

Hidden Treasures Honour Roll 2025

Honouring rural women volunteers who
give so much to their communities



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Hidden Treasures is an initiative of the NSW Government's Rural Women's Network.

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Ministers' message

A tribute to regional and rural women who volunteer in NSW

We are delighted to honour the remarkable regional and rural women recognised in the **2025 Hidden Treasures Honour Roll**. Your volunteer work is the heartbeat of local communities across NSW.

Every nomination tells a story of commitment, compassion and quiet leadership. These stories – shared by the people who know your impact best – shine a light on how much stronger and more connected our communities are because of you.

Since 2010, 1,361 women have been acknowledged through Hidden Treasures. Each of you represents the generous spirit that keeps regional and rural NSW thriving.

Thank you for everything you do. Your contribution matters, and it makes a difference every single day.



The Hon Jodie Harrison MP
Minister for Women
Minister for Seniors
Minister for the Prevention of
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Western New South Wales

Hidden Treasures nominees 2025

Rosemary Aldred, Kangaroo Valley

Tori Archer, Wauchope

Penny Ball, Bywong

Robyn Barton, Tamworth

Judith Beilby, East Kempsey*

Barbara Bird, Tarro

Annabel Bowcher, Lake Albert

Ann Brown, South Nowra

Kath Brown, Dunedoo

Christine Bouffler, Bonny Hills

Shirley Bryant, Thornton

Suzy Bunyan, Holbrook

Sharon Chamberlain, Burrell Creek

Helen Chant, Albury

Emma Crethar, Broadwater

Rachelle Dean, Woombah

Gwenythe Rhonda Dries, Goulburn

Bethany Dwyer, Cessnock

Jenny Ferguson, Kiama

Margaret Flannery, Dungog

Judith Fowler, Goulburn

Leonie Gale, Pembroke

Jenna Gibson, Bourkelands

Mellissa Gibson, Stonebridge

Rona Gillard, Port Macquarie

Suzanne Goodman, Farley

Janine Green, Merimbula

Katie Green, Herons Creek

Nic Grose, Dubbo*

Helen Harbutt, Albury

Joan Hart, Bolwarra

Roslyn Hodge, Laurieton

Katrina Humphries-Ford, Taree

Jo Ivy, Wellington

Tammy Jackett, Killcare Heights

Sabine Jamieson, Mount Vincent

Carol Johnstone, Clarence Town

Marie Johnson, Nyngan

Tammy Jones, Banora Point

Esther Keenan, Kiama Downs

Sabrina Kelly, Kiama

Lyn MacBain, Singleton

Jenice Manton, Karuah*

Helen Martin, Albury

Tracey McDonagh, Banora Point*

Lesley McFarlane, Ulmarra

Will Mead, Griffith

Debbie Milliner, Cathcart

Suzanne Morgan, Ashtonfield

Leesa Muir, Deniliquin

Dianne Nicholson, Holbrook

Jennifer O'Neil, Narara

Carol Olsen, Goulburn

Nicole O'Brien, Kiama

Marjorie Joan Palmer, East Maitland

Cheryl Pearson, Port Macquarie

Nola Pereira, Wingham

Karen Renkema Lang, Kiama

Elizabeth Riley, Nulkaba*

Shirley Rixon, Merimbula

Josephine Robinson, Port Macquarie

Fiona Rynehart, Junee

Lea Salvestro, Warrawidgee

Nicky Schrader, Dunedoo

Maree Shepherd, Kiama Downs

Mary Shephard, Mount Russell

Rosslyn Sherlock, Lorn

Wendy Tucknott, Tocumwal

Kamala Wheeler, Moree

Alicia White, Junee

Margaret Whittaker, Albury

Kate Whitworth, Jamberoo

Jessy Wiggins, Shoalhaven Heads

Monica Wilcox, Lennox Head*

Ebony Wilson, Jamberoo

Joan Wilson, Port Macquarie

Jane Wilson, Young

Winifred Wilson, Limeburners Creek

Dr Christa Wood, Gerringong*

Annette Young, Kiama

* Denotes where the recipient was also nominated for the 2025 Local Woman of the Year Award by their Member of Parliament

The following nomination stories celebrate extraordinary women of rural and regional NSW. Each story has been written by the nominator in their own words. We thank them for taking the time to nominate these incredible volunteers.

Rosemary Aldred, Kangaroo Valley

I am nominating Rosemary to recognise her invaluable volunteer efforts not only with Guide Dogs NSW, but as a longtime volunteer with the Pioneer Village Museum in Kangaroo Valley. Across the community of Kangaroo Valley, you will find Rosemary and her husband Tony being involved in all aspects of community.

Rosemary strengthens rural community by digging in deep. If there is something to be done and you need help, you can count on Rosemary. I have been privileged to puppy-raise alongside Rosemary since 2019. She has raised 2 guide dogs – Owen and Snowy. Then she puppy-raised Timmy, who is currently a working therapy dog, and she is now raising her fourth pup, Lennon, who is almost 11 months old. Rosemary is also a temporary carer and makes a valuable contribution to enable other puppy-raisers like myself to take a vacation. Rosemary's pups, Timmy and Lennon, have gone to Bomaderry, Warilla and Lake Illawarra high schools, as well as police and ambulance operations with another therapy dog, Miss Ollie, to give them the capacity to handle themselves in different environments.

It takes a village to raise a guide dog and a therapy dog to expose them to many situations. Rosemary stands alongside and supports others. She shares skills and time, and I have the greatest respect for her.

Tori Archer, Wauchope

Tori is a mum of 3 children and works full-time. She was born in Victoria and moved to Port Macquarie, NSW with her family when she was in primary school. Tori has a background in medicine, studying first as a nurse and later as a paramedic. Due to having a young family, she currently works for a pathology company and hopes to pursue her career as a paramedic once the children are a little bit older. She currently holds the positions of Deputy Captain and Secretary within the Wauchope Brigade of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Tori spends countless hours behind the scenes arranging meetings, sorting through and replying to all brigade correspondence as well as attending training activities and responding to incidents when she can. Tori is an asset to our brigade.

Penny Ball, Bywong

Penny was born in Broken Hill and spent time in Alice Springs and Mackay until she was 17, when she joined the Royal Australian Air Force. On completion of her service, she was employed as an Intelligence Analyst with the Department of Defence for 10 years. Penny has exceptional compassion for others. She has been a foster carer for 8 years, with 15 children in her care during that time. Fostering allows her to give a child in need a soft spot to land for as long as they need it, providing a safe, loving family environment where children feel seen, heard and understood.

Penny is also a Joey Scout Leader, joining 12 years ago after seeing a huge change in confidence levels and a 'try everything' attitude in her eldest child after a few years in Scouting. She decided to 'step up' and become a leader as she wanted this for her other children. Penny loves giving every Scout, from Joeys to Venturers, the chance to try new things that are nothing like what they do at school or at home. Her favourite part is seeing a Joey try something a little bit challenging and walk away taller, happier and prouder after giving it their best shot. Penny assists Leaders in other sections with youth who require a bit more support and is passionate about making sure Scouting is inclusive for all abilities. She is an absolute treasure in our community.

Robyn Barton, Tamworth

Robyn has been a dedicated Walk Organiser with the Heart Foundation Walking (HFW) program since 2015 and is the driving force behind the Tamworth Trekkers. With over 966 recorded walks, Robyn exemplifies commitment, passion and community spirit.

A true community connector, Robyn is actively involved in a local cardiovascular working group and is deeply passionate about improving heart health across her region. She goes above and beyond in her role – not only leading regular walks but also organising group outings, such as recent

trips to Gloucester/Barrington Tops and the Warrumbungles, to keep her group walkers active, inspired and connected.

Each year, Robyn coordinates a community Heart Week event that has become a staple in the NSW HFW calendar. This involves hosting a community walk, inviting the Aboriginal Medical Service to conduct blood pressure checks, and coordinating CPR and AED demonstrations with the ambulance service. She also leads her group in annual donations to the Heart Foundation and promotes awareness by spotlighting walkers willing to share their lived experiences with heart health and cardiac events.

Robyn actively promotes HFW through local expos and community events, always seeking new ways to grow the group and raise awareness. Despite all she does, Robyn remains humble, never seeking recognition and always putting others first.

Her dedication, compassion and tireless efforts make a real difference, and it is a privilege to have her volunteer with HFW. Robyn is a truly outstanding volunteer, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving of recognition.

Judith Beilby, East Kempsey*

Judith has assisted the community her whole career as a registered nurse. Now she is retired, she is very active as President of the Rotary Club of Kempsey West. She supports and assists many community organisations, including delivering food and support to firefighting volunteers in bushfires on many occasions. She has also driven to Walgett to deliver much-needed preschool equipment to a fire-destroyed preschool after bushfires.

Judy is also the community organiser of a committee to raise funds for a hydrotherapy pool for the Macleay Valley. She also supports her extended family and friends whenever she can, and is an all-round great human being.

Barbara Bird, Tarro

Barbara has selflessly volunteered her time in the Beresfield, Tarro and Maitland communities for close to 50 years. Her contribution to netball in the Maitland area is legendary. In Maitland District Netball Association's 78 years, there is no other person who has served on its committee as long as Barbara.

Barbie, as we call her, began playing netball when she was 10. She has been involved in Beresfield Netball Club since 1980 and Maitland District Netball Association's (MDNA) committee since 1983, holding numerous positions such as Recorder, Junior Vice President, Grader, Selector and Manager of Representative Teams.

For the last 33 years, Barbie has been MDNA's Canteen Supervisor and Purchasing Officer. Her commitment to this position is unwavering and at the age of 82, Barbie still works tirelessly. She has been instrumental in MDNA contributing more than \$1 million to the redevelopment of the netball complex in Maitland. The canteen turns over more than \$8,000 weekly and is totally run by volunteers, managed by Barbie.

Barbie has nurtured and supported generations of women in her roles as a coach, manager, committee member and supporter. It would not be untrue to say that hundreds of people who attend netball at MDNA each week look forward to seeing Barbie when they visit our canteen. She is generous with her time, enjoys interacting with our members and their families and, as a result, is a vibrant and well-loved identity around our courts.

Barbie is definitely a treasure and deserves recognition.

Annabel Bowcher, Lake Albert

Born in Brisbane, Annabel has called Wagga Wagga home since 1994. She supports a number of local schools and committees, most recently as President of UNISONg Women's Community Choir.

Annabel (a key foundational member) worked with a small group to established UNISONg in 2021 via Zoom, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to connect, include and support women who were feeling isolated and vulnerable. It is a diverse, inclusive, 'come when you can', non-auditioned, performing-optional community women's choir that provides a supportive environment for members to meet each week to improve their wellbeing and social connection through meaningful and directed musical connection.

UNISONg has steadily grown and now has over 90 members. It directly supports other organisations, e.g. by fundraising for defibrillators and providing donations to the Wagga Women's Health Centre. None of this would be possible without Annabel's leadership and passion, including the extensive time she volunteers for the choir's administration, social media,

membership and wellbeing. The members have repeatedly identified how salient our choir's friendly and welcoming atmosphere is. Annabel is a huge part of this, especially because she welcomes everyone when they arrive at every rehearsal and goes the extra mile for choir members – such as by picking them up to get to choir, checking in with a phone call or coffee during the week, or helping to troubleshoot computer problems so they can access our website.

Annabel is a true treasure to the Wagga Wagga community and received a 2025 Rotary Peace Day Award for her community service.

Ann Brown, South Nowra

Ann is a Transport to Treatment Driver for Cancer Council NSW. This role involves driving patients to and from their cancer treatment. The work of a Transport to Treatment Driver is special because they must be able to continually show empathy throughout their shift to all patients, from all walks of life, who are experiencing cancer in their own unique way. The driver must navigate varied topics of conversation, adhering to volunteer codes of conduct and boundaries. They must pick up on subtle non-verbal communication that could indicate a patient's mood or feelings and respond appropriately.

Ann's ability to engage with patients is something truly special. She has a special ability to read people's body language and can tailor her level of interaction accordingly. It's her ability to read the situation, take cues from the patient or carer, and act accordingly that make her impact so great. I have seen it myself and I have had it fed back to me time and time again over many years just how wonderful she is.

The other reason Ann is such a strong team member is her dedication. Ann is at every team meeting. Ann offers to wash the car when the car needs a wash (something that is not expected of volunteers). Ann offers to take the car to the service centre when due. And Ann will put her hand up at very little notice to cover shifts when other team members call in sick.

Kath Brown, Dunedoo

Kat is a rock to so many survivors dealing with domestic violence, mental health issues or suicidal thoughts.

As well as being a primary producer, breeder and running a farm, Kat always makes the time to support people in their time of need – whether it's having a chat over the phone, meeting face to face or opening up her door for someone having a bad time, day or night. The amount of people she has helped can't thank her enough. Kat has donated stock feed and hay to single female farmers and helped other major organisations fill truck loads of hay. Kat saved me and still checks in to this day to see how I am doing.

Kat's advocacy and support for people affected by domestic violence, mental health and suicide is highly regarded and needed in rural regions of NSW. Kat's life experience, knowledge and personal commitment to help others is inspiring and well needed. My children call her Auntie Kat and my family can't thank her enough, and I know I am not the only one that Kat has helped. I also believe that any farmer, primary producer or breeder needs to be recognised and thanked.

Chrystine Bouffler, Bonny Hills

Chrystine's a quiet achiever who is always leading by example. She is dedicated and loyal and is a credit to the Country Woman's Association (CWA) of NSW, Lake Cathie-Hastings Branch. She gives her time willingly and leads by example. The success and growth of the Lake Cathie-Hastings Branch of the CWA is due to Chrystine's leadership and loyalty. She is truly a Hidden Treasure and deserves to be recognised.

Shirley Bryant, Thornton

Shirley was born in Coledale NSW, living in Billimari near Cowra for 5 years. She attended schools around NSW, before living in Wangi and Windale. Shirley worked in Newcastle businesses, including The Store, before moving to the Hunter area.

Shirley joined Greta Ethnic Dancers (Polish), entertaining at nursing homes as well as multicultural and special events in Hunter region. In 2001, she joined Maitland City Choir, singing both solo and with the choir at concerts,

events and churches, continuing today to brighten others' lives. Shirley was awarded life membership.

Shirley and her late husband, John, devoted 2 years to raising money towards the renovation of a bedroom for a very ill child, as part of the charity 'A Room for Crystal'. They helped raise \$97,000 for the cause.

Shirley, a mother of 2, has been involved in the community in other ways. She and John hosted a community radio program in the Hunter for a number of years. They also sent stories and photos to local newspaper, the *Branxton Greta Vineyard News*, reporting on events such as Anzac Day, the Sydney Royal Easter Show, and shows in the Hunter. Shirley volunteered on the Greta Sports Centre Committee, fundraising for a new hall, and as Secretary at Greta Ladies Bowls.

Shirley joined Maitland Country Women's Association in 2017, becoming Publicity Officer for 3 years, as well as Vice President. Shirley is a valued member of Maitland – a true volunteer, supporting our stalls and events ('baking goodies'), and giving her time to entertain others. Shirley is a caring, generous lady who volunteers 'to help people in need in the community' (her words) and is a Hidden Treasure in our Maitland community.

Suzy Bunyan, Holbrook

Suzy has been an unwavering presence in both her Holbrook community and at Mercy Health Albury. She was part of the very first palliative care volunteer training in 1990. For over 3 decades, she has dedicated her time and compassion to supporting patients and families through the palliative care program. Suzy's commitment extends beyond the hospital, as she also volunteers in her local Holbrook community, including at the Holbrook Op Shop.

Her role in palliative care is profound. Suzy has provided comfort and companionship during some of life's most challenging moments, offering a gentle presence and understanding when it matters most. She beautifully captures the essence of her work, saying that in palliative care, you learn 'when to be cheerful, when comfort is needed, and when just to listen'.

Suzy has not only been a presence for patients and families, but has also mentored countless volunteers. Her learned wisdom has been invaluable for those also in volunteering roles. Suzy continues to be an active

volunteer – celebrating 35 years this year with the Mercy Health Albury service – and continues to make the 120 km round trip fortnightly to visit patients on our wards.

Suzy's decades of service exemplify the true spirit of volunteering – selfless, compassionate and enduring. Her contribution has left an indelible mark on Mercy Health and the wider Holbrook community, making her a truly deserving candidate for the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll.

Sharon Chamberlain, Burrell Creek

Sharon is the guiding force behind Mid Coast Outreach Inc (MCOI), putting out fires, helping clients and juggling volunteers daily.

A trained financial counsellor, Sharon has also worked in retail management for Woolworths, in small business and as a community leader, and has completed a Graduate Certificate in Community Resilience and Leadership with Charles Sturt University. She also has training in emergency management and trauma counselling, and has volunteered as a counsellor with Lifeline.

Sharon is part of the executive team at Wingham Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the SES Community Flood Warden Program.

Sharon partners with her daughter to run their local primary business, called Fairy Wren Grove, and is currently employed in her sole trader business in grant writing.

Sharon has expanded MCOI to offer work placement training and work development orders, encouraging people who are long-term unemployed to the workforce .

Since becoming a founding member of MCOI as a response to the 2019–2020 bushfires, Shazz has worked tirelessly as a volunteer for the community as a part of the Mid Coast Recovery Emergency network group and Wingham Chamber of Commerce. She has also helped expand the services offered by MCOI to remote outposts.

Sharon and MCOI have established outposts in Bulahdelah and Lansdowne, and will be opening at Krumbach. These services offer help to those isolated, connecting services including fresh food hampers to their remote townships weekly.

Helen Chant, Albury

Helen was previously St John Ambulance NSW Zone Leader – Central Southern NSW, and was appointed Deputy Commissioner – Regional in September 2025.

The service commitment demonstrated by Helen to St John NSW over the past 17 years is exceptional and exceeds what is expected of both an employee and an first aid volunteer. For 15 of her St John service years, Helen has held and delivered in senior leadership roles for St John NSW.

