

*****Embargoed Media Invitation*****

For immediate release
18 November 2016

2016 St John Ambulance Volunteer Awards

The 2016 Volunteer Recognition Awards will be held tomorrow evening Saturday 19 November at the Darwin Hilton Hotel, Mitchell Street from 5:30pm –7:00pm.

The Annual Volunteer Recognition and Awards ceremony recognises our volunteers from across the Northern Territory for their tireless efforts in contributing thousands of hours at many local community, sporting and public events over the past year across the Territory.

The awards have been given additional credence this year with the attendance of special guests His Honour the Honourable John Hardy OAM, Administrator of the Northern Territory and Deputy Prior of the Order of St John, Health Minister Natasha Fyles MLA, Mayor of Palmerston Mr Ian Abbott and Mrs Ana Abbott and the Very Reverend Dr Keith Joseph who are also joined by St John Board members.

Seven categories of awards will be presented during the evening, with nominations received from all centres across the NT. His Honour will assist with the presentation of some of the award categories.

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| Junior Member of the Year | Jack Knight, Alice Springs Cadet Division |
| Cadet Member of the Year | Jessica Longe, Alice Springs Cadet Division |
| Peter Falkland Youth Leader Award | Leanne Eltagonde, Palmerston Cadet Division |
| Adult Member of the Year (2 joint winners) | Maria Vescan, Darwin Adult Division Fiona Reid, Tennant Creek Adult Division |
| Operational Support Member of the Year | Cate Driver, Alice Springs Cadet Division |
| Cadet Division of the Year | Darwin Cadet Division |
| Adult Division of the year | Alice Springs Adult Division |

Commissioner Mark Ferguson stated *“These Awards provide the opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of the members for their commitment and dedication. Our Volunteers across the Territory have devoted over 17,000 hours at Community events this year alone, with an equivalent number of hours for training and preparation”.*

“Many of these members shy away from the recognition they deserve, their contributions often going above and beyond the call of the job”.

St John Ambulance NT would like to congratulate all nominees and winners and to thank all of our volunteers and their families for their unwavering support over the past 12 months. We also thank our sponsors of the Awards for their valued support – KR Blacker, Choices Flooring and Grice Group.

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