

MAN ALIVE! AWARD

2009

"Leo is the father of eight children. Each of his children were raised to respect and help all members of the community whether friends, acquaintances or strangers. Leo continues to demonstrate this philosophy through his active participation in a range of community activities."



A great man in my life is Leo Moroney

By Damian Moroney

Leo is the father of eight children (5 girls and 3 boys). Each of his children were raised to respect and help all members of the community whether friends, acquaintances or strangers. Leo continues to demonstrate this philosophy through his active participation in a range of community activities.

Leo is a founding member of the Henley and Grange Coastcare Group. For over 15 years he has actively participated in beach clean-ups, native vegetation propagation and dune stabilization programs. He attends every monthly meeting rain, hail or shine and his good nature, willingness to work and his humour provides the

foundation for the ongoing success of this group.

Leo is a volunteer guide for the Henley and Grange Historical Society. He conducts extensive research on issues of historical interest so that he can provide the most up-to-date and accurate information to the wide range of interested visitors.

Leo's services and activities with the Henley and Grange RSL are legendary. Leo is the vote scrutineer at formal RSL meetings as his integrity and honesty are beyond question, he organizes the RSL footy tipping competition and produces a famous weekly footy newsletter. He always puts his hand up if work needs to be done.

Leo has developed a bottle round with a difference. He collects bottles and cans from a broad spectrum of the community and uses the money to buy X-Lotto tickets. If you give Leo a bottle or can you are share-holder in the lotto syndicates. This activity gives him a chance to catch up with his friends and acquaintances but also to keep an eye on the older members of the community without appearing intrusive.

Leo Moroney deserves recognition for his diverse roles within the community.

Brenton Wilksch

Brenton is his name, educating students is his game

By Diane Bratton

He

- demonstrates commitment and high standards, is a positive role model to others, a solid leader who walks the talk and an inspiration.
- is up at 5.00, cycling to work by 6.30 (25 kms each way), teaches 12 year old students (Year 6/7), runs sports days, Friday sport, camps etc.
- challenges students to be inquisitive, cooperative and physically active members of society.

If you are Mr Wilksch's class you have the edge.

A balance of work, fitness and humour is maintained in the classroom. It is set up so that students work towards cohesion, and those who wander from the appropriate path are encouraged by the others to be honest, use self-control and toe the line.

How does Brenton achieve such high standards for himself and his students?

By setting goals and working towards them, spending quality time with his students during lessons and when solving problems, encouraging students to value themselves and others and encouraging them to be aware of the world and their environment.

“He makes me feel special by cooking tea, supporting me in my endeavours, making sure that I know he loves me and accepting my adult children into his life.”

For example he discusses new items, leads “clean up” and recycling programs and runs fitness and sports programs that challenge the students

Brenton is a successful teacher.

Students tell him at the end of the year they have enjoyed being in his class, they understand their strengths, achieve success by being persistent, ex-students enjoy speaking to him while others want to be in his class from a very young age, “I hope I’m in Mr Wilksch’s class in Year 6.”

Parents appreciate him and request for their children to be in his class, and then, also their siblings.

He makes me feel special by cooking tea, supporting me in my endeavours, making sure that I know he loves me and accepting my adult children into his life.

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Alfonso Strappazzon a caring and community-minded local man

By John Mitchell

Alfonso Strappazzon has spent his whole life in the Port Adelaide area.

Educated at Le Fevre Boys Technical High School, Woodville High School and Adelaide University, Alf has always been an enthusiastic and committed member of his local community.

A keen sportsman, Alf played football for SMOSH football club for 27 years, playing over 450 games before retiring at the age of 48 years, spent 5 years on the committee of the club, treasurer for 3 years and honorary player advocate for over 20 years. Alf coached and umpired junior football and has donated any earnings to the club's junior fund. At 54 years of age, Alf continues to play cricket.

Alf and his wife Louise have adopted two sons, Jack and Daniel, and has been a strong supporter of the boys' schools. A school board member of Our Lady Queen of Peace for 8 years and a financial committee member for 5 years, Alf has coached the school's football, basketball and cricket sides and has also volunteered to attend school camps.

As a respected lawyer he has served the community in many roles including volunteer solicitor work for the Roma



"Alf also enjoys acting as a mentor to young people in the community. Many students have undertaken work experience with Alf and he has inspired them to undertake further studies."

