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MEDIA RELEASE

CFA VOLUNTEERS REPAY DONATION WITH FIRST AID RESCUE

Two Werribee CFA volunteers have immediately repaid their local Lions Club after being called on to help with a medical emergency while receiving a \$3000 donation.

Volunteers Lino Zulian and Emily Martignago were enjoying dinner with club members when a patron at the venue suffered a potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis allergic reaction to food.

They were able to keep the woman calm, monitor her vital signs and help her administer medication while waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

Werribee CFA Brigade captain Michael Wells said the incident highlighted the benefits of having trained volunteers active in the local community and the variety of jobs that make Werribee the busiest volunteer brigade in Victoria.

"Lino and Emily jumped in to help out and looked after the person until the ambulance arrived," Mr Wells said.

"They did everything as expected and it shows the importance of their advanced first aid training," he said.

The woman was transported in an intensive care ambulance to hospital and was later discharged.

Mr Zulian has been a volunteer for nearly 30 years and is part of the brigade's rescue team.

Ms Martignago joined the brigade four years ago and plans to do rescue training later this year to add to her qualifications as a wildfire and low structure firefighter and breathing apparatus operator.

"The lady had a good anaphylaxis plan and pour training kicked in so it went quite smoothly," Ms Martignago said.

"We just kept her calm and checked her respiratory rates until the ambulance arrived."

Werribee Lions president, Kerry Cook said the club was proud to support the Werribee CFA with a donation to assist them do the amazing things they do.

"It was fantastic to have the calming and experienced presence of Lino and Emily there when a guest went into an anaphylaxis allergic reaction," Ms Cook said.

"We were sorry that Lino and Emily had to work for their dinner but very grateful they were there."

The Werribee CFA Brigade is a 100 per cent volunteer brigade with about 70 active volunteer firefighters who respond to more than 800 calls a year. Volunteers from the large urban brigade provide professional fire services to householders, commercial premises and industry, attend many community events and involved in many rescue incidents.

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