

## Numeralla Countegany Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

**Muster 18 December 2014 -**

**Radio Familiarisation - Heather Jauncey, Team Leader Support Unit  
guest presenter**

### Attendees

<b>Numeralla- Countegany Brigade</b>
Terry Myers
Fran Robertson
Bruce English
Chris Rutherford
Mark Shubert

### Apologies

Regina Roach

### Radio Familiarisation

In Truck radio use	When more than one truck, or appliance, is involved in the same incident, it is important to recognise the chain of command, directions given and use of radios.
Communication with FCC via the PMR dashboard radio.	<p>At the incident the OIC will communicate with FC via PMR.</p> <p>Under the above circumstances the only time that a Truck needs to communicate directly with Fire Command at FCC is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On leaving the Fire Shed to ensure that FCC is aware of response &amp; crews.</li> <li>2. On arrival at the Fire Ground</li> <li>3. On leaving the Fire Ground</li> <li>4. On return back at the Fire Shed.</li> </ol>
Communication between Trucks and Fire Ground colleagues	The communication with FCC is via the PMR (Private Mobile Radio) system. In the Trucks this is the radio unit on the dashboard (Fig 1).

**RADIO OPERATION**  
**Motorola XTL 5000 - 03**



4  
**Figure 1**

Communication between Trucks & colleagues is usually via UHF CB (Simplex Radio)- which offers a line of sight working system.

The PMR system is a Duplex System where Repeater Stations are used to enhance the signal.

In the event of an emergency do not hesitate to use PMR.

Zone Name

Monaro is Region South ( Zone Prefix S)  
 To change Zones use the ZNUP or ZNDN buttons. Briefly hit the talk button to lock in a Zone. Change is only required if you are operating in a different area. (Zone)  
 A Zone is simply a grouping of channels. The new radio profile has the following Zones:

Zone Prefix	Zone Name	Description
N	Region North	Vote Groups, GRN Channels and individual PMR channels for Region North Districts
S	Region South	Vote Groups, GRN Channels and individual PMR channels for Region South Districts
E	Region East	Vote Groups, GRN Channels and individual PMR channels for Region East Districts
W	Region West	Vote Groups, GRN Channels and individual PMR channels for Region West Districts
T	Tactical	State Wide GRN channels for special operations use (e.g. OPS channels)
F	Field Ops	Simplex and Portable Repeater Field Ops channels
P	Analog PMR	Old analog PMR channels for use in Districts not yet upgraded to Digital PMR (includes Analog vote groups for your region)
ESO	ESO Liaison	Inter-agency Liaison channels (ESO and GL channels)
V	Version	The version of the profile installed in your radio. This is for information only, you cannot transmit on this channel.

User Programmable Preset Buttons

A feature of the hand held radios allows the user to preset the 1,2 or 3 radio keypad buttons for commonly used channels.  
 1. Select the Zone & Channel you want to program

(Hot Keys) How to program the 1,2 or 3 buttons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Hold down the number key (ie 1, 2, or 3) that you want it programmed to for 2 seconds, until the radio “beeps”.</li> <li>3. Repeat for other channels that you wish to program.</li> </ol>
Microphone on Hand Held Radio	Note that the microphone is on the top left-hand side of the Hand set. It is important to depress the transmission button, wait for two seconds before speaking clearly into the microphone.
Problem solving – if the radio doesn’t work	<p>Check the cables and plugs</p> <p>Check the aerial</p> <p>There is a fan in the radio – ensure that the radio is not covered and has air circulation.</p>
Digital change from Analogue due 2015	Digital offers a wider bandwidth and therefore delivers more channels and greater clarity. It is due to be implemented during 2015.
The Incident Controller communication to FCC must cover “FTASC” Fire, Threat, Action, Support, Command	<p>Fire – The type of Fire</p> <p>Threat – Property that is under threat</p> <p>Action – Defensive or offensive action to be taken</p> <p>Support – What support is needed</p> <p>Command – Who is in control</p> <p>There is a checklist adhered to the windscreen of each truck.</p>
Practical application	Muster attendees gained practical experience in using PMR radios, searching for Zones, changing Zones & setting pre-set buttons.