



# RFS

## Media release

### Diamond Celebration for Lochinvar Rural Fire Brigade

**20 July 2024**

NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) members in the Lower Hunter will come together tonight to celebrate Lochinvar Brigade's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

RFS Acting Area Commander, Superintendent Liz Ferris, will be joined by Member for Maitland, Jenny Aitchison MP, and other special guests at an event in Maitland.

"This will be a great opportunity to celebrate the brigade's history and congratulate members past and present for supporting the local community for six decades," Superintendent Ferris said.

"From humble beginnings in 1964, the brigade now has 61 active members and three vehicles, supporting the community in preparing for the threat of bush fire and actively responding to other emergencies, such as motor vehicle accidents, and incidents out of area.

"I also acknowledge the 60th anniversary of Bishops Brigade, which merged with Lochinvar in 2012 and contributed to the proud history of this celebration and protection of the local community."

Ms Aitchison said the Lochinvar Brigade had also attended some major fires and flood events over the years, including flooding in the Maitland, Kempsey and Grafton regions, and fires in the Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, Port Stephens and Snowy Mountains areas.

"I know the community is in safe hands with such a dedicated group of volunteers and I thank current and former members for their commitment and dedication," she said.

"The hard work and professionalism of all RFS members does not go unnoticed and while they do not ask for praise, it is fitting to take this opportunity to acknowledge their contribution to their community.

"We must also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of these and all volunteers. We know it takes their support to help our volunteers do what they do to save lives and protect property."