

## Transcript for Fallen Personnel Memorial video

[Gentle music]

[Text on screen] Fallen Personnel Memorial

[Chris Hardman] This beautiful Memorial behind me, has a list of people that paid the ultimate sacrifice while at work.

[Text on screen] Chris Hardman Chief Fire Officer

[Chris Hardman] They may have been working in a bush, working in one of our offices, protecting our community from bushfire, but each one of those people didn't go home at the end of that shift. I think it's really important for us to remember and give ourselves the opportunity to reflect on the amazing sacrifice made by so many people in service of their community.

[Music]

[Text on Screen] Peter McHugh Historian

[Peter McHugh] It goes back probably to the early days of colonisation, the first 50 years or so of forestry and fire management in Victoria could best be described as chaotic.

[Text on Screen] Early colonisation

[Peter McHugh] It was settlers. It was miners. It was basically a free for all.

[Text on Screen] 1932

[Peter McHugh] There's a number of really significant events along the way. If I had to pick out one above all others, it would be the 1939 bushfires.

[Text on Screen] 1939

[Peter McHugh] The loss of 71 lives, the burning of 2 million hectares of forest and nearly a third of Victoria's forest will burn in a few days.

[Voiceover] With rising winds and rising temperatures a hard fight is ahead. Experienced bush workers and sawmill hands are quickly on the way from other districts to join those already at the fire.

[Peter McHugh] That then led to royal commission, and they invested heavily.

[Text on screen] Royal Commission

[Text on screen] 1940s

[Peter McHugh] Roads, fire towers, airplanes, bulldozers, equipment; set up systems, built an entire organisation focused on managing forests and managing fire.

So that sort of set the framework for the way Victoria deals with forests and fire.

[Text on screen] 1986

[Music]

[Chris Hardman] I think we all share an incredible passion for the bush and to protect our communities.

[Siren]

[Chris Hardman] And when it comes to fire and emergency year after year, the same people step up again, and again, and again, and put themselves in harm's way. Why? Because they care so deeply about the environment and about the communities they serve. I am so proud of every single contribution that every single staff member make to serve our communities in fire and land management.

[Music]

[Text on screen] Two of our fallen personnel are Katie Peters and Steven Kadar.

[Text on screen] Katie and Steven tragically lost their lives while fighting a fire at Harrietville in February 2013.

[Text on screen] We are grateful for Katie's parents, Chris and Heather, for speaking with us as part of this video.

[Text on screen] Chris and Heather Peters, Katie's parents

[Chris Peters] Heard on the news that it was 2 males who were killed. And I thought it can't be Katie. You know, it's 2 males and I thought it's going to be one of the people from up here because I was told it was from the one from the Milla crew and I thought that's terrible. Gosh we'll have console Katy; it's going to be bad. And it was Katie, so...

[Heather Peters] It was horrible.

[Chris Peters] It was just um, yeah, it was terrible. Worse day of your life. Easy, easy.

[Music]

[Heather Peters] Doesn't feel like 7 years to me. And I can't talk about her. Hmmm.

[Chris Peters] Yeah, time, time heals, but yeah, I was, about a month ago, oh just 3 weeks ago I was just going through some of Katie's stuff and yeah I didn't last long doing that...

[Heather Peters] No.

[Chris Peters] before I burst into tears.

[Music]

[Chris Peters] And I do like that they've got a central one in Melbourne, but they've got the regional ones, for the Regions. Yeah, so.

[Heather Peters] They're not forgotten.

[Chris Peters] Yeah, people have given their life. I guess it's not really as if they thought they were risking their life, but they've died, you know, doing what they're doing. It's good to recognise them having a memorial.

[Music]

[Peter McHugh] There's a strong sense of family having worked in DELWP and its predecessors. Most people know each other or know of each other. There's a very strong sense of network. You know people. So when a tragedy occurs, it shakes itself right through the entire organisation. The organisation is a construct, but underneath that are individuals and they're all good people. They all work hard. They all try hard. They're always trying to do their best. That's the sense I see in DELWP, in its forebears and still today.

[Music]

[Chris Hardman] Having this fantastic memorial to enable all of us to reflect on those people that have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of their communities.

