



Knox's unsung heroes were celebrated, new citizens were sworn in and others just had a whale

Citizen of Year Ann Heber



MRS Heber has been a committed and passionate volunteer in the Boronia community for over 30 years. She gives her time at the Angliss Hospital - where she helps families in the emergency waiting room - and has been involved with organisations like Neighbourhood Watch, her local school council and Interchange. She also teaches English to migrants and is heading to Cambodia and Vietnam this year to volunteer in orphanages. "To win is a huge honour," she said.

Young Citizen of Year James Philipson



JAMES has recently completed his VCE studies at Scoresby Secondary College, all the while giving up as much spare time as possible to volunteering. At school James, 18, was a member of the SRC and was year 11 and 12 school captain in 2010 and 2011. James has also volunteered at many of council's community festivals and been a member of the Knox Youth Council. He has been actively involved with the Upwey-Ferntree Gully Basketball Club. "The work I do is special to me but I don't ever go out to be recognised for it," James said.

Volunteer of Year Denise Gravatt



Mrs Gravatt has been an active volunteer in the Knox Community for more than 40 years. She has given of her time to Fairhills Primary Mothers Club, was a founding member of the Boronia Soccer Club - where she is the only female life member - and remains an active member of the Angliss Hospital Auxiliary, where she works as secretary and Op Shop Manager. Mrs Gravatt is also a member of the Boronia Country Women's Association and volunteers with the Perth-based charity Peduli Bali. "It's wonderful to be recognised but that's not why you do it."

Local Hero Tony Clark



As founder and chairman of Knox based charity Swags for the Homeless, he is a full-time volunteer who devotes his life to helping Australia's street sleepers. Together with his wife Lisa, he has designed the world's first backpack bed to enhance the life and dignity of the homeless. "I've never been thanked locally before so it means a lot," Mr Clark said. "As a volunteer it means so much that your home cares about what you're doing."

