

Media Release

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Challenging First Aid skills, do they have what it takes?

The challenge of the annual St John Ambulance Cadet First Aid Competitions will take place this weekend at the Ambulance Centre, Ross Smith Avenue, Parap.

Fourteen cadets and cadet leaders aged between 11 and 25 years old from across the Territory will have their First Aid skills and knowledge put to the test in practical assessments lasting around 20 minutes each. The competitors will be faced with mock accident scenarios, requiring them to treat anything from small cuts and abrasions to shock, snake bites, unconsciousness, heat stroke and suspected spinal injuries and many other possibilities.

Volunteer casualties will have their 'make up', or CasSim (casualty simulation) applied to mimic real injuries the cadets are required to identify and treat. The skills used to triage, assess and then appropriately treat all of the injuries found, will earn them valuable points during their timed assessment.

Three teams will compete, two cadet leaders and two individual competitors. Some of these young members have travelled from as far afield as Alice Springs, others are from closer to home. All of the competitors will be facing off to not only win the local trophy, but earn them a place on the team that will travel to Sydney in January to attend the National Competitions and put their skills to the test with the best of the rest of the country.

St John Ambulance NT Commissioner, Mark Ferguson stated, 'These competitions challenge the cadets to draw on all of their training, leadership skills, problem solving and first aid knowledge, to ensure their 'patient' is given the most appropriate care'.

There are over 450 St John Ambulance volunteers across the Territory from Darwin, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. Around half of those are cadets aged 11-18 years old.

The Territory competitions will take place at the St John Ambulance Centre, Ross Smith Avenue, Parap from 8.30am to 12pm this Sunday.

For more information please contact the Volunteer Office on 89226205 or visit our website at www.stjohnnt.org.au

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