



Department of
Primary Industries

A decorative white line-art frame with a scalloped top and bottom, and ornate scrollwork on the sides, enclosing the title text.

HIDDEN
TREASURES
HONOUR ROLL

2013

celebrating women volunteers
who give so much to their
rural communities.

A decorative white line-art swirl on the right side of the page, extending from the bottom right towards the center.

ISSN 1838-4099 (Print)

© State of New South Wales through Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services 2013. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services as the owner.

Recognising that some of the information in this document is provided by third parties, the State of New South Wales, the author and the publisher take no responsibility for the accuracy, currency, reliability and correctness of any information included in the document provided by third parties.

Hidden Treasures is a joint project of Rural Women's Network (NSW Department of Primary Industries), NSW Centre for Volunteering and Women NSW.

Rural Women's Network
NSW Department of Primary Industries
161 Kite Street
Orange New South Wales 2800

Telephone 02 6391 3620
rural.women@dpi.nsw.gov.au
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn

ministers' message

It is with great joy that we present the 2013 Hidden Treasures Honour Roll.

The Hidden Treasures Honour Roll is a unique way to formally acknowledge the efforts of rural, regional and remote women and celebrate volunteering as an important community value.

This year we pay tribute to 96 women listed on the Honour Roll, as a way of saying thank you to all the quiet achievers, the women who are so often the backbone of our State.

The Department of Primary Industries' Rural Women's Network initiated Hidden Treasures in 2010 to start a record of rural women's volunteering as well as pay tribute to those who unselfishly contribute millions of hours of unpaid work to our State.

It is a snapshot of the broad and diverse range of volunteering activities that occur including fundraising, delivering meals to the elderly, fighting fires, driving patients, mentoring the young, creating community artworks or coordinating events.

Volunteers are essential to NSW communities and without these selfless workers, charities, arts and sporting groups would struggle to exist.

The NSW Government values all volunteer contributions and is proud to honour these women through this important initiative.

We encourage everyone to take a moment to read through the inspiring stories of these women and start thinking of women to nominate for next year's honour roll.



Katrina Hodgkinson
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Small Business

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Hodgkinson'.



Victor Dominello
Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victor Dominello'.

2013 hidden treasures nominees

- 4 Dorothy Ambrose [Corowa]
- 4 Danielle Anderson [Wellington]
- 5 Aunty Bea Ballangarry [Toormina]
- 5 Beryl Bates [Grampion Hills]
- 6 Margaret Baxter [Bogee]
- 6 Helen Bennett [Tinonee]
- 6 Ali Bigg [Port Macquarie]
- 7 Rebel Black [Lightning Ridge]
- 7 Sue-Ann Bramich [Tumbarumba]
- 7 Aunty Muriel Burns [Maclean]
- 8 Robin Butler [Ulladulla]
- 8 Carolyn Carter [Mylestom]
- 9 Boudicca Cerese [Lismore]
- 9 Joanne Chaffey [Brunswick Heads]
- 9 Nicola Chirlian [Willow Tree]
- 10 Shannan Clark [Stuart Town]
- 10 Kellye-Anne Coleman [Temora]
- 11 Noni Collins [Port Macquarie]
- 11 Robyn Coombes [Beechwood]
- 11 Carol Cornish [Orange]
- 12 Temple Cornish [Orange]
- 12 Leanne Croker [Rugby]
- 13 Bettina Cummins [Scone]
- 13 Corina Deneve [Numbugga]
- 13 Marion Dickins [Berrigan]
- 14 Jane Dunn [Harrington]
- 14 Joy Dwight [Morongla]
- 14 Gladys Eldridge [Nyngan]
- 15 Elsie (Joan) Evans [Cobar]
- 16 Lynne Fairhall [Metford]
- 16 Marlene Farrell [Orange]
- 16 Pat Fitzpatrick [Orange]
- 17 Margaret Flannery [Dungog]
- 17 Anne-Maree Fohrman [Albion Park]
- 17 Wendy Forsyth [Croppa Creek]
- 18 Amy Hart [Peak Hill]
- 18 Ann-Maree Hartley [Dubbo]
- 19 Joy Hogan [South Grafton]
- 19 Nola Honeysett [Dubbo]
- 19 Christine Hooper [Goodooga]
- 20 Pix Jonasson [Port Macquarie]
- 20 Lyn Jupp [Gresford]
- 21 Anne Kingston [Lovesdale]
- 21 Megan Kuhn [Bundella]
- 22 Sarah Last [Muttama]
- 22 Jay Leigh [Young]
- 23 Julie Lorimer [Gloucester]
- 23 Kim Manton [Wagga Wagga]
- 23 Merylin Mason [Stuarts Point]
- 24 Jessie McFarlane [Tenterfield]
- 24 Robynne McGinley [Macksville]
- 25 Fiona Miron [Armidale]
- 25 Jill Mitchell [Bathurst]
- 25 Lorraine Montgomery [Berry]
- 26 Patsy Nagus [Geneva]
- 26 Lorraine Oates [Mullion Creek]
- 27 Narelle Ober OAM [Burrill Lake]
- 27 Maureen O'Donnell [Broken Hill]

- 28 Charlotte Orchard
[Wongarbon]
- 28 Denise (Karyl) Osborne
[Jindera]
- 29 Lynda Petty [Tumblong]
- 29 Pauline Plant (deceased)
[Yamba]
- 29 Gwen Porter [Harrington]
- 30 Louella Poulsen
[Port Macquarie]
- 30 Donna Pumpa [Nyngan]
- 31 Elaine Robinson
[Mullumbimby]
- 31 Kerrie Savins [Bowraville]
- 32 Mary Saxon [Tamworth]
- 32 Faye Scherf [Lismore]
- 32 Ann Schneider [Billinudgel]
- 33 Sue Schneider [Osborne]
- 33 Edna Sharp [Orange]
- 34 Penelope Sheppard
[Coleambally]
- 34 Norelle Smith [Coolamon]
- 35 Elizabeth (Betty) Somers
[Parkes]
- 35 Tennille Stapleton
[Harwood]
- 36 Mollie Strong [Byron Bay]
- 36 Catherine (Lucy) Sweeney
[Jerilderie]
- 37 Sue Szumowski [Inverell]
- 37 Jodie Thomas [Temora]
- 38 Rebecca Thompson
[Greenwell Point]
- 38 Ruth Thompson
[Greenwell Point]
- 39 Sarah Thompson [Merriwa]
- 39 Bev Thorpe
[Sanctuary Point]
- 40 Pamela Toovey [Mudgee]
- 40 Lynette Vidler
[Meadow Flat]
- 40 Wendy Wedge [Bowraville]
- 40 Kim Weller [Yanco]
- 41 Sandy Wells [Collombatti]
- 41 Georgia Westcott
[Peak Hill]
- 42 Tracy Wilkinson
[Shadforth]
- 42 Adrienne Wilson [Griffith]
- 43 Heather Winch
[Lower Macdonald]
- 43 Zelma Windley [Chinderah]
- 44 Judith (Judie) Winter
[Eucumbene Cove]
- 44 Irene Worth [Bulahdelah]

The following stories celebrate and acknowledge rural women volunteers across New South Wales and were submitted by appreciative members of their communities.

dorothy ambrose

[Corowa]

Dorothy was born in 1928 at Lake Cargelligo in the middle of NSW. She lived in a two-room bag lined hut on a property at Yelkin about 20 miles out of town. She rode her bike six miles to school navigating through fences and muddy dams. Her early life experiences inspired a lifelong love of our great land and an ambition to restore and maintain the natural biodiversity so vital to our future. In 1944 Dorothy went to Melbourne to seek employment where she met and married Jock. They moved to Corowa in 1948 and raised three sons and a daughter. Her growing family continues to be one of her deepest passions. Over the years the community has been enriched by Dorothy's dedication to volunteering which has included being a leader in social justice issues, member of the Bird Observers Group, Heart Support Group advocate, P&C Member for Primary and Secondary Schools, Corowa South Public School Council Community Representative, and Australian Red Cross Society, Corowa President (four years). She has also received a Corowa District Landcare Group Service Award, and Long Service Awards from Corowa Show Society and the Red Cross Society.

danielle anderson

[Wellington]

Danielle was born and grew up in Wellington where she and her husband have established a dryland farming enterprise on the outskirts of town with their four children. Danielle works tirelessly as a volunteer supporting several community organisations including: Wellington Vintage Fair Association, Macquarie Poultry Club, Provision of Aged Persons Accommodation and the Wellington Race Club. She is also President of the Wellington Show Society and spends at least 20 hours a week helping local community groups, volunteering time and professional expertise to ensure community groups are correctly governed. Danielle uses her outstanding creativity skills to add value to local events and spends many hours collating and writing grant applications to benefit the Wellington community. She is greatly admired for founding a new entrepreneurial business, Wellington Business Services, that aims to increase the economic capital of the town. Within the first five months she has created three full-time positions for young professionals helping to address Wellington's skills shortage. Together with her team of professionals, Danielle is putting together many projects to increase the economic and social capital of Wellington. Her positive outlook and driven personality confirm Danielle as a major asset to the town of Wellington.

aunty bea ballangarry

[Toormina]

Aunty Bea is an inspirational Gumbaynggirr Elder, educator, healer, grandmother, friend and community mentor. She was born in Bowraville in 1943, a time when when Aboriginal People were not recognised. At her 70th birthday in August, Aunty Bea described herself as: 'just crossing the threshold' with the work she is here to do. A leader in True Reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal folk, she promotes inter-community harmony and understanding with recognition, honour, respect and the importance of connecting to others. Aunty Bea is a tireless volunteer in the areas of education, community development, crisis intervention and advocacy of women's issues. She is co-founder of the community volunteer group in Coffs Harbour called WOW (Women Of the World) established in 2011. WOW aims to bring people together to share commonalities and break down barriers, including cultural and racial intolerance, whilst promoting respect, inclusion and a sense of belonging to enhance identity. Aunty Bea volunteers more than 30 hours a week. She is a cultural mentor, knowledge keeper for WOW, facilitates Women's and Young Mum's Yarning Circles, holding ceremonies, sharing stories and working in collaboration with schools for cultural awareness. Aunty Bea provides positive messages through her public speaking and is a dedicated visionary with a dream to create an International Women's Gathering Place in Coffs Harbour.

beryl bates

[Grampion Hills, nr Scone]

Beryl is a gem in the community, working voluntarily in many areas to support different organisations. With her husband Errol they organise the St. Lukes Deb Ball and teach the girls how to dance. Beryl is President of the Church Guild and is on the Parochial Church Council. She is involved in this year's annual NSW Rural Women's Gathering being hosted by women in and around Scone and is a Committee Member on the Upper Hunter Shire Youth Committee. A big supporter of youth, Beryl also sponsors the Australia Day Upper Hunter Young Citizen Award in all four shire towns. She is Secretary of Bunnan Hall, which is used as a key meeting place in the small village of Bunnan, just outside Scone. Beryl has helped in the canteen at the Bunnan Rodeo for 35 years and has been Treasurer on the Bunnan Recreational Reserve. She is a Committee Member with the Westpac Helicopter and can often be seen with a bucket collecting money to support this very worthy cause. Beryl supports and gives a hand at many functions and is one of the best cooks in the district. She is a well-deserved nomination for the 2013 Honour Roll.

margaret baxter

[Bogee, nr Rylstone]

Margaret grew up in Manly and attended school at North Sydney. After marrying Jim in 1969 they moved to Arcadia. She joined Hornsby Rural Fire Catering Brigade in 1994 before moving to Bogee in 1995. Margaret transferred to Bogee Rural Fire Brigade and has continued catering for all Brigade events. In 2004 she joined the Rural Fire Service Cudgong Communications Unit and held the position of Treasurer for 12 months before resigning in 2008. Margaret is a member of the Country Women's Association holding positions at Branch (President, Treasurer and currently Secretary), and Group (Treasurer and currently Group Representative) levels. She works tirelessly for the community of Rylstone, volunteering for the Health Service Aged Care Unit craft and card playing days and as a Pink Lady (Secretary/Treasurer). She is also a member of Australian Red Cross and Meals on Wheels. Margaret is a fantastic grandmother to her three grandchildren and mother to her two sons. She volunteers more than 15 hours a week, giving back to the community of Rylstone, and is a worthy nominee as a 2013 Hidden Treasure.

helen bennett

[Tinonee, nr Taree]

Helen is a wonderful volunteer within the Myall Lakes community. She donates her valuable time towards the Sale Yards in Tinonee, Senior

Girl Guides, Tinonee Historical Society (she has been an active member for over 10 years), and the Tinonee Hall 100th birthday Celebration Organising Committee. Helen also assists her neighbours with essential trips to appointments and shopping. She has been a Nationals supporter for over 25 years and is a well-known and respected member in the Myall Lakes community for her loyal community service.

ali bigg

[Port Macquarie]

Ali lives up to her name, she is a quiet achiever with a great big heart. She cares immensely for people, her community and nature. Ali works on projects that bring nature and people together to rebuild community spirit and restore and protect the environment. As a sustainability advocate she was selected in 2011/12 to appear on the cover of the local White Pages and Yellow Pages, the theme being 'Australians Creating a Better Future.' She was one of the founding members of Green Day Out—a festival giving attendees the opportunity to learn about sustainability and health, including solar energy and other eco-products, recycling, composting and worm farming, food additives and more. Her most recent volunteer work is as Treasurer of the newly formed Port Macquarie Community Gardens Inc. where she does far more than banking and invoicing. Ali has been an integral part in forming the group, guiding the committee and sharing her incredible knowledge and passion with all who have expressed interest in becoming involved. The securing of land for the first Port Macquarie

