



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

March Brigade celebrates 75 years protecting the community

24 March 2018

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Assistant Commissioner Rebel Talbert and Member for Orange Mr Philip Donato MP have congratulated the volunteers of the March Rural Fire Brigade on their 75th Anniversary, at a ceremony held today at the Brigade's station on McKay Road.

Member for Orange Mr Philip Donato MP said that local volunteers have been serving the Canobolas Zone area since the early 1940s.

"From its humble beginnings, we have watched the March Brigade grow into the professional and dedicated firefighting service we are celebrating today," Mr Donato said.

"Established during the era of World War II, the March Rural Fire Brigade has a strong history of working tirelessly to attend emergencies both locally and further afield when needed.

Assistant Commissioner Rebel Talbert said the Brigade is now very well established and respected by the local community it serves and that is testament to the dedication of both its current members and the efforts of all of those who were a part of the Brigade throughout its history.

"The Brigade attends many incidents each year, including bush and grass fires and motor vehicle accidents" Assistant Commissioner Talbert said.

"From the early days of formation to now, March Brigade members are always ready to lend a hand to protect the community.

Assistant Commissioner Talbert also presented eight volunteers with a medal for Long Service.

"It is an honour to present these awards and reflect upon the outstanding achievements of all members," Assistant Commissioner Talbert said.

"I'd particularly like to congratulate three members for over 50 years' service.

"Martin Doyle joined the Euabalong Brigade in 1965, transferring to March Brigade the year after and has been an active, committed members since.

"I'd also like to congratulate Arthur Culverson on his 53 years service, holding the role Deputy Captain since 1980.

"An AFSM medal recipient, John Kjoller must also be recognized for his 52 years dedicated to protecting the local community, as Captain of the March Brigade since 1998.

"It is the dedication of all members that will see the Jellat Brigade maintain a strong presence in the community into the future."

**For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855.
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