



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

MEDIA RELEASE

Chifley/Lithgow District cadets celebrate graduation

21 November 2018

Forty-three students from the Chifley/Lithgow Team area have been congratulated today by NSW (Rural Fire Service) NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons for their successful completion of the NSW RFS Secondary School Cadet Program.

Following a Field Day tournament at Denison College, Kelso High School Campus to showcase their newly acquired skills, a special ceremony was held to praise the future firefighters.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said the cadet program is the ideal way to introduce young people to the important role volunteer firefighters play within communities.

"These cadets have completed the 10 week course that has given them skills which will last a lifetime," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said as well as examining fire behaviour, the students have been taught essential fire safety techniques and gained an appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day in this state.

"The cadet program also offers students the opportunity to experience firsthand the commitment and camaraderie that comes with volunteering," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons said 10 students from Carenne School in Bathurst, 14 students from Denison College of Secondary Education Kelso High Campus and 19 The Scots School students took part in this year's program.

"It's great to see genuine enthusiasm for this important community based program," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

"In addition to our NSW RFS members, I would also like to extend a special thanks to the Principals and staff from all schools involved, for helping to make this program such a success."

Commissioner Fitzsimmons also paid tribute to the volunteers and staff from the Chifley/Lithgow Team who facilitated the course.

"NSW RFS members thoroughly enjoy working closely with schools and communities to ensure that everyone is as well prepared as possible for the very real threat of fire. Firefighters cannot do it alone," Commissioner Fitzsimmons said.

"The Service is proud to pass on the ideals of community service, dedication and teamwork to the next generation."

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