Helen continues to provide first aid training and event volunteering as an emergency medical technician (EMT) with St John NSW, volunteering her time (up to 10 hours weekly).

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Helen oversaw and assisted with zone deployments of St John NSW members, who worked tirelessly to help keep communities safe and infection-free. The Albury team covered multiple shifts at each venue throughout the day, 7 days a week, for 19 weeks. Helen liaised with the teams to collate statistic reports that were required every day, and filled in shifts when a member was unavailable.

Helen has been recognised with:

- 2009 Black Saturday Fires
- 2012 Silver Commendation
- 2017 Life Save – Award
- 2020 COVID deployment, and team leadership and oversight
- 2021 COVID deployment, and team leadership and oversight
- 2019–20 NSW Premier’s Bushfire Emergency Citation
- 2025 Ambulance Victoria Commendation.

She is also a mentor and go-to person across the zone.

We are so privileged to have Helen in the St John team. She is enthusiastic, diligently undertaking tasks to a very high standard.

Emma Crethar, Broadwater

Emma is Secretary of the Broadwater Public School P&C Association and has been a tireless advocate for the rebuilding of the school following its destruction in the 2022 catastrophic floods.

Her dedication and leadership have been vital in rallying the community and lobbying the NSW Government to expedite the school's reconstruction, ensuring that students can return to their home school as soon as possible. As a key figure in the P&C, Emma has played a significant role in raising awareness about the damage and the urgent need for action. She has actively engaged with local media, community groups and government officials to keep the issue at the forefront.

Under her leadership, the P&C has organised fundraising events, brought the community together, and lobbied government authorities for essential support. Emma's efforts have not only helped maintain momentum for the school's rebuilding, but have also inspired others in the community to get involved. Her ongoing work ensures that the needs of Broadwater's students remain a top priority as the community moves forward. For her outstanding contributions, Emma is a deserving nominee.

Rachelle Dean, Woombah

I am proud to nominate Rachelle for the Hidden Treasures Honor Roll 2025. As a devoted mother of 5 school-aged children, she manages to balance family life with exceptional volunteer work as the school canteen manager. Despite her busy schedule, she dedicates countless hours each week to running the canteen, raising over \$3,000 annually to support school programs and activities.

Her commitment goes far beyond just managing the canteen; she consistently puts herself out there to help wherever needed, demonstrating remarkable leadership and generosity. Through her efforts, she not only contributes financially but also fosters a strong sense of community within the school. Raising 5 beautiful children while volunteering at such a high level shows her exceptional time management, dedication and passion for supporting both her family and the wider community.

Her outstanding ability to juggle these responsibilities with grace and enthusiasm makes her a true Hidden Treasure. She inspires others by

showing that with commitment and heart, it is possible to make a significant difference while nurturing a loving family. Her ongoing contributions have a lasting positive impact on the school community, making her highly deserving of this recognition.

Gwenythe Rhonda Dries, Goulburn

Gwen was born in Goulburn on 16 May 1937. Her sister, Kaye, was born in 1941 and brother, Ross, in 1952. Gwen's childhood was a very happy one with lots of friends. Her parents, Andrew and Amy, owned the local grocery store, where Gwen worked on the lolly counter after school. She left Goulburn High School at 15 and began an apprenticeship as a hairdresser. Gwen enjoyed a very active social life, going to dances and to the movies.

At 18, Gwen met her future husband, John Dries. After 'going together' for 2 years, they became engaged and were married in 1959. In August 1960, their first daughter, Bronwyn, was born, followed by Melissa in 1964. In 1988, the family moved to Coffs Harbour, where Gwen's brother lived. Gwen worked at the local hospital as a 'Pink Lady' and later in the hospital café. Gwen and John took many trips together on their motorbike and enjoyed overseas travel.

Sadly, in 2004, John died and Gwen decided to move back to her birthplace, where she still had many friends. One of her friends volunteered at Rocky Hill War Memorial Museum, so Gwen decided to give volunteering a go, and we are very glad she did. Volunteering gave Gwen a 'new lease on life'. Each Wednesday, staff and volunteers look forward to Gwen's freshly made cakes and slices, which we share at our morning tea meetings. Now, at 88 years, Gwen still enjoys her volunteer work and, in her words, 'is still going strong'.

Bethany Dwyer, Cessnock

Beth is a proud Aboriginal woman, born and raised in Cessnock, where she continues to live, work and volunteer tirelessly for her community. She currently works as a School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) at Mount View High School and is known for her dedication to supporting students' wellbeing and success.

Beth volunteers extensively in the Cessnock area. She is the current Vice President of Cessnock PCYC, a NSW Rural Fire Service volunteer, and a local soccer volunteer, giving her time to coach, mentor and support youth involvement in sport. She is also a strong advocate for police-led youth engagement programs like 'Fit for Life', where she regularly leads sessions and helps build positive relationships between young people and police.

Beth is a passionate member of the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG), where she advocates for better outcomes for Aboriginal students. One of her most impactful contributions is putting together backpacks with school supplies for students in need, ensuring they have the essentials to participate in learning.

She volunteers approximately 10 to 15 hours per week across her many roles and has been doing so for several years. Beth volunteers simply because she cares – about her community, her culture and the future of young people.

Beth is an outstanding role model whose service, compassion and leadership have made a lasting impact on the Cessnock community.

Jenny Ferguson, Kiama

A lifelong music educator and community leader, Jenny has spent decades using the power of song to uplift, connect and support others. After a distinguished career as a primary school teacher and assistant principal, Jenny brought her deep experience in choral direction to the volunteer sector, where her contribution continues to grow.

Jenny was an inaugural conductor of the Southern Stars choir in Wollongong, led the Sing 2001 initiative in the Illawarra District, and directed major regional festivals across Southern Illawarra and Campbelltown.

In 2023, she became the musical director of Alchemy Chorus South Coast, a dementia-inclusive choir based in the Illawarra. This opportunity arose when Antoinette Raynal, a fellow choir leader, asked Jenny to step in. Seeing the impact the choir had on its members, Jenny said yes. The results speak for themselves. One choir member, living with dementia, told Jenny that Alchemy was the highlight of her week and had helped her find joy again after a long period of darkness.

Jenny also volunteers as a board member of Active Ageing NSW and sees her work as part of a broader need to keep older Australians connected, valued and engaged.

Her advice to others is simple: 'Choose something you're passionate about and go for it. Our ageing community needs more people who are willing to step up and make life better.'

Margaret Flannery, Dungog

Margaret's voluntary work is extraordinary in its breadth and depth, positively impacting individuals and the wider Dungog community for over 4 decades. Margaret's service began in 1986 at Dungog Public School, where she held various leadership roles in the P&C, volunteered in the canteen and classroom, and became a life member of the P&C. At Dungog High School, she has been a committed volunteer since 1992, serving as P&C President, Canteen Treasurer and committee member, earning life membership for her contributions. She remains an active committee member today.

Margaret has also played key roles beyond education. She has been Secretary of the James Theatre Management Committee since 2003, and President of the Dungog Tea Party, which promotes tourism and community engagement. She supports local events through STOP SLOW traffic control, saving costs and helping fundraisers like the Gresford Billy Cart Derby and Sculpture on the Farm Dungog. At the Anglican Church, she has coordinated the op shop for 22 years, served as parish and guild secretary, taught special religious education for 32 years, and organised market stalls – all focused on supporting the vulnerable and boosting the local economy.

Margaret's 26+ years at the Dungog Visitor Information Centre highlight her dedication to welcoming and assisting tourists. As President of the Girl Guide Support Group, she fundraised for 2 decades. Across all roles, Margaret's selfless leadership, consistent service and unwavering commitment stand out. She is a pillar of her community, and her lasting impact reflects a life devoted to the betterment of others.

Judith Fowler, Goulburn

Judith was born in Goulburn in 1945 and has lived there all her life. She attended Goulburn TAFE Secretarial College in 1961 and her first job was as an Admissions Officer at Goulburn Base Hospital. She left the hospital in 1964 after marrying Philip, her husband of 51 years. They had 4 children. She returned to work when the children had grown, at the Goulburn TAB, where she worked for 7 years. She was then offered a position at St George Bank, where she stayed for 20 years.

Judith and Philip volunteered with the Goulburn Landcare Group during this time, working every Saturday until the project was discontinued. Judith was also a member of the Goulburn Heritage Group for many years. In 2000, Judith and Philip were 'welcomed with open arms' as the first volunteers of the newly opened Rocky Hill War Memorial Museum. After 25 years, Judith, our longest-serving volunteer, still enjoys her volunteer work, which involves research, exhibition and collection support.

Judith has also been a member of the Goulburn Hospital Historical Cataloguing Volunteer Group for the past 7 years, where she assists in managing the collection, organising exhibitions and preserving hospital artefacts. Judith recently retired, after 24 years, as a volunteer juvenile support person with local police. She has, and continues to, thoroughly enjoy volunteering, meeting new friends, learning about Goulburn's military history, planting and watching trees grow, and helping young people when in trouble.

Leonie Gale, Pembroke

Leonie moved to Pembroke in the Hastings area in 2011, when she and her husband purchased a farm that remains half bushland and half primary production (sustainable beef grazing). Having not worked on the land before, they acquired knowledge of best-practice sustainable farming by joining Landcare, doing a course at the local college and speaking to numerous local landholders. This understanding gave them the confidence to set a vision for their farm. Sustainable farming is at the top of the couple's priority list. They monitor the seasons diligently, rotational graze to improving pastures, sell off stock before feed stocks get too low and supplementary feed when need be. They restricted stock from the riparian zone and dam, and installed troughs to increase water quality for stock and

improve biodiversity. Numerous wildlife corridors also provide stock with shade and shelter. Everything has a dual benefit for stock and wildlife!

Leonie has volunteered as the President and/or Treasurer of Hastings Landcare for many years. She supports staff, does the accounts and helps other new landholders. She is also an active member of the Pembroke NSW Rural Fire Service and volunteer Treasurer for Hastings Valley Dressage Club. When she is not out volunteering her time, she welcomes groups to the farm for workshops and bird watching.

Jenna Gibson, Bourkelands

Jenna has been part of the RAAF, Army, Navy Community House since 2017 and was appointed to several roles during this time, including President for 2.5 years. She was recently nominated Coordinator for the Australian Military Wives Choir Wagga Wagga.

Jenna is an outstanding volunteer. She offers the community her service and supports the members of each association with kindness and dedication.

Mellissa Gibson, Stonebridge

Mellissa is a true gem of the Cessnock community and a deserving recipient of the Hidden Treasures award. Her unwavering dedication to serving others has made a lasting impact on countless lives throughout the region.

Whether through volunteering, supporting local initiatives, or simply being a dependable and compassionate presence, Mellissa embodies the spirit of community service. Cessnock is so lucky to have someone as selfless and committed as Mellissa, whose quiet efforts often go unnoticed but never unappreciated. Recognising her with the Hidden Treasures award would be a fitting tribute to her invaluable contributions.

Rona Gillard, Port Macquarie

Rona's involvement in volunteering began shortly after her youngest child started school. Rona's husband was a bank officer, meaning they moved locations every 5 years, which took them to places such as Wingham, Albury, Young and Oberon. They met people and made new friends in each location. Rona started volunteering at the local school and then started

supporting Girl Guides and Meals on Wheels for different community groups such as the Lions Club and the local church. Rona has been helping in this capacity at Omnicare Meals, Kempsey since May 2012.

Rona is always willing to help and derives great satisfaction from working with other volunteers with similar mindsets and values. Rona was a passionate dragon boat racer, but nowadays, her focus is spending time with her family. Whilst she does not seek recognition for her contribution to community, Rona has received several acknowledgements from local community representatives.

We are delighted to nominate Rona for the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll in recognition of her lifelong passion for volunteering and the many ways she has enriched communities across NSW and Omnicare.

Suzanne Goodman, Farley

Suzanne is a dedicated volunteer whose tireless efforts span health, education, community sport and international aid. Born and raised in the Hunter region, Suzanne has lived a life of service, consistently giving her time and energy to causes that uplift others.

For over 15 years, Suzanne has been a passionate volunteer with Maitland Basketball, where she earned life membership for her extensive contributions as court supervisor, canteen volunteer, fundraising chair, score bench official, team manager and referee advocate. Her impact reaches far beyond the court.

Suzanne has been a committed member of the St Paul's school committee for more than a decade, supporting student success and community connection. She also volunteers as an HSC exam supervisor and regularly gives her time at local dance eisteddfods, helping ensure smooth and enjoyable events for young performers.

In the health space, Suzanne provides invaluable support to families at John Hunter Hospital, comforting those with premature babies through her volunteer work. Her compassion knows no borders – she also fundraises for Heartprint, a Cambodian organisation that builds houses for those in need, demonstrating her global heart.

Suzanne's quiet but powerful leadership, consistency and generosity make her a true Hidden Treasure. Her dedication enriches countless lives and reflects the very best of volunteer spirit.

Janine Green, Merimbula

Janine is a long-serving and deeply respected wildlife volunteer whose calm leadership, compassion and resilience have supported native animals and regional communities for more than 25 years. As a dedicated member of WIRES Far South East Branch, Janine has been involved in over 4,100 native animal rescues, rehabilitations, releases or critical welfare interventions. Her work supports communities across regional NSW, where wildlife is frequently affected by vehicle strikes and environmental events such as bushfires.

Janine is widely trusted for her ability to respond to the most complex and confronting rescue situations, holding one of the most challenging and essential roles within WIRES as an authorised shooter, a responsibility she has carried since 2014. Janine provides compassionate decision-making during difficult circumstances, in this emotionally demanding and fundamental capacity, providing reassurance and support to carers and community members.

Alongside frontline response, Janine has been a valued trainer since 2017. She has completed 28 training courses to strengthen her expertise and has delivered 17 macropod and wombat courses, building skills, confidence and consistency in wildlife care among volunteers across regional NSW.

Janine has held 17 volunteer positions, including Branch Chair and Vice Chair, and currently serves as Emergency Response Team Leader, Koala Coordinator, Branch Trainer, Macropod Trainer, Wombat Trainer and Branch Management Committee member. Her experience and steady leadership underpin effective coordination during emergencies, strengthen volunteer capability, and ensure WIRES can continue to serve both wildlife and the wider community. Janine's contribution exemplifies the spirit of Hidden Treasures.

Katie Green, Herons Creek

Katie is a proud young Dunghutti and Birpai woman who joined the NSW Rural Fire Service Camden Haven Brigade when she was just 14 as a junior member. The brigade ran a cadet program at the local high school and Katie was the only student to sign up, and she has continued to go from strength to strength with her commitment to training.

Now 16, Katie is soon to complete her basic firefighter qualification. She attends the station and commits to online training for approximately 10 hours a month, along with work and school commitments.

In her time at the station, Katie has participated in many community engagement events such as the local show and Get Ready Weekend. She has also participated in inter-brigade training with other agencies such as the NSW State Emergency Service.

Katie regularly attends training and maintenance, and participates in familiarisation with the local area, which entails going out on a fire truck and training at various locations to simulate real-life incidents.

Katie also contributes to the station in other ways, sometimes baking morning tea for the crew, and has come up with great fundraising ideas that the brigade hopes to implement.

Katie is an enthusiastic, positive member who inspires not only her station but other young women who hear her story. She is passionate about helping her community, has a kind and thoughtful nature and takes pride in everything she does.

Katie is a young woman who can be relied upon to do what's right, always having everyone's best interests at heart. Katie is definitely a Hidden Treasure!

Nic Grose, Dubbo*

Nic has an impressive record of accomplishments in exercise physiology, community sports and leadership, making her a respected figure in both clinical rehabilitation and the world of touch football.

As a senior accredited exercise physiologist, Nic founded Active – On The Move Rehab in 2019. Recognising the need for a dedicated rehab centre

in her community, she combined over 20 years of expertise to create a welcoming, inclusive environment where people can regain mobility and confidence. In touch football, Nic's influence is equally significant. She represented Australia in the Women's 40s division at the 2024 Touch World Cup, securing a gold medal, and played for NSW in the Women's 35s and 40s sides. Her leadership extends beyond the field; as President of the Dubbo Touch Association, Nic has driven local engagement and community growth in the sport.

Recently, she was appointed as Director Country on the New South Wales Touch Association Board. She is also the League Tag Coordinator and a Coach for St Johns Junior Rugby League, Assistant League Tag Coach for CYMS Football Club and the inaugural female member of Dubbo CYMS Old Boys Club. Nic also volunteers her time with several other fundraising organisations including Clare's Angels and the Tie Dye Project. Amongst running a business, volunteering and playing sport, Nic is wife to Clint and mother to gorgeous boys, Paddy and Ollie. Her dedication to sport, health and community exemplifies her passion for empowering people, creating lasting connections and promoting inclusivity in every role she undertakes.

Helen Harbutt, Albury

For the past 3 years, Helen has been a dedicated volunteer with the Social Activity Reminiscing Group (SARG) in the geriatric evaluation and management (GEM) inpatient setting at Mercy Health Albury, as well as with inpatient palliative care. Each week, Helen contributes 3 hours to supporting patients, bringing warmth, creativity and compassion to those experiencing cognitive decline and serious illness.

Helen's hallmark contribution is her 'mystery basket', filled with antiques and treasures from the 1940s onwards. This unique activity sparks reminiscence, conversation and joy among patients, helping them feel connected, valued and engaged in group settings. For patients with cognitive impairment, Helen's gentle guidance ensures they are included in all activities, fostering dignity and belonging.

Helen's motivation is deeply personal – a commitment to compassion and respect for every individual. Helen also enjoys mentoring students who attend the program, modelling empathy and creativity in patient care. Through her efforts, she not only enriches the lives of patients but also inspires the next generation of clinicians.

