

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Murrumbidgee volunteers to be recognised for long service

31 May 2019

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Mid Murray District will this Sunday recognise and celebrate the dedication and commitment of long serving members in the Murrumbidgee area.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Peter McKechnie will join local volunteers to present 56 NSW RFS Long Service Medals and one National Medal at a special ceremony at the Jerilderie Brigade Station.

"These 56 members do not volunteer their time for the accolades, however these medals are a proud acknowledgement of the commitment shown by these individuals over the years," Assistant Commissioner McKechnie said.

"More than 2114 years of service will be recognised and I know that the community is thankful for the world-class level of fire protection afforded to them by volunteers within the Mid Murray District.

"I personally extend my gratitude to all of our dedicated firefighters for their continued service to and for the community."

Assistant Commissioner McKechnie is honoured to present William Younger with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Clasps of his NSW RFS Long Service Medal.

"William has been a dedicated volunteer member of the NSW RFS for more than 68 years after joining the North Yathong Brigade in 1951, where he held the position of Deputy Captain, before joining the Bolton Brigade," Assistant Commissioner McKechnie said.

"His dedication and knowledge is invaluable and I commend him on his service."

Assistant Commissioner McKechnie also acknowledged the contribution of William Robertson, who receives the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Clasps of his NSW RFS Long Service Medal in recognition of his 60 years of service to the community.

"William has been a dedicated member of the NSW RFS, joining the Argoon Brigade in 1959 and we are truly grateful for his work protecting the community," Assistant Commissioner McKechnie said.

Assistant Commissioner McKechnie said that each volunteer being recognised on Sunday afternoon has demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to their community.

"I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the NSW RFS staff and volunteers who continue to work hard and make such a big difference for their communities," Assistant Commissioner McKechnie said.

"We must also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of these and all volunteers. We know it takes their support to help Rural Fire Service members do what they do."

