

Subject:

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Australia Day Awards 2021 Event

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OUTSTANDING achievements by local heroes will be celebrated on Australia Day this year, honouring triumphs of the human spirit over the challenges of a difficult year.

The Rural City of Murray Bridge Australia Day Awards will be held Tuesday 26 January near the Murray Bridge War Memorial, on Wharf Road, at Sturt Reserve.

Mayor Brenton Lewis said Australia Day Awards were an important acknowledgement and reminder of the good in the world that should give people hope and cause for celebration.

"This past year has been a challenging one for all of us, but through it all we have banded together as a community to protect, respect and help keep each other safe," he said.

"Those common ideals of friendship, community and innovation are some of the great ideals that unite us all as Australians.

"The Australia Day Awards are a great opportunity for us to come together, pause and reflect, learn from each other and celebrate the people in our communities who go above and beyond to help make our communities great.

"We acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of our First Nations people, the Ngarrindjeri, who have been here for more than 65,000 years, and those who have come from all corners of the globe to call this place home.

"We welcome new citizens who share our ideals and contribute to the diverse fabric that makes Australia such a wonderful place to live."

Breakfast by the river will be provided by local service clubs for a gold coin donation at the Australia Day Awards ceremony at Sturt Reserve.

Barista coffee will also be available to purchase for coffee connoisseurs.

Formal proceedings will begin at 7.45pm including Welcome to Country, speeches, award presentations and a citizenship ceremony.

Australia Day Award categories include Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Sports Person of the year and Community Event of the Year.

Other local Australia Day celebrations include a pool party at Murray Bridge Swimming Centre and the Australia Day Sprintcar Stampede sponsored by The Rural City of Murray Bridge at Murray Bridge Speedway.