MEDIA RELEASE

Ilford/Running Stream Rural Fire Brigade celebrates 75 years

22 November 2014

The Ilford/Running Stream Rural Fire Brigade has proudly protected the local community since its inception in 1939 and members past and present today gathered to celebrate a milestone anniversary.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Assistant Commissioner Bruce McDonald said it was great honour to be amongst the committed and dedicated Illford/Running Stream volunteers celebrating 75 years of community service.

"I would like to say a sincere thank you to the volunteers, both past and present, who have worked tirelessly to safeguard their community from fire," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

"The Ilford/Running Stream Brigade is a strong institution in the community, its members remain onhand, 24 hours a day, seven days a week and we are extremely proud of their contribution."

The anniversary celebrations included the presentation of Long Service Medals to veteran NSW RFS members, in recognition of their ongoing commitment to the local community.

John Moss was presented with the Long Service Medal 3rd Clasp in recognition of his 49 years of service while Ian Moore (54 years), Geoff Moore (54 years), Peter Weatherley (59 years) and Barrie Moore (59 years) received the Long Service Medal 4th Clasp.

"In total, these five medal recipients have accumulated 275 years of service between them," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

"Each and every one of these volunteers is worthy of our most sincere thanks and I would like to personally commend them, not only for their commitment to the Service, but also to their community.

"It is an absolute honour to present these awards and to take a moment in which we can reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members."

Assistant Commissioner McDonald said the 27 Brigades in the Cudgegong District respond to a range of bush, grass and house fires, as well as motor vehicle accidents and other emergencies.

"The NSW RFS is at the cutting edge of firefighting due to significant improvements in technology, training, equipment and communications, however the real strength of the Service resides in the quality, capability and tenacity of its people," Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

