



## MEDIA RELEASE

16 May 2006

### St John celebrates 20 years in Coffs Harbour

St John (NSW) is celebrating 20 years of St John first aid training and volunteers in the Coffs Harbour area this Saturday 20 May at the Coffs Harbour Catholic Club, West High Street, Coffs Harbour.

St John Coffs Harbour Division was officially registered on 27<sup>th</sup> May 1986.

“St John has a long history in Australia and we are proud of our 20 years in Coffs Harbour,” said Ms Rhonda Bignell, Chief Executive Officer, St John (NSW).

“Each and every volunteer member is vital to St John. As St John has grown and developed within the area we recognise every effort these individuals dedicate to first aid training for the community, attending public first aid duties and helping students with literacy problems,” she said.

“St John provides total first aid solutions for the Coffs Harbour community and we are dedicated to working with the local community to meet community needs,” Ms Bignell said.

To find out more about St John (NSW) telephone 1300 360 455 or visit [www.stjohnnsw.com.au](http://www.stjohnnsw.com.au).

#### **INVITATION:**

To thank you for your continued support over the years, members of the media are invited to join St John volunteers, staff and local community representatives for Dinner to celebrate 20 years of St John in Coffs Harbour. Special guests include, State member, Andrew Fraser, General Manager of the city council, Stephen Sawtell and the Mayor of Coffs Harbour, Keith Rhodes.

**When:** Sat 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2006, 6.00pm

**Where:** Coffs Harbour Catholic Club, West high Street, Coffs Harbour

**RSVP:** Kate Kelly, 9219 6856 or 0410 220 872.

**Interview and photo opportunities will be available.**

ENDS- Fact sheet to follow

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T: 9219 6856 or 0410 220 872.

## First in First Aid



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Fact Sheet- St John in Coffs Harbour Today:

#### **Coffs Harbour Division**

The St John Coffs Harbour Division, under the direction of Superintendent Jennifer Davis, is very active in the local community with 9 volunteers contributing approximately 3000 hours of service each year with more than 1800 casualties treated in 2005.

Regular duties include sporting events, fetes, New Years Eve celebrations, festivals, concerts and ANZAC Day Marches.

#### **Coffs Harbour Training Area**

The Coffs Harbour Training Area volunteers provide first aid training, predominantly to community groups at discounted prices.

Russ Wesslink, Chairman of the Coffs Harbour Training Area currently has 4 volunteer trainers working with him. Last year they taught 641 community members first aid.

#### **Contact St John (NSW) in Coffs Harbour**

Telephone 1300 360 455 or visit [www.stjohnnsw.com.au](http://www.stjohnnsw.com.au) to find out more about volunteering with St John, learning first aid or for first aid kits and products. The Coffs Harbour division currently meets on Tuesdays at 6.30pm at the Coffs Harbour Showground.