

# MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## New fire trucks a boost for Tamworth area

15 July 2013

Brigades in the Tamworth area are celebrating the official handover of five new state-of-the-art bush firefighting vehicles that will help them fight fires more efficiently.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons congratulated the volunteers on the newest additions to their brigade.

“The NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out their important work protecting their local communities from fire.

“These new vehicles are replacing older style models and will allow firefighters to continue providing a high level of emergency service to residents in the Tamworth area.

“These valuable new vehicles are worth \$836,000, but they are a priceless asset to our volunteer brigades and the communities they protect.

“These trucks will put these brigades in good stead to fight bush and grass fires, as well as provide the unique equipment required to put out car and house fires,” said Commissioner Fitzsimmons.

The trucks will be used by the Kootingal/Moonbi, Bendemeer, Moore Creek, Woolbrook Brigades and Tamworth Support which have more than 200 volunteer members.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons also took the opportunity to present 29 dedicated volunteers representing 825 years with long service medals at a ceremony at the Tamworth Diggers Club.

“I would particularly like to acknowledge Bruce Cooper who is tonight receiving an award for 65 years dedicated service to his local community.

“Bruce has been a member since 1947 and has attended numerous callouts for the Somerton Brigade over the years. He has held the role of Captain and still an active and well respected member of the brigade.

“I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here in the Tamworth area,” said Commissioner Fitzsimmons

**For more information contact State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855**