



General Manager

Annual General Meeting Report 2016

A good year for the RFBAQ

Both internally and externally the RFBAQ is in good shape.

Since we met at the AGM last year in Gympie we have had a year of cementing in internal changes with a flexible staffing model for call centre dialling based on time of year patterns. This has reduced staffing hours without decreasing average \$ hour returns.

The Contact Centre and Office staff continue to be committed to the ethos of the association and prove this on a daily basis by living the RFBAQ Staff Values and Behaviours.

This has allowed the RFBAQ business to post a profit for the 15/16 financial year.

2015/2016 saw the long term realisation of the QFES paying for the fuel in the trucks and for the maintenance of the vehicles, this alongside of Task Force Action (which was another action as a result of RFBAQ lobbying) and a raft of other RFBAQ initiatives are continuing to add to an environment where brigades can devote more time and effort to the business of being a brigade.

Each one of these achievements allows for a brigade to better utilise the volunteered time of its members by reducing the overriding need of fundraising.

When someone volunteers they will supply you with an average monthly amount of time that they wish to devote. The three time allocations of Training / Response/ Education have for most brigades been balanced by the fourth Fundraising. The success of the RFBAQ request for the fuel and maintenance will hopefully allow 1st Officers to allocate volunteers donated time to more of the big three.

Relating to further business of the association the last year has seen 2 Volunteer Summits, the commencement of a new grants scheme that is partnered with RFSQ/QFES, hosting the Council of Australian Volunteer Fire Associations in Kedron, RFBAQ sponsoring 17 brigade volunteers to attend AFAC and the RFBAQ stand at AFAC, successful representation at LGAQ Annual Conference, Yellow Ribbon Day in October, Smoke Signals / Activate magazines, work on EVRA, AG Grow Emerald, FarmFest Toowoomba and participation in Task Force Action.

Many of these activities and success are in part due to the tireless work of RFBAQ President Alan Gillespie AFSM. Alan will be sorely missed from the RFBAQ and we wish him great success as a RFSQ Superintendent.