volunteering sa&nt
support grow celebrate

Government of South Australia

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2025

20 YEARS celebrating volunteer excellence

Event Program

National Wine Centre of Australia
Adelaide

22 May 2025

A message from the Minister for Human Services

It is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome you to the 2025 South Australian Volunteer Awards – an evening dedicated to celebrating the remarkable contributions of our volunteers.

South Australia's 950,000 volunteers are at the heart of our communities, driving positive change and fostering a culture of kindness and generosity. Each year, I am amazed and humbled by their passion and commitment, as they selflessly dedicate their time and expertise to help others.

This year marks a special milestone – 20 years of formally celebrating our outstanding volunteers. During this time, we have heard inspiring stories of individuals, groups and businesses who go above and beyond to improve the lives of others.

The South Australian Government remains deeply committed to supporting this vital sector, with initiatives such as these awards, volunteer recognition programs, and the State Volunteer Strategy. These efforts help to ensure volunteers have the resources and recognition they deserve, and that the sector continues to thrive.

For more than two decades, we have celebrated SA Volunteers Day on the Monday of the June long weekend as a symbol of our appreciation. Alongside key moments including National Volunteer Week (19-25 May) and International Volunteers Day (5 December), we honour the dedication of volunteers year-round.

My heartfelt congratulations to every nominee this year, and thank you to every volunteer across South Australia for your unwavering commitment to building a better future for us all.

The Hon. Nat Cook MP
Minister for Human Services
Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well

About the awards

Volunteering and community-based initiatives provide subtantial benefit the whole of South Australia.

Those who dedicate their time, effort and experience to the betterment of their community deserve to be acknowledged and celebrated.

Established by the State Government in 2005, the South Australian Volunteer Awards recognise the outstanding contribution of South Australian individuals, volunteer managers, community organisations and businesses.

Nominations are assessed by an independent judging panel. Judges consider the nominee's achievements in relation to their commitment, level of service and how their work benefits the South Australian community.

Share your pictures using **#SAVolunteerAwards**

The Premier's Award for Corporate Social Responsibility

Recognises the community contribution of a South Australian for-profit business

This award honours a South Australian business that is leading change in our community through initiatives such as philanthropy, partnerships, workplace giving and employee volunteering.

Finalists

BTR Excavation Pty Ltd

Virtual School Australia (VSA)

Gallagher Bassett

‘The Andamooka’ Community Project Award

Recognises a community or group volunteer project of significant community benefit.

This award honours the inaugural winner, the inspiring Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association, whose extraordinary efforts helped to deliver a 29 kilometre water pipeline to Andamooka in the Far North South Australia.

Finalists

The South Australian Youth Forum (SAYF)
The South Australian Youth Forum Inc

Enabled Youth Disability Network (EYDN) Project
The Enabling Youth Disability Network

Revival: A Legacy of Resilience and Community Empowerment
The Brukunga Community Association Inc. (BCA)

Chihuly in the Botanic Gardens Volunteers
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

The Excellence in Volunteer Management Award

Honours a volunteer manager for their outstanding contribution to the profession.

This award is presented to a volunteer manager (paid or voluntary) who has demonstrated dedication to good practice in volunteer management, the delivery of volunteer programs and quality volunteer experiences.

Finalists

Ryan Sims
Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium

Bridy Bartsch
Share the Dignity - South Australia

Ralph Drage
Technology for Ageing and Disability SA Inc (TADSA)

The Young Volunteer Award

Honouring an impressive young volunteer.

This award celebrates an outstanding volunteer aged 12 to 25, who has generously donated their time and resources to activities that benefit their community.

This award is jointly presented with the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA).

Finalists

Edward Mickan

Tom Rungie
Blackwood Lions Club

Lucy Stevens
The Smith Family

William Seton
SA Ambulance - Morgan Volunteer Station

youth affairs council
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Joy Noble Medal

South Australia's highest distinction for an individual volunteer.

This award recognises an individual whose outstanding commitment to volunteering has positively impacted the lives of others.

The award is named in honour of the late Joy Noble AM. Joy co-founded the SA Volunteer Centre, now known as Volunteering SA&NT, in 1982 alongside Mavis Reynolds OAM. Joy's career was dedicated to social work and community development.

Finalists

Lisa O'Malley
The Carer Project

Danica Gates
Beacon of Hope, Tumby Bay and Districts Suicide Prevention Network

Dr Jelina Haines
University of South Australia

Eman Rahim
Heart & Soul Group

Find out more about volunteering in South Australia

Volunteering SA&NT is the peak body for volunteering in South Australia and the Northern Territory. Our role is to champion the volunteering community by supporting individuals, businesses and organisations. Working together we can make a difference.

