



RFS

Media release

RFS members in Cumberland/ Macarthur District honoured for committed and sustained service

24 November 2023

Twenty-seven dedicated RFS volunteers from brigades across the Cumberland/Macarthur District in the Blacktown and Fairfield LGAs will be recognised tonight with the presentation of medals for service.

RFS Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie will join the members, their family and friends, along with other special guests, at a special event at the Colebee Centre in Doonside to present the medals.

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said the volunteers being awarded had together given a total of more than 550 years of service to the community.

"The 16 members being recognised with Long Service Medals and clasps range from 10 to 41 years of service," Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

"I would like to make special mention of Bruce Graham of the Horsley Park Rural Fire Brigade, who is being recognised for an impressive 41 years' service.

"During his time with the brigade, Bruce has held the role of Deputy Captain and Brigade President and has consistently displayed commitment to protect local communities. Bruce was awarded Brigade Life Membership in 2018.

"Two members will also be presented the National Emergency Medal for sustained service to NSW during the 2019/2020 fire season, and a further eight will receive the National Medal recognising those who have gone above and beyond what is expected of members within their brigades."

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie will also present the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and British Columbia II Clasp to Benjamin Robb of Horsely Park Brigade.

"This award is presented to members of the Service in recognition of their deployment to Canada in 2017 and we commend Benjamin on his commitment and service to the global community.

"The RFS members being celebrated tonight 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."

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie also acknowledged those who support the volunteers receiving awards.

"We 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."