



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

Lower Hunter celebrates veteran volunteers and new station opening

12 August 2017

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Lower Hunter Zone today recognised the achievements of long serving volunteers and officially opened the new Tilligerry Rural Fire Brigade station.

NSW RFS Deputy Commissioner Rob Rogers and Taylor Martin MLC presented 12 Long Service Medals and a National Medal to volunteers in recognition of their ongoing commitment to the local community and the Service.

The 13 medal recipients have accumulated a total of 317 years of service between them, with three members having dedicated more than 30 years to their brigade.

“Each of the volunteers being recognised has demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to their community over the years and these medals are our proud acknowledgement of their efforts,” Deputy Commissioner Rogers said.

“I would like to make special mention of Greg Nicholas, receiving his National Medal 2nd Clasp today in recognition of his exceptional dedication during his 42 years of service, notably his efforts during major fire, storm and flood incidents and ensuring local elderly residents have working smoke alarms.

“I know all of these volunteers will continue to serve their local communities for many years to come and share their knowledge, experience and firefighting skills both locally and further afield.”

Mr Martin congratulated the members of the Tilligerry Rural Fire Brigade on the official opening of their new \$900,000 station, which features four truck bays, a meeting room, storage space and a kitchen.

“The NSW RFS, working cooperatively with state and local governments, is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment they need to carry out the important work of protecting their local communities from fire,” Mr Martin said.

“This new station will enable volunteers to provide an even greater level of protection to the local community.”

**For more information contact the State Duty Media Officer on (02) 9898 1855.
For current incidents or major fire updates visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au**
