

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Macarthur RFS volunteers recognised for service during 2019-20 bush fires

## 12 September 2022

More than 60 members of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Macarthur District will be recognised for their dedication at a special ceremony in Camden tonight.

NSW RFS District Manager, Superintendent Angelo Baldo AFSM will present 64 National Emergency Medals, one National Medal and eight Long Service Medals at the Camden Civic Centre.

The National Emergency Medal is awarded to persons who rendered sustained or significant service during nationally significant emergencies in Australia, including the 2019-2020 bush fires.

Superintendent Baldo said the District had been instrumental in battling blazes across the state during the 2019-20 fire season, and tonight was an opportunity to say thank you.

"Members of the Macarthur District have always answered the call, not only assisting with incidents locally but also to communities in need across the state," Superintendent Baldo said.

"The hard work and professionalism of all NSW RFS members does not go unnoticed and while they do not ask for praise, we should take every opportunity to acknowledge their contribution and commitment to their community.

"You only have to look at recent events to see how hard our skilled firefighters and support crews work to keep us safe in not only when faced by fires, but during floods as well," he said.

Superintendent Baldo also congratulated each of the Macarthur District volunteers on their dedication, commitment and service.

"I'd particularly like to congratulate Karen and James Randall, who are being recognised for their 31 and 32 years respectively with Long Service Medals, along with the National Emergency Medal," Superintendent Baldo said.

"Karen works closely with the Aviation Division and previously held the role of Captain in the Macarthur Communications Brigade for six years. Her husband James is a Group Captain and was Captain of the former Prestons Bush Fire Brigade and inaugural Captain of the Casula Brigade.

"It is an honour to recognise all these dedicated professional volunteers, who give their all to help others."

"We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all NSW RFS volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and property."

