



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

# MEDIA RELEASE

14 November 2020

## Karuah RFS Brigade celebrates new station and medal recipients

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Lower Hunter District applauded the achievements of dedicated volunteers while celebrating the official opening of the new \$1.1 million Karuah Rural Fire Brigade Station today.

NSW RFS Commissioner, Rob Rogers AFSM, joined Taylor Martin MLC, Cr Sarah Smith from Port Stephens Council and other guests to mark the occasion.

Mr Martin said the new station was modern and fit for purpose, and now situated in a more centralised location for the volunteers and community to access.

“The new fire station features two truck bays, a storeroom and office, a kitchen and multipurpose room, bathroom facilities, outdoor space including a hose drying rack and improved hard stand parking,” he said.

“We also thank Port Stephens Council for its generous contribution of \$300,000 towards this essential facility.”

Commissioner Rogers also acknowledged three members of the Karuah Brigade who were presented with Long Service Medals and clasps for dedication to their communities totalling 62 years of service.

“Congratulations to James Semple (31 years), Anthony Hill (20 years) and Jennifer Semple (11 years) on their dedication, commitment and service to their communities,” Commissioner Rogers said. “You only have to look at the last season to see how hard our skilled firefighters and support crews work to keep us safe when fires and emergency situations threaten.”

Commissioner Rogers said the NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment, infrastructure and resources they need to carry out the important work of protecting their local communities from fire and a diverse array of incidents.

“I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here in the Lower Hunter.

“We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all NSW RFS volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and property.”

**For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855**  
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