

Awards shared by tireless citizens

■ Talitha Wolfe

Outstanding community contributions were recognised at the Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Awards at Albany Town Hall on Tuesday.

Albany's Tony Harrison, Heidi Mostert and Scouts WA's Gilcreek Scout Campsite were the winners of the three categories.

Mr Harrison was recognised for his support of the Granny Grommets, his involvement with the Albany Boardriders and Albany Surf Lifesaving Club and his passion for protecting the natural environment.

"I was blown away, I didn't expect it," he said.

Mr Harrison said his support for the local group of surfing grannies began in the late 1990s as a way to encourage women's health.

"They have gone down there and surfed in some lousy weather where a normal surfer wouldn't go out... but the ladies would be down there, catching waves and laughing and when you see that, you know it's working," he said.

Ms Mostert received the under-25 award for her dedication to Albany PCYC as a staff member and volunteer, and her contribution as a volunteer bush firefighter and a St John Ambulance volunteer.

She started in the Highway Volunteer Bushfire Brigade at 17 and said she was honoured to receive the award for her passion for the community.

"I just love being part of something bigger than me and I just love helping people," she said.

"I am learning so much and I meet so many great people and it's great that I can do this.

"I just wish more people would



Premiers Australia Day Active Citizenship Award winners Heidi Mostert and Tony Harrison with Jenny Treeby, who collected the Community Group or Event award on behalf of Scouts WA. Picture: Laurie Benson

are missing out on." The Premier's Active Citizenship Award for a community group or event was presented to Scouts WA's Gilcreek Scout Campsite for its ongoing work in maintaining the campsite.

The campsite provides visiting groups an affordable low-cost accommodation option when visiting Albany.

Jenny Treeby accepted the award on behalf of Scouts WA.



City of Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington.



Premiers Australia Day Active



Simon Woodward