

A vibrant red ribbon graphic that flows across the frame from the top left to the bottom right. The ribbon is three-dimensional, with shadows and highlights that give it a sense of depth and movement. In the center of the ribbon, the text "Westfield Local Heroes 2021" is displayed in white. "Westfield" is in a serif font, "Local Heroes" is in a large, elegant script font, and "2021" is in a clean, sans-serif font. The ribbon's path is dynamic, with several loops and turns, creating a sense of celebration and energy.

Westfield

Local Heroes

2021

Westfield Local Heroes is a community recognition and awards program, designed to shine the spotlight on those people across Australia and New Zealand who make a positive impact to their local community and environment.

Individuals are nominated by their local communities, with the outcome of a public vote determining the three successful 2021 nominees for every Westfield centre.

Westfield

Local Heroes

Now in its fourth year, we have awarded \$4.88 million to 489 community organisations.

Every year, we recognise more than 120 Westfield Local Heroes and provide more than \$1.2M in community grants to their affiliated organisations.

We congratulate all the 2021 nominees for being recognised by their communities and thank them for the important contribution they all make.



Westfield

Burwood

NSW

Gavin Smith is dedicating his retirement to saving the bees that are vital to food crops flourish.

The former teacher is a volunteer with Urban Beekeepers of the Inner West and works hard to restore populations of Australian native and European honeybees, which have been decimated by fires, droughts and loss of their natural habitats in urban areas.

Gavin has rescued hundreds of swarms and uses his teaching skills to educate the community that bees are not important only for honey; they are crucial for pollinating 70% of our food crops. He encourages people to plant urban gardens that support them.

Following the devastating 2019–20 bushfires, Gavin and Urban Beekeepers of the Inner West initiated Beemergency. They tirelessly raised money for materials to build new hives and worked at collecting bee swarms.

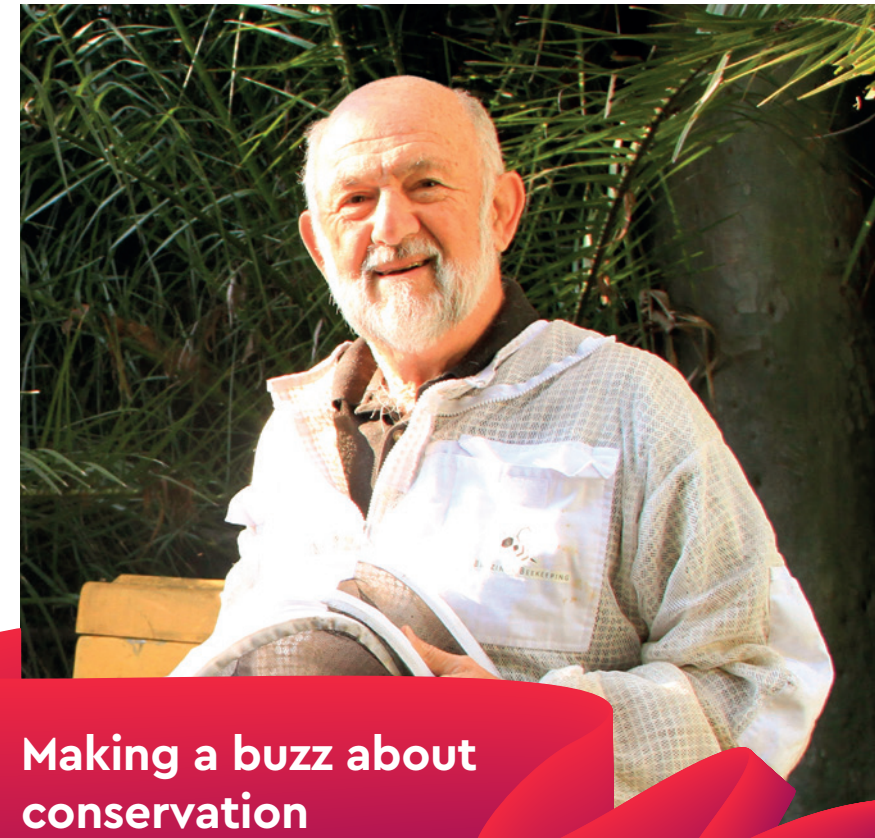
While the project stalled during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gavin is determined

to get it on track to ensure bee colonies return to regions affected by the bushfires and, more recently, the floods.

One of Gavin's best rewards is watching others catch his enthusiasm for beekeeping.

He is thrilled to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "I hope this helps spread the word that the bush is under threat, and really simple community efforts can make a difference. Millions more bees are needed," he says.

Gavin's nominator says: "Gavin is a Westfield Local Hero because he uses his vast knowledge to ensure the sustainability of bee populations. He gives his time, knowledge and energy to many local groups."



Making a buzz about conservation

Gavin Smith

Urban Beekeepers of the Inner West

Tireless, Passionate, Dedicated

"I hope this helps spread the word that the bush is under threat, and really simple community efforts can make a difference. Millions more bees are needed."



Keeping older people strong

Yinxia (Robin) Hu

Australian Culture and Commerce Association

Kind, Wise, Inclusive

"We provide aid to families in NSW, and also organise mission trips to the Philippines once a year and fundraise to help those struggling from disasters around the world such as in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and Uganda."

Yinxia (Robin) Hu has helped a growing number of elderly people keep fit and mentally strong with Tai Chi through his work with the Australian Culture and Commerce Association.

