Volunteering valiants go on the march

Steve Menzies
NINE diverse organisations gathered on the Town Council Lawns to parade with banners and colour along the footpath around the entirety of the Council precinct to celebrate International Volunteers Day on Thursday.

They were NT Emergency Service, Alice Springs Rural Volunteer Fire Brigade, Anglicare, National Trust, St Vincent de Paul Society, Central Australian Show Society, and Alzheimer’s Australia NT.

All nine appealed for more volunteers.

The parade ended at the Andy McNeill Room for a morning tea with Mayor Damien Ryan.

The International Volunteer Day for Social and Economic Development, established by the UN General Assembly and commemorated on December 5, is an opportunity to acknowledge the value of young volunteers' contribution of youth.

More than 60 volunteers, volunteer managers and guests were entertained by Gerry, the Mayor and volunteers sharing their stories.

Each year around six million Australians volunteer to make our communities a better place. The value of their annual contribution is estimated, conservatively, at around $200 billion.

‘‘That’s more than the revenue of most Australian industries, including mining. Anyone who wants to get involved but don’t know where to start, contact Volunteering SA&NT on 895 9830 or www.volunteeringsa-nt.org.au."

Woolies supports RFDS

Muhamed Ahmic, Michael Toomey, Grant O’Brien, Tjeerd Jegen and Pat McNamee celebrate their partnership

BUSINESS REPORTER
Mluuki Moyo

BUSINESS at Woolworths Supermarket in Alice Springs came to a standstill last week when the chain’s national top brass visited to express their appreciation to customers for $150,000 donated to Royal Flying Doctor Service over the last year.

Woolworths CEO Grant O’Brien, director Tjeerd Jegen and RFDS CEO John Lynch were among the delegation that visited Alice.

Mr O’Brien said the store was proud to support the work they do and there are three of these needed at our Alice Springs Base in the coming year.

“We sincerely thank Woolworths for its charity partnership with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and applaud the way customers have rallied behind fundraising initiatives,” he said.

“Woolworths’ contribution will really help. We wouldn’t be able to plan ahead for medical equipment if we did not have this kind of support. “Each morning we work up we know that someone is going to make a difference to somebody’s life.”

RFDS conducts more than 2500 patient evacuations every year.