



RFS

Media release

Castlereagh members welcome \$1 million investment in station and trucks

2 November 2023

Castlereagh District Brigade members will celebrate the official opening of the newly built Warrumbungle and Tonderbrine Brigade's station today and acknowledge the commitment of District members at a special ceremony today.

RFS Assistant Commissioner Jayson McKellar said the \$320,000 station had recently completed construction on John Renshaw Parkway at Tonderbrine,

"This station features two truck bays, kitchenette, accessible bathroom, storage facilities and features solar power and water tank," Assistant Commissioner McKellar said.

"Both brigades' trucks were previously housed on private property, so to have a permanent base for both brigades and their vehicles is very welcomed.

Today's ceremony will also include the official handover of new trucks for the Bearbung and Deep Creek Brigades, with a combined value of more than \$700,000.

"The RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out the important work of protecting their local communities from fire and a diverse array of incidents."

The dedication and commitment of RFS members from the Castlereagh District will also be acknowledged with the presentation of one National Medal and 15 Long Service Medals.

Assistant Commissioner McKellar said the 15 members being recognised today with Long Service Medals and Clasps range from 10 to 60 years of service.

"Five members today will be recognised for 50 or more years of service and I would like to make special mention of John Ohem, who is receiving the Long Service Medal and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Double Clasps for 61 years' service," he said.

"Joining in 1962, John has been an integral member of the Hillside, Biddon and Dilly Rural Fire Brigades.

"Members of the Castlereagh District have always answered the call, not only assisting with incidents locally but across the state.

"The RFS members being celebrated today have and continue to give their time, to not only protect their communities, but to carry out critical behind-the-scenes work, which enables our frontline firefighters to do their job.

"I 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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