



**RURAL FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION**  
**QUEENSLAND INC.** ABN. 37 417 474 709

## **President**

# **Annual General Meeting Report**

## **For September 2019**

Once again our annual meeting has rolled around and it only seems like yesterday we were at the mid-year meeting in Brisbane.

Today I would like to welcome new Rockhampton Representative Robert Lang to his first RFBAQ meeting and ask you all to acknowledge this with a round of applause.

Sadly Jim Besgrove will leave us as the Townsville Rep after today's meeting. Jim will be sorely missed and I thank him for the time and knowledge he has given to the RFBAQ and we wish him well for the future and good mate he will always be.

At our midyear meeting we put forward a four-point plan to the then Commissioner who agreed to accept and progress all points. To date some areas have progressed while others move at the speed of a snail.

Commissioner Carol left QFES to become Police Commissioner and Justin and myself met with her and gave our best wishes on behalf of the RFBAQ.

The new Commissioner may be announced by our meeting.

The deck chairs at QFES have been shuffled around and acting AC Gary McCormack goes to North Coast, and John Bolger is now AC Rural based in Kedron. Many other AC positions also have changes

Radio communications will become a problem out of the GWN footprint as the Bands are narrowed for UHF, and VHF radios will no longer be made and parts for repairs hard to obtain.

Yellow Ribbon Day and rural fire week have been held together this year for the first time. Parliament sat in Townsville on Yellow Ribbon Day, and was attended by Justin and myself along with other Reps and brigades from this region.

This weekend marks a milestone in the history of the RFBAQ as we hold the official opening of our new office and call centre here at Fraser Road and I must acknowledge the great amount of dedication by the staff on such a great achievement. Sadly one of our most dedicated staff members Ruth could not be able to see the final outcome.

To all the Reps, Justin and staff I thank you for all your support. To the SEM Team who turn up every month to keep the wheels turning over, what great dedication you bring to the RFBAQ - great job all.

Fire season is once again on us and many will be involved so please stay safe as new reps are hard to find.