

2026 Australia Day Achievement Awards

COMPANY	RECIPIENT	AWARD
<p>Waratah-Wynyard Council</p>	<p>Jonathan Vincent</p>	<p>Citizen of the Year</p> <p>Jono is an outstanding role model and source of inspiration for young people in our community. He volunteers countless hours each week teaching and mentoring children through the Boat Harbour Surf Life Saving Club, where he promotes vital water safety skills and encourages healthy, active lifestyles.</p> <p>Jono played a pivotal role in securing grant funding for the Sisters Beach Skate Park project, ensuring local youth had a safe and welcoming place to gather. Importantly, he actively consulted with young people throughout the design process, making sure their voices were genuinely heard and reflected in the final outcome.</p> <p>A former President of the Sisters Beach Community Association, Jono’s leadership, dedication and community spirit have made a lasting and meaningful impact on the region.</p>
<p>Waratah-Wynyard Council</p>	<p>Belle Lohrey</p>	<p>Young Citizen of the Year</p> <p>Belle’s contribution to the cheerleading community, particularly within our region, is exceptional and far beyond what is expected of someone her age.</p> <p>Just two weeks before her 18th birthday, Belle coached her youth novice cheer team to become Tasmanian State Champions, earning a bid to compete at The Finals in Orlando, Florida. Belle choreographed the routine herself and volunteered countless hours preparing the athletes for this opportunity. Under her leadership, the team went on to become International Champions, winning the Youth Novice division.</p> <p>Now just 19 years old, Belle is Head Coach at Burnie Tigers Cheerleading, overseeing six competitive teams. She is currently planning to take the club to Hawaii to compete at the Global Games, expanding opportunities for young athletes in our region.</p>

		<p>Belle also continues to excel as an elite athlete, having been selected for the Australian Cheerleading Team to compete at the Cheerleading World Championships.</p> <p>Belle Lohrey is an inspiring young leader whose dedication, passion, and impact make her a strong candidate for Young Citizen of the Year.</p>
<p>Waratah-Wynyard Council</p>	<p>Business Northwest (Permission to Trespass)</p>	<p>Community Event of the Year</p> <p>Permission to Trespass (PTT) is a program of community-driven winter events across Wynyard and Table Cape that celebrates connection, creativity, and local culture. Developed by six local business owners, PTT was designed to bring people together during the off-season, encouraging residents and visitors to engage with the region in meaningful ways.</p> <p>At its core, PTT is about community participation and storytelling. Local farmers, artists, producers, retailers, and community groups open their doors to share spaces, skills, and stories through small-scale, personal experiences. The Moonlight Stories lighthouse projection serves as a free hero event, drawing the community together and providing a memorable focal point. Complementing this, the opening Gather and Glow Main Street Market activated local businesses with quirky offerings, boosted winter trade, and highlighted the region’s creativity and character.</p> <p>Over three years, PTT has transformed winter into a season of community celebration,</p>

		creating a sustainable, scalable model that unites people, supports local enterprise, activates spaces, and showcases the unique character of Wynyard and Table Cape.
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Karyn Skewes	Loxton Citizen of the year award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Ethan Grosse	Loxton Young Citizen of the Year award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Loxton Charity for all Bingo	Loxton Event of the Year award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Des & Kathy Schliebs	Loxton Active Citizenship award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Colleen Andrew	Waikerie Citizen of the Year award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Waikerie Riverland Enduro	Waikerie Event of the Year award
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Waikerie Wetlands Parkrun	Waikerie Active Citizenship award
Cardinia Shire Council	Robb Evans	Citizen of the Year
Cardinia Shire Council	Emerald Arts Society Annual Art Exhibition	Community Event of the Year
Cardinia Shire Council	Maureen Timms	Senior Citizen of the Year
Cardinia Shire Council	Eliza Owen	Young Citizen of the Year
Bogan Shire Council	Sophie Doughty	Citizen of the Year 2026
Bogan Shire Council	Ashton Deebank	Young Sportsperson of the year 2026
West Moreton Migrant Resource Service Inc. T/A - Goodna Neighbourhood House	Mr Savannalack (LUCK) Choummanivong	30 dedicated years as a Community Development Worker supporting the community of Goodna & surrounds.
Australian Transport Safety Bureau	Robert Smith	Individual Award
Australian Transport Safety Bureau	Emma Kavanagh	Individual Award

Monarto Clay Target Club Inc	Robby Clark	Australia Day Medal for AA Grade 164/175 AA and Overall High Gun
Monarto Clay Target Club Inc	Paul Kelly	Australia Day Medal for A Grade 158/175
Monarto Clay Target Club Inc	Anatoly Volkov	Australia day Medal for B Grade 152/175
Monarto Clay Target Club Inc	Matthew Fleming	Australia day Medal for C Grade 155/175
Australian War Memorial	Kassandra Hobbs	Individual: For exceptional performance and an outstanding contribution to the Memorial's Development project. Kassandra led complex and unprecedented collection logistics, delivered major technology and small object installations, set a new standard for safety in high risk moves, and coordinated multidisciplinary teams with professionalism and skill. Her expertise, dedication and collaborative leadership have had a profound and lasting impact on the Memorial.
Australian War Memorial	Helen Petrovski	Individual: For exceptional performance, and a sustained and positive influence on the effective financial management of the Memorial, including securing a sustainable, long term funding model, allowing the Memorial to continue to deliver lasting public benefit through its unique and interlinked functions as a shrine, museum and archive.
East Gippsland Shire Council	Tracey Ah Sam	Citizen of the Year:
East Gippsland Shire Council	Banjo Jackson	Young Citizens of the Year:
East Gippsland Shire Council	Chelsea Wellman	Young Citizens of the Year:
East Gippsland Shire Council	Breast Care Support Fund of East Gippsland	Community Event of the Year:
East Gippsland Shire Council	East Gippsland Winter Festival	Special Recognition Award:
RAAF 460SQN	SGT Steven Knowles	Actions taken during motor vehicle accident at Russell Offices and his support to the driver of the vehicle. Displayed exemplary civic duties and compassion and display of Service Values.
Flinders Shire Council	Kayleigh McIntosh	Citizen of the Year

Flinders Shire Council	Lake McDonald	Junior Citizen of the Year
Flinders Shire Council	Dusty Brummell	Juniour Sports person of the year
Flinders Shire Council	Renee Wearing	Senior sports person of the year
Flinders Shire Council	Hugheden Country Music Ass Inc - Talent Festival	Community Event of the Year
Department of the House of Representatives	Klara Fay	Individual
Department of the House of Representatives	John White	Individual
Sunshine Coast Council	Selina Tomasich	<p>Citizen of the Year</p> <p>Selina Tomasich is a retired academic and philanthropist, and the visionary founder of Hair Aid, a Queensland-born charity now recognised as the world's largest active hair and beauty volunteer organisation. Established in 2010 after Selina witnessed extreme poverty in the Philippines, Hair Aid creates pathways out of poverty by mobilising volunteer hairdressers to teach a simple, universal skill: haircutting. Today, Hair Aid operates across Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, the Philippines and Guatemala, training people rescued from sex trafficking, gangs, prisons and critical slum communities. Participants complete a five-day program, receive professional tools and mentoring, and are supported to launch micro-businesses that provide sustainable income and break cycles of poverty. Hair Aid has trained over 6,700 people to date, working in partnership with governments through formal MOUs and uniquely delivering training within Indonesian prisons. In Australia, Hair Aid Community Cuts provides over 25,000 free haircuts annually to people experiencing homelessness, domestic violence and hardship. Selina's globally recognised leadership has empowered more than 1,500 volunteers and created lasting social change.</p>

