

FEDERATION COUNCIL'S AUSTRALIA DAY 2021

EVENT PROGRAM

Tuesday 26 January 2021
Urana Aquatic Centre
9 am start



Australia Day



**FEDERATION
COUNCIL**

WELCOME

Welcome to the Federation Council's 2021 Australia Day Awards and Community Celebration.

Acknowledgment of Country

Introduction

General Manager, Mr Adrian Butler

Welcome Address

Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

Address

MP Justin Clancy member for Albury

Virtual Guest Speaker - Australia Day Ambassador

Chief Inspector
Robert John Fitzgerald

Presentation of School Achiever Awards

Youth Council Mayor Maxim
Blockley & Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

Presentation of Light up Federation Awards

Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

Presentation of Australia
Day Awards

MP Justin Clancy member for Albury,
Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke, GM Adrian Butler

Raising of the flag

Federation Council Citizen of the Year

Citizenship Ceremony

Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

Australia Day Affirmation

Lead by Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

National Anthem



AUSTRALIA DAY AMBASSADOR

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Federation Council is pleased to announce the 2021 Australia Day Ambassador, Chief Inspector Robert John Fitzgerald, Blacktown Police Area Command.

Robert (Bob) Fitzgerald is the Chief Inspector of the Blacktown Police Area Command and a proud and active member of Western Sydney, having lived in the region for the past 40 years and worked across Sydney's police stations for over 30 years. His current portfolios include mental health, Aboriginal issues and multicultural community engagement. Chief Inspector Fitzgerald moved to Western Sydney in the 1970's and was in the first intake of bricklayers at Mount Druitt TAFE. After completing his apprenticeship, he worked in the local area and later joined the NSW Police Force in the 1980's. He has since served at a number of stations including Redfern, Kings Cross, St Mary's, Cabramatta, Olympic Security Command Blacktown, Rose Bay and Mount Druitt. Chief Inspector Fitzgerald is a passionate advocate for Western Sydney and is actively involved in helping the local community both on and off duty.

He is a strong promoter of multiculturalism and serves as the Chair of the Board of SydWest Multicultural Services, a leading organisation for all cultural diversity issues responding to community need and opportunities to refugees and humanitarian entrants.

Due to Covid, Chief Inspector Fitzgerald will today deliver his ambassador address via pre-recorded video link.



SCHOOL ACHIEVER AWARDS

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Boree Creek Public School

Ruby Routley
Jacinta Westblade

Corowa High School

Jacob Read
James Frazer

Corowa Public School

Zach Arnold
Riley Collins

Corowa South Public School

Alexis Macarteny
Mila Bratt

Howlong Public School

Scarlett Longley
Charlotte Shepherd

Lowesdale Public School

Lucia McLellan
Harley Cooper

Oaklands Central School

Alexis Finch
Tahlia Hunter

Rand Public School

Charlie Williams
Aiden Emmerton

St. Francis Xavier Primary School

Jack Butler
Josie Gooden

St. Mary's Primary School

Archer Coppolino
Tahlia Morley

Urana Public School

Hunter Bell
Melissa Smith

LIGHT UP FEDERATION AWARD WINNERS

The 'Light Up Federation' Christmas Light Competition is over for another year and Council would like to congratulate the residents and businesses that put their lights up and got into the Christmas spirit.

Over 240 votes were received with the winners of the 2020 Light Up Federation being:

Best Decorated House:

8 Hay Street, Corowa.

Best Decorated Street:

O'Brien Court, Corowa.

Best Decorated Business:

Howlong Bakery, 53 Hawkins Street, Howlong.

Well done and thank you to the volunteers, businesses and community groups that displayed decorations and organised Christmas events for their representative towns.

We hope that you enjoyed viewing the wonderful Christmas light displays that registered as part of this much loved initiative.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Nominees for the Federation Council Community Event of the Year

- Corowa Rutherglen Relay for Life – Virtual Event
- Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts - The 41st Annual Corowa Swim-In and Military Vehicle Gathering

Nominees for the Federation Council Local Achiever

- George Jenkins
- Kathryn Bruce
- Vivian Spilva
- Cassandra Hughes
- Paul Carrol
- Wayne Lamb
- Yvonne Smith
- Meredith Miegel

Nominees for the Federation Council Citizen of the Year

- George Jenkins
- Kathryn Bruce
- Vivian Spilva
- Cassandra Hughes
- Paul Carrol
- Wayne Lamb
- Yvonne Smith
- Meredith Miegel

Nominee for the Federation Council Young Citizen of the Year

- Zali Peters
- Maxim Blockley
- Dylan Forge

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Community Event of the Year

Corowa Rutherglen virtual relay for life

Relay For Life is a fundraiser for the Cancer Council NSW, and was scheduled for March 21st 2020.

