

REGIONWIDE

Top VCE performers get recognition

DILIGENT students were awarded for their outstanding efforts in VCE at a prestigious ceremony held in Melbourne this year.

Kilbreda College, Parkdale Secondary, Mentone Girls' Grammar, Mentone Grammar and St Bede's were each represented at the 2017 Premier's VCE Awards, which recognise the academic results of top performing students and their teachers and school staff.

Kilbreda College's Montana O'Brien and Tenae Smith were recognised for efforts in Sport and Recreation, and Dance, respectively.

Montana achieved a perfect score of 50 in Sport and Recreation, while Tenae wowed teachers in her written and performance work.

Parkdale Secondary celebrated the results of two students, one of who received an All-Round Award for excellence across five subjects.

Vanessa Hynes received an award for English.

She became one of 25 students across the state to achieve the All-Round honour.

Parkdale's Alin Bedikian was presented with an award for Product Design and Technology.



Tenae Smith (left) and Montana O'Brien.

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MORDIALLOC



Jane Alexander with Noel Sampson. Picture: CHRIS EASTMAN

Golfer never fails to chip in

NOEL Sampson loves where she lives and her neighbours love her.

The 80-year-old has called Mordialloc home since the late 1960s and her keen community heart as a dedicated Meals on Wheels volunteer and reliable neighbour hasn't gone unnoticed.

Friend Jane Alexander described the active woman as "the first to put up her hand to help you".

"She's a dynamo in her 80s who never stops," Ms Alexander said.

"And really kind, she really cares about people ... she's always there for you to feed your dogs and put their coats on in winter. She's really helpful."

When Ms Alexander moved into the neighbourhood more than 20 years ago, Ms Sampson introduced herself and offered to collect the mail in her neighbourly way.

Local dog walkers know to stop by her house where a bowl of water waits for thirsty pups and dog treats are sitting in her letterbox.

The keen golfer continues to ace Masters competitions – a recent trip to South Australia saw her return home with seven medals.

Ms Sampson has been delivering meals to the elderly for the past 17 years.

"I still meet people I met way back when," she said.

"A lot of elderly people have passed away, but it's nice to know others are still around and they're interested in hearing about my golf."

"As well as doing a service, you're also providing them something to give them a bit of interest in their lives."

Ms Sampson will celebrate her 81st birthday later this year and vows to keep up her golf, travel and walking the neighbours' dogs.