



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**



# MEDIA RELEASE

## **Long serving Chifley Zone volunteers honoured**

**11 September 2014**

Volunteer firefighters from the Chifley Zone had their long and dedicated service recognised during an official ceremony this week.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons presented Long Service Medals and a National Medal to a group of 14 volunteers who have amassed an impressive 375 years of service between them.

“This significant commitment demonstrates that the tradition of volunteering is thriving in this region,” Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

“Each of these men and women provide a vital service to their community, whether they’re fighting bush fires, attending road accidents or assisting during storms or floods.

“It is an honour to present these awards and reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members.”

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said the medal recipients demonstrate the same selfless commitment shown by all NSW RFS volunteers.

“I would particularly like to acknowledge Harley Nightingale and Maurice Garment, who are today receiving awards for 59 and 64 years dedicated service to the community.

“Maurice joined the Service in 1949 and was part of the Turondale Brigade for five years before joining the Glanmire/Walang Brigade where he has been a member for the past 59 years. Always an active member of the Brigade, he was also the first honorary Fire Control Officer (FCO) in the Bathurst District until a fulltime FCO was appointed.

“Harley joined the Triangle Flat brigade in 1954 where he held the position of Deputy Captain and has also been the Brigade Equipment Officer for five years.

“Their hard work and professionalism doesn’t go unnoticed and this is a great opportunity for the broader community to express their gratitude and say thank you.

“I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with fire and other emergencies here in the Chifley Zone area,” said Commissioner Fitzsimmons.