rd Bedroom – 2 x Bunk Beds
+ dresser & wardrobe



A Pool Room, spacious kitchen/dining/family area, main bathroom & laundry complete the house.



Problem – We noticed that there was some renovating work going on in the house behind us, however it wasn't until the frames went up that it became clear that a 2nd story was being added which would provide a clear view into the back garden and windows on the rear of the house.

Solution – Six mature Tuckeroo trees. Growing up to 15M tall with a width of 3-5M these evergreen trees are fast growing and provide excellent screening.

Solution – Adjustable exterior blinds to all rear windows.



WELCOME TO THE FIRE SERVICE FAMILY

**FIRE SERVICE
CREDIT UNION**
LTD. EST. 1972



**UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**
STRENGTH IN UNITY



SA Metropolitan Fire Service
Superannuation Scheme



THE FIRE SERVICE FUND
Established 1906



Australian Professional
Firefighters Foundation



SAMFS Firefighters Club



**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIRE
SERVICE RETIREES' ASSOC**





**THE FIRE
SERVICE FUND**

Established 1936

2023 JACK CROSSMAN MEMORIAL RETIREMENT SOCIAL



Venue: Festival Function Centre
292 Findon Road, Findon

Date: Friday, 18 August 2023

Time: 6:30pm until 11:30pm

For further announcements please check our Facebook page -
<https://www.facebook.com/fireservicefund/>.