

# WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



## Santa Visits

Have you seen the Santa countdown on our electric sign at the front of the fire station? Wandong Fire Brigade has once again been asked to escort Santa on a tour of Wandong and Heathcote Junction on Christmas Eve. Check out our Facebook page for more information, and times as we get closer to the big day. We are taking bookings for Santa visits on the fire truck between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of December. To make a booking please contact us on [wandongsanta@gmail.com](mailto:wandongsanta@gmail.com) with your preferred dates and times, your address, the number of children to visit, and your contact name and phone number. Donations are appreciated for this service.

## Fire Season

Victoria is one of the most fire-prone areas in the world. All Victorians need to know how to plan for and respond to fire. We had a successful street corner meeting on the corner of Mount View road, Wandong in November with many residents coming to gain information on how best to prepare their families and properties.

Victorians are being urged to prepare for an increase in fire activity across large parts of the State this summer, according to the Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for Summer. Having a fire plan with your family and reducing the vegetation around your home by mowing lawns and clearing gutters are some of the most important things you can do to prepare for the higher risk weather season.

## Fire Restrictions now in!

Fire Restrictions in Mitchell Shire were declared from the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2024 and will continue until 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2025 unless revoked earlier. The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help prevent fires from starting. During the Fire Danger Period you cannot burn off unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements. Find out what you can or can't do during the declared Fire Danger Period, and on days of Total Fire Ban at : [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i)

## Training

Our firefighters have been busy participating in training recently, with a couple of members heading away for a weekend to complete their low structure fire training. All Wandong members have been actively preparing with their pre-season training.

## Juniors

The Wandong Fire Brigade Juniors put on a brilliant display of skills and knowledge to family, friends and brigade members at the end of November in their of year presentation.

They turned up to a mock house fire that turned into a bushfire that then threatened the firefighters and required them to go into burn over mode. They demonstrated radio communications, hose bowling and hose lay, putting wet stuff on the red stuff, burn over drills, and then explained to the parents and friends what they have learnt about hose spray patterns, breathing apparatus, hydrants and more.

Huge thanks to our Junior leaders who do an amazing job and to our Juniors who are an awesome group of young people. Look forward to seeing you again next year.

