

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Commissioner congratulates Moree's volunteer firefighters

15 February 2012

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons has acknowledged the ongoing dedication of Moree's volunteer firefighters at an official ceremony held in their honour.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons presented 38 members with Long Service Medals and formally handed over the keys to two new bush fire trucks.

"It is a tremendous honour to present these awards, and I would personally like to acknowledge the unyielding commitment of our members in Moree.

"As recent events have proven, our volunteers are on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help the community in times of emergency – frequently in the most inclement weather.

"Whilst mitigating and fighting bush fires may be our core expertise, our members have proved invaluable when it comes to assisting our colleagues in the State Emergency Service with flood rescue and recovery, and it is this diversity that the Rural Fire Service prides itself on."

"Together these men and women have close to 900 years worth of skills, expertise and knowledge. This example of allegiance should make your friends, family and fellow community members very proud."

"I would particularly like to acknowledge the five gentlemen who are today being recognised for more than 40 years service.

"Raymond (Bruce) Schwartz, Ian Uebergang, Tony Woods, Robert Bardsley and Royce Lowe have demonstrated unwavering loyalty both to their brigades, but also the community".

Commissioner Fitzsimmons also congratulated the Boggabilla and Mungindi brigades on the acquisition of their new trucks.

"These two tankers have a combined worth of almost half a million dollars, but they are a priceless asset to our volunteer brigades and the communities they protect.

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