



28 November 2017

Guy Barnett, Liberal Member for Lyons

Barnett thanks volunteers and emergency services in Parliament ahead of summer

Our fire fighters, emergency services and volunteers do a great job keeping us safe during natural events and disasters such as fires and floods.

During the November heatwave, fire fighters and volunteers responded to bushfires on the east coast of Tasmania and Member for Lyons Guy Barnett MP took the opportunity to thank them in Parliament during the last sitting week of the year.

“In recent weeks we have had fires on the east coast and they have been distressing and concerning to those in the local community,” Minister Barnett said in Parliament.

“I want to thank all those fire fighters, volunteer fire fighters included, from not just the east coast but around the state who came together to fight those fires and to support the local community.

“I commend and thank the local community for their support of the emergency service personnel and the families who are directly affected by these fires and the incidents that do occur.

“The outlook for this summer is for above-average temperatures, so in advance I thank our fire fighters, emergency service personnel and volunteers.”

Minister Barnett noted that the bulk of our fire fighters in the rural and regional areas of Tasmania are volunteers and their service is vital in these local communities.

“They are the glue that holds those communities together and I put on record my thanks to them.”

The 2014 State of Volunteering Report showed the economic contribution of volunteers to Tasmania is in the order of \$4.9 billion a year, with around 700 million hours contributed by volunteers each year.

“The commitment and community service contributed by volunteers is incredible and on behalf of our community I thank every one of them for their dedication and outstanding service.

“We all hope and pray over the summer there will not be major incidents, but in advance, thank you to our fire fighters, emergency service personnel and volunteers that contribute so much to keeping us safe.”