<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>Phil & Di Wilson</p>	<p>Senior Citizen of the Year Phil and Di Wilson have dedicated over 30 years to fostering more than 200 children, including many with physical and intellectual disabilities. Their unwavering commitment has provided vulnerable children with safety, love, and stability, often at great personal sacrifice. Beyond fostering, they have adopted 10 children-some with complex needs-offering them lifelong care and belonging. Their home has become a sanctuary where children experience dignity and hope, inspiring others within the fostering community. Known for their patience, resilience, and compassion, Phil and Di have consistently welcomed children others could not, ensuring they receive not only care but the chance to thrive. Their extraordinary service embodies generosity and leadership, making a profound impact on hundreds of lives. Phil and Di Wilson truly exemplify what it means to serve wholeheartedly and are deserving of recognition.</p>
<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>Jessica Cronin</p>	<p>Young Citizen of the Year Jessica is an outstanding young leader whose compassion, initiative, and dedication are creating lasting community impact across the Sunshine Coast and beyond. Her leadership was first evident through the creation of community street libraries, which have become valued neighbourhood resources that encourage literacy, connection, and shared learning. Even at a young age, Jessica demonstrated exceptional organisation, maturity, and a strong desire to serve others.</p>
<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>Lookout07</p>	<p>Community - group or organisation Dr Leon Stensholm and the Lookout07 team have made a transformative impact on health, wellbeing, and community connection across the region. Through innovative programs and compassionate leadership, they provide safe, inclusive spaces that promote physical health, confidence, resilience, and belonging, particularly for youth. Their initiatives include wellbeing workshops, mentorship programs, and accessible fitness sessions, supporting individuals facing challenges such as social isolation and mental health concerns. Leon's commitment to inclusion ensures activities are tailored for</p>

		<p>diverse abilities and backgrounds, while outreach to schools and community groups strengthens collaboration and engagement. The results are profound: participants describe life-changing experiences, rediscovering purpose and forming meaningful connections. By mentoring young leaders and reducing barriers to participation, Lookout07 fosters a ripple effect of empowerment and community spirit. Leon and his team exemplify generosity, integrity, and vision, making Lookout07 a cornerstone of holistic wellbeing.</p>
<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>Gretchen Keelty</p>	<p>Creative Arts (tied result) Gretchen has made an exceptional contribution to the Sunshine Coast arts community by fostering collaboration, accessibility, and innovation. Her leadership has brought regional arts into national focus through coverage in ArtsHub and Inside Local Government. As President of Arts Connect Inc, she cultivated a cooperative arts culture by cross-promoting events and sharing resources, strengthening the sector through unity rather than competition. As Coordinator of Sculpture on the Edge (2022–2023), Gretchen transformed a small garden exhibition into an 18-day accessible art festival, attracting national and international artists, increasing sales, and embedding First Nations participation and programming. As Designer and Coordinator of the Buddina Ocean Chair mosaic mural project, Gretchen united more than 450 community members to transform a vandalised coastal site into a lasting public artwork celebrating Kabi Kabi custodianship, local ecology, and volunteer care. Gretchen’s inclusive leadership, technical expertise, and commitment to community-driven creativity have delivered enduring cultural, educational, and social impact.</p>

<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>Kenilworth Arts Council</p>	<p>Creative Arts (tied result) Established in 1988, the Kenilworth Arts Council (KAC) has played a vital role in enriching the cultural life of the Kenilworth community for over 37 years. Operated entirely by dedicated volunteers, KAC has consistently provided accessible arts experiences for people of all ages through festivals, performances, workshops, and competitions. Its flagship Kenilworth Arts Fest, now in its 27th year, supports emerging and established artists through exhibitions, poetry, and the \$5,000 Kenilworth Art Award. The organisation has presented diverse performances including orchestral music, choral works, comedy, jazz, and literary events, while fostering grassroots participation through singing groups, book clubs, and artist residencies in schools. KAC works collaboratively with local organisations, churches, and businesses, strengthening community connections and resilience, most notably through uplifting arts events following local hardships. Through mentorship, arts administration training, and encouragement awards, KAC has nurtured local talent, built leadership capacity, and demonstrated that the arts are for everyone, “west of the range.”</p>
<p>Sunshine Coast Council</p>	<p>The Parkinsons Centre</p>	<p>Healthy & Active (tied result) The Parkinson’s Centre (“The Park”) is the Sunshine Coast’s first dedicated allied health hub for people living with Parkinson’s and their carers. Supporting over 500 locals weekly, The Park delivers evidence-informed programs under the Parkinson’s Alive protocol, ensuring safe, structured, multidisciplinary care across physiotherapy, exercise physiology, speech pathology, dietetics, and movement-based therapies. Services focus on improving balance, strength, coordination, communication, and functional capacity while reducing isolation and enhancing wellbeing. Beyond therapy, The Park acts as a community hub and advocate, hosting major events like Step Out for Parkinson’s, which has raised over \$150,000, and the Parkinson’s Conference Sunshine Coast, attracting 400+ attendees and national speakers. Through education, carer support programs, and the Parkinson’s</p>

		Support Fund, The Park ensures equitable access to care. Widely regarded as a model clinic, The Park is redefining inclusive, community-centred health support.
Sunshine Coast Council	Bamboo Projects	Healthy & Active (tied result) Bamboo Projects is a volunteer-led Sunshine Coast charity dedicated to improving mental health, confidence, and social connection through inclusive, nature-based programs. Their initiatives support people living with disabilities, mental health challenges, and social isolation by combining physical activity with purpose. The waterways clean-up program restores local environments while providing supported employment and outdoor exercise, helping participants build strength, routine, and resilience. Bamboo Projects also hosts community walks, wellbeing sessions, and all-abilities recreational experiences, including canal trips and seasonal events like Christmas lights cruises, ensuring everyone can enjoy meaningful social moments. Their impact is profound with participants reporting life-changing transformations, from overcoming years of isolation to regaining confidence and communication skills. Entirely volunteer-driven, every dollar donated goes directly to programs that break down barriers and foster inclusion. Bamboo Projects exemplifies compassion, leadership, and innovation, creating healthier, more connected communities and empowering individuals to thrive.
Kempsey Shire Council	David & Susan Croad	Citizen of the Year
Kempsey Shire Council	Skarlyte Bennett	Young Citizen of the Year
Kempsey Shire Council	South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club	Reconciliation Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Greg & Regina Hawken	Volunteer of the Year

