



Northern Territory

# 2021

Australia Day Council Northern Territory

## 2020-2021

# Annual Report



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## Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony in Palmerston



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# 2021

Australia Day 2021

Photo: OZ FUN RUN





I would like to start by thanking all members of the Australia Day Council Northern Territory for their dedication and support to our organization.

2020 will be remembered around the world for the devastating impact of COVID-19, and while this has been a challenging year for all, we have still managed to maintain a strong financial position.

I had the privilege of travelling to Canberra in January to attend the 2021 National Australian of the Year Awards on Australia Day eve and witness our own Dr. Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann announced as the National Senior Australian of the Year.

Australia Day 2021 saw the launch of the national campaign, “The Story of Australia” which encouraged Australians to Reflect. Respect and Celebrate.

# 2021

## A word from the Chair

There were events held across the Northern Territory and thanks to the National Australia Day Council's grants programme, councils and not-for-profits were able to apply for funding to ensure these Australia Day activities went ahead in a COVID Safe way.

Looking ahead to 2021, we are at the beginning of a new Strategic Plan and looking forward to further engagement with our remote communities.

On behalf of the Australia Day Council Northern Territory Board, we look forward to working with the NT community in 2021 and beyond.

Nigel Browne  
Chair  
Australia Day Council Northern Territory



# 2021 Australia Day



# 2021

## A word from the CEO

It is with great pleasure that I am able to present this 2020/2021 Annual Report. It highlights the amazing performance of the Australia Day Council of the Northern Territory over what has been a year of unprecedented challenges due to the COVID – 19 Pandemic but we were fortunate enough to have been able to hold all activities and events with minimal disruption.

As an organization, ADCNT is passionate about celebrating great Aussies and we do this through our Award's programs.

One of my personal favourites is the Student Citizen Awards which is about students who show a sense of fair play, generosity of spirit, cultural understanding, positive attitude and involvement within the school and/or the wider community.

This year over 200 Territorians were recognized through our Student Citizen and Citizen of the Year Awards.

Community Grants totalling \$47,000 were allocated to communities across the Territory and we always look forward to receiving photos of the events and activities that took place.

Our Australia Day Ambassador programme was once again a success with Ambassadors generously volunteering their time and energy to visit regional and remote areas across the Northern Territory to inspire others.

As we move further into 2021, I am excited about the future direction of the Australia Day Council NT and look forward to working closely with our Australian of the Year Awards recipients to support them in sharing their stories and messages to inspire others.

Anna McDonald  
Chief Executive Officer  
Australia Day Council Northern Territory

# Student Citizen of the Year



# 2021

# Key highlights

## Events

### OZ Forum

Each year Australia Day Council NT hold an OZ Forum event where we invite Australian of the Year Awards alumni and friends of Australia Day Council to participate in a panel discussion.

The discussion topic is something that ties all panelists together and is relevant to the current climate.

55 attendees came along to the this year's OZ Forum at the NT Library to hear our panel explore the topic "Australia. The Lucky Country?" and there was a very high level of audience participation.

**Note:** This year's OZ Forum was originally planned for June but due to a sudden COVID-19 lockdown we had to postpone until later in the year.

### Australia Day Community Grants programme

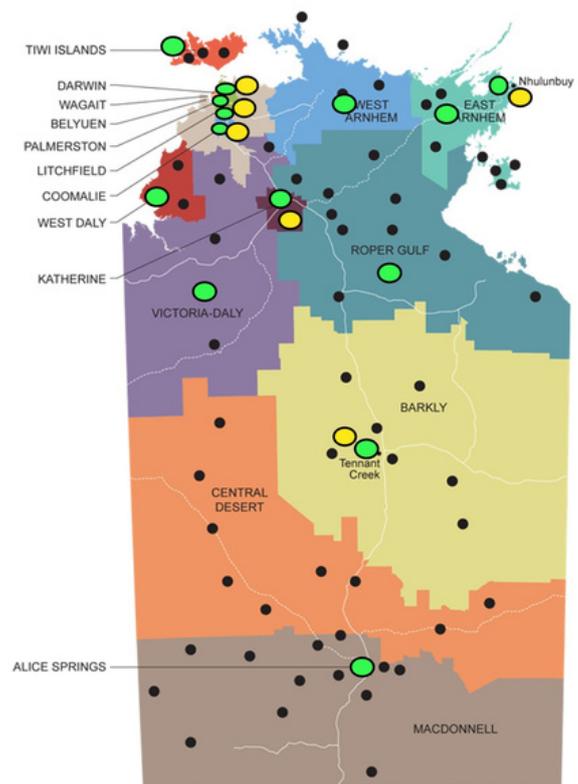
Each year Australia Day Council NT invites councils and not-for-profits to apply for up to \$3000 to hold activities or events within two weeks of Australia Day.

