



Media Release

Victoria State Emergency Service

Victorian Headquarters • 168 Sturt Street, Southbank Victoria 3006

Strong showing from South Barwon

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Victoria State Emergency Service's (SES) South Barwon Rescue Team has returned from the Australasian Road Rescue Challenge with a slew of awards.

Not only did the team place second overall, they also took out the SES Director's Shield for the best performing SES team.

The team was also awarded second place in the following five categories:

- Best Team Leader
- Best Medic
- Best Technical Team
- Immediate Rescue Scenario
- Entrapped Rescue Scenario

This year's challenge was held in Canberra with awards presented on Sunday night. The event pits teams from across Australasia against each other in a test of their road rescue skills through different scenarios.

The Victoria SES team, made up of volunteers from the South Barwon Unit, came second only to NSW Fire and Rescue Hurstville - paid, full-time group that trains for 20-odd hours a week.

South Barwon Controller and team member Andrew Murton said the challenge had been absolutely fantastic.

"The result is certainly more than we thought and we're all happy with that," he said.

"It all comes down to good work from the team."

Mr Murton said that the scenarios and workshops at the event had been a rare opportunity to work on new model Holdens and test their skills, ensuring they're in a good position to make the right decisions at an incident.

Team Manager Mark Cattell said the team had excelled in some tough but realistic scenarios.

They've now got the option of competing in the competition's next level - the World Challenge in Glasgow.

The team's achievement is a testament to the professionalism and skill of SES volunteers.

For more on the team's Challenge experience, including pictures of their trip, visit them on their [Facebook page](#).

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