

Regional volunteer brigades celebrate 100 years

Busselton and York Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS) both had good cause to celebrate recently as they reached the important milestone of 100 years.

Busselton VFRS are recognising their centennial year with a series of activities. The first involved hosting the WA VFRS State Open Championships over two days in late February.

The event started with a street parade of competitors and fire appliances, and ended at the competition track on the picturesque Busselton foreshore.

“It was wonderful to celebrate our centenary in the company of fellow brigade members from around Western Australia,” Brigade Captain Robert Papalia said.

“What made it special was the spirited competition and camaraderie of the 19 participating teams.

“The weekend was the first of several events we have planned, including a centennial dinner and service medal presentation in August, and a street parade and open day in October.”

York VFRS acknowledged its century of service to the community with an open day which attracted more than 100 past brigade members and visitors.

Brigade Captain Justin Corrigan said the anniversary was a great opportunity to reunite past and present members, and mount a display of firefighting memorabilia for the people of York.

“To illustrate the progression of the brigade since its inception in 1910, we organised exhibits that included photo boards and a range of firefighting equipment through the years,” he said.

“Several members have been involved in the brigade for more than half a century and it was also an appropriate day to acknowledge their tremendous achievements and the hard work of our close knit brigade.”

Highlights of the day included the unveiling of a centenary plaque, followed by a parade of vintage and modern appliances through the York township.



Busselton and Coolgardie VFRS step it out at the WA VFRS State Open Championships.



York Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service members (l-r): Graeme Hunt, Captain Justin Corrigan (centre) and Peter Reynolds. Photograph by Carli Allen, courtesy Avon Valley Gazette.