

Emergency services upgrade skills

Louis Harrison

EMERGENCY services staff in Swan Hill have updated their skills and training to stay better prepared to respond to incidents in the community.

Swan Hill SES deputy controller Michelle Singleton said the unit has undertaken specialist training, recruitment and community engagement to “strengthen its emergency response capability.”

“Over recent months, members have completed a range of specialist training designed to enhance the unit’s ability to respond to emergencies across the region,” she said.

“Earlier this year, members completed Land Based Swift Water Rescue and Rescue Boat Coxswain training, while more recently members achieved their Road Crash Rescue accreditation, further strengthening the unit’s operational capability.”

The Swan Hill Fire Brigade have also undertaken training opportunities including turning out to a planned training exercise that appeared to be a structure fire at the start of June.

A brigade spokesperson said the exercise was designed to “maintain and enhance operational capabilities”.

“The exercise provided an opportunity for members to utilise a broad range of brigade equipment and skills, ensuring we remain prepared to safely and effectively manage incidents of all sizes and complexities.

“Regular training is essential in helping our firefighters maintain their knowledge, build confidence, and work effectively as a team so we can continue providing the highest level of service to our community.”



Ongoing interagency training also saw Swan Hill SES Unit members and volunteers from the Manangatang and Robinvale brigades travel to Piangil for road crash training and fire extinguisher familiarisation with the Swan Hill Fire Brigade.

Ms Singleton said there were more training exercises in the pipeline.

“Looking ahead, the Swan Hill Unit will participate in the Lake Eppalock Joint Agency

Exercise in August, where members will take part in a multi-agency exercise designed to strengthen interoperability and emergency preparedness,” she said.

These opportunities come as emergency services across the state look to strengthen their operational capabilities through multi-agency collaborations and specialised exercises to keep communities safe all year round.

Interagency training saw volunteers undertake road crash training in Piangil. Picture: Supplied

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