



RFS

Media release

RFS members honoured for their dedicated service in the Hawkesbury

14 June 2025

The dedication and commitment of 119 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers from across the Hawkesbury District will be recognised today at a special ceremony in Richmond.

RFS Deputy Commissioner Kelly Quandt AFSM will be joined by Member for Hawkesbury, Ms Robyn Preston MP and special guests for the presentation of 99 Long Service Medals, 18 National Medals and two National Emergency Medals.

"These exceptional volunteers represent decades of collective service to our community. Their sustained commitment to protecting lives and property across the Hawkesbury District reflects the very best of our volunteer spirit and warrants our deepest appreciation," Deputy Commissioner Quandt said.

"I wish to particularly recognize Kenneth Clewett, who is being honoured today for his extraordinary 60 years of dedicated service to the NSW Rural Fire Service and will receive the Long Service Medal 6th Clasp.

"An experienced firefighter, Kevin has been a member of the Grose Vale Brigade for nearly seven decades performing a range of roles including Deputy Captain for 51 years, as well as holding the roles of President and Vice President for a combined term of 33 years.

"Also being recognised with the National Medal is William Rodger, who's 65 years with the who has not only served more than years to the RFS as a volunteer but held the salaried position of Fire Control Officer (FCO) for more than 20 years in the Colo Shire (later known as Hawkesbury District).

Deputy Commissioner Quandt said many RFS members go above and beyond for their brigades and local community, and it is fitting to recognise the dedication they all show.

"The dedication and skill of our firefighters is deeply appreciated by our community, and though they serve without seeking recognition, their courage and unwavering service deserves our heartfelt gratitude.

"I want to also recognise the vital role played by those who stand behind our volunteers - their families, friends, workplaces and community members. Their understanding and continued encouragement is essential in allowing our volunteers to carry out their life-saving work and protect our homes and properties," said Deputy Commissioner Quandt.