

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## 12 March 2022

## **Celebrations for Warnervale Rural Fire Brigade**

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Central Coast District applauded the achievements of dedicated volunteers while celebrating the recently completed new Warnervale Rural Fire Brigade Station today.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast Adam Crouch MP and NSW RFS Chief Superintendent Jayson McKellar AFSM joined NSW RFS members and guests at the new \$1 million Warnervale Road station to mark the occasion and present members with the National Emergency Medal.

Mr Crouch said the new station accommodated the growing ranks of the brigade's volunteer membership and houses three fire trucks.

"The fire station features three truck bays, an office, training area, storage space, toilet and kitchenette. While construction on the station began in 2018 and members have occupied the site for some time, the final touches on external works like surrounding concreting outside and construction of a sandstone retaining wall have completed the works," he said.

The former station, built in 1994 and located on the same grounds, is now being utilised by the Central Coast Volunteer Rescue Association.

Chief Superintendent McKellar said the Service 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 am sure this station is greatly welcomed by the more than 40 current volunteer members of the brigade and I commend them too on contributing to the overall value of the project, fundraising \$22,000," he said.

Fourteen members of the Warnervale Brigade and District Group Officers were also presented with the National Emergency Medal for their efforts during the 2019/20 fire season.

The medal is awarded to those whose service must be in the protection of lives and property or in the service of interests that are not their own and who supported the emergency response for a minimum of five days between September 2019 and February 2020.

"I would like to take this time to praise all our members and thank them for their incredible contribution over the 2019-20 season and for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here on the Central Coast," Chief Superintendent McKellar said.

"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."

