

MEDIA RELEASE

Blue Mountains Volunteers Acknowledged for Long Service to NSW SES

19 February 2016

Volunteers from the New South Wales State Emergency Service (NSW SES) Blue Mountains Unit were recognised for their diligent service to their community at an awards ceremony held at Katoomba on Friday 19th February.

Representing the NSW Minister for Emergency Services, Scott Farlow MLC, officially presented 25 year awards to volunteers from the NSW SES Blue Mountains Unit for the time they have donated to the community.

The Minister was joined at the ceremony by Member for Macquarie Louise Markus, Member for Blue Mountains Trish Doyle, NSW SES Director of ICT Charles Emer, Deputy Mayor of Blue Mountains City Council Chris Van der Kley, Mr David Jones of NSW RFS along with staff from Sydney Western Region to acknowledge the NSW SES volunteers and their families.

In handing over the awards, Mr Farlow thanked the volunteers for their outstanding work on behalf of the community.

“These awards are in recognition of the diligent service shown by these members who have dedicated many years to volunteering for the NSW SES,” Mr Farlow said.

“While all volunteers in the NSW SES show an extraordinary level of commitment to their communities, award presentations such as these provide special recognition to those volunteers whose accumulated wisdom and experience is irreplaceable.”

“It is outstanding the achievement that our volunteers have made to

keep our community safe” stated Mr Farlow.

NSW SES Director of ICT, Charles Emer also acknowledged the hard work and dedication of each volunteer who received their awards this evening.

“The appreciation of the long term dedication of volunteers to the community is hard to truly express in words” Mr Emer stated

“However when you see that Blue Mountains volunteers have dedicated 14000 volunteer hours in the last year that really reflects the enormous effort given by the Unit” Mr Emer said.

In 2015, the volunteers of the NSW SES Blue Mountains Unit, have attended 432 calls for assistance in storms within the Blue Mountains and assisted with 250 other storm incidents across the Central Coast and Western Sydney during storms last year. The Unit also assisted with 15 search operations in the Blue Mountains and across Western Sydney in that time.

If members require assistance during any storm or flood emergency, contact the NSW SES on 132 500 at any time.

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