



MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday 26 January 2016

STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 10am Tuesday 26 January 2016.

Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh today announced the winners of the Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year as part of Australia Day celebrations in Wynyard.

“I am pleased to announce Fiona Dowling as our Citizen of the Year, Nikkila Popowski as our Young Citizen of the Year, and the Australian Four Day Enduro as our Community Event of the Year,” Mayor Walsh said.

“Beyond being a well-known business owner, Fiona has made a significant contribution in the local community through the establishment of The Sisterhood and Junior Sisterhood at Wynyard High, which have allowed women and young girls to get together and to learn new skills,” Mayor Walsh said.

“Fiona is also well known for her generosity and is well known to offer a helping hand to those in need, either in local community or as far as away as Africa.”

Mayor Walsh said Nikkila, known as Nikki, had helped the Wynyard Gymnastic Club almost double its membership in under 18 months.

“Nikki has helped raise much needed funds during her time as head coach at the Wynyard Gymnastics Club,” Mayor Walsh said.

“It is thanks to the hard work of Nikki that this club is one of the most popular in our area and I thank her for her contribution.”

Mayor Walsh said the Australian Four Day Enduro, held in Wynyard and surrounding areas in October last year, was a phenomenal success.

“The hard work of organisers, volunteers and others helped to ensure that this was a very successful event,” Mayor Walsh said.

“The buzz created in Wynyard and surrounding areas was somewhat contagious and it is a well deserving winner of the Community Event of the Year.”

Mayor Walsh also welcomed a new citizen as part of today’s celebrations, Giovanna Lewis who was born in Peru.

“It is always an honour to conduct citizenships on behalf of the Australian Government, and doing so on Australia Day makes this event all the more special,” Mayor Walsh said.

Mayor Walsh also took the opportunity to thank Australia Day Ambassador Adam Mostogl for his presentation.

“I wish to thank Adam, who is a former Young Australian of the Year for Tasmania, for visiting us and speaking about his experiences, and sharing his pride in being Australian,” Mayor Walsh said.

Further enquiries may be directed to:- Communications Officer Corey Speers on 0427 207 573.

Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Tuesday 26 January 2016.

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