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## Top women recognised for efforts



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ANN Harris, of Barden Ridge, and Denise Lewis, of Kirrawee, were among 65 nominees for the 2011 NSW Woman of the Year award.

The award is presented each year as part of International Women's Day celebrations.

Mrs Harris, who was nominated by Menai MP Alison Megarrity, established Aussie Farm 4 Kids, an interactive, mobile animal farm for children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

The travelling farm includes two labradors, goats, chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs.

Ms Megarrity said Mrs Harris's achievement was an inspiration to women and girls across the state.

Miranda MP Barry Collier nominated Ms Lewis for 36 years of service as a volunteer with St John Ambulance, Royal Lifesaving Society and working with the mentally ill and the aged.

"Denise is an outstanding quiet achiever," he said. "Over the years, I have often come across Denise in her St John Ambulance role at a multitude of community and sporting events, from the GyMEA Village Fair and Relay for Life to Sharks and local junior soccer matches."

"Denise was instrumental in establishing the Como Social Club to assist men and women with mental health issues adjust back to community life.

"She is also a volunteer worker with mental health patients at Sutherland and Prince of Wales hospitals."

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Shire nominees: (from left) Barry Collier, Denise Lewis, Ann Harris and Alison Megarrity.

THE LEADER