

# MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## Macarthur volunteers recognised for service

5 November 2011

Thirty four members of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) in the Macarthur area have had their long and committed service to the community recognised at a ceremony held in their honour today.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Keith Harrap presented the volunteers with their Long Service Medals and congratulated them on their hard work and dedication.

“Each of the 34 volunteers here today has served their brigade with distinction, accumulating more than 665 years of service between them which is a huge achievement.

“Norman Walters has been a distinguished member of the Leppington Rural Fire Brigade since 1970. He is receiving a medal today in recognition of 41 years of loyal service and for going above and beyond what is expected of active brigade members.”

“Another outstanding contribution has been made by John Edward Noble, who has been a committed volunteer of the Menangle Park Rural Fire Brigade for 35 years”.

Assistant Commissioner Keith Harrap said everyone receiving medals is an excellent example of the commitment demonstrated by NSW RFS volunteers and their community has every reason to be proud of their achievement.

“There are 19 volunteer brigades in the Macarthur area that are kept busy responding to an average of 2,500 calls per annum,” Assistant Commissioner Keith Harrap said.

“The individuals being awarded with medals today have all played an integral role in protecting their community, through fighting bush fires, house fires, attending road accidents or assisting during storms and floods.

“Their fundraising work and community education efforts must also be recognised as a valuable part of their role as RFS members.

“Volunteers are the backbone of the NSW RFS and deserve sincere gratitude from the community for their selfless work.

“While our members don’t volunteer for awards or accolades, this is a way for the South West Sydney area and wider community to express our sincere thanks for their ongoing contribution,” Assistant Commissioner Keith Harrap concluded.

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