On average, Helen volunteers 3 to 4 hours per week, consistently giving her time to uplift others. Her dedication has made SARG a highlight for patients, who eagerly anticipate her visits and the treasures she brings. Helen's contribution exemplifies the spirit of Hidden Treasures: selfless service, innovation in care, and unwavering compassion.

For her creativity, commitment and profound impact on patients and students alike, Helen deserves recognition on the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll 2025.

Joan Hart, Bolwarra

Joan has spent most of her life heavily involved in supporting hockey. She has been a coach, manager, player and official in Maitland for over 25 years and continues to play and promote the sport. Joan is a life member of Maitland Hockey Inc, and in July last year, was awarded the prestigious Karen Kennedy Award for Female Masters Player of the Year.

She has represented NSW in Masters Hockey and was selected in the inaugural over-70s Australian World Cup team, which won gold in New Zealand in 2024.

As a member of the Board of Maitland Hockey Turf Association, she is involved in managing Maitland Hockey Centre. She manages all the bookings for the field used by hockey and other sporting clubs, and she runs the canteen to service the various competitions. Joan's efforts are highly valued by the Maitland hockey community.

I estimate that, since she retired as a school principal, Joan has spent in excess of 40 hours per week playing, training and supporting hockey.

Joan had a distinguished career as a primary school teacher, deputy principal and principal. She began her career in western NSW, before moving to Maitland in the 1980s. She was Deputy Principal at Bolwarra Public School followed by a period as Principal of Iona Public School. She was a highly regarded teacher and educational administrator and has spent her life supporting her community and sport at junior, senior and veteran levels. Joan is an inspiration for women and girls to achieve their goals.

Roslyn Hodge, Laurieton

Ros has been volunteering with Primary Ethics for 7 years and is a huge advocate for the all-volunteer ethics program in public schools in her local Port Macquarie area.

Ros worked as a schoolteacher for 35 years and school principal for 14 years, and is amazing at building rapport with children. Now retired, she has been a volunteer ethics teacher and volunteer ethics coordinator at 3 of the schools in the region: Laurieton Public School, Beechwood Public School and Wauchope Public School. At the peak of her volunteering with us (2024) she was teaching 8 ethics classes per week across the 3 schools – a stellar contribution! Ros strongly believes in the value of the ethics program for children of all backgrounds, helping them learn how to think carefully, offer reasons for their opinions and discuss respectfully. We know that Ros is an excellent classroom teacher and has helped to mentor other ethics volunteers in the region.

Ros's volunteering doesn't stop with Primary Ethics. She has also helped with Kindy reading groups 3 days a week at Beechwood Public School, and at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital and Visitor Centre, in the shop and as a guide.

As Ros is retiring from her ethics volunteering at the end of 2025, we at Primary Ethics would like to acknowledge her amazing efforts, as she is truly a Hidden Treasure.

Katrina Humphries-Ford, Taree

Katrina is a registered nurse, and is 2IC of the Manning Great Lakes Combined Division, St John Ambulance NSW. Katrina started as a cadet in the division and has dedicated over 15 years to the organisation. As the 2IC and a Grade V Officer, she spends countless volunteer hours dedicating herself to supporting local events, training and doing administration for the division in her own time. In 2025 alone, she contributed over 567 volunteer hours to the division.

Katrina supports the youth program and cadets in the division to grow into confident leaders, sharing her knowledge and experience to help them develop into skilful clinicians, allowing them to contribute meaningfully to

the community. Both adult and cadet members admire her commitment, support and how she cares for the community and divisional members.

During the 2025 Mid Coast floods, she was an integral part of coordinating the staffing and the operations of the first aid posts in the evacuation and recovery centres. She exemplifies her dedication to the St John mission of being Ready to Respond and the ethos of St John Ambulance, which is *Pro fide* (for the Faith) and *Pro Utilitate Hominum* (for the Service of Mankind).

I wish to nominate Katrina as she inspires others around her through her compassion, leadership and commitment to St John Ambulance.

Jo Ivey, Wellington

A picture is worth a thousand words and, through the use of a lens, Jo manages to beautifully encapsulate the true essence of community – the connectedness, the sense of belonging, the smiles, the joy, the friendships and all that exists in between. Precious moments in time that aren't focused upon the winning but the beauty of the community that Jo is so proud to be a part of. Whilst she thinks she is hidden behind her massive lens, her warmth and genuine love for all radiates amongst one and all, making Jo a dearly loved and respected citizen that no one wants hidden.

What began as a hobby taking photos of her gorgeous tribe of grandchildren progressively extended to photos of friends, teammates, school teams and now multiple sporting clubs and various not-for-profit community organisations and events. As a result, within Wellington and surrounds, 'Mrs Ivey' is a household name. Social media platforms are regularly filled with her brilliant photography, providing many with such a positive perception of the real enjoyment experienced within these events locally.

If she isn't taking or uploading photos, Jo will be in her kitchen making lamingtons, pumpkin soup or sandwiches for any community fundraiser that she has the time to devote herself to, and then maybe you will catch her assisting with the newly established Parkrun as a volunteer as well. Where there is a need you are bound to find Jo.

Jo is the very essence of a Hidden Treasure.

Tammy Jackett, Killcare Heights

Tammy commits so much time to volunteering in the community that, in 2025, she won Terrigal Local Woman of the Year.

Tammy is a driving force for local winter and Christmas appeals for Mary Mac's Place, a community organisation that offers support for disadvantaged members of our community. Tammy also volunteers and fundraises for the McGrath Foundation, volunteers her time at the local Umina Beach Public School, and generously donates Easter eggs and colouring books to the children's hospital.

Tammy does all this whilst working full-time and being a full-time carer for her son, who has a lifelong disability, and supporting a family member who also needs care.

Sabine Jamieson, Mount Vincent

Sabine is no stranger to volunteering. She is a retired registered nurse with a background in counselling. She is a Rotary Club member, volunteers for Riding for the Disabled at Raymond Terrace and volunteers with her dog, Monty (a Delta Therapy Dog), at Kurri Kurri Hospital.

Sabine lives on acreage and operates Hillview Equine Assisted Learning, which is a type of therapy utilising the unique traits of horses to address the special emotional and mental health needs of children who have experienced trauma. Sabine supports the community in a holistic way with her dog training knowledge and her horses. Sabine also volunteers at Kurri Kurri Hospital with Monty, who has a wonderful effect on the patients undergoing rehabilitation. There are definitely some magic moments experienced by patients and the treating team.

Sabine knows the extent of how animals can assist with physiological and psychological responses, such as lifting mood and lowering blood pressure and heart rate. As a past foster carer, Sabine has experienced first-hand how kids respond to their interactions with animals, especially children with special needs, who may need extra support and encouragement to engage. I am sure Sabine has many stories where there has been a significant impact on both the child and persons responsible. I am honoured to nominate Sabine on the Hidden Treasures platform, so others can hear her story and it can impact them on their journey.

Marie Johnson, Nyngan

Marie is an exceptional and selfless community leader whose contribution to Nyngan spans education, culture, sport and community advocacy. As Chairperson of the Nyngan Local Aboriginal Land Council, Marie has worked tirelessly to keep the organisation operating during the CEO's 12-month leave, ensuring community members continue to receive vital support and services.

Marie is also long-standing President of the Nyngan Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) and the Western 2 AECG President – both voluntary roles in which she advocates passionately to ensure Aboriginal children are heard, represented and supported within the education system. Her leadership strengthens cultural inclusion and ensures Aboriginal perspectives are embedded meaningfully across the curriculum.

Marie is the driving force behind the Wongaibon Crows, a community sporting group providing Country kids with opportunities to participate in Indigenous sporting gala days, including netball and touch football. She leads fundraising efforts to reduce costs for families, ensuring finances are never a barrier to participation.

Additionally, Marie organises an Aboriginal dance group that welcomes all students – Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal – creating an inclusive space for cultural learning, connection and pride.

Alongside these extensive volunteer commitments, Marie works full-time at Nyngan Public School, where she consistently goes above and beyond her role to support the wellbeing and learning needs of all children.

Marie's dedication, leadership and unwavering commitment to her community make her a truly deserving nominee for the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll.

Carol Johnstone, Clarence Town

Carol was born in Waverley, Sydney, and grew up in Randwick, attending Sydney Girls High School and the University of New South Wales. She married her husband, David, in 1981, moving overseas the next year due to David's position in the Royal Australian Air Force. They lived in Butterworth, Malaysia and Jakarta/Bandung, Indonesia, returning to live in South Australia, Canberra and then Clarence Town, NSW. Carol worked for the Australian Taxation Office in many locations including Canberra, Newcastle and Brisbane, and with Adelaide Defence Housing Authority.

Carol's volunteering began in her school years and continues today. She is a very dedicated and generous lady. Joining Dungog Country Women's Association (CWA) in 2018, she held the positions of Treasurer and Secretary. In 2023, she transferred to Maitland Branch, and is currently Maitland President and International Officer Hunter River Group, promoting CWA and volunteering for all events and causes. For 9 years she has volunteered for Share the Dignity, devoting many hours to this charity by promoting, donating, speaking, collecting and delivering.

Seven years ago, Carol began volunteering at Hunter Region Botanic Gardens. She currently educates, guides the team and helps organise special events and activities such as the Medieval Fair, National Science Week, Fungi Walks and more. Carol has volunteered with Soroptimist International since 2003, is a current member of The Hills District club, and has held many positions over the years, including Convenor and Coordinator of NSW Regional Programs. Carol's monthly volunteering hours are 92.

Asked why she volunteers, Carol replied to 'give back to community, inspired by the cause, and empowering women and girls'. I highly recommend Carol as a Hidden Treasure.

Tammy Jones, Banora Point

Where to start? Tammy is an amazing woman who volunteers across diverse organisations in NSW. She hasn't been nominated for this award before and it's long overdue. I meet Tammy through our volunteer work in Australian Red Cross Emergency Services about 18 to 20 years ago. Since then, we've worked together on many emergency events across several states (mainly NSW) and with preparedness work in small remote communities. Tammy is

on a contract to work as a staff member of Red Cross Emergency Services in Northern NSW.

Tammy is a single mother of 4 children and has fostered over 13 children (3 are still part of her family and keep in contact). She has said of her 4 children, 'they are my world'.

She also volunteers at Fred's Place (the first homeless drop-in centre in the Tweed and Byron shires). Tammy set up its administration system on computer from a paper-based system. She also created the first homeless/rough sleepers Community Lead Resilience Team. Now there are digital noticeboards in key locations for emergency information about evacuations and recovery centres.

Tammy is a qualified vet nurse and volunteers at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital. She is also a dog and cat breeder and a carer.

While doing all this, she has also run businesses from home – embroidery and uniform services for 30 years and a kids clothing label when her children were small. She then managed to study and obtain degrees in community service and case management, and a Bachelor of Emergency Management.

Esther Keenan, Kiama Downs

Everything Esther does is not to draw attention to herself, but to highlight others, so this nomination is showing up for her. She started a small business called Known Designs & Print as a hobby in 2021 and it now serves the community and beyond. Through her business, Esther has provided many charities and volunteers with items and services free of charge, such as T-shirts, logos, design and banner equipment.

Esther chooses a lot of volunteers who don't have sponsorship. This is volunteering, but not as we know it. Esther's Known Designs & Print is involved in helping the community in a massive way. I have been the recipient of Esther's generosity, as other people have.

Esther and her family impacted the community during lockdown in Kiama. They used a simple coffee cart with home-baked goods and showed up for the community at Kiama's lighthouse. They were the strongest protectors of mental health and wellbeing in our community. This small step strengthened the community.

Esther embodies generosity. She is now the founder of The Every Day Table, a registered charity offering a food pantry where community members can get pantry goods at reduced prices, and providing free lunches to whoever would like to come along, creating connection and conversation. Esther's motto is 'When you have more than you need, you build a longer table, not a higher fence.'

Sabrina Kelly, Kiama

I am proud to nominate Sabrina Kelly for the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll. Sabrina brings incredible energy to everything she does and has a natural ability to connect people from all walks of life.

She created the Social Club for Neurodivergent Teens, a safe and welcoming space where young people feel accepted and supported. This initiative has had a powerful impact on families in our community, offering connection, understanding and belonging.

Sabrina is also the President of the P&C, where she works tirelessly to support students, teachers and parents. Her leadership is thoughtful, inclusive and driven by a genuine commitment to making schools better for everyone.

Behind the scenes, she plays a vital role in the Kiama Surf Lifesaving Club. Whether she is organising events, fundraising or helping out wherever needed, Sabrina is always there, never asking for credit but always making a difference.

She is one of those people who gets things done, brings people together, and leaves a lasting positive impact. Our community is better because of her.

Lyn MacBain, Singleton

Lyn's early life was Sydney-based and she later lived in Bellingen, where she met her Singleton-born husband, Robert. They moved to Singleton in 1977 with daughters Leanne and Lisa. She quickly became active in their school and sports, including years of coaching and umpiring with Singleton Netball Association and participating in marching girls, softball and tennis.

As her daughters grew up, Lyn became very active in the Singleton community and continues to campaign on local and environmental issues.

Lyn completed an Advanced Diploma in Local, Family and Applied History at the University of New England and now serves as President of the Family History Society Singleton, where she contributes her expertise as a volunteer.

Lyn was elected and served 8 years on Singleton Council. She still serves on various council committees, including the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Lyn joined Singleton Tidy Towns in 1994, serving as Secretary and then President for over 30 years. She initiated numerous programs, some of which were promoted by Keep Australia Beautiful NSW and adopted by other Tidy Towns due to their success.

Singleton has twice won the NSW Tidy Towns title and represented the state nationally. The motto 'Singleton – Heart of the Hunter, Jewel of the State, Spirit of the Nation', authored by Lyn, is now widely used by local organisations. After the Singleton Garden Club closed, Lyn ensured its annual garden competition continued under Tidy Towns, which hosts regular events, including a popular annual volunteer thank you lunch.

Lyn easily spends at least 30 hours a week volunteering.

Jenice Manton, Karuah*

Jenice, known as Pearl, is a proud Wiradjuri and Wakka Wakka descendant raising her family on Worimi land, whose life and work reflect her deep belief in the power of sport to strengthen communities. A keen netball player in her youth, Pearl helped establish the Karuah Pearls Netball Club in Port Stephens in 2021. What began with a single junior team has grown, in just 4 years, into a thriving club of 4 teams. Pearl has been at the heart of this growth, volunteering countless hours to coaching, coordination and community support.

Alongside her sporting leadership, Pearl is a devoted mother of 3, an Aboriginal Education Officer at Karuah Public School and educator at St Philip's Christian College Gilibaa. Her strong faith underpins her work, guiding the compassion and commitment she offers to families across the community.

Five years ago, Pearl was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, an unpredictable and often debilitating neurological condition. Despite the personal challenges it brings, she has continued to lead with remarkable resilience, refusing to let the illness diminish her dedication to her club or her community.

Thanks to Pearl's determination, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children in the region are growing up surrounded by positive role models, strong cultural identity and a sense of belonging. Through the Karuah Pearls, she has created a space where young people can build confidence, form lasting friendships and stay connected to their community. Pearl's ongoing leadership and kindness continue to inspire all who know her.

Helen Martin, Albury

Helen has dedicated 35 years to compassionate service as a palliative care volunteer at Mercy Health Albury. She was among the first group of trained volunteers when the program commenced in 1990, setting a foundation of care and empathy that continues to inspire others today.

Throughout her remarkable tenure, Helen has supported patients and families both in the community and within the hospital setting. Her roles have included visiting patients in their homes, offering comfort and companionship during the most challenging times, and providing a reassuring presence on the palliative care ward. She has also contributed her insights and advocacy as a member of the Consumer Advisory Group.

Even after decades of service, Helen remains an active volunteer. She now attends to floral care in the palliative care ward. Her unwavering commitment and empathy have touched countless lives and exemplify the true spirit of volunteerism.

Helen is a Hidden Treasure whose dedication has made an immeasurable difference to her community for over 3 decades.

Lesley McFarlane, Ulmarra

Lesley grew up on a dairy farm near Ulmarra and has lived in the Clarence Valley nearly all her life – except for 3 years in Sydney, where she met and married her husband, Bob, and 12 years in Lithgow (before returning home to Ulmarra). She is well known throughout the community for her volunteer work.

She has been a member of the Country Women's Association since 1979 and has worked in many roles, including President and Secretary. She has worked for Meals on Wheels since 1998, raised funds for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service since 1998 and is a familiar face at the local

shopping centre selling raffle tickets. Last year, she was the face of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service in its TV ad, because of her tireless work for the organisation. She has been a volunteer at Rathgar Lodge aged care since 1990, and volunteers with Grafton Legacy and Clarence Valley Vietnam Veterans, fundraising and attending commemorative events with her husband, Bob, who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2022 for his own volunteer work. She is also involved with her local church in Cowper.

Lesley spends a huge amount of time working in community organisations and fundraising for them. If a volunteer is needed to help with anything in these groups, she is always ready to give up her time. Most days of the week she will be involved in one way or another as a volunteer, and we are lucky to have her in our community.

Will Mead, Griffith

Will is a passionate advocate and an active and valued member of the Griffith community.

Will has been a member of Soroptimist International (SI) Griffith since January 1989, celebrating 37 years as a Soroptimist in 2026. Through these years, Will has held many positions on the SI Griffith Club, including President, Secretary and Program Convenor. She also held many regional positions with SI Riverina, including President, Secretary and Program Convenor. Will has been Secretary of SI Australia and is currently a member of the SI Australia Advocacy Committee.

During her Soroptimist career, Will has represented the club on various community committees:

- Griffith City Council Parks, Pathways & Roads Enhancement Committee
- Australia Day Committee
- Cultural Facilities Committee
- Griffith Local Domestic Violence Committee and co-convenor of the Griffith Memorial Vigil, held during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence.

In consultation with the Heart Foundation and Griffith City Council, Will is involved in a campaign to publicise the Heart Foundation's 'Shockingly Simple AED & CPR' education sessions for 2026.

