

Sutherland Shire Environment Centre  
Bill Ryan Activism Award



## Sutherland Shire Environment Centre

### Bill Ryan Activism Award 2021

*Because sometimes protest is inconvenient but necessary*

In honour of Bill Ryan who passed away in December 2019, Sutherland Shire Environment Centre has created an **Activism Award** in order to recognise peaceful environmental activism.

Bill Ryan's civility, spirit and determination have been an inspiration to so many. His long history of engaging in non-violent, direct action was centred in his conviction that civil disobedience and the freedom to protest should be an essential feature of democratic society. A veteran of the Second World War, and the Kokoda campaign, Bill advocated for an end to the Vietnam War and took part in the anti-apartheid protests in the 1960s and 1970s.

In his later years Bill was legally blind, but continued to campaign for action on climate change, attending protests until a week before his death, at 97 years of age. Multiple arrests did not deter him. "I will be gone by the time climate change is in full swing", he said, "but I am taking action for my grandchildren, great grandchildren and all future generations."

This award has been established in Bill Ryan's name as a tribute to a much loved and remarkable man and to honour those who share his spirit of non-violent direct action for the benefit of the environment.

**Awarded for:** Peaceful environmental activism that inspires others to take action for a better future for the planet.

**Eligibility:** An individual or small group who have engaged in peaceful environmental activism that has elevated community awareness and confronted public apathy. A demonstration of courage, creativity and / or persistence over a length of time is particularly desirable. Nominees must reside in NSW, and preference will be given to those living in the Sutherland Shire.

**Frequency:** Nominations will be considered each year, but awarded only at the discretion of the Board.

**Recognition:** Presentation of certificate at our AGM and \$1000 donated to an environmental charity or program of the winner's choosing. Publication on our website and Facebook page and general media.

**Nomination:** A short nomination form can be submitted by anyone. Both self-nominations and nominations for another person are welcomed.

**Process:** Award nominations announced via social media / the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre website and newsletter as well as general Media Release. Awardee will be contacted directly

**Judging:** The judging panel will be comprised of three members of the Sutherland Shire Environment Centre, including one member from the Board.

If you have any questions, please contact Tassia Kolesnikow on (02) 9501-1505



# Sutherland Shire Environment Centre

## Bill Ryan Activism Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominee(s): .....

Residential Address: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

Reasons for Nomination (500 word limit):

Include examples of how the nominee(s) has demonstrated outstanding activism or advocacy for environmental benefit. Highlight aspects of courage, creativity, persistence and / or effectiveness in bringing an issue or campaign to the wider community.

Specify the role(s) or area(s) of activism in which they have excelled and the period of time they have participated in these roles or activism (if known)

Include evidence of any other recognition received by the nominee(s).

Details of Person submitting this nomination:

Name: .....

Residential Address: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

**\* Applications MUST be received by 5pm, on 23 August, 2021**

Send this completed nomination form to [office@ssec.org.au](mailto:office@ssec.org.au) or post to Sutherland Shire Environment Centre, PO Box 589, Sutherland NSW 1499