



RFS

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Media release

A millennium of service recognised on the Central Coast

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More than 70 volunteers from the Central Coast District of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) will today be recognised for their commitment to the community, having amassed more than a millennium of time served.

RFS Deputy Commissioner, Peter McKechnie AFSM, will be joined by Minister with responsibility for Volunteering and Member for Charlestown, the Hon Jodie Harrison MP, to congratulate those members who combined will receive nine National Medals and 64 Long Service Medals and Clasps.

Members of the Central Coast and Lower Hunter crews who received the Commissioner's Unit Citation for Service on St. Florian's Day, will also be recognised for saving the life of a fellow crew member during a medical episode at Seahampton.

Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said among the recipients of the National Medal is Terrance Pryor, who has more than 56 years of service across various roles in the Wyee Brigade.

"The National Medal is presented to those members who go above and beyond what is expected of active members within their brigade and Terrance has regularly headed the list for the most turnouts each year, attending incidents at all hours of the day," Deputy Commissioner McKechnie said.

"The commitment of the 64 recipients of the Long Service Medal has also not gone unnoticed, having served between 10 and 51 years, including Ian Penney with 50 years.

"A valued member of the Dooralong, Wyong Communications Support, Wyong Operational Support and Wyong Canteen Support Brigades, Ian has held various roles including Brigade President, Training Officer, and Senior Deputy Captain, leading and mentoring members to reach their full potential."

Minister Harrison said today's event is a great way to recognise the efforts of 73 of the Central Coast District RFS members.

"They do not volunteer their time for the accolades, however the medals presented today are an acknowledgement of the commitment they have demonstrated over many decades," Minister Harrison said.

"Each one of the volunteers being recognised today deserves our most sincere thanks for their contribution to the Service and their communities.

"A heart-felt special mention goes to Warren Mackaway of the Seahampton Brigade, who is receiving a posthumous award for 29 years of Long Service.

"RFS volunteers protect and serve our communities with dedication and resilience. Our communities are safer as a result, and I want to thank them for their ongoing efforts. We are also grateful to their families and employers who support them in their mission to support and protect lives and property."