



MEDIA RELEASE

25 November 2008

St John Ambulance Singleton Division appoints new Superintendent

Justice of the Peace Wayde Walker has been appointed the new Superintendent of St John (NSW) Singleton Division.

The Superintendent manages all aspects of a division, including recruiting and training volunteers, coordinating events, as well as finances and other administrative duties.

Wayde Walker JP has been a volunteer with St John since 1992, and has also been nominated for several community service awards including 'Young Australian Of The Year' for dedicated voluntary service.

He has also worked with several community groups such as the Local Youth Programs' Advisory Committee and Area Transport Scheme Committee, and he currently works for The Maitland Hospital.

Mr Walker has been appointed as the replacement for Connie Merritt who, after 14 years as Divisional Superintendent, is relocating interstate.

Ms Merritt has dedicated hundreds of hours of voluntary service to the local community and received several awards and commendations, including:

- Singleton's Citizen Of The Year – twice
- Australian Army Cadets Commendation
- NSW Army Cadet Brigade Commanding Officers Commendation
- Sister of the Order of St John

Northern Region's Superintendent Kerrie Hall is very grateful for Ms Merritt's contribution over the last 14 years.

"We appreciate all the hard work Connie has done for St John, the division and the local community. We wish Connie and her family the best in their new home" Ms Hall said.

St John Singleton division is responsible for providing first aid at annual events such as NSW Army Cadet Camp at Singleton Army Base as well as rodeos and concerts in the vineyards.

In Connie Merritt's parting comments, she supports Wayde Walker as an excellent choice and that the local community can expect the same high level of service from the division.

"I am very confident Wayde, with the support of our St John team, will continue our mission of providing the highest calibre voluntary service to the local community" Ms Merritt said.

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For further information please contact:

Guilherme Feijo
Marketing Partner, Community
St John Ambulance Australia (NSW)
T: 9219 6894 / M: 0410 220 872 / E: guilherme_feijo@stjohnsw.com.au

