



Decision Report Item Number **19.1**

Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards

Report Date: 8 December 2023
Reporting Officer: Programs & Events Coordinator, Adriane Dade
Responsible Manager: Group Manager Public Relations, Sarah Spencer
Previous Reference: Nil

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council Members to consider the nominations received as part of the Town of Walkerville's 2024 Citizen of the Year Awards and to determine the award recipients.

Officer Recommendation

Confidentiality Recommendation (Public)

Pursuant to section 90(2) and 90(3)(o)

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the **Act**), the Council orders that all members of the public, except Council's Chief Executive Officer Andrew MacDonald, Group Manager Public Relations Sarah Spencer, Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure James Kelly, Group Manager Finance Muhammad Jawad, Team Leader People, Governance & Risk Jim Dickens and Governance Officer (EA) Emma Spencer be excluded from attendance at the meeting for Agenda Item 19.1 titled 'Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards'.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3)(o) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered is in confidence as the information in relation to this agenda item includes information relating to a proposed award recipient before the presentation of the award.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the Meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because disclosure of details may prematurely be disclosed before the details have been discussed with the Award recipients.

Recommendation (Confidential)

1. That Council, having considered the nominations received for the 2024 Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards, determines to award:

_____ for the Citizen of the Year.

_____ for the Young Citizen of the Year.

_____ for the Community Event of the Year.

_____ for the Active Citizenship Award.

2. That Council further requests that Administration forward the name of the successful candidates to the Australia Day Council for consideration to the State Awards.

Confidentiality Recommendation (Public)

Pursuant to section 91(7)

That having considered Agenda Item 19.1 titled 'Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards' in confidence under section 90(2) and (3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council, pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act orders that the report, attachment and minutes relevant to this Agenda Item be retained in confidence until a public announcement has been made, excepting that Council authorises the release of the minutes to substantive parties to enable enactment of the resolution and that pursuant to Section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the review and power to revoke this Order.

Background

Administration has received six (6) nominations for the Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards. Annie Hutchinson has been nominated for the Citizen of the Year for her work on the Friends of Walkerville Primary School Committee and fundraising efforts. Eloise Broster, Jessica Craig and Claudia John have all been nominated for the Young Citizen of the Year for the volunteer and community work they undertake both inside and outside of school. Walkerville Bushcare Volunteers have been nominated for the Active Citizenship Award for their planting and environmental work along Linear Park/River Torrens. Finally, the SA Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE) has been nominated for the Active Citizenship Award for their contribution to music education and the youth classical guitar community.

As part of Council's Citizenship Ceremony held on Australia Day, Council takes the opportunity to recognise a member(s) of the community who have made an outstanding contribution to the Township, by presenting them with Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards.

Nominations were open in the following categories:

Citizen of the Year

To be eligible, the person must be an Australian citizen.

Young Citizen of the Year

To be eligible, the person must be at least 16 years of age, but under 30, on 26 January of the Awards year.

Community Event of the Year

This is presented to the person/group who has staged the most outstanding community event during the past year.

Active Citizenship Award

This is presented to a person or group delivering outstanding work on an event or project during the past year.

Applications for the Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards opened on Tuesday, 10 October 2023 and closed on Friday, 8 December 2023.

The criteria for the Awards requires that the person(s) needs to have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year and/or given outstanding service to the local community over a number of years and been an inspirational role model for the Australian community. Nominees must be 16 years or older and be an Australian Citizen.

Discussion

The table below summarises the contributions made by the nominee in each category of the 2024 Walkerville Citizen of the Year Awards.

