

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Recognition and reward for The Lakes volunteer firefighters

17 June 2012

A gathering of selfless volunteers have had their contribution recognised at The Lakes' Volunteer Appreciation Day, where they were presented with Long Service Medals.

At a ceremony held in their honour NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Director of Membership & Strategic Services, Bronwyn Jones paid tribute to the members' long standing commitment to the community, noting their willingness to give up their time to help others,

"The hard work and dedication of the men and women here today is an inspiration. While our members come from all backgrounds and walks of life, they share an unwavering allegiance to their brigades and their communities.

"It is this allegiance that is the core of the Rural Fire Service, with volunteers who remain on hand around the clock, ready to offer assistance when needed," said Ms Jones.

"The Lakes is no stranger to bush and grass fire activity, and it is the hard work and professionalism of these volunteer brigades that continues to help protect and prepare residents for the threat of fire".

"Between them these 46 men and women have close to 1000 years worth of experience. Whilst they may be renowned for preparing and fighting bush fires, we must remember that our RFS volunteers are often the first to arrive at traffic accidents and house fires, as well as assisting other agencies when needed".

During the official proceedings Ms Jones made particular mention of the six members celebrating more than 30 years service.

"Like everyone here today, Darrell Tenbosch, Geoffrey Wright, Wayne Neal, Max Bradford, Jeffery Smith and Bob Bruinink have played an integral role in their respective brigades. Their unwavering and dependable approach to community service is nothing short of inspiring.

The celebrations also included the annual Blessing of the Fleet.

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