

MEDIA RELEASE

A full capacity at Youth HQ for the premiere of Celebrating Community wisdom films.

DATE

Wednesday 2 October 2024

Red Carpet Event Celebrates Local Heroes in "Celebrating Community Wisdom" Premiere

United Way Glenelg's "Celebrating Community Wisdom" launched to a full house at a special red-carpet premiere held at Youth HQ in Casterton, coinciding with Seniors Week and the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of Lewis Court Fund.

The event, which featured the first public screening of five short films highlighting the inspiring contributions of older residents in the Glenelg Shire, was met with resounding support and appreciation from the local community.

All five stars of the films—Jan and Ron Colliver, Stan Aitken, Andrew Legg, Wendy Dowling, and Geoff Mitchell—were in attendance.

With the cinema filled, guests enjoyed complimentary popcorn while watching the premiere screening of the short films, each showcasing the remarkable life stories, dedication, and service of these five individuals who have significantly shaped the Glenelg Shire community. The films, produced by Powerhouse Productions, captured heartfelt narratives and shed light on the profound impact of community involvement on the lives of these esteemed seniors.

The afternoon continued with an entertaining Q&A session, expertly led by Lisa Lowe, who engaged in a wonderful conversation with Geoff Mitchell, one of the featured stars and a fourth-generation farmer in the area. Geoff shared his reflections on being a part of the project and the importance of giving back to the community.

"By holding the event at Youth HQ we not only celebrated the contributions of the past but also aim to inspire future generations to continue the proud tradition of volunteering," said Nicole Carr, Executive Officer of United Way Glenelg.

"All five honourees have contributed so much to our shire, with a combined total of up to 250 years of volunteering. It was truly a privilege to share their incredible stories with the wider community."

As part of the initiative, cafes across Glenelg Shire are participating in a unique community engagement project, featuring QR codes on takeaway coffee cups. Patrons can scan these codes to access the films on YouTube, bringing the stories directly to people in their everyday routines and further celebrating the wisdom and contributions of older residents.

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