

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **MAYOR'S RECEPTIONS RETURN IN 2022 TO RECOGNISE EFFORTS OF MID MURRAY VOLUNTEERS**

A series of special events to publicly recognise and thank the Mid Murray's dedicated volunteers will be back on the calendar in 2022.

The Mid Murray Council will hold four Mayor's Receptions for Council, community and sports volunteers next year, with the events to be timed to coincide with National Volunteers' Week.

It follows challenges in 2020 with COVID-19 restrictions that meant Council was unable to hold functions to honour volunteers. Two Mayor's Receptions were held in Mannum and Morgan in May during 2021, however, the Council's annual Christmas celebration for volunteers had to be cancelled due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The Mayor's Receptions have been a long-standing Council tradition that recognises Council's many volunteers, as well as those who volunteer with community and sporting organisations.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said the district was fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who performed many valuable roles.

"The Mid Murray community is served by a committed and talented army of volunteers who so generously give their time and skills in the service of others," Mayor Burgess says.

"Many of these people do what they do out of love for their community and a desire to share their passion – be it through sport, tourism, keeping our historic river vessels running, emergency services, caring for the elderly or creating memorable events. Others do it out of a sense of pride for their community or a desire to keep others safe.

"Their efforts make our community the special place it is today and give our residents access to many services, programs and activities that significantly enhance their health, safety, social connection and personal wellbeing.

"Our Mayor's Receptions are a small way in which Council can, on behalf of our whole community, say thank you to our volunteers for the priceless work they do for others. Expanding the number of receptions held will also allow Council to hold public events for our volunteers right across our district."

Council will share details of the next Mayor's Receptions once arrangements are made for the 2022 events.

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