



Gratitude for CBWF Grants

In September 2016 the Yeungroon Community were the recipients of a \$2000 CBWF grant, to be utilised to install a watering system for the garden/recreational area of the new CFA Station Meeting Room, that was currently under construction.

Initially the station did not have rural water connected at the time, and the Brigade required \$7,000 to have the pipeline extended to the facility. Not deterred they applied for numerous sources of funds. Eventually they received generous donations, both monetary and equipment and finally the water arrived, so the watering system could be installed.

The Brigade have planted a water wise, allergy free, but colourful garden, with drought tolerant lawn and plants; olive trees for wind breaks and produce; and their feature piece is Firefighter and RSL roses to remember the brave 'Yeungroonians' who have come before. This has been a wonderful enhancement to the facility that not only serves as a CFA station, but a local gathering place.

Since the watering system has been installed the facility has played host to a 125th Reunion, Christmas Tree celebrations, numerous wellbeing and social events and most recently the Yeungroon Social Bocce Tournament. These social occasions are crucial for small rural communities as they promote intergenerational interaction and opportunities for connectedness. To be able to provide a comfortable, attractive space to do this encourages attendance and every person who has attended the station compliment the surrounds, which would not have been possible without the grant.

In September 2018, the Yeungroon Brigade were again successful in an application to CBWF grants program of \$10,540.00 to improve Operational Readiness.

Again, an ironic situation that the meeting room and office, which is also the Incident Control Room for large incidents had no mobile phone or internet service, which is now our primary means of communication. After speaking to neighbouring brigade Coonooer Bridge it was established they were in a similar situation, so Yeungroon applied for two telephone boosters to be installed. One at Coonooer Bridge Community Centre and one at Yeungroon Station. These were installed in February 2018 and have been well utilised with numerous incidents in the Brigade areas. The second component of the grant was to erect fencing to keep children safe in the event of a turnout where one member stays behind to look after the children, or at a community function. This fence is vital as the station fronts a busy road, which was in fact the primary one used in the movement of equipment during the construction of the wind towers.

As a not for profit organisation and farming area, Yeungroon Brigade and Community are incredibly grateful for the financial assistance provided through the CBWF grant projects. It allows significant improvements and operational enhancements to be achieved, which would not otherwise be possible. It also enables us to attend to our core business without the financial worry of ensuring our viability and sustainability.