



WORD BACK

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A B C D Day Retained

RECRUIT SQUAD 52/2018



A warm welcome to the members of MFS Recruit Squad 52/2018 who will graduate tomorrow, pictured here with UFU State Councillor Shaun Goad, MFS Instructors Steve Trowse and Andrew Allen, and me.

I felt privileged to attend Brukungu last Thursday night to watch the newest members of the SA firefighting family in action and they are impressive indeed.



Warmest congratulations to all those of our members who have been involved in the magnificent training provided to the recruit squad, you do an important and fabulous job.

We are all looking forward to the graduation ceremony tomorrow and as you'd appreciate, our new members have worked really hard to succeed. On behalf of all members of the UFU, welcome, enjoy your achievement and very best wishes in "the best job in the world".

Golden Grove Station welcomes members of the Workforce Rostering Team

The MFS has advised that as it is embarking on some exciting initiatives to enhance the well-being of our firefighters and support staff, the service has found that sufficient suitable accommodation is not available within the Adelaide Station. The Chief Officer says it is the intention of the MFS to utilise the infrastructure in place, to make more room for various groups.

Consultation has commenced with members at Golden Grove Station about the refitting of the Commander's quarters on the station, in order to relocate MFS Workforce Rostering Team there in the near future. The UFU met with MFS management and members at Station on 15 August 2018 to discuss the proposal and work through the issues so that all will run smoothly.

Second Shift at Mount Gambier

In accordance with the Enterprise Agreement 2017, the UFU and the MFS have been working on the proposed second shift at the Mount Gambier Station. The MFS retained the services of SBC Chair Mick Doyle for the project and he has worked closely with UFU Industrial Officer Chris Johnson to develop the framework and arrangements for the new shift. This has included consultation with the full-time Mount Gambier station members, UFU Shop Steward Mat Williamson and HR Manager Shiona Somerville at the Station.

The Heads of Agreement between the parties confirming the new arrangements, was signed this morning in order that they can be put into place commencing next week.



In brief, the new arrangements involve each of the two shifts working four 10 hour day shifts followed by four days rostered off. The shifts will be worked seven days a week including public holidays and will attract the day work allowance together with annual leave arrangements in accordance with those applying to Day Working Operational Staff as set out in the Award.

The MFS has also advised, for the information of members at Port Pirie Station, the intention to increase staffing there from December, dependent on workforce fluctuations in the meantime.

Wet Weather Gear

The union is continuing to push for the issue of wet weather gear for firefighters and while some progress is being made, the rain continues...

Prostate Cancer Awareness

Prostate cancer is one of the 12 cancers recognised in legislation as presumed to have arisen from employment as a MFS firefighter. Regrettably this condition it is far too common among our membership.

The UFU is working with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia to raise awareness of prostate cancer and to raise funds for research in the prevention and treatment of prostate cancer.

Initiatives will be coming up in the next few months such as registering a UFU team for the Rotary Trailblazer in November (a walk running event along the Adelaide coastline from Semaphore to Seacliff) and the Paddle 4 Prostate in December (paddle/walk/run/pedal around West Lakes and Delfin Island. Stay tuned for more details.

In solidarity

Max Adlam

UFU Secretary