

# Message from the Chairperson



On behalf of the Rotary Districts and Clubs of NSW I am delighted to welcome you to the 2019 Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards (RESCA) 2019.

As the incoming Chair of the RESCA Committee, I would first like to record my appreciation to those who have developed RESCA into such a fantastic event. Mrs Dot Hennessy and the past Committee members have taken a pilot project in the Illawarra and turned it into a professionally run State event. In the future (and with the recent commencement of the ACT Emergency Services Awards), we hope to see RESCA run as a National event!

These Awards seek to recognise those within the Emergency Services who provide 'Service above Self' and I would like to acknowledge the many thousands of Emergency Services staff, both volunteer and professional, who give of themselves every day in the performance of their duties.

I have been fortunate to see these Emergency Services 'heroes' in action – whether on the front line, or in support of those who are helping others, and I am proud that the community, through Rotary, has the opportunity to recognise these well deserving people.

Emergency Services staff do not seek recognition for the work they do. They are reluctant to stand in the spotlight and be acknowledged for their special role in the community. RESCA provides a means through which the community can reach out and say 'thank you' in a small but meaningful way, to those who provide so much, to so many.

Please join us in assisting to recognise our local heroes. I think you will enjoy the recent upgrades we have made to our electronic nominations process, which are designed to streamline and make it easy to submit award nominations. Please feel free to share the nominations link with your friends and colleagues.

You are also most welcome to join us to celebrate with our finalists on the 2nd of August 2019 at the Bankstown Sports Club. Our Gala Dinner is a great environment to provide your special acknowledgement to those who have provided 'Service above Self'!

Finally, my thanks must go to our magnificent sponsors and our hard working RESCA Committee. Without you we would not have the opportunity to hold these Awards, nor the ability to support our Australian Rotary Health Scholars or Vocation Training Team commitments in Vanuatu. Your support, as always is much appreciated.

My best wishes to all of our nominees for the 2019 RESCA Award round. My best wishes and I will look forward to catching up with you on the 2nd of August.

Kindest regards,

**Graeme Finney**, OAM, PHF Sapphire  
Brigadier (Retd)  
Chair, NSW Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards