



# 2023

# NORTHERN TERRITORY VOLUNTEER <sup>OF</sup> THE YEAR AWARDS

**Award Recipients and Nominees**

**Central Australia**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Alice Springs

31 October 2023



**volunteering nt**

*support grow celebrate*



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**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY**  
GOVERNMENT

## Chief Minister's Volunteer of the Year Award

Presented in celebration of an individual who has made an outstanding voluntary commitment and who through their volunteering has positively impacted on the lives of others.

### Award Recipient



**Andrew Barrett**

### Highly Commended

Enid Harland

### Nominees

Andrew Barrett, Enid Harland, Jamuna (Mona) Ulak, Jennifer Mears, Joshua Clarke and Seán O'Grady.

Andrew Barrett is the current President of the Central Australian Show Society (CASS). Andrew goes above and beyond putting in many volunteer hours over the entire year. The entire staff and CASS Council directly benefit from Andrew's many hours volunteering behind the scenes.

Andrew also volunteers his time for the Harts Range Races and Finke Desert Race. He runs the merchandise stand for the Finke Desert Race, which is no easy feat – selling over 23,000 items from two locations with online orders coming in as well.

This year he has also helped organise the Connellan Airways Trust Masquerade Ball – Celebrating 40 years of the Connellan Airways Trust.

The benefit of his volunteering is further widespread to the Central Australian Community who attend all the events that he volunteers at. Not only the attendees that come, but the cattle stations and businesses/suppliers that are one way or another involved in the Alice Springs Show.

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## Chief Minister's Youth Volunteer of the Year Award

Presented in celebration of an individual aged 14–27 years who has made an outstanding voluntary commitment and who through their volunteering has positively impacted on the lives of others.

### Award Recipient



**Isla Petrick**

### Nominees

Isla Petrick and Leah Driver.

Isla Petrick is a young teen who started volunteering at Riding for the Disabled in Alice Springs the moment she turned 12. Isla helps young people with a disability catch lead and groom horses. She assists in lessons with helping young riders build their skills and confidence, and quietly and efficiently directs and encourages them to be the best that they can be.

She is an excellent role model of all that a young volunteer can be. Isla has had lived experience with disability and her compassion for those who do have a disability is outstanding. She shows great empathy, understanding and does all she can to make her riders feel good about themselves.

# Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year Award

Presented in recognition of exceptional volunteer achievement, which may include considerable contributions over an extended period of time within Emergency Services.

## Award Recipient



**Rhys Perry**

Rhys has shown exceptional contribution towards both NTSES as an organisation, the community and its volunteers. He has spent uncounted hours researching and organising training exercises for the Vertical Rescue Team, and still finds time to serve the community through his work, attend regular training, and prioritises his family.

Rhys directly benefited the NSW communities after being deployed twice as part of the NT team to assist with the 2022 floods in Moree and Wentworth. Through his camaraderie, Rhys built and maintained a high moral within his own team and others that had been deployed to the area including interstate teams.

Rhys directly benefits the local Alice Springs community through his response to many local emergencies including the Microburst storm that affected the majority of Alice Springs, flood events including a rescue in the Todd River, and numerous searches for missing people.

## Nominees

Amelia Allan, Glen Auricht, John Wright, Joshua Clarke, Rhys Perry and Ryan Casey.

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# NTSESVA Emergency Services Youth Volunteer of the Year Award

Presented in celebration of an individual aged 14–27 years who has made an outstanding voluntary commitment through an Emergency Service and who through their volunteering has positively impacted on the lives of others.



## Award Recipient



**Tomas Baptista**

Tomas dedicates his time by volunteering to serve his community and has done so for seven years, beginning with his time with the Queensland Rural Fire Service before relocating to Darwin.

With his time in Queensland, for his efforts, he was awarded the National Emergency Medal.

When relocating in 2019, he joined NT Fire & Rescue Service with the Humpty Doo Volunteer Fire Brigade. In that same year, he was deployed to Queensland to assist with the Black Summer 2019/2020 bushfires. With his efforts, he was awarded a National Emergency Medal clasp to add to his medal.

Tomas has also been a part of some of the worst bushfires the Darwin Region had seen in many years, giving up his time to serve and protect his community. Not only was he operationally assisting, he was assisting with behind the scenes tasks like being the Public Officer in the brigade's Management Committee, running vehicles to and from workshops, participating in community events like Cancer Council Relay for Life or the brigade's Santa Run.

## Nominee

Tomas Baptista



## Excellence in Volunteer Management Award

Presented in acknowledgment of a salaried or non-salaried individual, group or volunteer management program that has demonstrated good practice in the management of volunteers and the delivery of volunteer programs by those volunteers.

