The Salmon family is ready for any emergency. All four members are State Emergency Service volunteers. Noel Salmon, his wife Roxy, and their two daughters Beverley and Vicki work at the Enfield Station.

Noel, who has been a member of the SES for 26 years, is the station’s Controller. He tells the others what they have to do. Roxy is the Welfare Officer, supplying volunteers with food and drinks during an emergency. Beverley works as the Communications Officer and Vicki helps to organise rescues.

In the past year the volunteers at the Enfield station have attended 111 jobs. They have meetings where they learn and practise the skills for the jobs they do.

When Noel joined the SES, his family all wanted to join too. He said, ‘I am happy to be able to help the community and meet lots of different people. They appreciate our help.’

The Salmon family is always prepared for the next emergency. ‘We have to be ready to deal with houses with roofs blown off, floods, bushfires ... just about anything.’

Adapted from Merriman, John 1997, ‘A real family affair’, The Advertiser, 15 November. Courtesy of John Merriman (journalist) and Advertiser Newspapers Ltd.