

EMBARGOED MEDIA RELEASE

For Release NOT BEFORE 10.30am January 26th, 2024

Waratah-Wynyard Council Australia Day Award Recipients

Waratah-Wynyard Council is delighted to announce the recipients of the 2024 Australia Day Awards. These awards recognise remarkable individuals and groups whose contributions have positively impacted our community.

Michelle Williamson has been awarded the Citizen of the Year for her outstanding leadership and contribution to the community through the coordination of Farm it Forward. This community-based volunteer group, under Michelle's guidance, not only cultivates food to share in a community garden but also offers a range of free or low-cost classes to enhance skills, build social networks and gain valuable insights into sustainable living. Michelle's work has played a pivotal role in promoting sustainability and social inclusivity, making her an exemplary role model within the Waratah-Wynyard community.

Paityn Samain-Daley has been named Young Citizen of the Year, a testament to her dedication and spirit as a cyclist and fundraiser. Her participation in the Great Cycle Challenge, a nationwide event organised by the Children's Medical Research Institute for Childhood Cancer Research, saw her ride over 400km and raise over \$2000 for the charity, despite challenging weather conditions. Her achievement a testament to her determination and altruistic spirit, and make her an inspiring figure not just for her peers, but for all community members.

The Australian Hansa Class Championships, held at the Wynyard Yacht Club, has been recognised as the Community Event of the Year. This event, held in April 2023, saw strong participation and made a significant positive impact on the area. It was notably inclusive, featuring para sailors among its competitors, and showcased a remarkable age diversity among participants. The event's success was a testament to the power of community spirit and volunteerism.

Mayor Duniam said "Waratah-Wynyard Council is immensely proud of these award recipients and their contributions. Their actions and commitments reflect the true spirit of Australia Day - community, resilience, and inclusivity. On behalf of our community, I would like to congratulate you all for your valuable contribution".

Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on January 26th, 2024.

Waratah Wynyard Council

21 Saunders Street (PO Box 168) Wynyard Tasmania 7325
P: (03) 6443 8333 | F: (03) 6443 8383 | E: council@warwyn.tas.gov.au