These events can be anything from a flag raising and awards ceremony to cane toad racing, lamington eating or a throwing competition.

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The map below shows the communities/areas of the NT that we engaged with on Australia Day 2021 through our ambassador and community grants programmes.



● Ambassador programme ● Community grants programme



# 2021 OZ FORUM

# Key highlights

# 2021

## Australia Day Council regional conference

Each October, Australia Day Council NT holds a conference for our regional network.

The conference is a great opportunity for those working in events and sport and recreation roles to brainstorm and network with those from other NT councils in similar roles. It also gives those working in the more remote locations an opportunity for professional development that they may not easily have access to.

The agenda covers topics that are relevant to event organizers with a strong focus on Australia Day activities and presenters are usually local business people who generously give their time.

Australia Day Council NT covers the cost of travel and accommodation for one delegate from each council as well as hosting a pre-conference dinner to allow delegates to meet each other beforehand.

This year's conference was held at the Adina Vibe Hotel in Darwin and the delegates were treated to dinner at the Waterfront the night before.

## OZ RUN

One of the highlights of Darwin's Australia Day events is OZ RUN, formerly known as the Australia Day Fun Run.



OZ RUN is held on the morning of Australia Day 26 January at the Darwin Waterfront, OZ RUN is the Territory's largest running event attracting over 4,000 people who participate in a 3km or 5km fun run/walk.

In 2021 Australia Day Council NT was fortunate to receive a grant for \$20,000 through the National Australia Day Council Australia Day grants programme to ensure that OZ Run was still able to go ahead in a COVID safe manner.

Approximately 2500 participants attended.



OZ RUN - Australia Day



# Key highlights

# 2021

## Tour of Honour 2021 Young Australian of the Year – Isobel Marshall (and business partner Eloise Hall)

The Tour of Honour began in Alice Springs where we attended a morning tea hosted by the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Women's Council and then a lunchtime networking event with Isobel as the Keynote speaker before travelling to Darwin.

The week was spent meeting with school students and community groups in Nhulunbuy, Yirrkala and across the Top End. One of the highlights was catching up with NT Australian of the Year Dr Wendy Page and her team at Miwatj Aboriginal Corporation in Nhulunbuy. Visiting with Miwatj was a very educational experience for Isobel and Eloise and they heard firsthand from the Yolngu women about what menstruation signifies in their culture and how young girls interact with certain family members, the protocols they must adhere to and how they feel about their bodies during this time.

We left Nhulunbuy to travel back to Darwin where Isobel and Eloise were hosted for afternoon tea by Youthwork NT. Youthworx NT is a not-for-profit organization that works in partnership with education, business, government and the community to improve the career potential of all Territorians.

There were a few young women who had already heard of TABOO. They have been following Isobel and Eloise's journey over the past couple of years and were excited to meet the Young Australian of the Year.

Isobel and Eloise left a great impression on every group that they met and inspired a lot of young Territorians by showing that if you have an idea, passion, self-belief and your best mate then anything is possible!



## OZ Sports

Each year community sporting groups and clubs are encouraged to hold a competition or event on Australia Day, 26 January to contribute to Australia Day celebrations throughout the Northern Territory.

The OZ Sports program is free to participate in and offers clubs and organisations an opportunity to promote their programs and encourage new memberships.

33 sporting clubs and organisations from across the Territory registered for our OZ Sports programme this year.



# 2021 TOUR OF HONOUR



# OzFusion 2021



**MCNT**  
Multicultural Council  
OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



**NADC** | National  
Australia Day  
Council



# Key highlights

# 2021

## Programs

### Australian of the Year Awards

Each year our nation celebrates the achievements and contributions of eminent Australians through the Australian of the Year Awards by profiling leading citizens who are role models for us all. They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia.

The Awards honour an exceptional group of highly-respected Australians who ignite discussion and change on issues of national importance.

The Australian of the Year Awards provides everyone with the opportunity to recognise any Australian who makes them proud.

The four Finalist nominees by category were:

- NT Local hero nominees:

Jason Hanna, Josephine Crofts, Reanna Sanders.  
Sergeant Erica Gibson (Recipient).

- NT Senior Australian of the Year nominees

Beverley Shuker, Bauman, Dr Ollapallil Jacob, Jimmy Shu.

