



## **SASSAFRAS-FERNY CREEK FIRE BRIGADE**

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**14 August 2015**

# **Brigade service celebrated**

Sassafras-Ferny Creek members were honoured at the brigade's annual dinner in August for service to CFA and to the broader community.

Brigade President and former captain John Schauble was the surprised recipient of CFA life membership, only the third member of the brigade to be accorded this honour.

CFA life membership acknowledges an ongoing commitment to the CFA and a member's brigade over many years and contributions that have enhanced its standing within the organisation and the wider community.

CFA Board member and Brigade Captain John Schurink noted that John's 30 years of CFA service included eight as brigade captain, two as secretary and 14 as a lieutenant. He also paid tribute to the "enormous contribution over many years that John has made to community bushfire safety, both locally and more widely within CFA".

Two members received clasps to the National Medal representing an additional 10 years of diligent service. CFA Deputy Chair John Peberdy presented these awards to former brigade captain Brian Stevens (1<sup>st</sup> clasp) and John Schurink (2<sup>nd</sup> clasp).

Operations Officer Ian Cross also presented CFA service awards to another former brigade captain and long-time CFA Instructor Richard Cromb (45 years) and to John Schurink (30 years). A number of operational and non-operational members also received five-year service certificates.

Latrobe MHR Jason Wood and Yarra Ranges Councillor Noel Cliff were special guests at the dinner, along with captains and representatives from the Dandenong Ranges Group and a number of neighbouring brigades.

For a second time, Paul Hicks was named as Firefighter of the Year, while Officers' Awards were presented to Norm English and Terry Jones.

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