



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Bombala High School cadets celebrate graduation

4 December 2020

Nineteen students from Bombala High School within the Monaro District will today be congratulated for their successful completion of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Secondary School Cadet Program at a small ceremony to be held at the Bombala Fire Control Centre.

NSW RFS Chief Superintendent Goetz Graf, Area Commander South Eastern, said the program is the ideal way to introduce young people to the important role volunteer firefighter's play within communities.

"These Year 9 cadets, from Bombala High School have completed an intensive three-day course that has given them skills which will last a lifetime," Chief Supt Graf said.

"As well as examining fire behaviour, the students have been taught essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day in this state.

"The cadet program also offers students the opportunity to experience firsthand the commitment and camaraderie that comes with volunteering and transition to their local rural fire brigade should they wish and several Bombala High students have taken up that opportunity."

Bombala High School Principal, Jai Lester said this was the twelfth time the school had participated in the NSW RFS High School Cadets program.

"The RFS cadet program has become such an important part of our calendar each year. For years our students have spoken fondly of the skills and experiences awarded to them through the cadetship. It is also very rewarding to see our students carry on and join their local brigades, giving back to the community and being part of such a worthwhile organisation." he said.

"I sincerely thank all staff at the Monaro District for their work in supporting and running this program and our thanks from the students and staff to the instructors, Group Captain John Reed and District Services Assistant Danny Barker who helped make the program such a success."

Chief Supt Graf also paid tribute to the staff and volunteers from the Monaro District who facilitated the course.

"NSW RFS members thoroughly enjoy working closely with schools and communities to ensure that everyone is as well prepared as possible for the very real threat of fire. Firefighters cannot do it alone," Chief Supt Graf said.

"The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation."



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