

Mansfield Shire Council

Citizen Awards 2024

Nominations
Received



Mansfield Shire

Mansfield Shire Council 2024 Australia Day Citizen Award Nominees

Citizen of the Year – Cathy Raeburn

Nominated in recognition of her selfless work in providing care and assistance to our local wildlife when injured and in need of help. What you do reflects a profound sense of compassion and stands as a testament to her unwavering dedication to our much loved local wildlife.

Injured, birds, kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and all Australian native animals are taken into Cathy's home where they are nursed back to health until they can be released back into the wild.



Nominees:

- ▶ **Bernadette Franklin** – Nominated for her devoted energy as a Taungurung Elder in raising awareness of Aboriginal culture for the benefit of the Mansfield Shire community.
- ▶ **Emma McPherson** – Nominated for involvement with the Mansfield Photography Group and her pivotal role in the success of the Klytie Pate Ceramics Award as Assistant Director for Arts Mansfield.
- ▶ **Janene Ridley** - Nominated in recognition of her contribution to the Mansfield Shire community over the past 30 years volunteering in numerous organisations, including the CFA, Jamieson Community Group, MACE, MMuDS, MDH, Jamieson Farmers & Artisan Market and the Community Bank Mansfield and District.
- ▶ **Leonie Berry** – Nominated in recognition of her work with the Mansfield Football Netball Club as both an umpire and player and in 2023 coaching the under 15s to their first finals since the inauguration of the competition.
- ▶ **Tracey Griffiths** – Nominated for her outstanding effort and dedication in initiating and organising the Maindample Plant Sale Day over a 10 year period which is an important fundraiser for the Maindample CFA.

Mansfield Shire Council 2024 Australia Day Citizen Award Nominees

Senior Citizen of the Year – Karen Pirie

Karen is regarded widely as a wonderful community asset and has been nominated in recognition of her contribution to the Mansfield Shire community over the past 35 years. Her volunteer skills have been of significant value to numerous organisations, such as the CFA, Jamieson Community Group, MACE, MMuDS, MDH, Jamieson Farmers & Artisan Market, Community Bank and many more.

Over the past 35 years Karen has often been a major driver of many of the wonderful events in the Mansfield calendar. She brings her endless talents and boundless energy, passion and expertise to everything she undertakes.

Being best described as a dynamic mover and shaker behind the scenes, she has used her creative talents, extraordinary energy and ability to get on with people to ensure that our community remains connected and active. She has had a huge impact on Mansfield's cultural life and what she has managed to achieve is really quite extraordinary.



Nominees:

- ▶ **Maureen Prendergast** – Nominated in recognition of her work with children over many years in drums and percussion as well as working with those who have special needs.
- ▶ **Pam Zierk-Mahoney** – Nominated in recognition of her contributions and active involvement in the Mansfield Shire community spanning 30 years.

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Young Citizen of the Year – Amelie Walker

Amelie is a great ambassador for Mansfield's young people. Amelie completed year 12 at the Mansfield Secondary College in 2022 where she achieved outstanding results. Throughout 2023 she has undertaken numerous challenges, together with volunteering roles and work, including:

- ▶ Becoming a committee member of the local Women in the North East network
- ▶ Travelling to Canberra to speak at a Parliamentary briefing representing the Regional Educational Support Network
- ▶ Has worked as a youth mentor as part of the Country Education Partnership Rural Youth Ambassador program and
- ▶ Volunteering as a tutor with the Regional Education Support Network.



Mansfield Shire Council 2024 Australia Day Citizen Award Nominees

Community Event of the Year – MAD Potters for the Mansfield Pottery Festival

The first Mansfield Pottery Festival brought together 60 potters from around Victoria for a sensational display of pottery and ceramics. The inclusive event allowed locals and visitors alike to watch wheel throwing & hand building demonstrations while enjoying live music, and saw potters share their knowledge and skills with others who shared their passion for the artform.

(Pictured: Karen Pirie & Lynn Tayor)



Nominees:

- ▶ **The Castle2** – The musical production of ‘The Castle2’ directed by Dr. Will Twycross was the talk of the town with every show played to a sold out audience. It saw around 150 members of the community come together through 5 months of rehearsals and saw new friendships formed and old friends reconnect. The show was enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to see it providing an evening of entertainment, laughter, singing and great music. Congratulations to everyone that was involved in putting this wonderful show together, it is sure to be one remembered for years to come.
- ▶ **Klytie Pate Ceramics Award** – The Klytie Pate Ceramics Award is a highly regarded National art prize and an exceptional exhibition showcasing the works of talented artists from across Australia and New Zealand. The strategic marketing campaign resulted in more than 150 entries and brought in excess of 300 visitors specifically to Mansfield for the exhibition.
- ▶ **Horsepower in the High Country** – The Horsepower in the High Country 2023 event, recently crowned the winner of the Best Charity or Cause Related Event for Victoria at the Australian Event Awards, showcased approximately 250 motor vehicles, including classic, vintage, modern, motorcycles, race cars and speedboats. The day attracted thousands of people, both locals and those visiting the region, and saw \$8,000 raised for Mansfield Autism Statewide Services.
- ▶ **Battle of the Bands** – This event provided a great opportunity for young people to share their passion and talent for music in a friendly and safe space and made everyone feel like they achieved something even if they didn't win.
- ▶ **Mansfield Open Studio Train (M.O.S.T.)** – This year's M.O.S.T event was again a huge success and showcased the crafts of many of our local artists. Since inception, the number of exhibitors and participants has continued to grow which demonstrates that good marketing and word of mouth is golden when attracting visitors to our Shire. This event provided a very entertaining day out for all those who attended.

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Community Group of Organisation of the Year – Delatite Drivers Car Club

The Delatite Drivers Car Club are continuously looking at how their club can contribute to the town whether it's participating in events, joining parades, or organising fundraising activities. The club organised the Horsepower In The High Country event in January 2023, raising \$8,000 for Mansfield Autism Statewide Services, and continued fundraising for local groups throughout the year.

(Pictured: Cameron McGann)



Nominees:

- ▶ **Mansfield District Hospital Auxiliary** - The Mansfield District Hospital Auxiliary is an incredibly important group that provides valuable support and funding for the hospital and in turn, the whole of the Mansfield Shire community.