
ORDINARY COUNCIL

Mayoral Minute

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - AUSTRALIA DAY AND CIVIC AWARDS 2018

FROM: The Mayor

TRIM #: 18/31040

On the 26th of January, the Camden community once again came together with pride to celebrate Australia Day. It was fantastic to see so many people enjoying the Macarthur Lions parade on Argyle Street and celebrating the 'lucky country' that we get to call home.

Australia Day provides an opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate our diverse nation, to recognise the traditional owners of our land and to show pride and passion for our great country.

Australia Day also presents an opportunity to recognise local citizens who have contributed to making Camden a fantastic place to live, work and play, and to welcome new citizens to our country at our citizenship and Australia Day Awards ceremony.

The awards ceremony recognised 19 individuals and organisations that have made outstanding contributions to our community through areas such as education, health, fundraising, voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment and community events.

After the awards, we welcomed 37 valued members of our growing community from 12 different countries of origin including Canada, Egypt, Fiji, India, Ireland, Nepal, Pakistan, Scotland, South Korea, UK, USA and Zimbabwe to Australian citizenship.

The following were the nominees and recipients of the awards in each category:

Young Sportsperson of the Year

- Amy Sligar – Joint Winner
- Natalie Sligar – Joint Winner
- Chantelle Barnard
- Jaide Gayle-Weiling

Sportsperson of the Year

- Maddison Lewis - Winner

Community Group of the Year

- Camden Lioness Club – Joint Winner
- Everyone Can Dance Charity – Joint Winner
- Camden Rugby Union Club – The Chain Gang
- Camden Men's Shed
- Currans Hill Rainbow Babies & Kids Playgroup
- 1st Narellan Scouts
- Paws Pet Therapy

Community Event of the Year

- Macarthur Lions Australia Day Parade - Winner
- Camden Show

Young Citizen of the Year

- Lubna Sherieff - Winner
- Emelia Gelardi-Bunyi

Citizen of the Year

- David Funnell – Winner
- Aneek Mollah
- Jennifer Murphy

I thank all nominees and acknowledge their significant contributions to our community.

Finally, as they hand over the reins to the incoming Australia Day Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year for 2018, I thank our outgoing Citizen of the Year, Mrs Robyne Meek and Young Citizen of the Year, Johann Marais.

Robyne has attended many civic receptions with me throughout 2017 including our citizenship ceremonies and has become a great friend of mine. Robyne is actively involved in the Quota International Club of Macarthur, the View Club and the Country Women's Association. Robyne volunteers her time to a variety of worthy causes. She honestly has been an outstanding Camden Citizen of the Year.

Johann attended civic receptions and was a fantastic MC at the 2017 Victor Chang Science Awards. He contributes to the community through his work with the Camden Youth Council and Airforce Cadets. I look forward to seeing what Johann will accomplish in the future.

I thank Robyne and Johann for their contribution and support over the past 12 months, in addition to their dedication to our community.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information.