

2026 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

GUIDELINES

Greater Shepparton City Council is calling on individuals, groups and organisations to nominate a resident of Greater Shepparton who has made a **noteworthy** contribution during the current year, given **outstanding** service to the local community and/or impacted on the local community over a number of years.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Nominees must be Australian Citizens
- Nominees must be residents of the Greater Shepparton municipality.
- Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Nominees for Greater Shepparton Young Citizen of the Year must be aged under 30 years of age on 26 January 2026
- Nominees for Greater Shepparton Senior Citizen of the Year and the Seniors Sports Award must be aged 65 years or over on 26 January 2026
- Nominees for Greater Shepparton Junior Sports Awards must be aged under 18 years on 26 January 2026
- Unsuccessful nominees may be renominated in subsequent years.
- Nominees are only eligible for nomination in their area of residence. These areas include, Shepparton, Mooroopna & District, Tatura & District, Murchison and Dookie. Check you are completing the correct form. *(Further clarification of these areas is listed on page 4)*
- Community groups within Greater Shepparton will be eligible for consideration under 'Community Event of the Year'.
- All nominations must be made on this official Greater Shepparton Community Citizenship Awards Nomination Form or via the online application on Councils website: www.greatershepparton.com.au

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Your nominee will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Demonstrated excellence in their field. Inspired others in the community.
- Contribution and commitment for the betterment of the Greater Shepparton community.
- Undertakes activities which have long-term benefits for the community and/or its members.
- Contributions made by the nominees, have either been done on a voluntary basis or have exceeded the normal requirements of the nominees paid work.
- Sports Awards are open to all sports people within Greater Shepparton of any age in any sport. These nominees could also be people who are involved in sporting committees, training or mentoring programs.
- Sports Awards (Junior) nominees must be under 18 years on 26 January 2026.
- Sports Awards (Senior) nominees must be aged 65 years or over on 26 January 2026.
- Community Event Award recognises a person/group (not for profit) which have staged a note-worthy community event within Greater Shepparton during the past calendar year. A noteworthy event is an event that has raised awareness and/or funds to support the community, or brought recognition to Greater Shepparton through a cultural, art, environmental or sporting activity.
- Areas of nomination:
 1. Mooroopna (*including Ardmona, Undera*)
 2. Tatura (*including Merrigum, Harston, Byrneside, Tatura East, Northwest Mooroopna*)
 3. Shepparton (*including Kialla, Congupna, Shepparton East, Lemnos, Arcadia*)
 4. Murchison (*including Moorilim, Dhurringile, Toolamba*)
 5. Dookie (*including Cosgrove, Dookie College, Pine Lodge*)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

- If nominators wish to submit supporting documentation to further demonstrate the nominee's achievements, there is a limit to two A4 pages only. This could include personal references, additional achievements and reference to other material (articles relating to media or publicity).
- Please note that all supporting documentation will be retained by the Australia Day Committee.
- The supporting document can be attached to page 3.

JUDGING:

- All nominations will be kept confidential and will only be available to the judging committee, the Coordinator, Major Events and the Greater Shepparton City Council Mayor.
- All nominations can only be judged against submitted detail outlined in this form, so it is strongly suggested that the nomination is as complete and factual as possible.
- Nominators are encouraged to supply supporting documentation (*see above section regarding supporting documentation*).
- External judging is undertaken for nominations for the area of Murchison and Tatura.
- Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Award for each area are also judged for the overall Greater Shepparton Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Award.

HOW TO NOMINATE:

- Nominations for the 2026 Greater Shepparton Australia Day Awards open on Wednesday 1 October 2026 and close Wednesday 12 November 2026. Nominations for Murchison close on Monday 7 November due to an external judging process.
- Complete the nomination form and place in an envelope marked '**Confidential – Shepparton Community Citizenship Awards**' before 5.00pm on the closing date, or nominate via Councils website: www.greatershepparton.com.au
- Award winners will be announced on Monday 26 January 2026 at all Australia Day 2026 Ceremonies throughout Greater Shepparton, including the overall winners of the Greater Shepparton awards who will be presented at the Shepparton event.



- **Deliver to:** Greater Shepparton City Council, Major Events Team
90 Welsford Street,
SHEPPARTON VIC 3000
- **Mail to:** Greater Shepparton Australia Day Committee
C/O Greater Shepparton City Council,
Locked Bag 1000
90 Welsford Street,
SHEPPARTON VIC 3632
- **Email to:** events@shepparton.vic.gov.au