

22 June 2016

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Strong Winds Strike Mountains

Strong winds have caused significant damage across the Blue Mountains since Monday evening as winds peaked at 98 kph in Blackheath.

The NSW SES responded to 110 calls for assistance within a 48 hour period as a number of trees fell mainly in the Upper Blue Mountains area.

“We had up to 8 teams of volunteers working day and night,” stated John Hughes, Local Controller for the NSW SES.

“The majority of calls were between Medlow Bath and Wentworth Falls with a small number of calls in the lower Blue Mountains and Blackheath areas” Mr Hughes continued,

NSW SES teams from Blue Mountains were supported by teams from Penrith and The Hills to clear the large amount of work. The Rural Fire Services provided crews to assist the SES with a number of trees that had fallen on the ground and staff from Blue Mountains City Council cleared a number of blocked roads.

NSW SES volunteers will continue on throughout the winter to be prepared to respond to further windstorm and possible snow events in the Blue Mountains.

Residents are reminded that they should be “StormSafe” and can obtain advice on how to prepare their property at the SES website [www.stormsafe.com.au](http://www.stormsafe.com.au)

If householders require assistance in storms, ring the NSW SES on 132 500 at anytime.

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