



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Glenreagh Rural Fire Brigade celebrates 60th year and veteran volunteers

14 July 2018

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) members today gathered to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Glenreagh Rural Fire Brigade (RFB) and honour Clarence Valley District volunteers for their long-standing dedication and commitment to protecting the community.

NSW RFS Operational Officer Ian Smith congratulated members past and present for building the Glenreagh RFB into the community institution it is today.

“This Brigade, formed in 1958, has a proud history of community service and spirit,” Officer Smith said.

“Today, the brigade of 42 members continues its level of dedication and responds to a wide range of emergency incidents ranging from bush and grass fires to motor vehicle accidents, as well as lending a helping hand at community events and helping locals prepare for the fire season.”

Long Service Medals were also presented to nine members, with Officer Smith recognising this represented their combined 228 years of service.

“Every member is worthy of the highest praise, however I would like to make particular mention of George Bennett, who is receiving the Long Service Medal 3rd Clasp in recognition of his 41 years of service,” Officer Smith said.

“John, whose local knowledge is highly valued, joined the Glenreagh Brigade in 1976 and held the position of Deputy Captain for over 10 years.

“I’d also like to congratulate George on being awarded Life Membership today as well, an honour that also went to Ross Shipman who joined the brigade in 1980 and most recently served as Captain from 2013 to 2016.

“The hard work and professionalism of NSW RFS members does not go unnoticed and, while they do not ask for praise, we gladly award these medals as a proud acknowledgement of their contribution and commitment.”

Officer Smith said Glenreagh’s 60th anniversary and medal presentation was a great opportunity for the Service and community to say thank you to all volunteer members.

“The Clarence Valley District is afforded a world-class level of fire protection due to the experience and dedication of our 36 Rural Fire Brigades and we cannot thank them enough,” Officer Smith said.

For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855.
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