

REFLECT. RESPECT. CELEBRATE.
AUSTRALIA DAY
2024 REPORT



NADC

National
Australia Day
Council



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

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Reflect.
Respect.
Celebrate.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Australia Day is about the ever-evolving story of our nation – our history, our lives and, most of all, our people.

What it means to each of us depends on who we are, where we come from and how we came to be Australian; from the First Australians whose connection to this land continues for tens of thousands of years, to the descendants of settlers, children of migrants and those recently arrived.

This year, people and communities came together across the nation and took part in the day, their way. There were time-honoured practices of storytelling and wisdom-sharing alongside First Nations people; local citizenship ceremonies and multicultural events that recognise those who now call Australia home; and moments of respect for the freedoms we sometimes take for granted. As we say, we're all part of the story of Australia.

More than 600 events were hosted by councils and local community groups around the country to reflect, respect and celebrate with their communities on Australia Day 2024. These were supported by the National Australia Day Council's Australia Day Community Events Grants program, with \$4.755 million in funding provided through the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Grant applicants that collaborated with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were eligible to apply for additional funding, helping foster stronger ties in hundreds of locations around Australia.

\$4.3 million was also provided for major events in cities around the country, organised by our Australia Day National Network. Our shared aim is to make the day as inclusive as possible for all Australians and to respect the many layers to our national day.

On the eve of Australia Day, the 2024 Australians of the Year were named: Professor Georgina Long AO & Professor Richard Scolyer AO; Yalmay Yunupingu; Emma McKeon AM; and David Elliott OAM. We can all be so proud of their inspiring service, contribution to others and excellence in their fields.

Whether you went to an organised event, gathered with family and friends or spent some time alone in reflection, we can all celebrate being part of a proud, ancient, multicultural nation that values the contribution of every citizen.



Mark Fraser AO CVO
Chief Executive Officer
National Australia Day Council

**ABOUT
THE
NADC**

ABOUT THE NADC

Who we are and what we do

The National Australia Day Council (NADC) works to ensure that celebrations of Australia Day encourage:

- **Participation:** To unite all Australians through celebration and reflection
- **Meaning:** To promote the meaning of Australia Day and being Australian
- **Recognition:** To acknowledge active citizenship and achievement

The NADC promotes our national day to inspire national pride and unity through these core programs:

- The celebration of Australia Day, which encourages all Australians to Reflect, Respect and Celebrate
- The Australian of the Year Awards
- Australian citizenship and civic values programs
- The Australia Day Ambassador program

Our priorities

The NADC Corporate Plan outlines its priorities with the purpose of inspiring 'national pride and unity through participation and engagement in its central message: Reflect, Respect, Celebrate – we're all part of the story'.

The priorities include:

- Telling the stories of inspiring Australians
- Empowering Australians to Reflect, Respect and Celebrate

The Australia Day National Network

The Australia Day National Network is an affiliate group of state and territory organisations that helps facilitate the celebration of Australia Day and being Australian, and recognises inspirational Australians through the Australian of the Year Awards.

Through the Network, the NADC helps Australia's local government authorities, not-for-profits and community organisations deliver Australia Day events that encourage participation, promote meaning and celebrate citizenship.

AUSTRALIA DAY 2024 OVERVIEW

The NADC's focus for Australia Day 2024 centered on encouraging Australians to gather with friends, family and their community and participate in the day, their way.

To support this, the NADC delivered:

- A \$4,755,000 Australia Day Community Events Grants program supporting over 600 community and council events around the nation, including those with significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander elements
- A \$4,322,650 Capital City Funding Program, including the Australia Day Live event in Sydney, broadcast on television and ABC iView
- The National Citizenship and Flag Raising Ceremony from Canberra, broadcast on television and ABC iView
- Requirements for grant-funded events to be accessible and inclusive
- The Australia Day Ambassador program
- The Australian of the Year Awards
- *Australia to Me Is...* social media campaign





AUSTRALIA DAY 2024

PRIVATE WELCOME CEREMONY

Australia Day 2024 in Canberra, began with a Private Welcome Ceremony on the parklands of Lake Burley Griffin, attended by the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP and Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley, AC DSC (Retd).

Supported by the NADC and hosted by the United Ngunnawal Elders Council, our nation's leaders gathered with the Traditional Custodians of the land to share a moment of reflection and respect.

This moving ceremony was broadcast live on ABC TV, following crosses to many morning smoking ceremonies in states and territories around the country.

Total viewers on ABC TV and ABC iView: 136,000



Smoking Ceremony with Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley, AC DSC



Ngunnawal traditional custodian Bradley Bell greets Prime Minister of Australia the Honourable Anthony Albanese MP at the Private Welcome Ceremony

NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP AND FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

The Prime Minister and Governor-General, along with members of the diplomatic corps, attended the National Citizenship and Flag Raising Ceremony on the shore of Lake Burley Griffin.

The annual ceremony, delivered in collaboration with the Department of Home Affairs, NADC and the ABC, welcomes some of our newest citizens.

The ceremony shared the conferees' stories and reflected on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's continuous connection to country.

Total viewers on ABC TV and ABC iView: 221,000



Australian of the Year alumni and their partners carried the Australian National Flag



Attendees at the National Citizenship & Flag Raising Ceremony



Prime Minister of Australia the Honourable Anthony Albanese MP with some of our newest Australian citizens

COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Local government and community organisations have long played a vital role in delivering Australia Day events.

In 2024, the NADC helped councils and not-for-profit community organisations deliver more than 600 local community events and activities on Australia Day through \$4.755 million in grants funding provided by the Federal Government.

Community Grants

In 2024, Australia Day Community Grant recipients received \$10,000 to organise, promote and host Australia Day events that encouraged their communities to reflect, respect and celebrate.

