



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Volunteer firefighters honoured with \$1 million new truck investment

22 April 2023

Experienced firefighters from across the RFS Lower North Coast Zone will be celebrated for more than 1,000 years of service as the area receives \$1.16 million worth of tankers to enhance its firefighting capabilities.

Thirty-nine Long Service Medals and seven National Medals will be presented this morning by Acting Area Commander, Superintendent Paul Best at a ceremony at the Slim Dusty Centre in Kempsey.

Superintendent Best said these medals are a proud acknowledgement of the commitment shown by these individuals over the years.

“Every single one of these members should be proud of themselves and their dedication to protecting communities across the state,” Superintendent Best said.

“I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the five members receiving Long Service Medals for 40 or more years’ service.

“Congratulations also to Paul Bourne who will be receiving the National Medal for 37 years’ service. Paul joined the Yarahapinni/Stuarts Point Brigade in 1985 and has also been a well-respected member of the Critical Incident Support Team, showcasing his leadership and commitment to the wellbeing of his colleagues.”

Superintendent Best said it was a significant boost to the Lower North Coast’s firefighting arsenal to receive the keys to three new fire trucks for the Frederickton, Aldavilla and Lower North Coast Brigades.

“These firefighting appliances are worth a combined \$1.16 million but to our members, they are a priceless resource so they can continue to protect the community,” Superintendent Best said.

“The hard work and professionalism of all RFS members does not go unnoticed and while they do not ask for praise, we should take every opportunity to acknowledge their contribution and commitment to their community.

“We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all RFS volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and property.”

For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855
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