



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Canobolas Zone volunteers honored as new fire stations officially opened**

**7 April 2018**

The achievements of dedicated volunteers have been recognised as two brand new fire stations were officially opened today in the Conobolas Zone.

Wesley Fang MLC and NSW Rural Fire Service Assistant Commissioner Stuart Midgley AFSM officially opened the new Wattamondara Station, the first for the brigade.

Mr Fang said the new station will provide a permanent base for the brigade and includes two vehicle bays, amenities and multipurpose area.

At a separate ceremony, Assistant Commissioner Midgley congratulated the members of the Chaucer Brigade on their first permanent station, which also included two bays and amenities.

“Both the Wattamondara and Chaucer Brigades are understandably thrilled that they now have this secure space.

“The NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out the important work they do to protect their local communities.”

Following the Chaucer Stations official opening, 10 Canobolas Zone members were presented with Long Service Medals.

“Each of the volunteers being recognised today have demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to their community over the years and these medals are our proud acknowledgement of their efforts,” Assistant Commissioner Midgley said.

“Notably four of the recipients today have each given more than 40 years’ service to their communities and their brigade, including Leonard Hamilton who joined the Chaucer Brigade in 1965 and should be commended on his 53 years dedication.

“While our volunteers certainly don't expect awards or accolades, all of them are most worthy of our sincere gratitude and thanks.”

“Today, members of these Brigades continue to protect their community from bush fires as well as a diverse array of incidents’ including grass fires, hazard reduction burns and motor vehicle accidents.

“These men and women remain on-hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we should be extremely proud and grateful for their contribution, as we have seen most recently with the response given to the fire at Mt Canobolas.”

**For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855.  
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