As with many events, the committee members put in hundreds of hours of time and effort to prepare a successful community event. In early March there were over 20 registered Relay For Life teams for the 12 hour program which included a Cancer Survivors and Carer's Lap of Honour, Children's Lap of Hope, Survivors and Carer's Morning Tea, Silent Auction, Major Auction, Major Raffle draw, Team Awards Ceremony, Wellness Marquee, Candlelight Ceremony of Hope and many local activities and performances.

Covid-19 became prevalent in Australia in early March. On Tuesday 17th March the group was notified by Cancer Council NSW that the event would be cancelled due to Covid-19 increased restrictions.

With so many community members invested in the event, members of the committee got together, were innovative and came up with the idea of using today's technology to livestream Relay For Life over Facebook.

Corowa Rutherglen VIRTUAL Relay For Life, was born. Committee members worked extremely hard to turn the event around, received so much positive feedback and still managed to meet the fundraising goal, raising just over \$40,000.

Relay for Life teams and community members came online and watched the event live on our Facebook page. The program included interactive items for our relay teams and community members to get involved with, and hosted a moving Hope Ceremony paid it's respects to the families of locals who had passed from cancer. The local community embraced the changes we made.

The success of the event has also been given the following commendations:

** The first ever Virtual Relay For Life event world-wide.

** State, National and International accolades from Cancer Council agencies and Relay For Life organisers.

** Nominated for the 2020 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards: Riverina Regional Ceremony held on 11th August 2020.

** WINNER of the Cancer Council NSW: 2020 Annual CEO Awards held on 22nd October 2020 for 'Volunteer Team of the Year'.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Community Event of the Year

Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts - The 41st Annual Corowa Swim-In and Military Vehicle Gathering

The 41st Annual Corowa Swim-In and Military Vehicle Gathering is the annual event which has occurred annually since 1980 in Corowa for one week.

The event is based at Ball Park Caravan Park and trips are organised to visit different towns within the Federation Council Area. Locally the event visited the towns of Howlong and Brocklesby and did 2 school visits with up to 50 vehicles. On Saturday the event held a Swap Meet and vehicle display at the Corowa Racecourse and Showgrounds.

A highlight was to get the ABC Goulburn Murray radio to hold their morning show at the event on Tuesday morning. This encouraged more people from outside the Federation Council area to visit while our event was being held.

Participants stay at all of the local caravan parks, motels and hotels. There are a number of community groups engaged who support the event. These include Federation Council, Corowa RSL, Corowa Free Press, Corowa Rotary Club, Corowa Pastoral, Horticultural and Agricultural Society and the Corowa-Rutherglen Football Netball Club.

This event is the largest gathering of military vehicles in the southern hemisphere. The website and distribution of newsletters 4 times per year promotes the event and the location.

The Corowa Swim-in encourages people from all states and countries overseas to meet on an annual basis. Normally over 1000 people come into the Council area and the event runs smoothly with the support from the local community. On the Thursday there was a visit to the Howlong School and at the Howlong Preschool in the morning followed by a visit to the Brocklesby children. It provides an opportunity to relive our military and war history in Australia. The current curriculum of schools includes history of WW1, WW2 and more recent conflicts and seeing the vehicles brings the subject to light.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Citizen of the Year and Local Achiever

George Jenkins (Mulwala)

George, volunteers in many areas such as Scouts, Girl Guides, Mulwala Preschool & TunzaFun Amusement Park. At Tunzafun George has volunteered for over 13 years and has helped make it the place it is today and it has become such a great asset to the Mulwala and Yarrowonga Community. All work completed and profits made go straight back into the community. George is a pivotal person in the success of Tunzafun in Mulwala where he set up and built the golf course, helped build the kiosk/office and helped build the new picnic area. George driving a business plan for TunzaFun had assistance with gaining financial support through local and council grant programs and manages the finances of the amusement park. George along with Graham Bott travelled to china in 2017, to purchase and organise new rides and their delivery to the park for the community. He then put each ride together with the assistance of other volunteers without any instructions and only a photo. He is a scout leader and has become an inspirational role model for young people. He collaborated his Scouts with Girl Guides taking the groups away on trips and organised community jamborees.

