

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Celebrations for Braidwood NSW RFS volunteers

27 July 2013

The long standing commitment of volunteer firefighters from Braidwood and the surrounding areas was today acknowledged by NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons at the official opening of a brand new Fire Control Centre and Brigade station.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons also joined John Barilaro MP at the opening to present eleven volunteers with long service medals.

"The new brigade station has been purpose built with the support of many, including the Council, the NSW Government, Country Energy and many members of the Brigade itself. Its completion is a tremendous boost to the community.

"This facility will bring together resources into one centralised purpose built Fire Control Centre and Brigade Station", said Commissioner Fitzsimmons.

"NSW RFS members now have access to a kitchen, outdoor area, storerooms, meeting and training rooms, change rooms, laundry and accommodation for four fire trucks.

"This new Fire Control Centre and Station is reflective of our commitment to providing our members with the equipment and support they need to do their important jobs," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

"Whilst our members don't volunteer for awards or accolades, I would like to acknowledge the dedication demonstrated by today's medal recipients.

"Together, these eleven volunteers have amassed more than 280 years service between them, an admirable achievement, and one worthy of our gratitude.

"I would particularly like to pay tribute to John Maddrell, who has dedicated more than 60 years to the NSW RFS in a variety of firefighting roles, including as a passionate advocate for the need to properly equip the Brigade.

"The Lake George Zone has more than 1,100 volunteers who remain on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week ready to assist with all manner of emergencies.

"I would like to thank each of them, and their families, for their skills, service and dedication," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

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