Will is a long-time member of the Griffith Women's Golf Committee. In 2025, she was Secretary and Captain.

Will has also made valuable contributions to the refugee communities in Griffith. In 2018, she formed the Griffith group of Rural Australians for Refugees and has been Convenor and Secretary since then. She provides support for refugee families in Griffith and has liaised with the multicultural community and Centacare to arrange English language classes for Pakistani women who have settled in the area.

Debbie Milliner, Cathcart

Debbie is a local Bombala treasure! She volunteers for Currawarna Assisted Living Ltd, a community run, not-for-profit boarding house that gives older community members a housing solution that offers independence and support. Previously, Deb worked as a carer in the facility when it was a nursing home. Caring for people is in Deb's bones.

There isn't an event or fundraiser Debbie is not at. She cooks endless amounts for street stall fundraisers, morning teas and functions. She spends hours (sometimes all day) manning the EFTPOS/Square dongle for our fundraising so we can maximise the donations we receive. Often no one is even aware of the amount of effort she's putting in, because she doesn't like to be in the spotlight or receive credit. Deb's just there to chip and get it done.

You can always rely on her to show up and make the day an absolute success!

Suzanne Morgan, Ashtonfield

I would like to nominate an extraordinary woman whose tireless dedication to volunteer work has positively impacted both local and international communities. Suzanne now lives in the Hunter Valley and is the current President of East Maitland Rotary. She also chairs the club's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, championing accessible and inclusive community service.

A passionate advocate for mental health, Suzanne actively promotes Mental Health First Aid training and works to reduce stigma through education and awareness. Internationally, she is the Co-Chair of the

Cambodia SIMS Project, a Rotary initiative providing educational resources, clean water and sustainable development in the Siem Reap and Kulen Mountain regions. Since 2019, she has helped deliver vital support to communities experiencing extreme poverty, improving outcomes for both children and families.

Suzanne volunteers an estimated 20+ hours each week across various initiatives. Her commitment is driven by compassion and a deep belief in equity, dignity and opportunity for all. Her impact is significant, her leadership inspiring, and her contributions truly deserving of recognition on the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll 2025.

Leesa Muir, Deniliquin

It is my honour to nominate my mum, Leesa, for her outstanding dedication and leadership in establishing the Deniliquin Truck Show and Industry Expo. As the event's president, Leesa has been the driving force behind transforming a local initiative into a significant annual event that celebrates the transport industry and strengthens the Deniliquin community.

Leesa's leadership has guided the show for 10 years, attracting attendees and trucks from NSW and Victoria. She has successfully fostered a strong sense of community, creating a platform for industry professionals to connect with and share stories.

The event has put more than \$120,000 back into local community initiatives, including a combined \$10,000 in donations to the Deniliquin High School Driver Education Program, demonstrating Leesa's strong commitment to road safety and investing in the next generation. The event also has a significant positive economic impact, spending over \$300,000 with local businesses since its inception.

When not busy organising the annual Truck Show, mum keeps busy advocating for better conditions for the transport industry that operate or travel through Deniliquin, including better facilities, parking and overnight stops.

Leesa is also a dedicated volunteer for the Deniliquin & District Transport Wall of Fame, honouring and immortalising local transport heroes within a 120-kilometre radius of Deniliquin.

Leesa's passion, dedication and inspirational leadership are the cornerstone of the Deniliquin Truck Show and Industry Expo's success. Her hands-on approach and unwavering commitment to both the industry and the local community make her a truly deserving candidate for this recognition.

Dianne Nicholson, Holbrook

Dianne is a fearless and devoted wildlife volunteer whose compassion, and boundless energy have transformed the care of native animals in her community. In the nearly 6 years since rejoining WIRES Murray River Branch in 2020, Dianne has been involved in the rescue, rehabilitation and release of over 1,050 native animals, most commonly brushtail possums and Australian magpies. She has responded to over 100 wildlife alerts in 2025 alone, regularly travelling across the Murray River and Snowy Mountains regions to ensure injured and orphaned animals receive timely care.

Dianne wears many hats within the branch, coordinating volunteers, supporting new members and ensuring the smooth running of operations that deliver high-quality care to wildlife across the region. She is a trusted mentor, guiding new carers with patience, warmth and humour, turning even challenging rescues into teachable moments.

Her dedication extends to training. Since 2020, Dianne has undertaken 13 WIRES courses to develop her knowledge across species including birds, raptors, possums, gliders, wombats and macropods. As a trainer, she has delivered 2 Rescue and Immediate Care courses locally, introducing new volunteers to WIRES and the fundamentals of wildlife rescue.

Dianne continues to give selflessly, unwilling to let a call for help, for an animal or fellow volunteer in need, go unanswered. Her skill, positivity and generosity have strengthened the branch, empowered volunteers and ensured native wildlife receives the care it deserves. Dianne is truly a hidden treasure.

Jennifer O'Neil, Narara

Mum of 2 and survivor of 3 spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD) heart attacks, Jen is dedicated to raising awareness of SCAD in her local community, supporting other local survivors and raising money for life-saving Australian medical research.

Living on the Central Coast with a toddler and baby, Jen was just 36, with no family history of heart disease, when she had her first heart attack. She was chatting to her husband after a stressful day when she had a pain in her left breast, which she put down to mastitis.

The condition was managed with medication until Jen had a second heart attack while she was at work in 2020, and then a third heart attack a few years later.

Jen has generously shared her heart attack experience in local newspaper *Coast Community News* and on major news sites and current affairs programs including *The Today Show*, *news.com.au*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *A Current Affair*. In addition, Jen has been a guest speaker at Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute fundraisers, and at events in Newcastle.

Despite juggling 2 children and a busy work life, Jen organises an annual fundraiser in Terrigal on the Central Coast. This event, the 5k SCADaddle for Research, does so much more than raise money; it also brings together local survivors, cardiac nurses and media to support other women and raise awareness of SCAD. Through her tireless volunteering, Jen has changed the conversation about heart attacks in her community and saved lives.

Carol Olsen, Goulburn

Carol was born in Goulburn in 1946 to Zelma and Leslie Cambell. She had one sister, Lesley, who died in 2011.

She married Ken Olsen in 1966 and had 3 children, Kylie, Andrew and David. Carol is proud to say she has 9 grandchildren.

In 1961, Carol started working for the Goulburn Group of Building Societies, but left in 1970 to have a baby. In 1984, she returned to work with the Goulburn Agricultural, Pastoral and Horticultural Society and Goulburn Greyhound Racing Club.

In 1987, Carol commenced work with the Roads and Traffic Authority Goulburn Motor Registry. She stayed here until her retirement in 2004. Carol, never one to retire, began volunteering at Rocky Hill War Memorial Museum the same year and is still a dedicated volunteer, keeping very busy cataloguing the museum's vast and significant collection. In 2006, she was successful in becoming a casual Museum Attendant at the museum.

Carol believes being a volunteer is one way of giving back to the community of Goulburn and it is still a highlight of her life. She enjoys the camaraderie with colleagues and is often heard saying 'it's a privilege to work here'.

The stories behind the collection are very poignant at times and we are very grateful that we live in a society that is not as harrowing as wartime.

I would recommend becoming a volunteer to anybody as it is a very rewarding occupation to both the volunteer and the organisation where they volunteer.

Nicole O'Brien, Kiama

Nicole is a quiet achiever whose commitment to the Kiama community is both inspiring and unwavering. She leads the Local and Homegrown Community Hub at the Kiama Show, showcasing local farmers, sustainability, and the importance of supporting our environment. Her passion ensures local producers and community voices are front and centre.

Nicole is also a dedicated volunteer at Kiama Surf Lifesaving Club, serving on the Social Committee to strengthen connections within the club. She's a regular face at school events and proudly supports Kiama Power Australian Football Club – always the first to jump behind the barbecue or lend a hand when help is needed.

Whether it's coordinating community initiatives, promoting local growers or quietly supporting others behind the scenes, Nicole's contribution is genuine and heartfelt. She leads by example and brings people together through kindness, action and a strong sense of community spirit. She is, without a doubt, one of Kiama's Hidden Treasures.

Marjorie Joan Palmer, East Maitland

I nominate Joan for her service to the Maitland and Hunter community. Joan is 101 years old! She moved to Maitland in 1946 as a young schoolteacher and has lived in the Maitland area for 78 years. Joan gave 40 years' service to students of the Hunter in both teaching and principal roles throughout the region, including as Principal of Vacy, Morpeth, Mayfield West and Scone public schools.

Joan was an active member of Legacy from 1949 and is a current Legacy widow. Joan was a foundation member of the Maitland Repertory Society. I am also told that she served in the Australian Women's Land Army. In 1947, Joan joined Maitland Golf Club and that is where she found her home. She was elected as a life member in 1999 after serving on the committee for 18 years – 4 years as President, 9 years as Vice-President and as the Secretary and Handicap Manager. In 2013, Joan was appointed joint patron of Easts Leisure and Golf Club – a position she holds to the present day. Joan ceased golf a few years ago due to deteriorating eyesight. Joan is an amazing lady who is most deserving of this honour for her service.

Cheryl Pearson, Port Macquarie

Cheryl and family moved to Port Macquarie in 1981. In 1984, she commenced at the Garden Village Port Macquarie nursing home as a registered nurse. Her love of the elderly took her from nurse on the floor to Director of Nursing. As the organisation expanded, her role grew to Director of Care Services for 350 people. Cheryl was instrumental in the growth of Garden Village Auxiliary, the fundraising committee of the village. The comfort items and equipment purchased for residents are pivotal to the residents' needs. Cheryl retired in 2010 after 26 years. She then served on the Garden Village board for 10 years.

Cheryl continued with the auxiliary, facilitating events and garage sales to raise much-needed funds. In 2014, an op shop opened in the village, which raised more revenue. Cheryl is Auxiliary President today. Another initiative of the auxiliary is an annual sponsorship to upgrade staff skills. Many have been assisted to attend an Enrolled Nurse course, and a chef's apprenticeship scholarship was awarded last year.

Further initiatives that Cheryl continues to endorse through auxiliary funds are a virtual reality program for aged care residents, furnishing a palliative

care room, AI pain checks, balance mats, a monthly music therapy program, social gatherings for connections within the community and a Men's Shed upgrade to improve mental health. A library upgrade and a furniture emporium have also been established on her watch.

Her care for the community that she now lives in is endless and continues today. Cheryl is most deserving of being called a Hidden Treasure.

Nola Pereira, Wingham

The Wingham Beef Week Committee is very pleased to nominate Nola for this award.

Nola has spent over 35 years working for Whiddon Wingham (formerly Wingham Court), providing meals 5 days a week for the 80 residents.

On top of her work, Nola has generously volunteered for Wingham Beef Week for over 20 years. Her efforts consist of running a team of volunteers (over 20) across the week to cater 3 meals a day for over 400 participants. Nola's generosity and dedication over the past 20 years have led to the financial viability of this annual event, which is now self-sustaining and growing.

Nola is a trusted and valuable set of hands amongst the Beef Week Committee, sharing insights and history about past events to help inform and grow future activities. Nola dedicates an enormous amount of time to the event. She actively trains more volunteers to lead the event in the coming years.

Nola is a selfless leader, growing and supporting the many volunteers for the event and providing a volunteer lunch for all to reflect on the year's event and thank volunteers for their time and efforts.

Without Nola's contribution to Wingham Beef Week over the past 2 decades, the event would certainly not be the success it is today. We are forever grateful for Nola's efforts and believe strongly that recognition with this award is a timely gesture of thanks for her generosity.

Karen Renkema, Lang

Karen's volunteering reflects a clear understanding that at different stages of life we take turns carrying others, and at times need to be carried ourselves.

Her commitment is shaped by lived experience. Karen had a rocky start to life and knows firsthand how much difference it makes when people choose care over indifference. Many of those who supported her were volunteers or workers paid little for demanding roles. Later, time spent working in a refugee camp in northern Kenya sharpened her understanding of injustice and reinforced the importance of not looking away, even when the problems feel overwhelming.

Karen's volunteering spans care, education, environmental protection and democratic participation. Over decades, she has supported people facing addiction, cared for children in foster placements, shared skills through adult education, and volunteered in frontline community services. From the late 1990s onward, she increasingly focused on climate action, biodiversity protection and governance, recognising that political decisions were shaping the future of both people and place.

Since retiring, Karen has dedicated significant time to local advocacy, community consultation, citizen science and civic engagement. During COVID, she co-founded Kiama Community Radio, serving as Chair during its establishment and continuing as Treasurer. The station has become an important platform for local voices, information sharing and community connection.

Karen measures impact in conversations sustained, voices amplified and communities better informed. Her volunteering reflects care paired with courage, and a belief that democracy and community life depend on ordinary people refusing to look away.

Elizabeth Riley, Nulkaba*

Elizabeth, known to many as Liz, is a recognised and renowned national viticulturist, board director, consultant and educator who has dedicated decades to sustainability and oenology. Liz is a multi-award-winning viticultural consultant, establishing her business Vitibit in 2000. She is a board member of several industry boards, including Wine Australia,

Freshcare Ltd, SAAFE CRC and Landcare NSW. She is also an educator at a local college.

Liz's current industry roles include the National Viticulture Biosecurity Committee, Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association (HVWTA), Wine Industry Agrochemical Reference Group and Fungicide Resistance Project. Previously she was a Director for the Australian Wine Research Institute, Vice President (Chair of Research & Development) for the NSW Wine Industry Association and consultant for Wine Australia. Liz has also spent time volunteering for Cessnock District Netball Association, Cessnock Multipurpose Children's Centre, and Hunter Valley Wine Country Landcare.

Liz is widely regarded as a significant member of Australia's wine industry. Her achievements include:

- 2017 Viticulturist of the Year by the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology
- 2020 NSW Department of Primary Industries Graham Gregory Award
- 2021 HVWTA Award for Excellence for her efforts in coordinating the industry's response to smoke taint
- 2022 The Wine Magazine Viticulturist of the Year
- 2023 HVWTA award for Outstanding Contribution by an Individual
- 2023 Wine Communicators of Australia Legend of the Vine Award, where she was honoured for her contributions to the wine industry.

Liz often works quietly behind the scenes; however, her contributions to the wine industry and community are immeasurable and long-lasting.

Shirley Rixon OAM, Merimbula

Shirley is an inspiring and dedicated volunteer with the Heart Foundation Walking program. Since completing cardiac rehabilitation herself, she has led the Sapphire Coast Walkers in Merimbula with energy and compassion for over 12 years. Since 2013, Shirley has completed more than 500 walks, showing extraordinary commitment to the health and wellbeing of her community.

Shirley is passionate about encouraging everyone – regardless of ability or fitness level – to get active. Her inclusive and supportive approach has created a welcoming space where all walkers feel valued. One member

of her group walks with double crutches, while another has achieved significant weight loss with Shirley's ongoing encouragement. She has also supported many cardiac rehab patients as they rebuild strength and confidence.

Group walkers and partnership organisations describe Shirley as friendly, supportive and an uplifting presence. Her leadership has played a vital role in the recovery of cardiac rehab patients and has supported the weight loss journeys of several walkers. She ensures everyone feels welcome, included and empowered to make positive changes in their lives.

Shirley's dedication to the Heart Foundation Walking program and the broader Merimbula community is nothing short of remarkable. She embodies the spirit of volunteerism and is a shining example of how one person can have a lasting impact. I am proud to nominate Shirley for recognition of her outstanding service.

Shirley was born in Pambula, NSW, growing up at Kiah and Eden. She nursed at Bega, married, and has 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. Shirley has volunteered for over 60 years, since she was 6 years of age, across various services and organisations. Shirley was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2022.

Josephine Robinson, Port Macquarie

Jo is a valued volunteer with Omnicare Meals, Kempsey, and has been for a whopping 40 years! Jo first started volunteering in 1985 through her local church, supporting a Meals on Wheels initiative. Since then, Jo has been involved in a wide range of volunteering activities, including supporting disaster recovery efforts from floods to fires, supporting the local museum in Kempsey, catering for various organisations, working in the local Anglicare parish office and the Girls' Friendly Society, and preparing and serving meals for different community groups. In and amongst other volunteering commitments, Jo continues to support Omnicare Meals on Wheels.

Jo is very modest about her enduring contribution to community and acknowledges that her involvement with the Girls' Friendly Society was one of her most challenging but rewarding and joyful experiences. Others have told Jo that she does too much; however, she loves the collegiality of those

she volunteers with and the work itself, and she still manages to prioritise time with family both in NSW and interstate.

We are proud to nominate Josephine (Jo) for the Hidden Treasures Honour Roll, acknowledging her lifelong dedication to volunteering and her significant contribution to communities across NSW and to Omnicare.

Fiona Rynehart, Junee

Fiona was born in Cootamundra and moved to Junee when she married. She has lived in Junee for approximately 40 years and has raised her family here. Fiona worked on the local railway as well as for an accountant and solicitor for many years before retiring 4 years ago. Fiona has been a volunteer for many local community groups over the years, including the local schools where her children attended, the junior rugby league football club and Can Assist, just to name a few.

Fiona has been the President of the Junee Branch of Can Assist for the last 2 years. She has taken on the role to fundraise and support local cancer patients while they are navigating cancer treatment. Fiona has been involved in the organisation of the catering for the Junee Poker Run and Blues Night, where we cater for over 400 people attending a motor bike ride and music night. Fiona also assists with catering at many other local fundraising events. She has also been instrumental in helping a local town start their own Can Assist branch.

Fiona is a hard worker and is always approachable to our team of volunteers and is very deserving of this honour.

Lea Salvestro, Warrawidgee

Lea is an unsung hero who has quietly dedicated herself to our community for over 30 years. Born and bred in Yenda, NSW, Lea trained as a florist, married a local farmer and has 5 children, who are also active in the community. She is a volunteer for Griffith Meals on Wheels, rarely missing a delivery over many decades and being a favourite amongst the vulnerable who rely on the service.

