## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Volunteers to celebrate long serving members and two new stations

## 24 July 2014

Some of the Hunter Valley's most experienced firefighters will be honoured by the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) this weekend for their long and dedicated service to the local community.

NSW RFS Deputy Commissioner Rob Rogers will present Long Service Medals and National Medals to 69 volunteers at two ceremonies to be held on Sunday 27 July, 2014.

The medal recipients have amassed an impressive 2145 years of service between them.

"This significant commitment demonstrates that the tradition of volunteering is thriving in this region," Deputy Commissioner Rogers said.

"These men and women provide a vital service to their community, whether they are fighting bush fires, attending road accidents or educating the community about fire safety and preparation.

"All of these volunteers are worthy of our most sincere thanks and I would like to personally commend them, not only for their commitment to the Service, but also to their community."

Deputy Commissioner Rogers made particular mention of Kevin Monkley, Dick Burley, Des March, Bruce Wake, Darcy Jones and Peter Wake, who have each been valued members of the Service for more than 60 years.

"These volunteers have shown a significant commitment to the Service and their communities since joining their brigades in the 1950s," Deputy Commissioner Rogers said.

"It is an honour to present these awards and reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members."

Members of the Glendonbrook and Glennies Creek Rural Fire Brigades (RFBs) will also celebrate the official opening of their brand new stations on Sunday.

The Glendonbrook facility – the Brigade's first station – features two truck bays, a conference room, storage facilities and a Captain's office, while the new Glennies Creek station is situated in a more central location than the previous shed.

Deputy Commissioner Rogers said the new state-of-the-art facilities will enable the Glendonbrook and Glennies Creek RFBs to provide an even greater level of protection to the local community.

"The NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out the important work they do," Deputy Commissioner Rogers said.