### Award Recipient



**Roman Khitiaev**

Roman started his role as Volunteer Coordinator at Alice Springs Town Council (ASTC) in January 2022. Since September of 2022, Roman recruited around 30 new volunteers for various Council's areas. In August 2023, Roman took on the role of Volunteer Manager at Alice Springs Rotary Henley on Todd Regatta 2023, and recruited and oversaw around 100 volunteers for the event. Being a volunteer himself, it seemed that when working on Council's volunteer program, Roman was able to ensure volunteers were treated fairly and acknowledged for their work. Roman has organised several volunteers 'thank you' parties to recognise volunteers' contribution.

As someone who came to Australia from overseas, Roman understands the barriers newly arrived migrants may face when searching for volunteer work. He establishes a close rapport with those volunteers and ensures they have a fun and easy journey when volunteering.

### Nominees

Nepalese Community Alice Springs (NCAS) Incorporated and Roman Khitiaev

## INPEX Community Volunteer Organisation/Team of the Year Award



Presented in celebration of a volunteer involving community organisation that provides innovative leadership, and through good practice in volunteering brings about positive and enduring change to their community.

### Award Recipient



**Central Australian Aviation Museum**

The Central Australian Aviation Museum (CAAM), launched in 1979, is the 'keeper of the flame' of Central Australia's aviation history.

The CAAM volunteer group not only prevented the demolition of the iconic Connellan Airways hangar and therefore the loss of what was Alice Springs' first aerodrome (known as Townsite), but faithfully restored the hangar and site to honour the spirit, effort and courage of central Australia's aviation pioneers. Today, CAAM is a small diverse group of committed volunteers who put in over 4000 volunteer hours per year worth approximately \$180,000. Many of the volunteers are founding members and continue to share their extensive knowledge with new volunteers and Museum visitors.

CAAM is a hidden gem, tucked away on one side of the Araluen Cultural Precinct, but is a well-regarded local attraction that provides value for visitor experience in Alice Springs and is entirely run by volunteers.

### Nominees

Central Australian Aviation Museum

# Overall Central Australia Award Recipient



## Northern Territory Volunteer of the Year Award - Central Australia

The Northern Territory Volunteer of the Year is chosen by judges independent from the Judging Panel and selected from the category winners. Presented in honour of an individual or organisation who has made an exemplary voluntary contribution and a significant impact in their community.

### Award Recipient



**Andrew Barrett**

Andrew Barrett is the current President of the Central Australian Show Society (CASS). Andrew goes above and beyond putting in many volunteer hours over the entire year. The entire staff and CASS Council directly benefit from Andrew's many hours volunteering behind the scenes.

Andrew also volunteers his time for the Harts Range Races and Finke Desert Race. He runs the merchandise stand for the Finke Desert Race, which is no easy feat – selling over 23,000 items from two locations with online orders coming in as well.

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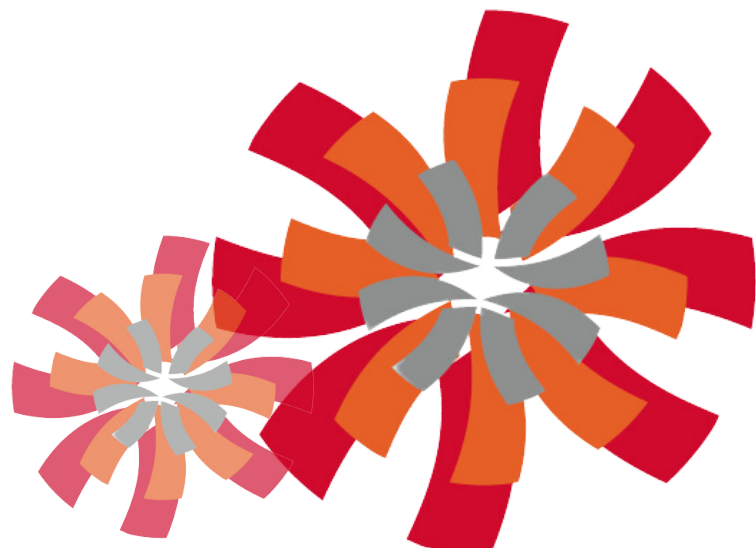
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## Certificate of Appreciation

In recognition of their volunteering activity and commitment over the last year.

Alba-luz Brockie  
Andy Peart  
Catherine Driver  
Craig Whan  
Elora Cole

Leonie Kerr  
Precy Taylor  
Samantha Mattarolla  
Valerie Neck



Proudly sponsored by:



*INPEX is committed to contributing to the sustainability of the communities in which it operates by providing members of the community with opportunities to come together, connect and collaborate.*



*The NT SES Volunteers Association works closely with NT Emergency Service to provide the best support and opportunities for volunteers through out the NT.*

Presented by:



*Volunteering SA&NT is a not for profit organisation and the peak body for volunteering in South Australia and the Northern Territory.*

Learn more at [vsant.org.au](http://vsant.org.au)



*The Northern Territory Government supports the volunteer sector through volunteer recognition, policy advice and a cooperative partnership with the volunteer sector.*

Learn more at [nt.gov.au/community/grants-and-volunteers/volunteering](http://nt.gov.au/community/grants-and-volunteers/volunteering)