

Wednesday 6 May 2015

CITY OF RYDE SAYS 'THANKS' TO VOLUNTEERS

City of Ryde Council will join thousands of organisations around the nation to celebrate National Volunteer Week with a gala event on Monday 11 May, to say 'thanks' to the thousands of local volunteers who help put a smile on people's faces.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering, said: "The City of Ryde recognises the valuable contribution of the estimated 15,000 people who volunteer in our City. Without them we would not be able to assist the community through the provision of services such as community transport, gardening and bushcare, youth issues, language classes, art and recreation, home visits and meals on wheels.

"Our Volunteer Recognition Awards give us the chance to 'thanks' and to celebrate the exceptional skills of volunteers and acknowledge their hard work and dedication.

"Volunteers truly are a great benefit to everyone and contribute so much to the wellbeing of our community."

Thirty-two individuals and groups have been nominated for the 19th City of Ryde Volunteer of the Year Awards in the following categories:

Individual Award

Presented in honour of an individual who has made an exemplary voluntary contribution and who through their volunteering has made a significant impact in their community. Nominees: Jeffery Che Fai Tse, Colin Clark, Peter Duclos, Nora Etmekdjian, Peter Fairburn, Emma Follent, Kristine Frost, Carolyn Glen, Mark Hanley, Bruce Hartwell, Margaret Herbert, Pam Hogarth, Vaughan Kelly, Ho Sum Lam, Kathy Mangan, Bronwyn McGrath, Shannon Mitchell, David Pickering, Tony Quance, Carol Roy, Johanna Tile, Sharon Whitbourn, Betty Willis, Susan Ye.

Youth Award

Presented in celebration of an individual aged 16 – 25 years who has made an outstanding voluntary commitment and who through their volunteering has positively impacted on the lives of others. Nominees: Victoria Clifton, Ben Lopez.

Group Award

Presented in celebration of a volunteering group that provides innovative leadership through best practice and brings about positive and enduring change to their community. Nominees: Artisans Ryde, Corine Van Diggele and Megan Campbell, Easy Care Gardening (Friday Morning Team, Ivanhoe Estate Tenant Group, Riding for the Disabled, Tutors of Chinese Leisure Learning Centre.

For more information about local volunteering, please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/volunteering or go to Volunteering Australia's website www.volunteeringaustralia.org

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