



Australia Day Awards

2026

Nomination Form

Recognising the outstanding efforts
of residents in the Rockhampton Region



About the Awards

The Rockhampton Region Australia Day Awards celebrate the achievements and contributions of individuals and organisations in our Region. These awards are an opportunity to publicly acknowledge those who have made an extraordinary contribution or are an outstanding achiever.

If you know of a person or community group dedicated to making the Rockhampton Region a better place, help us recognise their efforts and nominate them for a Rockhampton Region Australia Day Award 2026.

Categories

Citizen of the Year

Recognising those who have made a noteworthy contribution to the betterment of the Rockhampton Region and/or given outstanding service to the local community.

Must be older than 30 years as at 26 January 2026.

Young Citizen of the Year

Recognising young people who have made a noteworthy contribution to the betterment of the Rockhampton Region and/or given outstanding service to the local community. Must be aged between 15 years and 30 years as at 26 January 2026.

Community Service Award

In recognition of individuals who have made a noteworthy contribution to the community or enhanced social interaction among the community through their involvement with community groups, charity organisations or similar.

Junior Sportsperson of the Year

Recognising those who have an outstanding record of achievement in sport. Nominees must be between 12 years and 18 years as at 26 January 2026.

Sportsperson of the Year

Recognising those who have an outstanding record of achievement in sport. Must be older than 18 years as at 26 January 2026.

Sports Official of the Year

Recognising those who have an outstanding record of achievement through involvement within their club, Organisation, committee or executive position.

Community Initiative/Event

Recognising individuals, informal groups or formal organisations that have made a significant and beneficial contribution to the wellbeing or liveability of the Rockhampton Region through projects, activities or events.

Arts and Culture Award

This award recognises the significant achievement and dedication by an individual or group to the arts and promotes outstanding creative work in the Rockhampton Region.



Conditions of Entry

- 1 The nominee must reside within the Local Government boundary of Rockhampton Regional Council.
- 2 Under exceptional circumstances consideration may be given where the nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the Rockhampton Region but reside outside the Local Government area.
- 3 Nominees must be an Australian Citizen.
- 4 Nominations for the Rockhampton Region Australia Day Awards 2026 must be received by Sunday, 14 December 2025.
- 5 Nominees must be over the age of 12 as of 26 January 2026.
- 6 Entrants in individual categories automatically qualify for nomination to the Citizen of the Year or Young Citizen of the Year Award. Entrants may also be nominated in more than one category.
- 7 Previous award winners may only be nominated for a different category. Previous recipients of any awards will not be eligible to win that same award again.
- 8 Nominations are to include as much detail about the nominee as possible. This is the only information that the judging panel will use to assess nominations. See form for further details.
- 9 Please do not send original supporting documentation, as all documentation will be retained by Rockhampton Regional Council.
- 10 Nominees must be notified of your intent to nominate them for an award.
- 11 Rockhampton Regional Council employees and their families are eligible to apply for the awards.
- 12 The judging panel will only consider unpaid service to the community. Please clearly delineate between paid and volunteer.
- 13 The judging panel, at their discretion, may choose to swap a nominee into a more suitable category.
- 14 The Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 15 Please return completed nominations via one of the following:
 - Online**
Nominations can be submitted online using our easy-to use web form at www.rrc.qld.gov.au/AustraliaDayAwards
 - Post**
Attn: Mayor's Office
Rockhampton Regional Council
PO Box 1860,
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700
 - Deliver in person**
At one of Council's Customer Service Centres:
Rockhampton: 232 Bolsover Street
Gracemere: 1 Ranger Street
Mount Morgan: 32 Hall Street

Nominations close

Sunday, 14 December 2025

More information

For further details on nominating, please contact Rockhampton Regional Council:

Phone: 07 4932 9000

Email: enquiries@rrc.qld.gov.au

Web: www.rrc.qld.gov.au

Previous Winners

Award winners may only be nominated for a different category.

