Media Release

Australian Citizenship Day Celebrated in Style

Australian Citizenship Day is celebrated each year on 17 September and provides us with the opportunity and privilege of welcoming new Australians to our growing community as part of the celebrations. This year, Adelaide Plains Council welcomed five (5) new Australian citizens in a ceremony held at the Two Wells Chambers.

The conferees, from India, Ireland and the Philippines, became Australian citizens in an uplifting ceremony facilitated by Council staff and attended by local media who were able to capture the event.

Above: Mayor Wasley presenting Citizenship Certificates to the conferees

It was a very pleasant experience for all concerned. Although the new citizens have been living in our region for years and contributing to society, it was interesting to hear their background and stories. The highlight of every ceremony I have conducted so far is the smiles on their faces and how proud they are to be accepted as Australian – I really enjoy this job!

Australian Citizenship Day provides us all with an opportunity to reflect on the meaning and importance of Australian citizenship and the shared values that unite us. It is also an occasion for individuals, schools, community groups and organisations to reflect on the contributions of citizens to our local communities.

While COVID-19 guidelines on hotspot restrictions, gathering sizes and social distancing resulted in fewer citizenship ceremonies than usual on Citizenship Day in 2020, more than 2,500 people received citizenship at more than 100 online or in-person ceremonies across the country.

There is no greater privilege than our citizenship. It is a life-long commitment to Australia's values of freedom, democracy, equality and respect and I encourage everyone in our region to reflect on and affirm their Australian citizenship as we warmly welcome our newest citizens.

Mark Wasley
Mayor

17 September 2020