

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**21 May 2008**

# **Cessnock Advanced First Responders ready for World Youth Day**

Five members of St John Ambulance Cessnock Division successfully completed an Advanced First Responder course in Coffs Harbour last month, in preparation for World Youth Day, which is taking place in July this year.

This course adds to the already high level of first aid skills the members have and includes training in areas such as spinal injury care and blood pressure monitoring.

Divisional Superintendent David Corrie is pleased that the Division can now provide a higher level of service to the community.

“While we have members attending World Youth Day events in Sydney as volunteer first aiders, the real benefit will be to our own local community,” said Mr Corrie.

Cessnock Division attends many events in the local area including A Day On The Green concerts and the Lovedale Long Lunch, as well as providing volunteer first aid services at motocross and other sporting events.

“It is quite exciting really,” said Mr Corrie. “A person can join St John Ambulance with only a first aid certificate and in a few years they will increase their skills and obtain a nationally recognised qualification.”

In June 2008 St John Ambulance Australia turns 125, celebrating thousands of hours of first aid training and voluntary community service, and remaining the leading first aid organisation across the country.

As part of celebrations, St John is encouraging the community to get involved with the organisation through one of three ways. This includes becoming a volunteer, doing business with St John through first aid training or buying a first aid kit, or by making a donation to help support our charitable services.

For more information about St John Ambulance please phone: 1300 360 455 or visit [www.stjohnnsw.com.au](http://www.stjohnnsw.com.au)

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