2025

Citizen of the Year

Christine Dobele

Young Citizen of the Year

Jarryd Lebeter

Community Service Award

David Grenfell

Community Initiative Award

Rockhampton Riding for the Disabled

Association

Cultural Award

Dr Les Killion

Sportsperson of the Year

Shane Iker

Sports Official of the Year

Rod Pratt

Certificate of Commendation

Peter Curtis

Mayoral Commendation for Civic Excellence

Shelter Collective

2024

Citizen of the Year

Ivan Richardson

Young Citizen of the Year

Brooke Lacey

Community Service Award

Malcolm and Lisa Holmes

Community Initiative Award

Jan Davison

Cultural Award

Merle Cole and Vicki Cope

Sportsperson of the Year

Samuel Durkin

Sports Official of the Year

Ricky England

Certificate of Commendation

Henry Boswood

Certificate of Commendation

Rockhampton Cancer Council QLD

Volunteer Branch

2023

Citizen of the Year

Steve and Debbie Richards

Young Citizen of the Year

Molly Cottam

Community Service Award

Rosslyn McKendry

Community Initiative Award

Capras Community Care Program

Cultural Award

Rita Philippi

Sportsperson of the Year

Georgia Ralphs

Sports Official of the Year

Allan Laver

Certificate of Commendation

Dr Bob Newby

2022

Citizen of the Year

Jennifer Hilcher

Community Initiative Award

Rockhampton Relay for Life

Community Service Award

Gary Murray

Cultural Award

Shelby Ward

Sportsperson of the Year

Joel Coughlan

Sports Official of the Year

Craig McCormack

2021

Citizen of the Year

Mr Edward Olsson

Young Citizen of the Year

Denvah Baker-Moller

Community Initiative Award

Peter & Lynne Foxwell

Community Service Award

Bouldercombe Singers

Cultural Award

Carmel Beezley-Drake

Sportsperson of the Year

Jessica Moffat

Sports Official of the Year

Marie Sweeney

2020

Citizen of the Year

Keith Ireland

Young Citizen of the Year

Thomas Jackson

Community Initiative Award

The Jolly Rogers Fishing Club

Community Service Award

Dianne Coburn

Cultural Award

No nominations

Sportsperson of the Year

David Barber

Sports Official of the Year

Susan McDonald

Judges Commendation

Tyson Ireland

2019

Citizen of the Year

Errol Payne

Young Citizen of the Year

Blake Moore

Community Event/ Initiative Award - TIE

Cassandra Donald & Jenny Wayman

Community Service Award

Graham and Beth Hubbert

Cultural Award

No nominations

Sportsperson of the Year

Kaleb Christensen

Sports Official of the Year

Barbara Knowles

Rockhampton Region Australia Day Awards 2026 Nomination Form

Your details (nominator)

NAME
PHONE
EMAIL
ADDRESS

Nominee

NAME
DATE OF BIRTH
PHONE
EMAIL
ADDRESS

Checklist

- HAVE YOU TOLD THE NOMINEE THEY ARE NOMINATED?
- HAVE YOU SUPPLIED THE NOMINEE'S DATE OF BIRTH?
- HAVE YOU ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION? (OPTIONAL)
- HAS THE NOMINEE WON AN AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD PREVIOUSLY? IF SO, WHICH AWARD CATEGORY?

Category (PLEASE TICK ONE)

<input type="checkbox"/>	CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (must be older than 30 years as at 26 January 2026)
<input type="checkbox"/>	YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR (must be aged between 15 years and 30 years as at 26 January 2026)
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPORTS OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR (must be older than 18 years as at 26 January 2026)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JUNIOR SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR (must be older than 12 years and younger than 18 years as at 26 January 2026)
<input type="checkbox"/>	ARTS AND CULTURE AWARD
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMUNITY INITIATIVE/EVENT

*ENTRANTS IN ALL INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES WILL AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFY FOR NOMINATION TO THE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR OR YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS.

Selection Criteria

Please provide as much information as possible to assist the Judges in the judging process.

We can only judge based on the information provided in this nomination form.

- What has the nominee done to make an outstanding contribution to the Rockhampton Region?
- Length of time the nominee has contributed to the community in their field.
- What has the nominee done to be an inspirational role model?
- Awards and achievements received within community (e.g Life Membership, OAM, Club Awards), outline the field of contribution and/or news article (please attach a copy)
- Please outline nature of contribution – by committee or volunteer (*paid work is not eligible*)

Community Initiative/Event Award

- How did the initiative or event contribute to the Rockhampton Region?
- How did the initiative or event involve the community?
- Has the initiative or event left a positive legacy for the Rockhampton Region?

Sportsperson of the Year Award and Junior Sportsperson of the Year

- Please list awards and achievements (specify Local, State, National or Olympic level)
- Length of time the nominee has dedicated to the sport.
- What has the nominee done to be an inspirational role model?
- How has the nominees achievements contributed to the Rockhampton Region?

PROVIDE YOUR RESPONSE HERE:

Privacy Notice

Council will use the personal information you supply for the purpose of determining suitability for nomination for the 2026 Australia Day Awards. The judging panel which may include representatives outside of Rockhampton Regional Council will be given access to this information for the purposes of selecting award winners. Successful Nominees names will be mentioned and documented at Council meetings. Proceedings at Council meetings are streamed using YouTube, meaning the information will be streamed, transferred and stored outside of Australia using YouTube services. Council meeting minutes are publicly available from Council Offices and published on the Council's website in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. If successful, some of this information may be used in promotion of the Australia Day Awards through Rockhampton Regional Council public events, websites and social media platforms (including but not limited to Facebook and Instagram). Social media platforms (including but not limited to Facebook and Instagram) store their information outside of Australia.

By completing this form, you agree to this transfer. You can find out more about how Facebook, Instagram and YouTube handles this information [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Council deals with personal information in accordance with law, including the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

I confirm I have read and understand the above privacy statement and that all details contained in this nomination are accurate.

SIGNATURE

DATE

Australia Day Awards

2026

For more information contact
Rockhampton Regional
Council
P: 07 4932 9000
E: enquiries@rrc.qld.gov.au
W: www.rrc.qld.gov.au

