



THE  
2019  
TASMANIAN  
VOLUNTEERING  
AWARDS

## MEDIA RELEASE

### EMBARGO TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER 4PM

December 5<sup>th</sup> is **International Volunteer Day**, a day where we celebrate the contribution of volunteers worldwide, and locally it heralds the official launch of the 2019 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards.

The United Nations theme for International Volunteer Day is 'building resilient communities', new CEO of Volunteering Tasmania Dr Lisa Schimanski says

"Tasmania is powered by volunteers, they are fundamental to creating inclusive connected and resilient communities."

"There are so many ways in which we all rely on volunteers in our everyday lives, on International Volunteer Day we can collectively pause and thank them for all that they do - we are very proud to be launching our recognition awards on this day." she said.

The Tasmanian Volunteering Awards now in their fourth year are Tasmania's only state-wide awards program that formally recognises excellence in volunteering and showcases inspiring stories of individual and organisational volunteering across our state.

Volunteering is critical to our state and volunteers can be found in almost every sector and most definitely in every community. Volunteers in Tasmania contribute over 7 million hours every year and it would cost the community \$2.5 billion to replace their collective effort.

Although the economic value volunteers contribute to our State is enormous, it is the human connection, compassion and care that volunteers bring to their tasks that sets them apart, it is this that helps build the resilience in our communities. This is our opportunity to recognise, acknowledge and thank them.

The Awards are an important initiative of Volunteering Tasmania and are strongly supported by the Tasmanian Government, generous category sponsors and Volunteering Tasmania's Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC (Governor of Tasmania).

Attracting hundreds of nominations from around the state each year, the nomination period officially launches on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December and closes on midnight 10th March 2019 with the winners announced on Monday 22nd of May 2019 at a special event at Government House.

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Volunteering Tasmania  
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Tasmanians are being urged not only to thank a volunteer today but to nominate a volunteer or volunteer group in one of ten volunteering categories.

### The 2019 Tasmanian Volunteering Award Categories

1. Spirit of Tasmania's, Arts, Heritage and Tourism Award
2. Anglicare Tasmania's Community Care and Health Award
3. Bulk Nutrients, Sport and Recreation Award
4. CatholicCare Tasmania's, Volunteer Group or Program Award
5. Hydro Tasmania's, Excellence Award- for Best Practice in Volunteer Management
6. Lifeline Tasmania's, Emergency Services Award
7. Volunteering Tasmania's, Environment, Animal Care and Conservation Award
8. TasTAFE Education's, Science and Technology Award
9. Volunteering Tasmania's, Corporate & Civic Award  
and introducing the inaugural
10. (NEW) Aurora Energy's Lifetime Achievement in Volunteering Award

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The inaugural Aurora Energy Lifetime Achievement Award has been introduced this year as part of Volunteering Tasmania's 25th year Silver Jubilee celebrations in recognition of an individual's exemplary long-term commitment to the volunteering sector.

The Premier's 2019 Volunteer of the Year Award will be judged from the finalists of all categories.

To nominate simply visit [www.volunteeringtas.org.au](http://www.volunteeringtas.org.au) and follow the prompts.

[ENDS. 454 WORDS]

**MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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**ABOUT VOLUNTEERING TASMANIA:**

Volunteering Tasmania is the peak body for volunteering in the state, working closely with Volunteer Involving Organisations to represent the interests of all Tasmanians involved in volunteering through community engagement programs, advocacy, research and policy development.

<sup>1</sup> References, e.g. [State of Volunteering Report 2014](#), The economic Social and Cultural Value of Volunteering in Tasmania; a joint research project by the Institute of Project Management and Volunteering Tasmania.

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