

# Fire fighters' letter

## ROWLAND SPRINGS RURAL FIRE SERVICE

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Dear Resident

As you are aware, the Australian bush is one of the most fire-sensitive in the world. It is now understood that climate change will affect the growth and vegetation density of the bush. With unpredictable weather conditions, hotter summers and, therefore, unpredictable fire behaviour, the members of your local service are experiencing an increase in their workloads.

As our small community at Rowland Springs is growing and changing, so are the demands on people's time for work, family and recreation. Volunteer organisations need a diverse membership that can provide a 24-hour response to fire emergencies.

The NSW Rural Fire Service is the world's largest volunteer fire service. Your local fire brigade is always happy to receive help as it provides a 24-hour response to fire emergencies. We encourage active people from the community to assist in fire fighting, rescues and emergency calls. However, there is also an urgent need for people with other skills. These include practical skills with truck and equipment maintenance, word processing and fundraising. We need help on our small committee.

Volunteer work is very demanding and individuals' ability to contribute will vary. We are not necessarily looking for people who are available 24/7. Any time spared is important to the overall safety of the community. We hold a short meeting on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm, at the brigade's headquarters in Crescent Road. If you can give some time, don't hesitate to come up and meet the crew.

Remember, if by any unfortunate circumstance our service ceased to operate, the nearest emergency service is at Rogans Crossing, 35 kilometres away.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

*Monica Jones*

Monica Jones  
Rowland Springs RFS



Photograph: Martyn Schafer