



2023

NORTHERN TERRITORY VOLUNTEER ^{OF} THE YEAR AWARDS

Award Recipients and Nominees

Top End Australia

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin

2 November 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



Jack Hamilton

Jack has spent 38 years as the face of Northern Territory Legacy from 1985 to now. Jack has held a variety of volunteer roles within the organisation from Legatee, Secretary to President. At aged 82, he continues to be available for his beneficiaries Monday to Friday all throughout the year. Jack has ensured beneficiaries are catered for in the absence of their spouse and/or parent. Through Jack's volunteer commitment and leadership, Legacy has supplied families and their children with tutoring, laptops, payment of school fees, access to garden and home maintenance, and social connections.

Jack can be found selling badges and poppies each and every ANZAC and Remembrance Day without fail. Northern Territory Legacy does not receive any Government funding so such days are vital in keeping services operational. Given his advancing years, he can still be seen marching under the Legacy banner down Cavanagh Street every ANZAC parade, no matter what!

Whilst fundraising and representing Legacy with the utmost respect for the cause, Jack has inadvertently become a mentor for others along the way and inspired many to become involved in volunteering as well.

Nominees

Ashish Raj Jamarkattel, Ben Harris, Bradley Todd, Chris Galati, Christopher Trotter, Daryl Manzie, Debra Finn, Dipesh Kadel, Garry Blackett, Gerry Copeland, Heather Prendergast, Jack Hamilton, James Hoddinott, Jan Murphy, Katrina Chambers, Kelly Skippings, Mark Ferguson, Nilesh Dilushan, Raymond Nicholls and Roslyn Flett

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



Nilesh Dilushan

Beginning in 2019, Nilesh's journey as a volunteer commenced when he founded the Sri Lankan Students Association at the university to foster cultural awareness and promote cross-cultural exchange among students. It connected students with the local community, through which they received various forms of assistance during COVID-19. Nil was instrumental in establishing the Kindness Shake, which has served more than 6,000 meals and assisted more than 800 individuals facing financial hardships due to the outbreak. Over the past three years, as a founding member, Nil has led the partnership, community engagement, and fundraising of the charity, and has worked closely with several stakeholders to deliver emergency relief assistance.

Nilesh's volunteerism continues to evolve beyond his academic years where he embraces many leadership roles in local not-for-profit and charity organisations.

Nominees

Anna Stockwell, Ewan Dixon, Gurshan Dhillon, Izzy Craven, Jessica Porter, Jules Gabor, Kailey Coble, Mitch Peters, Nilesh Dilushan, Samuel Ricketts and Sonal Cynthia Pereira

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



Kyle Fox

Kyle has been an active member of the Humpty Doo Volunteer Fire Brigade, NTFRS, for five years. He joined in early 2019, at the age of 17. He wished to help protect his local community from bush fires and learnt quickly as a result of him crewing a Grass Fire Unit, during the weekdays, and during an extremely busy Top End fire season. Kyle has shown his dedication to his volunteer emergency service role in the Territory plus many interstate deployments to assist with emergencies.

Kyle has been an important part of the Humpty Doo Volunteer Fire Brigade crew, where he has been available to regularly crew vehicles both nights and weekends, and during week days. He has attended countless fires, crewing both Grass Fire Units and tankers, on which he is fully qualified. He has attended fires in his local emergency response area.

Highly Commended

Colin Malin

Nominees

Christopher Trotter, Colin Malin, Debra McColl, Heather Prendergast, Jake Lindemann, Kalliopi (Poppy) Trikilis, Kyle Fox, Raymond Nicholls, Rowena Stubbs and Val Eaton

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



Kel McLachlan

Kel has been around brigade activities since he was a baby with both his parents active volunteers/committee members.

Kel was able to join and train as a fire fighter at 16 years. In the two years since becoming a qualified volunteer, Kel has shown dedication and maturity beyond his years. He is responsive to every call out including being the first responder to local fires when no one else is close, at all hours of the day/night. He is a great example of a dedicated volunteer and community member.

Kel is very responsive and willing to attend fire reports at any hour, including being involved in the mitigation works at the start of the season which is an important part of Bushfires preparedness.

He is already an asset at such a young age and from what we have learned about him, I am sure he will continue to grow and make his mark in providing such vital emergency service volunteering efforts to benefit our community.

Nominee

Kel McLachlan

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



Ushani Loku Arumage

Ushani Loku Arumage is an extraordinary individual whose dedication to volunteer management has made an indelible mark on the Australian Red Cross and the Connected Women program. Serving as an Officer Migration Support Programs (MSP) in Katherine, she plays a pivotal role in not only coordinating the Connected Women program but also managing over 40 volunteers across various programs, marking impressive 6400 volunteer hours, including migration support, emergency services, and community initiatives. What truly stands out about Ushani's work is her ability to lead and inspire a diverse group of volunteers. Her journey with the Connected Women program began as a volunteer herself, which showcases her deep understanding of the volunteer experience.