Kempsey Shire Council	NSW SES Kempsey Shire Units	Community Group of the Year
Kempsey Shire Council	Brian & Kay Irvine	Lifetime Achievement Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Riding for the Disabled	Local Hero Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Colin Hudson	Local Hero Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Mick Eller	Local Hero Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Emma Miller	Local Hero Award
Kempsey Shire Council	Barbara Coughran	Local Hero Award
City of Playford	Melissa Grierson	Citizen of the Year
City of Playford	Megan Butler	Award for Active Citizenship
City of Playford	Family Support Program - Kurna Plains Children's Centre	Community Group or Initiative of the Year
City of Playford	Elizabeth Grove Soccer Club	Sports Club of the Year
City of Playford	Mwangaza Milunga	Young Citizen of the Year
City of Playford	Krish Paudel	Award for Young Active Citizenship
Bulloo Shire Council	Anthony Glasson	Citizen of the year
Bulloo Shire Council	Gerda Glasson	Citizen of the year
Bulloo Shire Council	Ben Riley	Citizen of the year
Bulloo Shire Council	Sam Czislawski	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Kain Glasson	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Flynn Glasson	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Dean Warner	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	James Pike	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Jack Pike	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Hayden Ferguson	Young Citizen of the Year
Bulloo Shire Council	Kain Glasson	Sporting Award
Bulloo Shire Council	Ayla Tuite	Acheivment Award
Bulloo Shire Council	Glyn Dare	Cultural Award
Isaac Regional Council	Kevin Elliott	Citizen of the Year
Isaac Regional Council	Jixie Navarro	Young citizen of the Year
Isaac Regional Council	Nebo Hotel Street Party	Community Event of the Year
Isaac Regional Council	QRI Services Coppabella	Corporate Community Contribution of the Year
Isaac Regional Council	Queensland Country Women's Association Clermont Branch	Spirit of Isaac
Isaac Regional Council	St Lawrence Creatives	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Clermont Men's Shed	Mayors Award

Isaac Regional Council	Dysart Men's Shed	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Sharni Wood	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Cooper Downing	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Kylie Howe	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Valkyrie Mini Olympics	Mayors Award
Isaac Regional Council	Courtney Quinn	Coast - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Lou Power	Clermont - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Jason & Sandy Moffat	Dysart - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Tevin Waerea	Glenden - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Elizabeth Stewart	Middlemount - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Jacob King	Moranbah - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Joy Cooper	Nebo - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Malakai Rich	Coppabella - Community Champion Award
Isaac Regional Council	Anneli Day	Clarke Creek - Community Champion Award
Edward River Council	Citizen of the Year	Mari Drennan
Edward River Council	Young Citizen of the Year	Chelsea Weir
Edward River Council	Senior Sports Award	Meagan Lowry
Edward River Council	Junior Sports Award	Connor Wilson
Edward River Council	Junior Arts and Culture Award	Zara Lindeman
Edward River Council	Arts and Culture Award	Edward River Art Society
Edward River Council	Community Group of the Year	Deniliquin Can Assist
Edward River Council	Community Event or Initiative of the Year	Deni Ute Muster
Edward River Council	Environmental Citizen/ Group of the Year - Bill & Elwyn Hermiston Memorial Award	Michael Pisasale
RSL AUSTRALIA		

<p>RSL ACT Branch Tuggeranong Sub-Branch</p>	<p>David Learoyd</p>	<p>David John Learoyd joined the RSL at the Canberra Services Club in Manuka in 2010 and was a member there until it burnt down in April 2011, following which he then moved to the Tuggeranong Sub-Branch and joined them on 19 April 2011.</p> <p>David has been a dedicated and active volunteer for the two annual RSL badge sales from 2012 to 2025 at various locations in Tuggeranong, including Erindale, Bunnings and South Point.</p> <p>David served on the Sub-Branch Committee as Treasurer and Membership Officer in 2015 and 2016, then served as Deputy President in 2017 through to 2019. During 2017 and 2018 while serving as Deputy President, David took on the additional duty of Acting Treasurer when no nominations for the position of Treasurer were forthcoming at those Annual General Meetings.</p> <p>David’s dedication and exceptional performance and service to the Sub-Branch in the positions of Treasurer, Membership Officer, Acting Treasurer, then Deputy President was recognised by the members and culminated in his election in 2019 to President of the Sub-Branch.</p> <p>From 2019 until the 2025 Annual General Meeting, David served with distinction as the President, during which time he selflessly supported the Committee in managing the Sub-Branch affairs and activities, as well as fostering the welfare and involvement of its members.</p> <p>David proactively promotes the RSL, Sub-Branch, and Veteran community through meaningful and supportive public relations contributions on the Sub-Branch Facebook media page.</p> <p>Throughout his tenure on the Committee from 2015 to 2025, David has given exemplary service and his dedication has been significant in the success of the Sub-Branch and its contribution to the RSL and the local Veteran community.</p>
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<p>RSL ACT Branch Port Moresby Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Elwyn Agonia</p>	<p>For as long as I have been in the country, Elwyn has been a huge supporter of the Port Moresby RSL. He is a Digital Creator and Event Manager by trade, and for the past 15 years has tirelessly and generously donates his time and all the Audio-Visual Equipment that we use at Bomana on Anzac Day. He has even evolved the production to a live streaming of the ceremony which is watched in several countries by Expatriates and former members. Nothing is too much trouble for Elwyn.</p>
<p>RSL ACT Branch Tuggeranong Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Noelene Jill Lewis</p>	<p>Noelene Jill Lewis has been a member of the ACT - Tuggeranong Valley Sub-branch for 10 year in 2026. During the last 5 years Jill has been part of the ACT Branch volunteering in the capacity of VP Fundraising. Jill has been an integral part of both our ANZAC and Poppy appeals with the organising the Sub-branches merchandise both prior and after the appeals. Her willingness to ensure all sub-branches have their required stock even dropping in to locations to top up merchandise whilst selling for her our sub-branch. Since 2024 Jill has also taken on the roll of Membership Officer ensuring all new memberships and transfer of memberships are actioned in a timely manner and ensuring all our new members feel welcome into the ACT. ACT branch could not operate without the help of Jill and her willingness to support ACT Veterans and their families through her volunteering efforts. The ACT Branch Executive would like to thiank one of our most valued volunteers for her tireless efforts and contributions by presenting you with the 2026 Australia Day Medallion</p>

<p>RSL VIC Branch RSL Victoria</p>	<p>Marie Flewellen</p>	<p>Marie started with RSL Victoria on 26 May 2022 in the Volunteer Services team, after retiring from being a sales Manager in the medical field. Marie always felt very emotional on ANZAC Day because of her father who served, and the relatives in London who were bombed during WWII. This was why Marie was drawn to the RSL as her choice of organisations to volunteer with. Marie is also very mindful and aware that volunteering is good for one's mental health and overall wellbeing. Keeping the brain active and feeling a sense of purpose is also a high priority for Marie.</p> <p>Marie met with the team and immediately felt connected and welcomed. Marie was keen to start what she knew would be a long journey with the Volunteer Services team, initially in the Veteran and Family Services broader team, then later with the Operations team at ANZAC House. Marie is an asset to the team and is always happy to get involved in any project. Marie started with the setup of the RSL ID Card for Volunteers and Veteran and Family Service staff project. Marie continues to manage this process and helps with the Volunteer Management System set up and maintenance tasks. Marie is an outstanding support to the team in all areas of work, she has advanced skills in events management and is always enthusiastic to get involved in volunteer events that are held. Marie has progressed to conducting Sub-Branch Better Impact Information sessions and Administrator Level 1 Training facilitation please.</p> <p>Marie says she loves her Thursdays in ANZAC House, the staff are lovely, kind and very helpful and are tolerant of her continual questions. Marie feels volunteering has been a great transition from her career to retirement and she feels she is doing something to help Veterans and their families in her way.</p>
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<p>RSL VIC Branch RSL Victoria</p>	<p>Kerry Oehm</p>	<p>Kerry has provided invaluable support to the advocates by assisting with the reading and interpretation of medical records, significantly reducing the time required to process complex cases. Her efforts have streamlined workflows and allowed advocates to focus more effectively on client outcomes. In addition to this, Kerry has willingly transitioned into a new and critical role: digitizing the extensive paper files held at the Veteran and Family Hub in Frankston.</p> <p>Her initiative in taking on this task independently, coupled with her diligence and attention to detail, has not only ensured the success of this project but also single-handedly prevented a potential confidentiality breach that could have exposed the RSL to serious risk. Her commitment and reliability have made a measurable difference, and her contributions deserve formal recognition.</p>
<p>RSL VIC Branch Ocean Grove Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Peter Turner</p>	<p>Peter Turner is a dedicated committee member of the Ocean Grove RSL and the driving force behind the establishment and ongoing success of the Bellarine Veterans Group (BVG), a community engagement and social inclusion initiative supporting veterans and their families across the Bellarine Peninsula.</p> <p>A veteran of 47.5 years of distinguished service in the Royal Australian Army Infantry, Peter rose through the ranks from Private to Lieutenant Colonel, demonstrating exceptional leadership, commitment, and service to his country.</p> <p>After relocating from Sydney to Ocean Grove a few years ago with his wife, Peter joined the Ocean Grove RSL in 2023 with a strong desire to give back to the veteran community that had supported him throughout his career. Through the BVG, Peter has created a welcoming environment for connection and wellbeing. He has organised weekly coffee catchups, walking groups, information sessions, and a wide range of inclusive activities such as barefoot bowls, indoor rock climbing, mini golf, and veterans' retreats.</p>

