

Celebrating achievement

A number of South Gippsland residents have been recognised for their contribution to making our community inclusive at a special ceremony hosted by Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

The achievement awards, titled Person with Disability and Inclusive Community Contribution, acknowledge the efforts made by people with and without disability.

The awards are presented in December each year to coincide with International Day of People with Disability. The Inclusive Community Contribution is a new award, named in recognition of long-standing Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee member and committed advocate for social justice and inclusion, Blair Donaldson, who passed away earlier this year.

The awards were presented to:

- Darren Bone (Achievement Award - Person with a Disability)
- Anne Marie Becu and Dennis Kadmon (Achievement Award - Inclusive Community Contribution).

Certificates of recognition were also awarded to Ben Corcoran and Emily Ardley to acknowledge their contribution to making our community a more inclusive place for people of all abilities.

Darren is a long-standing member and current Chair of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. He has also volunteered for education programs related to disability. Anne Marie and Dennis were recognised for their ongoing contribution to providing a place for young people with disability to learn and express themselves through music at Yooralla First Base.

Emily was nominated for her work on the Living Safer Sexual Lives: Respectful Relationships project, both in Gippsland and across the State, while Ben was recognised for his various volunteer roles and leadership in advocating for people with disability.

Photo caption:

Ben Corcoran, Darren Bone and his seeing eye dog, Daphne, Emily Ardley, Anne Marie Becu and Dennis Kadmon receiving their awards as recognition for making our community inclusive.

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