



Westfield

Local Heroes

2018

Westfield Local Heroes were nominated and voted for by their communities, with the three successful Westfield Local Heroes per centre each awarded a \$10,000 grant to support their affiliated organisation's work, programs or activities.



Westfield

Local Heroes

In the first year of the Westfield Local Heroes program, we received an overwhelming response and many heart-warming stories after asking the local community to nominate individuals who promote wellbeing and harmony in their communities.

We congratulate every one of our nominees and recognise the important contribution they make to their local community.



Westfield

HORNSBY

NSW



Catherine Treay
Clarke Road School

Selfless, Inspirational, Effective

Children bring joy to this teacher's heart

There's nothing that makes Cathy Treay quite as happy as seeing one of her students achieve a goal they have been working towards – big or small.

As the Assistant Principal at a school for students with intellectual disabilities, she is dedicated to helping her children reach their full potential and engage with their community.

"Seeing a student in a wheelchair playing tennis with his peers or them sharing a look with you when they succeed at something brings me so much joy," says Cathy.

In her seven years at Clarke Road School, she has also given much joy and inspiration. One of her most popular contributions is a delightful golden retriever therapy dog named Minty.

Cathy is a tireless advocate for the children, who range from Kindy to Year 12. She strongly believes in their right to be fully engaged with their community, and she puts a lot of energy into outreach projects and into attracting visitors to the school.

The dedicated teacher has many educational responsibilities, but one of her key objectives is to prepare the students for life after school by extending the vocational skills program.

The \$10,000 Westfield Local Heroes grant will be used to renovate an existing shed at the school to teach barista and other skills. This will be achieved with the help of the local Rotary club.

The area around the shed will be used for a garden, vegetable plot and chicken coop to give the students an opportunity to learn hands-on how to care for animals and grow vegetables.

Being voted a Westfield Local Hero is a dream come true for Cathy, who says she feels dazed and extremely grateful to be recognised by her community.

"I can't stop smiling. The dream of providing a work and learning space for our learners will now happen so much sooner," she says.



Bruce Campbell Hornsby Woodworking Men's Shed

Inspirational, Committed, Generous

Bruce's wooden toy venture is anything but child's play

Bruce Campbell's most memorable experience in his many years at the local men's woodworking Shed was being asked by the Children's Hospital in Westmead to make special furniture for disabled children to use.

"It was challenging and involved some of our best woodworkers. The feedback we had from the hospital staff and their little patients was certainly a highlight for us," he says.

Bruce has had an interest in woodwork and repairing things since his early school days. But it wasn't until he retired that he took on the hobby in a more serious way.

He has had a leading role at the Hornsby Woodworking Men's Shed from its beginning nearly 17 years ago when it was the Triton Woodworking Group.

Bruce is best known for his work with the toymaking team, which produces about 400 toys for distribution to charities every Christmas.

The toymaking started as a way to hone his woodworking skills, but he and his dedicated band of men have taken it to an expert level.

Bruce is known as a friendly mentor for new members of the shed. Many have had little woodworking experience, and he patiently shows them how it's done, boosting their confidence as they develop new skills.

Together, the 150 men turn their skills to whatever is needed.

It could be possum boxes, toys or street library boxes for the local council.

Bruce is pleased to have been voted a Westfield Local Hero. But he says there are 30 or so active members of the Shed who work just as hard as him.

"It's a humbling experience really. After all, I am only doing stuff that I enjoy," he says.

The Shed will use its \$10,000 Westfield grant to buy much-needed tools, machinery and hardware for upcoming projects.



Sallianne McClelland Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter

*Passionate, Determined,
Inspiring*

Sallianne brings community together to keep women safe

Sometimes Sallianne McClelland needs to act fast to help women and their children escape domestic abuse.

She and her team once furnished a house right down to the potato peeler in 12 hours after she posted a callout video to the community in her pyjamas.

"It was an overwhelming moment when I realised how invested our community truly is in the welfare of others," she says.

