

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Celebrations for Darby's Falls NSW RFS volunteers

6 October 2012

The long standing commitment of volunteer firefighters from the Darby's Falls Brigade was recognised today at the official opening of a brand new station.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Region West Manager Paul Smith presented 12 members with Long Service Medals and formally opened the new Darby's Falls Rural Fire Station.

"The new brigade station has been purpose built and is a tremendous boost to the community; its development is an indication of the brigade's value in this region.

"The NSW RFS is committed to giving our volunteers the tools they required to do their job and this station will bring together resources into one centralised purpose built fire station, said Mr Smith

Mr Smith also acknowledged the dedication of local volunteers at the opening.

"Whilst our members don't volunteer for awards or accolades, I would nonetheless like to acknowledge the dedication demonstrated by today's medal recipients.

"Together, these volunteers have amassed more than 370 years service between them which is an commendable achievement, and one worthy of recognition and thanks.

"I would particularly like to pay tribute to David Webster who has dedicated over 50 years to the NSW RFS in a variety of firefighting roles. Mr Webster's steadfast commitment to his local community is inspiring," Mr Smith said.

The Canobolas zone has more than 2400 volunteers who remain on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week ready to assist with all manner of emergencies.

"While fighting bush fires may be our core expertise, our members are also called upon in other times, such as road accidents or assisting with flood rescue and recovery. It is this diversity that the Rural Fire Service prides itself on.

"I would personally like to acknowledge the contribution of all our local volunteers and look forward to many more years of great service," Mr Smith said.

Media Contact: NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer (02) 9898 1855