



RFS

Media release

Goolma Brigade members honoured

9 March 2024

Members of the Goolma Rural Fire Brigade will be recognised today for their continued dedication to serving and protecting their community, with the presentation of three National and 16 Long Service Medals.

The Hon Stephen Lawrence MLC will attend the ceremony at the Goolma Community Hall this morning where 19 members who have provided sustained active service will be honoured.

Mr Lawrence said members of the Goolma Brigade play an integral role in emergency response within a District that spans more than 8700km².

“These members do not volunteer their time for the accolades, however these medals are a proud acknowledgement of the commitment shown by these individuals over the years,” Mr Lawrence said.

“Every one of the volunteers being recognised today are worthy of our most sincere thanks not only for their commitment to the Service, but also to their communities.”

Area Commander, Chief Superintendent Nicholas Medianik applauded the more than 620 years of combined service from these dedicated volunteers, who give their all to help others.

“Well done to Bill Moore, Howard Gorie and John Xuereb who are all receiving the National Medal, presented to individuals who demonstrate exceptional commitment and go above and beyond the expected duties as active members within their brigade,” Chief Superintendent Medianik said.

“I would also like to give a special mention to Kevin Gardiner who celebrates 60 years of service in the RFS, receiving the Long Service Medal 5th Clasp.

“Mr Gardiner is highly respected member of the brigade and continuously brings his experience with the land to help fight fires across the area.

“The commitment of RFS volunteers does not go unnoticed and while they do not ask for praise, we should take every opportunity to acknowledge their contribution and dedication to their community.

“The encouragement and support of family, friends, employers and colleagues of our volunteers does not go unnoticed. These networks are essential in enabling our volunteers to save lives and property.”