



The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill
Minister for Multiculturalism and
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

15 March 2018

SES VOLUNTEERS HONOURED

A ceremony was held last Wednesday evening at the Hills Shire Council Chambers to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hills SES and to recognise Members for their outstanding service.

The event was hosted by The Hills Shire Council, and attended by various local dignitaries who gathered together to present awards to some of the most outstanding volunteers in the local community.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said "As Minister responsible for Volunteering, it was a great honour to present awards to those members who have achieved 15 years of service to the organisation".

The Hills SES has now become the largest SES Unit in New South Wales. In 2008, this unit was comprised of only 50 local volunteers, but now boasts over 200 dedicated individuals.

"The volunteer culture of The Hills Shire is truly unique" said Mr Williams. "I've seen the Hills SES in action during local storms, fires and floods. They are truly selfless in their efforts to help their local community in times of need. They deserve to be recognised and honoured for all that they do".

There are more than 2.1 million volunteers in NSW, contributing 240 million hours of their time, worth around \$5 billion a year.

People who volunteer enjoy better health and have greater opportunities for employment. There are numerous individuals who would like volunteer, but many don't know how to start.

Recently Mr Williams launched a one-stop volunteering recruitment website through Volunteering NSW. This new website makes volunteering more accessible by linking volunteers with the right organisation and opportunity for them.

"There is something for everyone to get involved with just under 3,000 opportunities available for people who want to volunteer in NSW" said Mr Williams.

NSW SES Commissioner Mark Smethurst said the SES is registered to use the new website and is aiming to recruit 60 per cent more volunteers over two years.

"Volunteers are at the heart of the NSW SES, providing hundreds of thousands of hours in training and response each year" Mr Smethurst said.

"The NSW SES is proud to offer our new flexible volunteering options through the website where it can best reach prospective volunteers".

To find out more about a local volunteering opportunity or to post a vacancy visit:
www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au



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MEDIA RELEASE

NATIONAL MEDAL

JONES	KAREN
LESTER	EVELYN
PALMER-BURTON	MATTHEW
WILKINSON	GREGORY

LONG SERVICE MEDAL

50 YEARS

GRANT	KEITH
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30 YEARS

FITTON	COLIN
LISTON	MALCOLM

15 YEARS

JONES	KAREN
LESTER	EVELYN
PALMER-BURTON	MATTHEW
WILKINSON	GREGORY

10 YEARS

BROWN	NATHAN
HILL	JOHN
HILL	NICOLA
O'HARA	ALLEN
SEWELL	MARTIN
TURNER	OWEN
TURNER	SANDRA

5 YEARS

ABHAYAWICURAMA	CHARUKA
ASPINALL	JULIE
BAJWA SINGH	PRABHDEEP
COLLER	HELEN
COOMBS	MICHELLE
DAVIS	ANDREW
GALWEY	SALLY
HICKMAN	PHILLIP
HURREY	MARK
JONES	LEIGH
LAWRENCE	LAURA
LAWRENCE	MARK
LORENZUTTA	DAMIAN
LUI	JERRY
MARVIN	LOUISE
McKENZIE	MARILYN
PICKERING	BRENT
SFIRSE	JOHN
WARDROP	BRIAN
WILKINSON	MEGAN