



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Long standing members honoured for their dedication

25 July 2018

Long serving members of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) were today honoured at a medal presentation held during the annual Region West All Staff Conference.

NSW RFS Chief Superintendent Peter McKechnie presented nine members with Long Service Medals and Clasps, in recognition of their combined 295 years of service.

“These staff members do not undertake their duties in return for recognition or praise, however we do gladly present them with these medals as a proud acknowledgement of their efforts,” Chief Superintendent McKechnie said.

“I note that six of our medal recipients have each dedicated 30 or more years to their local communities and the Service.”

Chief Superintendent McKechnie acknowledged Ian Nielsen and Desmond O’Mally, who received the Long Service Medal 4th Clasp in recognition of their 50 years of service.

“Ian Nielsen, better known as ‘Gus’ to everyone in the Mid Lachlan Valley Team where he currently works, originally joined the Broughton Valley/Berry brigade in 1968 and since then has served as a Group Captain, an operations officer and a mentor to young members,” Chief Superintendent McKechnie said.

“Desmond O’Mally joined the Wampra Crossing Brigade in 1968 and since then has served the community tirelessly as captain of the Yantabulla brigade, as a Deputy Group Captain and delivering training for countless fellow members.”

Chief Superintendent McKechnie said the hard work and professionalism of NSW RFS members be they volunteer or staff does not go unnoticed and this occasion is a great opportunity for the broader community to express their gratitude.

“We also thank their family, friends and colleagues. We know it takes their support and patience to help the Rural Fire Service do what we do,” Chief Superintendent McKechnie said.

“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.”