

# Media Release



## Blue Mountains

PO Box 216

Telephone: (02) 4782 3200

WENTWORTH FALLS NSW 2782

Fax: (02) 4782 6644

Email: [bluemountains.ses.ops@bigpond.com](mailto:bluemountains.ses.ops@bigpond.com)

6 January 2011

## Busy Holiday Period for SES Volunteers

The volunteers of the Blue Mountains State Emergency Service (SES) have seen a busy period with storm, flood and search operations as 2010 came to an end.

Over the Christmas- New Year week, the SES received 12 calls for assistance for storm damage across the Blue Mountains, mainly a result from the stormy weather experienced in the previous week across the region.

“Whilst the weather the Blue Mountains was fairly mild in that week, the flood waters were still causing damage in the western part of the state” stated John Hughes, Deputy Controller for the Blue Mountains SES.

“We were able to send assistance to the flood-affected community of Bourke from Christmas into the New Year.”

In the same week, the Blue Mountains SES teamed up with members from the Penrith Unit to assist Police in a search for a missing person in Sydney’s Northern Suburbs. The team was successful in locating the gentleman in thick bushland and assisted Police and paramedics to retrieve the gentleman to safety.

And finally in the first week of January, the SES responded to assist the community of Lithgow when a hail storm inundated the city. Two teams from the Blue Mountains

spent the evening of the 5<sup>th</sup> January clearing drainage blocked by ice as Lithgow received 83mm of rain within a 3 hour period.

The volunteers of the SES will remain vigilant over the remaining summer months as the Weather Bureau expects the wet weather will continue.

**End:**

**For further information contact:**

**John Hughes Deputy Controller/Media Officer (volunteer)**