Sallianne has been volunteering with the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter since it was launched nearly four years ago and is now president of its all-volunteer board.

So far, the shelter has provided temporary accommodation to more than 250 women, most of whom have fled domestic abuse. But it aims for sustainable solutions and also connects the women with longer-term outreach services.

The shelter's success rate is impressive. Almost all its women have a case plan with 72 hours and nine out of ten move on to safe long-term accommodation.

Sallianne is 2018 Hornsby Woman of the Year and is known in the community for her ability to bring people from business,

government, charities and other support services together to help families.

"Effecting change in the lives of women when they are at their most vulnerable and empowering them to create a better future is powerful, energising – and in part makes me get up in the morning," she says.

Sallianne feels honoured and privileged to be voted a Westfield Local Hero and sees it as recognition that the local community acknowledges the need to support women and their families.

"I feel the community walking beside us in the same way our staff walk alongside these women," she says.

The shelter will use its \$10,000 Westfield Local Heroes grant to fund a key program known as the empowerment pathway fund. This helps women with emergency medical and legal expenses, transport, education and language programs.

Your 2018 Finalists

Steve Hopwood | Hornsby Connect

Enthusiastic, Vibrant, Dedicated

Steve is the driving force behind Hornsby Connect, which provides a 'hand up' to community members in need, through subsidised food and fellowship. The 77-year-old is the founding member and president of Hornsby Connect, driving the initiative to help support over 370 people gain access to food.

Mark Rushton | BlowFly Cricket

Dedicated, Selfless, Inspirational

Mark is the founder of BlowFly Cricket, a not-for-profit organisation that provides access to non-competitive inclusive sport for children and young adults with special needs or intellectual disabilities. Mark founded the club 10 years ago, with the vision of breaking down barriers for children and young adults with disabilities including autism, Asperger's, Down Syndrome and cerebral palsy.

Rodney James | Studio ARTES

Patient, Hardworking, Passionate

Rodney is a creative and passionate volunteer at Studio ARTES, assisting artists with disabilities to create beautiful artwork. Rodney goes above and beyond to help participants in a variety of ways, including helping to mix paints, setting up and cleaning work spaces, physically assisting them to paint and draw as well as providing any additional support where needed. An active member of the Studio ARTES initiative, Rodney also helps with exhibitions and field trips, where he always offers his positivity, friendship and emotional support.

Recognising all of our 2018 Nominees

Steve ANDERSON
Rangers Baseball Club

William BRADLEY
Hornsby Connect Inc

Janet CAMPBELL
Cherrybrook Community
Pre-school Inc

Bruce CAMPBELL
Hornsby Woodworking Men's Shed

Vicki CASSIDY
Dancing With The Stars of
Parramatta Cancer Council

Tim ENGLAND
Rotary Club of St Ives

Steve HOPWOOD
Hornsby Connect Inc

James HUMPHERSON
Humanitix

David KERR
Hornsby Connect Inc

John LOCKYER
Lions Club of Hornsby Inc

Lisa McADAMS
Lisa McAdams Pty Ltd

Sallianne McCLELLAND
Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Womens
Shelter

Marcela ORDONEZ
St Lucy's School

Roslyn RAJASINGAM
Couples for Christ (Australia)
Global Mission Inc

Mark RUSHTON
Blowfly Cricket

Rodney JAMES
Studio ARTES

David TAYLOR
KYDS Youth Development
Service Inc

Alexandra TORRENS
Hornsby Heights Pharmacy

Michael TOZER
Xceptional

Catherine TREAY
Clarke Road Special School

Michelle WHYE
NSW State Emergency Service
Hornsby



If you or anyone you know would like more information on what support is available:

AUSTRALIA

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

MensLine: 1300 78 99 78

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732

NEW ZEALAND

Lifeline: 0800 543 354

Suicide Crisis Helpline: 0508 828 865

Kidsline: 0800 54 37 54

Depression Helpline: 0800 111 757

Samaritans: 0800 726 666

Family Violence Information Line: 0800 456 450



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