Community Garden Inc. plot would not have happened without Ali's organisation and determination. She is a wonderful, warm and inspiring Hidden Treasure and deserves much recognition for her efforts.

rebel black

[Lightning Ridge]

Rebel is an astounding lady who is extremely passionate about the health and wellness of Australian communities and people. She recently created two programs—'How to be an urban hippy' and 'Cook well, be well'—which she delivered to a range of Tasmanian communities in 2012. Rebel is currently working on delivering programs to business people in the Northern Territory. She is the founder of the 'I'm Not Fussy' website which supports those with food allergies and intolerances. Her most recent venture is 'The Hungry Spirit' a multi-faceted social enterprise that empowers human connections to community, culture, consumption and character, whilst fostering entrepreneurship. Rebel is very passionate about all things related to celebrating traditional wisdom and volunteers much of her time to nurturing this.

sue-ann bramich

[Tumbarumba]

Sue-Ann is an outstanding and vital citizen within the community of Tumbarumba. She is heavily involved with the Tumbarumba Pony

Club, donating two Sundays every month to promote, support and encourage children to ride horses at rally days. Over the last 18 months while recovering from breast cancer, Sue-Ann has amazingly continued her solid commitment to volunteering. She is also one of the founders of a fundraising group and with her husband, helps organise a charity trail ride which attracts around 200 people each year. For the past five years profits exceeding \$10 000 annually have been channeled to a worthy charity. Sue-Ann's dedication, kindness and hard work has touched a lot of people far and wide.

aunty muriel burns

[Maclean]

Aunty Muriel is a Yaegl Elder who grew up on the Ulugundahi Island Aboriginal Mission in the early 1900s. She has a wealth of knowledge that is generously shared with the community and local health services. Her life story includes mission life, her move to Sydney to further her education at 14 years of age, and an extensive career in Sydney, Nowra and Orange, where she met her husband and raised her family. Aunty Muriel moved back to Maclean in her retirement 15 years ago. She chairs the Ngayundi 'This is Ours' Aboriginal Health Council which hosts four community meetings a year in different geographic areas and brings Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people together. Aunty Muriel encourages Aboriginal people to speak about their Council activities with the community and these meetings have grown in strength and numbers. She is active in ensuring

relevant agencies follow up issues raised by the community, a role she undertakes with great diplomacy and determination. Aunty Muriel has been involved in many community groups and has provided valuable input and advice to the local council, educational providers, and housing and community transport agencies.

robin butler

[Ulladulla]

Robin was born in 1942 at Morwell in Victoria and started playing netball from the age of seven. After completing school, she worked as a secretary, personal assistant, and managed a travel agency. After five years living abroad, Robin returned to Morwell in 1972 where she joined the local Netball Association. She married Les in 1974 and joined the Traralgon Netball Association, becoming a life member in 1990. Robin, Les and their daughter Meta moved to Ulladulla in 1990 where she promptly joined the Ulladulla & District Netball Association. Robin was Vice President for two years then became the Umpires Convenor for two years. After a committee break she re-joined to concentrate on developing young umpires. Over the next 10 years Robin was instrumental in obtaining a new clubhouse, brick storage facility, fencing around the courts and last year an entire new surface for six courts. Robin has rarely missed a Saturday of netball. As the current Secretary, she has updated all club policies and keeps on top of the paperwork. Robin would easily spend over 15 hours a week on netball matters because she is so committed to the sport and youth.

carolyn carter

[Mylestom, nr Urunga]

Carolyn was born in 1950 in Sydney. She is a proud mother and grandmother. For over 26 years Carolyn taught hundreds of people to swim at free Learn to Swim classes at Bankstown Pool. She married Kelvin in 1970 and moved to Mylestom. She joined the local surf club auxiliary attaining a bronze medallion and other awards. Carolyn joined the North Beach Tennis Club and held the positions of Secretary and Treasurer for 17 years before becoming a Life Member. She was a Foundation Member of Mylestom Playgroup and also of Repton Primary School Canteen Committee, receiving Life Membership of the P&C after 10 years of service. As a member of Raleigh/Repton Country Women's Association for 30 years, Carolyn held all positions except Treasurer and remains active at Group level. She cares for her elderly mum and considers this one of her most important roles. Despite a series of longterm serious cancer and health issues, Carolyn continues to be an active volunteer and in 2009 joined the Coffs Harbour Regional Cancer Services when they needed a Secretary. She has delivered Meals on Wheels for over 39 years and has been a member of Mylestom Hall Committee for many years. Carolyn was nominated in 2009 for the Bellingen Shire Citizen of the Year Award and in 2013 was presented with the Bellingen Shire Australia Day Award for Community Service.

boudicca cerese

[Lismore]

Boudicca was born in Armidale. She has a Degree in Environmental Science and lives in Lismore where she works as a consultant. Boudicca exemplifies selfless public service. Since 2010 she stepped into a leadership role for people deeply concerned about the expansion of coal seam gasfields in the Northern Rivers. As a prominent leader of an alliance of community groups, her communication was marked by a desire for accuracy, truthfulness, and a deeply held commitment to non-violence in social movements. These rare qualities became crucial in the Northern Rivers, when the struggle over CSG developed mass-movement scale, and consequent high intensity. Boudicca played a key role in guiding people to non-violent protests. At great personal cost, she tirelessly reminded the public about the need to remain respectful of opponents while standing up for what they believe. Her altruistic leadership was outstanding, rare and skilful. Boudicca is a Hidden Treasure indeed.

joanne chaffey

[Brunswick Heads]

Joanne has been working hard in communities for many years. As the wife of a police officer she and her three children have spent time in many small communities where she engaged in community volunteering through WIRES. Joanne has always

been available to help an injured animal and educate children through school talks. Her work with WIRES is a 24/7 commitment and she is often called upon in the middle of the night to do rescues while still happy to help out the next day if needed. We are sad she is no longer in our area but we are grateful for all she has done to assist injured wildlife. Joanne has great community spirit and was also President of our local P&C and is a Breastfeeding Counsellor.

nicola chirlian

[Willow Tree]

Nicola lives at Cattle Creek near Willow Tree. In addition to running her own speech pathology practise, she has a strong commitment to conservation and the environment. Nicola is a member of SOS Liverpool Plains, the North West Alliance, and Upper Mooki Landcare Group. One of her recent achievements includes organising a presence at the Tamworth Country Music Festival and AgQuip to help raise awareness of the potential impacts of proposed coal seam gas developments on the Liverpool Plains. Nicola was part of a delegation who travelled to Canberra to meet with elected representatives and raise awareness about the concerns of landholders and community members living on the Liverpool Plains. She has also taken a lead role as a member of the steering committee working on the development of a Health Impact Assessment for the Gunnedah Basin. Nicola is a tireless and inspiring volunteer who is worthy of this recognition.

shannan clark

[Stuart Town]

Shannan has lived in Stuart Town all of her life and now works as a Support Teacher and Office Manager at Mumbil Public School. She is a highly respected, committed and competent work colleague with a warm and welcoming smile. Shannan has an amazing capacity to care for other people and treats everyone with respect and kindness. She continually goes above and beyond in her support of work colleagues, parents, students and community members such as regularly visiting families in need and supervising young single parents on return to work schemes. Shannan is always available to parents and community members who need advice and support. She is the volunteer organiser and leader of weekly bingo, dance parties and games nights for families. Shannan coordinates a regular Melbourne cup community day, ANZAC day services and displays. Along with her partner Marcus, she organises most of the community events for the village throughout the year and is a member of the Progress Association and the P&C. In 2011 Shannan and two others organised donations, raffles, an auction and a range of community events to raise money for a local boy with brain tumours who spent a year in a Sydney hospital. She would volunteer over 10 hours a week and is a true Hidden Treasure.

kellye-anne coleman

[Temora]

Kellye-Anne works as an Infant's Teacher in Temora. She is married with four children and has lived in town all her life. In 2011 Kellye-Anne became President of the Temora Town Netball Association (TTNA). Her dedication and commitment to this role has seen a huge increase in the numbers and strength of the Saturday morning junior competition. On the back of the resurgence of netball in town, Kellye-Anne has led a committee to re-establish representative netball (TTNA has not had representative teams for the past five years). Hours of meetings, fundraising and organising saw TTNA send two representative teams to the 2013 State Age Carnival in Sydney. Every Saturday morning during the netball season (May to August) Kellye-Anne can be found at the town netball courts. She would spend around three to four hours a week—working in the canteen, leading the Fun Net children, organising carnival teams, ordering and maintaining equipment and arranging fundraising activities. In addition to this, she would average another two hours a week at representative training, attending committee meetings and actively pursuing sponsorship. Kellye-Anne is the driving force behind the establishment of an inter-town competition (which she hopes will be up and running in 2014). Her enthusiasm, hard work and vision are admirable.

noni collins

[Port Macquarie]

Noni grew up in Coonabarabran, where her volunteer ethos took roots. She became a Radiographer and while on a posting in Broken Hill met and married Nev. In 2001 they moved to Port Macquarie where Noni honed her skills and is considered to be one of the best Sonographers on the Mid North Coast. Juggling three young children and a busy work schedule has not stopped Noni from tirelessly working for the community. She is involved in the Port Macquarie Surf Club and is coordinating the school fete for the second time. Noni is on the P&C and gives one day per month to the canteen. She has supported Nev's volunteer involvement with local Ironman events for at least 10 years. Noni would give at least 10 hours a week to volunteering. The community appreciate everything she does and Noni is definitely a Hidden Treasure who should be recognised for her tireless efforts.

robyn coombes

[Beechwood]

Robyn is an exceptional horsewoman, a natural teacher and an inspiration to her family and friends. She grew up on a dairy farm in the Manning Valley before marrying in 1959 and moving to Cunnamulla Queensland and then to a remote cattle station in the Northern Territory. In 1968 the family moved to Mudginberri in Arnhem Land. While bringing up four young children,

Robyn set up and taught a mobile school for Aboriginal children along with children from local stations and mining camps. She returned to the Mid North Coast in 1974 to teach and now lives in Beechwood. Robyn has been an active volunteer with Hastings District Pony Club since 1974, a Life Member since 1977 and at one time was Zone Chief Instructor. Since retiring eight years ago, Robyn has volunteered many hours each week coaching disabled riders and training volunteers and horses for the Riding for the Disabled Wauchope/Port Macquarie Centre. Robyn is also Treasurer of the Hastings Trail Riding Club where she regularly instructs and helps riders with their horses. She has been involved in Endurance Riding since 1983 and organises the annual Bago Bush Ride which is a major fundraiser for the RDA. Her knowledge of the bush trails on the Mid North Coast and her organisational abilities are invaluable.

carol cornish

[Orange]

Carol was born in Orange, leaving to pursue a fashion design course in Sydney in the early 1960s. She then returned to Orange securing employment as a window dresser which complemented her work as a seamstress. Carol has had the pleasure of sewing for many brides, debs and their daughters. An outfit made by Carol was even worn at a Military Function in Paris! She married Malcolm, has two children and four grandchildren. Carol served on the Board of Directors and Mother's Club at her children's Pre-School. It was at this time she instigated

library, garden and playground lighting school projects. Carol was Secretary of the Mother's Club and was instrumental in implementing the 'Slow Down in School Zones' program. In 1973 Carol became a member of Orange Premi-Babes Association and was elected Secretary in 2006. As well as contributing more than 24 hrs a week to the Premi-Babes, she has been a member of Orange Day VIEW for over 30 years. This included two years as a Zone Councillor and singing for many years with the Day VIEW Singers. Carol has delivered Meals on Wheels for many years and been a Convenor for the last few years. In 2007 Carol coordinated fundraising for Breast Cancer Research (\$18 000 was raised).