Kathryn Bruce (Savernake)

Kathryn has devoted her considerable skills and endless voluntary hours to all aspects of the Savernake community over more than 35 years.

Her significant contributions include:

- Treasurer of the Savernake School of Arts Reserve Trust for many years
- Administration, grant writing, catering, organisation and participation in events, working bees, representative committees, coordinating guests and tradespeople
- Savernake Public School committee member
- Savernake Uniting Church Elder
- Savernake Rural Fire Service support
- Savernake “gentle exercise” class facilitator and participant

As a community volunteer, Kathryn is an outstanding role model. Whether it is 45 degrees at the Australia Day breakfast or 8 degrees at a winter working bee, Kathryn will always be there early, positive and especially welcoming to newcomers.

Kathryn is also an Elder in the Savernake Uniting Church in which she shares responsibility for service preparation, spiritual guidance along with maintenance of the church building and assets. The annual Savernake Cancer Council morning tea is coordinated by Kathryn, including entertainment, catering, fundraising and drawing guests from far afield and she has been a heavily involved member in the upgrade of the Savernake hall.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Citizen of the Year and Local Achiever

Vivian Spilva (Mulwala)

For over 35 years, living and working in the border towns of Yarrowonga/Mulwala, Vivian is known throughout these communities for her generosity of spirit and tireless work that benefits people on both sides of the border. Her sphere of influence extends to a number of organisations that she has founded or been instrumental in running:

Helping Hands Inc (since 2015): Vivian was Founder and is Co-Chair of the Helping Hands Committee whose primary role is fundraising for Yarrowonga Health, to benefit the Yarrowonga/Mulwala community. The Committee has raised \$120,000 in 4½ years, funding the purchase of new beds and medical equipment.

Yarrowonga Neighbourhood House (since 2012): Vivian is a Member of the Neighbourhood House Committee of Management and has held the position of Secretary since 2014. Yarrowonga Neighbourhood House provides quality education and extensive opportunities to assist adult learners. This in turn maximises life opportunities for adult learners and provides a platform for them to reach their goals.

The Yarrowonga-Mulwala Arts Council: Vivian has been Secretary and Member for 35 years and thus has been an important cog in the machinery that drives its events. Vivian has assisted in bringing entertainment, visual, literary and hands-on workshops to our towns, facilitating cultural expression for our people.

Festival of 1000 Voices: Annually, Vivian is part of the organisation of the Festival, working behind the scenes to ensure its success. The inception of this event began with an idea of Vivian's in 2016. Vivian planted some nurturing and inspirational seeds in the mind of Conductor, Dr Jonathon Welsh AM. Highly acclaimed and respected for his personal dedication and work with the 'Choir of Hard Knocks,' Jonathon showed interest in the suggestions brought to him.

The Festival of 1000 Voices offers a unique opportunity to bring together diverse Choirs from Local, Regional, State, Australia wide and possibly from other parts of the world, to learn from each other and sing in an 'uplifting' environment which celebrates great music and choral excellence.

Anzac Day 2020: With Covid 19 preventing people from leaving their homes and attending services, Vivian delivered Anzac biscuits to veterans throughout both Moira and Federation Shires.

Mother's Day 2020: Again, with Covid 19 preventing families from visiting their mothers, Vivian delivered flowers to the older Mums throughout both Moira and Federation Shires. Her voluntary work beyond paid employment speaks volumes of her dedication to the community. She has given generously of her time, is a role model for others, and is a beacon of community service.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Citizen of the Year and Local Achiever

Cassandra Hughes (Corowa)

Corowa and District Netball Association: Casandra was an integral member of the Corowa and District Netball Association Committee joining the club as a player and in 1992 elected to the Committee as Secretary, a position she continued in until 2003, returning in 2009 and again took on the Secretary role until 2015. In 2011 she was awarded 'Life Membership' for her dedication.

Corowa Rutherglen Netball Club: In 1994 she joined the Committee and continued to serve as a committee member for 17 years in the positions of Score Secretary, Secretary, and Vice President. Cas is the longest serving Netball Committee member and player for Corowa Rutherglen, serving 17 years as a committee member. In 2011 she was awarded "Club Person of the Year". In 2017 she was awarded "Life Membership" of the Corowa Rutherglen Football Netball Club. Cas continues to cater each week for the canteen and the players.

St Mary's Primary School: In 2007 joined the St Mary's Primary School Parents and Citizens Assoc. During her years on the committee she took on the role of Volunteer Tuckshop Coordinator and was also a member of the Fete Organising Committee.

