

Young Citizen of the Year 2023

INNER WEST

Young Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition as young people for social justice

Lillian Davies

Lillian is a committed and organised young person, always willing to help others in need. Lillian ran evening kiosk events at Burwood Girls High School and helped coordinate the food drive and packing of Christmas hampers at Addison Road. Lillian was also part of a team of local young people who helped organise a ramen stall to raise money for Days for Girls, coordinate an Anti-Racism Forum in 2022 and helped organise a community event raising \$10,000 for Mahboba's Promise.



Young Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition as young people for social justice

Ruby Hensley

Despite facing the challenge of a recent family loss, Ruby has a keenly positive attitude and is highly involved in community events. Ruby was part of a team of local young people who helped organise a ramen stall to raise money for Days for Girls, coordinate an Anti-Racism Forum in 2022 and helped organise a community event raising \$10,000 for Mahboba's Promise.



Young Citizen of the Year 2023 Recipient

Amy Johnston

Amy is a natural leader, advocate and artist who has contributed to driving positive and sustainable social change in the community. Amy is committed to amplifying the voice of students via her student leadership role, as well as taking on additional awareness campaigns and projects. Amy's talent and determination has enabled greater awareness and understanding of the diverse experiences within community.



Young Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition as young people for social justice

Rose Palmer

Rose is highly involved in community activities and is very self-motivated, event coaching a local netball team. Rose was part of a team of local young people who helped organise a ramen stall to raise money for Days for Girls, coordinate an Anti-Racism Forum in 2022 and helped organise a community event raising \$10,000 for Mahboba's Promise.



Young Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition as young people for social justice

Emily Skribinsek

Emily has overcome chronic illness to still be contributing extensively to her local community. Emily gave up every Friday afternoon to run a Sisters in Society program that helped young refugee women. Emily was also part of a team of local young people who helped organise a ramen stall to raise money for Days for Girls, coordinate an Anti-Racism Forum in 2022 and helped organise a community event raising \$10,000 for Mahboba's Promise.



Amy Large Young Volunteer 2023

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Amy Large Young Volunteer 2023

Paddy Ljubic McMorrow

Paddy has been a part of the Addison Road Community Organisation family for a number of years, however 'officially' became a volunteer in 2022. Paddy has participated in many events and programs, and is the inaugural Chair of the Addison Road Youth Committee. Paddy is a bright and remarkable person, always finding alternative ways of doing things.



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Amy Large Young Volunteer 2023

Kiara Tran

Kiara Tran is an emerging local leader, having completed varying volunteer experiences. Over recent years, this has included volunteer music performances as part of ANZAC Day Services, Inner West Music Festival, and more. Kiara has also volunteered with local organisations including Addison Road Community Organisation and Bill Crews Foundation.



Amy Large Volunteer Team or Group 2023



Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

Addison Road Community Organisation Volunteers

Addison Road Community Organisation are a wide ranging service for the local community with teams working across food pantries, deliveries, transport, gardening, facility management and partnerships. Addison Road have fed over 360,000 people in the last 12 months alone and have diverted 380 tonnes of food from landfill in the process. With over 300 volunteers, they each make a difference every day to the lives of local people with commitment and dedication.



Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

Ashfield Boys High School – Seniors and Students Shop and Chat Program

Ashfield Boys High School have partnered with Inner West Neighbour Aid to deliver the Senior and Students Shop and Chat program to support seniors with their grocery shopping. The participants of this program have demonstrated increased intergenerational and cross-cultural connections whilst directly supporting and enabling local seniors to participate more fully in their community. The student volunteers all display kindness, generosity, maturity and respect in all their interactions.



Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

The Balmain Knitters

The Balmain Knitters, coordinated by Jan Christensen and based at Balmain Library, are a tight knit community. The group gather regularly to share a cup of tea and stories whilst talking and learning from each other everything knitting and crocheting. The group has been growing strong for many years and continue to gift items to need in various hospitals and facilities.



Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

Bill Crews Foundation - Wednesday Night Dinner Van Group

The volunteers of the Wednesday Night Dinner Van group at Bill Crews Foundation have been working together for years and collectively have over 2,000 volunteer hours. Initially volunteering together, the group has since divided into multiple groups as well as serving on Christmas night. The group serves needy and vulnerable guests with a hot meal, tea and coffee and are generous with their time and care with guests.



Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

Inner West Little Athletics Team

The Inner West Little Athletics team is made up of dedicated volunteers, continuing to service the sporting community since 1972. There are many hours of unseen work including registrations, preparing programs and training sessions, organising equipment and uniforms, and coordinating competition nights. The team strive for positivity and inclusion, working to see their athletes improve and achieve.

