



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

Victorian Headquarters • 168 Sturt Street, Southbank Victoria 3006

Say thanks to SES volunteers on Wear Orange Wednesday

From: Victorian Headquarters

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November 13 is Wear Orange Wednesday, when everyone is encouraged to publicly express their thanks to State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers.

By wearing orange on the day at your workplace, school or wherever you may be, you'll not only show SES volunteers that you care, but will be in the running for some great prizes, including tickets to A Day on the Green, sporting tickets to events such as the AAMI Classic or an iPad.

There are 5,000 SES volunteers in Victoria who regularly don orange overalls and head out into storms, floods or road rescue emergencies to keep their neighbours safe.

In Victoria alone, SES volunteers spent more than 325,000 hours in orange, including almost 80,000 hours responding to storm damage and about 16,000 hours lending a hand during floods. All told, they responded to more than 18,000 calls for help during emergencies.

Victoria SES CEO Mary Barry said Wear Orange Wednesday (WOW) was a great opportunity to show volunteers how highly they're valued.

"As well as assisting in times of emergency, SES volunteers also undertake regular training and skills maintenance. Volunteers also spend time out in their community teaching people how to stay safe during an emergency like a flood or storm and how they can be prepared," she said.

"It's been a busy few months for SES. Many of us worked through the night responding to October's wild weather, where almost 6,000 calls for help were received in less than a week."

"SES volunteers come from all walks of life. They are united by a willingness to devote their time to their community."

On Wear Orange Wednesday, make sure to upload a photo of your excellent outfit to ses.vic.gov.au/wow to go into the prize draw.

Wear Orange Wednesday prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Best dressed individual, community group, workplace and school.

An event to give people the opportunity to say thanks to SES volunteers will be held at Queensbridge Square, Southbank on Wednesday 13 November from 11am until 2pm. Come down to meet local volunteers and SES mascot Paddy Platypus, submit your Wear Orange Wednesday entry via a photo booth, enjoy a free sausage sizzle and write a thank you message of your own.

To say thanks to SES volunteers during Wear Orange Wednesday, visit ses.vic.gov.au/wow or facebook.com/vicses

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