The NADC offered an additional \$5,000 to grant recipients who incorporated activities that encouraged reflection, respect and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

The majority of grant recipients received the additional funding, providing opportunities for communities and councils to collaborate with local Indigenous groups.

All applicants were required to incorporate accessibility elements into their events to ensure universal accessibility for all.



Australia Day Celebration and Multicultural Dance Performance organised by Chinese Dance Australia Inc., Balcatta, WA

NEW SOUTH WALES



Performers at the ACYEC Multicultural Community Australia Day Celebration, Pennant Hills

Australian Chinese Youth Elite Club (ACYEC)

The ACYEC Multicultural Community Australia Day Celebration at Pennant Hills Library brought together bustling market stalls, interactive storytelling sessions and artists. Performances ranged from traditional dances to modern interpretations, adding layers of cultural richness to the celebration and showcasing the community's rich tapestry of cultures.



The event was opened by local First Nations performance group Dinawans Connection

Narrandera Shire Council

Celebrations commenced early in Narrandera with a community breakfast followed by an Australia Day Ceremony at Lake Talbot Water Park. The event included a Welcome to Country, didgeridoo performance, singing and dancing. A formal ceremony followed with dignitaries speaking, musical performances, flag raising and Australia Day Awards. A First Nations Cultural Tour provided a great educational experience, while an Australia Day Ambassador Dinner led by First Nations Chef Rebekah Rogers showcased Indigenous Australian flavours. Up to 900 attendees participated across the Shire's events program.

Zonta Club of Northern Beaches Inc

An Australia Day breakfast event on Sydney's Newport Beach was an opportunity to support key local services. Both the Australian and Aboriginal flags were raised by members of local state emergency services, the national anthem was sung by the Northern Beaches Choir and local businesses donated prizes for thong throwing competitions.



Funds raised supported organisations such as Mackerel Beach and Northern Beaches Rural Fire Brigades and Warringah Pittwater SES

NORTHERN TERRITORY



Variety – the Children’s Charity

The iconic Australia Day Ute Run, held in the Top End, attracts up to 1,000 people and was Variety’s 22nd event in the Australia Day calendar. Just over 300 vehicles gathered for a lap at Hidden Valley Raceway before the day began with a smoking ceremony. The First Nation, First Ute group drove through the smoke, leading the Ute Run Parade through the BBQ-lined streets from Darwin to Humpty Doo.

The Top End’s Ute Run Parade is a staple on the Australia Day calendar



Litchfield Council

The Australia Day celebration in Freds Pass stands as the pinnacle council-run event of the year for Litchfield Council, consistently drawing a large turnout from local residents and incorporating local business market stalls, children’s entertainment, the annual fun run and complimentary breakfast. A citizenship ceremony ensured Litchfield’s newest citizens received a warm and inclusive community welcome, while Bushfires NT recruited new community volunteers and engaged children with their fire truck.

Bushfires NT



Alice Springs Town Council

It was a pool party with an ice-cream-filled cinema session in the desert! The Australia Day Alice Springs Splash Party and BBQ attracted over 1,400 people. Aboriginal facilitators also ran workshops on storytelling, song, bush medicine and making date and wattle treats.

Australia Day Alice Springs Splash Party

VICTORIA



Mount Alexander Shire Council

Led by Dja Dja Wurrung Elder Uncle Rick Nelson as the MC, Mount Alexander Shire's yarning table provided a space for meaningful dialogue and connection. Musical performances were headlined by the legendary Bart Willoughby. From African cuisine to a barbecue from the local Lion's Club, the celebration drew 500 attendees and served as a powerful testament to the strength found in unity and the beauty of cultural diversity.

Mount Alexander Shire Australia Day-Survival Day Event



Pioneering Aboriginal reggae artist Bart Willoughby (right) and band



City of Port Phillip

Organised by the Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council in partnership with Port Phillip Council, the We-Akon Dilinja ceremony was a heartfelt tribute to respect, remembrance and revival. The event showcased First Peoples culture through song, dance and storytelling. Kangaroo Apple flower pendants, traditionally worn by Boonwurrung women, were handed out to the audience.

The traditional smoking ceremony led by Willie Pepper symbolised purification and unity



Musician Jeff Woodward entertained the crowd

Rotary Club of Warracknabeal

Yarriambiack Shire is home to one of the oldest demographic profiles in Victoria. Its diverse community ranges across all socio-economic groups, with its main industries being farming, rural agencies, health and the disability sector. After a cooked breakfast to the sounds of the Warracknabeal and District Band, the Warracknabeal Scout group and Guides initiated the day's official program with a flag parade. The aim of the event was to foster mutual respect for all community members; reflecting on the positive aspects of Australian rural life and working together to make the community inclusive, sustainable and resilient.

QUEENSLAND



Children participating in the gallery competition

Wondai Regional Art Gallery Inc

A free annual community and art competition invited attendees to use canvases, clapsticks and boomerangs to create a vision of 'Reflect. Respect. Celebrate. We're all part of the story'. Two local artists guided attendees, one from nearby Cherbourg Aboriginal Community who could teach traditional techniques and explain the history and background of the art. Judges assessed over 100 pieces displayed before an evening of food, live music and dance from the Wirri Wakka group.



Australia Day Ambassador Dr Robert McGregor spoke about his charity work and career

Somerset Regional Council

Australia Day 2024 welcomed a massive 400 people to the Somerset Celebrates festivities held at the Somerset Civic Centre. The community welcomed new Australian citizens and celebrated local community champions, while kids enjoyed face painting and interacting with critters from Geckoes Wildlife.



Families at formal presentations in Somerset Civic Centre



With One Voice Choir performing at the Ocean International Hotel

The Rotary Club of Mackay Inc.

The Mackay Rotary Australia Day celebration was about the only Australia Day show in town due to the proximity of Cyclone Kirrily. The Ocean International Hotel provided the perfect indoor venue to welcome new arrivals to Australia with song and readings of great Australian poems by Mackay's very own bush poet, Steven Ford.

