



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **New firefighting equipment welcomed by Southern Highlands brigades**

**3 December 2014**

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Southern Highlands firefighters today celebrated the official handover of six new state-of-the-art vehicles and thermal imaging cameras that will help them fight fires more efficiently.

NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Bruce McDonald congratulated members of the Bargo, Tahmoor, Buxton and Lakeland Rural Fire Brigades on the newest additions to their firefighting fleets.

In addition to the four firefighting trucks handed over to brigades, two vehicles were also presented to the Wollondilly District for use by Group Officers responding to incidents.

“The NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out the important work they do in protecting their local communities from fire,” Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

“These new vehicles are replacing older style models, allowing firefighters to continue providing a high level of emergency service to Southern Highlands residents.

“These trucks will put the Bargo, Tahmoor, Buxton and Lakeland brigades in good stead to fight bush and grass fires, as well as provide the unique equipment required to put out car and house fires.”

Assistant Commissioner McDonald also thanked Tony Craig, deputy chairman of Masonicare, for the organisation’s fundraising and generous donation of three thermal imaging cameras to local brigades.

The thermal imaging cameras will allow crews to better undertake search and rescue on firegrounds as well as identify hotspots when mopping up bush fires and structure fires.

“I would like to thank each and every one of the Masons who were involved in fundraising and those who donated funds towards the provision of this important equipment,” Assistant Commissioner McDonald said.

“It is a wonderful day for members of the Southern Highlands District to be receiving these impressive new firefighting resources.”