



Falls Creek Unit snow mobile on *snowcase*

August 2018

Over the weekend the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) Falls Creek Unit hosted an open day to showcase their brand new snow mobile, thanks to a Victorian Government grant.

With snow season the busiest for the Unit, the Falls Creek volunteers met with skiers and members of the community, to raise awareness of the role VICSES plays during alpine rescues.

The snow mobile is a vital addition to the Unit, providing additional capability to perform snow rescues in tougher alpine areas. Additionally it adds to the safety of Unit members, by increasing the reliability of the ageing fleet.

The state-of-the-art vehicle was purchased through the government's Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) grant of \$18,098.

The Falls Creek Unit was established in 1981 and is made up of 25 active members, three of which have served their community with VICSES for more than 30 years.

VICSES volunteers undergo comprehensive weekly training, in order to assist Victoria Police with Alpine search and rescue operations all year round.

To find out how you can volunteer with VICSES, visit www.ses.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Keith O'Brien, VICSES Assistant Chief Officer

"VICSES Falls Creek Unit plays a vital role every snow season, ensuring the safety of all visiting the resorts, we're highly skilled and very well equipped in handling these types of rescues".

"Thanks to the on-going support from the Victorian Government, we're able to train our volunteers and keep them up to date with state-of-the-art rescue techniques to protect our community."

Quotes attributable to Phill Rookes, VICSES Falls Creek Unit Volunteer

"Volunteering with VICSES is one of the best things that I could of done, it gives me the opportunity to utilise my skills and help my local community."

"Working in harsh winter conditions are tough, but it's something we all enjoy doing because we recognise while it's not an easy job, it's an important one, as we're helping to save lives in our own backyard."

For more information, contact:

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