



HUON VALLEY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Council recognises Volunteers in the Valley

The Huon Valley Council presented its 2018 Volunteer Service Awards last Friday at a ceremony at the Town Hall.

Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor says the awards recognise those volunteers who have gone above and beyond what is expected of them, and who have done this for an extended period of time.

“There were 3 categories awarded this year. The first award is Voluntary Service to the Huon Valley community over the past 5 years.

“This year’s award was presented to **CHRISTINE WALKER**. Since moving to the Valley in 2013 Christine has been heavily involved with the Huonville Salvation Army, as a volunteer counsellor and Coordinator in the weekly soup kitchen.

“In 2014 Christine initiated the Socks and Singlets Drive in the Huon and the following year she started Chatterbox, an empowerment program for girls in years 5 and 6. In 2015 Christine also started the Little Free Community Pantry at the Huon Valley Health Centre.

“The award for Special Voluntary Service to the Huon Valley community over the past 5 to 10 years was presented to **ANNE BENJAMIN**.

“She is a very committed member of the Huon Valley SES team, ready to help during emergencies. Anne has volunteered to collect camping fees from Shipwrights Point for the last two years – a job that requires a daily trip in any weather. She recently became a regular member of the Meals on Wheels Team delivering meals to Geeveston. Anne is also an active member of the Huon Yacht Club.

The final award recognises someone who has given Outstanding Voluntary Service to the Huon Valley community for over 10 years.

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This year's award was presented to **ANNE THOMPSON**. Anne has been a tireless volunteer for the Huon Regional Care Auxiliary (the Eldercare Auxiliary) for the past 12 years.

"Anne has also been the Secretary and member of the Council for Southern Healthcare Auxiliaries and is a contributor to the UTHANDO Project, providing dolls to the children of KwaZULU NATAL in South Africa.

"She also initiated a similar project for Nepal providing handmade dolls for children following the devastating earthquake in 2015.

"On behalf of the Huon Valley Council I would like to thank everyone who willingly gives up time to help others or to make local events the successes they are.

"I'd like to personally thank the recipients for giving up your valuable time so that we can all enjoy life a little more. I know a lot of volunteers don't ask for recognition, so these awards are a great way to acknowledge what they have given to the communities they live in," Commissioner Taylor said.

For more information

Adriana Taylor,

Huon Valley Council Commissioner

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