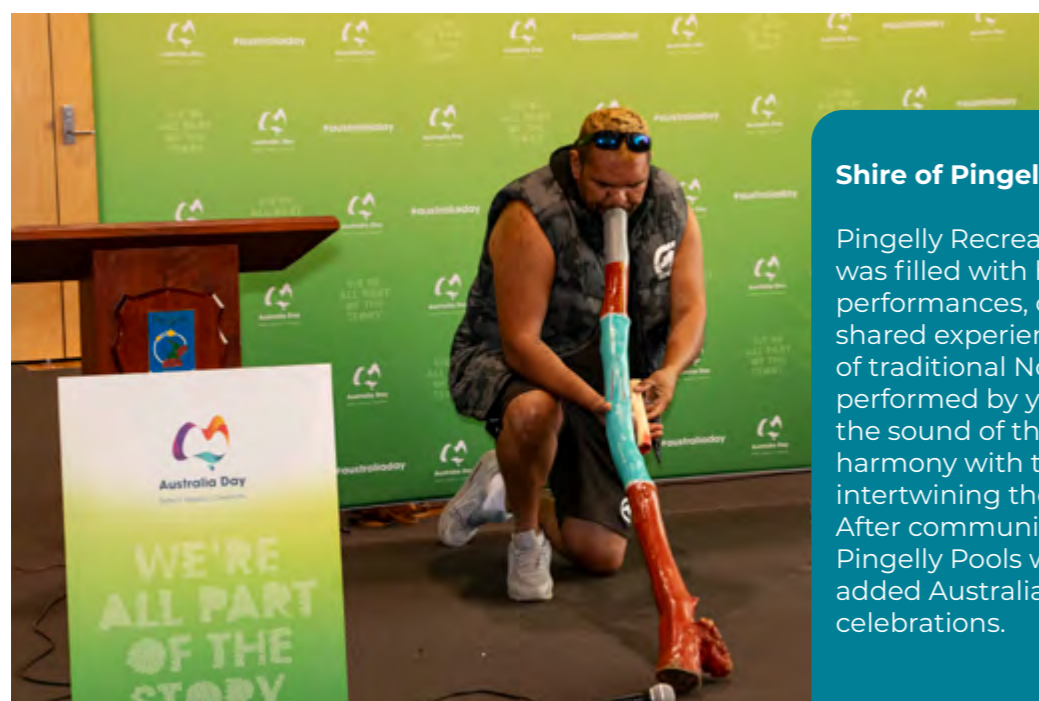
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



First Nations chalk artworks by Nerolie Bynder

City of Kalamunda

Kalamunda Water Park showcased a rich tapestry of community engagement and First Nations integration. A Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and damper preparation by Noongar Elder Neville Collard and his family, along with a bush tucker talk, highlighted connection to Country to the almost 800 attendees.



Didgeridoo performance by Moorditj Youth Foundation

Shire of Pingelly

Pingelly Recreation and Cultural Centre was filled with heartfelt stories, cultural performances, culinary delights and shared experiences. A stirring rendition of traditional Noongar dance was performed by young Aboriginal dancers, the sound of the didgeridoo echoing in harmony with the dancers' footsteps, intertwining the past with the present. After community awards, festivities at Pingelly Pools with kangaroo burgers added Australian flavour to the celebrations.



Meet and greet with Pounce the Kangaroo and Neville the Wombat from the ABC's *Kangaroo Beach*



City of Gosnells

From bush crafts to a bouncy castle to ribbon twirling, the Australia Day Big Breakfast provided a truly spectacular family-friendly event. West Oz Wildlife provided educational encounters with koalas and snakes, while stilt-wearing performers roamed amongst live musical acts.

Family at the Australia Day Big Breakfast, Centennial Pioneer Park Amphitheatre

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Local entertainers, outdoor games and face painting were on offer in Coober Pedy

District Council of Coober Pedy
 This remote outback community has a population of around 1,500 residents. But Australia Day brought them together for a cricket match run by the Coober Pedy Cricket Club, the Mini Gems Childcare Centre, and the Child and Parent Support Group. The local SES provided a BBQ breakfast and lunch, while the original landowners of Coober Pedy – Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara Aboriginal Corporation – were involved in the day; sharing knowledge, customs and making the event more inclusive.



Breakfast BBQ at Wallaroo Town Hall

Copper Coast Council
 The annual Copper Coast Australia Day Breakfast and Awards Ceremony was this Council's biggest Australia Day to date since the event started in 2017. Attendees enjoyed a free breakfast at the Wallaroo Town Hall before celebrating new citizens, community award winners and listening to beautiful music performed by the local Kadina Wallaroo & Moonta Band.



Tiger McMillan and Marie at Moana Surf Life Saving Club

Moana Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated
 A Family Day of Celebration For All was designed to include people of all ages and those with a disability. Face painting, live music and a BBQ held by Rotary volunteers were on offer, while the Scottish Pipe Band led the Surf Life Saving March Past team headed up by Tiger McMillan in his gopher mobility scooter.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



Food packing for Australia Day food deliveries

HelpingACT

More than 50 volunteers made Australia Day special for those in need. HelpingACT created and distributed Australia Day celebration packs for struggling families within Canberra. A Refugees and Asylum Seekers Australia Day Dinner was also held for those new to the country, making vulnerable families feel welcomed in the community and strengthening their social connection.



Afro Fusion and Community BBQ in Yerrabi Pond District Park, Gungahlin

Celebration of African Australians Inc

An Afro Fusion and Community BBQ event journeyed into the heart of cultural diversity and unity. Celebrating the contributions of African communities to the Australian story alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, traditional dancing and live music with didgeridoos and clapsticks were combined with Afrobeat rhythms.