Corowa High School: Casandra joined the Corowa High School's Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association in 2014. In 2016 she was elected P&C President until 2019. She assisted in the development of new policies and improvement plans and represented the parent community in staffing selection panels. Her fundraising abilities led to many improvements within the Corowa High School.

Corowa Rowing Club: She was an active member who was always ready to assist others as needed. In 2015 once again joined the Committee. In 2017 she was elected as Secretary, and in 2018 she also took on the role of Secretary of the District Murray Rowing Association, roles she continues to complete to a high standard. Casandra has been instrumental in organising paperwork for grants that have led to the club increasing its membership and offering additional sporting opportunities for our local youth.

Corowa Rutherglen Relay For Life: Casandra joined the Corowa Rutherglen Relay for Life Committee in 2019. The Cancer Council NSW event had not been run in Corowa since 2014 and she brought a wealth of knowledge to the committee and worked tirelessly to ensure the event met all expectations. Casandra led sub committees and drove tasks to completion. Unfortunately, due to covid-19, the event was cancelled, but with Casandra's perseverance and drive the focus of the event was quickly turned around to a virtual on-line event. The event was extremely successful that raised over \$40,000.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
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Citizen of the Year and Local Achiever

Meredith Miegel (Corowa)

Meredith in 2015 as President Elect of the Rotary Club of Corowa, was instrumental in the reigniting of the development of the Whitehead Street Wetlands and getting the project off the ground. She applied for grants and engaged with Landcare and the Federation Council and was able to get the local schools involved with tree planting. Meredith is an ongoing ambassador for the continuation of the future development of the site.

Her work for the youth of our community can be seen in many ways, she works at the Corowa High School canteen on a weekly roster, as a Rotarian she has taken on the position of chairperson for the district youth exchange program and has helped many youth of Corowa and district with the preparation for overseas exchange.

The Whitehead Street Wetlands are a wonderful asset for the Federation Community and a haven for wildlife, providing a habitat for birds and frogs. It also enables the community to exercise, walk the dog, enjoy bird watching and picnics in a beautiful environment. Meredith's determination and efforts have now seen the Wetlands have a surfaced walking track, a bird hide, covered seating areas and a board walk with a viewing platform. Meredith's latest addition with the help of a grant and funding from Rotary, a water station, with drink bottle tap, bubbler, dog bowl and disabled access. Hopefully this will be installed by the New Year.

Her engagement with youth and their families, has had a positive impact on their lives, especially through the youth exchange program. Youth that she supports through a year living and studying across the other side of the world and Rotary Exchange students that arrive in Australia and are lovingly looked after by Meredith. Her Rotary involvement sees her happily working hard, whether it be the Monthly Markets, Federation Festival, Clean up the Highway, Easter Egg Hunt BBQ, KVE weekend catering, Karinya Fete and the New Year Fireworks.

Paul Carrol (Coreen)

Paul took over the Coreen Fire Captain's job with little experience. With the help of his wife Robyn and the RFS he organised a RFS training day at Coreen. Then on the 21st Nov 2019 he was thrown in the deep end with a large fire on "Wood Lawn", which was a major under taking, organising water bombing aircraft and RFS members and RFS fire trucks, with the help of the RFS.

Paul Carroll, is still Coreen RFS Captain, he has been having health issues lately. It would be nice for someone to recognise his contribution to the local community.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Citizen of the Year and Local Achiever

Wayne Lamb (Howlong)

Wayne has been collecting cans and bottles donating all the profits of the recycling to the Cancer Centre and assists with the collection of donation tins for Albury/Wodonga Cancer Centre.

Wayne also stops and visits all the local residence going through treatments, to spend time with them, take them to appointments and assist them.

Yvonne Smith (Urana)

Yvonne supports the elderly and young citizens of Urana. She has made a big impact on the community and during Covid 19 and also brought a Halloween town activity for all the children to enjoy in a Covid safe way. She volunteers throughout town and assists the older generation with tasks at home.

Young Citizen of the Year

Maxim Blockley (Corowa)

Maxim is an outstanding youth leader and contributor to our Corowa Community. He has served as both Deputy Mayor(2019) and Mayor (2020) on the Federation Youth Council and been a strong voice for youth within the Federation shire. Maxim has also served on the Corowa High School Student Representative Council (SRC) for the last 5 years and on the SRC Executive over the last 2 years. Maxim has been elected by his teachers and peers to serve as Corowa High School's Vice Captain in 2021.