Lea has fundraised for CareFlight, having had her own newborn saved, is involved with the Catholic Church and its associated schools, and is a weekly volunteer for the Griffith Basketball Association. Lea is also one of

the longest-serving Red Cross Telecross callers, dedicating a morning each week to check on the wellbeing of people who are isolated, at risk of an accident or illness and may go unnoticed. For many of those on her list, she is their only contact for the week.

Nicky Schrader, Dunedoo

Nicky has a photography business in the Central West and has gained a huge following of over 13,000 people for her exceptional work photographing weddings, newborns and families. She provides a Christmas photo opportunity for locals at the local showground, and travels from Dunedoo to Bourke to Oberon and everywhere in between for photography. Her photos have been used to promote retail shops and designer clothing as well as in magazines, and she has sponsored both the senior and junior local football club in the form of team and individual photos. Nicky also sponsors the local Dunedoo Show Society, has done photos for Dunedoo and Coolah debutante balls, and sponsored the photos for the football club's presentation night.

Nicky is Vice President of the Dunedoo Junior Rugby League and Netball Club, donating endless hours of support for children's grassroots sport. She is Vice President of the Dunedoo Central School P&C, where she has led the successful Dunedoo White Lunch fundraiser for the last 2 years.

More recently, Nicky has opened a retail clothing and antique store in the main street of Dunedoo to promote local and Australian-made goods and to give Dunedoo a much-needed local service. She is the wife of a local farmer and contributes significantly to this business, located 8 kilometres east of Dunedoo, which her and her husband have run for the last 5 years. She is the mother of 3 children.

Maree Shepherd, Kiama Downs

For over 40 years, Maree has quietly helped others find their voice – both literally and figuratively. As a conductor, community organiser, mentor and volunteer, Maree has inspired confidence, connection and courage in every group she's led.

Maree's love of music began at age 4, performing with her parents' community group. Their example showed her that using your gifts to support others isn't extraordinary – it's simply part of life. That philosophy

has guided decades of service across choirs, community groups, education, social causes, and local government initiatives.

She has conducted community choirs in Sutherland and Kiama, led over 300 events, and was awarded life membership of Sing Australia. When COVID-19 hit, Maree adapted swiftly, hosting weekly Zoom rehearsals and Facebook hubs to keep members connected. Her innovation didn't stop there: she introduced member spotlights, hosted streamed Anzac services and birthday celebrations, and supported the national Sing Australia network. One member described feeling 'energised for days' after a session – a reflection of Maree's commitment to belonging.

Her service goes far beyond music. Maree has been a trusted Justice of the Peace for 2 decades, a mentor for young entrepreneurs, a Probus Club president, and a steady volunteer in IT support, political advocacy, education and aged care. Her work bridges generations and lifts community wellbeing.

Mary Shephard, Mount Russell

Mary was born in Lithgow, raised on a small farm at Ben Bullen and schooled at Cullen Bullen, Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange and All Saints College in Bathurst, leaving at end of year 10 to study a Certificate IV in Wool Classing at Dubbo TAFE. She was married and had 3 girls.

Mary worked in wool classing in central and western NSW as well as in Queensland, while running various businesses and the family farm with her husband. She then worked as a shearers' cook.

Mary's volunteering started at a young age. When she was around 5 years old, she spent summer holidays with an aunt in Parkes, where she would collect used stamps from local businesses for charity. The rest of the week was spent balling yarn for the Presbyterian Women's Church Auxiliary. This is where she learnt to knit and crochet, doing squares for rugs and other small items.

Mary has volunteered with organisations including:

- Cashmere Australis
- Capertee Blue Light Disco
- Lithgow and District Poultry Club

- Lithgow and Portland equestrian clubs
- Lithgow Spinners and Weavers
- Lithgow and Bundarra pony clubs
- Bundarra Lions Club
- Bundarra Sport and Recreation Club
- Lithgow, Portland, Rydal, Sofala, Kando/Rylstone, Bundarra and Inverell shows
- Delungra Working Dogs Committee
- Country Women's Association.

Mary is willing to share her knowledge on many aspects and is a tireless worker for her community.

Rosslyn Sherlock, Lorn

Rosslyn (Ros) has volunteered in numerous positions over the past 30+ years for Maitland Hockey Inc (MHI) and Hunter Hockey Association, including in the role of President for both organisations.

She is currently the Junior Development Officer for MHI and has coached and managed teams including U9, U13, U15 and High School (U18) boys and girls teams. She is the convenor for junior teams, Maitland Park Recreation Board Representative, Turf Committee Representative and Hunter Hockey Association Secretary.

Ros is a tireless volunteer in the promotion and development of junior hockey in the region, which helps to ensure the future of hockey in Maitland for years to come.

She spends a large amount of her free time setting up fields, coaching, and umpiring and organising teams. Ros travels with representative teams, and organises and coordinates many junior carnivals, while coaching and refereeing regularly. Ros also organises the junior medals and trophies, introducing 'Most Improved' awards in 2022 to encourage younger players.

She is a highly regarded primary schoolteacher who taught across the Hunter, Sydney and Wollongong areas over 46 years. After her retirement in 2012, she returned to teaching in a support role. While teaching in the

Hunter, she volunteered to deliver food hampers organised by the local Anglican Church to support families in the school community.

Ros is a highly valued member of the Maitland education and sporting communities and highly recommended for a Hidden Treasures award. She is an inspiration to all who know her, both young and old.

Wendy Tucknott, Tocomwal

Wendy was born in Tocomwal, NSW. She served in the Royal Australian Navy as a Marine Technician from 1992 to 1997. Wendy has been a volunteer with the NSW and Victorian State Emergency Service (SES).

Whilst a member of the NSW SES, Wendy saved a local woman from drowning in the Murray River, earning a NSW Police Commissioner's Commendation. She is also a member of the Berrigan Branch of the Australian Red Cross.

Wendy is passionate about her local community and helping in times of disasters and events, to make the community a safer place.

Kamala Wheeler, Moree

Kamala 'Kam' Wheeler is a remarkable volunteer who has dedicated nearly 40 years of service to the NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES). Born and raised in regional NSW, Kam comes from a proud family tradition of volunteering – her grandfather was an original Civil Defence member, her father also served, and now her own children have followed in her footsteps.

Kam began her volunteer journey as a field member, responding to countless flood emergencies across the state, including some of NSW's most significant flood events. Her unwavering commitment and calm presence in times of crisis have made her a respected leader and mentor within the SES community.

Today, Kam serves as a Cluster Support Officer in the Moree Plains Shire, assisting multiple SES units with their operations. She devotes many hours each week, often daily, to visiting local units, providing hands-on support, training and administrative guidance. Her behind-the-scenes work ensures that units remain well-resourced, compliant and prepared for any emergency.

What sets Kam apart is not only the longevity of her service, but her continuous drive to give back and strengthen her community. Her impact spans generations, both within her own family and among the countless volunteers she's supported and inspired.

Kam's selfless service, leadership and tireless commitment make her a true Hidden Treasure of NSW.

Alicia White, Junee

Alicia has shown incredible dedication and community spirit through her ongoing fundraising efforts for local charity Can Assist. For the past several years, she has been the driving force behind the Junee Ladies Long Lunch, an event that brings the community together in support of local families affected by cancer. Through her hard work, organisation and passion, Alicia has successfully raised close to \$50,000 – an outstanding achievement that has made a meaningful difference to many lives.

As a cancer survivor herself, Alicia has a deep and personal understanding of the challenges faced by those undergoing treatment, as well as the emotional and financial strain it can place on families. Her experience has inspired her to give back and ensure others in similar circumstances receive the support they need. Alicia's efforts have not only provided vital funds to assist with travel, accommodation and treatment costs for local cancer patients, but have also strengthened community connections and awareness around the importance of compassion and care within our rural towns.

Through her commitment and generosity, Alicia continues to embody the spirit of resilience, kindness and community that lies at the heart of Can Assist's mission.

Margaret Whittaker, Albury

Margaret is a well-known Albury local identity. She has taken a leading role volunteering in the Albury community for the past 49 years.

In addition, Margaret is well known in the local and state sporting community as a netball coach, umpire, state selections committee member and state-level umpire.

Margaret has been teaching St John first aid courses as a volunteer for over 30 years. She facilitates an average of one course weekly in Albury as a volunteer first aid trainer and attends community events as a St John Advanced Responder (she has completed 4,489 event frontline volunteer hours from 2003 to 2024).

Margaret is always first to 'get her hands dirty' by volunteering and leading the team by example.

Margaret can be found at Albury's JC King Park every Wednesday night facilitating and setting up for the various netball groups. She is a coach coordinator, runs coaching courses, coaches the representative team, is the team manager for North East Netball Academy, umpires games and is a state talent scout.

Margaret also spends a minimum of 8 hours each week just cleaning the netball courts, toilets and facilities in preparation for the weekday training and weekend games.

In 2012, the Albury netball courts named a court in honour of Margaret's dedication and commitment to netball in the City of Albury.

An average week sees Margaret commit in excess 50 hours in community service – not only in voluntary St John service but also to local and state netball.

Kate Whitworth, Jamberoo

Kate is a passionate music educator and community builder whose volunteer work has touched hundreds of young lives across the Illawarra and beyond. With a deep belief in the power of music to uplift, unite and inspire, Kate has dedicated decades to supporting choirs and music programs that bring meaning and connection to her community.

After seeing the documentary *Wide Open Sky*, Kate was inspired to volunteer with Moorambilla Voices in Baradine. The experience was transformative. Hearing drought-affected families speak about the power of music to keep them going left a lasting impression. Kate returned home determined to bring the same level of artistic integrity and community spirit to the Illawarra.

She went on to establish the Flame Tree Project, commissioning Australian composers to write songs inspired by the Illawarra's landscape and

stories, including partnerships with the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation. The project's first performance remains one of her proudest moments.

Kate has also volunteered as a musical director for regional choirs, community events and festivals, including Voices By The Sea, Illawarra Junior Vocal Ensemble, Southern Stars, and the Wollongong Schools' Choral Festival. Her choirs have performed at the Sydney Opera House, Sydney Town Hall and major local ceremonies.

Kate continues to champion high-quality, inclusive music programs. Her advice to others: 'Find something you care deeply about and be brave enough to begin. The rest will follow.'

Jessy Wiggins, Shoalhaven Heads

Jessy (also known as Clover) has been a dedicated Kiama Girl Guides Leader for at least 3 hours a week, almost every week of the year, since 2013! She welcomes, teaches and supports young Guides members (who range from age 7 to 14) and their families as they build friendships, have fun, try new things, learn lifelong skills and give back to the community.

Jessy is a kind, friendly, fun and patient leader who is always there for the girls. She follows their interests to create a fun, friendly and adventurous calendar of events each term. She gives much of her own time to network with other Guides units, and plan and attend Guides camps, fundraisers, patrol parties and family fun nights, just to name a few.

When Jessy is not volunteering at Kiama Girl Guides, she is helping people through her work, playing in a marching band and enjoying the great outdoors. She is a positive role model for kids and a wonderful person to spend time with.

Monica Wilcox, Lennox Head*

Monica is a dedicated cancer care advocate who has profoundly impacted her community through her work with Cancer Council NSW. She tirelessly champions improved medical services, ensuring that cancer patients have access to high-quality care and support throughout the region. Monica's advocacy focuses on addressing the needs of patients and their families, and striving for equitable access to treatment and resources.

In addition to her advocacy work, Monica is an active member of the Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club, which famously fosters community engagement. Through her involvement with the club, she helps create a welcoming space that promotes health, fitness and community spirit. The club is renowned for its inclusive ethos, encouraging members of all ages and abilities to participate in dragon boating and supporting local causes.

Monica's dual commitment to cancer advocacy and community engagement exemplifies her dedication to enhancing the lives of those around her. By championing improved medical care and fostering a strong sense of community, Monica is making a lasting impact that extends beyond individual patients. Her work not only uplifts cancer patients but also strengthens the bonds within our community, making her an inspiring nominee.

Ebony Wilson, Jamberoo

Ebony's volunteering journey began in 2016, when she started helping in the dairy cattle section at regional shows. What started as lending a hand soon became active service. She supports animal care, show preparation and event logistics, and takes time to mentor younger participants, helping sustain local agricultural events.

In 2017, Ebony entered and won the Albion Park Showgirl competition, stepping into a public role that allowed her to represent young women in agriculture. Through speaking, community engagement and visibility, she challenged outdated ideas about who belongs in farming and showed that leadership can begin early.

Ebony's commitment to volunteering is deeply shaped by her lived experience. As a teenager, she lost her father to suicide. Dairy farming became her anchor. 'Milking cows helped me stand up when my feet couldn't carry me,' she says. That experience now underpins her advocacy for mental health and resilience in agriculture.

Ebony volunteers as the Young Dairy Network leader with Dairy NSW, supporting early-career dairy farmers through connection, shared learning and peer support. As a TAG ambassador, she speaks directly to young people, using her own story to challenge the idea that farming is only for generational families. She volunteers for agricultural education in schools, including delivering engaging presentations and bringing dairy calves into

classrooms to help children understand where their food comes from and build respect for the people and animals behind it.

Still early in her journey, Ebony gives generously, driven by a desire to give back to the industry that gave her purpose and hope.

Jane Wilson, Young

Jane is a tireless wildlife volunteer whose quiet dedication to native animals and her community has spanned more than 2 decades. Before joining WIRES' Weddin-Lachlan Branch in 2009, Jane volunteered with Wildcare Darwin, laying the foundations for a lifelong commitment to wildlife. Since joining WIRES, she has been directly involved in the rescue, rehabilitation and/or release of more than 490 native animals. Each animal represents hours of care, patience and commitment, and Jane's work has given many native animals a second chance.

Jane's contribution extends beyond hands-on rescue. She's completed 24 training courses and plays a significant role in sharing knowledge and building skills among fellow volunteers. Through training and mentoring, Jane ensures that wildlife across the region receives informed, consistent and compassionate care.

Over the years, Jane has held an extraordinary 17 volunteer roles within WIRES' Weddin-Lachlan Branch, including Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. She continues to serve in multiple roles: Treasurer, Branch Management Committee Member, Purchasing Officer, Branch Small Mammals Coordinator, and Branch Trainer. At a state level, she contributes her experience and expertise to the Small Mammals Management Team, developing and improving small mammal rescue and care resources, training and support for the organisation.

Beyond formal roles, Jane has made her own property a wildlife-friendly release site and removed kilometres of barbed wire to protect vulnerable squirrel gliders through a Young District Landcare project. Her long-term, practical actions strengthen wildlife welfare, support healthier local environments, and quietly build a more caring and resilient community.

Joan Wilson, Port Macquarie

Joan is a retired science teacher who spent time teaching in high schools and TAFE around NSW before moving to Port Macquarie in the 1990s. In 1998, Joan was on the local Catchment Management Committee and helped to establish the Port Macquarie Landcare Group. She was actively involved with bush regeneration working bees at this time on many project sites and became the inaugural Secretary on the group's committee.

For nearly 30 years, Joan has continued to volunteer as a bush regenerator and has taken on many committee roles including Secretary and Publicity Officer. As a passionate supporter of Landcare, Joan has always contributed to creating project opportunities, including the restoration of new bushland sites, promotion and education at community events, building partnerships with local conservation groups, and engaging students in local school activities.

One outstanding achievement that Joan initiated and coordinated was a book on the group's history. In 2021, *A history of Port Macquarie Landcare Group 1998–2021* was published. This was a result of thousands of hours of research, consultation and editing by Joan over several years – a process that was interrupted by lockdowns during the pandemic.

Another outstanding achievement that Joan took on was the role of Team Leader for a school program to grow and plant koala food trees. With a funding grant from the state government, Joan prepared and delivered the 'Aussie Kids Growing Koala Food Trees' program in 3 primary schools for the Port Macquarie Landcare Group in partnership with Koala Smart.

Winifred Wilson, Limeburners Creek

Winnie joined the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) 29 years ago as a volunteer firefighter. She has been an active firefighter at local incidents, fires, motor vehicle accidents and community functions, as well as travelling the state and Queensland helping with fire and floods support. In 2002, Winnie was elected as Deputy Captain in her local brigade, Limeburners Creek – a position she still holds.

Winnie is also very involved in community engagement for the whole Mid Coast District, speaking at street meetings, community groups and local shows.

Winnie has been an active member of the Rural Fire Service Association (RFS) since 2003, particularly within the Manning/Great Lakes (now Mid Coast) District as Secretary of Mid Coast and Chair of Division 3. She advocates and assists with the development and promotion of many activities and service standards within the NSW RFS and the RFS. Since 2003, Winnie has vigorously promoted particularly the grants program and has personally assisted countless brigades to prepare and present their grant applications. She leads by example, and her resilience has enabled the association to advocate as it does today.

Winnie was granted life membership to the RFS in 2023 and has proven she is worthy of this with her tireless dedication and devotion to her branch, division and state council, and her inspirational commitment to ensuring the wellbeing of all members.

Winnie is a role model to all NSW RFS members, displaying professionalism in everything she does for the NSW RFS.

Dr Christa Wood, Gerringong*

Christa embodies the spirit of Hidden Treasures through sustained, practical service and a deep belief in community care. Her volunteering started when she offered her accounting skills as Treasurer for Nowra Toastmasters Club. What followed was a lifelong commitment to helping community organisations thrive, grounded in generosity and a strong sense of responsibility.

A defining moment came through Dementia Inclusive Dancing, a program Christa co-founded with her partner, Ray. One participant, Tony, had been living with dementia and had stopped speaking. After weeks of gentle encouragement through music and movement, he began dancing and smiling, and later shared stories of his life and memories his carer had not heard for months. This experience captured the power of inclusive, creative volunteering to unlock connection, dignity and joy.