Temple cornish

[Orange]

Temple has a long standing commitment to the community of Orange with many years of volunteering with local groups and services. She has been a volunteer with Girl Guides for 60 years, Meals on Wheels for 50 years and UPA Child & Aged Care for 40 years. Temple was a member of the committee who established the House Keepers Emergency Service in Orange and served 25 years on the Executive. As a part of Orange's Bicentenary Organising Committee, Temple organised for Tall Ships Cadets to visit Orange. She has filled many other roles within the community including Elder and Secretary at Fiveways Uniting Church, Treasurer of Women's Association, Coordinator of volunteers at UC Parish Centre desk and Cashier at the Church's

Mustard Tree Café. Temple was selected to carry the Olympic torch in 2000 and was awarded Orange Citizen of the Year 2008.

leanne croker

[Rugby, nr Boorowa]

Leanne has always lived and worked in regional Australia. She is married to a farmer and together they run their sheep property. Leanne is a trained nurse but these days focuses her energy on the wool industry and its position as a major regional employer. Through her association with the Boorowa Business Association Inc, Leanne developed the Wool Harvest Scholarships. This program gives local students the funding and support to go to the Wool Harvest School at TAFE Western in Dubbo where they gain industry skills and knowledge. In 2012 (inaugural year) she single-handedly raised over \$5000 to support a student. This student is still at school but is already working in the industry out of school hours. Leanne identified that many families did not have the financial ability to support their children and has forged ahead hoping it will expand to more than one student per year. She continues to give her time to building networks and making personal contacts to get this unique program off the ground, as a first for the wool industry in this region, if not nationally.

bettina cummins

[Scone]

Bettina has lived in or near Scone all her life and every week works as a volunteer. She regularly supports individuals by driving them to medical appointments, doing their shopping or running to the chemist. Bettina has been working with the Scone Neighbourhood Centre for more than 10 years as a committee member and at the front counter. She is a valued team member who puts a lot of energy into the service. Bettina did many years at Australian Red Cross, held quite a few executive roles and worked in their shop. She has now taken on the role as caretaker for the Wingen Hall (a small village where she grew up). Bettina has succeeded in getting grants which have enabled the building to be done up and meet safety standards. The hall is regularly used by the community for meetings, dances and children's activities such as ballet and playgroup. Bettina is a real Hidden Treasure and worthy of the honour.

corina deneve

[Numbugga, nr Bega]

Originally from Holland, Corina met and married Tackame while working in Malawi, Africa. They moved to the beautiful Bega Valley to raise their children and work in the local school. During her own long battle with cancer Corina discovered there was no local support group for women dealing with cancer. So she travelled to Sydney

for training and returned to establish a cancer support group for women. Corina is a real local hero who saw a need and acted.

marion dickins

[Berrigan]

Marion is an extraordinary person who has been involved in community volunteering for over 40 years, holding many executive positions and working tirelessly for each committee. She has been an Australian Red Cross Vice President and Red Cross Disaster Team member, attending to flood and cyclone victims from Urana and Mulwala. Since the 1980s Marion has held the following positions with the Uniting Church: Elder, Church Council Secretary and Chairperson, Sacrament Celebrant, Member of the Lay Preaching Team, Property & Finance Chairperson, Child Safety Contact, Pastoral Care Leader, President of the United Hospital Auxiliary, Regional Representative and State President. Marion is also heavily involved with the Heritage Museum as the Publicity Officer and is on the fundraising committee. She has been involved with Girl Guides and was instrumental in their establishment in Berrigan. When Guides closed in 2010, Marion made sure the proceeds of the Guide hall sale were retained for community activities. She was a member of the Berrigan Public School P&C and Ladies Auxiliary from 1970-1980, a Trainer at the football club 1990-1998, and Secretary of the MPS Committee which raised funds and built a facility for our Doctor, Dentist and Ambulance. Marion is married, has four children and 10 grandchildren.

jane dunn

[Harrington]

Jane was born in Sydney and moved to Harrington 15 years ago with her husband Paul. She is a Registered Emergency Nurse and they have two boys who share their father's passion for shortboard and bodyboard surfing. Jane initially became involved with the Bodyboarding Clubs as a social outlet and has taken up many volunteer roles including Secretary of Manning Great Lakes Bodyboard Association (2010), Secretary and Treasurer of NSW Bodyboarding (2010-11) which included organising the State team for Nationals, Secretary/Finance Officer of the International Bodyboarding Association Australasian Branch (2011 to present), involved with the Forster Tuncurry Bodyboard Association compiling draws and tallying at local competitions (2012), Secretary of Port Macquarie Bodyboarding Association (2012 to present), and Northern Region Bodyboarding Representative for Surfing NSW (April 2013 to present). Jane believes developing bodyboarding into a more recognised sport is imperative to its future. She has always played an active role in sports and continues to assist with local, regional and national competitions despite living 75 km away from her nearest club.

joy dwight

[Morongla]

Joy has dedicated her adult life to contributing time and energy to a wide range of organisations. She has a cheerful nature and committed to everything she does. Joy has fulfilled the role of Secretary for the Cowra Gun Club for 30 years and has been the NSW Clay Target Association's Central Zone Secretary for the past 13, continuing in these roles even when her family was no longer actively engaged in competitions. She has been involved in the Morongla Agricultural Show for more than 20 years and has taught tap dancing to all ages. Joy has been involved in the Cowra Eisteddfod for at least 15 years. Her husband suffers from Parkinson's disease. She is committed to his full-time care and is an active member of the Cowra Parkinson's Support Group. Joy has achieved all of this while raising a family, running a farm and participating in the paid workforce. She demonstrates the warmth, generosity, commitment and strength of rural women and is a real Hidden Treasure.

gladys eldridge

[Nyngan]

Gladys (Glad) was born in Nyngan in 1930. After leaving school, she worked in various jobs until taking up the joint positions of Switch Board Operator and Parcels Office Manager at Nyngan Railway station. At 82, Glad is one of Nyngan's iconic personalities. She is the last surviving

member of the original founding committee that established the Nyngan Museum in 1992. For 47 years Glad has been connected to the site that now houses the Nyngan Museum, first as an employee of the railways and then as the Coordinator and Manager of the Museum. Glad was Captain of the Nyngan Girl Guides for 12 years, a founder of Nyngan Little Athletics, Junior and Senior Netball and the Nyngan Railway Tennis Club. She has been a Sunday School Teacher for 40 years, a church Elder and Lay Preacher with the Uniting Church and is active on the Church Council, helping to organise functions and activities. She is an active member of the Country Women's Association, Western Studio for Performing Arts, local Cancer Council, Nyngan Show Committee and Nyngan Ag Expo Committee. Glad is one of the founders of Nyngan Lioness Club and has held all organisational positions. She was one of the founders of the Nyngan Leo's. Glad is the proud mother of three daughters, six grand daughters and one great grandson. For over 30 years she also opened her home to 16 children, giving love and support. Glad's home has been called a 'home for strays', not only for children but for animals too. In 2011 she won the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award for the Orana Region and was presented with her award at Parliament House, Sydney. She is an irreplaceable Hidden Treasure.

elsie (joan) evans

[Cobar]

Joan was born in Cobar in 1937, the second eldest in a family of 12. Aged 15, she went to Sydney for work and lived with an Aunt. In 1968 Joan returned to Cobar with her two daughters after the break down of her marriage. Jobs were few and far between but she picked up work as a house/motel cleaner and took in washing and ironing to make ends meet. Eventually Joan got a job at the local kangaroo works which lead to a long-term association with the industry and marriage to her business partner in 1985. Joan became husband Hughie's carer after he was diagnosed with leukaemia and continued to run their kangaroo business even after his death in 1988. In 1996 she decided it was time to sell and retire. Throughout her life Joan has been involved in volunteering. Groups have included the Cobar Local Aboriginal Land Council, Cobar schools (public, high and pre-schools), Legacy, NSW Family and Community Services, Ageing, Disability & Home Care Driver taking patients to Dubbo for medical appointments, Cobar Community Working Party, Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly, Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation (a Director since 2006), Cobar Junior Soccer and the Two-Ways-Together Partnership Community Program.

lynne fairhall

[Metford, nr Maitland]

Lynne is originally from Newcastle but now lives in Metford with her husband Peter and their children. The family became involved in archery at the local club in 1993. Lynne enjoyed archery so much she became an archery coach and in 1997 she and Peter began an archery coaching business which included teaching archery at schools and to disabled groups. In 2005 they started the first archery development program with the Hunter Academy of Sport (HAS) and in 2012 started another with the Central Coast Academy of Sport (CCAS). Lynne became the National Director of Coaching in Field Archery Australia in 2009, the first female to take on such a position within the Association. In 2011 she was approached by the International Field Archery Association (IFAA) to become the Director of Training and Coaching, providing coaching for the 37 countries which are affiliated with the IFAA. Her duties with the HAS, The CCAS, Field Archery Australia and IFAA are all voluntary as well as her many hours coaching at her archery club in Gloucester. Lynne volunteers approximately 10 hours per week and is a mentor for women in archery of all ages. She has developed coaching programs for Field Archery Australia as well as The International Field Archery Association. Lynne has also developed a special competition division for anyone with a disability who may wish to compete in Field Archery events within Australia.

marlene farrell

[Orange]

Marlene has been a driving force in the development of community services in Orange since the 1970s. She was instrumental in driving services for children and support services for women, including Orange Occasional Care Service and Orange Family Day Care. During the 1980s as an Alderman on Orange City Council, Marlene championed the development of an Abbeyfield House. Abbeyfield Orange is a purpose built semi-independent accommodation facility for 10 older people in a home-like setting. Marlene chaired the fundraising and planning committee and the house was opened in 1991. She still chairs the Management Committee providing support to residents and meeting the ever increasing accountability challenges.

pat fitzpatrick

[Orange]

Pat is a dedicated member of the Orange community and has long had an association with the Catholic Women's League. She has been a volunteer at the local hospital for many years and has devoted 22 years to being Convenor for her church group's Meals on Wheels volunteer team. Pat is dedicated to providing ongoing support to her family, friends and the Orange community through her commitment to volunteering for a range of ageing and disability services.

margaret flannery

[Dungog]

Margaret was born in Maitland and has lived in Dungog her entire life. She and her husband William have four children. Margaret has spent most of her life supporting others through a huge range of volunteer positions: Assistant Treasurer, Dungog Pre-School; Canteen Secretary, Dungog Public School; Secretary, Dungog High School Council; Councillor, Dungog Shire Council; Deputy Mayor, Dungog Shire Council; Member, Newcastle Joint Regional Library Committee; Delegate, Shires Association of NSW 'D' Division; Board Member, Hunter Councils Inc.; Member, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Board of Directors; Secretary, Dungog & District Neighbourcare Inc.; Secretary and Treasurer, Lower Hunter Multiple Birth; President, Lower Hunter Multiple Birth; National Council Secretary, Australian Multiple Birth Association; National Council Treasurer, Australian Multiple Birth Association; National Vice Chair, Australian Multiple Birth Association; Secretary, Christ Church Dungog Anglican Mothers Union; Vice President, Christ Church Anglican Guild; Parish Council Secretary; Member, Newcastle Diocese Clergy Emoluments Advisory Board; Newcastle Diocesan Council, Dungog Parish Presentation Board; President, Dungog Girl Guides; Treasurer, Dungog Netball Association; Dungog RSL Women's Auxiliary; and the James Theatre Committee. Margaret sets an inspiring example in her strive for excellence and has achieved outstanding results through hard work and devotion to her various offices, acquiring

huge respect from everyone. Her exemplary service to the community of Dungog has been in keeping with the finest traditions of rural women.

anne-maree fohrman

[Albion Park]

Anne-Maree works at Mt. Warrigal Public School in a Community Liaison role for the Aboriginal community. She assists parents and teachers to make personalised learning plans for individual pupils and encourages parents to become involved with the school. For many years she was the President of the P&C, again encouraging members of the Aboriginal community to participate in school activities and planning. She is currently the President of the local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, chairing meetings to bring about quality education for Aboriginal pupils. Anne-Maree is also studying at university to become a teacher. She is a mother and wife who also looks after extended family members including her grandmother. Anne-Maree is a trusted role model for the Aboriginal community and works actively to bring about reconciliation.

wendy forsyth

[Croppa Creek]

Wendy has made a profound contribution to the community in a multitude of ways. She is currently President of Croppa Creek Public School P&C, a Committee Member of: Yallaroi ANZAC Committee; Croppa Creek Reserve; MacIntyre Young Writers

Association; Croppa Creek Hall Committee; and an active participant and supporter of the Goondiwindi Eisteddfod. Wendy impressively and selflessly gives her time to support and be actively involved. She has been instrumental in promoting public speaking at Croppa Creek Public School for a number of years with each and every child annually entering the Goondiwindi Eisteddfod. Wendy is undoubtedly a driving force in our community. She is also a mother, career teacher and farmer's wife balancing all of these roles with distinction. The community would be far weaker without her commitment, loyalty, dedication and friendliness.

amy hart

[Peak Hill]

Amy is a student leader at Peak Hill Central School and worthy of recognition as a Hidden Treasure for the volunteering work she does in her school and community. She is a compassionate, caring and inspirational role model to her peer group and younger students. With her friend, Georgia Westcott, Amy identified a need for active after school activities for young K-6 students. Through this structured program they are building community harmony and promoting health through physical activity. Amy and Georgia gained support in governance and event/program management and gathered assistance from sponsors, sporting and fitness groups to make their idea a reality. The program now operates two afternoons a week and includes a healthy afternoon tea. They have also raised funds for equipment and a storage shed. The

program is open to all children and regularly attracts 70 percent of the town's young people. The program has expanded and now provides leadership opportunities for other students so that succession planning is in place. It is a testament to Amy's tenacity and leadership skills that the program has grown from strength to strength.

ann-maree hartley

[Dubbo]

Ann-Maree is a rural suicide prevention advocate. Whilst completing her Masters in Suicidology, she started a Suicide Prevention Network (SPN) dedicated to promoting awareness, providing training and supporting those affected by, or seeking information on suicide prevention, all without cost. Each year a 'Walk Toward Hope' has been run with at least 100 attendees. Anne-Maree has provided free training to hundreds of community people and professionals. She provides pro bono consultations for those who want supervision around the area of suicide prevention and self-injurious behaviour. She is also a point of contact for people who are seeking intervention and post-intervention assistance. Ann-Maree voluntarily takes on two to three students each year to broaden their knowledge about suicide prevention and gives them an understanding of local needs. She is in the process of getting a not-for-profit rural suicide prevention centre open, which will be dedicated to those whose lives have been touched by suicide and be a contact point for evidence based information.

joy hogan

[South Grafton]

