

Fight Parkinson's Recognition Awards 2026

Each year Fight Parkinson's recognises the significant contribution members of the community make in supporting people living with Parkinson's and their families. Our annual awards program recognises the services of both individuals and groups for their contribution to activities, years of service and outstanding commitment to the Parkinson's Community.

If you would like to see someone or a group acknowledged for their service to your local community or the wider Parkinson's community, why not nominate them for one of the Fight Parkinson's Recognition Awards? It may be a support group leader, local business supporter, a health care professional or anyone who has shown outstanding support.

The following awards are open to nominations from all members of the community, not only members of Fight Parkinson's.

Awards and Criteria

Sir Zelman Cowen Award

This award, the highest honour available, is presented annually to an individual, recognising their outstanding service to Fight Parkinson's and services to people living with Parkinson's.

Sir Zelman Cowen generously gave permission for the award to be in his name, which is most appropriate, recognising his own outstanding community service to all Australians, and his personal journey with Parkinson's.

Harold Waldron Carer's Award

This award will honour a family member or friend that has been touched by Parkinson's and has made a significant difference to the Parkinson's Community, through their voluntary leadership or support of a leader, through their consistency, length of service and dedication to the community.

Honorary Life Membership

The Honorary Life Membership award recognises outstanding service, normally over a period of at least 15 years.

5, 10 or 15 Year Services Awards

These service awards recognise the continuous service of volunteers in an administrative, project or service capacity.

Community Recognition Award

The Community Recognition Award recognises the significant contribution of an individual or an organisation to events or activities.

Calling for Nominations

Board Members, Presidents, Boards and CEOs of other organisations, members and the community are entitled to nominate suitable candidates for the following awards:

Nominations for the **Sir Zelman Cowen Award** should include full written details of an individual, recognizing their outstanding service to Fight Parkinson's and services to people living with Parkinson's – the work that they do, years of service, how long they have been involved with Fight Parkinson's, commitment & dedication to people with Parkinson's, their achievements and how those achievements have benefitted people affected by Parkinson's. Giving reasons for this nomination may include referees, and or supporting documentation.

Nominations for the **Harold Waldron Carer's Award** should include full written details of an individual, outlining their outstanding service to Fight Parkinson's and services to people living with Parkinson's through their voluntary leadership or support of a leader, through their consistency, length of service and dedication to the community.

Nominations for **Honorary Life Membership** should include full written details of an individual, including their service to the Parkinson's community over a period of at least 15 years.

Nominations for the **5, 10 or 15 Year Services Awards** should include written details outlining the continuous service of a volunteer in an administrative, project or service capacity.

Nominations for the **Community Recognition Award** should include written details of the contribution of an individual or organisation to an event or activity.

Nominations for the awards close on **28 August 2026** and should be addressed to The Board of Fight Parkinson's c/o **info@fightparkinsons.org.au** or to **PO Box 116, Camberwell, VIC 3124**.

Assessment of Nominations

Nominations will be considered and assessed by the Board of Fight Parkinson's. If no suitable nominations are received, no award is given.

Note: Current Board members of Fight Parkinson's are not entitled to receive these awards.

Awards are not granted posthumously. Nominations remain active for a period of two years. After this time, nominators will be invited to resubmit their nomination with updated information if they wish to keep the nomination under review.

Announcement of the Awards

Awards will be announced in November 2026.

