

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

Newmarket

NZ

Sheila Budgen has been a much-loved volunteer crew member on the Spirit of Adventures Trust's youth development sailing ship the Spirit of New Zealand for over 25 years, accumulating more than 1000 days at sea.

The seventy-six-year-old is affectionately known as Grandma and is regarded as a safe person to talk to onboard the ship. She coaxes and encourages even the most disengaged teens to engage with the program and has helped many young people, from all sorts of backgrounds, steer towards a positive future after a life-changing voyage on the Spirit of New Zealand. Involved with all activities on board, Sheila jumps into the ocean with the teens at 6.30 in the morning all year round for the mandatory resilience-building swim.

Some of the most magical moments for Sheila is watching the teens leave the voyage with leadership skills, self-confidence, the ability to work cooperatively and a better outlook on life.

Sheila is happy to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "I'm always keen to raise awareness and financial support for the Spirit of Adventure Trust to get as many young people involved as possible. The value of these voyages is huge and changes so many lives," she says.

Sheila's Nominator says: "Sheila is a Westfield Local Hero because she has a huge heart, and those who are fortunate to sail with her know she is the essence of the magic that happens onboard."



Rites of passage

Sheila Budgen

Spirit of Adventure Trust

Enthusiastic, Compassionate, Legendary

"I'm always keen to raise awareness and financial support for the Spirit of Adventure Trust to get as many young people involved as possible."



Win-win for aged care

Julia Plank

Elder Care Volunteers

Compassionate, Philanthropic, Enterprising

"This nomination gives me hope that others are starting to recognise the importance of connecting with the elderly."

Julia Plank has brought joy and friendship to people in aged care since she founded Elder Care Volunteers.

Julia has been volunteering in aged care since she was in high school and struck up a special friendship with a resident who had no family or friends to support him during his cancer treatment.

Knowing how much her friendship meant to him, she set up her charity to provide companionship to other aged-care residents who feel lonely and stressed.

Over the last six years, she has recruited and trained over 100 volunteers who visit 150 people in four care homes.

It's a win-win. The older people enjoy the company and get to give back by sharing their skills, knowledge and advice with the volunteers.

Julia juggles running the charity with full-time PhD studies but is motivated by the wonderful

friendships she has enjoyed with elderly people as a volunteer.

She is grateful to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "Although New Zealand has an ageing population, the wellbeing of the elderly is pushed aside in favour of other causes. This nomination gives me hope that others are starting to recognise the importance of connecting with the elderly," says Julia.

Julia's nominator says: "Julia is a Westfield Local Hero because she not only enriches the lives of countless elderly residents but also the lives of numerous volunteers."

Charli Cox dedicates her spare time to rescuing garments from landfill and passing them on to vulnerable communities at pop-up shops using a pay-what-you-can model.

She does this through the non-profit Koha Apparel, which she set up in January 2019.

Charli's inspiration came from volunteering at an op shop, where she realised the inadequate access people had to a basic human right – clothing and the amount of donated garments that were heading to landfill.

She began rescuing items that were heading to landfill, washed and repaired them.

She then partnered with Everybody Eats in St Kevin's Arcade, where she set up a few racks of beautifully presented clothing. And that's how Koha Apparel was born. People pay what they can, and those who are unable to make a donation clothing is provided at no cost. For the better of our people, and the planet.

With the help of a dedicated band of volunteers, the non-profit has grown to 13 pop-up shops a month throughout Auckland.

Charli is beyond proud her mission and directly sees the impact the clothing has on people's lives and how it can change someone's mood and day for the better with this the community feeling more confident.

She is humbled to be nominated as a Westfield Local Hero. "I am incredibly proud of Koha and the difference we continue to make collectively to our community with a basic human right – clothing. Our regulars have become my friends and family here in New Zealand," she says.

Charli's nominator says: "Charli is a Westfield Local Hero because she fights for the people who can't fight for themselves. There isn't a challenge she isn't ready to face with courage, composure and good humour."



Sustainable quality clothing for all

Charli Cox

Koha Apparel

Compassionate, Courageous, Magnanimous

"I am incredibly proud of Koha and the difference we continue to make collectively to our community with a basic human right – clothing."

Your 2021 Finalists



Tash Crosby

Talk Peach Gynaecological Foundation

Tash Crosby has saved lives since she established the Peach Talk Gynaecological Foundation in 2017 to raise awareness of the five gynaecological cancers. She is smashing the taboo surrounding the cancers so people are better placed to advocate for themselves. Tash also campaigns for more funding for research, including clinical trials.



Bruce Scoggins

Cure Kids

Retired Health Research Council CEO Dr Bruce Scoggins has been hard at work as a volunteer for Cure Kids as chair of its Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee. Bruce is in his 80s and has volunteered at Cure Kids for 13 fulfilling years, five of which have been as a board member. Bruce is as passionate as ever about health equality for Kiwi children.



Doug Hanna

TimeOut Charitable Trust

Doug Hanna had made it his mission to gift every person with a terminal illness a memorable holiday with their family through his work with TimeOut. The charitable trust has a database of 100 holiday homes that are available to these families. Doug has opened his own holiday home to 55 families so far.

Recognising all of our 2021 nominees

Alaina McGregor
10×10 Philanthropy

Hayden Smith
Sea Cleaners

Mark Xu
YMCA Lagoon Stadium

Julia Plank
Elder Care Volunteers

Casey McLain
YMCA North

Jessie Yan
ForYouth Global Trust

Sam Cangir
He helps cats.

Charli Cox
Koha Apparel

Carl Van Roon
Van Roon Martial Arts

Kathy Harding
St Heliers School Running Club

Mary Young
Auckland Hospital

Robert Young
Abella Inn

Rachel Friend
The Neonatal Trust

Paul Picot
Lifeline Aotearoa

Mahsa Mohaghegh
She Sharp

Te Puea Li
**YMCA Lagoon Pool &
Leisure Centre**

Sarah Christie
Pet Whisperer Rescue Trust

Frances Smith
Victim Support Auckland East

Jackie Walsh
Child Cancer Foundation

Charli Alison Amelia Cox
Koha Apparel

Bruce Scoggins
Cure Kids

Tash Crosby
**Talk Peach Gynaecological
Foundation**

Sheila Budgen
Spirit of Adventure Trust

Doug Hanna
TimeOut Charitable Trust

**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, rounded shapes in various shades of red and white. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The colors range from a bright, vibrant red to a deep, dark red, with white areas that appear to be cutouts or highlights within the composition.

westfield.com.au/local-heroes

westfield.co.nz/local-heroes

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SCENTRE GROUP