After serving her country through the armed forces, with time being spent overseas, Joy and her husband Rob settled in South West NSW to raise their five children. She studied at university and worked for DOCS while raising the family. Once her children left home and Rob had passed away, Joy retired to Northern NSW. Children were her passion, so volunteering in a school seemed natural. Joy chose to volunteer three days a week at Grafton Public School finding her niche in the library. She can be found dusting, covering and shelving books or purchasing resources and doing computer work. Joy is a volunteer Reading Tutor and is always available to assist with additional volunteer work outside of the library. For over three years she has become a vital member of the school community, enjoying sharing books during lunchtime readings and contributing to the children's education in so many ways including helping at the school's Support Unit catering for students with physical and intellectual disabilities. Joy always looks to the needs of the children and Grafton Public School community wishes to say thank you Miss Joy!

nola honeysett

[Dubbo]

Nola is a local Dubbo woman, married with three adult children, and is a proud grandmother of three. She is a trained Registered Nurse but has

spent more than 20 years as a proactive and forthright volunteer. Nola is the tireless and dedicated President of the local Early Intervention Centre which greatly relies on extra fundraising to operate. The Centre has progressed over many years to provide a multitude of advanced services for children with a high range of disabilities living across a large geographical area around Dubbo. Without her perseverance and dedication working with the highly skilled salaried staff, the provision of this vital and excellent centre, would not be as successful. Nola gives her time so willingly despite a heavy personal schedule.

christine hooper

[Goodooga]

Christine was born into a family of four sisters and two brothers at Dirranbandi, Queensland in 1956. Her childhood was spent on the Goodooga Reserve in a tin house built by her father and uncle. They were happy years growing up in a close knit family with cousins, aunts, uncles and friends who looked out for her and all of the other kids. Christine went to Goodooga Central School before moving to Sydney aged 17 to study business. She lived in Armidale for 22 years working and raising four children. This was followed by a brief time in Dubbo before returning home to Goodooga in 1990 to rear her two youngest children by herself with the support of her sisters. Whilst at home and employed with the Community Development Employment Program, Christine was approached by family members to help establish the Murrawarri Aboriginal Tribal Corporation. She was elected

as Chairperson for the Goodooga Community Working Party in 2009 through to 2013. During her leadership Christine worked with elders and government agencies to secure tens of thousands of dollars for the refurbishment of community facilities, established a food bank, and rallied for an SES building while also working as an SES volunteer. She has been an ongoing advocate for Foster Carers and gained support from the local Police Commander to make the community safer for children. Christine's current involvement as a volunteer includes Murrawarri Land Holding Company Board of Directors 2012 (current); Joint Management Corporation for National Parks Deputy Chairperson 2012 (current); Goodooga Local Aboriginal Lands Council Member; NSW Aboriginal Education and Consultative Group Inc. Member; and Member of the Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council. Christine is currently employed in Sydney as a Community Facilitator and graduated with an Arts Degree in Aboriginal Language in 2007.

pix jonasson
[Port Macquarie]

Two years ago in September 2011 Pix organised the first White Balloon Day event on the NSW Mid North Coast. From humble beginnings, the event has grown in awareness and size, attracting significant community and media support. As the volunteer Secretary for the child protection committee, Friends of Bravehearts – Mid North Coast, her tireless passion to make kids safer has seen the annual event now attract over 250 people for the inaugural Bravehearts

Breakfast in August. Pix was also a volunteer Committee Member for the inaugural Luminosity Youth Summit, held in Port Macquarie in July, at which over 220 people aged from 15 to 30 attended. Also, being the Media/Marketing person for the Micro Business Forum, Pix secures quality guest speakers for forum members and guests at their bi-monthly meetings. She successfully organises many business and community events and loves bringing people together. In late 2012, Pix was named the Hastings Business Women's Network (HBWN) New Business Woman of the Year. She credits her success to her kids, her Mum and late Dad, her partner and friends. Along with being a dedicated Mum to her two children, Pix is heavily involved in her local business and community networks and loves living on the coast. Positive Pix is Our Hidden Treasure!

Lyn Jupp
[Gresford]

Mrs. Jupp is a firm and favourite friend of the children of Gresford Public School. Lyn has volunteered at the school for 17 years of continuous service nurturing the literacy of children. It was undoubtedly through her love of reading that Lyn's passion for helping little ones to take on board that complex task of learning to read and write, emerged. Since that first day of her daughter's schooling, Lyn has delivered a daily parent reading program which has launched children into the wondrous world of books and learning. She has a special devotion to those who find the literacy demands of schooling somewhat

challenging. Lyn's gentle and caring coaching, together with high but realistic expectations for all her pupils, have enabled students to surmount their literacy hurdles and go on to fully participate in the literacy curriculum. Lyn plays an active role in all aspects of school life at Gresford. There is not a child's birthday she forgets; her presence delights students at athletics carnivals, presentation evenings and open days; and she always has a special book to share daily with her students. Mrs. Jupp is a Gresford School Treasure and deserves to be recognised as a NSW Hidden Treasure!

anne kingston

[Lovesdale, nr Corowa]

Anne was born in 1935 at Lovesdale where she attended primary school. Her secondary education was completed in Corowa through correspondence lessons. The War Years were very difficult and labour was short. 1939 saw temperatures of 48 degrees and the Black Friday fires. Without electricity it was hard for mothers and children. It was Anne's job to light the wicks of the kerosene refrigerator. She still lives in the original family homestead nurturing the environment by encouraging biodiversity and restoration of the land. Along with building a sustainable future, Anne also has a passion for researching and publishing history. The community has great respect and admiration for her voluntary contributions which include: Australian Red Cross Society Corowa Branch since 1976; President for five years Catholic Women's League (60 years membership); Corowa

District Landcare Group Inaugural member 1996 and Service Award CDBHU Football Club; Life Membership Corowa Show Society; and Life Membership Ongoing roadside tree planting.

megan kuhn

[Bundella]

Megan and her husband Martin run a grazing farming enterprise near Bundella. Their son has significant disabilities, which both Megan and Martin demonstrate incredible devotion to with time, dedication and love. She also works tirelessly to protect the agriculturally significant Liverpool Plains from coal and coal seam gas industries. To do this Megan instigated a time consuming survey process which has enabled her community to declare themselves as coal seam gas free. This was a long and time consuming process which Megan devoted long volunteer hours to achieve. It has brought a sense of unity in communities and provided a positive way to contribute to the debate and have their views heard. Megan ran her campaign virtually single-handedly to encompass over 700 000 ha of the north west region. She has shown complete dedication, unbelievable enthusiasm and energy while maintaining priorities with her very special son. There can be no doubt that Megan is one extremely special Hidden Treasure and recognition of her volunteer work would be truly deserved.

sarah last

[Muttama, nr Cootamundra]

Sarah was born in Cootamundra. After university in Sydney, she moved back to the region and since 2000 has committed her professional skills and large amounts of voluntary time to community cultural development and the arts. The arts is an underfunded area, and although sometimes paid, the majority of Sarah's cultural work is undertaken on a voluntary basis and should be publicly recognised. Without her efforts many projects and cultural development initiatives would not be realised. Sarah's commitment and passion for the arts and the difference it can make to regional communities is demonstrated by the projects she has participated in such as the Wagga Space Program, and her role in founding 'The Wired Lab', an innovative rurally based organisation providing opportunities in arts, sciences and community cultural development. Such opportunities have included skills development workshops, concerts and projects such as 'Rolling Stock' in Junee, where community members and groups are invited to collaborate with visiting artists. Initiating and facilitating these projects provides little financial reward for Sarah. Her enormous enthusiasm, commitment and leadership has driven all these projects. She has given time to many cultural organisations including being a board member for Eastern Riverina Arts (since 2011 and previously 2004-2006) and Vice Chair of the Wagga City Council Cultural Advisory Committee. Sarah regularly offers her skills pro bono to organisations such as

the Cootamundra Arts Centre, Cootamundra Aboriginal Girls Home Centenary Committee and Cootamundra Nursing Home.

jay leigh

[Young]

Jay grew up in Port Kembla, marrying early and looking after three sons. In 2010 with the family grown she made a fresh start on her own and moved to Young. Jay didn't know anyone and decided volunteer work was a way to make connections. She took on a variety of roles at the library, Community Radio Station and the Young Neighbourhood Centre (YNHC) before deciding the YNHC was a perfect fit. Jay gives 12–15 hours a week to the community, enthusiastically offering administrative support to staff that would otherwise be unavailable. She is often the first point of contact with clients who can feel vulnerable. Jay makes everyone feel at ease through her empathetic and friendly approach. Recently she completed a Certificate in Community Services to better understand human services and volunteered extra time to set up and coordinate the Many Hands Volunteer Register, a new project designed to match potential volunteers with suitable organisations. Jay believes volunteering is essential for community growth and wellbeing. Jay has the ability to interact with all types of people and says she has 'found herself' through volunteering, changing from an introverted, self conscious person to someone who is a confident and outgoing contributor to her community.

julie lorimer

[Gloucester]

Julie has been volunteering at least 16 hours a week at the Gloucester Activities Centre for the past four years. This service provides recreation, social interventions and health promotional activities to help improve the quality of life for seniors and people with developmental disabilities. It offers respite to carers which allows their loved ones to stay at home for as long as possible. The service would not run without Julie. She works very hard, helping create a happy day for clients. Julie is very proactive and uses her initiative to do whatever needs to be done. She has a great deal of empathy and compassion for clients and they cannot wait to see her. Julie not only works hard whilst on the job, she goes home and thinks about ways to help improve the service offering many great suggestions that have been implemented. Julie is a true asset to the service and the Gloucester community. We are so very lucky to have found such a gem who is so giving and willing to assist others that need care, assistance and an ear to listen to their stories.

kim manton

[Wagga Wagga]

Born in England, Kim has lived in the Wagga Wagga area since the age of two. She is a dedicated and exceptional volunteer and a key member of the Wagga Wagga Fencing Club. Having started fencing in 2004 as a new

experience, she fell in love with the sport and was a founding member of the club when it became officially registered with the NSW Fencing Association. Kim has competed in numerous regional and state competitions, often finishing on the podium. As a result of her achievements, she was awarded NSW Fencing Women's Novice of the Year in 2008. Kim volunteers her time every week to contribute to the development of young fencers and support the growth of the sport in the Riverina. Her devotion to fencing and willingness to assist in technical and administrative matters sees her fulfilling a number of roles in mentoring younger fencers, refereeing, maintaining sports equipment, assisting in the organisation of competitions, and as a Committee Member for the club. Without her support and maturity in taking on these roles, the Riverina region would not be a vibrant and growing area for the sport of fencing.

merylin mason

[Stuarts Point]

For the last 14 years Merylin has been a volunteer with the Stuart's Point/Eungai Cricket Club. She has run the canteen for all home games, assisted with coaching and transport and been a valued committee member, often through difficult times. Merylin has twice been awarded the Club Person of the Year. She has freely given her time as a qualified Trainer and Assessor, to train and qualify local sporting club members and community organisations to gain safe food handling, workplace hygiene and responsible service of alcohol qualifications. Merylin has recently been

involved in both a paid and volunteer capacity with the Macleay Valley Cricket Association's Communities for Children Plus program, which takes the game of cricket to all primary schools in the Valley and beyond. In order to do this she achieved her Level 1 Cricket Coaching qualification. Merylin has also been a member of the Yarrahapinni Festival Committee since its inception and played a significant role in organising its Op Shop Ball. For many years she has been a volunteer helper with the Stuarts Point RSL Sub-Branch and Kempsey and Mid North Coast Legacy Divisions in the areas of catering, fundraising and providing transport and assistance for elderly or frail members of these organisations.

jessie mcfarlane

[Tenterfield]

Jessie has worked tirelessly for many years for the Tenterfield Branch of the United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW (Ladies Auxiliary) a group of dedicated local women committed to the service of the local hospital. She joined the Auxiliary in 1977 and has devoted 35 years to this wonderful organisation. Jessie was Vice-President from 1984 to 1985, President from 1986 to 1992 and then President again 2007 to 2008. She is currently a patron of our local branch of the UHA of NSW Inc. Her involvement with hospital fundraising has been extensive—from making shower curtains, window curtains, cushion covers, gowns for patients—to cooking for, and working on, street stalls and at cattle sale canteens. Jessie is a true

lady and a country woman in every sense of the word. She certainly is deserving of the title Hidden Treasure.

robynne mcginley

[Macksville]

Robynne was the 2011 Mid North Coast Volunteer of the Year for her outstanding contribution to the community. She was recognised for her volunteering with the Bowraville Community Technology Centre where she has given her time for over 14 years. Robynne manages day-to-day transactions attending to the needs of the public, assists with the Centre's wide range of services including computer access, helping people with computer programs, literacy problems and supporting the production of the monthly community newsletter. She provides services to Centrelink customers as well as offering Justice of the Peace services. Robynne is Chair of the Board and helps keep the organisation viable, encouraging staff and other board members to be active in the community raising awareness of the Centre's services. She also assists the Chamber of Commerce and other groups in writing grants and has been involved in writing successful Tidy Town submissions.