Learn more at **vsant.org.au**

The **Department of Human Services** helps to build and strengthen volunteering in South Australia by funding, supporting and driving initiatives that recognise and celebrate volunteers, and ensure the sector's sustainability. The Department is also responsible for implementing the Volunteering Strategy for SA 2021–2027. This strategy sets out a six-year plan to support and enhance volunteering in SA.

Learn more at **dhs.sa.gov.au/work-with-us/volunteering**

All Nominees

The Premiers Award for Corporate Responsibility

BTR Excavation Pty Ltd
Gallagher Bassett
Virtual School Australia (VSA)

'The Andamooka' Community Project Award

Accessible Quality Cardiac Care for the Whyalla Hospital and Community - Heartbeat Whyalla
Adelaide Liaison Office - Tzu Chi Foundation Australia
Blanchetown KESAB volunteers - KESAB
Book Bazaar Charity Bookshop supporting In-Home Palliative Care - Eyre Peninsula Community Foundation Inc
Building a Stronger Future for South Australia's Wildlife – Southern Koala and Echidna Rescue (SKER)
Chihuly in the Botanic Gardens Volunteers – Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium
Community Bridging Services Inc. Christmas Party December 2024 - Penfield Golf Club Inc. (PGC)
Community Events - Port Pirie Multicultural Community Inc
Cottages 4 Country Care
Crystal Brook Breastfeeding Catch-up group – Australian Breastfeeding Association
Cycling Without Age - Wallaroo
Enabled Youth Disability Network (EYDN) Project – Enabled Youth Disability Network
Feral & Pest Animal Control in State parks – Conservation & Wildlife Management (SA)
Good Country Community Op Shop Inc
Greens for Wallaroo Golf Course - Wallaroo Golf Club Inc
McLaren Vale Biodiversity Project - Biodiversity McLaren Vale
Mid Murray Our Town Christmas Pageant - Swan Reach Progress Assoc
Revival: A Legacy of Resilience and Community Empowerment - Brukunga Community Association Incorporated
Share the Dignity South Australian Volunteers - Share the Dignity
The Adopt A Spot Scheme
The Cancer Connect Peer Support Volunteer Team - Cancer Council SA
The Headstone Project South Australia Incorporated
The Mount Barker DSM Hospital Emergency Department Volunteer Group - Mount Barker DSM Hospital Emergency Department
The Nurtured Village Hampers - Limestone Coast - The Nurtured Village
The Puddle Jumpers Christmas Party - Puddle Jumpers Inc
The South Australian Youth Forum – The South Australian Youth Forum Inc
Transport Volunteers - City of Playford
WEA Volunteer History Project - WEA Adult Learning
Woodside Op Shop - Carers and Disability Link

The Excellence in Volunteer Management Award

Bridy Bartsch
Lisa Bond
Gary Brown
Margaret Bush
Julia Church
Julia Churchett
Ralph Drage
Dario Fabretto
Marianne Fuller
Alan Mott
Brenda Scarfe
Ryan Sims
Samantha Sinclair

The Young Volunteer Award

Zachary Bartholomew
Ava Gaerth
Ryan Hollamby
Olivia Isherwood
Hadi Jafari
Denzel James
Jacob Judd
Matthew Landon
Emma Matheson
Edward Mickan
Ryan Mukosera
Sarah Ridgway
Tom Rungie
William Seton
Lucy Stevens
Joshua Tilley
Oleg Volkov
Aidan Wickens

The Joy Noble Medal

Mark Aldridge
Olivia Arcangeli
Dr Arlette Beelitz
Doris Bleby
Judith Bowden
John Brownlie
Margaret Bush
Sylvia Buxton
Julia Church
Nancy Colarco
Robyn Crisp
Sue Davidson
Brooke Derrington
Wendy Diamonte
Jeanette Dorian
Bill Driver
John Evins
Margaret Farr
Laraine Frost
Danica Gates
Andrew Goold
Julie Graham
Dr Jelina Haines
Sean Hames
Ian Harris
Jennifer Housden
Barry Humphrys
Alessia Ilott
Peter Jarvis
Sue Lewis
Lorraine Lindholm
Natalie Logan
Allan Lowe
Matthew Massy-Westropp
Olga Matiscsak
Julie Matthews
Rosa Matto
James Maybank
Sally Michael
Rodney Moat
Carolyn Nightingale
Joy O'Connor
Lisa O'Malley
Eddie Pang
Maria Presutti
Esterina Quarantiello
Eman Rahim
Heather Ramsdale
Janet Richards
Brenda Scarfe
Karen Schultz
Samantha Sinclair
Vera Sockovic
Mary Spier
Dr David Squirrell OAM
Rachel Titley
Michael Venning
Joanne Watson
Jiaqi Zhu

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Partnering with the ***Youth Affairs Council of South Australia***
to deliver **The Young Volunteer Award**

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The 2025 South Australian Volunteer Awards are proudly supported by

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