

**Brenton Ragless**  
**Nine Presenter & EMIB Ambassador**

**DETAILED VERSION:**

Brenton Ragless is a long-standing Presenter with the Nine Network, co-hosting Adelaide's 6pm Weekday News Bulletin and other occasional broadcasts including SA's Christmas Pageant, the Summer Today Show and Nine's Olympic coverage in Paris.

Brenton initially started with Nine in 2008 as the weekday weather presenter - his early training ground was the local fire station, where his Father volunteered with the Country Fire Service.

"I was only six years-old when Dad was deployed to the Ash Wednesday bushfires, and I distinctly remember the plume of 'blood orange' dust & smoke outside our window while watching the news updates - it's the earliest I can remember correlating what I was seeing on TV with what was occurring real-time in our neighbourhood, and it birthed an interest in sharing stories about disaster response & community resilience."

On finishing Blackwood High in 1993, Brenton too became an active CFS volunteer. One of his first jobs was voicing national forecasts for Telstra's 'Dial-it Weather Information Service' while working as a Radio Announcer on Adelaide's 107.9 LifeFM. Over that same period, Brenton studied a Diploma of Business in Tourism, which led to casual work as a driver/tour guide for Grayline.

In 2002, Brenton took on a full-time role at CFS State Headquarters as a media spokesperson for the SA Country Fire Service, and later a fire & emergencies reporter for ABC radio. He graduated from a Masters Degree in Communication at UniSA in 2007, followed by a year working in Public Affairs for the Department of Defence, both in Adelaide & Canberra.

Brenton's 30th year in broadcasting saw him in Paris sharing the inspirational moments of our Aussie athletes in Nine's coverage of the Olympic Games.

"Growing up as a family of swimmers in the 80s & 90s, our weekends were spent competing in state comps, taking inspiration from athletes like Kieran Perkins bound for Sydney 2000 - though I figured the closest I'd ever get to the Olympics was watching it on TV! An injury had me out of the water for several months, so I joined mum poolside to announce the competitors behind the blocks at our local swim meets. That first time behind the mic set me on a path to my first broadcasting role on community radio in July 1994, and - 30 years later - sharing stories about our community is still at the heart of who I am & what I'm passionate about."

Outside of Nine, Brenton is a regular event host, speaker & commentator, and still provides support to fire & other frontline services as an ambassador for several emergency service foundations & safety programs, among other not-for-profit & charitable organisations.

He also lends a hand in the preservation & promotion of South Australia's railway heritage and is a qualified steam train driver for the National Railway Museum, which includes the Semaphore to Fort Glanville Railway.

Brenton still swims today and continues to share his passion for the fire service with his dad's own classic fire engine – a brilliant red, open cab 1961 International.

**BRIEF VERSION:**

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