

The beginnings of a new fleet

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Make the presenting author bold.

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Since signing a memorandum of understanding in 2005, CFA and the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard (AVCG) continue to pursue this initiative and commitment to strengthening marine safety in the state of Victoria. This year CFA in partnership with AVCG has committed to the creation of CFA Coast Guard brigades with the intention of building on existing public infrastructure and to strengthen the volunteerism of two volunteer organisations. In turn this will deliver an enhanced marine capability to wider community, along with role diversity and further opportunity to both CFA and AVCG volunteers.

AVCG a completely volunteer organisation, formed in 1961 to promote safety in the operation of small craft. In recent time this has grown from a volunteer marine rescue service based around Port Phillip Bay to an organisation now offering services across the state through the voluntary amalgamation of unaffiliated marine rescue services.

Challenges faced as Coast Guard Brigades roll out include statutory registration process, defining the line of marine fire & rescue response verses Search & Rescue operations, development of a training framework for Coast Guard and existing CFA members.

The transformation stage in this next chapter of marine fire & rescue is very exciting for both Coast Guard and CFA. This will ensure that Coast Guard in Victoria continues to strengthen as a volunteer organisation and as an emergency service provider.

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Key Words

Agency Initiatives

Volunteerism

Diversity

Partnership

CFA

Coast Guard