

MEDIA RELEASE

Subject: Premier's Awards for Volunteers

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Date: Monday 1 August 2022

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TWO dedicated local volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to the Murray Bridge community, have received the Premier's Certificate of Recognition for outstanding volunteer service for 2022.

The Rural City of Murray Bridge Volunteers David O'Brien and Robert Hancock, were presented with the awards at the Local Government Centre, on Monday 25 July 2022.

The awards recognise the exceptional contribution of South Australian volunteers who deliver many critical community services for youth and community development, welfare, education, emergency services, sport and recreation, the environment and more.

David O'Brien is an environmental volunteer who began volunteering at Council's community nursery in 2014, and went on to care for Wetlands Close Reserve, near Sturt Reserve, weeding and repairing the dysfunctional irrigation system. He introduced 1357 new plantings and spread 12 truckloads of mulch by hand around the Reserve – and another 10 truckloads of mulch for the garden bed by Jaensch Road footpath.

Robert Hancock has been a dedicated volunteer at the Lerwin Aged Care Facility in Murray Bridge since 2017. Every second Tuesday Bob drives the bus for resident outings, and on the other Tuesdays he takes residents for one on one drives. Bob helps with many woodworking projects and lifestyle activities and is respected and loved by staff and residents for his efforts.

Mayor Brenton Lewis said volunteers played a vital and valuable role in the provision of services to The Rural City of Murray Bridge.

"Council volunteers are a diverse group of people, from all walks of life, who choose to help the Council for the benefit of our community, and we recognise and value the significant commitment and contribution of all of our volunteers," he said.

"These two exceptional volunteers have embraced the spirit of volunteering and made significant contributions in helping to create the proud, safe and progressive community we all enjoy, and I am profoundly grateful for their service."

The Rural City of Murray Bridge supports volunteers in a wider selection of interest areas including tourism and events, the environment, Community Care and youth, and at locations such as Lerwin, the Regional Gallery, Performing Arts and Function Centre (aka Town Hall), the Library, Visitor Information Centre and more.

For information on how to become a Council volunteer visit <u>murraybridge.sa.gov.au/volunteering</u>