

Graham Felton receives Order of Australia



Avoca Beach resident Mr Graham Felton has received an Order of Australia Medal for his service to the community through aged care organisations.

Mr Felton has been patron of the Ageing and Alzheimers Research Foundation at the University of Sydney since 2007 and has been a major fundraiser for the foundation since 2004.

He has also been a supporter and fundraiser for several charities including Concord Health and Ageing in Men Project.

Mr Felton said he saw the need for research to find the causes and a cure for Alzheimers disease as he was a carer for his mother for many years.

"Hence my deciding to raise funds and create awareness regarding Alzheimers and other debilitating dementias," he said.

Mr Felton said that despite being honoured and surprised when he was notified of his receipt of the award he was pleased there was more publicity regarding Alzheimer's in the community.

"I had just returned

from overseas and hadn't opened my mail.

"There was a follow up phone call from the Honours Secretary's office as it was past the due date.

"It took me a while to take in the significance of being considered for such an award.

"I like to think I can make difference by creating awareness.

"My fundraising activities usually involve a form of

physical activity which I enjoy.

"These include riding an old motor bike around Australia and demanding bush walks.

"People take notice when one is older.

"My fundraising was a team effort in most situations; especially the motor bike rides.

"Although they were my ideas, I couldn't have done it alone.

"My supporters need to be acknowledged and thanked.

"The Ageing and Alzheimers Research Foundation supported me with publicity and administration in all my events which was an important and necessary contribution," said Mr Felton.

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