



District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula

MEDIA RELEASE

17 DECEMBER 2019

2020 Australia Day Award winners

Heather Norton was selected as the District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula 2020 Citizen of the Year as part of the annual Australia Day awards at Council's meeting last Friday, December 13.

Council assessed and voted on the 23 nominations received across the six categories.

Other award winners were Holly-Elise Pervan (Young Citizen), Sydney Claughton (Young Sportsperson), Cummins Rambler Football Club Centenary Committee (Community Event/ Organisation), Leanne Pollard of 5 Loaves Bakery (Employee) and Coffin Bay Post Office (Business).

Citizen of the Year

Heather has been a Cummins and Districts War Memorial Swimming Pool volunteer for 23 years, including eight years as Treasurer and seven years as President.

Heather's commitment has helped ensure the pool's longevity and she was instrumental in the 2004 Swimming Pool Renovation helping with fundraising, project managing and major pool designing.

Following on from the pool's renovation, Heather was the Pool delegate on the Cummins Sporting Changerooms Committee.

Heather has also been the pool's respective delegate on the Cummins Memorial Recreation Centre committee for the past 17 years.

Heather was awarded Life Membership of the Cummins & Districts War Memorial Swimming Pool in 2016.

Heather has been involved with the United Yeelanna Netball Club as a player and committee member since 1986. She is a Life Member due to her years of volunteering, particularly in coaching and umpiring, not to mention her on court success.

A known sportswoman, Heather is also a hard-working member of the Cummins & Districts Basketball Association. Her family has been involved for 14 years.

Heather's roles on the Cummins Rec Centre over the past 17 years have been Committee Member Delegate, Assistant Secretary, Vice-President while she is currently Secretary.

The Cummins - Yeelanna RSL Sub-Branch have also had Heather's support as a volunteer over many years for various activities and events that have been dear to her heart with her son Jaxen, as a recent returned soldier.

Heather's involvement as an active Director on the Cummins District Financial Services Board has spanned eight years and her work and business experience on numerous sub-committees has proved her strong dedication and passion for our Community Bank in Cummins.

The Great Flinders Netball Association has benefited greatly from Heather's volunteering in coaching and playing in Association and Country Championships, mentoring many young players and as President, Club Delegate, Netball SA Delegate and Public Officer for the association.

Heather has given much of her time, experience and passion to the district over the past 33 years, all the while raising a family and running a successful local business.

Young Citizen of the Year

Holly-Elise Pervan represented Council's local communities as Miss Cummins District Community Bank in the 2019 Tunarama, raising funds for Mentally Fit EP.

Holly-Elise was awarded the People's Choice Award, and was Tunarama's Highest Fundraiser 2019, raising an amazing \$22,663.17.

Holly-Elise was also recognised by Bendigo Bank SA/NT with the People's Award earlier this year for her efforts within our communities.

Holly-Elise has been an active member of the Cummins Show Entertainment committee since 2016, is currently involved with the Cummins Community Garden project, and a volunteer Board Director of West Coast Youth and Community Support.

Holly-Elise has & continues to be invited as a guest speaker/mentor to many local groups and organisations.

Recently Holly-Elise addressed the Cummins Area School Year 12's at their graduation assembly, and in the past has addressed Cummins Area School students at the Youth Opportunities graduation, Finance for Youth Information Seminar, and School-Based Traineeship launch. She has also attended as Guest Speaker for Zonta Club and Shed Men's Group, and represented Cummins District Community Bank at numerous community and sporting events/presentations.

Holly-Elise is actively involved with netball in Port Lincoln, as a volunteer treasurer, player, umpire and mentor to young netballers in both winter and summer competitions.

Holly-Elise completed her senior schooling in Cummins, completing Year 12 in 2013 - the same year she started her School-Based Traineeship with Cummins District Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank. As a result of her performance throughout the traineeship, Holly-Elise was offered fulltime employment with the Bank commencing 3 February 2014 as a Customer Service Officer, and has since been promoted to the position of Customer Relationship Officer.

