



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Riverina Zone celebrates more than 5,000 years of dedicated service

22 September 2023

More than 90 members of the RFS Riverina Zone will be recognised for their dedication and achievements across two special ceremonies in Wagga Wagga tomorrow.

Ninety-nine Long Service Medals and/or Clasps will be presented to the members by RFS Chief Superintendent Kelwyn White and Riverina Zone Manager Superintendent Roger Orr.

Chief Superintendent White said these medals, recognising more than 5,800 years of combined service, are a proud acknowledgement of the commitment shown by these individuals over the years.

“The members being recognised today range from 10 to more than 70 years of service, with a special mention of Peter Killaea for his impressive 74 years of service to the RFS,” she said.

“Peter joined the Mangoplah Brigade in 1977 and was an active and valued member until his retirement in 2022. Seventy-four years spent in the service of others is a remarkable achievement and I congratulate Peter as he receives the Long Service Medal and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Clasps.

“I also acknowledge the 70 years that James Simpson has given. James is the longest serving member of the Lake Albert Brigade and has held many positions including Brigade President, a position he continues to hold after 26 years.

“Members of the Riverina Zone have always answered the call. They stand as role models, inspiring others to come forward and contribute to the betterment of our communities.

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

“We also 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.”

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