



FRAN Monk (left) and Michelle Boddie of Glowing Adventures are honouring their mother and grandmother Amy Monk's long service to St John by donating to the charity's annual appeal this week.



AMY Monk dedicated more than 50 years to St John receiving a Serving Sister award and long service medal. A highlight for her was attending St John Te Kuiti's 80th anniversary in June 2013 (above).

We're going gold this week for Amy

By Jenelle Burnell

A LONG-TIME family connection with St John has inspired a local business to support its annual appeal this week.

The Boddie family, who own and operate Glowing Adventures, has had a family association with the health care service for more than 60 years and because of this, are donating \$500 and another \$5 for every person who books a

glowworm caving tour during St John's annual appeal week (April 1-7).

"We are a small, family-owned business and were looking for a charity to donate to, and St John was just the right fit," says Michelle Boddie.

The 'heart of gold' appeal is St John's annual fundraiser and helps support the many services it offers including emergency response, caring caller, health shuttles, first aid training and a youth programme.

"This appeal captures the spirit of what St John is all about — having a heart, helping people in need and contributing to our communities," she says.

"This much needed organisation provides essential health services to hundreds of Kiwis every day including ambulance services, first aid training, youth and community programmes and much more."

FAMILY CONNECTION

Mrs Boddie's connection to St John is through her husband Stefan's mother and grandmother Fran and Amy Monk.

Ms Monk (Fran) says St John was a huge part of her mother's life for many years.

"The organisation was very close to mum's heart from 1959 when she first joined the Te Kuiti brigade, right up until the time of her death in 2015. It was a lifetime of commitment to St John — 56 years."

Amy encouraged her four children, including Fran, to join the St John cadets in the 1960s and in 1982 was awarded the Serving Sister Award — granted by the Queen and presented by the

Governor General Sir David Beattie.

Two years later, she was awarded a long service medal.

"She was cadet superintendent for many years and that's how we all became involved — it was just her thing. She spent 17 years in the uniformed [service] branch, 19 years on the executive, and while living in Raglan was vice-chair and delegate of the Raglan area committee.

"She was also the first woman ambulance driver in Te Kuiti."

for Amy was attending St John Te Kuiti's 80th anniversary in June 2013.

"Sadly Amy passed away in 2015, just a month before we opened our doors here at Glowing Adventures," says Mrs Boddie.

"We would like to honour Amy and her contribution to St John by continuing her effort, even if on a much smaller scale than the amazing lifetime commitment she gave to St John.

"We think she'd be chuffed!"

Mrs Monk says her mother summed up St John perfectly: "St John exists because of people. If there were no people, there would be no need for St John."

HONOURING AMY

Throughout many years of service, a highlight



AMY Monk was Te Kuiti's first female ambulance driver.

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