Dr Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann (Recipient).

- NT Young Australian of the Year

Dr Sanjay Joseph, Matthew Axten, Nicole Civitarese.  
Stuart McGrath (Recipient).

- Australian of the Year nominees

Dorrelle Anderson, Margaret Chamberlain, Megan Hoosan.

Dr Wendy Page (Recipient).

Over 250 people attended the Northern Territory awards presentation event held at the Darwin Convention Centre.

The four recipients then go on to represent the NT in Canberra for the National Announcement on Australia Day eve and this year, Dr Miriam Rose Ungunmerrour senior was announced a national recipient.

### Citizen of the Year Awards

The Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council Northern Territory, supported by the Northern Territory Government.

Citizen of the Year Awards reward and recognise individuals and organisations that have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year, and/or given outstanding service over several years, to a local community over and above normal employment duties.

Outstanding contribution and community service include areas such as education, health, fundraising, charitable and voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment, or any other area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of a community.

#### Categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the year

Some councils choose to create their own awards too, including the "Volunteer of the Year" category.

- Participating councils included...
- Alice Springs
- Barkly Regional Council
- Coomalie Council

# Key highlights

# 2021

- City of Darwin
- Katherine Town Council
- Litchfield Council
- Nhulunbuy Corporation
- Roper Gulf Regional Council
- City of Palmerston
- Wagait Shire Council
- West Arnhem Regional Council

## Student Citizen Awards

The Australia Day Student Citizen Award recognises students who shows a sense of fair play, generosity of spirit, concern for others, cultural understanding and a positive attitude and involvement within their school and/or wider community.

Every school in the Northern Territory is invited to participate in the program by selecting one student per primary, middle and senior secondary school to receive the Student Citizen Award for their school.

Award recipients receive a specially minted engraved medallion along with a certificate signed by the Administrator, Chief Minister, and Chair of the Australia Day Council.

We encourage presentation of the award to take place at the student's community's flag raising ceremony on Australia Day but understand this is not always possible.

Many schools select to present the award at their end of year assembly before school breaks for Christmas.

All award recipients are acknowledged in a full-page coloured advertisement in the NT News on Australia Day.

- 151 students received Student Citizen Awards across the Northern Territory in 2021.
- 107 schools presented the Student Citizen Award at their end of the school presentation while 44 students received their award on Australia Day at their local community flag raising ceremony.
- 65 urban, 15 rural and 59 remote primary schools participated in the program.
- 16 urban and 14 remote middle schools participated in the program.
- 17 urban, 7 rural and 8 remote senior/high schools participated in the program.

## Ambassador Program

The Australia Day Ambassador Program is the cornerstone of local Australia Day celebrations. Each year over Ambassadors generously volunteer their time and energy to visit regional and remote areas across the Northern Territory to inspire and unite communities.



# Key highlights

# 2021

Our Ambassadors are high profile, influential and deeply respected community leaders within the Northern Territory. These individuals embrace communities, share insights from their varied lived experiences, reflect on who we are as nation and celebrate our diversity.