Christa's approach reflects her upbringing, shaped by kindness and refusal to judge others. Travel and professional experience reinforced her understanding of privilege and strengthened her commitment to giving back. Across rowing, Rotary, community education, arts and ageing advocacy, her contribution has helped organisations remain viable and responsive, supporting healthier and more connected communities.

Alongside extensive volunteering, Christa balances caring for Ray following his Alzheimer's diagnosis, remaining active through administration and program delivery that now benefits him as a participant. She is also a devoted grandmother, often involving her grandchildren in community activities, passing on the values of service by example.

Christa's leadership continues to shape inclusive programs that support seniors, reduce isolation and build community resilience. Her contribution is sustained, thoughtful and deeply human.

Annette Young, Kiama

For more than 5 decades, Annette Young has given her time, energy and care to the Kiama community in ways that are practical and deeply human. Her volunteering began in the late 1960s when she volunteered for Kiama Show Society, helping in the Pavilion in the handicrafts section – a role she has sustained ever since.

Recognition came in 1987 with life membership of the Kiama Tennis Club, an honour Annette describes as humbling because it came from fellow players and committee members. Tennis was one part of a broader commitment that included 21 years as Ladies Competition Secretary and service with the Kiama and Shellharbour District Tennis Association, where she was also awarded life membership.

Annette's approach to volunteering was shaped early by her parents. Her father helped establish the Dapto Citizens Bowling Club, volunteering many hours surveying the site, designing the club badge, and supporting its growth. Both parents later received life membership, setting an example of service that Annette has carried into her own life.

Across organisations such as Meals on Wheels, the Kiama Anglican Church, Inner Wheel, Probus, Friends of Blue Haven Kiama, school canteen volunteering and blood donation, Annette's focus has remained on connection and care.

For Annette, the most rewarding moments come at the Kiama Show, now in its 178th year, watching children and adults light up as they discover they have won a prize. Her service reflects continuity, kindness and a belief that strong communities are built by people who keep showing up.



Volunteering organisations

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

1st Bungendore Scout Group

[1st-bungendore.group.scoutsnsw.com.au/
home](http://1st-bungendore.group.scoutsnsw.com.au/home)

Alchemy Chorus South Coast

facebook.com/alchemychorus

Ausmap.org

ausmap.org

Can Assist Junee Branch

junee@canassist.org.au

Cancer Council NSW

cancercouncil.com.au

Country Women's Association of NSW

cwaofnsw.org.au

Country Women's Association of NSW – Gwydir Group

cwaofnsw.org.au

Country Women's Association of NSW – Lake Cathie-Hastings Branch

[facebook.com/people/CWA-Lake-Cathie-
Hastings-Branch/61567014675725](https://facebook.com/people/CWA-Lake-Cathie-Hastings-Branch/61567014675725)

Country Women's Association of NSW – Maitland

[facebook.com/p/Maitland-
CWA-61567839307343](https://facebook.com/p/Maitland-CWA-61567839307343)

Currawarna Assisted Living

www.currawarna.org

Cycling Without Age Australia Burringbar Chapter

cyclingwithoutage.org.au

Dairy NSW

dairyaustralia.com.au/dairy-nsw

Deniliquin Truck Show and Industry Expo Inc

denitruckshow.com.au

Dubbo Touch Association

dubbotouch.com

Dungog Anglican Church

newcastleanglican.org.au/parish/dungog

Dunedoo Junior Rugby League

[facebook.com/
groups/2011540392428956](https://facebook.com/groups/2011540392428956)

Garden Village Port Macquarie

gardenvillage.com.au

Girl Guides NSW/ACT/NT

girlguides-nswactnt.org.au

Griffith Meals On Wheels

griffithmealsonwheels.org.au

Guide Dogs NSW

nsw.guidedogs.com.au

Hastings Landcare

hastingslandcare.org.au

Heart Foundation

heartfoundation.org.au

**Hunter Valley Wine and
Tourism Association**

winecountry.com.au

Iluka Public School

iluka-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Karuah Pearls Netball Club

facebook.com/karuahpearlset21

Kempsey West Rotary Club

rotary.org/en

Kiama Public School

kiama-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Kiama Show

kiamashow.com.au

Maitland District Netball Association

maitlandnetball.com.au

Maitland Golf Club

golfnsw.org.au/golf-clubs/maitland-golf-club-east-leisure

Maitland Hockey Turf Association Inc

maitlandhockey.org.au

Mary Mac's Place

catholiccareddb.org.au/individual-family-supports/mary-macs-place/

Mercy Health, Albury

health-services.mercyhealth.com.au/our-health-services/mercy-health-albury

Mercy Health, Holbrook

mercyhealth.com.au/contact-us

Mid Coast Outreach Incorporated

mcoi.org.au

NSW Rural Fire Service

rfs.nsw.gov.au

**NSW Rural Fire Service – Camden
Haven Brigade**

rfs.nsw.gov.au

NSW State Emergency Service

ses.nsw.gov.au

**Nyngan Local Aboriginal
Land Council**

alc.org.au/land_council/nyngan

Omnicare Alliance

omnicare.org.au

PCYC Cessnock

pcycnsw.org.au/cessnock

**Port Macquarie
Landcare Group Inc**

landcareportmac.com.au

Primary Ethics

primaryethics.com.au

Rocky Hill War Memorial Museum

rockyhillwarmuseum.com.au

Rotary Club of East Maitland

eastmaitlandrotary.org.au

SCAD Research Inc

scadresearch.com.au

St John (NSW)

stjohnnsw.com.au

The Backpack Venture

facebook.com/thebackpackventure

The Everyday Table

generocitychurch.com.au

The Ranch Wagga Wagga

theranchwagga.com/

UNISONg Community Choir Inc

waggawomenschoir.com.au

WIRES

wires.org.au

Wingham Beef Week

winghambeefweek.com.au

Honour Roll 2010–2025



2010

Alison Banks, Orange
Clarice Beileiter, Tarago
Jan Bof, Goulburn
Prudence Carpenter, Bowral
Carla Cowles, Mt Hope
Maria Curtis, Tamworth
Pauline Davidson, Milvale
Robyne Davis, Tamworth
Colleen Day, Goulburn
Alvena Ferguson, Laurieton
Lisa Foley, Estella
Shareen Gleeson, Queanbeyan
Michel Harbourn, Kangaroo Creek
Shirley Johnston, Bourke
Kerry Jolley, Lismore
Robyn Kensit, Crookwell
Sylvia Kilroy, Woodburn
Tina Kipp, Albury
Yvonne MacRae, Orange
Kay Martin, Mt Lambie
Leah Masters, East Maitland
Betty McCabe, Barmedman
Thalia McPherson, MacLean
Kerry Palmer, Dubbo
Veronica Pansaru, Kingscliff
Sonia (Aunt Sony) Piper, Brungle
Carol Purnell, Kingscliff
Marsha Reilly, Wagga Wagga
Jan Roberts, Wagga Wagga
Audrey Robinson, Yamba

Lynne Robinson, Botobolar
Fiona Rossiter, Orange
Beryl Seears, Cooma
Colleen Smith, Deepwater
Peggy Smith, Quirindi
Sharon Snelson, Cobar
Lynne Strong, Jamberoo
Lorraine Thomas, Wagga Wagga
Cheryl Vines, Curlwaa
Vivien Ware, Junction Hill
Amanda Woodhouse, Berridale
Breanda Writer, Goulburn

2011

Jo Allen, Nowra
Shanelle Anderson, Jerrys Plains
Eleanor Armstrong, Orange
Joyce Bailey, Rylstone
Lynn Baker, Bingara
Leanne Barrett, Gloucester
Deb Batchelor, Gunnedah
Denise Beu, Nowra Hill
Rae Bicknell, Yass
Constance Binks, Mittagong
Penny Boydell, Moree
Joan Bray, Kangaroo Valley
Annette Bromfield, Yetholme
Helen Brown, Suffolk Park
Martha Brown, Orange
Gail Butt, Monteagle
Rosemary Byers, Ashley

Felicity Cahill, Drake
Jenny Callanan, Callala Bay
Judy Clark, Cessnock
Norma Clarke, Cootamundra
Sister Mary Clement, Mudgee
Jean Coady, Tamworth
Joan Compagnoni, Robertson
Audree Dash, Terrigal
Kate Davis, Dubbo
Cathryn Dawes, Pomona
Frances Day, Lockhart
Marilyn Dixon, Bingara
Susanne Dixon, Kelso
Jeanette Dodge, Kiama
Dorothy Every, Ben Lomond
Annette Fisher, Gulargambone
Kelly Foran, Boggabri
Gwen Frazier, Wagga Wagga
Colleen Fuller, Gunnedah
Rhonda Gallagher, Moree
Helen Gee, Armidale
May Gill, Kempsey
Leila Gillies, Werris Creek
May Goodear, Howlong
Paula Gray, Gooloogong
Anna Habeck, Kiama
Joan Harvey, Ulladulla
Anne Hastings, Grafton
Gail Hayden, Orange
Noeleen Hazell, Bookham
Elaine Heskett, Mossy Point

Julie Ho, Port Macquarie
Marie Hoffmann, Table Top
Nola Honeysett, Dubbo
Sharon Howden Howett, Gunnedah
Wendy Huddleston, Armidale
Wendy Hughes, Gloucester
Laurel Hull, Forbes
Sharon Huon, Cobar
Noeleen Iffland, Orange
Janette Jackson, Lovedale
Dominique Jacobs, Gloucester
Daphne Jermyn, Cobar
Judy Jones, Orange
Phyllis Jones, Hay
Tracey Jones, Tumut
Margaret Kay, Tweed Heads
Annie Kelly, Orange
Michelle Kendall, Dubbo
Jeanette Kennedy, Ballina
Jessie Kincaid, Jindera
Rita Kurtz, Mudgee
Marcia LeBusque, Fortis Creek
Lynda Leslie, Maclean
Sue Litchfield, Numeralla
June Luscombe, Kangaroo Valley
Raewyn Macky, Yarranbella
Margaret Maguire, Forbes
Elizabeth Markey, Coonamble
Prue McCarthy, Orange
Betty McDonald, Lidster
Nicola McDonald, Dorrigo

Robynne McGinley, Macksville
Julie McLachlan, Pallamallawa
Margaret McNeil, Holbrook
Marilyn McPherson, Holbrook
Joyce Moore, Grafton
Chris Moss, Spring Ridge
Jean Muggleton, Inverell
Virginia Mulcahy, Scone
Margaret Norris, Orange
Ruth Offer, Tenterfield
Winifred Oslear, Willow Vale
Brenda Pankhurst, Bingara
Margaret Parslow, Griffith
Julie Peck, Orange
Charmaine Potter, Yetman
Jean Preston, Delegate
Betti Punnett, Cootamundra
Norma Raymond, Sanctuary Point
Robyn Reynolds, Pambula
Marie Rheinberger, Yamba
Carolyn Rice, Parkes
Linda Riley, Mungindi
Kimberley Rixon, Gunnedah
Gill Robinson, Michelago
Pippa Robinson, Tibbuc
June Rollan, Long Flat
Shirley Rundell, Huskisson
Skye Rush, Narromine
Jenny Sams, Orange
Sandra Scammell Hill, Howlong
Bev Schornegg, Adaminaby

Beryl Semmler, Holbrook
Leonie Sinclair, Culburra Beach
Tricia Stack, Deepwater
Kym Stanford, Mungindi
Barbara Steffensen, Lismore
June Stevens, Nowra
Dorothy Sullivan, Casino
Loo Taylor, Beaumont
Susanne Taylor, Woollamia
Bev Thornton, Willow Tree
Coral Tierney, Holsworthy
Ellen Townsend, Hay
Helen Trustum, Bentley
June Tupper, Orange
Joan Turnbull, Lakewood
Fay Turner, Yetholme
Velma Walker, Vincentia
Shirley Waller, Kings Creek
Tracey Walton, Wauchope
Catherine Warburton, Beneree
Lyn Webster, Nyngan
Sandra Webster, Bomaderry
Norma White, Kingstown
Hazel Winkler, Orange
Betty Winzer, Holbrook
Lois Wood, Goulburn
Marj Wotherspoon, Kurri Kurri
Sarah Wren, Quirindi
Helen Wynd, Goonellabah
Berenice Youngman, Molong

2012

Beth Hamilton, Inverell
Jacque Abbott, Tichborne
Lyn Heidtmann, Adaminaby
Virginia Anderson, Balickera
Julie Heiler, Boggabri
Marie Bartlett, Gloucester
Pam Hewitt, Boguee
Erica Barwell, Uralla
Maureen Hickson, Moree
Pam Bothwell, Cessnock
Marjorie Hill, Hillston
Lorraine Bruce, Wards River
Cynthia Homes, Grenwell Point
Trudy Burgess, Bega
Mhora Houston, Weemelah
Dorothy Burns, Copmanhurst
Lee-Anne Hughston, Wanaaring
Stephanie Cameron, Tamworth
Gillian James, Wollombi
Hazel Camerson, Walcha
Denise Jelbart, Forbes
Margaret Campbell, West Kempsey
Bronnie Johnson, Murrurundi
Valerie Cannon, Peak Hill
Marjorie Johnson, Eungai Creek
Rebecca Caslick, Murrurundi
Patricia Johnson, Hillston
Dot Cattell, Inverell
Gail Johnston, Woodberry
Fay Cone, Stewarts Brook

Pix Jonasson, Port Macquarie
Marie Constable, Tamworth
Lois Judd, Adaminaby
Carolyn Cornell, Forbes
Anne Kennedy, Coonamble
Rhonda Death, Walcha Margaret
Kiehne, Dundee
Dianne Decker, Forbes
Carmel La Rocca, Griffith
Lorraine Dunkley, Lyndhurst
Lynne Lahey, Wattle Flat
Joy Eagle, Barham
Catherine Lane, Griffith
Lorraine Eckersley, South Tamworth
Narelle Langfield, Tamworth
Lee Estens, Moree
Helen Langham, Blayney
Norma Everett, Gloucester
Pamela Lees, Gunning
Di Fellows, Myrtle Creek
Cheryl Lewin, Alstonville
Kylie Galbraith, Quirindi
Margaret Livermore, Manildra
Norma Garment, Parkes
Raewyn Macky, Yarranbella
Elaine Gilboy Towner, Armidale
Marj Manuel, Inverell
Robyn Gill, Lovedale
Helen Marsh, Bathurst
Sharon Griffiths, Redbank
Beth Masterman OAM, Pelaw Main

Liz Mathews, Parkes
Helen McClelland, Abermain
Heather McCloy, Kyogle
Gail Meyers, Gilgandra
Jan Miller, Baradine
Thelma Mitchell, Hillston
Bette Montgomery, Moree
Barbara Moore, Gleniffer
Sharyn Munro, Upper Hunter
Rosemary Nankivell, Quirindi
Joanna Newton, Armidale
Jacqui Page, Bowral
Pamela Pavey, Tamworth
Marlene Pennings, The Entrance
Noelene Phillips, Bathurst
Shalini Pratap, Tamworth
Joyce Purtle, Linburn
Michele Quigley, Forbes
Elvy Quirk, Forbes
Donna Rath, Mt Rankin
Joan Redfern, Coonabarabran
Janine Reed, Utungun
Katrina Rendell, Barrington
Barbara Roach, Gwandlan
Marjorie Robertson, Armidale
Patricia Rodd, Tumut
Del Ross, Ardglan
Judy Ruge, Forbes
Shirley Russell, Lyndhurst
Kerryn Ryan, Coonamble
Betty Scanlon, Hillston

Emma Scholz, Culcairn
Yvonne Shaw, Forbes
Daphne Simmons, Kelso
Juidth Simos, Scone
Margaret Sivyver OAM, East Gresford
Joyce Skinner, Coraki
Linda Squire, Adaminaby
Maree Statham, Portland
Sue Steele, South Grafton
Marie Steer, Berrigan
Marnie Stewart, Cooma
Valmai Sullivan, Largs
Kate Thompson, Gooloogong
Michelle Thornley, St Georges Basin
Cheryl Timmins, Croppa Creek
Janelle Tongue, Loomberah
Joan Treweeke, Angledool
Sheila Turnbull, Cessnock
Hilary Turner, Willow Tree
Louise Turner, Willow Tree
Henny Wagenaar, Ourimbah
Lyn Wallin, North Nowra
Marjorie Ward, Merriwa
Wendy Wedge, Bowraville
Nicole Wells, Cabarita Beach
Catherine Westley, Wellington
Coral White, Elsmore
Wendy Wilcox, Portland
Jennie Wilkinson, Bolwarra
Mary Wood, Hillston
Shirley Wood, Leeton