		<p>His efforts have significantly strengthened local veteran networks, enhanced social connectedness, and contributed to the broader mission of RSL Victoria’s wellbeing and community engagement initiatives.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Brisbane North District</p>	<p>Arthur Lee Regnart</p>	<p>It is with great appreciation that we nominate Lee Regnart for the Australia Day Achievement Medallion to recognise his outstanding service as a volunteer treasurer. For several years, Lee has dedicated his time, energy, and expertise to supporting a Volunteer Association, his Sub Branch as well as RSL Brisbane North District.</p> <p>As Treasurer, Lee has played an important role in ensuring the financial stability and transparency of the Sub Branch and District and the Association he supports. He brings a deep sense of loyalty humility and accountability to his role. Despite the complexity of working across multiple branches, Lee handles his responsibilities with commitment, professionalism, and a quiet humility that exemplifies the spirit of volunteer service. His ongoing contribution over the years has helped streamline processes, improve reporting standards, and foster trust within the District.</p> <p>In recognition of his sustained and impactful contribution, and his dedication to upholding the values of RSL Queensland and the veteran</p>

		<p>community, we believe Lee is truly deserving of this award.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Far Nothern District</p>	<p>Innisfail Board Committee</p>	<p>Executive Board Committee—Lachlan Ogilvie, Sean O’Shea, and Jasdeep Atwal—have shown exceptional dedication and service to the Sub Branch, playing an invaluable role in supporting younger veterans and their families.</p> <p>They coordinate and deliver a diverse range of yearly programs, including information sessions, social outings, and Digger’s Days, and are very active in fundraising. They also work hard to engage the whole Innisfail community in commemorative events such as ANZAC Day, Vietnam Veterans Day, VP Day, and Remembrance Day.</p> <p>Through these initiatives, the Board Committee has fostered a welcoming and supportive environment for veterans and their families, and has been a vital resource for the Sub Branch’s Information Technology training.</p> <p>Each year, they generously share their expertise by conducting workshops on the use and application of Point-of-Sale technology, enhancing the Sub Branch’s efficiency during fundraising and merchandise sales, they are highly valued members who consistently contribute to the Sub Branch’s success.</p>

<p>RSL QLD Branch Gold Coast District</p>	<p>Beenleigh and District Sub-Branch</p>	<p>The RSL Gold Coast District is proud to nominate the RSL Beenleigh and District Sub Branch for an Australia Day Award in recognition of their exceptional service to veterans, their families and the broader community.</p> <p>The Sub Branch has consistently demonstrated excellence in their core duties (care, commemoration and camaraderie) and provide vital wellbeing support, expert advocacy and assistance with securing employment for veterans. Their commitment to upholding the Objects of the League reflects their ongoing contribution to our veterans.</p> <p>The RSL Beenleigh and District Sub Branch are truly deserving of this honour.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch North Queensland District</p>	<p>Martin Tanzer</p>	<p>Martin “Marty” Tanzer has demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment during his time as a committee member of the Bowen RSL Sub Branch.</p> <p>He is passionate about his involvement with the RSL, consistently assisting with Veterans Services, commemorative events, and social functions.</p> <p>Marty is a worthy recipient of the Australia Day Award, which would be a fitting recognition of his outstanding work as a Delegate and Home Visitor to veterans. The commitment he displays is a testament to his dedication and his genuine care for the veteran community.</p> <p>As an active Wellbeing Officer for the Bowen RSL, Marty is at the forefront of monitoring and reporting on the changing needs of veterans and their families. His tireless efforts ensure that support is provided where it is most needed, making a significant difference in the lives of those he serves.</p>

<p>RSL QLD Branch Sunshine Coast & Regional District</p>	<p>Helena Smith</p>	<p>1. Helena Smith for the 2026 Australian Day Achievement Medallion in recognition of her outstanding and dedicated service to the veteran community for over 30 years.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3. Helena has consistently demonstrated a profound commitment to the Wellbeing Advocacy of Veterans and their families, particularly those affected by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), providing invaluable Welfare and compensation advocacy. Helena's service has significantly impacted the lives of many, making her an exemplary candidate for this award.</p> <p>Helena embodies the spirit of community service and dedication that the Australia Day Achievement Medallion seeks to honour. Her decades-long commitment to advocating veterans and their families, coupled with the leadership in Training and Development, has made an immeasurable difference to the veteran community.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch South Eastern District</p>	<p>Kirsty Claassen</p>	<p>Kirsty Claassen performs two roles at the Sunnybank Sub Branch: Permanent part-time Administration Officer (twelve hours per week) and voluntary Honorary Secretary.</p> <p>The two roles often merge, and Kirsty enthusiastically performs what could only be described as a full-time job. Her diligence in supporting the Board of management in its endeavours is a major contributor to the overall success of the Sub Branch.</p> <p>She always has the welfare of our 240 members foremost in everything she does. She is thorough, respectful and considerate when dealing with everybody.</p> <p>She recently stepped forward and volunteered to take on a significant part in the planning and conduct of "VP80", a celebration of the end of WW2 in the Pacific hosted by the South Eastern District.</p> <p>Her business experience is invaluable, especially when dealing with the wider community. In her spare time, she wholeheartedly supports her husband, an</p>

		<p>Afghanistan war veteran, and their two young daughters. South Eastern District unreservedly nominate Kirsty Claassen for the 2026 award of the Australia Day Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Wide Bay and Burnett District</p>	<p>Brian Tidyman</p>	<p>For more than 15 years, Brian has exemplified exceptional leadership and dedication to veterans and the wider Hervey Bay community through his ongoing service with the RSL.</p> <p>Beginning as a Committee Member in 2008 and now serving as President of the Hervey Bay Sub Branch, he has held numerous senior roles at both Sub Branch and District levels, including Vice President, Acting President, and District Deputy President. Brian has been a tireless advocate for veterans' welfare, championing the need for trained advocates, expanding wellbeing services, and ensuring the Sub Branch remains financially sustainable and future focused.</p> <p>Under his leadership, the Sub Branch has strengthened its community connections through partnerships with local schools, cadet units, and service organisations, and initiatives such as the monthly Digger's Lunches—providing vital social connection for up to 90 isolated veterans and carers. Brian has also overseen major projects including the Light Horse War Memorial, Cenotaph refurbishment, and the acquisition of welfare vehicles to</p>

