



Paul Henderson

MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

6 December 2005

EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS RECOGNISED

The Northern Territory's Emergency Service (NTES) volunteers will be recognised for their hard work in protecting Territorians and building a safer community at a function at Parliament House tonight.

The function marks International Volunteers Day, celebrated yesterday.

"There are 455 Emergency Service volunteers across the Northern Territory who give up hours of their own time for training, planning and preparation so they are ready to help fellow Territorians during times of crisis and emergency," Emergency Services Minister Paul Henderson said.

"2005 has certainly been an eventful year for the NTES.

"A new \$210,000 NTES facility was opened in Watarrka National Park and a permanent officer is now stationed in the Park for the first time, providing vital training for local Volunteer Units and front-line support response in emergencies.

"In March this year, NTES volunteers were on the ground just 12 hours after Cyclone Ingrid lashed remote communities off the Top End coastline, helping in the recovery effort at Croker Island, Goulburn Island, and the Tiwi Islands.

"The volunteers gave more than 3000 hours of service over 12 days, clearing fallen trees and roadways and making temporary roof repairs to damaged building.

"Volunteers have also this year responded to calls for assistance during bush fires, in land searches and after road accidents.

"On behalf of Territorians, I thank all of the Territory's Emergency Service volunteers for their commitment to protecting our community."

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