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Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

The Soup of Human Kindness at Parliament on King

Parliament on King is a social enterprise staffed by refugees and people seeking asylum. Ravi, owner of Parliament on King, started up The Soup of Human Kindness during the pandemic, recognising that many people were hungry and isolated on the streets of Sydney. Ravi and a strong team of volunteers come together on Saturday evenings to prepare, pack and distribute over 110 meals to those in need. The service has since continued in partnership with other community organisations including One Meal.



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Amy Large Volunteer Team 2023

Sydney Multicultural Community Service – Community Visitors

Sydney Multicultural Community Service have been running the Community Visitors Scheme program for more than 20 years. The program is run by more than 150 volunteers and aims to reduce the loneliness and isolation of multicultural and elderly people. Across the team, they speak more than 40 different languages and provide more than 2,000 hours of free social support, visitations and other services annually.



Senior Citizen of the Year 2023

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Senior Citizen of the Year 2023 Recipient

Carrie Foster

Carrie is a long-term volunteer at the Hannaford Community Centre in Rozelle who has worked as a tutor in the Tech Health program. Carrie has worked one-on-one with locals over 55 years-of-age to up their computer skills. Carrie is warm, kind and generous in all her interactions with a positive and inquisitive mindset.

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Senior Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Yao Zi MA

Yao Zhi is a long-term volunteer with the Chinese Australian Services Society (CASS), working with the Ashfield Activity Group Social Dance Time. Yao Zhi oversees much of the organisation of this weekly group, as well as group festival celebrations such as Moon Festival and Lunar New Year.

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Senior Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition for contribution to local multicultural arts

Ha-Huong Nguyen

Ha-Huong has provided countless hours and talent to empower local seniors to improve their quality of life through directing and performing Vietnamese dance and music. Ha-Huong's work has not only seen groups improve their social, mental and physical wellbeing, but has also resulted in high quality performances at various festivals and community events.



Senior Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Farid Wilson Silwanis

Farid is one of the fantastic volunteers at Sydney Multicultural Community Services, working on the Community Visitors Scheme. Farid is a committed volunteer, providing in-person and virtual visitations to numerous local people. Through his work, he enhances their quality of life, treating them as if they were his own family.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Pauline Choy

Pauline joined the Addison Road volunteer team only in recent years, however has been volunteering four days per week ever since. Pauline sees it as a privilege to serve her community and is a driving force like no other, never letting her age slow her down. Pauline has become an integral part of the team and an inspiration to many.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Jie Xiang Li

Jie Xiang has volunteered with the Chinese Australian Services Society since 2015. In this time, Jie Xiang has played a significant role with the Ashfield Activity Group Social Dance Time. She is responsible for the bookkeeping of this group, taking her work seriously with high level organisation and management. Jie Xiang is kind to everyone, and loved and welcome by all participants.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Kay Lim

Kay has been volunteering with Bill Crews Foundation in their Food Service Department for eight years now, gaining 1,500 hours of volunteering. Kay prepares and serves guests, especially key during the Christmas Day lunch. Kay also willingly helps with interpreting for some of the service's non-English speaking guests.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Michael Muhlbauer

Michael is one of the many hard working volunteers at the Horn of Africa Relief and Development Agency (HARDA). Michael has been the secretary for the organisation for over 15 years, in which time, he has tirelessly ensured the effective management of the organisation. Michael is detail-oriented and is always willing to assist whenever and wherever needed.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

David Rollinson

David is one of the exceptional volunteers at 3Bridges Community. David has worked tirelessly with various clients suffering from dementia and has shown remarkable innovation in his approach to volunteering. In all his work, David shows remarkable patience and uplifts the spirits of those around him.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Ray Swinnerton

Ray has been coaching at UNSW Wests Water Polo Club as a volunteer for the better part of 30 years. One of Ray's many achievements has been coaching the Club's national league team. Ray brings extensive experience to players, coaching beginners all the way through to the highest level of competition.

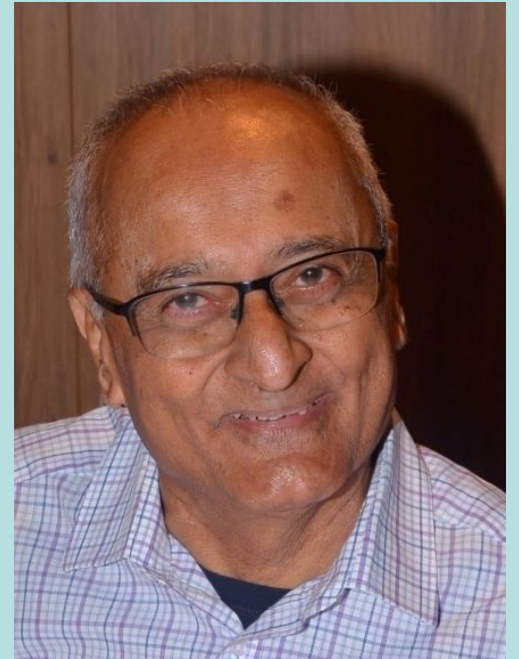


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Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Sajjad Versi

