

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Twenty Rural Fire Service Cadets graduate from Armidale High

9 December 2011

A collection of dedicated year nine, 10 and 11 students from Armidale High School have had their hard work recognised at a graduation ceremony held in their honour.

The 20 students were presented certificates today after successfully completing the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Secondary Schools Cadet Program.

NSW RFS New England Zone Manager Superintendent Steve Mepham congratulated the students, describing them as a credit to their school and the local community.

"These young people have not only learnt valuable lessons about fire safety by completing the program, they have also shown great commitment and team work," Superintendent Mepham said.

"This is the first time that students from Armidale High have participated in the RFS' Secondary School Cadet Program, and it is extremely rewarding to see so many enthusiastic cadets graduate.

"Armidale High School is a great example of a school embracing the Cadet Program and encouraging students to be aware about fire safety and become volunteers within their own communities."

Superintendent Mepham paid tribute to the local RFS brigades and the volunteer members who gave up their time to share their skills and knowledge with the students.

"In addition to our dedicated volunteers, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the principal, teachers and staff from Armidale High School for helping make the Program a success".

Superintendent Mepham said more than 3,000 students across the state had successfully completed the NSW RFS Secondary Schools Cadet Program since its launch six years ago.

"Through the Cadet Program, these 20 students have been given an insight into the NSW RFS ideals of community service, dedication and team work, along with the rewards of volunteering.

"The Service is proud to pass on these traditions to the next generation through the Secondary School Cadet Program, and I'm pleased to hear many of these graduates intend to build on their new skills by joining their local NSW RFS brigade."

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