Mitchell Community Legal Centre at Norwood, a Human Rights Volunteer Service. He is also a valued member of the Management Committee of the Junction Community Centre which acts as platform for social inclusion for people who are most disadvantaged, socially isolated and disengaged from mainstream services.

Alf also enjoys acting as a mentor to young people in the community. Many students have undertaken work experience with Alf and he has inspired them to undertake further studies.

Given his experiences as an adoptive parent, Alf and his wife Louise, have also acted as a "Host Family" for couples who have adopted children from overseas.

Alf Strappazzon is not only a successful lawyer, outstanding sportsman and wonderful contributor to the community – he is also a good bloke and I strongly support his nomination for the 2009 Man Alive Award.



Hans Pieters best father, best man, best person anyone could ask for

By Claire Pieters

I would like to nominate my Dad, Hans Pieters, for the 2009 'Man Alive' award for nothing more and nothing less than being the best father, indeed best man / best person anyone could ask for!

My Dad is fun, he's fair and he makes me feel that I'm safe and always loved. He's helping guide, support and encourage me to become the person I want to be as I develop independence.

This nomination isn't about telling people about all of the good community work my Dad's been involved with but instead, all I want is for my Dad to know that everyone who's been lucky enough to come across him loves, respects and appreciates him. Not that Dad hasn't also done lots for the community, he

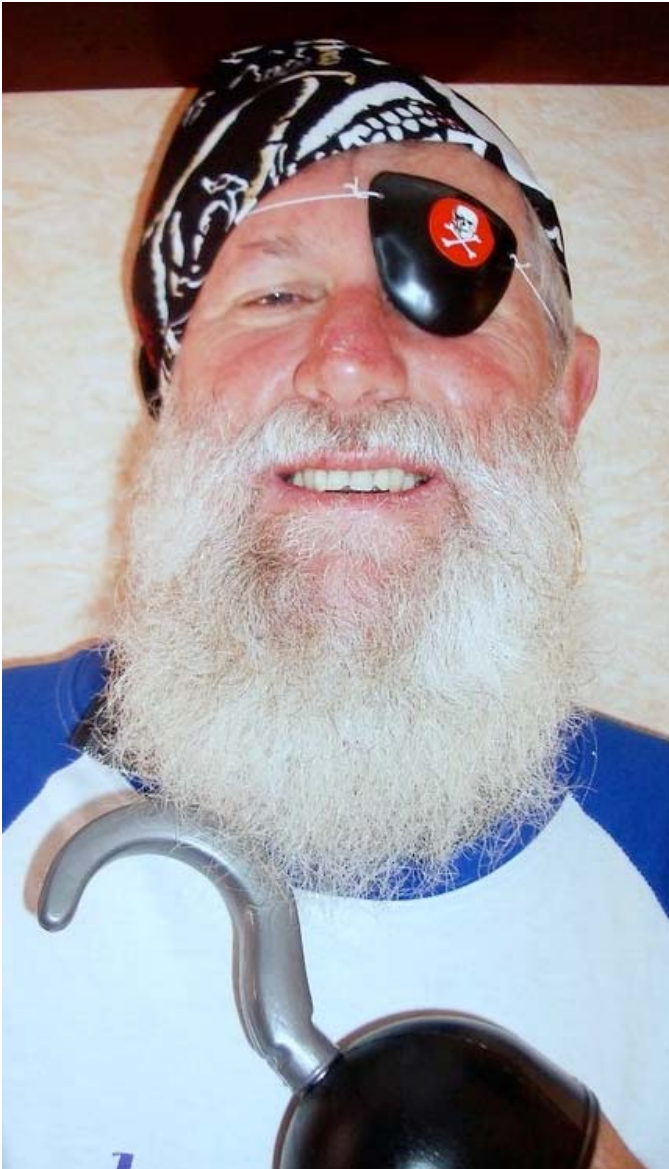
has: as a councilor, then Mayor of Port Adelaide Enfield and through his community service work and also policy development and research.

Dad believes in social justice and always contributes a lot, even quietly sponsoring a child overseas no-one would know about. But this award is about acknowledging someone who's made a significant impact in the lives of others without seeking recognition - and that's exactly what he's done!

I nominate Hans Pieters as best "Man Alive"- just because he is!

*When every morning is greeted with a smile
When every tear is mended with a hug
When every fight is ended with a silly joke
And a smile that makes me giggle away worries with a shrug!*

*When the last words every day are: "I'm proud of you"
It can be easier to recognize how much you're loved by your Dad
Than to find ways to show him how much you love him too!
I want him to know how glad I am he's always there.*



“Through a family crisis, with no hesitation, Roy took on the full responsibility of my grand-daughter to have live with us and shouldered full responsibility for her. She has been with us for eight years.”



Roy Featherstone an active community and family man

By Margaret Featherstone

A great man in my life is Roy Featherstone.

Roy is my husband of 9 years. He is active in the community as a Volunteer and family man.

Bicycle SA Association (9 years)

- Tour Down Under, Grand Slam series, Coast to Coast, Sea to Vines, Outback Odyssey Adelaide to Blinman
- Erecting tents for riders on a daily basis, picking up fatigued riders at the end of the day, preparation for the event, serving refreshments to hundreds of riders.

Special Children's Christmas Party at the Zoo (9 years)

- Sponsoring a child for 5 years
- Dressing up in a rabbit costume
- Setting up and giving out show bags at the main gates.

Seaford Meadows Scout Group - treasurer

- Has not only met these demands but has excelled in the position, improving the Group's financial status.

Triton men's Wood Working Club

- Committee member who inspires other men to be involved in the community. Eg After-school playgroups, maintenance of the Scout Group hall.

Community Living Project (6 years)

- Assists in outings for people with disabilities.

Roy is the father of three, and grandfather of three, while also a step-dad to four other children and grandfather to their other eight. Through a family crisis, with no hesitation, Roy took on the full responsibility of my grand-daughter to have live with us and shouldered full responsibility for her. She has been with us for eight years.

Roy is solid, reliable, has strong principles and is very much respected by his friends and family.

Phillip Hall

making a vocation of his volunteer work

By Bernie McEvoy, Enfield Primary Health Care Services

Phil has been working as a volunteer driver for a range of community organisations for over 10 years. I have known him in his capacity as volunteer driver for the Afghani Women's Sewing Group in Kilburn.

Phil is outstandingly committed and reliable, having only one day's absence from work in the past 5 years – when he had a stroke and had to recuperate, but he returned as soon as was possible.

Phil has a natural affinity with children and volunteers in the crèche both at Kilburn and at Albert Park, doing hours of volunteer work every week.

Most of Phil's volunteer work has been with newly arrived families to South Australia, assisting women and children to access community programs that provide them with contact with others and to English language programs.

Phil has not only acted as a volunteer driver but also a friend – on numerous occasions assisting families in many and varied ways for example: picking up donated bread and dropping it at the homes of those he knew would appreciate it.

I am unaware of all the examples of kindness he has shown but I know the esteem in which the Afghani women hold him.

“Phil has not only acted as a volunteer driver but also a friend – on numerous occasions assisting families in many and varied ways for example: picking up donated bread and dropping it at the homes of those he knew would appreciate it.”

Phil has made a vocation of his volunteer work. To illustrate this Phil recently began driving for a Community Garden project that includes people with mental illnesses and to prepare for this Phil happily did a two day training course in Mental Health First Aid.

The Man Alive Award is an opportunity to pay tribute to Phil for the essential contribution of his work in the settlement of refugees. Our community can be difficult for newly arrived families to get to know local people and sometimes they can experience discrimination and racism rather than friendship and acceptance.

Phillip Hall's outstanding work enables families to feel welcomed to this country and I am honoured to nominate him for the Man Alive Award.

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Andrew Toland 16 years volunteer service at The Junction Community Centre, Ottaway

By Kathy McInerney and the whole Junction Community Centre

The Junction Community Centre nominates our 5-star volunteer - Andrew Toland - for a Man Alive 2009 Award.

Andrew (who is now 41 yrs old) has been a responsible volunteer here for over 16 years. He brings so many positive qualities to his work here – especially his sense of humour and positive outlook.

In earlier days, Andrew served as an Electronics Technician in the Navy for over 10 years, before he was involved in a serious motor bike accident in 1993 which left him in a coma for 3 months. He then had to rebuild his life slowly and come to terms with an acquired brain injury and serious physical injuries .

Andrew's great personal strength, determination and courage inspires us all every day. After a period of rehab at Julia Farr Centre he was able to move into independent accommodation and now lives alone. He first became involved with the Junction Community



“Andrew has a very positive outlook on life which is contagious! He has a wonderful sense of humour and is always willing to lend a helping hand to other people.”

Centre after moving to the area and enrolled in some learning programs and courses.

Andrew's sense of pride and his commitment to making the Junction a great place to be is evident to everyone who meets him. He devotes many hours each week to helping out with Admin and Reception, using his excellent computer skills and co-ordinating the many activities here.

He's even modelled in our Op Shop fashion parade. A man of many talents!

Andrew has a very positive outlook on life which is contagious! He has a wonderful sense of humour and is always willing to lend a helping hand to other people.

We would really like to acknowledge Andrew with this special award as he is such a genuine legend !



"I see Niven as an achiever and someone who cares for the people around him and I know he will never stop supporting the other young people that he comes into contact with, family and the Aboriginal community."

Niven Woods an achiever who cares for the people around him

By Kevin Coleman, Youth Worker, Kura Yerlo Inc

If someone mentions the Man Alive Festival the name Niven Woods comes into my head straightaway.

Niven is a student at Woodville High School. He is one of 22 young school students from the Port Adelaide Enfield area that attend the Aboriginal Youth Action Committee (AYAC) at Kura Yerlo Inc.

Niven has been a member of AYAC for a few years and has become one of the respected peers in the group. His commitment to the other AYAC members and the community demonstrates that he is mature well above his age of 15 years.

Niven has been a volunteer on all AYAC outings and a big supporter of the Nunga Nite's at Kura Yerlo. His love for his family and the Aboriginal community encourages other young people to follow in his footsteps.

He has a positive outlook on life and this shows in the way he handles himself when he is out in the community and when he is here at Kura Yerlo Inc.

He is passionate person and puts his all into the things that he loves to do such as football. He has dreams and goals that I know he will reach in the years ahead. I see Niven as an achiever and someone who cares for the people around him and I know he will never stop supporting the other young people that he comes into contact with, family and the Aboriginal community.

This is why I have decided to nominated this young person for the Man Alive award – the community need to know the good that the Aboriginal youth are doing out there.



Shane Curley
Professional, visionary, enthusiastic
and super-energetic

By the team at Second Story Youth Health Service, Christies Beach

Shane Curley is a Senior Youth Counselor at The Second Story Youth Health Service in the southern suburbs, conducting counseling and running health and wellbeing group programs for local young people. With a reputation for always “going the extra distance”, Shane is a passionate, energetic and committed advocate for young people who are often experiencing very difficult times.

A total professional who is committed to developing and providing best practice, Shane is also not afraid to think outside the square. He recently worked with local agencies to facilitate the “Moving on Up” program to support young people experiencing depression and anxiety, using an innovative therapy model. Although this was

unchartered territory for the organizations involved, Shane’s leadership and vision facilitated a great program which successfully engaged the young people in learning how to improve their own mental health and wellbeing.

Pioneering new areas is no new thing for Shane however, as he is constantly using his creativity and energy to find inventive ways of supporting young people. Shane has piloted adventure programs for young men and recently supported a group at the National Men’s Health Conference, introducing the idea of Youth Participation into a previously professional-only environment. Shane worked tirelessly alongside the young people in collating and editing hours of their video footage as part of their final day presentation back to the conference delegates.

Shane is hugely respected by young people and colleagues alike, for his professionalism, enthusiasm, innovation and of course his quirky sense of humour!

Shane is a perfect male role model and we feel thrilled to nominate him for the Man Alive Award and give him the recognition he deserves!



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About the Man Alive! 2009 Award

We invite you to tell us about a special man in your community:

“A great man in my life is” Great stories to be seen, heard and told!

If you know a man who has made the community a better place to live in by their positive actions, or a man who has been important in your life, send this story (250 words or less) to us together with a photo. This man could win a great prize!

Man Alive! 2009 is a festival celebrating the positive contribution by men in our community, and promoting men’s health and well-being. The event will take place on Sunday 15th March 2009 (Semaphore Foreshore Reserve). Submit your story and help us celebrate men who have made a significant impact in the lives of others without seeking recognition. Stories will be displayed at the event, acknowledging the difference they have made!

MAN/ALIVE!/2009

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