Fiona miron

[Armidale]

Fiona is one of four siblings and grew up on a farm outside Inverell. She was awarded a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) in 1996 and was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory and a solicitor of the High Court of Australia in August 1996. In 2000 she was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW. Fiona has worked as a solicitor in Canberra and Armidale and has also tutored at university. She currently works with a legal firm in Armidale where she has an established property and general practice. In 2011 Fiona was appointed as the volunteer Chairperson of Pathfinders Limited and has been a Director/Committee Member since 2007. Pathfinders is a not-for-profit organisation providing a range of services and programs for homeless children and young people throughout the New England/North West. With the other Directors under her leadership, Pathfinders has grown and expanded. Fiona spends approximately 12–15 hours a month providing critical assistance to disadvantaged rural youth.

jill mitchell

[Bathurst]

Jill was born and raised on a farm near Peel. For the past 27 years, she has volunteered in the community of Bathurst. Her wonderful baking has

directly helped the Bathurst Hospital buy expensive medical equipment. Jill started volunteering when her children were young, running the school canteen two days a week. Once the children moved on she joined the Bathurst Hospital Auxiliary two days a week. For the past 10 years Jill has been a Volunteer Leader of 69 other Volunteers at the Auxiliary where she supports other volunteers and visitors to the hospital. She orders stock for the hospital shop, organises the roster and education of other volunteers, bakes cakes, and creates a variety of crafts to sell and raise money for the hospital. Jill is such a respected and valued volunteer leader and all the volunteers want to be part of her hospital shop team. She is very professional and organised, working collaboratively with the hospital executive, the community and her team. Jill is highly respected and priceless.

lorraine montgomery

[Berry]

Lorraine was born, raised and educated in Sydney's eastern suburbs. She became a Law Clerk in Sydney and remained with that practice for over 31 years. In 1977 she and husband Greg retired to the Shoalhaven, as her mother and grandmother were both born in the region. Lorraine became a volunteer, working and taking on committee roles with the local Meals on Wheels, Golf Club and Probus Club. Her great passion is VIEW Clubs of Australia (Voice, Interests and Education of Women). It is the only national women's organisation solely focused on supporting and advocating

for young disadvantaged Australians in need through The Smith Family's Learning for Life program. After progressing through committee and national roles, Lorraine was elected as National President 2012/13. She represents 19 600 VIEW members and works with key women's organisations and all levels of government. She also works to ensure the principles of VIEW are upheld and mentors and encourages women to take up leadership opportunities. Lorraine has been a wonderful VIEW ambassador giving very generously of her time to attend meetings, travel interstate and engage through telephone and email communications. Eight hour days are the norm but her mind and heart are always thinking of ways to get the message of VIEW to the wider community and promote the Learning for Life program. In 2012 Lorraine was recognised with the Kiama Woman of the Year award for outstanding advocacy of women's issues.

patsy naqus
[Geneva, nr Kyogle]

A proud Bundjalung woman, Patsy was born in the mortuary at Casino Hospital in 1957. Growing up in Tabulam on the Rocky River, she was given the name and totem of Bundjulahm (butterfly) by her grandmother, because she was the first born granddaughter. Following in her mother's footsteps, and using the wisdom gained from her grandmother (her spiritual teacher), Patsy developed a passion for the wellbeing of her people. She educated herself at the age of 21 after her schooling was interrupted by

moving between 21 schools. Patsy has spent her life volunteering in education and politics. She has walked the North Coast with petitions and attended rallies in Sydney and Canberra. She met with Prime Minister John Howard in the 1990s, while lobbying for improved education, healthcare and environment for her people. Patsy became active in the campaign for asbestos victims, when her father became ill from working in the mine at Bayugil. She has been a Kyogle Councillor as well as Deputy Mayor. For 20 years Patsy has supported victims of domestic violence in the courts. She has raised her own five children along with children across her extended family. In 2010 Patsy was recognised with a special Carer's Award. Since being diagnosed with kidney disease and commencing dialysis, she has been a strong voice for the high number of Aboriginal people on dialysis, campaigning for culturally appropriate services to enable Aboriginal dialysis recipients to remain on their country with family and community support close by.

lorraine oates

[Mullion Creek, nr Orange]

Lorraine has a background as a medical practitioner and her expertise has been of great value in her volunteer role as a member of the Abbeyfield Orange Management Committee. Abbeyfield is a purpose built semi-independent accommodation facility for 10 older people in a homelike setting. Lorraine contributes her knowledge and support to the management

of the house, the support of the housekeeper and monitoring of the needs of the residents.

narelle ober oam

[Burrill Lake, nr Ulladulla]

Narelle received acknowledgement of her volunteering efforts in 2011 with an OAM. She is a long standing volunteer to many organisations and has been involved in hospital auxiliaries since 1977. Narelle received an achievement award for 25 years of service by the Western Sydney Area Health Service before moving to the South Coast where she has continued her dedication, working tirelessly to provide support to the local hospital and patients. Narelle is an excellent organiser with high standards. She expects a lot from herself and gives her time most willingly to help others. Narelle was the Social Chairman of Hands Across NSW—helping farmers in distress, drought and floods. Many organisations have benefited from her volunteering including: Grand Social Secretary, Grand Chapter of NSW and ACT; Order of the Eastern Star for three one-year terms; Publicity Officer, for the past 10 years; Former Worthy Grand Sessions Coordinator, United Grand Chapter of Australia, for 12 years; Functions Coordinator, 1985; Secretary, Milton Chapter No 193, Order of the Eastern Star, since 2005; Treasurer, Mount Beulah Chapter No 5, Order of the Eastern Star, Granville, for 20 years; Secretary of the Auxiliary, Milton-Ulladulla Hospital; Member, for over 10 years. She is a worthy recipient of this recognition.

maureen o'donnell

[Broken Hill]

Maureen was born in Wilcannia in 1941 and lived in White Cliffs until she was around three when her family moved back to Wilcannia. The family continued to move as her father worked on various stations. In 1957 Maureen married Ray and together they had nine children. She lived in Wilcannia until her husband passed away, in the tin shack by the river that her husband built. Maureen carted her own wood, water and cooked on an open fire. She continued to live by the river until moving to Broken Hill with her children in 1974 where Maureen was able to buy a small two bedroom house turning the dining room into a bedroom. Nieces and nephews often stayed with her for weeks at a time so the house was regularly very full! Maureen became involved in the Western Aboriginal Legal Service through the urging of her older brother and has been an essential part of the Service holding the position of Chairperson for many years. Maureen was also actively involved with Land Rights for Aboriginal people and participated in the 1983 blockade to have Mutawintji handed back to the Traditional Owners. She is Chair of the following organisations: Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation; Broken Hill Local Aboriginal Land Council; and Broken Hill Aboriginal Community Working Party. Maureen is also a member of a number of Boards and Committees including: Mutawintji Board of Management; Far West local Health District; Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly; Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee; and Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly. She works 20–30 hours a

week giving tirelessly to help her community. Maureen would however tell you her greatest achievement is her family and her strong belief in family is awe inspiring. She is the backbone of her family of nine children, 38 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren.

charlotte orchard

[Wongarbon]

Charlotte deserves recognition for her tireless fundraising efforts and support for the Wongarbon Pony Club. She was instrumental in the club's formation over 20 years ago and has given great amounts of her time since. Charlotte is involved in organising committees, gymkanas and supporting children and young horsing enthusiasts from multiple competing clubs. She actively participated in the building of a club house and grounds for camps and multiple events. Charlotte has travelled long distances across the state for events and competitions. She continues to strive to raise funds by selling weekly raffle tickets, running the canteen and volunteering. During all of the above efforts Charlotte has managed to maintain full-time employment at Dubbo Base Hospital and actively supports her ageing mother. She deserves recognition for her selfless efforts in helping others.

denise (karyl) osborne

[Jindera, nr Albury]

Denise was born in Warragul Victoria then lived with her Nana (primary carer) in Dandenong until in her teens. She worked in Melbourne before moving to Albury in 1971 and finally Jindera in 1982. Denise is a Member of Jindera Rural Fire Brigade, Chair of Albury-Hume Bushfire Management Committee, Chair of Family & Friends Jindera Aged Hostel, Member of Jindera & District Multi purpose Stadium Fundraising Committee, Board Member of Back to Reality Foundation (a philanthropic group providing funding for groups and programs assisting disadvantaged youth), Board member of YES (Youth & Family Services) Board and is an Executive Committee Member of the United Protestant Association – Murray Region which oversees the provision of accommodation for the aged in a range of facilities. She is also a long-term (25 years) Local Government representative and was Mayor for 13 years and Deputy Mayor for four years. Denise has volunteered in numerous roles since 1981, initially with P&C putting together the school newsletter, Member of the Jindera School Council (15 years), Member of Jindera Recreation Reserve Management Committee (six years), and has recently been appointed to the St. Johns Lutheran Primary School, School Council.

Lynda petty

[Tumblong, nr Gundagai]

Lynda lives on a family farm 20 km from Gundagai. Despite years of drought and financial struggles, she has continued over many years to dedicate countless hours every week to organise and run the 1st Gundagai Scouts. In addition to the ever increasing administrative duties, Lynda has planned and run weekly activities for the three sections (Joey's, Cubs and Scouts), organised local and regional camps and coordinated fundraising. Lynda has worked tirelessly for the children of Gundagai and the surrounding communities. She has supported her Group so that it has a high rate of achievement and gained the highest award (Grey Wolf Award) in Cubs for the area.

Pauline plant (deceased)

[Yamba]

Pauline has been an inspiration to all who watched her tireless energy in helping people throughout the NSW North Coast. Publicly she was well known for establishing the Yamba Breast Cancer Support Group and being an outspoken advocate for women experiencing cancer, even while she was undergoing chemotherapy herself. Pauline developed and raised funds for a Breast Cancer Awareness Program which has been presented to high schools and women's groups throughout the Clarence Valley. She was a committed community representative on the

Local Health District and Clarence Valley Council Health Committees, always keen to pass on health services information to others. Pauline regularly volunteered at the Yamba Aged Care Hostel and was famous for cooking hundreds of pancakes for the Pink Breakfast to support breast cancer research. Privately and very quietly Pauline did so many other things too: knitting beanies for premature babies in hospital (always making sure that there were some in the Aboriginal colours); collecting pamper packs for women at the women's refuges; washing tea towels for the community centre; and picking up bags and bags of rubbish while walking around the town every morning with her husband, Tony. She always acknowledged the support of her husband and said she would not have been able to do all these things without his assistance. Sadly the community lost Pauline in June 2013 and now a whole committee of people will be needed to replace her.

Gwen porter

[Harrington, nr Taree]

Since moving to Harrington in 1977, Gwen has been a volunteer for many groups and clubs. In 1978 she became involved in the formation of the Harrington Day Centre and the Harrington 'walkers'. In 1980 Gwen became a member of the Harrington Community Health Centre Committee progressing to Public Officer in charge of running the Centre, a position she still holds today, 35 years later. She arranged and managed the installation of a Medical Practitioner in the Centre. Other services now include: Well Women's Health,

Podiatrist, Denture Clinic, Early Childhood Nurse, Dietician, Prostate and Diabetes Educators. For many years Gwen has organised an annual bus trip for local women to attend a breast screening clinic held at Taree. In 1978 Gwen joined the Country Women's Association (CWA) Harrington Branch and took on roles as the Publicity Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, International Cultural Publicity Officer and President. She also became a member of the CWA Mid North Coast and took on the role of Publicity Officer (10 years) and Secretary (three years). At one stage Gwen was voted the state's best CWA Publicity Officer. There are many more volunteering achievements such as being on the Harrington Voluntary Fire Brigade, Harrington Advisory & Liaison Committee, Manning Historical Society, and Secretary and Treasurer of United Services Club organising the ANZAC service. These are just some, but not all, of Gwen's contributions to her community. She would have contributed several thousands of hours in a remarkable demonstration of energy and commitment to her community. Gwen is truly a Hidden Treasure.

louella poulsen

[Port Macquarie]

Lou works as a volunteer Pastor at People Builders (a church and community service provider) in the community services team tirelessly giving her time to all who walk through its doors, and always with a smile and a hug, if needed. She runs positive life groups which are changing people's lives and is always available to take calls from needy people. Lou puts in long hours as people need help at

all times of the day. Her dedication is enormous and she has a heart of gold. Lou doesn't want recognition for her work but she deserves it! No one can replace her or do what she does for the community of Port Macquarie. She is a hero and a Hidden Treasure.

donna pumpa

[Nyngan]

Donna was born in Cunnamulla in 1962 and lived on rural properties in the district until her late teens when she moved with her mum and brothers to Toowoomba. She attended TAFE, did a stint as a shearer's cook then worked at a farm machinery business, before being a governess for three years on the Cooper Creek in Western QLD. Donna has always been involved with volunteer organisations, even as a young girl – helping out at the Cunnamulla Show and as a young wife was involved with CWA. She married in 1986 but has since divorced. With four children, two grandchildren and two more on the way she is kept busy. The family moved to a property not far from Nyngan in 1988 and lived there until Donna and the children moved into Nyngan in 2003. In 2005 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent a mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Following her diagnosis, Donna became passionate about helping others facing cancer challenges and began raising funds for research. The Nyngan Cancer Support Group was formed with Donna as the first Chairperson for the Nyngan Relay for Life. She is Daffodil Day Team Leader, Secretary of Bogan Cancer Network, and is on the CanAssist committee

raising funds for local cancer sufferers. Donna has taken on many community executive roles such as Vice President of Bogan Bush Mobile Parent Committee, Treasurer of Nyngan Junior Rugby League Committee and is currently involved with 14 organisations while still working full time for Bogan Shire Council. Donna is greatly treasured by the Nyngan Museum and a real Hidden Treasure.