Category	Nominee	Nominee contributions
Citizen of the Year	Annie Hutchinson	<p>Annie is the President of the Friends of Walkerville Primary School 2021-2023.</p> <p>She led the group to raise \$73,500 for a nature playground for the school and has created a sense of community that extends beyond the school. Annie effectively led the Committee so in 2023 they could return to fully operational since COVID-19 restrictions.</p>
Young Citizen of the Year	Eloise Broster	<p>Eloise is a 17-year-old Wilderness School student who contributes to her school and wider community regularly in a variety of ways.</p> <p>At school, Eloise regularly volunteers to help in home group, house sport and school community activities. She is also part of many other programs run through Wilderness School; RoundSquare, Student2Student, and Foster Care. She is a member of Media Team, Student Foundation and was involved in the UN Youth Activity Day.</p> <p>Eloise volunteers weekly with a young child that is non-verbal through the 'Fun in the Wilderness' program with Anglicare SA. She has also volunteered for the SONY Foundation Camp, caring for children with a disability for the long weekend, allowing their families to have a weekend off.</p>
	Jessica Craig	<p>Jessica is an 18-year-old Wilderness School student who contributes to her school and wider community regularly in a variety of ways.</p> <p>Jessica is the Vice President of the Student Representative Council and works hard to create an inclusive school environment. She does charitable work in the form of mentoring, fundraising and participating.</p> <p>She volunteers weekly with foster care children in the 'Fun in the Wilderness' program, as well as SONY Foundation Camp caring for children with a disability for the long weekend, allowing their families to have a weekend off.</p> <p>Jessica also had a cultural experience in Ethiopia, where she volunteered for the Catherine Hamlin hospital.</p>
	Claudia John	<p>Claudia is a Year 12 Wilderness School student who contributes to her school and wider community regularly in a variety of ways.</p> <p>Claudia consistently worked for several years in many community service activities. She has a strong focus on community mindedness, service orientation and respect. More specifically, she has volunteered with St John Ambulance Service.</p> <p>She was also awarded the Rex Adams Community Service Award from Walkerville Rotary Club.</p>
Community Event of the Year	No nominations	
Active Citizenship Award	Walkerville Bushcare Volunteers	Over the past three decades, this group of volunteers has restored, regenerated and maintained many sites along the Linear Park/River Torrens area. The group has been operating for 30 years and

		<p>undertakes activities including development, infill planting, weeding, watering, planting native species and replacing weed species.</p> <p>The sites include <i>Original Gilberton 'Our Patch', adjacent the Bill Cossey tennis court, Vale Park Wildflower Walk, Gilberton Woodland, Myunggidja Adjika Bush Food Garden, Gilberton Swing Bridge, Lansdowne Patch and Mersey Street Riverbank sites.</i></p>
	SA Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE)	<p>SAYGE contributes to the performing arts industry, in regards to music education and the classical guitar community, especially for the youth, bringing them together by providing them with the opportunity to be a part of a guitar ensemble, building confidences and sharing their love of music through ensemble rehearsals and community performances. There are members aged from 6 to 77+ years and they are based at the Walkerville Uniting Church.</p> <p><i>2023 SA Music Awards - Best Music Educator</i> <i>Finalist 2023 SA Community Achievement Awards - Connecting Communities Awards Semi Finals</i></p>

Up to one (1) nominee can be selected to be awarded in each category, however, it is not mandatory that a winner be selected for each category.

Council Members may wish to nominate and select a recipient for Community Event of the Year at the Council Meeting.

Financial Implications

All costs associated with the presentation of this Award are minimal and are covered in the 2023/24 budget.

Risk Implications

The risk associated with this report has been assessed as low.

Attachments

Attachment A – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form Annie Hutchinson

Attachment B – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form Eloise Broster

Attachment C – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form Jessica Craig

Attachment D – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form Claudia John

Attachment E – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form Walkerville Bushcare Volunteers

Attachment F – Citizen of the Year Awards Nomination Form SA Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE)

Nomination Form 2024

The Citizen of the Year Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council of South Australia, Town of Walkerville and Local Government Association of South Australia.

The Awards acknowledge the unsung heroes of our community who through their contributions make our state a better place. These individuals and organisations offer outstanding service each day and enable our communities to be stronger as a result of their tireless efforts.

Outstanding contribution and community service includes 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 well being of a community.

Nominate someone who makes a real difference in your community and give them the opportunity to be celebrated and recognised for their important contribution.

Nominee (the person/organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information or testimonials of achievement.

Citizen of the Year Award

CITIZEN YOUNG CITIZEN COMMUNITY EVENT ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Name: Annie Hutchinson

Address: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted] Date of Birth: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

Council: Walkerville

If you are unsure of the Nominee's Council, go to <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/sa-councils/councils-listing> and enter their address in the search field of Find My Council by Location

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? YES NO

Reason for nomination

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community? Annie has been a member of the Friends of Walkerville Primary school since 2017, and Vice President from 2018. In 2021-2023, Annie was President of POW. In the past two years, through its activities, the POW has raised \$73,500 to contribute to a native playground for Walkerville Primary school.

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Nomination Form 2024

This is becoming a reality in Feb 24, when construction is due to commence. Funds were not available via the Education Dept.

See Annual Report for 22 and 23 attached for further information.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life? Annire has been instrumental in creating a sense of community at Walkerville Primary School. Through her efforts leading the PTA committee, things such as fundraisers, school events and services have been provided for teachers, students, parents, grandparents and friends.

How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?

No

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point.

Referee

Please provide the contact details of a referee or attach a written reference.

