## **MEDIA RELEASE**



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## \$650,000 Investment in Inverell Brigade

7 March 2013

A new era began for the Inverell Rural Fire Brigade today when NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Director of Regional and Infrastructure Services, Chief Superintendent Bruce McDonald, officially declared their new station open.

"This brand new station is the first time these committed volunteers have had a place of their own, having previously shared facilities with the State Emergency Service.

"The Inverell Brigade outgrew their last station and so did their fire trucks. The new Brigade Station was constructed to house the newer and larger tankers.

"Their \$62,000 Station complete with three bays, a kitchen amenities and electricity, is a testament to the brigade's dedication and commitment to the community.

Mr McDonald also had the pleasure of handing over two brand new tankers to the Inverell brigade and one to the Delungra Rural Fire Brigade as well as awarding thirteen dedicated volunteers Long Service Medals.

"These new vehicles replace older style models and will allow firefighters to continue providing a high level of emergency service to the residents in the Inverell and Delungra areas.

"These valuable new trucks are worth a combined \$610,000, but they are priceless assets to our volunteers and the communities they protect.

"These trucks will put these 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," he said.

The thirteen members awarded long service medals have a combined 347 years of service.

"These men and women have been part of the Service during a period of incredible growth and change and their breadth of experience illustrates this.

"All of the volunteers here today have demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to their community over the years and these medals are just a small token of our appreciation

"Whilst these volunteers certainly don't expect awards or accolades, all of them are most worthy of our sincere gratitude and thanks," said Chief Superintendent McDonald.

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