

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

# Winning design for national emergency services memorial

By Neil Head

EMA was one of a number of key organisations invited to Parliament House for the March announcement by the Prime Minister of the winning design for the Australian Emergency Services Memorial.

In his remarks the Prime Minister included:

*“Australia has long needed a national memorial to mark the nation’s respect for the enormous sacrifices that so many people in our emergency services make in the interests of our own personal safety and in the interests of our national well-being.*

*This announcement (of the winning design) takes place only a short period of time after the Australian community living in Canberra has been particularly reminded of the ferocity of natural events, and has had the opportunity of seeing on full and such effective display the capacity of our emergency services.*

*We were all greatly touched by what they did, we’re all very grateful to them for what they did. And at a time when people are...*



Photo courtesy of the National Capital Authority

The Prime Minister, Mr John Howard, congratulating the winning designer of the Australian Emergency Services Memorial at Parliament House

*young Australians, young Australian men and women have their lives on the line in the service of the nation around the world we are particularly conscious of people who do things that involve a great personal risk to them for their fellow Australians.*

*Today is an opportunity to announce the winner of this competition and to recommit the Government to the construction of the Memorial and to look forward to its opening*

*The National Emergency Services Memorial will honour both career personnel and volunteers. And when we think of Australian mateship, nothing better expresses it than the way in which people work together at a time of adversity. We all saw it in the Canberra community quite magnificently and other communities have seen it over the years, not only in relation to bushfires and floods but also in relation to other events and tragedies.*



The winning design



Photo courtesy of the National Capital Authority

*The Prime Minister, Mr John Howard, with emergency services representatives attending the announcement of the winning designer for the Australian Emergency Services Memorial at Parliament House.*

*And on every occasion there's a magnificent willingness on the part of Australians to come together – the community – differences are forgotten, inhibitions fall away and people work together.*

*This Memorial will honour especially those who've died making Australia a safer place and helping their fellow Australians. The Memorial will be located at the western edge of Kings Park (at the site previously dedicated) and is scheduled for completion within the next 12 months.*

*I have great pleasure in announcing the winning design, and the winning design fulfils very much the requirements of the design brief to commemorate the contribution and sacrifice of emergency services personnel in a sensitive, yet very powerful way. A simple yet moving design that allows for visits to the Memorial to be both private and shared. And the winner – the design was submitted by ASPECT Melbourne Proprietary Limited .”*

EMA is represented on the Steering Committee for the project through DGEMA, David Templeman. David was represented at this event by EMA Director Development, Neil Head. Neil will co-ordinate a more a more detailed coverage of the Memorial, and its implications for future commemorations and activities at the site, for the next edition of AJEM.