		<p>support members.</p> <p>Through his compassion, integrity, and commitment, Brian has fostered a culture of service and remembrance that truly embodies the spirit of the Australia Day Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Western District</p>	<p>Gordon Nielson</p>	<p>Gordon has shown exceptional dedication and service to the Sub Branch, where he plays an invaluable role in as the Membership Officer. He is not limited to Membership Officer he has represented in many roles as District Delegate and State Delegate.</p> <p>Each year, he generously shares his expertise by helping with fundraising initiatives within the Sub Branch and Community.</p> <p>He is always available to assist with anything that is asked of him, he is a highly valued member who consistently contributes to the Sub Branch's success.</p>

<p>RSL QLD Branch Morton District</p>	<p>Toogoolawah Sub-Branch Executive</p>	<p>Toogoolawah Sub Branch new Board had inherited a Sub Branch in massive decline, the AGM in 2024 had only 6 people attend. The new board took up their positions and went to work to not only improve the membership, but to improve the support for the Sub Branch in this small town. They re-opened the hall for Friday night meals, and Wednesday morning welfare drop in coffee. This brought more people into the Sub Branch and improved their membership numbers and the community involvement into the Sub Branch.</p> <p>Through these initiatives, the Sub Branch has become a welcoming and supportive environment for veterans and their families, were previously, many people believed the Sub Branch was closed.</p> <p>Service membership has increased to 37 Service members and 110 Non-League, with nearly 60 to 70 people attending Friday night meals.</p> <p>They are now undertaking the massive job of trying to repair the hall which has been neglected over the years, this includes having to seek grants and support for the old building so that they continue to strive to support the community of Toogoolawah.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Far Nothern District</p>	<p>Peter Hayton</p>	<p>Peter Hayton is the current Treasurer of far Northern District and has been a member of QLD RSL since 24 April 2001. During this period, Peter has been a hardworking member of Far Northern District in volunteering his free time to assist his fellow veterans and families in need.</p> <p>Highly regarded and respected by his peers. Peter has also held the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice President Cairns RSL Sub Branch • President Cairns RSL Sub Branch

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Vice President • District Treasurer <p>The RSL Far Northern District Board fully support Peter's nomination for the Australia Day Award 2026.</p>
<p>RSL QLD Branch Gold Coast District</p>	<p>Freddie Fenton</p>	<p>Mr Freddie Fenton has shown exceptional dedication and service to the Tamborine Mountain RSL Sub Branch and veteran community where he has supported ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services as the local Bugler for well in excess of 15 years, starting when he was in High School.</p> <p>It is rare that young Australian men or women take on traditional roles such as sounding the Last Post and Reveille at military remembrance ceremonies. Not only has Freddie done this in the Tamborine Mountain community since 2008 but he has continued to return and support community commemorative events since graduating from High School and moving away from Tamborine Mountain.</p> <p>As a young man impacted by a physical disability, Freddie has not allowed this to dampen his spirit or limit his commitment to preserving a part of Australia's military history.</p> <p>Freddie embodies the values of service, courage, respect, integrity and excellence despite having never served nor being able to serve. Freddie is a positive, selfless and compassionate individual whose contribution to the memory of those who</p>

		<p>have served is worthy of recognition. Freddie impresses by the seriousness with which he takes his role, his masterful musical ability, and his sense of occasion. He is a worthy recipient of a 2026 ANZAC Day Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Belfield</p>	<p>Ronald Weewan</p>	<p>Ronald has successfully held the positions of both Secretary and Treasurer for many years and continues to do so today. Ron also served as Senior Vice President until 2020. He has brought his computer literacy to the sub Branch which is so necessary today and in doing so passed the online courses introduced by RSL NSW and on two occasions represented Congress online.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Berowra</p>	<p>Frank Miles</p>	<p>Frank Miles is recognised for his exceptional leadership and dedicated service to the veteran community of Berowra. A long-standing member of the Berowra RSL sub-Branch, Frank has been instrumental in organising ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services, maintaining the local War Memorial, and supporting veterans and their families. His calm leadership, integrity, and tireless commitment embody the true spirit of community service and mateship. Through his actions, Frank has strengthened the bonds between veterans and the wider community, ensuring that the sacrifices of those who served are honoured and remembered for generations to come.</p>

<p>RSL NSW Branch Castle Hill & District</p>	<p>Paul Harris-Walker</p>	<p>Paul has demonstrated exceptional commitment to veteran welfare and community service through his role as Vice President Personnel of the Castle Hill & District RSL sub-Branch, a position he has held for two and a half years. With seven years of dedicated service on the Welfare Team, Paul has been a consistent and compassionate presence at Bupa Retirement Village in Dural, where he leads Remembrance Day and ANZAC services and actively contributes to other events such as International Day. Paul also serves as the sub-Branch delegate to the Far Western District President's Council, further strengthening representation and collaboration across the region. In addition to his technical contributions, he assists with funeral arrangements for veterans, supports the President in planning, and represents the sub-Branch at commemorative events. His leadership, initiative, and unwavering dedication embody the spirit of service honoured by the Australia Day Achievement Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch City of Queanbeyan</p>	<p>Kevin John Pritzler</p>	<p>Kevin is an active affiliate member of our sub-Branch's ANZAC Day Committee, Remembrance Day Committee, Queanbeyan Business Council RSL Representative, RSL Building Maintenance Supervisor and RSL Landrover driver.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Collary</p>	<p>John Stanford</p>	<p>John has been our Treasurer for the past eight years and will be retiring at the next election. During his tenure he has supported the growth of the sub-Branch and contributed to it's financial management and fundraising. We returned to profitability in 2021 and regularly donate to our Veterans.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Cumberland</p>	<p>Matthew Jones</p>	<p>Matthew shows dedication and commitment in supporting and managing a large sub-Branch and and has assisted in increasing the sub-Branch membership. He supports the Strathfield and Cumberland communities with integrity and honour with camaraderie and commemorations, ensuring that the Australian national values and qualities are represented and maintained.</p>

<p>RSL NSW Branch Dee Why</p>	<p>Lynette Johnson</p>	<p>Lynette Johnson is an exceptionally dedicated and active Welfare Support Officer within the Dee Why RSL sub-Branch and surrounding community. She has consistently provided compassionate support to veterans and their families, often assisting at very short notice. Lynette has represented the sub-Branch by conducting RSL Funeral Tributes at funerals and has always made herself available to support members in need. In addition to duties as a WSO she regularly conducts hospital and home visits and phone calls on behalf of the sub-Branch, offering comfort, welfare assistance and ongoing contact for members and their families experiencing difficult times. Her commitment, reliability and genuine care for others has ensured that many members receive the support they require.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Gloucester</p>	<p>Francis Patrick McGovern</p>	<p>Francis has been an active member of RSL NSW since 1993. He was elected Treasurer for the Gloucester sub-Branch in March 2012, a position he held until March 2024. During his time as Treasurer, Francis has excelled with his duties. Additionally, he has been instrumental in engaging sub-Branch and Auxiliary members in assisting him in fundraising activities within our community in the lead up to ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. He has also enthusiastically organised raffles to support sub-Branch operations. Francis' unassuming but dedicated commitment to our sub-Branch highlights that he is a deserving recipient of the Australia Day Achievement Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Goulburn</p>	<p>Roderick John MacLean</p>	<p>Rod has been Honorary Secretary of the sub-Branch for 15 years and has been responsible for organising all commemorative services during this time. He has assisted in paying tributes at deceased veterans' funerals and fundraising activities. During the President's absence due to</p>

