



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

16 January 2019

Who makes a difference to our community?

The 2019 Australia Day Award nominees and recipients have been announced and will be formally recognised at the District Council of Grant's Australia Day celebration on Saturday 26 January at the Mil-Lel Memorial Park.

District Council of Grant Mayor Richard Sage said "As a Council we feel that it is important to not only celebrate the award recipients but to honour all of our nominees as they have all made a positive difference to our community and should feel very proud to be nominated for the award."

Australia Day Ambassador, journalist Samela Harris, will assist the Mayor in presenting this year's District Council of Grant Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year Awards.

The awards recognise and reward individuals and organisations that have made a noteworthy contribution during the past year, and/or given outstanding service over a number of years, to the local community over and above normal employment duties. Awards recognise outstanding contribution and community service to any area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of the District Council of Grant community. Nominations closed in November and Council's Elected Members selected the recipients in December.

Mount Schank resident Peter Feast has been named as the recipient of the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award. Peter has been an integral part of the Port MacDonnell Landcare Group for almost 40 years and president for the past 23. Over this time he has driven several significant projects, attracting funding to the region to enable ongoing protection and management of existing native vegetation and extensive revegetation projects for on-farm benefits as well as long-term landscape change across the South East including Port MacDonnell's Germein Reserve. Peter has been a pioneer in revegetation methods and a grower of local native species for our region. His legacy of revegetation over a 40 year period is evident everywhere in our landscape and continues to provide the community with amenity, biodiversity and productivity values now and well into our future.

Principal Office:
324 Commercial St West, Mount Gambier
PO Box 724
Mount Gambier SA 5290

Telephone: (08) 8721 0444
Fax: (08) 8721 0410
Email: info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au

Branch Office:
Corner of Charles & Meylin Streets
Port MacDonnell SA 5291

Other deserving nominees for this year's award included Brian Douglas, Jeanette Elliott, Janet Phillips, Sandra Robinson and Phillip Simpson. Grant Fensom, who was recognised with the award in 2016 and as the Young Citizen of the Year in 1995, was again nominated along with Danny Taylor from Port MacDonnell who received a special commendation from Council.

The Carpenter Rocks Progress Association has been named as recipients of the Community Event of the Year Award for their community led project to upgrade and add amenities to the Carpenter Rocks Hall. The project was a true community event involving many local individuals and businesses and it helped bring the small community together. Community members were enthusiastic to be involved in the building process and very proud to see the finished result, which is aimed primarily at attracting school groups who visit for Generations in Jazz.

Council invites the public to attend its free family focused Australia Day Celebration at Mil-Lel where the awards will be presented. Starting at 11.30am the celebration offers free children's merry-go-round and jump castle, music by the Mount Gambier City Band and a BBQ and salad lunch for a gold contribution. Official proceedings and award presentations begin at 1.15pm and it would be wonderful to see as many people as possible there to acknowledge those who make a difference to the District Council of Grant community.

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Media Contact:	Title	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
	Name	Jane Fetherstonhaugh
	Contact Number	8721 0444
	Email	jane.fetherstonhaugh@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
	Title	2019 Australia Day Citizen of the Year
	Name	Peter Feast
	Contact Number	0427010326

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

- *Peter Feast outside of his Mimosa Nursery*
- *Peter and Chris Feast*

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