

# MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

## Brand new station and praise for long-standing volunteers

23 July 2011

Seventeen long term volunteer firefighters have had their hard work and dedication recognised at ceremony held today in their honour.

NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Region West Manager Paul Smith praised the volunteers from the Rugby Rural Fire Brigade on their long-standing commitment to the community.

"The volunteers of the Rugby Rural Fire Brigade have served this community with distinction for over a century.

Mr Smith presented the volunteers with Long Service Medals at the official opening of the Rugby Rural Fire Brigade's new Station.

"Between them, these members have more than 900 years of experience in the Rural Fire Service. This is a remarkable achievement, with many of the recipients here today dedicating more than 50 and 60 years to the local brigade and community.

"I would particularly like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Geoff Croker who has dedicated more than 70 years to the RFS.

"This is an inspirational milestone and like all of the Members being recognised here today, Geoff's dedication is a demonstration of the selfless contribution of our volunteers."

Mr Smith also officially unveiled the new Rugby Rural Fire Brigade Station and acknowledged the support of the local community.

"The NSW RFS is committed to ensuring that our volunteers are equipped with the necessary equipment needed in order to go about their duties. This new fire station will help the volunteers continue their outstanding work, and the ongoing support from Boorowa Council is an indication of the brigade's value within the community."

"Whether fighting fires, assisting with flood and storm recovery or attending road accidents, these volunteers have always been on hand when needed, and the Rugby community should be most proud" he said.

**For inquiries contact the NSW RFS State Duty Media Officer: 9898 1855**