I feel so privileged to have been a part of this. If you want to see more, we do have a website where all of the people that have died in service to our communities are represented. Please check it out.

Please look at all the material that we have available.

And of course, we will see in every region one of these memorials represented, focusing on your people from your area that paid that sacrifice to our communities. Thank you so much.

[Music]

[Text on screen] We will always remember and cherish our fallen colleagues.

ANSON William	Lang Alan
APTED Amos	LE BRUN Thomas
ARGENT Vivian John	LEE Henry
BADAWAY Nabil	LEWIS Richard
BARBER_FANKHAUSER Cheryl	LUNSON Albert
BARLING John Hartley	LYNCH Allan
BATTY Albert Zion	LYNCH Peter
BAULCH Philip	MCKENZIE Barry
BLACKBURN David	MCLEAN Thomas
BOARDMAN Joseph	MCQUILTEN Kerry
BOYCE Ernest John	MICKAN Walter
BRUNETT George	MILLER Edward
BYRNES John	MODESTI Claudio
CAIN James Valentine	MOLE Brian
CARMICHAEL Andrew	MOLONEY James
CHERRY Joseph	MOORE Arthur Bruce
COGGER Henry	MORESI David
COLLERY Michael	MORRISON Gerald
COLLIER Peter	MULSHARE Robert Frances
COLLINS Des	MURDOCK Peter
CONWAY Randall	NEASON Alfred
CRAMER Peter	NEWTON Robert
CREIGHTON Neville	O'BRIEN Robert

CROWLEY Thomas Jeremiah  
CRUMP Joseph  
CYR Roger  
DAWSON William  
DEMBY Charles Isaac  
DONALD Thomas  
EDWARDS Francis  
EDWARDS Temple  
ENGEL Otto  
FITZPATRICK Cecil  
FITZPATRICK George Arthur  
FITZPATRICK James Michael  
FLETCHER Thomas James  
GAUDION Neil  
GILLIES Fredrick Charles  
GILLETT Stan  
GLADIGAU Walter  
GOREY Michael John  
HAMMER Gary  
HAY Leslie Carl  
HILL David  
HILL Kerri  
HODGE Michael  
HODGE Victor Charles  
HOGG William  
HOWITT James  
HUME Allen  
IGOSHUS Antonio  
IGOSHUS Pandelis  
ILLINGSWORTH George Henry  
ILLINGSWORTH George William  
JAMIESON Stephen  
JOHNS Herbert  
JOHNS James Henry  
JOHNS Sydney  
JOHNSTON Baden  
JOHNSTONE Joseph Charles Ross  
JONES Jeffery  
KADAR Steven  
KAVANAGH Mat  
KEARNS Kevin  
KENT Charles Alexander  
KERSLAKE Kenneth  
KEY William Francis  
KNOPP John Patrick  
KNUCKLEY James Martin Buchanan  
KING Lindsay Douglas

O'SHEA John  
OSTERMANN George  
PARKER Neil  
PAUL Edward  
PAYNE Archibald Charles  
PAYNE George  
PETERS Arthur Harvey  
PETERS Katie  
POWER Richard  
RADFORD Tom  
RAMSAY Robert  
REGAN Vincent  
RICHARDS Wilfred Michael  
ROBINSON C.A  
ROBINSON Francis William  
RODGERS James  
ROGERS Clarence William  
ROGERS Gilbert Bernard  
ROUSE Terrence Kemp  
ROWELL Ian Weir  
ROWLEY Stanly Thomas  
SADDLIER Ronald James  
SANDHAM Albert Ernest  
SANDY John  
SAXTON Alfred Bentley  
SCHULTZ August (Jack)  
SCHULTZ Arthur  
SIMS Lemuel  
SLADE Bill  
SMITH D'Arcy Michael  
SOLDARIS Christos  
SPIERS Arthur Leslie  
STANFORD Blake  
STOKES Richard  
TRIGG Arthur Edwin  
TUCKER Leslie Claude  
TULLY Keith James (Tim)  
TURNER Albert Keith  
WALKER Edgar John  
WALLACE Michael John Patrick  
WALSH Valentine  
WELCH Kenneth John  
WELLS Kevin  
WEST Hedley John  
WILSON Fredrick  
WEATT Geoffrey

[Music]

[Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning logo]

