

Media Release

JENNY MACKLIN MP

**Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs**

BILL SHORTEN MP

Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services

National Disability Awards finalists announced

Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin, and Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities, Bill Shorten, today announced the 15 finalists for the 2008 National Disability Awards.

The National Disability Awards are held annually to coincide with International Day of People with Disability.

Ms Macklin said the finalists were outstanding Australians.

"These awards present an opportunity to recognise the achievements of people with disability, along with individuals who have helped improve the lives of people with disability in Australia," Ms Macklin said.

"I congratulate all of the finalists for the fantastic impact they are having in their communities."

Finalists were chosen from around 240 nominations in the five award categories including Community Contribution, Young Community Contribution, Inclusion, Go Getter and Personal Achievement.

Award recipients will be announced at the National Disability Awards ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra on 3 December.

Mr Shorten said an independent judging panel from Our Community, Australian Federation of Disability Organisations and National Disability Services had the difficult task of selecting the finalists.

"The panel has a very tough job of picking the award recipients as this really is an excellent field," Mr Shorten said.

"The finalists are certainly worthy of this honour and I look forward to celebrating their achievements in December."

International Day of People with a Disability promotes awareness of people with disability and their achievements, contribution and experiences.

Communities across Australia are celebrating the day by holding local events and celebrations. To register an event, or to find out what's happening in your community, go to www.idpwd.com.au

National Disability Award finalists

Community Contribution

Mark Bagshaw	Pymont	NSW
Robin (Bobbie) Blackson	Annerley	Queensland
Donald (Bill) Bradley	Hornsby	NSW
Greg Killeen	Banksmeadow	NSW

Young Community Contribution

Sam Broughton	Port Lincoln	SA
Sarah Cullen	Toongabbie	NSW
Ping Lian Yeak	Roseville	NSW

Inclusion

Sarah Barton	Windsor	Victoria
Katherine Fisher	Aberfoyle Park	SA
Patricia Rix	Summertown	SA
Alan Robertson	Whittington	Victoria

Go Getter

Amethyst Barnbrook	Narooma	NSW
Glenn Corbett	North Nowra	NSW

Personal Achievement

Janice Daisley	Abbotsford	NSW
Anne McDonald	Brunswick	Victoria

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