Young Sportsperson of the Year

Sydney Cloughton is a committed Rambler Netball Club volunteer. In 2019 Sydney was the E Reserves co-coach, and she umpired, timed and scored games while also playing. Sydney is an A grade player, Great Flinders Netball Association 17 & Under representative, Eyre Netball Academy Division One player and was selected to trial at the 17 & Under State Team trials. Sydney has also obtained a C Grade Umpires Badge.

Sydney's sporting prowess and leadership have impressed staff at Cummins Area School.

Sydney was the 16-year-old girls Individual Championship winner for the 2019 Cummins Area School Sports Day.

Her achievements included: 1st for her age group in the 400m sprint, 800m sprint, 1500m sprint, triple jump, shotput, javelin and discus; 2nd in high jump and long jump.

Sydney was also one of three selected for the South Australian Women's Clay Target Shooting Down the Line Team and competed in Queensland in April. She was selected from the State Shoots, while she generally competes at Ungarra and Port Lincoln.

Sydney is one of the select few students in the Year 10 and 11 cohort at Cummins Area School that is attending the 2019 Australian Volleyball Schools Cup on the Gold Coast.

Community Event/ Organisation of the Year

The Cummins Rambler Football Club Centenary Committee - Mark Sheehan (President), Amii Warner (Secretary), Simon Pedler, Peter Treloar, Peter Fitzgerald, David Guidera, Jodi Mickan & Jade Murnane - led the club into its 100th year celebrations in 2019.

The weekend began with a formal dinner for 200 people where MC Peter Treloar interviewed Rambler characters from the last ten decades.

On Saturday Kerry Cloughton accompanied Alanah Bascombe and Layla Forster to sing the National Anthem and the senior teams played their centenary match against Cummins Kapinnie in heritage-designed guernseys that were auctioned off that night.

The centenary flag was unfurled by Club Patron Bruce Walter, and the most senior visitor in previous Cummins business owner Tom Fergusson had the honour of the A grade coin toss.

Members and supporters volunteered to make the day a huge success. Gate takings were a healthy \$4,682 thanks to 578 full paying spectators and 75 seniors.

Saturday night was the action of the centenary guernseys and with the healthy competition an estimated \$45,000 was raised.

The Cummins Rambler Football Club launched its centenary book on the Sunday to wrap up a weekend that had been two years in the planning.

Employee of the Year

Leanne Pollard of 5 Loaves Bakery in Cummins has been recognised for contributing to the successful small business in its last 12 years.

Leanne began working with 5 Loaves while its current building was being built and fitted out. Leanne started with book work, cleaning, then went on to barista training, and is now able to manage the business while owners Michael & Katy Agnew are away.

Leanne's skills have grown and developed and not only does she work tirelessly in a physically demanding position, but she is responsible for much of the mental work that goes into running the business.

Her approach to her employment is underpinned by hard work, integrity and dedication.

Leanne is always early to work, last to leave and can be relied upon to always give her best and then a bit more.

Leanne always works to be the best ambassador for the business and the town and is responsible for training other staff, including juniors.

Business of the Year

Fiona Gordon at the Coffin Bay Post Office has been described as the hub of the community.

Fiona not only provides reliable postal services but has also made the post office a wonderful place to visit with a variety of gifts and always a friendly smile ready to help locals and visitors alike.

Fiona is involved in the community through donating time, money and goods to community groups for various causes.

In May she hosted a Biggest Morning Tea, while money raised from adjoining business Coffi'n'Putt was used to purchase a defibrillator that has since been installed at the town jetty.

Fiona also acts as an informal lost and found contact, using her Facebook page to inform the community about items or sometimes even pets that have been found and are now waiting at the post office for collection!

Fiona is well known for being helpful and obliging, and received an outstanding amount of nominations from members of her community and beyond.

Awards will be presented at Council's official breakfast and ceremony at the Cummins Hall, as well as a community breakfast on the Coffin Bay foreshore on Australia Day – Sunday, January 26, 2020.

Council congratulates all award winners, as well as all those who were nominated.

Council also acknowledges the efforts of the nominees who submitted so many comprehensive and high quality nominations.

Media enquiries:

Rod Pearson

Chief Executive Officer

rodp@dclep.sa.gov.au