Highly Commended

Ralph Dein and Australian Vietnamese Family Association Inc.

Nominees

Australian Vietnamese Family Association, Debra McColl, Heather Prendergast, Lucy Berk, Morgan Vidins, Ralph Dein and Ushani Loku Arumage

Higher Education/TAFE Student Volunteer of the Year Award



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

Award Recipient



Stella Jasmine

Stella volunteers for a wide variety of organisations and causes, including education, student advocacy, international student support, food relief support and local events, to provide advice and facilitate experiences that positively impact the student community.

Stella is an example to all she encounters about the power of volunteering and the positive outcomes it can have on people's lives – both the individuals receiving services and support, but also to those who deliver those services. Stella willingly shares the benefits she has gained from volunteering - from the self-fulfilment she feels to the doors it has opened to her for future career prospects. Her consistent efforts have translated into tangible positive changes for not only the local, regional and Territory communities but also for herself.

Stella's roles in volunteering gives her an immense sense of pride and identity.

Highly Commended

Ruobin Zhang and Niju Ale

Nominees

Cedric Tan, Deepak Chhetry, Hesti Prasetya, Niju Ale, Pauline Zheng, Ruobin Zhang, Stella Jasmine, Urszula Bartel and Yaping Peng

INPEX Community Volunteer Organisation/Team of the Year Award

INPEX

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



Connected Women NT

The Connected Women Program shines as a guiding light of transformation in the Northern Territory, epitomising the profound influence of volunteerism on community advancement. Rooted in the enduring dedication of Red Cross to humanitarian aid, this initiative leverages the potency of volunteers to propel positive change. At the heart of the success of the Connected Women Program is its committed volunteers, numbering over 200 individuals from diverse backgrounds. In 2022/23 the program engaged 547 volunteers. At the heart of Connected Women's impact and success is its Innovative Volunteer-Driven Model.

Through the Connected Women program, marginalized migrant women find solace, support, and growth. Over 500 women have flourished in Darwin and Katherine, experiencing reduced isolation, bolstered well-being, and economic engagement.

Nominees

Centre for National Resilience Team - Australian Red Cross, Connected Women NT - Australian Red Cross, Country Women's Association NT (Litchfield Branch), Emergency Services Outreach Team - Australian Red Cross, Nepalese Language and Cultural Classes, and Orange Sky Australia - Darwin Team

Overall Top End Award Recipient

Northern Territory Volunteer of the Year Award - Top End



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



Nilesch Dilushan

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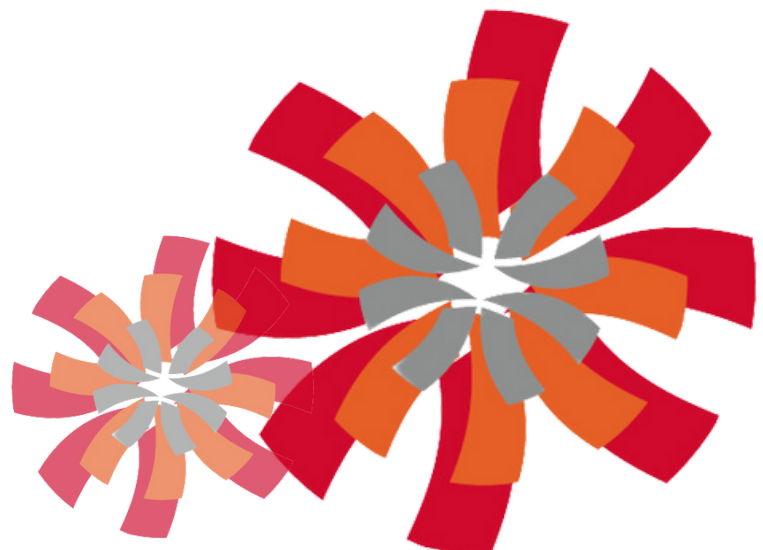
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Certificate of Appreciation

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

Barry Hansen
Bede Skewes
Beverley Shuker
Bradley Todd
Cathie Allen
Chrissie Leavy
Christopher Trotter
Darren Benson
Darwin Community Legal Service
Douglas Sharpe
Edward Murphy
Emanuel Masimo
Fathima Rumaiza Razik
Firoj Rana
Graeme Owen
Heather Nelson
Helen Kennon
Ian Fullarton
Ingrid Laudzevics
James Chalmers

James Hoddinott
John Trott
Karon Lamb
Kate Eadie
Mark Standish
Marni Brisbane
Mary Verus
Matthew Hunter
Michelle Duggan
Michelle Rawes
Natasha Smith
Nisha Pun
Paul Pokorny
Raymond Nicholls
Rodney Beament
Rohan Moore
Rory Kearns
Roslyn McMillan
Russell Williams
Sarah Droscher



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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



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