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 QUIET ACHIEVERS NOMINATED FOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR



Role models share their love for life

By REBECCA KER

MARISA Angelis and [redacted] are on a mission to help young people make the most of life. Passing their positive attitude on to others is a daily ritual for the pair, and it has not gone unnoticed.

Ms Angelis, 28, and [redacted] are among hundreds of Australian of the Year awards nominees across the state.

However, they do not expect any accolades for their achievements and that is exactly why they have been nominated.

A decade ago, Ms Angelis, of [redacted] was involved in a horrific [redacted] year crash.

Today she is a confident woman who paints, draws, writes poetry and stages exhibitions.

The turnaround is remarkable in anyone's eyes but Ms Angelis said there were plenty of people in the world worse off than herself.

"We only get one chance of being here and miracles do happen," she said yesterday.

National Australia Day Council chief executive [redacted] said Ms Angelis and [redacted] were exactly the sort of candidates the awards aimed to honour.

The 2003 awards will combine the Australian of the Year, Young Australian of the Year and Senior Australian of the Year, with a new prize called Local Heroes.

State and territory finalists will be announced next month.

SPIRIT: Marisa Angelis, 28, and [redacted] share their enthusiasm for life yesterday.
 Picture: SARAH REED

MARISA ANGELIS



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