MEDIA RELEASE

Shoalhaven RFS members celebrated for long service

23 September 2023

The dedication and commitment of 57 RFS volunteers from across the Shoalhaven were recognised today with the presentation of Long Service Medals.

RFS Assistant Commissioner Ben Millington and Superintendent Matthew Reeves joined the members and their family and friends at a special event at the Shoalhaven Fire Control Centre in Nowra today to present the medals.

Assistant Commissioner Millington said the 57 volunteers being awarded had together given a total of more than 1,100 years of service to the community.

"The members being recognised today with Long Service Medals and clasps range from 10 to 43 years of service.

"I would like to make special mention of Bob Johnston of Cambewarra Rural Fire Brigade, who is recognised for an impressive 43 years' service

"Bob has held the role of Deputy Captain, Senior Deputy Captain and Captain over his impressive firefighting career and has consistently displayed high leadership qualities.

Superintendent Reeves presented the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and British Columbia II Clasp to David Smart of Kangaroo Valley Brigade.

"This award is presented to members of the Service in recognition of their deployment to Canada in 2017 and we commend David on his commitment and service to the global community.

"The RFS members being celebrated today have and continue to give their time, to not only protect their communities, but to carry out critical behind-the-scenes work, which enables our frontline firefighters to do their job.

Superintendent Reeves also acknowledged those who support the volunteers receiving awards.

"We thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all 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."