

Australia Day Awards

..... 2022

Blackwater and Bluff



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Central Highlands
Regional Council

Australia Day Awards

COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

2021 NAIDOC Celebrations

Annie's Day Fundraiser

Dingo P&C Hogs N Dogs

Dingo Race Club Dingo Race Day

QCWA Markets

QCWA Christmas tree festival

CULTURAL AWARD NOMINEES

Blackwater Golf Club

Since its inception 49 years ago, Blackwater Golf Club has been contributing to the community. In recent years the club has remained an active outlet during the COVID-19 lockdowns by encouraging the community to get out on the course. This tripled membership and helped the club become more inclusive with additional offerings for women and youth.

Leonie Geary

Leonie's commitment to the Blackwater community has been on constant display throughout her 30 years living here. She has given her time, energy and skills to the Art Society, swimming club and schools. She maintains a constant high standard in everything she does and always promotes Blackwater's attributes and cultural scene.

Carlin Dyer

Carlin has grown up in Blackwater and is a proud Aboriginal and South Sea Islander man who appreciates the knowledge Elders have passed on to him. He has supported Elders with 'going bush' cultural walks, NAIDOC Week community events and volunteered as an adult supervisor to support and encourage young people to learn and listen.



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JUNIOR SPORTSPERSON AWARD NOMINEE

Callum Denman

Callum is an avid sportsperson who enjoys playing rugby league, rugby union, touch football and basketball. Last year Callum was goal kicker in the Blackwater Crushers rugby league victorious under-15 minor and major premiership win in the Central Highlands competition.

SENIOR SPORTS/ADMINISTRATOR AWARD NOMINEES

Kelli Willmott

In 2021, Kelli went out of her way to raise much needed funds for the Crushers football team. She travelled between Blackwater, Emerald and Rockhampton with the prizes, which included towing the first prize aluminium boat and trailer to sell raffle tickets. Kelli goes above and beyond to help the community in any way she can, such as always donating to small charities and setting up an amazing Halloween display with lollies for the children. All without any expectation of anything in return.

Jeff Olive

Jeff has been President of the Dingo Race Club for over 12 years. He has spent a great deal of time finding sponsorship for the club's major race day. He is a great leader during committee meetings and goes above and beyond during working bees. He has used most of his own equipment and tools to ensure the facilities are what they are today. He treats everyone with respect and values the input of others.

Kate Peters

Kate has recently moved to Blackwater from Biloela and has become an integral member of the community. Without the help Kate has provided to the netball and rugby teams over the 2021 season, both clubs would have been short on volunteers and events would not have been as successful. Kate has a can-do attitude and always conducts herself professionally. She is always reliable, punctual and will go above and beyond what is required of her.

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YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Charli Muller

Charli has been a core part of Blackwater State High School's rich community of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Over the years Charli has developed from a participant to a leader and mentor in this group. Charli speaks with passion and pride about the importance of Indigenous culture and inspires those around her to embrace her positive message and can-do spirit.

Duncan Head

Upon hearing the Blackwater State High School metalwork teacher had transferred out of town, Duncan offered his services to mentor year 11 and 12 students studying a Certificate II Engineering Pathways. Duncan's efforts have allowed the school to continue offering this opportunity and have given the students insight into where an apprenticeship could lead them.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

David Clements

David is a travelling PE educator teaching youth across the Central Highlands in schools from Duinga to Bluff. He supports all students and genuinely wants to see them succeed. His spare time is spent organising free after-school gymnastics every Monday afternoon at Blackwater State School. David makes learning and movement fun for the kids he teaches and is an asset to the community.

Michelle Bradshaw

Michelle has been an integral part of the Blackwater Art Society and the wider community for many years. As president of the art society, she volunteers an extraordinary amount of time every month to all members, informing of community events around the Central Highlands. Without Michelle's hard work, we would lose yet another group and many events in our area.



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CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEES CONTINUED

Gladys Richards

Gladys sets a wonderful example of what it means to be a 'community'; volunteering in many groups such as the Blackwater hospital auxiliary, Combined Churches and the Community Christmas Appeal. She is also a vital part of the seniors exercise group. The genuine care Gladys has for the community is always evident, never looking for accolades; but a great role model for all.

Susan Olive

Susan's name is synonymous with cohesive community leadership in the Dingo community and beyond. Susan is a firm believer in the community working together to achieve their goals as can be seen through her many volunteer efforts including Dingo Community Reference Group (CRG) member, Dingo Race Club treasurer, Justice of the Peace, P&C member for both Bluff and Dingo state schools and volunteer with Bluff Lions Club. Susan is an extremely humble, giving, admired and proactive person.

Matthew & Linda Toomey

The Toomey Family continuously makes significant contributions to the community on a weekly basis. There isn't a club or committee in town that hasn't benefitted from their voluntary work. They volunteer professional electrical work such as ensuring the coal centre and other community organisations stay safe, as well as manpower; never shy in rolling up their sleeves and lend a hand such as with setting things up or packing them down.

Australian National Anthem

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.



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