



# RFS

## Media release

### Celebration of Service for Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area

**25 July 2025**

The Rural Fire Service today will recognise the extraordinary efforts and dedication of members in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) with a medal ceremony in Griffith.

Rural Fire Service Inspector Bradley Zerbes will today 27 volunteers in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) for more than 800 years of service to MIA communities.

"Today we recognise the invaluable commitment our members dedicate to their communities by presenting them with national and long service medals," said Inspector Zerbes.

"We appreciate any time our members can give, but it's members like Ian Dahlenburg from the Murrumbidgee Brigade who is being recognised today for 62 years of service to the community.

"A lot has change in the service since Ian joined in 1963, however he is still today a very loyal and active member of the Murrumbidgee Brigade," he said.

Inspector Zerbes also gave a special mention to Murray Stivens, for his 60 years of dedicated service to the RFS.

"Murray joined the Brobenah Brigade in 1965 and went on to become Captain in 2000, a position he held for 17 years. He is a dual member with the Fivebough Stony Point Brigade for which he has held roles including Deputy and Senior Deputy Captain," said Inspector Zerbes.

"Murray also held roles of Training Officer, Community Engagement Officer, Equipment Officer, Permit Officer and is currently the President of the Brobenah Brigade.

"It's our members like Ian and Murray who go above and beyond for their brigades and local community, and it is fitting to recognise the dedication they all show," said Inspector Zerbes.

Inspector Zerbes said the dedication and skill of our firefighters is deeply appreciated by our community, and though they serve without seeking recognition, their courage and unwavering service deserves our heartfelt gratitude.

"I want to also recognise the vital role played by those who stand behind our volunteers - their families, friends, workplaces and community members. Their understanding and continued encouragement is essential in allowing our volunteers to carry out their life-saving work and protect our homes and properties," said Inspector Zerbes.