

PREMIER'S AUSTRALIA DAY

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Nomination

2016 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

NOMINEE

ALAN DAVIS

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Alan has been a driving force behind the new Denmark Riverside Club building. He has been an inspiring leader of a group of dedicated volunteers who have facilitated funding, community meetings and open discussion to ensure the building is appropriate for all. Mr Davis has also been actively involved in the Denmark RSL and was instrumental in establishing the Over 50's Club in Denmark as well as helping achieve affordable retirement accommodation at Amaroo Village.

Alan has exceptional leadership skills and has led the Riverside Club's new building project, turning a dream into reality, raising ideas and thousands of dollars for the project. Alan has been responsible for the successful amalgamation of the four Riverside Clubs, ensuring strong foundations for the clubs to come together. Mr Davis' honesty and truthfulness has earned him the utmost respect and is a dedicated and hardworking member of the community.

Alan's tenacity, persistence, financial planning expertise and total commitment were the single most important reasons the Riverside Club project was funded. Alan played a critical role in the project, holding the position as Team Leader. Mr Davis' effective relationships with major stakeholders were undoubtedly a key factor in the project's ultimate success.

During Alan's service as Treasurer of the Denmark Bowling Club he showcased his outstanding skills in organising Club events and raising money through Local and State Government grants and organising loans, particularly for the new greens which were opened in 2008. Alan held the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Bar Manager and Committee Member before utilising his skills and abilities to assist with the design of the new Riverside Clubhouse.

Alan has been an active member of the Denmark RSL for over 10 years, contributing greatly to its organisation and administration. He has lead long term projects including a redevelopment program and a long term plan to enable the RSL to provide assistance for ex-members of the Australian Defence Force and their families. Mr Davis has shown his ability to liaise with groups at all levels, his commitment to providing assistance to the community and his willingness to be available to discuss RSL related matters at all times.

Alan was instrumental in the establishment of Amaroo Village and the establishment of a Seniors Association. He has worked tirelessly and donated countless hours of time to achieve a great deal for the community and the betterment of Denmark.



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ARY CLARKE

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Ary Clarke has served on the Denmark Primary School P&C for seven years, holding the position of Treasurer. She has gone above and beyond the call of duty in the position, sharing her expertise, knowledge and experience. Ary has been approachable, patient and very prompt in her response.

The Treasurer's role is a voluntarily position and involves banking, paying staff wages, and monitoring funds raised throughout the year. Ms Clarke has undertaken these duties with efficiency and care, continuing to support the P&C even when overseas. The P&C is an important institution of the Denmark Primary School, however, without a good treasurer, it cannot function well. Ary's seven years of service has ensured that the P&C's accounts have run very smoothly.



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SUE DYBING

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Sue has shown outstanding service and dedication to the administration of the Denmark Surf Life Saving Club. She has used her skill as an administrator to provide good governance and advice on how to comply with the many changes to legislative requirements that have occurred. Ms Dybing has assisted the committee to grow the club into the respected community group that now exists in Denmark.

Sue has previously held club positions of Publicity Officer; Age Group Manager; and Surf Sports Official Level One. Ms Dybing currently serves as Secretary; Event Coordinator – SunSmart Southern Ocean Classic Mile Swim; Sub-committee Member on the DSLSC Building Project; and is the Club Representative for the Ocean Beach Users Group.

Sue undertakes many tasks within the club including producing and distributing the minutes, circulars and bulletins; managing the club's Administration Assistant; member protection including the administration of Police and Working with Children checks; bookings and financial management of the function room; management of the key register; and the event coordination of the annual SunSmart Southern Ocean Classic Mile Swim.



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CHRIS HOARE

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Chris has been a member of the Bush Fire Service for over 10 years and is currently serving as the Fire Control Officer for the East Denmark Bush Fire Brigade.

Chris identified the need for improvement to the water bomber refilling facilities at the Denmark Airport, with the upgrades significantly improving the efficiency of the water bombers as well as enhancing the safety of the Shire of Denmark and neighbouring Shires. Mr Hoare dedicated his time over numerous days and hours to research, plan, fundraise and coordinate the project. The project was largely funded through cash donations and in-kind labour and financial contributions from individuals and businesses in the community.

