

Media Release



Blue Mountains

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Cold Winds Lash Mountains After Bushfire Week

Emergency services workers have been given extreme weather conditions from bushfires to windstorms in September.

Volunteers of the State Emergency Service finished the month of September with cold climate clothing on as they attended to 23 calls for assistance as winds lashed the Blue Mountains last Thursday.

“We had winds gusting to 100 km/h at Blackheath” stated John Hughes, Acting Controller for the State Emergency Service.

“The majority of damage was reported in the Springwood area with mainly trees that had fallen and some roof damage”. Mr Hughes continued

“Besides the strong winds, our volunteers experienced heavy rain, light hail and brilliant sunshine as they worked on the damaged properties.”

An SES team was placed on standby to assist with storm damage experienced in the Hawkesbury region as similar conditions were experienced across the metropolitan area. By Friday afternoon, the winds had eased for the SES teams to stand down.

“This has been the strongest winds experienced since the July windstorm” stated Mr Hughes.

“We ask residents that the SES members are all volunteers and are more than happy to assist people when their homes are damaged or being threatened to be damaged during a storm” Mr Hughes continued.

“However, we ask that residents remember that the SES is not able to assist with maintenance of homes or removal of trees”

“One big call we receive during rain storms is calls about overflowing gutters and we ask that home owners keep their gutters clear of leaves as we now head into the summer storm season.” Mr Hughes stated.

The SES has information available at on their website on how to prepare and maintain your home during the storm season at www.bluemts.com.au/ses/

If any resident has any enquiries or needs assistance with storm matters, call the SES at any time on 132500.

End:

For further information contact:

John Hughes Acting Local Controller (volunteer)