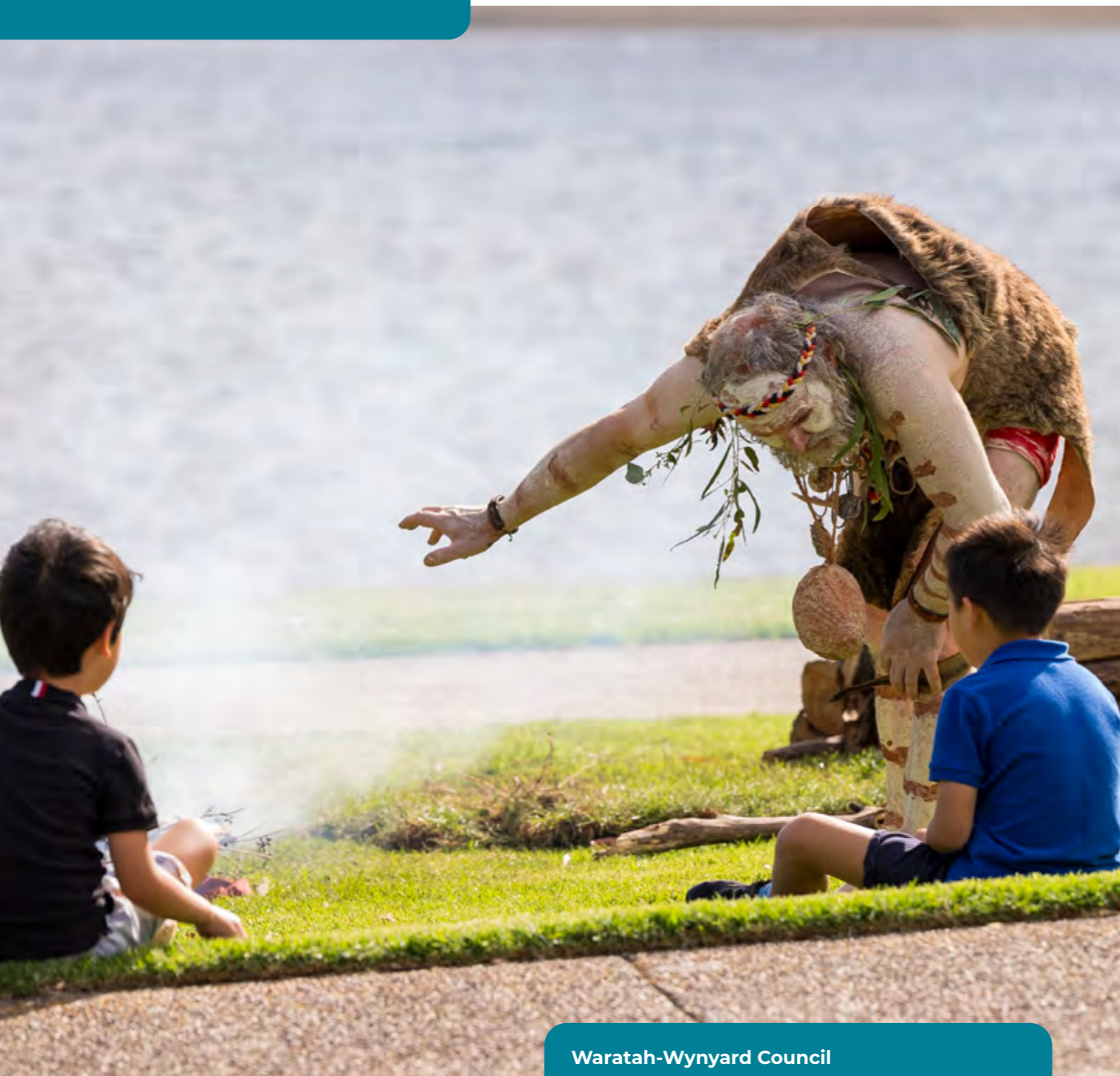


Concert dancers in Beijing Garden, Yarralumla

The Federation of Chinese Community of Canberra Inc

Reflecting on culturally diverse journeys as Australian citizens, respecting all contributions and celebrating democratic values was the message at an open concert in Canberra's Beijing Garden. The concert featured traditional Chinese dance, music and singing, martial arts and local First Nations dancers.

TASMANIA



In traditional ochre and dress, Leslie Dick held a smoking ceremony, the smell of eucalyptus thick in the air.

Waratah-Wynyard Council

An Aussie Breakfast & Awards event was held on the banks of the Inglis River in Wynyard's Gutteridge Gardens. New citizens were welcomed with gifts and a rock rendition sing-along of the national anthem. A short film acknowledging the traditional owners of the land, the Tommeginer people, showcased natural and cultural assets of the local area.



Tasman Council

The small community of Tasman Peninsula celebrated the opening of their annual Art & Craft exhibition incorporated with their Community Awards. The Australia Day event recognised and acknowledged outstanding achievements by individuals, organisations and community groups. This year saw a record number of nominations received.

Tasman Peninsula has a strong community spirit with its population of around 2,500 people



Bruny Bowls and Community Club Inc.

Now in its third year, Australia Day at Adventure Bay brought the entire community of Bruny Island together for an all-day event featuring live musicians, performers, food vans, local producers and local businesses. The event injected life into the Bruny Island community, revitalised local business and allowed patrons to reflect upon the island's rich history and diversity.

The Blues Brothers Revival Band

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Every year, more than 300 proud Australia Day Ambassadors visit towns and cities to inspire and unite communities.

Ambassadors were supported with key communications material to ensure the program was delivered consistently around the country. Event checklists were made available to participating Ambassadors and councils.

"The outpouring of positive feedback and appreciation for my inspirational story was truly heartening. Every second spent engaging with the audience and sharing this journey was immensely fulfilling. I was so proud to wear my Indian outfit, embracing my identity and celebrating the rich tapestry of my heritage."

