

A change of brigade leadership ...

John Schauble, Captain 2006-14

John Schauble first joined the brigade as a junior member in 1973, and was a senior brigade member from 1975 until 1977.

He rejoined the brigade in December 1985, and has held several positions including Secretary, Treasurer, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Lieutenant. John has also represented the brigade as a Group delegate and a Municipal Fire Prevention Committee delegate. He is author of the brigade history, *Hills of Fire*, published in 1992.

John has been active in engaging the local community in fire preparedness, notably through his work as a CFA community safety facilitator since 1998. He wrote the brigade's *Living with Bushfire* brochure, which won both state and national Australian Safer Communities awards. He is author of *The Australian Bushfire Safety Guide*, published by HarperCollins in 2004.

In 2006 was elected Captain, becoming the first member to complete the path from junior member to senior brigade captain.

He was awarded the National Medal in 2000 and the National Emergency Medal in 2013.

After a career in journalism, John has worked in the emergency management sector at State level since 2007, most recently as an advisor to the Fire Services Commissioner.

He will take up a new role as brigade President on 1 July 2014.

John Schurink, Captain 2014-

John Schurink joined the Sassafras-Ferny Creek Fire Brigade in 2012, while still building a new home in Ferny Creek.

He brings a lifetime of firefighting and emergency services experience to the role of Captain, which he will assume on 1 July 2014.

John first joined CFA as a member at Carrum Downs in 1981. From 1984 until 1994, he was a member at Pearcedale, serving terms as Communications Officer and 4th Lieutenant.

From 1992 to 1993, he was a reserve member at Wodonga, followed by a move to Chiltern from 1993 until 1996 where he served as 1st Lieutenant and, briefly, as Captain.

From the mid-1990s until 2006, John was a member at Olinda, also serving a term as a Deputy Group Officer with the Dandenong Ranges Group. From 2006 until 2012, he was a member at Buninyong, near Ballarat, including five years as Captain.

He is recipient of the National Medal and the National Emergency Medal.

John's CFA involvement is set against the backdrop of a 30-year career as a MICA paramedic with the Victorian ambulance service and more recently as a senior manager with the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA).