

## **Life Membership**

For many years Northern Volunteering kept a Life Membership program to honour those who had provided service over and above expectations.

With changes to programs and funding some of the more traditional roles for volunteers changed as well as and in 2016 this practice of awarding Life Membership was put on hold.

The current Board has decided to reinstate the Life Membership program to honour two very worthy candidates for their role over and above expectations.

The first award we would like to present posthumously to our friend and colleague Rob Howard who we lost last year.

Rob first came to be connected to NVSA through his role as Coordinator of what was then the Community Visitors Scheme – CVS – with the Salisbury Uniting Church. As one of our members and a colleague to our previous Manager of our own CVS program and then to our current Manager Kate, Rob was a regular supporter of us all. When we commenced talks around a possible consortium with Enfield Baptist as the lead organisation for the new ACVVS program, Rob contributed his knowledge and passion to the discussions and so became not just a colleague but a partner. In 2018 Rob joined our Board and after appointment, soon put his hand up for the role not a lot of people nominate for – as Treasurer. During his time with us Rob demonstrated a keen interest in the future direction of NVSA and supported the team through various challenges and changes from COVID to introduction of a new financial team to ongoing changes in legislation around financial accountability.

Last year we lost a good friend, colleague and champion of the not-for-profit sector and we dedicate this Life Membership so that Rob can continue to be remembered for all the good he achieved not just with NVSA but with the very many organisations he supported.

The second Life Membership is awarded to one of our current volunteers Shane Singe. Shane first started at Northern in 2013 as our graphic designer and over the years has gifted us much of our corporate branding which would have cost a fortune if we had to go offsite to purchase. From logos to our first website development, to letterheads and forms, Shane has dedicated many hours of his specific skill to ensuring we remain professional yet approachable in our corporate look. Shane is our longest serving volunteer and has become a well-known and respected member of not only our team but the larger Good Money and Good Shepherd team. Outside of his graphic skills, Shane has often also provided the extra pair of hands we have needed through our moving office days and special events and can be counted on when we put out a call for help, often at short notice. We thank Shane for all he has provided us and offer this Life Membership as a token of our appreciation.