MEDIA RELEASE

Praise for Coolac long-standing volunteer firefighters

8 October 2016

Coolac volunteers were today honored by the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) for their ongoing commitment to the local community.

A total of 16 volunteers from the Coolac Brigade were presented with Long Service Medals by NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Stuart Midgley AFSM.

Assistant Commissioner Midgley recognised that in total, these medal recipients have accumulated an impressive 696 years of service between them.

"This is testament to the ongoing commitment shown by Riverina Highland Zone volunteers to both the NSW RFS and the local community," Assistant Commissioner Midgley said.

"One volunteer, Henry Crowe, was honoured for giving 64 years of dedicated service to their Brigade and the local community.

"Receiving the Long Service Medal and 5th Clasp, Henry has been a dedicated member of the Coolac Brigade and held the position of Secretary for many years..

"I'd also like to give particular mention to those who have received medals posthumously, including Kelvin Harpley for 59 years of service and Michael Grange for 52 years.

"The hard work and professionalism of all Coolac volunteers does not go unnoticed and this is a great opportunity for the broader community to express their gratitude and say thank you.

"Today's recipients, as do all NSW RFS volunteers, dedicate themselves to providing a vital service to the community and these medals are our proud acknowledgement of their efforts.

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