



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**



# MEDIA RELEASE

## **Praise for the Coolamon's long-standing volunteer firefighters**

**30 January 2015**

Some of the Riverina Zone's most experienced volunteer firefighters have been celebrated today for helping to protect their local communities from the ravages of fire.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Assistant Commissioner Steve Yorke acknowledged the unwavering dedication of these volunteers and thanked them for selflessly giving up their time.

Assistant Commissioner Yorke presented Long Service Medals and National Medals to a group of 36 volunteers who have amassed an impressive 1745 years of service between them.

"This significant commitment demonstrates that the tradition of volunteering is thriving in this region," Assistant Commissioner Yorke said.

"Each of these men and women provide a vital service to their community, whether they're fighting bush fires, attending road accidents or assisting during storms or floods.

"It is an honour to present these awards and reflect upon the outstanding achievements of these members."

Assistant Commissioner Yorke said the medal recipients demonstrate the same selfless commitment shown by all NSW RFS volunteers.

"I would like to make particular mention of Leo Pattison and Patrick Quinn, who have both been members for 68 years.

"Both of these members are shining examples of the steadfast dedication demonstrated by NSW RFS volunteer firefighters right across the state.

"The hard work and professionalism of volunteers in the Coolamon area does not go unnoticed and this is a great opportunity for the broader community to express their gratitude and say thank you.

"I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here in the Coolamon area," said Assistant Commissioner Yorke.