Maxim is a recipient of a number of awards including the Defense Department's Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award in 2019.

As an active member of the Corowa High School Student Representative Council, Maxim has helped organise and lead a number of key fundraisers which supported charities such as Beyond Blue, the Cancer Council and the Heart Foundation as well as organising and coordinator events for students at the school such as Mufti Days and the World Food Day event. He regularly volunteers to serve in the school canteen during his lunch-times and led our Tournament of Minds team to the State Finals in 2019.

Maxim is also a proud representative of our school and broader community at events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies. As Vice Captain, Maxim will doubtless serve as an outstanding role model to our students and the broader community. As a Peer Support Leader he is kind and supportive toward younger students when they arrive in high school, amongst his peers he is studious but generous in his support, and toward staff he is unfailingly respectful. Perhaps most notably, Maxim always volunteers. Maxim is constantly generous and willing to give.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINEES

AUSTRALIA DAY
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Young Citizen of the Year

Zali Peters (Mulwala)

Zali regularly volunteers in the local community and is involved in sport as well as part time work. As an AFL Murray Bushrangers player, she sought to give back to the community by becoming an AUSKICK volunteer. During the COVID restrictions, Zali applied for and received a grant for front line workers - teachers at her secondary school - and was able to acknowledge the important work completed by all staff.

Earlier this year Zali won through to the regional level of Lions Youth of the Year, which was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19. She embraces any opportunity and is a positive role model within the community. Zali has been a guest speaker at Remembrance Day and VP day for the Yarrawonga/Mulwala RSL and has done so with grace and confidence. As a young person who is driven to contribute to the local community, Zali is an inspirational role model.

Volunteering at Auskick, participating in Lions Youth of the Year, applying for grants to acknowledge front line workers, walking the Kokoda Track and sharing her messages of gratitude all demonstrate her leadership skills and the positive impact she has on the community. Zali is a conscientious and highly motivated student who will achieve excellent results this year, allowing her to pursue a passion in teaching and nutrition.

Dylan Forge (Corowa)

His dedication to the community through representing the people of Corowa over the world playing and performing in the highest quality of military displays, as well as his time spent with Federation Council.

He has brought joy through travelling and reporting his travels to the people of Corowa and surrounds. Clubs request to see him each month and he plays his Bagpipes for them to enjoy.

Young kids especially look up to him and see that he has dedicated so much time to leading Council as well as working hard for the education and musical ability he wishes to achieve. The adults and elderly enjoy hearing a motivated teens story and his playing brightens the faces of the latter especially.

Seen through the area and sponsored by 25 local clubs and individuals. Represented Corowa in Singapore, Ireland, Sydney, Melbourne. Served since 2018 on Federation Youth Council and was nominated by his peers as the inaugural Mayor. Shows his dedication and admiration the other teens have for him. Gives hours each month to talk and perform for local sponsors and clubs.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

2021 Pledging Citizens

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Federation Council congratulates the following new Australian citizens:

- Mrs Ellen Lions
- Ms Myrna Sibayan

AUSTRALIA DAY AFFIRMATION

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Australia Day, 26 January, is our national day of celebration. It is the day we come together as a nation to celebrate Australia and being Australian. All new citizens make a pledge of commitment to Australia and a shared common future. On Australia Day, shouldn't we all?

Based on the Australian Citizenship Pledge made by new citizens, the Australian citizenship affirmation gives us an opportunity on Australia Day to celebrate the common bond that unites us all—Australian Citizenship.

Making the affirmation is voluntary and everyone is welcome to join in.

* Non-Australian citizens can join the affirmation at this line

As an Australian Citizen,
*I affirm my loyalty to
Australia and its people,
Whose democratic beliefs I share,
Whose rights and liberties I respect,
And whose laws I uphold and obey.

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

AUSTRALIA DAY
2021

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We'll toil with hearts and hands;
To make this Commonwealth of ours
Renowned of all the lands;
For those who've come across the seas
We've boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine
To Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

THANK YOU

Federation Council would like to thank the community of Urana and Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke for their event organisation support with the 2021 Australia Day celebrations.

Congratulations to all nominees and winners.

Please consider nominating someone you know who is worthy of the Australia Day Awards for 2022.

Federation Council hopes you enjoy the remainder of Australia Day with your family and friends and take the opportunity to celebrate everything that's great about living in Australia.

Kind regards Federation Council.



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**FEDERATION
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