

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN

Do you know someone who makes your community a better place?

The Australia Day Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council of South Australia in conjunction with Mid Murray Council.

The awards recognise individuals and organisations that have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year, and/or given outstanding service over a number of years to a local community over and above normal employment duties.

Outstanding contribution and community service includes areas such as education, health, fundraising, charitable and voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment, or any other area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of a community.

The five award categories are:

- Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award
- Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year Award
- Australia Day Community Event of the Year Award
- Award for Active Citizenship
- Mid Murray Council Youth Achievement Award.

Nominees may have made an outstanding contribution or delivered community service in a range of areas such as health, education, fundraising, charitable or voluntary services, business, sport, the arts, environment or any other area that contributes to the advancement of our community's wellbeing.

Mid Murray Mayor Simone Bailey said the awards are a valuable opportunity to recognise the efforts of locals who share their time, skills and support for the benefit of others. With the community spirit being so noticeable during the recent flood disaster, an Australia Day award may be the perfect way to acknowledge the assistance given to so many by wonderful people in our community.

"We are fortunate to live in a region where so many people take pride in making significant contributions to our local community," Mayor Bailey says.

"Volunteering and service to others are woven into the fabric of our region and for many of our residents, it's considered part of everyday life. Whether it be coaching a local sports team, creating opportunities for others to connect and improve their wellbeing, organising an event to bring tourists and the community together in celebration, or putting their lives on the line to keep us safe, there are many in our region whose contributions makes a substantial difference to the Mid Murray.

"Our Australia Day Awards are an important tradition to publicly thank and recognise these unsung heroes and quiet achievers for the valuable work they do, which makes our district the wonderful place it is."

The Award for Active Citizenship returns for its third year, after it was introduced for the 2021 awards. It honors a person or group delivering outstanding work or for an event or cause, staged in the community during the past year.

The Youth Achievement Award, introduced for the first time in 2020, provides an opportunity to showcase the achievements and service of young people aged 10-16 years.

Nominations are now open until 5pm on Friday 17 November 2023 and the winners will receive their awards at the annual Australia Day celebrations to be held on Friday 26 January 2024 at Mary Ann Reserve, Mannum.

For more details, including nomination forms and criteria, visit www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au.

– ENDS –

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Officer Ben Scales

P: 8569 0100 | E: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au