		<p>illness, Rod kept the sub-Branch functioning, fulfilling the President's duties as well as his own Secretarial duties. Rod was also responsible for having a Honour Roll for WWII - Vietnam War that has become the focal point for major commemorative services.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Laurieton</p>	<p>Josephine Paton</p>	<p>Josephine Paton is a dedicated member of the Laurieton RSL sub-Branch Auxiliary and has shown unwavering commitment to supporting veterans through extensive fundraising efforts. Her tireless dedication significantly contributes to the welfare of our veteran community making her a deserving recipient of the Australia Day Achievement Medallion .</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Medowie</p>	<p>Elizabeth Featherstone</p>	<p>Medowie sub-Branch would like to nominate Elizabeth Featherstone for the 2025 Australia Day Medallion. Liz is one of the sub-Branch Wellbeing Support Officers and fundraising co-ordinator. Liz is dedicated to the care and well-being of all of our veterans and veteran community, she is always first to go on calls checking on a veteran who might have medical needs or physical needs, she takes them and their families to medical appointments, hospital visits and home visits. Liz also co-ordinates fundraising - from Bunnings BBQ's, monthly markets where we sell sausage sandwiches and organising the purchase and sale of our Commemorative Merchandise for Remembrance Day, ANZAC Day and Vietnam Veterans Day. Liz is a very deserving nominee, she loves what she does and is a force to be reckoned with when it comes to the wellbeing of veterans and support of the sub-Branch</p>

<p>RSL NSW Branch Merewether- Hamilton-Adamstown</p>	<p>Peter Herbert Blume</p>	<p>Peter has been a dedicated Welfare Officer at the Merewether-Hamilton-Adamstown RSL sub-Branch since 2016, providing compassionate support to members, especially during challenging times such as the COVID pandemic. His commitment to member well-being and collaboration with the sub-Branch leadership has greatly contributed to the organisation's success and strong community reputation. As the demands of the role have grown, Peter has recently stepped down, with three Welfare Officers now taking his place, but his legacy of care and mateship remains highly respected among his peers.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Nowra</p>	<p>Barry Leslie Tait</p>	<p>Barry, affectionately known as Grumpy, is a dedicated and proactive Vice president of the Sub-Branch. He consistently steps up to assist with a wide range of responsibilities, including acting as the nearest point of contact for the sub-Branch office, supporting commemorations, guiding visitors through the hall's memorabilia displays, helping with welfare visits, attending member funerals, setting up ANZAC Day services, participating in local school projects, selling badges, assisting at community barbecues, and volunteering at the local Day Club.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Penshurst</p>	<p>Michael Korfias</p>	<p>Vice President, Michael Korfias. Michael enlisted on 28 March 1978 and was attached to HMAS Waterhen. He was discharged on 17 March 1980. He joined the sub-Branch on 5 August 1980 and has been an active member ever since. He has performed exceptionally as a committee member and now Vice President. In particular he has for many years undertaken the role of visitation officer regularly visiting our sick and older veterans.</p>
<p>RSL NSW Branch Tamworth</p>	<p>Robert Chapman</p>	<p>Robert is a former President of the Tamworth sub-Branch and has devoted outstanding service to our organization. He maintains the sub-Branch museum and continually attends all of our events. He conducts funeral services with great dignity and we deem him to be a most worthy recipient of this medallion.</p>
<p>RSL SA/NT Branch Tea Tree Gully RSL</p>	<p>Jeff Yates</p>	<p>Jeff is a level 3 Advocate working directly with the State Branch and Member of his local Sub-Branch. Jeff is one of the hardest working Advocates I know of here in SA. He takes on any case that is too difficult, and</p>

		always goes the extra mile for our veterans, whilst taking care not to over service or complicate the journey.
RSL SA/NT Branch RSL Reach Out Wellbeing Program	Ash Muir	Ash joined the RSL Reach Out Wellbeing program as a Volunteer Wellbeing Support Officer at the beginning of 2024. He found his purpose was lacking post service, and believes this program assisted him in finding it once more, allowing him to give back to those that need it most. He goes the extra mile for his clients, taking them out for coffee....even took a client to his place of work for a tour (Port Adelaide Football Club).
RSL SA/NT Branch Mallala RSL	Jo Grotto	Jo's list of accomplishments continues to grow. She is the Program Coordinator for the RSL Fort 2 Fort Remembrance Walk, an annual event. She is the President of the Mallala RSL (after numerous committee roles at Mallala and Largs Bay RSLs. Jo was employed by State Branch to assist in the development of the Reach Out wellbeing program throughout 2024 and when her contract concluded, jumped over to become one of our most active volunteer wellbeing support officers.
RSL SA State Branch	Ron Green	Ron has been a very important volunteer for our State Branch, providing thorough merchandise management for Sub-Branches and coordinating stock for our appeals for many years. Despite several health issues, Ron has put his role first, of which he undertakes with complete passion and loyalty to the RSL. We cannot thank Ron enough for his valuable volunteer hours.
RSL SA/NT Branch Morphett Vale RSL	Mark Wheaton	Mark is nominated for his Reach Out work and support to the RSL (Morphett Vale President), Mark is an active President of his Sub-Branch at Morphett Vale and works extremely hard to ensure his members are heard, supported and safe. He undertook the Reach Out training and now serves as a wellbeing support officer, despite numerous hours already invested in his own Sub-Branch. He is a "go-to" for wellbeing related situations in the Southern Adelaide area and has helped many veterans in this role.

<p>RSL WA Branch Rockingham Sub- Branch</p>	<p>Christina O'Hara</p>	<p>Christina Jean O'Hara - City of Rockingham RSL Sub-Branch has been nominated for her valuable, outstanding and hardworking commitment to the league, the Veteran community, her ability to develop rapport with Defence organisations, offering guidance and support to ADF personnel, working with local governing bodies in preparation for Commemorative services and funding, whilst demonstrating respect, dignity, honour, trust, loyalty and professionalism.</p> <p>Christina has dedicated her time and effort over the years as Honorary Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Vice President and in particular, serving as the Sub-Branch's first female President to hold office and bringing the ANZAC spirit alive with her cheerful disposition and her ability to be a conscientious member of our team, whilst undertaking her full-time job at HMAS Stirling.</p> <p>The President, Committee and the members of the Sub-Branch would be grateful if Christina was to receive an Australia Day Medallion as a prestigious acknowledgment for her exemplary work on behalf of the Returned Services League of Western Australia.</p>
<p>RSL WA Branch Three Springs-Arrino Sub- Branch</p>	<p>Constantine Kikeros</p>	<p>Constantine Kikeros selflessness, dedication, and ability to bring people together make him an invaluable part of both the veteran and wider community. His leadership and humility continue to inspire all who know him. For his outstanding service, advocacy, and ongoing commitment to remembrance and community, Con is a most worthy recipient of the Australia Day medallion.</p>

