



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Far North Coast District celebrates dedicated members

**22 April 2023**

More than 40 members of the RFS Far North Coast District will be recognised for their dedication and achievements at a special ceremony in Ocean Shores this morning.

Thirty-six Long Service Medals and seven National Medals will be presented to the members by RFS Assistant Commissioner Mathew Smith.

Assistant Commissioner Smith said these medals, recognising more than 1,200 years of combined service, are a proud acknowledgement of the commitment shown by these individuals over the years.

"I know that the community is thankful for the world-class level of fire protection and assistance afforded to them by volunteers across the Far North Coast District," Assistant Commissioner Smith said.

"I personally extend my gratitude to all of our dedicated firefighters for their continued service."

Two National Medals will be awarded posthumously. Family members of the late Ron Rosolen and George Rushby, who gave 25 and 27 years' service respectively, will accept the National Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Clasp on their behalf.

Assistant Commissioner Smith acknowledged the contribution of Walter (Bruce) Bartrim, who has given 63 years' service and is being awarded the National Medal 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Clasp and the Long Service Medal 5<sup>th</sup> Clasp.

"Bruce has served with the RFS for most of his adult life, performing a variety of roles with the Tyalgum Brigade where he is a current member," Assistant Commissioner Smith said.

"As a great mentor to fellow members, Bruce is always happy to share the wealth of knowledge garnered during so many years in service to the Tyalgum community."

Assistant Commissioner Smith praised the hard work and incredible contribution of brigade members across the region.

"Members of the Far North Coast District have always answered the call, not only assisting with incidents locally but also to communities in need across the state.

"We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all NSW 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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