



PortAugusta

CITY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

Port Augusta Celebrates Australia Day in 2023

Gladstone Square in Port Augusta came alive with Australia Day celebrations this morning.

Smiling faces enjoyed the Australia Day breakfast at Gladstone Square, as well as music by Bruno and Krouty, the traditional Thong Toss and the 26er Australia Day cake.

A citizenship ceremony took place after the flag raising ceremony by the 46th Army Cadet Unit.

“Our new citizens are from 2 countries, China and India and they will join thousands of other Australians who are celebrating their citizenship. Our new citizens will contribute their hard work, skills and cultural diversity to our local community.” said Mayor Linley Shine.

“I encourage everyone to not only enjoy Australia Day festivities, but to take time and reflect on what it means to be an Australian citizen: our shared values, our national history, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, and our commitment to reconciliation.” said Mayor Shine.

Community Event of the Year - South Augusta Football Club – 2022 Harley Owners Group (Bayside SA Chapter) Rally.

The Bayside HOG members started negotiations with the South Augusta Football Club and Port Augusta City Council in early 2020 as the COVID pandemic was commencing.

The event took numerous conversations with both parties to finalise the event details and in August 2021 Harley Davidson Australia formally approved the Bayside HOG application to run the SA state rally at Central Oval in Port Augusta.

The organisers were advised to apply for a Council grant to support the rally by waiving hire fees at Central Oval, the organisers also discussed with Souths the meals required for such a large event – 5 meals were required over the long weekend in September/October 2022. Souths not only cooked meals they also engaged other local businesses to assist in supplying food and beverages for the large event e.g. Standpipe Motel, Kierans Kitchen and Corral Coffee.

During the three days of the rally, the team of Souths volunteers worked long hours at Central Oval to ensure the event ran smoothly. All were dressed immaculately in their club polo shirts and the rally participants quickly nicknamed them the “Red Army”. The volunteers were highly praised for the quality of meals provided and service to the HOG members.

The Rally Co-ordinator/Directors received only positive feedback on the quality of the venue and the excellent customer service from Souths volunteers.

The organisers stated that Souths Football Club exemplified true community spirit and service to Port Augusta in hosting the HOG chapter and Australian HOG members for the state rally.

The economic benefit to the Port Augusta business community was huge with 330 people attending the rally and spending money on accommodation, fuel, food, drinks as well as additional spend at local tourism attractions in Port Augusta and the Flinders Ranges. Some of the rally participants vowed to return for longer stays and to bring friends and family with them.

Young Citizen Award - Tayla Carter:

Tayla Carter started her small business "Quirky Cove" in 2013 at the young age of 12. Over the years the business has provided many South Australians with vibrant and quirky fashions. Tayla has been selling products at markets located at Port Elliot, Goolwa, Kadina, Port Vincent and Maitland. Tayla opened a pop-up store located in the Port Augusta CBD in 2019, whilst employed at Crossroads Concepts.

In 2022, Tayla created a subcommittee to organise the Augusta markets. Tayla took on the responsibility of coordinating and running the markets whilst employed with Kierans Kitchen and operating her retail business. The event was held Saturday 3rd December 2022 and it was very well received by the community and brought interest to the town for other small business owners and customers.

Tayla is an admired young business person committed to servicing the Port Augusta community and wider region.

Citizen Award of the Year - Christopher Rowe:

Chris has played a large part within the Port Augusta Scout Group for 8 years, starting as a Cub Leader and making his way to Scout Leader, he has supported many young people through important years of their lives. Chris has organised and assisted with camps, hikes, programming, and badge work (including sewing) for the club.

Chris has also volunteered with the Port Augusta Calisthenics Club, assisting them with fundraising and background support. Chris was also part of the Port Pirie Regional Gymnastics Academy this year, where he helped to maintain and offer safety checks on the equipment. Chris was also played a big part in the new floor installation this year at the club. During the Port Pirie Invitational Chris spent the entire week helping the Calisthenics Club prepare for the event. Chris has worked tirelessly and respectfully so the equipment and facilities were not damaged. Chris is a friendly reliable and hard-working person that the Port Augusta Calisthenics Club has relied on for the past few years.

Award for Active Citizenship - Chelsey Footner:

For 15 years Chelsey has bought toys, lollies and ice blocks and sat out the front of her grandma's house in the evenings during the Christmas festive season to give away toys to children. A lot of the toys and books are donated by churches and private community groups. It is estimated that over 15 years Chelsey has given away 6454 items. Chelsey and her cousins love this experience, and they get to meet people from all over the community and the world... she has had a student from Japan visit! Chelsey has also assisted Ramsay Village and Edenfield by designing their nativity scene and giving out Christmas presents. Chelsey has also been involved in entertaining Health Focus members.

Council would like to acknowledge the following nominees of the Port Augusta Australia Day awards, each of the nominees received a certificate of recognition at the award ceremony as a token of appreciation for their contribution to the community:

Community Event of the Year

- South Augusta Football Club v Emergency Services Charity Match 3 (*South Augusta Football Club*)
- Christmas Activities (*Chelsey Footner*)
- Augusta Markets (*Tayla Carter*)
- 2022 Eyre Peninsula Probus Club Rally (*Flinders Probus Club Port Augusta*)

Young Citizen of the Year

Chelsey Footner

Citizen of the Year

Jason Chesson

Active Citizenship

Tayla Carter

A huge thank you to the Lions Club of Port Augusta who organised the morning activities with assistance from Rotary, Apex, SES, the Army Cadets, the Caroon Road band, Port Augusta City Council, Council staff, Woolworths & Westside Vegie Patch. Thanks also to 5AU/Magic FM, and Southern Cross Television for subsidising advertising.

For further information please contact Council's Media and Communications Officer on (08) 86419100

LINLEY SHINE

MAYOR PORT AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL

26/01/2023