

# MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## Long Service Medals for Hunter Valley volunteer firefighters

18 June 2011

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Chief Superintendent John Parnaby has praised volunteer firefighters from across the Hunter Valley on their commitment to the local community.

Chief Superintendent Parnaby presented 12 volunteers with their Long Service medals at a ceremony held at the Jerry Plains Rural Fire Brigade Station.

Chief Superintendent Parnaby said the volunteers had selflessly dedicated years to their communities and were always on hand to assist with fires and other emergencies right across the district.

“Between them, these men and women have provided close to 300 years of service to their communities.

“This is a remarkable achievement and I would particularly like to pay tribute to Donald Berry who is being recognised today for more than 50 years of service.

“All of the members here today play an integral role in the Jerry Plains community, whether fighting bush fires or assisting during storms, floods or road accidents.

“It’s wonderful to see today’s medal recipients receiving recognition for their years as volunteers with NSW RFS, it is a clear indication that the Service and it’s tradition in this region is thriving.”

Chief Superintendent Parnaby said that volunteers are the backbone of the NSW RFS and deserved 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 Hunter Valley and wider NSW community to express our sincere thanks for their ongoing contribution,” Chief Superintendent Parnaby said.

**For inquiries contact the NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer: 9898 1855**