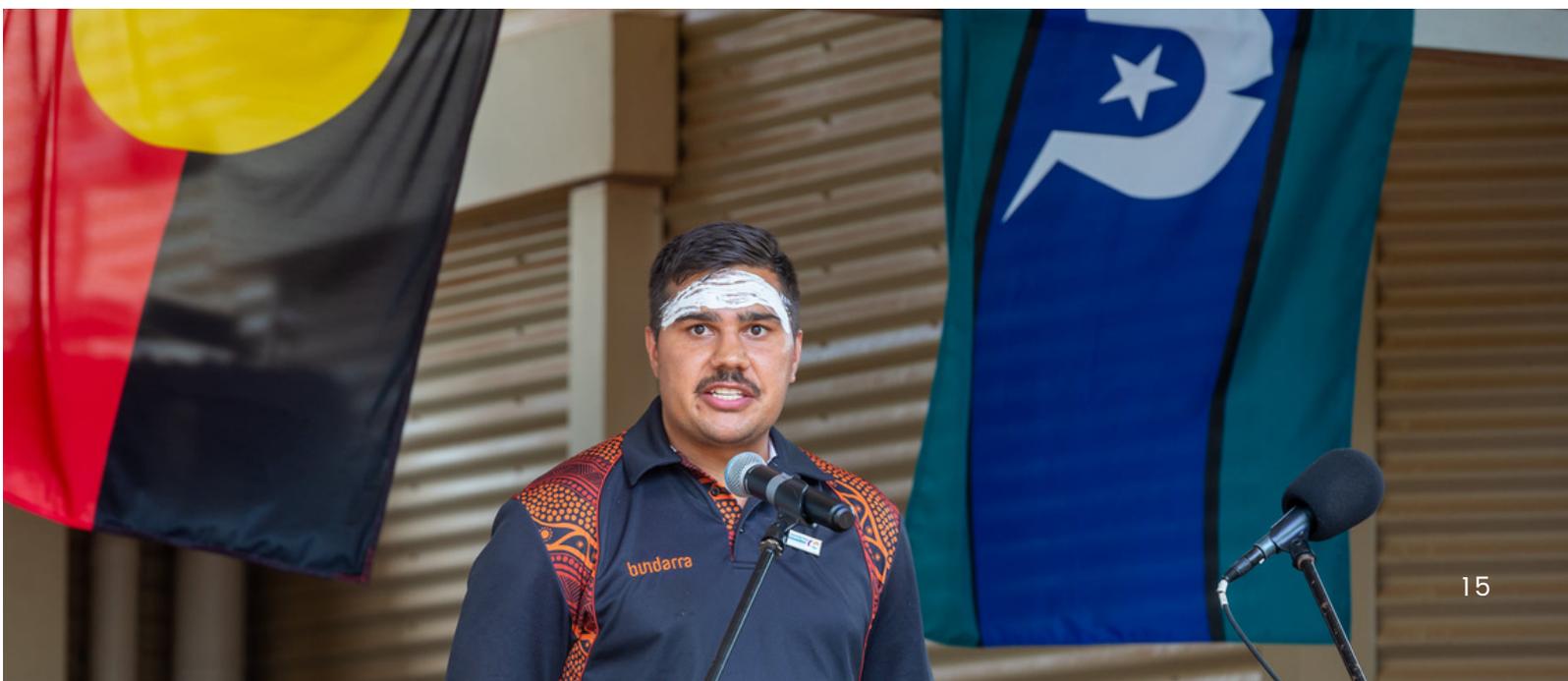
#### Ambassadors 2021:

- City of Darwin – Helen Summers
- Litchfield Council – Nicole Civitarese
- Katherine Town Council – Bob Shewring & Margaret Chamberlain
- Barkly Regional Council – Adam Drake
- Nhulunbuy Corporation – Matthew Axten
- Coomalie Community Government Council – David Taylor
- Clubhouse Territory community event – David Taylor

*“Being part of Australia Day to celebrate the spirit of Australia, bring Australians together, and delivering the important message respecting our First Nations and also looking forward to the future”*

*“Being able to have the opportunity to participate in the Australia Day events run by the local Councils and witness great stories by local finalists and awardees, also to witness the people of all nationalities becoming Australian citizens, also the myriad of events happening during the day”*

*“Connecting with such a diverse community and knowing a few participants. I always LOVE to see new citizens being sworn in. I was ambassador to two events, one on Australia Day and another (Inclusion Games) a few days later.*



# Impact at a Glance

## 2020-2021 Snapshot

### Awards Programmes

- **151 Students** were recognised through the Student Citizen of the Year Awards
- **43 individuals** and **14 community groups** were recognised through the Australia Day

### Citizen of the Year awards

- **16 individuals** were recognised through the 2021 NT Australian of the Year Awards

### Events

- **280 guests** attended the 2021 NT Australian of the Year Awards at the Darwin Convention Centre.
- **2500 people** participated in **OZ Run** on the morning of Australia Day.
- **55 people** attended **OZ Forum** at the NT Library.
- **48 people** attended a lunchtime event in Alice Springs with **2021 Young Australian of the Year Isobel Marshall** as the keynote speaker.
- **32 community** events were held across the Territory on Australia Day 2021.

### Programs

- **33 sporting clubs** and associations participated in the Australia Day **OZ Sports** programme
- **20 councils and not-for-profits** received **grants** totalling **\$47,000** to ensure the spirit of Australia Day was enjoyed by all Territorians
- **21 people** from across **16 regional councils** attended the Australia Day **Regional Conference** in Darwin.

2021





# Citizen Awards of the Year

# Governance

# 2021

## Nigel Browne (Chair)

Nigel is a descendant of the Larrakia and Wulna peoples. His traditional Country encompasses the lands and waters of the Greater Darwin Region including Darwin & Bynoe harbours, Cox Peninsula, Vernon Islands, Adelaide & Mary Rivers, Acacia, Cape Hotham, Fogg Dam, Humpty Doo & Koolpinyah Stations and Djukbinj National Park.