elaine robinson

[Mullumbimby]

Elaine was born in Lismore and grew up at Eureka. She was married in 1951 and has four children who all live in the local area. Elaine was the Mayoress in Mullumbimby, when her husband Stan was elected Mayor. At this time, she joined Meals on Wheels and still delivers meals 40 years later. Elaine has volunteered in the Uniting Church Op Shop for 21 years and was the Inaugural President of Mullumbimby Tidy Towns Committee (still a member today). As a volunteer, she has assisted with the maintenance of: the gardens at the town entrance; town clean up, the old mill, the railroad yards, painting, gardening; paving and gardens in the main street; the planting of Heritage Park and Palm Park. She has been a Driver Reviver volunteer for 20 years. Elaine has been a member of the Mullumbimby Hospital Auxiliary for 50 years, is the current President and has held most other positions in the Auxiliary. She still volunteers around 20 hours a week. Elaine began volunteering as a teenager and comes from a volunteering family, assisting in the church, visiting the elderly, cleaning, sewing

and mending. She says volunteering for country people was just the 'norm', especially during the war years.

kerrie savins

[Bowraville]

Kerrie is our local chemist in Bowraville (ranked the seventh most disadvantaged postcode in NSW in Professor Vinson's 'Unequal in Life' report, 1999). She is the Secretary (two years running) and Membership Chairperson of the Lions Club. The club has seen many changes and challenges with the passing of much valued long-term members. Kerrie's efforts to revitalise the club has seen a big turnaround in membership and increased attendance. Though she is run off her feet with a six day a week business, Kerrie still finds time to be both humble and enthusiastic in her role as a Lion and is constantly bringing new ideas and members to our club. She is committed to the Lions motto of 'We Serve' and has forged new bonds and friendships with neighbouring clubs, organised inter-club visits and zone picnics. Club fundraising has been more successful with Kerrie and her staff's amazing late night baking efforts for our street stalls. She also volunteers her time to attend local chamber meetings and supports numerous town projects and events.

mary saxon

[Tamworth]

Mary was born in Queanbeyan but has lived in Tamworth for more than 30 years. She is a widow with two adult sons. One son lives in Sydney with his family and the other son who is disabled lives with her as she is his full-time carer. Mary started volunteering at the Riding for Disabled Association (RDA) over 10 years ago. The Tamworth RDA Centre operates one day a week during school terms. She joins 30 volunteers who help with horse activities which cater for disabled adults and children from Tamworth and two other towns. Mary helps provide morning tea and lunch on riding days by doing the shopping and organising the preparation of food with the help of other kitchen volunteers. She is always working to keep the onsite Lodge clean and tidy and make sure the volunteers have something to eat and drink. When the volunteers are fundraising Mary is always willing to help. She is a vital part of the running of the Centre working diligently behind the scenes. The volunteers at our Centre believe Mary is a real Hidden Treasure.

faye scherf

[Lismore]

Faye was born in Melbourne in 1929. Her father and two older brothers served in the Second World War. Faye's mother, a member of the RSL Women's Auxiliary, arranged farewell events for departing troops and those coming home on

leave. Her experience as a Mothercraft nurse working throughout Victoria, followed by caring for five children while working as a cook in Yamba, prepared Faye for volunteering at the Women's Refuge in Grafton. She spent over 10 years honing her fundraising abilities to support the refuge, which was not government funded. Moving to Nimbin in 1989, Faye became involved, firstly as Treasurer for the Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary and eventually becoming President, a position she held until this year. Faye was a leading light in the setting up of the Older Women's Forum targeted at the over 60s and was involved in preparing a case for government funding which led to the building of Mulgum House, a desperately needed aged care residence. Her extensive fundraising helped with the purchase of the site for the Nimbin Community Centre and the founding and running of the Nimbin Friday soup kitchen that is still functioning today. Her tireless work was instrumental in establishing a Meals on Wheels service in Nimbin and she became a volunteer driver with the Lismore service. As well as being President of the NH&W Committee from 1991 she assisted with Community Transport and in 1996 was awarded the Premier's Seniors Achievement Award for her service to the Community.

ann schneider

[Billinudgel, nr Mullumbimby]

Ann was born in Kyogle and grew up in the area. She was married in Sydney and spent time on the South Coast and in Cairns before settling in Billinudgel in 1961. Ann has three children. She began volunteering as a school girl during the

war, with the Junior Red Cross, Girl Guides and local church. Ann helped at the hospital – rolling bandages, weaving scarves and knitting for the troops. She was one of the founding members of the Sawtell Ladies’ Surf Club, helping to make handmade bricks to build the clubhouse. On arriving at Billinudgel, Ann was prompted by her mother to join the Mullumbimby Hospital Auxiliary, RSL Auxiliary, Red Cross, Country Women’s Association and Laurel Club (Legacy Widows). She first joined the Hospital Auxiliary in 1963, giving almost 30 years of service. Ann has been the Secretary since 1986/87 and has also been the Publicity Officer. She has participated on the Community Advisory Council and the Hospital Planning Committee. Ann joined the RSL Auxiliary in 1984 and has been the Secretary for 21 years. It is here that she helps fundraise for Returned Servicemen & Women and their families. Ann was made a life member of the Ex-Services Club in 1993. She spends around 16 hours a week volunteering. Ann knits teddies for sick children, booties for new mums and assists with fundraising for the Hospital Auxiliary and Legacy. She says she grew up thinking that volunteering was ‘the right thing to do’.

sue schneider

[Osborne, nr Lockhart]

Sue was born in Wagga in 1958 and married Roger in 1976. She has a busy life being active in the family farm, the lives of her children and their families, and works part-time at a local bank. Sue’s volunteering began as a young teenager when she helped run an annual disco for children

with disabilities at a school in Wagga Wagga, and she was involved in raising money through Red Cross for orphanages in Papua New Guinea. Fast forward—as a founding Committee Member (three years as President) of the Spirit of the Land Festival (began in 2007 with its signature National Farm Art Sculpture Competition), Sue continues to inspire others with her enthusiasm and work ethic—planning, organising and writing successful funding applications. While President of the Osborne Ladies Football Club (six years), she initiated grant applications to build clubroom facilities. As President and Secretary of the local Netball Club for over 10 years, Sue coached and taught young children the importance of having fun and that winning was not always the most important part of playing. She was involved in executive positions at the Lockhart Pre School, St Joseph’s Primary School, Lockhart Arts Council as Workshop Coordinator and volunteered at the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000. Other projects involved helping to write the 100 year history of Osborne Football Club and obtaining level 1 in Training and Massage for services to the NSW Under 12, 14, and 15 AFL sides.

edna sharp

[Orange]

Edna has had a long standing relationship with Meals on Wheels since the development of this service in Orange over 50 years ago. She continues to support the Orange community through her role as convenor for the Uniting Church Meals on Wheels volunteers. Edna is

committed to the in-home support of frail aged residents and her caring nature is a credit to her and makes her a valuable Hidden Treasure.

penelope sheppard

[Coleambally]

Penny was born in 1954 in Murwillumbah. She joined the Department of Education in 1976 and retired from full-time work in 2010. Penny has a Masters of Education and Bachelor of Science (Education), is a Member of the Science Teachers' Association, Assessor for the NSW Institute of Teachers, has chaired the Physics Syllabus Committee for the NSW Board of Studies, was Coordinator of the Riverina Science Educators Conference, a Writer for Australian Curriculum, and has organised statewide Creative Writing in Science and Science Experiments Competitions. She has given 50 years to education in Coleambally and is a tireless community worker for organisations such as the Coleambally P&C Association, Finance Training and Development Officer (1997-1999), Vice President (2001), President (2011-2012), and President of Life Education and Coordinator for 20 years. Penny was the driving force behind the establishment of the Coleambally/Darlington Point Country Education Fund in 2010 and has been its elected Deputy Chair and Chair. She attends conferences, chairs interviews, has written grant applications, liaises with the media and runs fundraising activities to promote the group. Penny has been involved with coordinating the local Australia Day celebration and was Chair of the Committee for 10 years, hosting Ambassadors while also baking

and decorating the celebratory cake. She is a member of Lions and acted as bulletin editor for the past two years. During the 2012 floods, Penny was at the evacuation centre planning meals, cooking and working with Disaster Recovery personnel when required. She is a dedicated and tireless worker for the community.

norelle smith

[Coolamon]

Norelle has lived all her life in the Riverina townships of Junee, Ganmain and Coolamon. She has been a volunteer Community Driver for over 25 years. During 2011/12 Norelle drove 17 738 km giving more than 800 hours of volunteer service to members of the community who needed help to attend medical appointments and go shopping for clothes or groceries. She is notoriously quick to change the subject if you try to thank her for her kindness and generosity towards frail and ageing members of the community. Norelle often says that kindness costs nothing and is easy to give! She knows the addresses of all the medical specialists in nearby Wagga Wagga as well as the best coffee shops and which hotels are offering the best lunch deals too! Norelle has a great love of country music, ballroom dancing, musicals and gardening but is happiest when she is giving someone a hand. When anyone has to see a medical specialist she always takes the opportunity to visit friends, family or neighbours in hospital, at home or

at an aged care facility. Norelle is a much loved member of the Coolamon Community and an absolute Hidden Treasure.

elizabeth (betty) somers

[Parkes]

Betty was born and raised at Macksville before moving to Parkes as a High School Home Economics Teacher – Needlework in 1960. In 1963 she married a farmer and combined the roles of wife, mother of two sons and rural stalwart until Ian's untimely passing in 1992. Betty supported her son's hockey interests, was President of a Mother's Club, participated in P&C, assisted with fetes, school canteens, youth groups, Sunday school teaching and Meals on Wheels. She moved to the Parkes township in 1993, and as a Pastoral Assistant assisted the Minister in all fields of church ministry. Betty's generosity extended to hospital visits, church catering and home study groups. Under licence from the Bishop of Bathurst, Betty became a Lay Minister for St George's Anglican Church and her skill and compassion extended over 20 years until 2011. During this time she also belonged to the inaugural 1996 Palliative Care Bereavement Support Group completing courses in Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Disaster Recovery. Betty continues to provide compassionate service to both God and the community in a number of ways: Pastoral Care Team member with Southern Cross Retirement Village, visiting homebound, hospital and 'adopted' aged residents; Palliative Support Group at the local neighbourhood centre;

since 1990 Section Steward for the Parkes Pastoral & Agricultural Society; and member of the Parkes Anglican Women's Association. Betty is a very popular and loving person who always works unobtrusively and never seeks accolades.

tennille stapleton

[Harwood]

Tennille grew up in the Coutts Crossing area. She did two years of a Chef Apprenticeship before leaving to focus more on her family. Tennille has been Chatsworth Island Public School's Canteen Coordinator for the past two years and has volunteered in many other ways at the school. She operates the canteen on Wednesdays and Fridays bringing wholesome, fresh and home cooked food to the students and staff at Chatty. All food is cooked and prepared in the tuckshop on the day and served in reusable bowls and cups; no packaging. The students enjoy what is on offer and have discovered there are terrific alternatives to prepackaged and processed foods. Tennille juggles caring for her six children aged five to thirteen to do all the shopping, organising, preparing and cooking for the canteen. She works the two canteen days but is quite often at the school the day before preparing. Tennille's happy, carefree disposition has volunteers knocking at her door asking to be part of her tuckshop team. Through her enormous effort and dedication Chatty's tuckshop has become the envy of many of the local schools. She will cater for school or sporting events at very short notice. This involves being super organised as she has to be at the

tuckshop by 7.30 am. Nothing is ever too hard or too much for her. Tennille is a gem and much appreciated by the school community.

mollie strong

[Byron Bay]

Mollie's valued volunteer contributions extend from her local Bryon Bay Hospital to the Aged Care Sector of the Northern NSW Local Health District (NNSWLHD) and beyond. Her background is in Nursing and Health Service Administration (initial Nursing Career began at Lismore Base Hospital). During the 1980s Mollie was the Regional Nursing Officer and mentored nurses from Tweed Heads to Bulahdelah. Since retiring from paid employment she has remained dedicated to health services locally and across NSW. Mollie has been involved with her local United Hospital Auxiliaries (UHAs) at Lismore and Byron Bay since 1997 and served on the Board of Uniting Care Ageing for 12 years. As State President of NSW UHAs for the last three years, she has played a key role in advocating and supporting over 203 UHA Branches across NSW (180 rural) to assist their local hospitals and community health facilities. In the 2011-2012 UHAs raised over \$9 750 000. Mollie has attended 18 UHA Branch and Regional meetings this year to offer support and advice. It is to the NNSWLHD's benefit that she was nominated by the Members of the Community Engagement Advisory Council to be their Chair. Mollie has taken on this role with enthusiasm, contributing

to a number of health services planning and evaluation activities and mentoring other community representatives.

catherine (lucy) sweENEY

[Jerilderie]

