



Title	Mr.
First name	Darryl
Last name	Wright
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I am making this submission as	Resident
Submission type	Personal
Organisation making the submission (if applicable)	
Your position in the organisation (if applicable)	
Consent to make submission public	Public
Your story	<p>My house and contents where completely destroyed by the Gospers Mount bushfire. I am a retired RFS volunteer with both Advanced Fire Fighter and Village Fire Fighter certificates and have been in and out of the RFS for over 55years originally doing some basic training in the Nth Springwood Bushfire Brigade around 1964 and have had wide experience as a fire fighter. I was a founding member of the Clarence Bushfire Brigade in 1978.</p> <p>I have found that the local bushfire brigade, now Clarence/Dargan, has been very reluctant to do any hazard reduction in the Clarence area for years now, I have been told on occasions that "we aren't going to turn Clarence into a desert to satisfy people like you" and last year, 2019, I asked 4 times for assistance under the "Aiders Program" to clear a crown land reserve near my home and was told on every occasion "No" because it would involve too much paper work and if the weather conditions deteriorated on the prescribed day then the paperwork</p>

would have to be done again. I even volunteered to do the paperwork for them but they still refused.

Over the years I have volunteered to be the brigades First Aid officer and even tho I was an Intensive Care Clinical Nurse Specialist with Advanced Life Support cerification that was refused as I didn't have a First Aid certificate, I also volunteered to arrange training sessions as I also held a TAFE Training and Assessment Certificate and had wide experience in training Nurses.

I believe that the local brigade has let the Clarence residents down on many occasions due to the infighting and attempts to take over control of the running of the brigade by different factions within the community in the past.

The present management and membership have been working hard during the this bushfire season and have gained much needed experience but deserve to be led by a much more profesional RFS. I also believe that they need to be aware that other members of the community also have much to offer and stop belittling them to protect their inflated ego's.

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

lack of local hazard reduction

1.2 Preparation and planning

refusal of brigades to acknowledge and listen to the historical experience of local inhabitants

1.3 Response to bushfires

1.4 Any other matters

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