Sajjad has been a volunteer at the Horn of Africa Relief and Development Agency (HARDA) for over 10 years. Since 2015, Sajjad has held the position of President, leading various projects and representing HARDA with government leaders. Despite various challenges, Sajjad's work allows HARDA's important work to continue.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Carolyn Walker

Carolyn is a long-standing volunteer with Western Suburbs Lawn Tennis Association. First joining the club as a junior in 1968, Carolyn has since filled positions including Secretary, President, and Director. Carolyn has been part of the collective team behind the Rally4Ever initiative in collaboration with Council. Carolyn displays a steadfast commitment to the club and the wider local tennis community.

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Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Rick Wayde

Rick has been involved in Western Suburbs District Cricket Club for over 30 years. In this time, he has filled the role of Secretary and has recently become the Club Vice President. Rick has gone above and beyond to support Club members as well as fulfilling the full array of volunteer roles at the Club.



Amy Large Senior Volunteer 2023

Trish Wyner

Trish is a long-standing volunteer with Dress for Success, based in Marrickville. Trish has given time and dedication to various volunteering endeavours with the organisation, including eight fashion fundraising events in the year. Trish is a quiet achiever, with a fun nature which always lifts the atmosphere in any room.



INNER WEST

Adult Citizen of the Year 2023

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Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 **Special recognition for fostering inclusion**

Erin Spencer & Bec Cerio

Erin and Bec co-founded and continue to run the local business Sock Drawer Heroes: Australia's first and largest online store dedicated to gender expression. Erin and Bec have advocated and supported the lives of LGBTQIA+ people through provision of specialist products as well as regular community-connecting activities.



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Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Catherine Delaney

Catherine (Cat) is well-known to Balmain locals as she works to collect food and household products, then distributes these to the homeless. Cat welcomes all and thrives spreading the message of the work she does. Cat provides an accessible avenue for local people to provide goods to people in need.



Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Alan Earls

Alan is a vital volunteer working in the Inner West community in suicide prevention, providing a safe space for those suffering to drop-in and receive the support that they need. Alan has an incredible ability to connect with those in a time of crisis as well as educating in mental health first aid.



Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Simone Amelia Jordan

Simone is an award-winning writer and music journalist born and raised in the Inner West. In addition to her accolades, she organised youth-focused dance parties and continues to be an active member of the community supporting various local ventures.



Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

John Karavasilias

John is the founder and managing director of MPSR Group, a local family-owned body repair shop. John has worked tirelessly alongside his wife Sarah to grow the business to what it is today despite multiple challenges.



Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Recipient

Boe Rambaldini

Bundjalung Elder and Inner West local Boe Rambaldini has worked for many years at various levels and in many areas to improve the lives of First Nations people and close the gap. Despite many challenging life experiences, Boe has worked across universities and multiple levels of government create better health outcomes and working conditions for First Nations people.



Image source:
Healthy Communities, Mid North Coast

Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Ben Ross

Ben is the founder of local basketball club Little Ballers, based out of Wilkin's Public School in Marrickville. Ben has worked tirelessly to create a vibrant local sporting club, providing the physical, mental and social benefits of sport to the Inner West community.



Adult Citizen of the Year 2023

Special recognition for long term commitment to local live music

Kath Wawatai

The Inner West has benefitted immensely from Kath's work to grow and develop a thriving and continuously growing local music community. Kath has worked with various creative entities and venues to present one off music events, improve facilities, and create opportunities for young creatives to gain valuable experience in the industry.

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Adult Citizen of the Year 2023 Nominee

Brooke Watson

Brooke is an outstanding leader in education, currently working at St Paul of the Cross Catholic Primary School. Brooke brings vibrancy and passion to her work, seizing every opportunity to shape the hearts and minds of children by implementing the latest research and evidence-based approaches in education.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

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Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Yvette Andrews

Yvette is a longstanding board member of local outfit Reverse Garbage. Yvette has leant her expertise in strategic engagement, communications and community engagement to ensure the longevity and improvement of the organisation. Yvette has worked extensively across Reverse Garbage undertakings, always championing their mission and cause.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Teigan Butchers (Rainbow Smash)

Teigan, also known as Rainbow Smash, is a trailblazer for LGBTQIA+ inclusion in sports as the President of Inner West Roller Derby League. This has included bringing the club to platforms such as Sydney World Pride, Luna Park and Network 10. Rainbow has an immense passion for the sport, creating a welcoming, safe and inclusive space for all skaters.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Tiffany Chen

