



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Murrumbateman Brigade celebrates centenary and members' dedication

26 August 2022

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) members will gather tomorrow night to celebrate 100 years of the Murrumbateman Rural Fire Brigade, at an event to be held at the Brigade's station.

NSW RFS Deputy Commissioner Kyle Stewart will join a host of special guests to congratulate members past and present for building up the brigade into the community focal point it is today and to present 15 National Emergency Medals, 2 National Medals and 14 Long Service Medals to brigade members.

Deputy Commissioner Stewart said the event is an opportunity to congratulate the brigade on this significant milestone and to thank members for their ongoing commitment and service.

"This brigade has a proud history and has put a lot of effort into developing its members over the years and strengthening its relationship with the community," Deputy Commissioner Stewart said.

"Sir Walter Merriman was the first captain in the early 1900's and was the driving force to start a brigade in the area – I'm certain he would be proud to see how far the brigade has come.

"Today, the Murrumbateman Brigade has 66 members and played a considerable role in the 2019/20 bush fires, deploying members right across the state." he said.

Deputy Commissioner Stewart said the National Emergency Medal is awarded to those whose service was in the protection of lives and property or in the service of interests that are not their own and who supported the emergency response for a minimum of five days between September 2019 and February 2020.

"This weekend we recognise 15 brigade members who should be proud of themselves and their dedication to protecting communities across the state," Deputy Commissioner Stewart said.

"They performed admirably during an incredibly difficult fire season and went above and beyond when deployed to other regions to help local brigades battle devastating blazes.

"Congratulations too, to the members who are being presented with their Long Service and National Medals with over 300 years of service between them.

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

"We must also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of these and all volunteers. We know it takes their support to help our members 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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