Name: Chris Edmonds

Phone:

Email:

Occupation: Principal, Walkerville Primary School

What is the referee's relationship to the nominee? Principal of school where Annire was

What can the referee comment on? Annire's contribution to Walkerville Primary School.

Nominator (your details)

Name: Melissa Jones

Phone: 0419998379

Email: mjones@walkerville.sa.gov.au

I give permission for the Australia Day Council of South Australia to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

Procedure

Each local Council in South Australia seeks nominations in their local Council area, with the Award recipients announced in late January.

Councils can forward the details of their Award recipients to the Australia Day Council of SA to go in the running for the State Awards, presented by the Governor of South Australia.

Visit the website to nominate online and for more information on the Awards, including past recipients.”.

www.citizenoftheyear.com.au

Please return completed form before Friday, 8 December 2023 to: Town of Walkerville, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton SA 5081, or email to walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au

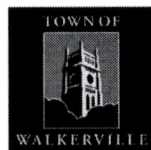
How did you hear about the Citizen of the Year Award?:

- Social media
 Newsletter
 Website
 Newspaper article
 Word of mouth
 Information in Council office
 Nominated before
 Other, please specify:

Find out more about the Australia Day Council of SA:

- Yes I want to hear more about the Australia Day Council of South Australia

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 Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Nomination Form 2024



FRIENDS OF WALKERVILLE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Despite the year starting with the shadow of COVID still apparent, the passionate and enthusiastic group of Friends of Walkerville (FOW) volunteers were able to effectively build momentum for what became, ultimately, a very successful year in more ways than one. We had success in both of our key objectives of fundraising and fostering community engagement.

As the pandemic-related restrictions began to lift, the desire from the community to re-engage with the school was clear and we worked very hard alongside leadership and the wider staff group to reignite the community spirit. There was an appetite from all to return to the vibrant, engaged community we've previously enjoyed at Walkerville Primary. COVID restrictions forced us to continue "thinking outside the box" leading to modified versions of events and the unavoidable cancellation of others in the early part of the year. As the year progressed, we were therefore very excited to return to more traditional onsite events, where families were able to engage with each other within the school environment.

Our collaboration with staff, the other Governing Council Sub-Committees, particularly Environment, Grounds and Facilities, and Learning and Wellbeing as well as OSHC and the SRC ensured that we were able to effectively work together towards shared goals. We echoed our school values of care, cooperation, and commitment in all our fundraising efforts. With more freedom to hold events, we saw a 400% increase in fundraising compared with the previous year. A grand total of \$40,000 was contributed to the redevelopment of the students' outdoor learning and play spaces, our primary fundraising goal. We continued to support the funding of other activities within our school such as the donation of books to the Resource Centre and Easter eggs for each child at Easter time. This fostered some magic during what was still a very challenging time for our children. We were also pleased to continue to host morning teas at Easter and the end of the school year to thank and acknowledge the staff as they continue to strive to deliver high quality learning.

Although we could not run our annual Family Night at the start of the year, which provided some challenges with the late cancellation, we returned to some tried and true activities and events throughout the remainder of the year. Some of these were modified somewhat in line with restrictions. These included;

- Special lunches
- Lunchtime iceblock sales
- Mothers and Father's Day Stalls
- Mum's and Dad's Nights
- National Walk Safely to School Day
- Kyton's Bakery fundraiser
- Federal and State Election BBQs/bake sales
- Student Disco
- Quiz Night

Our major fundraiser for the year, the Quiz Night, was a standout event from both a fundraising and community-building perspective. We added new events to our calendar, a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, and the family picnic after the Junior Primary Sing-along, both of which received positive feedback.

Thanks to a lot of effort from leadership and the FOW volunteers we were very pleased to be able to introduce the Friends of Walkerville Facebook page to the community this year. This platform is delivering a consistent increase in engagement and has been well received. Other innovations in communications include the introduction of a class rep Whatsapp group to provide support and facilitate consistent communication amongst these members and beyond.

After an almost three year hiatus in the sale of second hand uniforms the Preloved Uniform Shop reopened late in the year, now run by FOW. A win for fundraising and sustainability. The purchase of a second EFTPOS machine with the facility to be used off-site has been a welcome addition to our activities and has already made payments easier for both on and offsite events including the uniform shop.