Tiffany has volunteered with the Newtown Breakaways AFL club for over five years as a player, committee member, and now as the Club President. Tiffany has overseen the expansion of the club from women's only to now also including a men's team. Tiffany is a role model for the club and is dedicated to ensuring a safe place for all players.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Alison Cockrell

Alison is part of Council's incredible Bushcare team, caring for the local natural environment. Alison donates her time on Sundays contributing to restoration projects reinstating local native vegetation along the Greenway biodiversity corridor. Alison willingly takes on tough tasks and provides a great example to new and young members.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Janet Cooksey

Janet is a keen local volunteer, nominated for her work at Story Factory in Redfern. Janet is a cheerleader for the creative writing students and is always proactive in considering new ways to support the organisation's mission and team. Janet also completed the most volunteer hours in the organisation across 2022!



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Noel Cuthill

Noel is a new and highly motivated volunteer at Together2 in Rozelle. Since joining in early 2021, Noel has made himself available twice every week. With a friendly smile and warm words, Noel makes a difference in the daily life of many local people, taking the time to talk with each recipient of Together2's services.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Darryl Hodgson

Local volunteer Darryl is a driving mentor for young people as part of Stepping Stone House, based in Alexandria. Darryl has established himself as a healthy role model within the service, providing valuable time and knowledge in driving and car maintenance, teaching young people these valuable skills.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Erica James

Erica is a mentor and inspiration as part of her work with the Universities Women's Cricket Club in Camperdown. Erica has been integral to the delivery of UWCC's Youth Development Program initiative as well as volunteering with Marrickville Cricket Club. Erica's enthusiasm and positive energy are infectious and ensure players feel welcome and valued.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Elliot Kahl

Elliot is one of the fantastic Centre Support Volunteers working out of the Asylum Seekers Centre. Elliot provides vital assistance and guidance for clients, keeping them up to date, informed and supported. Elliot has gone above and beyond to help clients navigate the complex Australian systems to ensure clients secure services and benefits wherever needed.

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Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Christine Karadijs

Christine is a multi-talented volunteer as part of Community and Cultural Connections Inc in Marrickville. Christine has organised and lead group outings, functions, food distribution and provided one-on-one support. Through her work, Christine has helped bring about a great deal of happiness, social support and connection between seniors of diverse cultural backgrounds.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Cara O'Neill

Cara has provided extensive volunteer contributions to the Balmain Water Polo Club. Cara has played a key role in the formation and administration of teams, officiating games, as well as organising and running events. Cara advocates for young members and their participation in both the game itself as well as club activities.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Jitra Sae-Seung

Jitra is one of the fantastic volunteers at Sydney Multicultural Community Services, working on the Community Visitors Scheme. Jitra displays love and care for all the people she visits. She is a great example of working with generosity, warmth and dedication in the community.



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Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Hugh Sanderson

Hugh is part of Council's incredible Bushcare team, caring for the local natural environment. Hugh donates his time on Sundays contributing to restoration projects reinstating local native vegetation along the Greenway biodiversity corridor. Hugh is a cornerstone of the group with insightful commentary and uplifting observations.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Andrew Sciberras

Andrew has been a crucial member of the Addison Road volunteer team. Andrew helped manage the operations of the Covid Emergency Relief Hub during the pandemic, and has since conducted much work in the community hall. Andrew is an exemplary volunteer, conducting his work with good humour, kindness and positivity.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Glen Smith

Glen has been part of the Bill Crews Foundation volunteer team for almost seven years, having completed over 3,000 volunteer hours in that time. Glen works diligently to keep the grounds clean and tidy, as well as caring for the garden, flowers and trees. Glen regularly takes time away from his tasks to be friendly and socialise with guests.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Kimberly Uesiliana

Kimberley has been a significant part of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre volunteering team. Kimberley has been part of the Individual Social Support program, providing social support to seniors in the community; as well as the Newtopian Outreacher program, providing resources, temporary housing and support services to people experiencing homelessness.



Amy Large Adult Volunteer 2023

Elizabeth Youssef

Elizabeth is one of the hard working volunteers at Community and Cultural Connections Inc in Marrickville. Elizabeth's work supports local seniors in the Arabic speaking community, ensuring their continued wellbeing and advocating for their needs. Elizabeth was part of the incredible team at CCCi that delivered additional services during the pandemic.



Amy Large



Amy Large, a long-term Balmain resident, was widely known for her long years of service supporting the community through her volunteer work.

Amy passed away in 2015 leaving a legacy to be proud of.

Thank you to all the volunteers with us this evening, for your contribution to our community.