5 - 7 Yose St Ferntree Gully VIC 3156



Tel: (03) 9758 5522 Fax: (03) 9758 5899 Email: ioe@ioe.org.au Web: ioe.org.au

Web: ioe.org.au ABN: 65 711 736 371

MEDIA RELEASE IMMEDIATE 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011

## A RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY

Interchange Outer East volunteer Kevin Smyth has been nominated to receive a Ferntree Gully Electorate Victoria Day 2011 award. Kevin volunteers with Ferntree Gully based disability support service, Interchange Outer East and his award will recognize his contribution to community and public service through his volunteering. Kevin, who works full time, has been a volunteer since his early twenties and regularly volunteers his time supporting children and young adults with disabilities on weekends and school holidays.

Volunteer coordinator Kimberley Hannett said "We are delighted that Kevin will be receiving this award. He goes above and beyond his responsibilities as a volunteer. Kevin exudes enthusiasm, passion and dedication and is extremely skilled in supporting children and young adults with more complex physical and behavioural needs. He is also very well respected by the staff, other volunteers and families."

"Kevin is a valuable asset to our organization. In 2010 he volunteered more than 400 hours of his time to Interchange, which averages out to 7.76 hours per week! That certainly is a wonderful contribution."

When told of the success of his nomination Kevin said he was "very humbled to be thought of for such an award".

The award ceremony will be held on Victoria Day, July 1<sup>st</sup>, at Parliament House in Melbourne and will be presented by Nick Wakeling, MP for Ferntree Gully.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please contact Sandra Leehy
Publicity, Interchange Outer East
9758 5522 0409 353 604 <a href="mailto:sandra.leehy@ioe.org.au">sandra.leehy@ioe.org.au</a>