



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 6 May 2019

RFS FIREFIGHTERS HONOURED ON ST FLORIAN'S DAY

Member for Hawkesbury Robyn Preston MP paid tribute to the tireless work and dedication of all serving firefighters in the Hawkesbury community, following the NSW RFS's annual St Florian's Day Awards.

"As a community, we are enormously proud of the bravery and dedication that our local firefighters show every time they put on their uniforms," Ms Preston said.

"We can never take their contribution for granted, and it is important to recognise the sacrifice they make to protect our lives and property."

Held on the fourth of May each year, the awards ceremony coincides with the Feast Day of St Florian, Patron Saint of Firefighters and International Firefighters' Day.

Minister for Emergency Services David Elliott said St Florian's Day was a time to stop and thank the contribution that firefighters make to our local communities, frequently putting the safety of others above their own.

"Today we take this opportunity to thank our NSW RFS volunteers for their ongoing hard work and professionalism," Mr Elliott said.

"NSW RFS volunteers serve our communities and selflessly respond to all manner of fire and emergencies.

"You do not ask for praise or accolades, but on behalf of the Government and the wider NSW community, today we say thank you."

Across NSW, 21 NSW RFS members and 11 teams were honoured as part of the annual awards for exceptional service and bravery.

Captain Adam Rutter of the Hawkesbury Catering and Oakville Brigades and Firefighter Stuart Mitchell of Ebenezer Brigade were both awarded with the Commissioner's Certificate of Commendation for their assistance at a serious two vehicle accident in November 2017 where they both treated and administered first aid to the injured drivers until paramedics arrived.

Additionally, the Kenthurst Rural Fire Brigade Hazard Reduction Crew consisting of Captain Andrew Callaghan, Deputy Captains Christopher Talbert, Garry Lau, Kieran



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Clark and Firefighter Diane Brown received the Commissioner's Certificate of Commendation (Unit) for the timely assistance and CPR provided to a fellow Firefighter Charles Denes for a suspected heart-attack until paramedics arrived.

While based within the Hills District, Kenthurst Rural Fire Brigade often operates within Hawkesbury's boundaries.

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