He is the current CEO of the LDC after serving as a Director on the board since 2005 and Chair from 2010 to 2013. In August 2011 Nigel was announced as the National Indigenous Legal Professional of the Year, in recognition of his advocacy, representation, and contribution to Larrakia people. He is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

## Katherine Li

Katherine Li is proud to call Australia home after migrating from China around ten years ago. As a fluent and confident communicator in Mandarin and English, Katherine prides herself on building strong relationships with those she meets.

As a passionate advocate for multicultural societies, Australia has helped Katherine's passion for supporting others to grow. In 2018/19, Katherine was the President of the Young Professionals Network NT supporting hundreds of young Territorians to get involved with social and professional development events.

## David Taylor

David was named 2016 Australian of the Year NT Local Hero in recognition for his work with disengaged, homeless, and at-risk young people. Using his background as a teaching Chef, he used his culinary knowledge and his passion to effect real change to guide them back into education or into meaningful employment.

David facilitates personal growth and wellness sessions in Darwin schools for the GROW Foundation. He believes that until young people can see themselves as useful and worthwhile, they will struggle to have a positive outlook for the future. It is up to each of us to encourage our young people with love, care, and compassion.

## Nathan Fanning

Nathan is a mechanical engineer with experience in oil and gas, mining, public policy and local government sectors. Currently a Principal Project Officer for the NT Government, Nathan is passionate about supporting industry sectors to grow their capabilities.

Nathan has provided community service leadership as 2014 Chair of the Chief Ministers Round Table of Young Territorians, tutor for Aboriginal university students and organising awards to honour Northern Territory firefighters.

## Malia Ford

Malia is a born and bred Territorian currently completing her master's in occupational therapy. She is an avid networker, after completing a term on the Chief Ministers Round Table of Young Territorians she gave 1.5 years to the Young Professionals Network Committee.

She has volunteered her time to the community through yearly contributions to the Salvation Army Christmas Lunch, Launch Night Series Basketball and the Starlight ball.

Malia has a long-standing relationship with the Australia Day Council NT, having organised and participated in Australia Day events in the Roper Gulf Region, along with attending many regional and state conferences. Malia is also a Board member for Two Two One Mental Health Charity.

## Dr Edwin Joseph

Edwin is passionate about serving the community and being active in public life. He has a multidisciplinary education, including a doctoral degree. His experience includes roles in higher education, project management, research, policy and more. Throughout his life,

Edwin has been volunteering for community groups, not-for-profit organizations and professional associations. Currently he serves on five boards in the Northern Territory.

## Shipra Soni

Is currently serving as the Treasurer of the board and works full time serving the Bishop of Darwin working as the Business Manager at Catholic Church Diocese of Darwin. She is passionate towards children's future and has been a Board Member (Treasurer) for Variety the Children's Charity NT.

She is an immensely grounded human being, her heart reaches out for anyone in need, be it family, a friend or stranger. Through her innate skills and formal qualifications, she has accomplished a lot in the last 10 years in Darwin.

## Robert Annis-Brown

Robert has had a 37 year career in Banking of which the last 21 years have been spent in Darwin servicing the business community gaining inspiration from the people he has interacted with who have come to call the Territory home.

He is passionate about what makes Australia great and has volunteered for several community groups. Robert has served on the boards of the Charles Darwin University Foundation, Australian Institute of Management & the Property Council NT Division. Robert is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

## Gail Barker

Born in Perth Western Australian where I grew up studied and became a teacher.

I moved to Darwin with my husband and children in December 1989 where I took on a role as a teacher at The Essington School Darwin. I was appointed Principal at the school after spending several years as Head Teacher followed by Assistant Principal.

After 10 years at Essington, I moved to the Association of Independent Schools of the Northern Territory as the Educational Support Officer. I have now been with AISNT for 21 years and have been in the position of Executive Director for the past 15 years. I feel privileged to be accepted onto the Board of the Australia Day Board of the Northern Territory.

## Catherine Satour

Councilor Catherine Satour seeks to strengthen the community of Alice Springs. As a passionate Central Australian, she believes that the town's spirit and pride can be enhanced through greater community support, and through the arts.

Councilor Satour intends to further encourage initiatives of collaboration and transparency within Council and is passionate about ensuring good governance.

# Australian of the Year Awards

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



# Australian of the Year Awards

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.





**Australia Day**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

**Northern  
Territory**

**Australia Day Council Northern Territory,  
Would like to thank the following sponsors  
and event partners**

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National  
Australia Day  
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**Athletics**  
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20  
21



# Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

## Northern Territory