<p>RSL WA Branch North Beach Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Greg Gough</p>	<p>Since my appointment as President of the North Beach RSL Sub Branch in August 2024, I have become much more aware of the importance Greg plays in bringing our members together as a caring group who support each other.</p> <p>He undertakes his role of Wellbeing Support Officer with professionalism and genuine understanding, and fosters a culture that our members are there for each other. It's a reflection of his character that he offers so much support, not only for all our members, but to those who are unwell or in need of mateship. He has developed a supported team of members who share Greg's character, and are willing to visit, or make a simple phone call in order to continue their link to the Sub-Branch. In 2021 he was awarded Life Membership to RSLWA.</p> <p>His long term membership of RSLWA is to be commended as he has made a significant contribution, not only to our Sub-Branch, but also the community, our members, members' families and the wider veteran community. I fully encourage RSLWA approve this submission to grant Gregory Gough an Australia Day Medallion.</p>
<p>RSL WA Branch Northam Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Northam RSL Sub-Branch Auxiliary</p>	<p>Over the years the Auxiliary have held dancers, raffles, cakes stall's and catering for all types of fund-raising events. Monies raised are used for the benefits of Veterans and their families in the Northam area.</p> <p>The Auxiliary is heavily involved with different community groups and liked mined people. Such as for example, the Northam Lions, Rotary Inner Wheel, the Northam Hospital Ladies Auxiliary and the Community Shed (Men's Shed). Also, the WRAAC Association and RAAFA.</p> <p>With generous support and donations to each group over the years to the ADF Cadets e.g. 519 Army Cadets, TS Perth Naval Cadets and the Air Force Drum Band.</p> <p>The making and giving care packages to local aged homes. Where veterans are spending their final years. Conducting ANZAC and Remembrance Day services at both venues. Catering for RSL SB Members funerals and wakes, preparing meals for members coming out of hospital. Transporting SB Members to</p>

		<p>Doctors and Medical appointment both in Northam and around Perth. The aims, policy and objects set from time to time in the League's Constitution, together with such minor domestic aims and objects as it may be deemed necessary to add, shall be the aims, objects and policy of every Auxiliary formed under these rules.</p>
<p>RSL WA Branch Highgate Sub-Branch</p>	<p>Greg Wilson</p>	<p>Greg Wilson, by any measure, has dedicated himself for over three decades supporting the welfare and betterment of individuals and organisations of the Veteran and Ex-service Community in Western Australia.</p> <p>His significant contributions included his involvement with the Defence Reserves Association (DRA) from the late 1990s, serving as its secretary till 2003. Key activities of the DRA were, and still are, the welfare and betterment of serving and former Defence Force members and, where appropriate, seeking changes to the conditions of service, amenities and equipment relating to Defence Reserves. Greg has been a leader and a committed team player in his various roles and duties, as detailed in the background of this nomination.</p> <p>Most recently Greg stood down as Secretary of the Highgate RSL Sub-Branch in August 2025 after 10 continuous years in this crucial and demanding position. Yet he continues to serve as a Warden of the State War Memorial with a band of committed others who have demonstrated the highest levels of commitment to commemoration.</p> <p>A feature of Greg Wilson's commitment of service to veteran organisations and individuals has been his quiet</p>

		<p>professionalism, dedication to duty and attention to detail: be it remembering those who have fallen, looking after the needs of aged veterans, ensuring reflection and remembrance of those veterans who have since passed away and showing an enthusiastic approach to welcoming a new wave of veterans who are now reaching out for support.</p> <p>It is respectfully submitted that Greg Wilson is a deserving recipient of the Australia Day Medallion that is rightly reserved for the highest level of recognition for service to individual veterans and the veteran communities in Western Australia.</p>
Georges River Council	Marion Smith	Citizen of the Year 2026
Georges River Council	Cindy Yan He	Young Citizen of the Year 2026
Georges River Council	Mei Fong Wong	Volunteer of the Year 2026
Georges River Council	Tony Thorpe	Volunteer of the Year 2026
Georges River Council	Zoe Ong	Localability Citizen of the Year 2026
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Livingstone - Youth Action Group	Community Award (Group)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Capricorn Coast Cricket Club	Sports/Recreation Award (Group)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Friends of Lammermoor Native Gardens	Environment Award (Group)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Keppel Coast Arts Council	Arts and Culture Award (Group)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Yeppoon RSL Sub Branch	Business/Innovation/Corporate Social Responsibility
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Lachlan Duggan	Sports/Recreation Award (Individual)

LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	David Hiscox	Environment Award (Individual)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Adam Murrell	Community Award (Individual)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Candece Bergin	Arts and Culture Award (Individual)
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Myilly Symington	Young Citizen of the Year
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Robert Lang	Citizen of the Year
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Peter Watkins	Mayor's Award
LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL	Bruce Acutt	Mayor's Award (Posthumous)
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Greg Campbell	Citizen of the Year Award
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Troy Gallagher	Volunteer of the year Award
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Schapelle Noble	Junior Sportsperson of the Year
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Cynthia Thomas	Arts/Cultural Award of the Year
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Zahara Chilman	Young Citizen of the Year Award
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Wayne Reeves	Senior Sportsperson of the Year
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Normanton Barra Classic	Community Event of the Year
CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL	Emily Hammann	The Mayors Award
Perhimpunan Indonesia - The Indonesian Association of NSW Inc.	Vera Patterson	Australian of the Year
Perhimpunan Indonesia - The Indonesian Association of NSW Inc.	Hannah Zamany	Young Australian of the Year
Perhimpunan Indonesia - The Indonesian Association of NSW Inc.	Julie Umboh	Local Hero
Perhimpunan Indonesia - The Indonesian Association of NSW Inc.	Maria Pranoto	Senior Australian of the Year

Perhimpunan Indonesia - The Indonesian Association of NSW Inc.	Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Multicultural Mentor of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Jenni McKenzie	Citizen of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Aunty Gladys Walford	Senior Citizen of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Vincent Hill	Young Citizen of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Aunty Faye Green	Community Champion
Walgett Shire Council	Collarenebri Christmas Carols in the Park (awarded to Collarenebri Lions Club / Collarenebri Watersports and Fishing Club)	Event of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Amanda Caley (joint winner)	Volunteer of the Year
Walgett Shire Council	Lance McNaughton (joint winner)	Volunteer of the Year
Austrade	Akiko Ochiai Aya Fujii Cindy Lineburg Emi Finch Fumihito Matsumoto James McMurray Kazuya Kuroda Margaret Bowen Mari Asano Matthew Terpstra Nozomi Nakai Peter Koppman Tomoko Umeda	Team Award - Austrade Osaka Team CEO Award Winner At the World Expo in Osaka, Austrade supported more than a third of the 167 business events, welcoming over 8,000 guests. By working closely with state and territory agencies, federal departments and the DFAT Osaka Expo Taskforce, the team delivered a unified Australian presence. As the only Australian Government department based in Kansai, the Austrade team played a central role in coordinating whole of government activity.
Austrade	Ellen Lee	"Individual Award (Trade and Investment, North East Asia - South Korea) Excellence in Delivery Ellen led the Live Sheep Phase Out NPP, working with stakeholders in South Korea and Australia to shift consumer behaviour in support of Australian exporters. In a market where lamb is not traditionally eaten, her leadership drove a 1,000% increase in Aussie lamb sales across key retail stores in Korea."

