

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Welcome to our 7th Rotary Clubs of the ACT Emergency Services Community Awards – ACT RESCA. Tomorrow night, NSW RESCA will celebrate its 10th Anniversary at their Awards Dinner in Sydney.

Congratulations to each of our “Top 10” Nominees, serving in either a paid or volunteering capacity. Dedicating your ‘Service Above Self’ to our communities is in harmony with Rotary’s ethos. Thank you to those who nominated members of our Emergency Services for these awards, enabling us to recognise and celebrate their achievements. Thank you also to the partners and families of our emergency service personnel who give their support during often stressful and difficult times.

I am honoured to recognise our Patron, the Honourable Richard Refshauge SC (Ret’d), Commissioner Wayne Phillips and Chiefs of Staff of the ACT Emergency Services Agency and ACT Chief Police Officer Scott Lee. Their support for ACT RESCA, and making available agency staff to work with our RESCA Committee is essential for the success of the awards.

Thank you to our sponsors and partner organisations who so generously contribute either financially or in kind to make this event possible.

My sincere appreciation of the ACT RESCA Committee who manage this project and the panel of Rotary judges who assess the nominations to determine our finalists and overall winners. Our National RESCA Committee is working with Rotarians in other States to expand the RESCA project. Last year, Victoria joined RESCA and we are hoping that Tasmania will come onboard in 2025.

Our Police and Emergency Services personnel are owed a great deal of gratitude from the community as each day they work to protect our community, often placing themselves in dangerous situations. These awards contribute to thanking those members who not only work within their emergency service agency, but also go beyond the call of duty to contribute to their local community by giving “Service above Self”.

Thank you for attending tonight’s Awards Dinner to celebrate the achievements of our very impressive 2024 “Top Ten” nominees.

Wayne Jeffs