Asha Bhat OAM

Auspire Australia Day Ambassador
WA



Auspire Australia Day Ambassador Asha Bhat OAM shared her migrant journey from India to Albany with Nedlands residents

AROUND THE COUNTRY

CAPITAL CITY EVENTS

The Capital City Funding Program was offered to organisers of major landmark events in state and territory capitals. Overall, \$4,322,650 was provided to capital cities for flagship Australia Day events.

Australia Day Live, from the steps of the Sydney Opera House, completed the day's national broadcasting on ABC TV and ABC iView.

"This day is about celebrating and shining a spotlight on our nation's remarkable diversity."

John Foreman AM
Chair, National Australia Day Council

Total viewers on ABC TV and ABC iView: 448,000



Australia Day Live, Sydney Opera House forecourt

SYDNEY

Each year, the program in Sydney is strengthened through ongoing collaborations with First Nations spokespeople who contribute significantly to its narrative, creativity and authenticity.

As the sun rose over Sydney Harbour, the world-renowned Sydney Opera House sails were illuminated with spectacular digital artwork by Kooma man Brett Leavy. Now in its fourth year, the Dawn Reflection offers a poignant acknowledgement to the remarkable contributions of Australia's first peoples.

The WugulOra Morning Ceremony, broadcast live on NITV, was attended by more than 2,000 people and cleansed the way for new beginnings. It celebrated the Gadigal people of the Eora nation through music, dance, language, storytelling and ceremony.

Australia Day Harbourfest offered free fun events and activities around Sydney Harbour and Circular Quay, including the iconic Ferrython, a Kidz Zone, the Royal Air Force Roulettes' aerial display and the Great Aussie BBQ.

In the evening, the Sydney Opera House forecourt and Circular Quay came alive for the Australia Day Live concert. Over 90,000 people enjoyed live musical performances by artists including Casey Donovan, Dami Im, William Barton and Kate Miller-Heidke, choreographed to a flotilla of yachts, projections on the Sydney Opera House sails and pyrotechnic displays.

[Learn more about Australia Day in Sydney](#)



WugulOra Morning Ceremony, Barangaroo Reserve



Four significant First Nations heroes were honoured at the Dawn Reflection: Nanbarry, Barangaroo, Pemulwuy and Patyegarang

"It's important to place these key individuals in their proper place in our history. They hold important roles and their stories need to be shared with our nation."

Brett Leavy
Aboriginal digital artist



Great Aussie BBQ

MELBOURNE

The Official Flag Raising Ceremony, hosted by the Governor of Victoria and attended by the Premier of Victoria, marked the beginning of Melbourne's Australia Day at one of Victoria's most iconic buildings, Government House. Its annual Open Day has become the primary focal point of Australia Day celebrations.

A record number of over 20,000 visitors explored the historic State Apartments. They picnicked on the Western Lawn with food from culturally-diverse food stalls, watched a 21-gun salute and RAAF heritage aircraft flyover, and learned about community service organisations such as Cancer Council Victoria, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Victoria Police and St John Ambulance Victoria.

Mainstage performances reflected the rich talent of Victorians, from the Australian Defence Force Airforce Band to a Bollywood flashmob on the lawn, a jazz ensemble to a powerful yidaki performance.



Performers at the Government House Open Day



BBQ held by Carnegie Lions Club



Official Flag Raising Ceremony



CANBERRA

A visually spectacular sky show dazzled over 100,000 people, using the canvas of the night sky to tell Australian stories.

Taking place over three nights including Australia Day, Flight was a trilogy of 12-minute drone shows over Lake Burley Griffin with accompanying narrative and music. The show had a particular focus on showcasing First Nations culture and included consultation with Ngunnawal elder Dr Caroline Hughes.

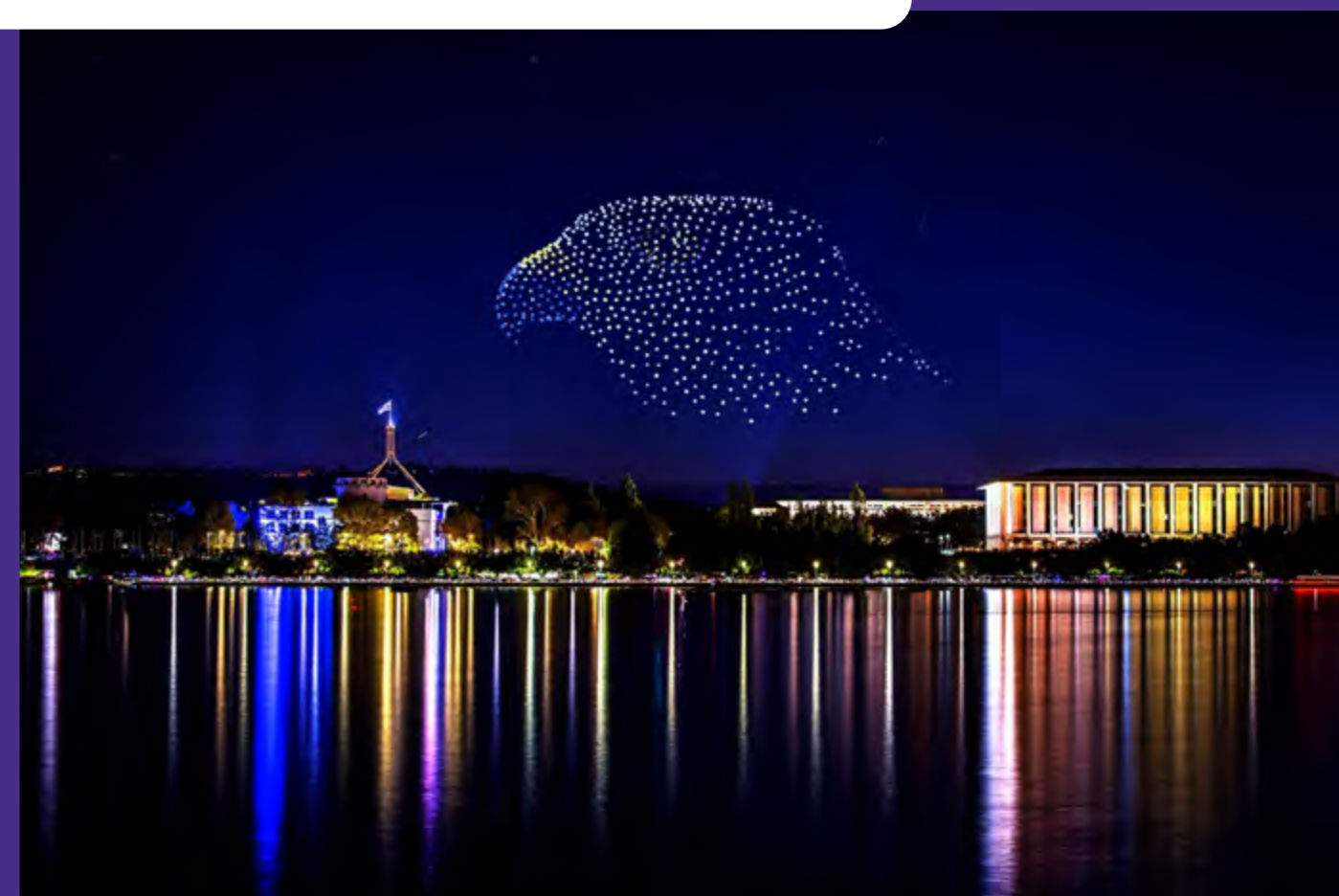
Following a Welcome to Country, the story was told of the wedge tail eagle (an influential totem) followed by an appreciation of the native flora and fauna unique to Australia. The drone show concluded with key moments in Australia's democratic history.

Canberrans also enjoyed night market stalls from over 80 local food vendors and artisans, along with roving performers that showcased Canberra's multicultural and vibrant community including Sumba, Chinese lion dragon and Bollywood dancers.

The multi-sensory experience and markets captivated audiences of all ages



600 drones transformed the Canberra sky into a canvas of lights





ADELAIDE

The Australia Day Council of South Australia's First Nations Open Circle guided the approach of the Mourning in the Morning smoking ceremony, held in the early hours of Australia Day.

As the sun set, over 30,000 people gathered in Elder Park for Aus Lights on the River 2024. The Respecting Country Parade came across the Riverbank Pedestrian Bridge powered by the sounds of Japanese drummers, with thousands acknowledging their sense of belonging and showcasing their cultural identity.

Music performances, kids' entertainment, choir and immersive light installations on the riverbanks of the River Torrens followed, ending with a cinematic fireworks display. This year's program was inspired by creative visions of Belonging to Country and Connecting to Nature.

Over 120 local performing artists participated in the whole program, including representation from First Nations people and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

[Learn more](#) or [watch this video](#) that captures Adelaide's Aus Lights visual installations

Cambodians participating in the Respecting Country Parade



Uncle Major Moogy Sumner greets an attendee at Mourning in the Morning



32,000 people gathered in Adelaide's Elder Park



Adelaide Youth Orchestra, conducted by Keith Crellin OAM

PERTH

Respect for the land, truth telling and cultural awareness guided Auspire – Australia Day Council of Western Australia’s Australia Day program.

Whadjuk Noongar Elder and Auspire Board member Barry Winmar gave a Welcome to Country before a cleansing smoking ceremony with Corroboree for Life dancers, didgeridoo player and a BBQ breakfast provided by Rotary Club of Heirisson.

Over 60,000 people attended Langley Park for the Reflect Respect Celebrate Film Dome. In consultation with City of Perth’s Aboriginal Elders Advisory Group, the films explored dreamtime, evocative storytelling and featured unique flora and fauna through animations by Noongar artist Biara Martin. Merchandise goody bags and a photo booth were also a hit with families.

The annual Birak Concert celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture with live music, arts and crafts stalls in the Supreme Court Gardens, before the day ended with a spectacular Light Show of drones and fireworks.

[Learn more about Australia Day 2024 in Perth](#)



