

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



Friday 27 January 2017

Camden awards its outstanding citizens on Australia Day

Community heroes were honoured at Camden's Australia Day celebrations, with the announcement of the 2017 Camden Australia Day Award winners.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak said she was honoured to present Australia Day Awards to such inspirational community members who give so much to make our community a better place to live.

"Council's Australia Day Awards acknowledge individuals and groups who have dedicated themselves to making a positive difference to their communities."

"We are thankful to have so many local people who display these qualities and I congratulate all of our 2017 award winners and nominees."

"Council received many nominations this year, highlighting that our community has a variety of worthy contenders for the Australia Day Awards."

"Australia Day Awards provide an opportunity for us to recognise those who continue to give tirelessly to the community."

"The winners not only inspire us through their achievements, they also challenge us to make our own contribution to create a better community."

"Through their combined efforts, they have all made the Camden region a special place to live and their wonderful contributions are sincerely appreciated," Cr Symkowiak said.

2017 Australia Day Winners include:

Citizen of the Year: Robyne Meek

Robyne is strongly involved in the Quota International Club of Macarthur, the View Club and the Country Women's Association, where she works tirelessly to raise funds and provide support to the disadvantaged. Robyne volunteers her time to a variety of worthy causes.

Young Citizen of the Year: Johann Marais

Johann has been a long standing and dedicated member of the Camden Youth Council since 2012. He volunteers his time to assist with the planning, implementation and delivery of many Youth Council events and is involved in promotion of opportunities and services to local young people.

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Sportsperson of the Year: Guy Creber

Guy Creber is one of the most successful triathlon coaches in NSW after developing his athletes over the last 3 years to become NSW champions. Guy devotes his time to creating programs, camps, and training sessions for athletes of all abilities to help nurture their talents.

Young Sportsperson of the Year: Nathaniel Stewart and Hannah Trethewey

Nathaniel is a talented local hockey player who recently won gold at the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China. His community service commitment is readily demonstrated by his dedication to developing young players in the sport of hockey.

Hannah is an exceptional cricket player and an inspirational role model who has mentored many junior cricketers. Hannah's cricket representation has gone beyond the local Camden level to NSW and Australian representation. She was selected in the NSW Lend Lease Breakers Academy, training with the NSW Open's team 2015/2016.

Community Event of the Year: Macarthur Lions ANZAC Run

Macarthur Lions ANZAC Run is an annual event open to all ages and abilities to encourage participants to take part in a local activity that promotes wellbeing, and honours and remembers an important part of Australian history. The event is entirely administered by volunteers under the management of Macarthur Lions Inc. The ANZAC run has been an annual event since 2009.

Community Group of the Year: Youth Solutions Youth Advisory Group (YAG)

YAG is a volunteer group made up of young people who are passionate about improving the lives and health of their peers in the Camden LGA. Some of the activities co-ordinated by the YAG include: peer-led workshops focussing on safe partying practices and mental health, road safety workshops and the #whyichoose campaign, which focusses on the effects of smoking.

For more information visit www.camden.nsw.gov.au or phone Camden Council on 4654 7777.

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