



Media Release

2 February 2022

2022 Australia Day in Tenterfield

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate. We're all part of the Story was the theme for Australia Day in 2022.

Our Australia Day in Tenterfield was a fantastic day of music, recognition and celebration of our multicultural Nation.

The Family Fun Day event was held in Rotary Park and included Welcome to Country, performance by the Indigenous Language Choir, Australia Day Blessing, Citizenship Ceremony and Australia Day Award presentations.

Lions Club members provided a free BBQ, attendees participated in the inaugural Thong Throwing Competition, Felting Workshops, browsed market stalls and had free access to fun activities at the War Memorial Baths.

A great musical line up for this totally free event included local musicians Jess Lockwood and Fugarwie.

Mayor Bronwyn Petrie was very proud to present the Australia Day Awards to the following worthy recipients:

Citizen of the Year – Peter Harris

Peter has devoted his life to music in all its forms and genres, and to sharing his expertise with anyone interested, but particularly with younger people.

One of Peter's most notable public involvements has been at the Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts, where he has spent many long hours as a volunteer, implementing new technologies and finessing those already in place.

The Tenterfield community has seen Peter as a performer, a mentor and a man intent on sharing his love of, and expertise in music and its presentation, and his encouragement and support of local musicians to provide live music has been truly commendable.

Peter exemplifies the true spirit of volunteerism in our community and Tenterfield is very much the richer for his contributions over many years.

Young Citizen of the Year - Grace Butler

Grace has recently completed year 12 at Tenterfield High School where she was a School Representative Leader. Grace always leads by example, volunteering her time and efforts to fundraising projects and carnival days.

Grace's involvement through both School and community has covered the Tenterfield Anzac Parade, Tenterfield Show and Gravel N Granite events, among others.

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Grace is a keen sportswoman and has represented the school in many sports – in particular, she plays an active role in the local squash and cycling clubs.

Grace is also a talented artist and has exhibited her works annually at the Tenterfield Show as well as at the Oracles of the Bush Festival. In 2018 Grace became a finalist at the University of New England's School Acquisitive Art Prize competition and her artwork was exhibited at the New England Regional Art Museum in Armidale.

At the 2021 Tenterfield High School Presentation Day, Grace was awarded the Rotary Community Service Award – The Harrie Brewer Memorial Prize and she has been nominated for the Youth Community Service Award 2021 through the Order of Australia Association NSW branch.

Grace truly demonstrates a commitment to our community and is a worthy recipient of the Young Citizen of the Year award.

Sportsperson of the Year – Isaac Jones

Isaac has recently completed year 12 at Tenterfield High School where he was a 2021 School Captain. He has experienced success in his sporting career, particularly in Athletics, Basketball, Rugby League and swimming.

Isaac was awarded the Tenterfield High School – Senior Sportsperson of the Year 2021 and the Olympic Changemaker Award. Isaac is the 17+ Boys Swimming Champion at the Tenterfield High School Swimming Carnival and was selected as a member of the North West Swimming Team to compete in the CHS Swimming Championships in Sydney.

He has also been selected as a member of the New England Zone Basketball Team and the North West Region Open Boys Basketball Team competing at the NSW CHS Basketball in Tamworth.

Isaac has been selected as a member of the Western Mustangs Under 18 Rugby League team to play in the 2021 Mal Meninga Cup, Warwick Cowboys Under 18 team, New England Zone Open Boys Rugby League Team and the Tenterfield Bumblebees.

Isaac is a great example of sportsmanship, leadership and dedication to his teammates and community, and encapsulates the spirit of Young Sportsperson of the Year.

Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year, or Group, Award – Valarie Flint

Valarie has been an active member of the Legume Rural Fire Service for close to 30 years and is the current President.

For more than 50 years Valarie has been the 'go-to' person for first aid or community welfare issues and for the last 14 years has been a Killarney first responder for the QAS covering the northern Tenterfield Shire.

Valerie was Secretary of the Legume School P&C Association until the school closed and has been Secretary of the Legume Progress Association since 1993.

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Valerie also performed community welfare checks on residents who are aged or living alone during COVID, ensuring they had the support needed to access vaccinations and services during isolating periods.

Valerie gives tirelessly of herself day and night to help the community. Be it a bushfire, vehicle accident, aiding someone sick, injured or dying, helping an expectant mother or any other situation that calls for assistance, support, reassurance, first aid or simply a friendly ear, Valerie will be there.

Community Event of the Year – Tenterfield Autumn Festival

The inaugural Tenterfield Autumn Festival was held over the 4 day long Easter Long Weekend and was a huge success for the town.

The CBD of Tenterfield was overflowing with tourists and locals, with businesses having some of their biggest days on record.

The Lift the Country Spirit Concert was held at the Tenterfield Showgrounds on Saturday night and was a joint initiative with the Tenterfield Show Society and Tenterfield Autumn Festival. This concert attracted not only locals but also people from various locations far and wide.

Other events over the weekend included Barefoot Bowls, Market Stall and Fun Day, Easter Egg Hunt, the Rosenhof Hay Bale Competition, Gourmet Luncheon and RFS Bonfire Night at Glenrock Gardens, Musical afternoon at the Piano Mill, Morning Tea & Tour at Tenterfield Station Homestead and a BBQ lunch at Aloomba Lavender Farm.

This award recognises the joint efforts of the Tenterfield Lions Club, The Tenterfield Show Society & the Tenterfield Autumn Festival committee who all worked together to provide this event for the Tenterfield Community.

The Tenterfield community thanks each and every one of our Award winners and those who also received nominations.

This wonderful celebration was made possible thanks to funding received from the National Australia Day Council.