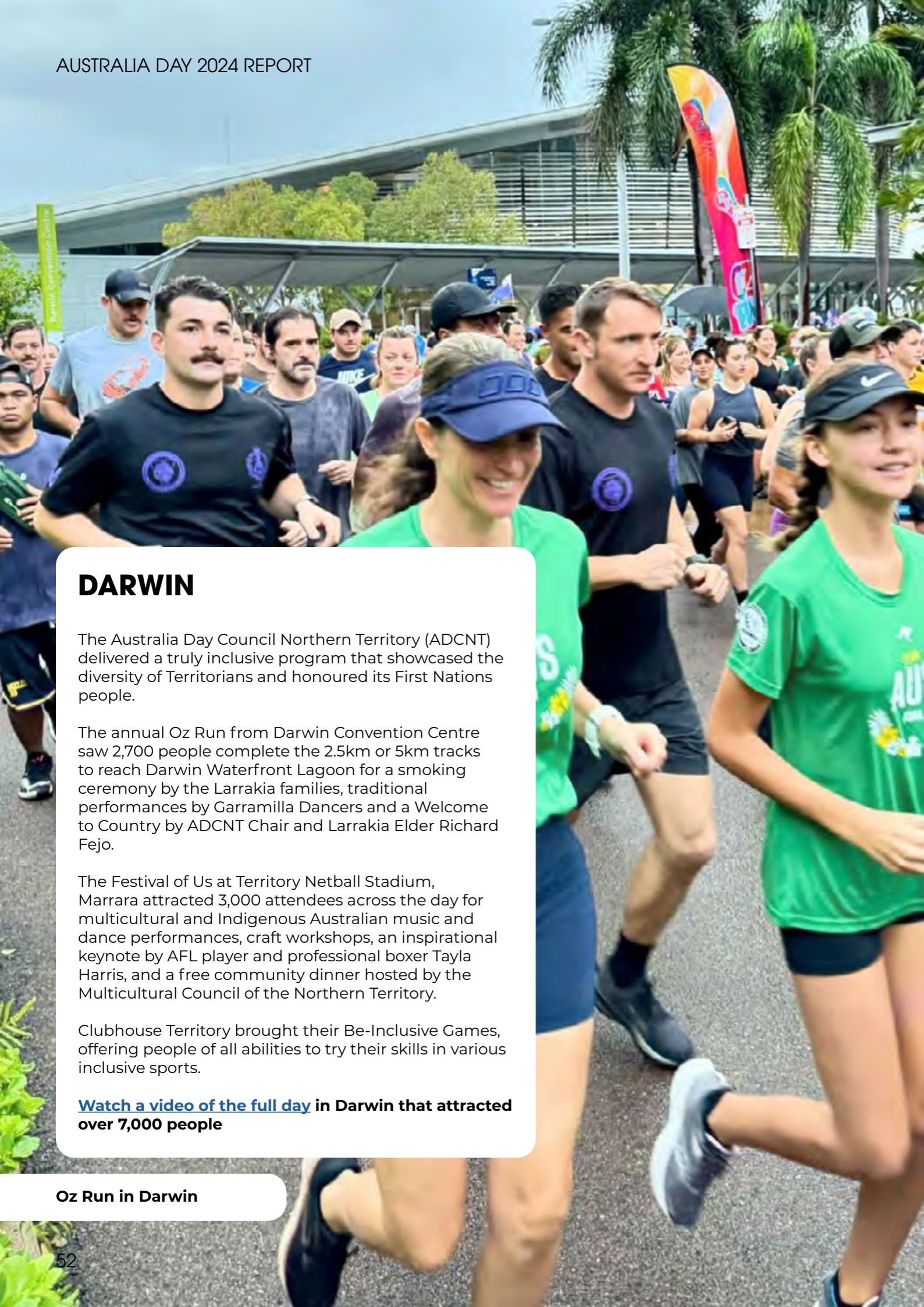
Birak Concert, Supreme Court Gardens



Reflect Respect Celebrate Film Dome, Langley Park



Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country, Victoria Gardens



DARWIN

The Australia Day Council Northern Territory (ADCNT) delivered a truly inclusive program that showcased the diversity of Territorians and honoured its First Nations people.

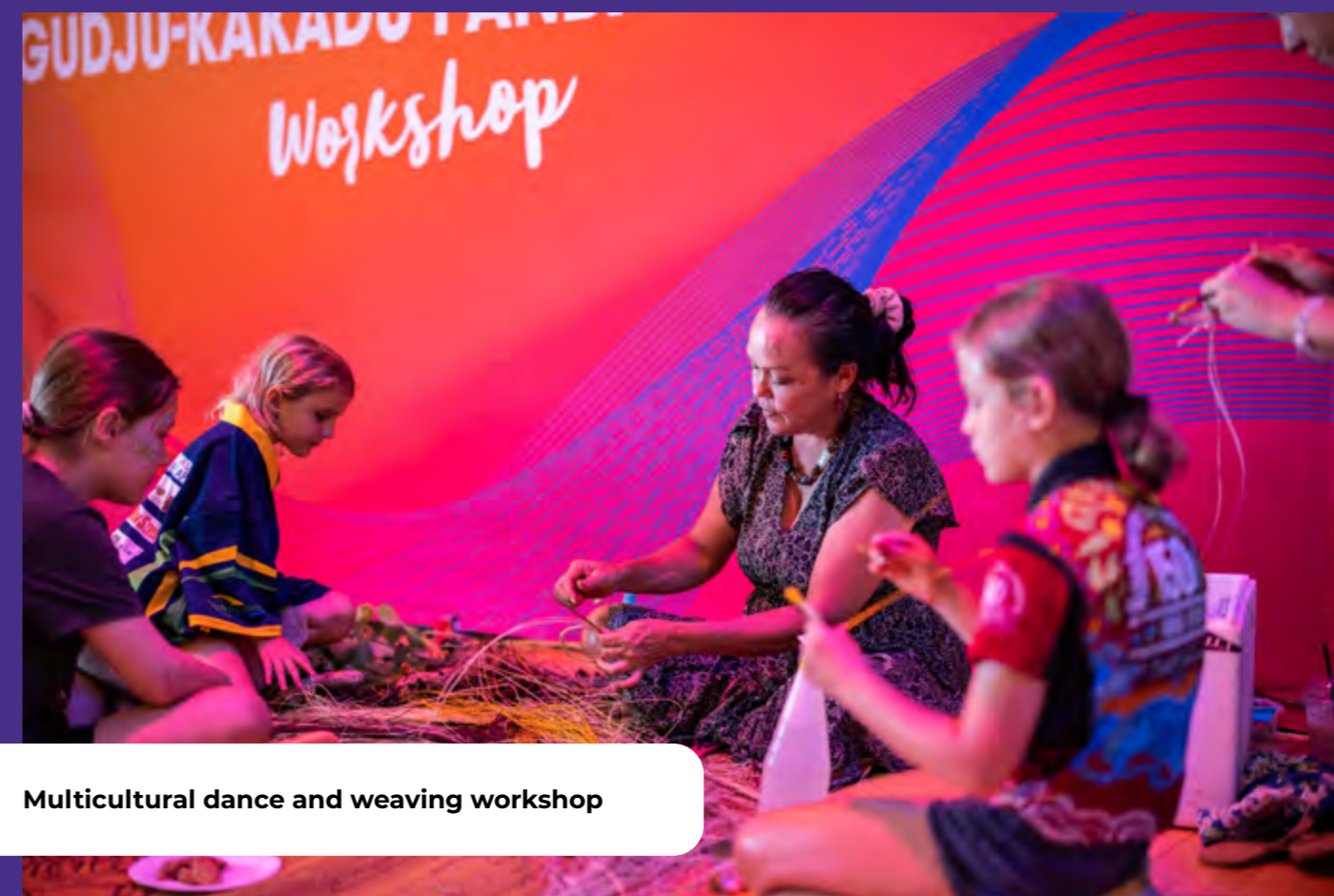
The annual Oz Run from Darwin Convention Centre saw 2,700 people complete the 2.5km or 5km tracks to reach Darwin Waterfront Lagoon for a smoking ceremony by the Larrakia families, traditional performances by Garramilla Dancers and a Welcome to Country by ADCNT Chair and Larrakia Elder Richard Fejo.