Robin arrived in Australia 30 years ago. In 2012 he was elected president of the association, which helps immigrants to settle into Australia.

The association also promotes multiculturalism through popular events such as an annual Lunar New Year Carnival that attracts 100,000 people.

Robin's special passion is Tai Chi, which he uses to help control his own pain. Determined to help others, he set up a Tai Chi team attracting over 100 participants with an average age of 70.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, he ensured classes could continue and bought masks for his students.

He also printed out leaflets to encourage people to attend

and stay physically and mentally healthy during the pandemic. His generosity went further, and he bought Tai Chi clothing for those in need.

He is proud that Tai Chi keeps the participants healthy.

Robin says he is honoured to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "It is an affirmation of my many years serving the community. It will encourage more people to come out to do social welfare and fill our society with love."

Robin's nominator says: "Robin is a Westfield Local Hero because he has made an important contribution to many elderly people, helping them get out during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, they have improved their physical condition by learning Tai Chi under his watch."

Deanna Hayes is a mum and full-time operating theatre nurse, yet she finds time to campaign in her local community about the impact of climate change.

As a dedicated volunteer for Australian Parents for Climate Action (AP4CA), Deanna also makes a positive impact at her hospital, where she and a colleague coordinate a green team focused on recycling and waste management.

Deanna has turned her passion for the environment into action. She enthusiastically advocates for a safe climate for our children's future by educating her community. She is proud to have personally collected the 10,000th signature in AP4CA's Solar our Schools campaign, which calls on the federal government to fund solar panels and batteries for every school and early childhood centre.

Deanna was so proud when the NSW government launched a multimillion-dollar pilot

renewable energy program off the back of the campaign. "It demonstrates how community efforts can help implement big positive change."

"I'm motivated by my love for my children and my profound respect for the local and global environment," Deanna says.

She is proud it was her teenage son who nominated her as a Westfield Local Hero. "It makes me feel like such a valued mother, community member and AP4CA volunteer. It motivates me to continue my work."

Deanna's nominator says:
"Deanna is a Westfield Local Hero because she works tirelessly as a nurse and hospital green team coordinator. She is also a volunteer for Australian Parents for Climate Action and is helping to get clean energy into schools, thus saving money and saving the climate."



Mum fights for children's future

Deanna Hayes

Australian Parents for Climate Action

Caring, Dedicated, Tireless

"I'm motivated by my love for my children and my profound respect for the local and global environment."

Your 2021 Finalists



Nicole Harcourt
Sanctuary Housing

Nicole Harcourt has helped over 500 women and their children move onto a happy and safe life since she established Sanctuary Housing in 2017. The mother-of-two funded the purpose-built shelter herself. Up to 40 women and children at a time can be accommodated, receiving meals, clothing and toys as well as dignity and respect.



Sina Winterstein
Lighthouse Community Support

Sina Winterstein the Multicultural Community Liaison Officer at Campsie Police Area Command has helped hundreds of school students make positive life choices through the Lighthouse Community Support Wise Up leadership and mentoring program. Her mantra is "actions speak louder than words" and also volunteers for the Lighthouse COVID-19 response that provides food, clothing and toys to families in need.



Charbel Azzi
Maronites on Mission

Busy lawyer Charbel Azzi dedicates numerous hours a week assist the charity Maronites on Mission to give up to 400 hungry people a meal on the street or groceries in their homes. He is a co-founder and key member of Maronites on Mission and always has time for a friendly chat with clients.

Recognising all of our 2021 nominees

Paul Cragg
Stepping Stone House

Natasha Welsh
Derek's Place

Janu Dhayanathan
**Children's Tumour Foundation
of Australia**

David Burns
Collective Leisure

Nicholas Karagiannis
Crash Claim

Pilar Lopez
House to Grow

Patricia Abraham
Eurella Community Services

Rosemary King
**St Paul's Anglican Church
Burwood**

Gina Atlas
Help for Hirschsprung

Darrin Tucker
NRMA

Louise Sauvage OAM
Wheelchair Sports NSW/ACT Inc

Jenny Baker
**Leichhardt Wanderers
Netball Club**

Dr. Maher Milad
Medical Centre

Dean Laws
Parkinson's NSW Limited

Thomas Camporeale
**Co.As.It. – Italian Association
of Assistance**

Teik Ning Yang
RuffTRACK Limited

Bindi Lea
The Village Project

Douglas Sinclair
**AUSCAP Australian Civil
Air Patrol**

Mary Jo McVeigh
Cara Care

Dr Faryal Zehra
Little Helpers on the Run

Melanie Tran
St John Ambulance NSW

Donna Boyd
St Vincent de Paul

Sina Winterstein
Lighthouse Community Support

Nicole T Harcourt
Sanctuary Housing

Deanna Hayes
**Australian Parents for
Climate Action**

Gavin Smith
**Urban Beekeepers of the
Inner West**

Amber Rules
**Rough Patch Affordable
Counseling and Mental Health
Supports**

Associate Professor Lucy Morgan
Lung Foundation Australia

Gina Atlas
Help For Hirschsprung's Disease

Yinxia Hu
**Australian Culture and
Commerce Association**

Charbel Azzì
Maronites on Mission

**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

The background features a large, abstract graphic composed of overlapping red and white shapes. A large, rounded red shape dominates the right side, while a white shape overlaps it from the bottom left. The overall composition is clean and modern.

westfield.com.au/local-heroes

westfield.co.nz/local-heroes

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SCENTRE GROUP