Isabell Wooden, Wagga Wagga

Vicki Woods, Largs

Pam Youman, Guyra

2013

Dorothy Ambrose, Corowa

Danielle Anderson, Wellington

Aunty Bea Ballangarry, Toormina

Beryl Bates, Grampion Hills

Margaret Baxter, Bogee

Helen Bennett, Tinonee

Ali Bigg, Port Macquarie

Rebel Black, Lightning Ridge

Sue-Ann Bramich, Tumbarumba

Aunty Muriel Burns, Maclean

Robin Butler, Ulladulla

Carolyn Carter, Mylestom

Boudicca Cerese, Lismore

Joanne Chaffey, Brunswick Heads

Nicola Chirlan, Willow Tree

Shannan Clark, Stuart Town

Kellye-Anne Coleman, Temora

Noni Collins, Port Macquarie

Robyn Coombes, Beechwood

Carol Cornish, Orange

Temple Cornish, Orange

Leanne Croker, Rugby

Bettina Cummins, Scone

Corina Deneve, Numbugga

Marion Dickens, Berrigan

Jane Dunn, Harrington

Joy Dwight, Morongla

Gladys Eldridge, Nyngan

Elsie (Joan) Evans, Cobar

Lynne Fairhall, Metford

Marlene Farrell, Orange

Pat Fitzpatrick, Orange

Margaret Flannery, Dungog

Anne-Maree Fohrman, Albion Park

Wendy Forsyth, Croppa Creek

Amy Hart, Peak Hill

Ann-Maree Hartley, Dubbo

Joy Hogan, South Grafton

Nola Honeysett, Dubbo

Christine Hooper, Goodooga

Pix Jonasson, Port Macquarie

Lyn Jupp, Gresford

Anne Kingston, Lowesdale

Megan Kuhn, Bundella

Sarah Last, Muttama

Jay Leigh, Young

Julie Lorimer, Gloucester

Kim Manton, Wagga Wagga

Merylin Mason, Stuarts Point

Jessie McFarlane, Tenterfield

Robynne McGinley, Macksville

Fiona Miron, Armidale

Jill Mitchell, Bathurst

Lorraine Montgomery, Berry

Patsy Nagus, Geneva

Lorraine Oates, Mullion Creek

Narelle Ober OAM, Burrill Lake

Maureen O'Donnell, Broken Hill
 Charlotte Orchard, Wongarbon
 Denise (Karyl) Osborne, Jindera
 Lynda Petty, Tumblong
 Pauline Plant, Yamba
 Gwen Porter, Harrington
 Louella Poulsen, Port Macquarie
 Donna Pumpa, Nyngan
 Elaine Robinson, Mullumbimby
 Kerrie Savins, Bowraville
 Mary Saxon, Tamworth
 Faye Scherf, Lismore
 Ann Schneider, Billinudgel
 Sue Schneider, Osborne
 Edna Sharp, Orange
 Penelope Sheppard, Coleambally
 Norelle Smith, Coolamon
 Elizabeth (Betty) Somers, Parkes
 Tennille Stapleton, Harwood
 Mollie Strong, Byron Bay
 Catherine (Lucy) Sweeney, Jerilderie
 Sue Szumowski, Inverell
 Jodie Thomas, Temora
 Rebecca Thompson, Greenwell Point
 Ruth Thompson, Greenwell Point
 Sarah Thompson, Merriwa
 Bev Thorpe, Sanctuary Point
 Pamela Toovey, Mudgee
 Lynette Vidler, Meadow Flat
 Wendy Wedge, Bowraville
 Kim Weller, Yanco

Sandy Wells, Collombatti
 Georgia Westcott, Peak Hill
 Tracy Wilkinson, Shadforth
 Adrienne Wilson, Griffith
 Heather Winch, Lower Macdonald
 Zelma Windley, Chinderah
 Judith (Judie) Winter, Eucumbene Cove
 Irene Worth, Bulahdelah

2014

Elizabeth Allen OAM, Dubbo
 Norma Allen, Cobargo
 Val Anderson, Broken Hill
 Wendy Anderson, Rankins Springs
 Kay Arthur, Glen Innes
 Valerie Audet, Taree
 Janine Ball, Grafton
 Robyne Bancroft, Copmanhurst
 Judith Barber, Howlong
 Fay Barraclough, Broken Hill
 Mieke Bell, Lindendale
 Joyce Bell OAM, Yamba
 Daphne Betts, Cobar
 Mary Beven, Broken Hill
 Daphne Biggs, Menindee
 Leanne Blessington, Warialda
 Shelley Boyce, Bowral
 Hazel Bridgett, Rous Mill
 Valmai Brill, Ganmain
 Barbara Brown, Tenterfield
 Beth Brown, Narrabri

Linda Bruce, Glen Innes
Carol Bryant, Mudgee
Annette Byrne, Broken Hill
Anne Caldwell, Congarinni
Susie Cay, Corowa
Cheryl Chalker, Taralga
Susan Collings, Merriwa
Marie Coombe, Broken Hill
Anna Corby, Nyngan
Allyson Costanzo OAM, Port Macquarie
Lynette Cregan, Glen Innes
Doreen Cupitt, Iluka
Barbara Cuthbert, Tatton
Gay Daley, Parkes
Christine Dedobelaar, Parkes
Myra Dempster, Broken Hill
Shirley Donald, Glen Innes
Deborah Donaldson, Uralla
Ilene Fahey, Lismore
Margaret Ferguson, Putty
Jennifer Filmer OAM, The Angle
Coral Ford, Broken Hill
Yvonne Forsyth, Cootamundra
Val Foster, Murwillumbah
Lynne Gall, Broken Hill
Valerie George OAM, Lapstone
Ruth Gorton OAM, Keinbah
Jodie Greenhalgh, Eugowra
Fay Hackett, Kyogle
Gwen Hallam, Yetman
Muriel Halsted, Scone

Margaret Hanrahan OAM, Corowa
Leonie Hansen, Tamworth
Rosemary Harris OAM, Oberon
June Henderson, Orange
Wilma Hepburn, Forbes
Maryann Herbert, Corowa
Kate Herring, Broken Hill
Iris Herrmann, Leeton
Diana Hoffman, Broken Hill
Leisa Hoffman, Ballina
Naomi Hogan, Hamilton
Michelle Houldcroft, Garah
Kath Howard, Murrurundi
Jamilla Hume, Broken Hill
Marilyn Jennings, Coolamon
Christina Johansson, Narrabri
Sue Jurd, Tenterfield
Katherine Kennedy, Adaminaby
Raelene Kennewell, Broken Hill
Gwen Kent, Tuckombil
Rae Lalor, Ulladulla
Margaret Lang, Taralga
Cynthia Langford, Broken Hill
Darlene Lawler, Forbes
Mary Leehane, Broken Hill
Alba Linklater, Tucabia
Pamela Lord OAM, Broken Hill
Julie Lyford OAM, Gloucester
Sharon MacKay, Broken Hill
Elizabeth Mackinnon, East Jindabyne
Lynne Mahony, Murrurundi

Joanne Marr, Werris Creek
Karen McAllister, Glen Innes
Margaret McConnaughty, Gwabegar
Kerry McDonald, Warialda
Margaret McFarlane, Orange
Helen McKelvie, Coolamon
Dana McLean, Taralga
Roslyn McLoughlin, Gunning
Anne McNally, Cootamundra
Sam McNally, Cootamundra
Maggie McPhail, Forbes
Sharon Meere, Boorowa
Jenny Mitchell OAM, North Star
Leisa Moody, Binda
Annette Moxon, Bathurst
Dorothy Mullaney, Bega Lucy
Needham, Blayney
Molly Neilsen, Forbes
Jann O'Connor, Ballina
Mary O'Neill, Merriwa
Hannah Orr, Cootamundra
Helen Parsons, Gloucester
Cheryl Payten, Coleambally
Beryl Pepper, Mullumbimby
Josie Peter, Broken Hill
Maxine Prestwich, Broken Hill
Daphne Prior, Forbes
Nell Pyle OAM, Bolwarra Heights
Lisa Ramien, Mudgee
Heather Ranclaud, Willow Tree
Rosemary Reed, Tocumwal

Robyn Reid, Berridale
Juanne Reynolds, Broken Hill
Olwyn Reynolds, Broken Hill
Carol Ridgeway-Bissett, Nelson Bay
Thelma Ryan OAM, Berrigan
Debbie Saad, Thirlmere
Andrea Sauerbier, Mudgee
Debbie Schache, Bathurst
Elizabeth Seckold, Tathra
Gwen Shawcross, Anglers Reach
Vickii Simpson, Coomba Park
Kathleen Sinnott, Banora Point
Genevieve Smith, Wagga Wagga
Clare Smulders, Howlong
Barbara Swain, Alstonville
Margaret Symes, Broken Hill
Marion Tanner, Blandford
Pat Tate, Wootton
Catherine Thompson, Temora
Jan Tobin, Tweed Heads
Susan Tomkins, Orange
Rosemary Toscano, Nelson Bay
Jenny Treloar, Broken Hill
Shirley Tunnickliff, Rylstone
Belinda Turner, Bowning
Dorothy Turner, Orange
Clare Twomey, North Lismore
Bernadette Underwood, Baradine
Alison Uphill, Forbes
Maree Vanlierop, Forest Hill
Julie Virtue, Forbes

Beth White, Ben Lomond
Di Williams, Cootamundra
Margaret Wilson, Broken Hill
Christina Woodhead, Alstonville
Kym Wooding, Hay
Renae Worboys, Cootamundra
Nellie Workman, Kurri Kurri
Judith Wright, Bellbird

2015

Danielle Anderson, Wellington
Carrol Baker, Main Creek
Olga Balestri, Bargo
Veronica Barry, Narrandera
Carolyn Bellman, Croppa Creek
Anne Bolan, Goonellabah
Kay Bolton, Fingal Head
Vanessa Bourne, Tamworth
Catherine Boyd, South Tweed Heads
Sherryl Broderick, Crookwell
Lesley Callcott, Tamworth
Katrine Capps, Cowra
Caron Casey, Goulburn
Gail Clarke, Nimbin
Peg Clifton, Forbes
Dianne Collier, Tweed Heads
Linda Cook, Coramba
Rae Cooper, Byron Bay
Trudy Cooper, Deepwater
Jayne Cronin, Merriwa
Francis Crown, Canyonleigh

Beryl Currie, Kyogle
Anne Davies, Scone
Jean Davies, Murrurundi
Joyce Davies, Ulmarra
Kathleen Davies, Lavadia
Megan Davies, Narrabri
Amorelle Dempster, Maitland
Nancy Dimech, Picton
Angela Doering, Crooble
Betty Dunn, Tamworth
Elisabeth Edwards, Coffs Harbour
Joyce Edwards, South West Rocks
Elizabeth Ellis, Penrose
Carolyn Farrow, Murrurundi
Roxayne Felton, Coramba
Helen Fenning, Buxton
Judith Fountain, Crookwell
Narelle Fuller, South Kempsey
Trish Galloway, Wagga Wagga
Jo Gibson, Ellalong
Sally Harris, Willow Tree
Janice Haynes, Howlong
Julie Herridge, Forbes
Annamaria Hctor, Mollymook
Margaret Hodgson OAM, Copmanhurst
Anne Hopwood OAM, Orange
Betty Hopwood, East Kempsey
Coleen Houston OAM, Hay
Beverly Hughes, Narrandera
Cheryl Hunter, St Georges Basin
Lana Ivanshanko, Conjola Park

Carole Johnston, Aberdeen
 Margaret Jopling, Aldavilla
 Carole Keast, Tweed Heads South
 Anne Kelly, East Maitland
 Joy Kim, Woongarra
 Muriel King, Scone
 Patricia Lawler, Lightning Ridge
 Laurel Leabeater, Lyndhurst
 Susan Lewis, Scone
 Yvonne Lightfood, Glen Innes
 Kathleen Lonergan, Cootamundra
 Peta Luke, Merriwa
 Heather Mann, Forbes
 Marilyn McGregor, Tamworth
 Joan McNaughton, Cessnock
 Myra McPhie, Berridale
 Pamela McRae, Suffolk Park
 Katrina Moffat, Forster
 Leisa Moody, Binda
 Helen Mortimore, Bathurst
 Erica Nelson, Port Macquarie
 Kylie Parry, Coonamble
 Gillian Paterson, Murrurundi
 Nikki Patten, Forbes
 Elizabeth Philpott, Boambee East
 Jean Price, Merriwa
 Rhonda Richardson OAM, Trangie
 Elizabeth Ross-Ward, Tamworth
 Ann Sansom, Gloucester
 Pam Saunderson-McLeay, Scone
 Robin Sevenoaks, Berridale

Narelle Shaw, Forbes
 Janine Slater, Ocean Shores
 Carol Stanley, Coonamble
 Paula Starkey, Coraki
 Genevieve Starr, Dalton
 Sylvia Stevens, Narrandera
 Dawn Studdert, Dungog
 Rikki Toi, Coraki
 Liesel Turnbull, St Georges Basin
 Merryn Twemlow, Armidale
 Sue Uphill, Forbes
 Rosemary Van Bergen, Wilton
 Rachel Walker, Young
 Tracey Warner, Wingen
 Jean Watson, Cessnock
 Margaret Whatman, Glenquarry
 Sue White, Wagga Wagga
 Gwyn Whitley, Willow Tree
 Elizabeth Wilson, Berrigan
 Lesley Wood, Mandemar
 Kym Wooding, Hay
 Maree Yapp, Forbes
 Judy York, Aaminaby

2016

Christine Adams, Broken Hill
 Jude Ahearn, Pottsville
 Diana Akers, Woy Woy
 Carole Bayley, Wongarbon
 Beverley Belt, Tamworth
 Lois Blake, Tumbarumba

Vicki Blinman, Manilla
Eleanor Blows, Broken Hill
Natalie Bramble, Dubbo
Fay Brandon, Nowra
Christine Bryant, Repton
Marea Buist, Yamba
Kay Burton, Springwood
Amelia Butler, Broken Hill
Lynnette Butterfield, Oberson
Kristen Clancy, Narrandera
Charmaine Collins, Broken Hill
Jackie Corby, Taralga
Noelene Cosgrove, Taralga
Nancy Cowley, Kyogle
Janet Daley, Broken Hill
Julie Dowleans, Wee Waa
Cathy Duncan, Moree
Maureen Faviell, Braidwood
Louise Fisk, Hillston
Linda Fittler, Werris Creek
Mary Gaston, Yetman
Glenda Gibson, Manildra
Julie Gittoes, Guyra
Marion Gosper OAM, Cudal
Martha Gouniai, Broken Hill
Irene Hancock, Murringo
Kerry Heather, Ulladulla
Sharon Hibbens, Wee Waa
Marion Hockey, Cootamundra
Thelma Hodgson, Copmanhurst
June Howard, Gwandalan

Nicole Howden, Cowra
Patricia Hughes, Bundanoon
Janette Hyde, Port Macquarie
Ida Jarvis, Goulburn
Elaine Johns, Broken Hill
Janice Jones, Moss Vale
Karen Kemp, Broken Hill
Janice Lang, Ewingsdale
Marlee Langfield, Cowra
Helen Leamon, Tamworth
Janice Limn, Cessnock
Jean Lloyd, Goulburn
Patricia Maclaren-Smith, East Lismore
Susan Maisey, Armidale
Beryl Manion, Quirindi
Elizabeth McGregor, Muttama
Heather McLaren, Lochinvar
Cheryl Meuret, Broken Hill
Jenny Middleton, Canowindra
Josie Middleton, Narrandera
Anika Molesworth, Broken Hill
Anita Morrison, Forbes
Marion Murray, Coonamble
Desley Newell, Boorowa
Carrie Oakley, Broken Hill
Katrina O'Brien, Cootamundra
Denise Perry, Bigga
Fay Pithie, Ulladulla
Louella Polson, Port Macquarie
Judith Prenzel, Broken Hill
Dianne Roche, Nymagee

Betty Scanlon, Hillston
 Iris Schofield, Narrandera
 Ellen Seaman, Crookwell
 Gill Shepherd, Tarago
 Shirley Shoemark, Braidwood
 Jeanette Simpson, Taralga
 Denise Slingsby, South Grafton
 Robyn Styles, Tambar Springs
 Lesley Sumsion, Broken Hill
 Dawn Sword, Lennox Head
 Patricia Templeton, Byron Bay
 Lorraine Tindall, Raworth
 Liz Tomlinson, Narrabri
 Ruth Trappel, Bolwarra
 Joan Tye, North Nowra
 Beatrice Voysey, Merriwa
 Margaret (June) Walker, Ben Lomond
 Jean Warburton, Kyogle
 Laurel Whitby, Merriwa
 Marion Wilkins OAM, Aberdeen
 Colleen Wills, Quirindi
 Yvonne Woodcock, Lightning Ridge

2017

Kim Allwood, Dungog
 Iris Barry, Yetman
 Kimberley Beattie, Narrandera
 Suzanne Bibby, Cassilis
 Marie Blundell, Quirindi
 Beryl Brain, Grong Grong
 Tracey Briggs, Wallabadah

Jo-Louise Brown, Cobar
 Kim Brown, Parkville
 Barbara Campbell, Merriwa
 Stacie Carroll, Yanco
 Jane Carter, Narrandera
 Narelle Chaffey, Somerton
 Veronica Chandler, Coonamble
 Judy Charlton, Narrandera
 Joan Clancy, Gillenbah
 Joy Coggan, Jugiong
 Natalie Cole, Turondale
 Margaret Dekkers, Manilla
 Kathy Denning, Cowra
 Lisa Duerinckx, Repton
 Suzanne Duggan, Merriwa
 Patricia Ford, Goulburn
 Dorothy Foster, Deervale
 Shirley Fowler, Wauchope
 Freida Frankham, Cessnock
 Tammy Galvin, Narrandera
 Margaret Gilligan, Brewarrina
 Stephanie Greacen, Sawtell
 Sally Green, Mandurama
 Francene Halliger, Quirindi
 Dianne Hand, Deniliquin
 Sandra Harlor, Warragamba
 Kirsty Harris, Moulamein
 Jane Harrison, Ellangowan
 Roxy Heckendorf, Narrandera
 Barbara Heckman, Windella
 Margaret Hocking, Narrandera

Marie Hoffman OAM, Wellington
Vanessa Hoffman, Narrandera
Kay Hopton, Scone
Joanne Horne, Wee Waa
Lyndall Horne, Berrigan
Susan Howland, Yamba
Patricia Hughes, Coraki
Sharon Hutchinson, Narrandera
Shirley Jensen, Narrandera
Sue Jogeever, Port Macquarie
Simone Jolliffe, Euberta
Janice Kapeen, Coraki
Vanessa Kapeen, Coraki
Jodie King, Temora
Julie Knight, Bourke
Mary-Anne Lattimore, Narrandera
Carolle Leach, Colinroobie
Charmaine Lee, Leeton
Gwen Lee, Narrandera
June Lennard, Cessnock
Merilyn Limbrick, Wagga Wagga
Norma Little, Geneva
Noeline Lummis, Curban
Anna Madden, Wee Waa
Kathy Mahy, Narrandera
Marilyn Manning, Narrandera
Josie Marks, Narrandera
Shirley Marks, Gilgandra
Virginia Marshall, Bowral
Nadine Mattiske, Wirrinya
Dorothy McCabe, Goulburn

