MEDIA RELEASE

Sutherland cadets gain practical firefighting skills

24 June 2014

More than 5000 students have completed the Secondary Schools Cadet Program since it began and today the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) welcomed a further 12 young firefighters to its ranks.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Stuart Midgley congratulated the cadets from Kirrawee High School in the Sutherland area at a graduation ceremony held in their honour.

"During the eight week program these students learnt valuable lessons about fire safety and developed both leadership and team work skills," Assistant Commissioner Midgley said.

"They are a credit to their school and the local community and I wholeheartedly congratulate them on their successful completion of the program."

Assistant Commissioner Midgley also paid tribute to the NSW RFS volunteers and staff who were fundamental in the Program's success at Kirrawee High School.

"In addition to the dedicated members who have run the course, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the Principal and staff from Kirrawee High School for helping make the Cadet Program such a success," Assistant Commissioner Midgley said.

"The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation through the Secondary School Cadet Program."

The Secondary Schools Cadet Program provides students with a unique opportunity to gain practical firefighting skills and an appreciation of the

ideals and values unique to the NSW RFS.

It includes training in the areas of fire awareness, leadership, fire science, personal development and accident prevention in the workplace.

This is the first time the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program has been conducted at Kirrawee High School.