

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Long serving Shoalhaven District volunteers honoured

## 13 September 2019

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) volunteers from across the Shoalhaven District have been honoured for their longstanding commitment to the local community at a special medal presentation this evening.

The Hon Gareth Ward MP, State Member for Kiama, Minister for Families, Communities & Disability Services and NSW RFS Assistant Commissioner Stuart Midgley presented 15 National Medals and 18 Long Service Medals to 27 NSW RFS volunteers in recognition of their service and dedication to the community.

"In total, this represents 904 years of combined service across the Shoalhaven District," Mr Ward said.

"The dedication of all the volunteers being recognised shows the type of community members we have in the Shoalhaven."

Assistant Commissioner Midgley made particular mention of Wendy Roberts of the Crossroads Brigade, who has received the Long Service Medal 4<sup>th</sup> Clasp in recognition of her 58 years of service.

"Wendy has positions during her time with the brigade including Call-Out Officer and Fundraising Officer," Assistant Commissioner Midgley said.

"Wendy has attended many fire incidents over the years and her diligence and commitment to protecting her community is outstanding.

"I would also like to acknowledge Life Member of Kangaroo Valley Brigade Keith Nelson, who has held a number of positions including Deputy Captain, Captain and Permit Issuing Officer within the Kangaroo Valley Brigade, who is being recognised for his 58 years' active service.

"A member since 1961 when he first joined the Kangaroo Valley Brigade, Keith continues to support his Brigade and local community and is worthy of the National Medal 4<sup>th</sup> and Long Service Medal 4<sup>th</sup> Clasp.

"Every one of these volunteers are worthy of our most sincere thanks and I would like to personally commend them, not only for their commitment to the Service, but also to their community."

Assistant Commissioner Midgley said the hard work and professionalism of all Shoalhaven District volunteers does not go unnoticed and this is a great opportunity for the broader community to express their gratitude and say thank you.