Despite numerous obstacles that arose throughout the project, Chris was not deterred; he worked harder to ensure the outcome was achieved. As a result of the project the capabilities to protect the community and assets have significantly improved should there be a bushfire, with refilling capabilities improved from seven minutes to fill one bomber to now less than seven minutes to fill two bombers.



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PAUL KIGHTLY

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Paul Kightly has served as a St John Ambulance volunteer for many years in Denmark, as well as assisting the Albany branch. He has spent several weeks as an Ambulance volunteer in Kununurra, and is frequently rostered on for duty including overnight shifts.

Mr Kightly has volunteered with many other organisations and community groups including the local Fire Brigade, Sea Rescue Group, as an Anzac day ambassador and also works with special needs children in Primary and High School settings.

Paul is generous with his time and displays community spirit by organising street parties, welcoming new residents to town, visiting residents at Blue Wren Lodge, as well as instigating the gazebo memorial for Ron Proctor.



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CHRISTOPHER LENDRUM

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Christopher Lendrum is an active community member who has volunteered his time for numerous community groups and organisations in Denmark. Mr Lendrum has served as the bus driver for the Over 50's Association, volunteered as a medical volunteer driver, and assists the Riverside Club with maintenance and as a greenkeeper.

Chris has served as Secretary for the Village Sings Choir, Treasurer for the new Men's Shed and Treasure of the Resident's and Ratepayer's Association. Mr Lendrum also assists individuals with home maintenance and odd jobs on a voluntary basis.



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JOAN MERRIFIELD

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Joan has been an active member of many community groups, continually holding positions of responsibility and undertaking considerable training courses to extend her knowledge and contribution to the community.

During her time at Denmark Kindergarten and Pre Primary Ms Merrifield held the position of Treasurer and helped secure funding and resources for the new site/grounds including the outdoor facilities and landscaping. Joan was also a member of the Denmark Primary P&C, contributing to busy bees, fundraising efforts and the canteen operation, whilst also acting as a voluntary bus driver and parent helper for school camps undertaken by the Primary and High School.

Ms Merrifield has been on the committee of many local sporting clubs, in addition to serving on the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade for fifteen years and holding the position of Fire Control Officer for ten years. Joan has eleven years involvement with the Denmark Junior Soccer Association, twelve years with Denmark Surf Life Saving Club, seven years with Little Athletics, and has volunteered her time with the Scouts Association, Great Southern Soccer Association, Albany Junior Soccer Association, Denmark Junior Netball Association and Denmark Junior Basketball. During this time Joan has served on the committees holding various positions including Treasurer, Delegate, Committee Member, Carnival Official, Coach, Umpire, and Referee among many others.

Joan has displayed a 'non-stop giving' attitude to the Denmark community and demonstrates the value she places on her commitment to volunteering as highly important, rarely missing meetings.



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GRAEME THALLON

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Graeme has served as Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) for the Shire of Denmark for the last four years. The position is voluntary and Graeme has been responsible for leading seventeen brigades including six hundred volunteers across the Shire.

During his time as CBFCO Mr Thallon has effectively managed the Brigade, ensuring professionalism and continuous improvement, contributing to a safer community by reducing the threat of bushfire.

The position of CBFCO required Graeme to be on call at all times when he was within the Shire, as well as attendance at numerous meetings, training courses and workshops. Mr Thallon's commitment would equate to several hundred hours per year, without remuneration or reward, often working in difficult and stressful situations.

The Denmark Bush Fire Brigades have improved during Graeme's 'time at the helm' and during the four years served by Mr Thallon in the CBFCO role there were numerous bush fire incidents (both large and small) however no homes or significant infrastructure were lost to the fires.



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2016 COMMUNITY GROUP OR EVENT OF YEAR

NOMINEE

DENMARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION

Denmark Historical Society (DHS) provides an important service to the community through gathering, preserving, protecting and sharing the history of Denmark, its people and the surrounds. DHS has a band of dedicated volunteers who collect oral histories, locate and copy photos, collect artefacts and promote the heritage environment.

DHS produces a quarterly journal and many members of the Society have also authored books about the history of Denmark. Members of DHS also serve on various Council Committees, including the Paths and Trails Advisory Committee, Cemetery Advisory Committee and the Municipal Heritage Inventory Advisory Committee.