The Festival of Us at Territory Netball Stadium, Marrara attracted 3,000 attendees across the day for multicultural and Indigenous Australian music and dance performances, craft workshops, an inspirational keynote by AFL player and professional boxer Tayla Harris, and a free community dinner hosted by the Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory.

Clubhouse Territory brought their Be-Inclusive Games, offering people of all abilities to try their skills in various inclusive sports.

[Watch a video of the full day in Darwin that attracted over 7,000 people](#)

Oz Run in Darwin



Multicultural dance and weaving workshop



The Multicultural Council of the NT's OzFusion program included over 20 performances from all over the world

BRISBANE

Multiculturalism was at the heart of Great Australian Bites in Brisbane. More than 6,000 Queenslanders came together for a celebration of food, fun and festivities and to honour the city's rich heritage, shared values and diverse community.

There were tasting plates prepared by food vendors offering affordable, high-quality produce and cooking demonstrations by celebrity Queensland chef Matt Golinski.

A lively five-hour program by home-grown musicians entertained locals as they enjoyed the Australian summer atmosphere with family and friends. A silent disco, face painting, recycled arts and craft workshop by Reverse Garbage and roving entertainers were also on offer.

A sensory garden for those experiencing sensory overload was a new inclusion to this annual event. Open to all visitors, the garden had a particular focus on the five fundamental senses and provided a safe space for neurodivergent event attendees.

[Watch this video](#) from Great Australian Bites 2024



Cooking demonstrations with chef Matt Golinski



Performer at Great Australian Bites, Brisbane



Smoking ceremony and cultural performance from Tribal Experiences



**AUSTRALIAN
OF THE
YEAR AWARDS**

AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Since its inception in 1960, the Australian of the Year Awards have provided a focal point for Australia Day celebrations and a forum for the recognition of outstanding achievement.

Announced on the eve of Australia Day by the Prime Minister and broadcast live on ABC TV and iView, the Australian of the Year Awards have long celebrated those who demonstrate inspiration, service and excellence and who are examples of the Australians we can aspire to be.

Nominations are open all year round for anyone to nominate any Australian who inspires them. Go to australianoftheyear.org.au for more information.

Total viewers on ABC TV and ABC iView: 531,000

The 2024 recipients are:

- **Australians of the Year:** Professor Georgina Long AO and Professor Richard Scolyer AO, melanoma treatment pioneers from NSW
- **Senior Australian of the Year:** Yalmay Yunupingu, teacher, linguist and community leader from NT
- **Young Australian of the Year:** Emma McKeon AM, Olympian and UNICEF Ambassador from QLD
- **Australia's Local Hero:** David Elliott OAM, co-founder of the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum of Natural History from QLD.



The National Arboretum, Canberra

AUSTRALIA TO ME IS...

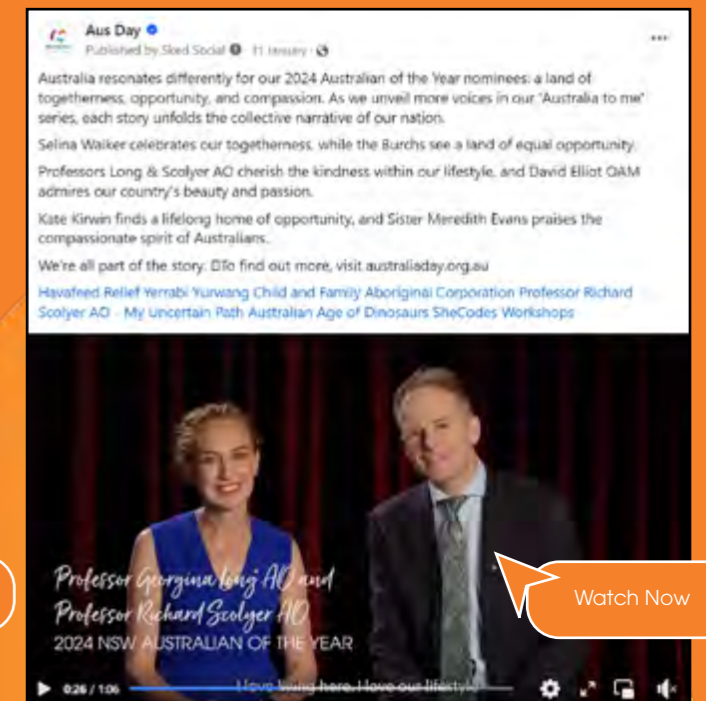
Published across the NADC's social media channels, five short videos featuring a number of our 2024 Australian of the Year state and territory recipients helped to encourage conversation, reflection and participation on our national day.

Other incredible videos showcased the breadth of activity that happens around the nation and promoted the hundreds of free events available.

View all videos on the Australia Day social channels: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).



Watch Now



Watch Now



Watch Now



Watch Now



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Australia Day

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