

2017 CFA Report to Progress Association

2017 looms as another busy year for the Wye River fire brigade with several projects on the go.

Firstly our 4 recruits from last year are nearing completion of their training with 2 being able to turn out to incidents and the other 2 will have to wait until after the fire season when courses reopen. We also have 5 new people wanting to join up to become firefighters which all bode well for the future.

With 3 new vehicles in the station our brigade is set up well into the future however they are taking a bit of getting used to and we will continue to learn about their capabilities on each call out and training nights.

The new CFA supplied tanker is equipped with breathing apparatus which meant training on how to use it. It was an 8 week course which 10 of us completed in May and our new structure gear has now arrived which allows for safer firefighting with the added ability of protection from toxic fumes and smoke

The brigade is currently working with CFA to add a meeting / training room, a store room and office / radio room and an area to get changed without fear of being run over by a fire truck. The brigade currently has enough funding for about ¾ of the project thanks to a \$100,000 state government grant so all fundraising this season will go towards the extension. Wye River CFA has been generously supported by the Wye Sep and Kennett communities over many years which have enabled us to purchase additional vehicles and extend our station to house our brigade owned vehicles. Once the new extension is built the meeting training room will be available for organisations to use for meetings when the SLSC is unavailable.

In the coming year apart from the extension our main focus will be developing an asset protection plan for Kennett River. This will be set out similar to Wye's which will enable any of our fireman to be able to implement it on the day whether it is Wye tankers or neighbouring brigades tankers used.

It is a huge positive to see so many buildings under construction and indeed a couple completed. Marking these properties on a local map with the location of the CFA water fittings will be a project we will undertake in the off season which will make it easier for non-local Brigades to find the water points in the future.

I would like to finish off with acknowledging the fantastic efforts of all the different groups and committees who continue to assist support and propel our 3 communities forward, and a special thanks to the Wye Sep progress association for allowing us this opportunity to speak.

Roy Moriarty

Captain Wye River Fire Brigade