<p>Austrade</p>	<p>Paula Frodl</p>	<p>Individual Award (Trade and Investment, Americas - New York) Excellence in Delivery Paula is a key contributor to the Americas team. She manages Austrade’s second largest payroll and supports three major US posts, while also providing cross border assistance to Canada and São Paulo. Her deep knowledge of Austrade, strong technical skills and generosity of spirit help ensure client facing staff can stay focused on delivering trade and investment outcomes for Australia.</p>
<p>Austrade</p>	<p>Jason De-Maria Zainab Farouk Rosalind Johnston Lisa Carter Alex Hobson Amar Chelli Brad Jurowicz Vivek Padaliya Jimmy Thomas Sunethra De Mel Saket Kulkarni Robert Taylor Pyke Satnam Singh Linh Truong Suresh Peesa Faheem Zafar Swathi Gunuputi Mohamad Win Dee Verrall Junaid Tariq Elise Hsieh Eatrend Wang Michael Linegar Scott Robertson Ethan Weatherfield Kate Toms Katerina Sinitsina Richard McGrail Venkat Iyer</p>	<p>Team Award - The Go-Global Toolkit Team Excellence in Delivery This team’s initiatives have driven exceptional engagement. So far, they have created more than 3,800 exporter accounts, delivered 43 webinars to over 2,400 attendees, and supported more than 1,700 export outcomes through GGT. They have introduced approaches never before used at Austrade, often ahead of schedule, while navigating significant changes in process, staffing and structure.</p>

<p>Austrade</p>	<p>Partha Sen</p>	<p>Individual Award (Trade and Investment, South Asia - Kolkata) Excellence in Leadership Partha has mentored three state BDMs and two new recruits to the Green Economy team, guiding them as they achieved their first outcomes. In the past year, he has also delivered several skills outcomes, passed on to the Education team to claim, as well as a significant investment outcome, all outside his usual trade focus. Partha also worked closely with the TC to bring together all five states active in India to participate under a unified One Australia banner at International Mining and Machinery Exhibition. Partha is also a strong supporter of diversity and inclusion through his advocacy of the India Women in Mining network.</p>
<p>Austrade</p>	<p>Huong Ngo</p>	<p>Individual Award (Trade and Investment, Southeast Asia - Vietnam) Excellence in Leadership Huong has made Vietnam one of Austrade's strongest performing export markets, while also guiding Austrade's education work through the policy changes introduced in 2025. She led the education team in helping clients diversify their markets and played a key role in the Green Economy Education and Skills mission to Vietnam, creating a new strategic niche for Australian providers in Green Economy and Net Zero.</p>
<p>Austrade</p>	<p>Charmaine Teoh</p>	<p>Individual Award (Policy and Programs, Employee Communications) Excellence in Leadership Through her leadership of Austrade's case studies and strategic content, Charmaine builds strong, trusted relationships with teams across every branch and market. She commissions, coordinates, reviews, edits and promotes around 15 high quality case studies each month, showcasing Austrade's impact and real outcomes for Australia. She also leads the Employee Communication team, ensuring staff across the globe feel informed, valued and connected to a shared mission.</p>

Austrade	Dannielle Green Julie Budji Ethan Turner Anita Hambrett Jenny Low Elizabeth Chapin Edita Belen Koren Harvey Megan Bird	Team Award - The RITG Virtual Credit Card Team Excellence in Innovation The RITG Virtual Credit Card team piloted Austrade’s first use of virtual credit cards for grant payments. The program helped tourism exporters reconnect with international markets and supply chains, and boosted bookings from international consumers through digital uplift. More than 400 exporters benefited from this approach, which the team delivered at no external cost to Austrade.
Austrade	David Cooper	Individual Award (Policy and Programs, Visitor Economy) Excellence in Innovation David played a key role in co-designing the First Nations Visitor Economy Partnership, established in March last year. He secured initial funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency and subsequently obtained additional support for partnership activities. Through this work, he became a trusted advisor to First Nations peoples by helping create new opportunities for First Nations participation in tourism.
Austrade	Akiko Ochiai Aya Fujii Cindy Lineburg Emi Finch Fumihito Matsumoto James McMurray Kazuya Kuroda Margaret Bowen Mari Asano Matthew Terpstra Nozomi Nakai Peter Koppman Tomoko Umeda	Team Award - Austrade Osaka Team Excellence in Collaboration At the World Expo in Osaka, Austrade supported more than a third of the 167 business events, welcoming over 8,000 guests. By working closely with state and territory agencies, federal departments and the DFAT Osaka Expo Taskforce, the team delivered a unified Australian presence. As the only Australian Government department based in Kansai, the Austrade team played a central role in coordinating whole of government activity.
Austrade	Andrew Barnes	Individual Award (Trade and Investment, Investment - Americas Desk) Excellence in Collaboration Andrew’s strong collaborative approach has helped drive alignment across the Americas teams globally. His recent work provided valuable industry insights that supported the development of whole of government AI and data centre policy. Through these

		contributions, Andrew ensured Austrade had meaningful influence in shaping the National AI Plan and Data Centre principles.
Austrade	Liam Butterworth Ayu Bromley Deb Dark Calum Robertson	Team Award - The North Asia, External Budget and Legal Teams Excellence in Collaboration To deliver the 'Pandas to Adelaide Zoo' program, the team worked across government to overcome significant obstacles and negotiate a Federation Funding Agreement with the South Australian Government. They applied their expertise to confirm the legal authority needed to administer the scheme and ensure compliance with import and biosecurity regulations. By collaborating with 11 government departments, the team delivered a major tourism outcome that strengthens Australia's relationships with both China and the South Australian Government.
ANAO	Benjamin Foreman	Individual award
ANAO	Tanibul Islam	Individual award
ANAO	Ella Kidd	Individual award
ANAO	Li Lin	Individual award
ANAO	Casey Mazarella	Individual award
ANAO	Laura Spackman	Individual award
ANAO	Heather Thomas	Individual award
ANAO	Philippa Goodes Preety Goyal Jasmin Hynes Justin Low Tina Olsen Sophie Stott	Team award
ANAO	Brendon Gittens Catherine Riley Kellie Szentirmay	Team award

ANAO	Nancy Chen Andrew Duong Waqas Durrani Saminda Maddumahewa Winson Wu	Team award
Douglas Shire Council	Bev Gwynne	Citizen of the Year
Douglas Shire Council	Sophie Hamilton	Young Citizen of the Year
Douglas Shire Council	Bruce Ferguson	Senior Citizen of the Year.
Douglas Shire Council	Terry Summerall	Volunteer Award
Douglas Shire Council	Cody Lundstrom- Postlewaight	Arts & Culture Award
Douglas Shire Council	Dr Dean Miller - Forever Reef Project	Environmental Achievement Award
Douglas Shire Council	Kai Wall	Junior Sports Award
Douglas Shire Council	Josh Harris	Senior Sports Award
Hawthorn RSL Sub Branch	Geoff Parkes - President, Nasho Fair Go Australia	Medallion
Hawthorn RSL Sub Branch	Authar Koo - President, RAR Association, Victoria Branch	Medallion
Hawthorn RSL Sub Branch	Eamon Hale - Vice President Hawthorn RSL	Medallion
Hawthorn RSL Sub Branch	Marianne Doyle - Hawthorn Committee Member	Medallion
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing	Penny Carter	Australia Day Council medallion / Emerging Leader Award
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing	Thomas Burridge	Australia Day Council medallion / Collaboration Award