



Conservation Council SA

MEDIA RELEASE
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Conservation legends and young achievers honoured at SA Environment Awards

2017 Nobel Peace Prize recipient Sue Colman Haseldine was awarded the 20th annual Jill Hudson Award for Environmental Protection at a gala ceremony at Tandanya last night.

Ms Colman Haseldine, a proud Kokatha-Mirning woman and respected Elder, was recognised for a lifetime of work to protect and care for country. Her campaign to defend land and people against nuclear testing culminated in the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize as part of ICAN - the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

"Sue's experience, attributes and values deeply align with those acknowledged by the Jill Hudson Award, and she is a continuing mentor and inspiration to many," said Dave Sweeney from the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Young Achievers and Unsung Heroes also took centre stage, with Kahlia Clarke from Australian Youth Climate Coalition taking out the Young Achiever Award, and Phil Gillet from Friend of Para Wirra named Unsung Hero of the Year.

"Many environmental activists and conservationists go for years without recognition. Last night was our opportunity to honour the work that these great South Australians do on behalf of all of us," said Craig Wilkins, Chief Executive of Conservation SA.

South Australia's nature legends were also honoured in the second annual Lifetime Achiever Awards: Conservation SA's first female President Betty Fisher; Great White Shark advocate Rodney Fox; Hindmarsh Island protector Richard Owen; legendary anti-nuclear campaigner Eileen Wani Wingfield*, and Heysen Trail visionary Warren Bonython AO*. (*awarded posthumously)

"South Australia is blessed with so many wonderful people looking after our environment. It is such a thrill to acknowledge and celebrate their enormous contribution," said Mr Wilkins.

"This year, being the 20th anniversary of the Jill Hudson Award, was particularly special. It was a delight to gather previous winners, and remind ourselves again of what they have given the community over the last two decades," he said.

The Honourable David Speirs, Minister for Environment and Water was among the special presenters for the evening. The event was hosted by Conservation SA and sponsored by the Department for Environment and Water, Adelaide Cemeteries Authority and Gemtree Wines.

Release Ends

Media Contact: Craig Wilkins, 0417 879 439

Full list of winners and finalists:

Jill Hudson Award for Environmental Protection

Winner: Sue Colman Haseldine

Finalists: Cristel Chambers, Limestone Coast Protection Alliance

Young Achiever Award

Winner: Kahlia Clarke

Finalist: Student leaders of Aberfoyle Park Primary School

Unsung Hero Award

Winner: Phil Gillet

Finalists: Alan Dandie, Mary-Ann Van Trigt

Lifetime Achievers:

Betty Fisher

Rodney Fox

Richard Owen

Eileen Wani Wingfield (awarded posthumously)

Warren Bonython AO (awarded posthumously)

More detail/biographies attached