



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Centenary celebrations for Woodford Rural Fire Brigade

15 April 2023

Celebrations will be held tonight to mark an important milestone for the Blue Mountains' Woodford Rural Fire Brigade and present members with medals in recognition of their dedication and service.

Deputy Commissioner for the RFS Kyle Stewart said all members past and present should be proud of the brigade's 100 year history and the service it has provided to the local community.

"Woodford Brigade has a proud history of protecting not only its local community but many areas further across the state as well," Deputy Commissioner Stewart said.

"Formed in January 1923, the Woodford Brigade now has 125 members and has seen great progress from the early basic equipment on hand like leather beaters and buckets, to the modern, well equipped and professional brigade it is today, with three fire trucks and brigade station."

Deputy Commissioner Stewart said the Woodford Brigade continues to be very active and responds to not only bush fires, but also motor vehicle accidents, assisting with search operations and assisting the NSW SES with storm damage

"This dedicated group of volunteers are very engaged with the local community they protect and are committed to making sure the community is as well prepared for bush fires as possible, after battling significant fire activity in 2013 and the 2019-2020 fire season," Deputy Commissioner Stewart said.

This celebration is an opportunity to not only congratulate the brigade on their 100 year anniversary but also thank members for their ongoing commitment and service, with the presentation of nine Long Service Medals.

"While all of tonight's recipients are worthy, I congratulate Michael Attard on receiving the Long Service Medal 3rd Clasp for 40 years' service.

"Since joining the brigade in 1981, Michael has been instrumental in establishing community engagement within the brigade and has held numerous ranked positions, including Community Engagement Officer, Senior Deputy Captain and Vice President, along with receiving Life Membership of the brigade back in 2009," Deputy Commissioner Stewart said.

"The hard work and professionalism of all NSW RFS members does not go unnoticed and while they do not ask for praise, we should take this opportunity to acknowledge their contribution and commitment to their community.

"We must also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of these and all volunteers. We know it takes their support to help our members 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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