

# Media Release



## North Sydney Unit

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## NORTH SYDNEY SES READY FOR STORMY WEATHER

Volunteers at North Sydney SES were ready when the bad weather swept across the Harbourside area on Wednesday evening leaving a trail of fallen trees and water damage to homes.

From early Thursday morning (1am) and right across the weekend, North Sydney SES had a rotating crew of 4-5 highly trained volunteers out responding to more than 20 calls for assistance. Homes had experienced water damage from the heavy rain late Wednesday and into the early hours of Thursday. The windy conditions played further havoc and brought down trees and large branches in the area.

“Our team was quick to respond to numerous calls as the bad weather arrived, ensuring we did everything possible to protect local residents and their properties from further damage,” said Team Leader, Tom Cameron. “We were kept busy from 1am Thursday morning securing roofs and clearing blocked drain pipes. This shows how important it is for local residents to prepare their homes for storm season which will be with us now until March next year.”

“We also had crews out over the weekend, clearing trees and securing tarps in the wet, windy conditions,” said Team Leader, Daniel Pritchard. “On Saturday we were kept busy cutting back a large tree that was tangled within power lines and threatening cars and pedestrians on Raymond Rd, Neutral Bay. Energy Australia disconnected the power and we were able to clear the tree and ensure residents were kept safe. The danger of parking under trees was seen on Sunday when our team removed a tree from a parked vehicle on Holdsworth St, Neutral Bay. We also took down three Pencil Pines that were leaning on a block of units in Neutral Bay. We had many other smaller tree and tarp jobs that kept up us busy during the stormy weather.”

*The worst in nature  
the best in us*

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The extreme weather this week marks an early start to the official storm season that runs from October to March. It also highlights the importance for local residents to prepare their homes for bad weather, as well as ensuring they take care during a storm and making the most of the help the SES can provide.

If help is needed during a storm, there are a few things Harbourside residents can do that will help the SES respond more effectively.

- If the storm damage is not life-threatening, use the SES flood and storm emergency number, 132 500 (otherwise, use 000). All calls are logged, so you do not need to call 132 500 more than once.
- Be ready to give your address, nearest cross street, phone number and a description of the damage.
- Please understand that SES volunteers may be responding to hundreds or even thousands of calls, and you might have to wait for a while.
- If a neighbour or insurance company helps you before SES volunteers arrive, please ring 132 500 again to let the volunteers know they can take your task out of the queue.

For more information on staying safe in storms and floods, ring the SES on 1 800 201 000 or visit [www.ses.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ses.nsw.gov.au).

For emergency assistance during a storm or flood call the SES on 132 500.'

**End**

**For further information contact:**

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