

# MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## Long standing Mid Lachlan Valley volunteers honoured

03 July 2012

Forty eight NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) volunteers from the Mid Lachlan Valley have had their long and committed service honoured in a ceremony at Parkes Shire Council this afternoon.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Acting Region West Manager, Superintendent Paul Whiteley has praised the ongoing dedication of members from the Tichborne and The Troffs Rural Fire Brigades, noting their on-going commitment to their local communities.

At the ceremony held in their honour, Superintendent Whiteley presented the 48 volunteers with Long Service Medals, and noted that between them the volunteers had amassed more than 2,000 years of service to both their brigades and the community.

"NSW RFS members are called upon night and day to respond to all manner of emergencies. Whether it's structure fires, traffic accidents or assisting other emergency services when needed, their level of commitment is unsurpassable," said Superintendent Whiteley.

"Despite recent fire seasons being unseasonably quiet, everyone in the Mid Lachlan Valley area knows how daunting the threat of bush and grass fires can be – and our volunteers work tirelessly to help the community remain well prepared.

"I am proud to say that 21 of the ladies and gentlemen being recognised this afternoon have been serving with their Brigades for 50 or more years, which is an amazing achievement.

"These members have been serving for over half a century and during this time they have developed an incredible knowledge of their community as well as an intimate understanding of how fire impacts on the local environment.

"These members unwavering commitment to keeping their communities safe is nothing short of inspiring and this afternoons ceremony provided their local community with an opportunity to extend their thanks to these outstanding individuals," Superintendent Whiteley said.

**Media Contact: NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer (02) 9898 1855**