Lucy was born in Narrandera in 1931, the seventh child in a family of nine. She attended local schools before working at the Local Post Office along with five of her siblings until she married and moved to Jerilderie. Mother of three sons, Lucy has been an outstanding citizen of the Shire for over 50 years. Some of the many organisations she has been involved in include: CWA Member (over 40 years), Elected President for Australian Red Cross (served as a member for 44 years and is the recipient of the Red Cross Service Award) and held positions of President, Treasurer and Publicity Officer; Member of Disaster Support Team; Catholic Women's League Member (over 30 years) holding positions of President [current] and Vice President; she is a life member of Jerilderie Hospital Auxiliary (46 years service) and has held positions of Vice President (12 years) and Publicity Officer (14 years). Lucy spent hundreds of hours running the annual Hospital Fete Dollar Dazzler stall for 10 years. This required her to find hundreds of gifts that were then sorted, wrapped and stored in her home. Other achievements include: Shire Citizen of the Year 2001; Premier's Award NSW for Senior Citizen Week 2003; and represented at Peoplescape (Centenary of Federation). Lucy was a member of St. Joseph's

Parish for over 50 years, including Special Minister of the Eucharist and regular reader. She was a staunch worker for the St. Vincent De Paul Society for over 26 years working especially hard to help those affected by drought and also cared for her husband Terry for 10 years before he died in 2007. Lucy is a member of Sing Australia and is very involved in sport. She displays exceptional humanitarian and generous qualities both in the support of all religious denominations and general community activities. Her contribution to the community has been outstanding.

sue szumowski

[Inverell]

Our mum Sue is amazing. There are truly no words that describe her personality, what she does and what she means to us. Mum was forced to drop out of school in year 10 and find a job, which she did successfully until meeting our father and becoming a full-time career mother and wife. From the moment my sister was born in 1973, to the time I came along in 1988, with my two brothers in between in 1975 and 1978, she has always put our needs and ambitions before her own. Mum is the most unselfish person we know. No matter what we had on in our lives or what challenges we were facing, she always had the time to help us and guide us to the right track. I can safely say that we are the people we are today because of her. Our values, morals and ethics are thanks to her love and support. Now we have all moved on with our lives with families of our own, she still makes time for us and our families. Mum not only looks after our families but

the elderly as well, by volunteering for Meals on Wheels and church services. We are lucky to have her as we nearly lost her to cancer in 2008. She deserves this recognition so she can understand what she means to us and her community.

jodie thomas

[Temora]

Jodie is a Temora girl who has settled in town with her own family and works as a Teacher's Aid at a local School. In 2011 Jodie took on the roles of Secretary and Canteen Manager with Temora Town Netball Association (TTNA) spending up to four hours a week volunteering during the Saturday Morning Netball Competition (May to August). In 2012 Jodie became Vice President for the TTNA and assists in the canteen every week. She was instrumental in organising TTNA carnival teams in 2011-2013 and in 2012 was part of the committee established to reintroduce representative netball for the Association (after a recess of five years). Hours of meetings, fundraising and organising by Jodie and the committee resulted in TTNA having two representative teams at the 2013 State Age Weekend in Sydney. This involved training sessions from November to July, a 15 week Monday Night Competition and five Sunday carnivals. She is now trying to establish an inter-town netball competition to further opportunities for junior netballers in Temora.

rebecca thompson

[Greenwell Point, nr Nowra]

Beccy was inspired by her Mum Ruth (another 2013 Hidden Treasure) and father Sam to help others. She is an inspiration for other young people and does not let her age (25) be a barrier to volunteering. For seven years Beccy has been a volunteer for the Greenwell Point Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade (GPVRFB). Through hard work and experience in emergency situations she has been promoted to Deputy Captain. To enhance her brigade work Beccy has given her time to complete courses in Bush Fire, Village Fire, Advanced Fire, Breathing Apparatus, Compartment Fire Behaviour, Asbestos Awareness Training, Advanced Resuscitation and Crew Leader Training, often the youngest attendee and only female. She has represented the GPVRFB at Santa Runs, Emergency Service Expo, United Hospital Auxiliary Luncheon, Culburra Hospital Auxiliary Luncheon and various community fundraising events. Beccy is the GPVRFB Community Youth Liaison Officer—delivering 'Firewise' education lessons to schools, assisting SES in emergency situations, and being available for the front line for every type of GPVRFB situation. She is a leader in volunteering and shows fortitude, responsibility, a good heart and is very caring. Young volunteer role models like Beccy, will do much to encourage a spirit of helping others among younger people.

ruth thompson

[Greenwell Point, nr Nowra]

Ruth is one of those selfless people who just keeps on giving and would not have her life any other way. She has lived in the coastal hamlet of Greenwell Point for over 30 years and has spent many years volunteering in various organisations from Meals on Wheels, Partners & Literacy and in schools as a volunteer Library Assistant, Canteen Worker and Teacher's Aid. Ruth has been a long time volunteer with the Greenwell Point Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade (GPVRFB) which requires the attention of a full-time job. She commenced as an Auxiliary Member in 1994, supporting her husband Sam, who was an active member and is now Brigade Captain. Not content to 'make sandwiches and cups of tea' (which she also still does), Ruth became a fully trained Firefighter. She wears the uniform, beeper and often attends emergency situations (fires and car accidents) at all hours, witnessing the saddest and most traumatic things while still providing comfort and care to others. She is also the Treasurer, often fundraising for the unit and other causes. What makes Ruth special, is her sense of humanitarianism and giving of herself to help others not so fortunate. She is so generous, and has an uplifting spirit. Hidden Treasures like Ruth deserve to be discovered and acknowledged and hidden no more!

sarah thompson

[Merriwa]

Sarah grew up in Scone in a family with a strong service and community ethos. She worked in Sydney as an Occupational Therapist (OT) before marrying Nick in 1978 and moving to Cassillis and become involved in the family farming enterprise. Sarah was involved in the P&C in various roles, on the church vestry, a Member of the Park Trust, the local drama group, tennis group, open garden weekends and the Cassilis County Fair which raised funds for the school and other local organisations. She was an active member of the Merriwa and District Volunteer Rescue Association for about 20 years taking on a range of roles including Deputy Captain. One year her team was called to search for a plane on Christmas Eve, and again at first light on Christmas Day. So at 5 am Nick and Sarah stuck a note on their door, welcoming the family to Christmas lunch, but instructing them to prepare, cook and eat it in their absence, but save a plate for when they got back! Sarah spent many years on the Management Committee of the Upper Hunter Rural Counselling Service. In one extraordinary desperate drought year she joined with many helpers to gather information to qualify for Exceptional Circumstances assistance. After the team put in 700 hours over three days the submission was completed, lodged and accepted by the Government Agency concerned. Sarah received the Shire Citizenship Award for service at this time. Her role as a community advocate for the preservation of rural services led to Sarah's

involvement and election as an Executive Council representative and Rural Affairs Committee Member (current Chair) for NSW Farmers where she continues to be a voice for rural farming communities. Sarah is a member of the NSW Rural Assistance Advisory Committee which meets monthly to provide advice to the Minister for Agriculture. She also sits on the Australian Rural Health Research Collaboration Committee, Centre of Rural and Remote Mental Health, Farm Link Suicide Prevention Project Group, and Chairs the NSW Farmers Mental Health Network. All this while working as a Paediatric Occupational Therapist.

bev thorpe

[Sanctuary Point]

Bev is a wife, mother of four, grandmother of eight, and great-grandmother of one. She is the heart and soul of her family and netball. Bev has been a volunteer with the Jervis Bay Netball Club (JBNC) and Shoalhaven Netball Association (SNA) for 30 years, coordinating Twilight competitions in Jervis Bay, and working with five to seven year olds in Fun Net for SNA. Every Saturday Bev is there for anyone needing help around the courts, and to ensure young people gain a love for netball. She has been assisting her daughter coordinate Fun Net programs for over 10 years. Bev can be found setting up the canteen early in the morning, packing pies, wrapping cakes, stocking fridges and supporting other volunteers. Bev helps manage a team or two and stays back to pack up the courts at the end of the day. She is a very community minded person and

is always thinking of what she can do to assist others. Throughout 30 years of volunteering Bev has touched the lives of many local children, young women and a range of other community members. She was awarded Life Membership of JBNC in 1996 and SNA in 2000. Bev is dedicated to being there for each and every member of her family as well as the greater community of Shoalhaven Netball. She is truly a Hidden Treasure and is loved and respected by all.

pamela toovey
[Mudgee]

Pamela was born in born in 1937 in Mudgee. She married John in 1957 moving to his family's farm near Windeyer. Pam raised five children and has eight grandchildren. She joined the Grattai Country Women's Association in 1958 being an active member for 55 years. She also volunteers on the Mudgee District Hospital Auxiliary and until recently could be found sitting in a fold up chair in the main street of Mudgee, rain, hail or shine, selling raffle tickets for the Baird Institute.

lynette vidler
[Meadow Flat]

Lyn volunteers much of her spare time to Archery even though her work as a Prison Psychology Officer takes her all over the region, from Dubbo to Lithgow. Lyn is Treasurer of Bathurst Archers Inc. Club and coaches archery every Saturday morning even if it is subzero winter weather conditions

or 40 degrees in summer. She is exceptionally gifted in coaching young archers and is a great ambassador for the sport. Lyn is still a competitor and often wins her division in tournaments.

wendy wedge
[Bowraville]

Wendy has volunteered at the Bowraville Technology Centre (BTC) for over three years and is responsible for producing the very professional Community Newsletter each month. She also serves at the counter and supports local community members access the Centrelink Outpost. Wendy spends over 10 hours a week at the BTC. She previously worked at the local newspaper and has been a member of the Bowraville community for over 30 years. She is a Member of the Nambucca Valley Conservation Society and spends a great deal of her retirement time supporting and fighting for a cleaner, greener environment. Wendy often shares her garden produce and knowledge with friends and contributes to the Gardening section in the Bowraville Community News. She expects no praise but is well deserving for her positive approach to supporting the community.

kim weller
[Yanco]

Kim was born at Nabitac and grew up on her family's dairy and beef farm. She and her partner have a stud stock feed business travelling to

shows from Rockhampton to Melbourne and showing cattle. Within that time, Kim has become a very active member of the Australian Hereford Junior Youth Club as well as the Shorthorn Youth Club, taking on roles in both as Vice President and Community Member. Her work in the beef industry has seen Kim reach the finals of the Sydney Royal Showgirl Competition and be a beef cattle judge at the Melbourne and Sydney Royal shows. Her love for the agricultural industry has prompted her to retrain as an Agricultural Teacher. Yanco Agricultural High School has become Kim's home and she gives up much of her free time to help children learn more about the agricultural industry. She takes them to shows all over the State, from the Royal to country shows or youth camps. Kim gives over 10 hours a week to volunteering and helping students. From teaching them about judging grain, poultry, vegetable, wool, meat sheep, cattle and more. She is giving so much to the agricultural sector ensuring it is seen as having a positive future for younger people.

sandy wells

[Collombatti, nr Kempsey]

Sandy was born in Sydney and moved to the Macleay District in 1973. She has been involved in sports all her life. When her children started Netball in 2000 she joined Frederickton Sports Club (130 members) and is now Treasurer/Secretary, Cricket Manager, Softball Manager and Coach, Netball Manager and Coach and Fundraising Coordinator. She attends all sporting meetings, seeks sponsorship and conducts fortnightly

raffles, along with attending winter Netball, all day Saturdays and Tuesday nights in summer. During summer, Saturdays are devoted to cricket and Friday nights to softball. Sandy umpires and scores for these sports, as well as registers players and logs in scores. She assists in Club presentation days doing certificates and organising trophies for every child. Minutes are completed and excellent financials are kept by Sandy as well. Through her efforts the Club, which has only three active core committee members, is in a sound financial and membership position. Frederickton Netball took out the coveted 'Club of The Year Award', 'Coach of the Year Award', various 'Sportsperson' awards and five umpiring awards in 2011, all due to Sandy's diligence, which is no small feat for a Club with only five teams in the competition. She has also recently been nominated for Life Membership of the Macleay Valley Netball Association. Sandy also volunteers her bookkeeping services to the local Fire Brigade and Hall Trust as well as attending school canteen. Her dedication to sport and the community takes about 80 hours a month. Someone with such commitment should be recognised and the district is very lucky to have her.

georgia westcott

[Peak Hill]

Georgia is a young woman worthy of recognition as a Hidden Treasure for the volunteering she does in her school and rural community as a student and youth leader. As a year 11 student, Georgia is initiating and driving positive change to improve opportunities for young people. She realised that only through inclusive community

engagement could the community of Peak Hill become more harmonious and healthier. Georgia and her friend Amy Hart motivated peers and supportive adults to provide regular sport and recreation activities after school. The program was open to all the children to reduce social divisions, increase community harmony and promote health through physical activity. They gained support in governance and event/program management, gathering assistance from corporate sponsors, sporting and fitness groups. Through their hard work and enthusiasm the idea became a reality. Since the initial idea was formed, the program now operates two afternoons a week after school, with a healthy afternoon tea and targeted age-appropriate activities with educational or skills development outcomes. They have raised funds to buy equipment and have secured donations to build a storage shed. The program is enabling families to access after school activities without registration or equipment costs. It is open to all children and regularly attracts 70 percent of the town's children. The program is now funded and has expanded leadership opportunities for other older students who are involved in the organisation and is a testament to Georgia's tenacity and drive for improvement in her community.

tracy wilkinson

[Shadforth, nr Orange]

Tracy was raised in Sydney and has four daughters and five grandchildren. With a background in running a manufacturing business, she came to Orange in 2007 and joined the United Hospital

