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Parkes crew off to Cambodia

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Parkes man wins major poetry prize

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Rotary's highest honour for locals

Three well known Parkes men have received Rotary's highest honour, being made a Paul Harris Fellow.

They received the prestigious award at the annual Parkes Rotary Club changeover dinner when Peter Woods handed over the reins to Colin Offner.

The special honour was a surprise to two of the recipients, as the Paul Harris Fellowship is normally given to Rotarians for meritorious service.

However the award is also occasionally given to citizens who in the eyes of Rotary, have contributed to their community in a meaningful and unselfish manner.

A local Rotarian was also recognised for his tremendous contribution to this community.

The first was John Sarkissian, CSIRO radio astronomer who was also recently awarded a Rotary District 9700 Vocational Excellence Award.

John has an amazing track record and his research into the lost Apollo mission records is quite astounding. He is also one of the founders of the Central West Astronomical Society, and a scout leader in his spare time.

The second Paul Harris Fellowship was bestowed on popular news editor Roel ten Cate, custodian of the Parkes Champion Post.

Roel has been a major supporter of all community organisations in Parkes over many years and this was his second award in the past month after receiving an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Roel was somewhat surprised by the award even though Rotary almost had to use a front end loader to get him there!

The third Fellowship was awarded to Rotarian John Short who has been looking after the

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The three Parkes men presented with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship by Parkes Rotary Club - from left, John, Roel ten Cate and John Sarkissian, with outgoing Rotary president, Peter Woods and District Governor, Greg Brown.

This Bunyip is very true!

A Patrol from the 3rd Parkes Scouts, led by Mihran Sarkissian, competed with great success at the Scout 'Bunyip' Competition Camp held at Minnamurra Scout Camp.

For their hard work and dedication, the Patrol took out the regional 'Bunyip' trophy which has not been won by Parkes for a considerable time.

Mihran Sarkissian was also presented with the Patrol Leader Award for his proficiency in leadership, planning and attitude.

Full story and another picture on page 2.

Pictured are Mihran Sarkissian, Mitchell Applebee, Elly Collins and Emma Greenland with the 'Bunyip' Regional Scout Competition Award.

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