

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Two million dollar boost and awards for Macarthur volunteers

13 July 2011

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Acting Director, Regional Services Chief Superintendent John Parnaby has handed over eight new fire vehicles, at an official ceremony celebrating the long-standing commitment of local RFS volunteers.

Six Macarthur volunteers were presented with Long Service Medals by Chief Superintendent Parnaby who also handed over keys to brand new trucks and four-wheel drives worth around \$1.5million. There was also a formal soil turning at the site of Kentlyn's new \$600,000 station.

Chief Superintendent Parnaby said the NSW RFS is committed to ensuring that volunteers are equipped with the latest state of the art equipment.

"These tankers and off road utes are replacing the older style vehicles currently in service and will help our members continue their important work in the community."

"It is essential that brigades have the right equipment for the job, and these volunteers respond to all manner of incidents including bush and grass fires, road accidents as well as assisting with flood and storm emergencies.

"As we saw just last week, a number of brigades from this region were deployed to the Blue Mountains to help with the aftermath of recent wild weather, a great demonstration of their capabilities and versatility".

Chief Superintendent Parnaby also noted the valuable addition of a new three-bay fire station for Kentlyn Rural Fire Brigade which will include a training room, kitchen and storage area.

"Turning the soil on this new construction marks the beginning of a considerable upgrade to the existing station. The inclusion of additional amenities will also help the brigade deliver a structured training program."

Six volunteers were presented with Long Service Medals as Chief Superintendent Parnaby commended their professionalism.

"Their hard work and dedication doesn't go unnoticed and this is a chance for the community to express their gratitude and say thank you," he said.

For more information contact the NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer on 9898 1855.