Auxiliaries of NSW Orange Branch. In 2009 Tracy was elected President. She can often be found at Orange Health Service working behind the counter of the Auxiliary cafe, ordering stores, doing bookwork, running meetings, recruiting volunteers and fundraising. All of this is undertaken whilst holding down a full-time job. The Auxiliary has donated in excess of \$1 000 000 to Orange Health Service over the past five years which is used to purchase instruments and equipment, allowing local procedures that previously would have necessitated the transfer of patients to Sydney. In 2013 closure of the Orange Branch of the Australian Red Cross was imminent due to lack of membership. Tracy joined with the intention of breathing new life into the Branch. In a few months she recruited new members and they have restarted fundraising. Red Cross will be celebrating 100 years in 2014, and Tracy is planning for the Orange Branch to be part of it.

adrienne wilson

[Griffith]

Adrienne formed a committee in 1968 to address the needs of concerned citizens about the needs of the Griffith ageing population. Their vision included establishing an assessment and rehabilitation ward at the hospital, Meals on Wheels and a nursing home in town, which later came to fruition. The hospital later changed hands and anything which did not qualify as acute patient care was moved to Wagga. Adrienne found herself at the helm of an organisation in need of a new premises and inherited a business model that she made work, organising volunteers

to distribute Meals on Wheels which the hospital continued to provide. She has witnessed a lot of change and has immense experience from her many years of volunteering. After 45 years on the Griffith Meals on Wheels Committee, with 28 years as President, Adrienne is a wonderful role model, has a bubbly personality and contributes a lot of time and effort to many committees and organisations.

heather winch

[Lower Macdonald, nr Wisemans Ferry]

Heather was born at Kyogle in 1932 before the family moved to Sydney where she completed her art studies at East Sydney Technical College. After marrying Glenith and having three children they moved to Lower Mangrove and later Wiseman's Ferry in the late 70's. It was here she became interested in local history and consequently helped establish the Historical Society which she still belongs to today. During her time in the Hawkesbury Valley, Heather gained enormous respect from the local community for her tireless voluntary work in her various roles. She worked as a tour guide taking visitors for historical walks along the Great North Road at Wiseman's Ferry and volunteered at St. Albans and Wisemans Ferry preschool since the 80's. One of her most significant contributions to this small community would be the establishment of The Ferry Artists Gallery, a community enterprise run by local artists and volunteers. Heather was a Founding Member and is the current President. She has been involved in most aspects of the organisation for many years. Heather runs art workshops,

paints and exhibits, organises rosters and exhibitions, invites the guests and procures new and exciting artists to join and make the gallery the cultural hub of the Hawkesbury Valley.

zelma windley

[Chinderah]

Zelma was born in Murwillumbah in 1957. She still resides in the house she grew up in with her husband and three of her five children. Zelma has always lived in the Tweed area and her children all attended Cudgen Public School. She now has three grandchildren at the school. In 1989 Zelma and her sister, Glenys, started the school canteen using an old wooden table outside the school library. They continued this for five years until a demountable building was procured. Zelma would bring her two preschool aged children each canteen day. They would play with older siblings while she operated the canteen facility three days a week. The school now has a brand new brick canteen. Zelma also worked as a Teacher's Aide and Front Office Assistant at the school. She has volunteered many hours to school activities over the past 24 years, transporting children, assisting with the school fete, working in the canteen and being a classroom helper. Zelma is a wonderful ambassador of the Cudgen School community and one of the school's Indigenous Awards has been named after her: 'The Zelma Windley Award for School Citizenship'.

judith (judie) winter

[Eucumbene Cove, nr Jindabyne]

Judie was born and grew up in Sydney. At the age of 16 she took over full-time care of her younger brother and became his legal guardian at 18. Some years later, due to tragic circumstance, she became the legal guardian of his young daughter whom she and husband Mark continue to care for and educate. So from an early age Judie has been a nurturer. She and Mark have four grown children but have always been great supporters to many others. Judie has always involved herself in the local community of the Snowy Mountains where she has lived for the last 26 years. Some of the groups she has been (or is still) involved with are: Jindabyne Pre School Treasurer and Steering Committee Member for the new preschool, Looking After Our Kosciuszko Orphans (carer for kangaroos and birds of prey), Life Member of Berridale P&C, Monaro High School Canteen Committee (10 years), Treasurer of Rocky Plains Rural Fire Brigade, Treasurer of Rocky Plains Progress Association, Local MPs representative on the Snowy River Shire Council's Traffic Committee since 1995, Snowy River Aged Hostel Volunteer and Heart Foundation Berridale Walking Group Coordinator. All of this Judie does without any fuss, never looking for any kudos. She is indeed a true Hidden Treasure who enjoys the great respect and affection of the community.

irene worth

[Bulahdelah]

Irene was born in Taree in 1938 and grew up in Bulahdelah. At aged 15 Irene gained a position as a live-in housemaid earning five pounds a fortnight plus keep, before securing a position at the Bulahdelah District Hospital as a nurse. She married in 1960 and settled in Bulahdelah, which is where her volunteer commitment to community began. Irene became President of the Bulahdelah Central School Mother's Club and President of the P&C and was involved in fundraising and organising school fetes. In 1981 she became a Teacher's Aide and Office First Aid Staff Member at the school. Upon retiring in 2000, Irene joined the Bulahdelah Hospital Auxiliary, becoming President in 2006, a position that she still holds. She is also a member of the local Garden Club, is a Legatee and volunteers at the local courthouse as a member of the Historical Society. Irene has also volunteered at the Tourist Information Centre and Library. She spends many hours baking, making jams and pickles and fundraising for many volunteer groups and says she enjoys giving back to her community.'



In every community, there is work to be done.
In every nation, there are wounds to heal.
In every heart, there is the power to do it.

MARIANNE WILLIAMSON

volunteer agencies

The following contacts are for key agencies represented in the nominees profiles.

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group

02 9550 5666
www.aecq.nsw.gov.au

Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW

02 9212 4777
www.ahmrc.org.au

Aboriginal Medical Service

02 9832 1356
www.amsws.org.au

Agricultural Shows NSW

02 9879 6777
www.agshowsnsw.org.au

AgQuip

02 6742 0000
www.farmonline.com.au/events/agquip

Archery Club NSW

02 8116 9859
www.archerynsw.com

Australian Multiple Birth Association

1300 886 499
www.amba.org.au

Arts Councils in NSW

02 9270 2500
www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

Australian Home Care

1300 303 770
www.ahcs.org.au

Australian Red Cross

13 14 95
www.redcross.org.au

Can Assist

02 8217 3400
www.canassist.com.au

Cancer Council NSW

02 9334 1900
www.cancercouncil.com.au

Catholic Women's League

02 9390 5153
www.cwlsydney.org.au

Coffs Harbour Regional Cancer Services Inc.

0419 402 926
www.chrcs.com.au

Community Development Employment Program

1800 136 380
www.humanservices.gov.au

Community Health Centres

02 9391 9000
www.health.nsw.gov.au

Community Transport

13 15 00
www.transport.nsw.gov.au

Conservation Society of NSW

02 9516 1488
www.nccnsw.org.au

Country Women's Association of New South Wales

02 9358 2923
www.cwaofnsw.org.au

Cricket NSW

02 8302 6000
www.cricketsnsw.com.au

Driver Reviver

02 9999 6200
www.driverreviver.com.au

Field Archery Australia

02 9772 2995
www.archery.org.au

Friends of Bravehearts

1800 272 831
www.bravehearts.org.au

Girl Guides NSW & ACT

02 8396 5200
www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

Hands Across NSW

1300 731 844
www.connectingup.org

Heart Foundation

02 9219 2444
www.heartfoundation.org.au

Home & Community Care

1800 350 792
www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/individuals

International Bodyboarding Association Australasian Branch

www.bodyboardingaustralia.com

International Field Archery Association

www.ifaa-archery.org

Landcare NSW

0427 583 055
www.landcarensw.org.au

Laurel Club

02 6583 3570
www.legacypmh.org.au

Legacy

02 8543 2100
www.legacy.com.au

Lions Clubs

02 4940 8033
www.lionsclubs.org.au

LAOKO [Looking After Our Kosciuszko Orphans]

02 6456 1313
www.laoko.org.au

Meals on Wheels NSW

02 8219 4200
www.nswmealsonwheels.org.au

Local Aboriginal Land Council

02 9689 4444
www.alc.org.au

Local Community Services Association

1800 646 545
www.lcsnsw.org.au

Local Health District

02 9391 9000
www.health.nsw.gov.au/lhd

Many Hands International

03 9598 0635
manyhands.org.au/get_involved

Merriwa & District Volunteer Rescue Association

1300 872 777
www.rescue.org.au

Netball NSW

02 9951 5000
netballnsw.com

Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly

02 6839 1800
www.mpra.com.au

Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation

02 6841 0111
www.mprec.org.au

Museums & Galleries of NSW

1800 114 311
mgnsw.org.au

Neighbourhood Watch NSW

Contact your local Police Station for information on your local program.

NSW Aboriginal Land Council

02 9689 4444
www.alc.org.au

NSW State Emergency Service

02 4251 6111
www.ses.nsw.gov.au

NSW Fencing Association

02 9692 9000
www.nswfencing.org.au

Palliative Support Group

0403 699 491
www.palliativecarensw.org.au

Parents & Citizens Association (P&C)

0404 802 637
www.pandc.org.au

Parkinson's Support Group

02 8875 8900
www.parkinsonsnsw.org.au

Pathfinders Limited

02 6771 1527
www.pathfinders-aus.org

Pony Club NSW

02 4229 8977
www.pcansw.org.au

Premi Babies Association of NSW

1300 666 329
www.lilaussieprems.com.au

Probus

1800 630 488
www.probus.com.au

NSW Regional Libraries

02 4934 4436
www.plnsw.org.au

Riding for the Disabled Association

02 8116 9726
www.rdansw.org.au

Red Cross NSW

1800 812 028
www.redcross.org.au/nsw

Relay for Life

1300 656 585
www.relay.cancercouncil.com.au

Rural Fire Service

1800 679 737
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

St. Vincent De Paul Society

02 9568 0262
www.vinnies.org.au

Scouts Australia – NSW

02 9735 9000
www.nsw.scouts.com.au

Soccer NSW

02 8814 4400
www.footballnsw.com.au

State Emergency Service

1800 201 000
www.ses.nsw.gov.au

Surf Clubs of NSW

02 9349 7055
www.surfingnsw.com.au

Tennis Clubs of NSW

02 9024 7600
www.tennis.com.au/nsw

The Smith Family

02 9085 7222
www.thesmithfamily.com.au

**Tidy Towns –
Keep Australia Beautiful NSW**

02 8594 4000
www.kabnsw.org.au

Tourist Information Centres

1300 252 879
www.visitnsw.com/visitor-information-centres

United Hospital Auxiliaries of NSW

02 9391 9716
www.uhansw.org

View Club of Australia

1800 805 366
www.view.org.au

Western Aboriginal Legal Service

02 6882 6966
www.alsnswact.org.au/offices/nsw-west

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service

1800 155 155
www.rescuehelicopter.com.au

**WIRES [NSW Wildlife Information,
Rescue & Education Service]**

1300 094 737
www.wires.org.au

General Contact

NSW Centre for Volunteering

02 9261 3600
www.volunteering.com.au

2014 honour roll: nominate a rural woman

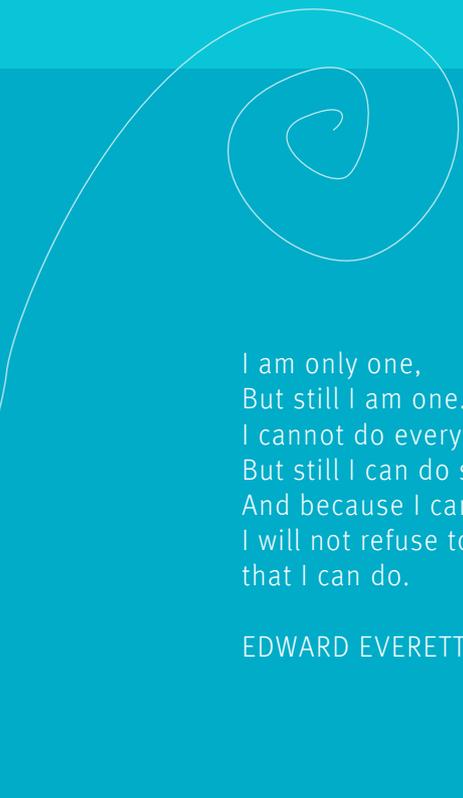
The 2014 Honour Roll will be launched at the NSW Rural Women's Gathering to be hosted by women from the Coolamon Shire from 12–14 September 2014.

We invite you to nominate a friend, family member, colleague, community worker – any rural woman who you believe makes your community a better place to live.

Nominations for the 2014 Honour Roll open 1 May and close 16 July 2014.

For more information or to nominate a hidden treasure contact:

Rural Women's Network
NSW Department of Primary Industries
02 6391 3620
rural.women@dpi.nsw.gov.au
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn



I am only one,
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something;
And because I cannot do everything
I will not refuse to do the something
that I can do.

EDWARD EVERETT



Hidden Treasures is a joint project of
Rural Women's Network
(NSW Department of Primary Industries)
& NSW Centre for Volunteering



Department of
Primary Industries

