



Richard Morris Community Spirit Award



The Richard Morris Community Spirit Award



Mr Richard Morris AM KStJ Chairman

The Award was named in honour of Mr Richard Morris AM KStJ who was Chairman of the Board of St John for over a quarter of a century. Richard made an enormous contribution to St John and as the first Chairman was the driving force behind numerous successful ventures and ideas including the establishment of the Ambulance Service.

As St John Chairman from 1977-2000 he was instrumental in ensuring that St John became the leaders in first aid services and pre-hospital care.

Richard came to Darwin initially in 1966, briefly moved to Tasmania and then returned in 1970 where he and wife Gael remained until Richard's retirement in 1997, which saw their relocation to Bairnsdale in Victoria.

Richard made an impact in whatever area he chose to set his mind to. He was involved in many well known business' in Darwin over the years and his business acumen ensured he was part of many a successful venture. Not long after his arrival in Darwin in 1971, he became part of Accounting firm KPMG, where both he and the firm prospered. In addition to his role with KPMG, Richard also served on many boards and societies, including being managing partner of KPMG, Chairman of TIO, Chairman of Perkins Shipping and Director of the Territory Mutual Building Society, but most notably for St John Ambulance, Richard was Chairman of our Board.

Richard was renowned for his sense of humour and this endeared him to all who worked alongside him. It is impossible to mention all of the significant things which Richard achieved during his time as Chairman, except to say that his foresight, planning and implementation of a large number of projects set a solid foundation for the Ambulance Service we are proud to be a part of today. Upon his retirement as Chairman, Richard passed the helm over to current Chairman Michael Mooney.

Unfortunately, early 2009 marked the sad passing of Richard after a long battle with cancer. However, he left us with a wonderful legacy and many fond memories. Richard's wife, Gael, contacted St John and offered an Endowment Trust to support the volunteers.

Background

The Award is given to members of St John NT Volunteers, who openly display a great Community Spirit. The awards will be presented to members who have completed the most number of public duty hours and also fulfilled the selection criteria. The same members are only eligible once every three years.

Public Duties - the provision of First Aid at Community and sporting events, and Volunteer Ambulance Duties.

Due to the high level of commitment of volunteers across the Territory, there will be two annual awards – one for Greater Darwin, which includes Darwin, Palmerston & Humpty Doo and one to include all other regions – Batchelor, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

Selection Criteria

- Must be a volunteer of St John Ambulance (NT) Inc
- Be a positive role model for St John in the community
- Must have been an active, efficient member for at least 12 months
- Must be over 18 years of age
- Preferably have attended a minimum of 10 duties between January and December
- Have completed the most Voluntary Public Duties hours – according to Quarterly Return
- Completion of the required annual skills training
- Same member is only eligible once every 3 years

Consideration will be given to members who have contributed to the community in a variety of ways for St John, including public duties. The final decision will be at the Commissioner's discretion.

Recipients of the Award

The two members who have successfully met all of the above criteria and have been selected as the winners for the year will be awarded a return airfare to the National Member Convention, (held the same year as awarded) or another educational conference relevant to their position within St John. Airfares, conference fees, accommodation and some meals will be included. The award is not transferrable to any other member.

Awardees will also be presented with a perpetual trophy as well as a miniature to keep, also a framed certificate acknowledging award.

Announcement of Winners and Presentations

The winners will be announced in March once all Annual Returns have been completed and submitted to the Volunteer Office. This will enable the winners to attend the Annual National Member Convention (usually held in June).

Awards will be presented by the Commissioner, or his delegate, at an appropriate event.

Richard Morris Community Spirit Award Recipients

The 2011 inaugural award winners - Christine Turner and Darrin Whatley.

Greater Darwin

2011

Christine Turner

2012

Greg Payne

2013

Anthony Kleidon

2014

Christine Turner

2015

Warren Oliver

Regional

Darrin Whatley

Glen Auricht

Justin Hankinson

Paul Berry

Aaron Brooks

