

12 November 2020

After bushfire, pandemic and more VICSES turns attention to family



Behind every brave and hard-working Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) volunteer is a support network of people that help them achieve amazing things.

Heywood unit member Rebecca Siddall has been part of the organisation for nearly two years, and was recently part of VICSES' recent flood response in the south west, positioned at the Fitzroy River.

Bec has received significant love and support this year from the other side of the globe - having moved from the UK to settle in regional Victoria. She has praised her family for being strong and staying in touch during the global COVID-19 pandemic, with regular video chats and phone calls.

Her folks have also been instrumental in encouraging the Heywood local to give back to her community.

Bec's made powerful connections at VICSES, and also found love. Her now fiancé Cameron encouraged her to sign up during a joint CFA/VICSES recruitment drive in 2018, and both remain active in their respective agencies. She credits Cameron's great support to his deep understanding of volunteering.

'YFOF' takes place on [14 & 15 November](#), and is an opportunity to thank the numerous people supporting every member of VICSES. They are the unsung heroes behind Victoria's first responders.

For more information, contact:

VICSES State Media Duty Officer
Phone: 1300 783 933
Email: media@ses.vic.gov.au



Quotes attributable to Heywood unit volunteer Rebecca Siddall:

“It has been a tough year, especially for my family back home in the UK. I want to thank them as part of The ‘Your Family, Our Family’ campaign. Being at a distance is not easy, but they are fully supportive and enthusiastic about what I do.”

“I’m also really lucky to be in a relationship with a fellow emergency service volunteer. Cameron and I are very community-minded and don’t mind the pager going off at 3am for either me at VICSES or him at CFA. It’s definitely a lifestyle we embrace.”

“Heywood is such a beautiful community, and I feel like I can do my best work as a VICSES member here. My family, fiancé, and fellow volunteers are all there for me.”