Fran McDonald, Narrandera
Fran McLaughlin, Narrandera
Sheila McNamara, Quirindi
Gwen Meyer, Sandy Hollow
Ann Murray, Manildra
Judy Mussared, Minnie Water
Leonie Napier, Yanco
Jo-anne Newberry, Tamworth
Kerry O'Connor, Coraki
Margaret O'Connor, Tamworth
Tania Peene, Maclean
Marion Phelps, Kyogle
Ellen Pippin, Ivanhoe
Carla Pittman, Dubbo
Jennifer Potts, Ballina
Roslyn Press, Geurie
Lee Reavley, Narrandera
Teena Redman, Woodburn
Sharyn Rowlands, Narrandera
Jodie Ryan, Yanco
Naomi Schmidt, Silverton
Joy Schulz, The Rock
Ruth Shanks, Dubbo
Lola Shearer, Moree
Joan Smedley, Evans Head
Pip Smith, Wellington
Kerry Sproston, Narrandera
Robyn Stockdale, Corobimilla
Rae Stove, Merimbula
Frances Wallace, Quirindi
Barbara Warburton, Broken Hill

Margaret Waters, Armidale
Sybil Watson, Ingleburn Jodie
Wilton, Cassilis

2018

Beverley Absolom, Narrandera
Bernadette Allport, North Star
Caro-anne Badcock, Wooton
Susan Barnett, Croppa Creek
Kylie Benge, Moree
Joy Beruter, Tumut
Sharon Bishop, Picton
May Blacka OAM, Cobargo
Jill Blackman, Tooraweenah
Leonie Blain, Grafton
Natasha Blenkinsopp, Robertson
Carol Bonamy, Mclean Ridges
Betty Bradney, Narrandera
Julie Briggs, Narrandera
Krishna Burns, Sofala
Eileen Cameron, Eden
Robyn Claibourne, Narrandera
Jenny Clarke OAM, Narrandera
Kim Clysdale, Merriwa
Natasha Collins, Urunga
June Day, Moobi
Kylie Dunne, Crabbes Creek
Geraldine Dyer, Bombala
Louiza Egan, Crabbes Creek
Nerida Ellem, Kangaroo Creek
Genevieve Elliott, Mount Mitchell

Rose Field, Woombah
Navanka Fletcher, Glen Innes
Kathleen Foster, Narrandera
Lyn Frecklington, Peak Hill
Jan Frikken, Batemans Bay
Margaret Gaal, Bathurst
Linda Gant, Cassilis
Ingrid Gardiner, Coffs Harbour
June Gardner, Lambs Valley
Diane Gill, Canowindra
Heather Gilmour, Warialda
Mara Grills, Guyra
Margaret Harvey, Wallalong
Katie Hazelton, Cudal
Michelle Hinchcliffe, Orange
Rosalind Hinde, Mittagong
Margaret Hulbert, Crabbes Creek
Joyleen Hutchins, Narrandera
Amanda Johnston, Scone
Margot Jolly, Parkes
Prue Kelly, Bega
Chantal Kemsley, Glenreagh
Jacqui Keyes, Crabbes Creek
Sue Killham, Leeton
Louise Krieger, Orange
Joanne Lewis, Lidster
Tracey Lewis, Narrandera
Robyn Madden, Crabbes Creek
Tanyia McBride, Booral
Linda Milne, Berridale
June Mullens, Tamworth

Megan Nicholson, Cundletown
 Marilyn O'Dowd, Cambewarra
 Joan O'Halloran, Cobargo
 Brenda Oglivie, Gundy
 Christine Ostermann, Gillieston Heights
 Marion Palmer, Bargo
 Narelle Payne, Narrandera
 Violet Preston, Gleniffer
 Tracey Quinn, Crabbes Creek
 Ruth Ranger, Gravesend
 Melinda Riddell, Narrandera
 Sharon Roberston, The Oaks
 Margaret Roberts, Kyogle
 Mary Roberts, Quirindi
 Judith Robinson, Dareton
 Alison Rutledge, Woodstock
 Carolyn Salter, Walcha
 Pam Skelton, Eden
 Cindy Smith, Gundagai
 Jasmin Statham-Smith, Cooma
 Joan Stevenson, Manildra
 Lenore Taylor, Merriwa
 Eva Towler, Merriwa
 Dawn Vallance, Raworth
 June Wellsmore, Jindabyne
 Christine Welsh, Tura Beach
 Heather Whittaker, Leeton
 Vicki Wilson OAM, Bathurst
 Val Wood, Grafton
 Carmel Yelland, Manildra

2020

Margaret Allen, Mollymook
 Brenda Armfield, Casino
 Bianca Armytage, Deniliquin
 Karen Backus, North Star
 Judy Bailey, Coffs Harbour
 Virginia Beard, Cobar
 Christine Betts, Murrurundi
 Helen Blackmore Lee, Jindabyne
 Karen Blandon, Cessnock
 Colleen Boucher, Cobar
 Margaret Bridgman, Boambee East
 Helen Brown, Yamba
 Donna Burton, Coonabarabran
 Claire Butler, Balranald
 Janice Cattle, Wyalong
 Kaye Chapman, Cowra
 Margaret Clare, Moonee Beach
 Elaine Clarke, Coleambally
 Carol Cleary, Ulong
 Belinda Colless, Brewarrina
 Justine Cooper, Murrurundi
 Bec Crawford, Walgett
 Kellie Crossley, Deniliquin
 Dorothy Crouch, Duns Creek
 Patricia Crowe, Grafton
 Lyn Dark, Telarah
 Beverley Davis, Bodalla
 Elaine D'Elboux, Koorawatha
 Elka Devney, Moree
 Sloane Donnelly, Baryulgil

Jennifer Duddle, Young
Carol Fiddes, Bowling Alley Point
Cassie Fisher, Scone
Cynthia Foley, Dubbo
Georgia Foster Eyles, Nymboida
Ruth Fritsch, Temora
Karon Fuller, Warren
Jayde Gardiner, North Star
Jane Goldie, Kearsley
Kirrily Gould, Cooma
Kerrie Gray, Alstonville
Lynn Griffith, Copmanhurst
Margaret Haddin, Parkes
Lyn Hetherington, Glen Innes
Megen Hibbins, Newton Boyd
Nadine Hickey, Cessnock
Sue Houstein, Gundagai
Wendy Hudson, Kew
Stacy Jacobs, Rutherford
Barbara Jefferies, Yenda
Carole Johnston, Aberdeen
Kama Kamphuis, North Star
Janine Katon, Aberdeen
Jean Kutchen, West Wiangaree
Pauline Levingston, Walcha
Aninke Lippert, Yamba
Robyn Livermore, Orange
Jenny Loasby, Blandford
Michelle Loft, Merriwa
Peta Luck, Gunning
Stephanie Luck, Coramba

Marg Matthews, Blayney
Catriona McAuliffe, Yass
Dulcie McKenzie, Lockhart
Narelle McLeod, Sanctuary Point
Sue McMillan, Deniliquin
Mellisa Meli, Tumbarumba
Carolina Merriman, Good Hope
Trish Moore, Loomberah
Robyn Mowbray, Attunga
Claire Mudford, Gilgandra
Danielle Murphy, Cobargo
Saba Nabi, Wagga Wagga
Rachel Nicoll, Hampton
Shirley Pankhurst, Wee Waa
Lorna Parnell, Merriwa
Cheryl Pearce, Kiama
Julie Pearce, Coffs Harbour
Kay Pellizzer, Yenda
Cheryl Penrith, Wagga Wagga
Carol Ray, Scone
Christine Riley, Cassilis
Marelle Robinson, Wherrol Flat
Narelle Ryan, Rutherford
Ruth Sandow, Packsaddle
Fay Shaw, Tarana
Edith Shipway, Merriwa
Ailsa Sinclair, Temora
Gwen Smith, North Star
Tash Taaffee, Merriwa
Shirley Teague, Coffs Harbour
Pat Thomas, Temora

Sue Thomas, Wingham
Fleur Tonge, Casino
Janelle Tongue, Loomberah
Sally Torr, Bourke
Judi Unger, Peak Hill
Christine Walters, Cobargo
Jessica Wells, North Star
Margaret Whyte, Wentworth
Pamela Wilkinson, North Star
Julia Wilton, Merriwa
Margaret Wood, East Maitland
Jill Woodlock, Coffs Harbour

2021–2022

Penny Black, Rankins Springs
Freda Bush, Goulburn
Gemma Campion, Dubbo
Gail Commens, Junee
Tara Commerford, Byron Bay
Tessie Corkery, Goulburn
Vicki Croft, Texas
Thea Deer, Quirindi
Ruth Doggett, Towrang
Sharon Draper, Loomberah
Shirley Drysdale, Wellington
Gayl Ellem, Nana Glen
Belinda Estens, Tamworth
Pamela Farrell, Warialda
Kaitlyn Faulkner, Gunnedah
Kaitlin Foran, Kempsey
Danielle Fordham, Tocal

Margaret Foster, Bingara
Sandra Fox, Maitland
Megan Gaffney, Wagga Wagga
Keely Holden, Taree
Sue Inglis, Coleambally
Yasmin Jimmieson, Muswellbrook
Sister Patricia Johnson, Griffith
Desma Kearsey, Inverell
Marjorie Keech, Tamworth
Abbie Kelly, Broken Hill
Patricia Kirkby, Merriwa
Fiona Lane, Coffs Harbour
Karen Lowry, Sussex Inlet
Sanita Majhi, Lavington
Anne Mason, Muswellbrook
Sorell Masters, Wauchope
Emily May, Griffith
Janece McDonald, East Maitland
Sue McDonald, Goulburn
Carolyn McMullen, Stanborough
Beris Meldrum, Terrigal
Christine Meyers, East Maitland
Lillian Joyce Miller, Kyogle
Molly Molloy, Broken Hill
Sue Morphet, Rutherford
Teresa Murphy, Nana Glen
Jessica Murray, Louth
Jill Nash, Sawtell
Kerrie Nicholls, Millthorpe
Ariba Omar, Wagga Wagga
Jillian Petzke, Mairijimmy

Tracy Provest, Ulladulla
 Christine Pullman, Gunnedah
 Carrolline Rhodes, Nambucca Heads
 Pat Rogers, Tamworth
 Jennifer Rooke, Tenambit
 Rosemary Schrader, Tuncurry
 Marie Scott, Merriwa
 Valarie Smith, Gresford
 Anne Starr, Llangothlin
 Alexandra Stewart, Moonee Beach
 Amanda Stitt, West Wyalong
 Marjorie Strong, Orange
 Rebecca Tribe, Narrabri
 Helen Tucker, Glen Innes
 Ruth Van Bezouwen, Muswellbrook
 Abby Watson, Casino
 Peree Watson, Branxton
 Clara Way, Berrigan
 Julie Wilkins, North Star
 Sharee Witney, Merriwa
 Judy Woods, Boggabilla

2023

Barbara Adams, Jamberoo
 Jillie Arnott, Coolah
 Helen Bennett, Tinonee*
 Michelle Bishop, Shoalhaven Heads*
 Karen Bloomfield, Walcha
 Martinique Booth, Mungay Creek
 Dana Brighenti, Rankins Springs
 Jessica Bunyan, Congarinni North

Robyn Burge, Warialda
 Jayde Byrne, Gilgandra
 Xiaohong Chu, Crookwell
 Lyn Dark, Telarah*
 Amy Devrell, Attunga
 Gayle Dunn, Ulladulla*
 Sara Evans, Hamlyn Terrace*
 Sally Everett, Narromine*
 Christine Fajks, Kew
 Beth Firman, Temora
 Carly Fisher, Parkes
 Ros Fleetwood, Lismore
 Sharney Fleming, Goulburn*
 Jacqui Foley, Pambula
 Desiree Georgiou, Glenroy
 Lynne Gibson, Tolland*
 Matilda Gibson, Cessnock
 Courtney Gillis, Merriwa
 Kristy Giteau, Googong*
 Ann Goodsell, Crookwell
 Kylie Gray, Weston
 Marina Gray, Billywillinga
 Robyn Grover, Boggabri
 Emma Gunasinghe, Terrigal
 Kathryn Hamilton, Narrabri
 Rosemary Hansen, Sapphire Beach
 Janice Harris, Orange
 Kimberley Hassel, Norah Head
 Virginia Hey, Byabarra
 Nancy Hoare, Collarenebri
 Marie Hobson, Gunnedah*

Astrid Hocking, Kilaben Bay
Laura Hughes, Tamworth
Dee Hunter, Nambucca Heads
Judith Jackson, Safety Beach
Bronwyn Jekyll, Yass River
Alison Jenkins, Merimbula
Leanne Johnson, South Albury*
Elaine Johnston, Terranora*
Delta Kay, Suffolk Park*
Sandra Kiehne, Glen Innes
Sarah Le Fevre, Glen Innes
Leonie Lee, Glen Innes
Jan Lemon, Glen Innes
Tracey Lowrey, Dungog
Maureen Lynch, North Casino*
Nicole Lyons, Queanbeyan
Vivienne Marris, Jamberoo
Oana McBride, San Remo*
Donna McKinstry, Narrabri
Diane McParland, Jamberoo
Te're Melrose, Bateau Bay*
Tina Meyer, Tahmoor
Kellie Molloy, Broken Hill
Claire Moosbrugger, Boorooma
Barbara Moritz, Lightning Ridge
Brodie Morton, Narrandera
Erika Munan, Deer Vale*
Kellie Novello, Broken Hill
Sarah Page, Crookwell
Katie Polsoni, Narrabri
Patricia Powell, Narrandera

Anne Quarmby, Nyngan
Kimberley Roach, Gilgandra
Emma Roberson, Cooma
Belinda Schmitzer, Wauchope
Trudy Schultz, Gloucester*
Jan Sillato, MacMasters Beach*
Joan Simpson, Cooma
Helen Slater, Bega
Dianne Smith, Trangie
Joyce Smith, Dunbogan*
Susie Smith, Crookwell
Pamela Snaddon, Kearsley*
Lisa Sparkes, Queanbeyan
Gwenda Stanbridge, Blayney*
Marg Symes, Broken Hill
Heidi Thornton, Dungog
Glynis Thorp, Broken Hill
Helen Westwood, Forbes
Jacqueline Whitby, Bega
Valerie Woodland, Griffith*
Amorette Zielinski, Orange*

2024

Ricki-Lee Abrams, Tacoma*
Ann Appleby, East Albury
Sue Ashton, Lake Cathie
Rebekah Baker, Gobbagombalin
Margaret Bateman, Port Macquarie
Denise Bell, Aberdeen
Kylee Bentham, The Oaks
Jackie Bower, Hawks Nest*

Sandra Brabon, Cooma
 Kay Maree Brennan, Jamberoo*
 Myff Clarke, Erudgere
 Hilary Coulton, Catalina
 Ellen Crepaz, Port Macquarie
 Amanda Dietiker, Orange
 Cheryl Dimmock, Iluka
 Kate Edmunds, Gunnedah
 Suzanne Eggins, Kiama
 Frances Flood, Taralga
 Bronte Gibson, Cessnock
 Lynne Graham, Boorooma*
 Sandra Gray, Sussex Inlet
 Shoshanna Griffin, Thurgoona
 Sandra Hansen, Kiama Downs
 Tian Harris, Moree
 Caitlin Holloway, Lake Cathie
 Tanya-Lee Holmes, Laffing Waters
 Kristen Holt, Tatton
 Elizabeth Hoskins, Goulburn
 Tracey Huysmans, Springhill
 Jennifer Judd, Jamberoo
 Elisabetta Lamanna, Lake Albert
 Louise Lambeth, Woy Woy*
 Tania Lingard, Cobargo
 Jenny London, Lismore*
 Leanne Lynch, Barnsley*
 Deborah Marr, Orange
 Lexie Matthews, Stanford Merthyr*
 Kellie May, Kelso
 Boni Maywald, Kiama

Miranda McGufficke, Cooma
 Michelle McGufficke, Cooma
 Melinda McLennan, North Casino
 Norma Meadley, Narromine
 Mary Mulhall, Molong
 Katie O'Brien, Pangee
 Lee O'Connor, Coonamble
 Chloe Pailthorpe, Bungendore*
 Dannielle Pickford, Banora Point
 Michelle Randall, Boambee East
 Antoinette Raynal, Berry
 Joeline Robson, Gerringong
 Jennifer Rose, Hillston
 Judy Sandilands, Kiama
 Lesley Schoer, Coffs Harbour
 Carina Severs, Nethercote*
 Lucy Sharpe, Umina Beach
 Chantelle Shevels, Deniliquin
 Jenna Smith, Berkeley Vale
 Nicole Smith, Mittagong
 Gail Solman, Hunterview*
 Patricia Southwell, South Bathurst
 Rachael Sowden, Uralla
 Evelyn Stonham, Chisholm*
 Jennifer Sturrock, Jugiong
 Sue Surace, Wauchope
 Marie Tame, Young*
 Leia Thiele, Springvale
 Karen Thorpe, Myrtleville
 Paula Townsend, Orange*
 Lousie Vangestel, Killcare Heights*

Casey Whitehouse, Bonny Hills

Laurel Williams, Belmont*

Jo Woods, Branxton

Carlie Young, Ulladulla

* Denotes where the recipient
was also nominated for the Local
Woman of the Year Award by their
Member of Parliament

Thank you to our nominators for taking the time to acknowledge a volunteer.

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

For more information or to nominate a Hidden Treasure, contact:

Rural Women's Network

The Cabinet Office

E ruralwomensnetwork@tco.nsw.gov.au



Hidden Treasures is an initiative of the
NSW Government's Rural Women's Network