

**YARLOOP VOLUNTEER BUSH FIRE BRIGADE**

*Statement by Member for Murray–Wellington*

**MRS R.M.J. CLARKE (Murray–Wellington)** [12.56 pm]: I stand to acknowledge the members of the Yarloop Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade who on Anzac Day were recognised for their years of service at a special ceremony that followed the Yarloop dawn service. The service records of the volunteers have been lost for years, but Brigade Captain Daryle Wilson and his wife, Karen, have managed to resurrect the records, combing through newspaper clippings and any other information they could find through research. This in itself is a major accomplishment. I was deeply honoured to be able to present the medals to the volunteers, many of whom left their families behind to fight the devastating Yarloop bush fires in 2016 and did everything they could to save their town. Congratulations to the recipients of the medals, some of whom received multiple awards on the day.

For five years' service, the recipients were Les George, Sam Hayes, Peter O'Brien, Tracy Osborn, Richard Woods, Stephen Cook, Robbie Phyllis, Eric Penny, Ron Sackville, Sharni Wilson, Zach Reynolds and Simon Woods. For ten years' service, they were Matt Anzellino, Tracy Ferguson, Karen Wilson, Daryle Wilson, Tim Vass, Ron Sackville, Sam Hayes, Stephen Cook, Les George, Peter O'Brien and Eric Penny. Matt Anzellino was awarded for fifteen years' service; Karen Wilson and Daryle Wilson were awarded the national medal first class for 33 years' service; and Eric Penny and Daryle Wilson were awarded the national medal second class for 40 years' service. Daryle and Karen Wilson have served a combined total of 73 years in the brigade, an achievement that is truly special and shows their deep commitment to the Yarloop community. I would like to recognise and thank all these volunteers for the contribution they have made to the community.