



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Canobolas Zone celebrates veteran volunteers and thanks firefighters

7 June 2018

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) members today gathered to celebrate the achievements of Canobolas Zone volunteers during the past year and honour veteran members for their long-standing dedication and commitment to protecting the community.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Jason Heffernan joined members and dignitaries for the 2018 Canobolas Zone Volunteers Conference, held to thank NSW RFS volunteers and to highlight the opportunities and support available to help local Rural Fire Brigades expand.

Former Australian Army major general Senator Jim Molan AO DSC attended the conference, sharing his expertise in planning to prevent tragedies and disasters.

The conference also provided an opportunity to present Long Service Medals to 27 members, who combined have dedicated 1,074 years of service to the local community, including 14 members who have each given more than 40 years of service.

“Every member is worthy of the highest praise, however I would like to make particular mention of Bruce Nash, Uel Balcomb, Kerry Hazelton and Edward Livermore, who are each receiving the Long Service Medal 5th Clasp today in recognition of their more than 60 years of service,” Assistant Commissioner Heffernan said.

“Bruce, Uel, Kerry and Edward joined their Brigades at a time when being a volunteer firefighter was very different and through the years they have shared their experience and expertise with other members while continually upskilling their own abilities and expanding their knowledge.

“The hard work and professionalism of NSW RFS members does not go unnoticed and, while they do not ask for praise, we gladly award these medals as a proud acknowledgement of their contribution and commitment.”

Assistant Commissioner Heffernan said the occasion was a great opportunity for the Service and community to say thank you to all volunteer members.

“The Canobolas Zone is afforded a world-class level of fire protection due to the experience and dedication of our 81 Rural Fire Brigades and we cannot thank them enough,” Assistant Commissioner Heffernan said.