

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## MFS reflects on International Firefighters' Day

Wednesday, 4 May 2016

On Wednesday, 4 May, South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) firefighters will pause to mark International Firefighters' Day.

International Firefighters' Day, also known as St Florian's\* Day, is an opportunity for the community to honour the sacrifices that firefighters have made around the world.

South Australian firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty will also be remembered.

MFS Deputy Chief Officer Michael Morgan said South Australians should pause today along with firefighters to reflect on the contributions made by the emergency services sector.

"South Australia's MFS and Country Fire Service (CFS) firefighters put their lives on the line to save lives and protect property every single day. It's important that we take a moment today to reflect on their selfless pursuit of public safety," Mr Morgan said.

Modern firefighters respond to a diverse range of challenging incidents such as house fires, bushfires, hazardous material incidents, rescues, road crashes and fatalities.

"Firefighters are often called upon to respond to highly stressful and unpredictable situations, and they perform their duties with a high degree of professionalism, sensitivity and expertise.

"Today I urge South Australians to reflect on the efforts of and risks faced by firefighters both past and present in protecting the lives and assets of the community. We should remember all firefighters who have lost their lives, including the 10 MFS firefighters who died in the line of duty between 1862 and 1977, said MFS Deputy Chief Officer Morgan.

International Firefighters' Day highlights the values firefighters uphold in the community, including service, perseverance, empathy, mateship and an unwavering commitment to help others less fortunate.

**MFS Firefighters will observe the occasion with a minute's silence at stations across Metropolitan Adelaide and regional South Australia (Pt Pirie & Mt Gambier MFS stations).**

*\*St Florian is the patron saint of all firefighters and was linked to firefighting in the Roman Empire.*

For more information about International Firefighters' Day visit [www.firefightersday.org/](http://www.firefightersday.org/)

**For media enquiries and interviews call the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770**

[www.mfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.mfs.sa.gov.au)