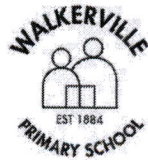
We are extremely fortunate to have a fantastic group of parents and caregivers actively involved in and supporting FOW activities; committee members sharing ideas, class reps encouraging engagement, the many dedicated volunteers at events, and the quiet achievers behind the scenes. I am so grateful to you all. Particular thanks to Claire Curry, Rikki Amos and Tanya Cerny as well as Laura Harley for your Governing Council leadership and for the many hours you put into our school. As we always say... "it takes a village" and you are at the core of ours. A huge thanks also to the leadership, finance, and admin teams for your ongoing support. We acknowledge the time it takes you to enable us to perform our role and it is sincerely appreciated. Finally, to the kids and families of Walky, thank you, you are the reason we do what we do. We feel, and are so grateful, for your unwavering support and encouragement.

I am incredibly proud of what the Friends of Walkerville Committee achieved in 2022 with the support of the staff and community alike. The resilience and determination of our school, our committee, and our community is evident and we look forward to building on this in 2023. As always, we welcome anyone keen to become involved, your time, ideas and individual skill sets are appreciated and valued.

With thanks always,



Annie Hutchinson
President, Friends of Walkerville.



FRIENDS OF WALKERVILLE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The “Walky” community has enjoyed the first complete year of opportunity after four years affected by Covid and we’ve made the most of it with a full calendar of community and fundraising activities. We’ve been able to celebrate our community on site with many events returning to our diaries that, in recent years, required cancellation or modification. These included:

- On site welcome to school coffee morning
- Family Fun Night
- Special lunches
- Lunchtime iceblock sales
- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
- Mothers and Father’s Day Stalls
- Mum’s and Dad’s Nights
- National Walk Safely to School Day breakfast
- Kyton’s Bakery Easter fundraiser
- Referendum BBQ/bake sale
- Grandparents and Special Friends Day
- The Inaugural Walky Winter Warmer
- Student Disco

Our major fundraiser for the year, the “Walky Winter Warmer”, was a standout event. This new event highlighted the ability of our committee to think outside the box, utilising previously unknown connections with the wider community and the professional and personal experience of our members. Whilst this required an incredible amount of work in planning and execution this amazing night really highlighted what an incredible team we have.

Whilst still difficult at times, and after a slow start we have fortunately seen some growth in the wider volunteer pool. Thanks for this goes to the class rep group, work by admin and leadership to support the accreditation process and some encouragement by Friends of Walkerville (FOW) committee members. We have a passionate and enthusiastic core group of volunteers which, although small in number, are potent. Although successful despite their number, conscious of burn out and succession planning we have been working towards implementing a plan to more effectively “share the load” with successful delegation of several FOW portfolios such as the preloved uniform shop, lunchtime iceblock sales and special lunches. Work continues on future planning for leadership roles in 2024 and beyond.

Our collaboration with staff, the other Governing Council Sub-Committees, particularly Environment, Grounds and Facilities, and Learning and Wellbeing as well as OSHC and the SRC continues, ensuring that we were able to effectively work together towards shared goals. We echoed our school values of care, cooperation, and commitment in all our fundraising efforts. Just over \$33,500 having been raised to date, likely to be committed to the redevelopment of the junior primary playground due to start construction early in 2024, our primary fundraising goal. We continued to support the funding of other activities within our school such as the donation of books to the Resource Centre, chocolate eggs for each child at Easter time, funding donation to SRC and morning teas at Easter and the end of the school year to thank and acknowledge the staff as they continue to strive to deliver high quality learning.

Effective communication, as always is essential in ensuring the success of our community. We have seen great value in the coordination and support of the class representative group via WhatsApp to assist in consistent communication to the wider group of families. We hope to further build on this in 2024 with establishing class reps early in the year. The Friends of Walkerville Facebook page has continued to grow and has become a valuable tool to connect with our community.

We are extremely fortunate to have a fantastic group of parents and caregivers actively involved in and supporting FOW activities as well as a noticeable increase in engagement from staff also and we're ever grateful for the ongoing support. Particular thanks to Claire Curry and the small but mighty team of community champions who consistently go above and beyond to enable us to provide our services to the community. A huge thanks also to the admin and staff team for your ongoing support, particularly our staff representatives Sarah Crosby and Lisa McKenzie, your genuine passion for the students and our community is appreciated beyond measure. We acknowledge the time it takes you to enable us to perform our role and it is sincerely appreciated. Finally, to the kids and families of Walky, our primary stakeholders, thank you, you are the reason we do what we do. We feel, and are so grateful, for your unwavering support and encouragement.

I am incredibly proud of what the Friends of Walkerville Committee achieved in 2023, the "Walky Spirit" is strong and I look forward to seeing this continue and build in 2024 and beyond, albeit from afar.

With thanks always,



Annie Hutchinson
President, Friends of Walkerville.

RELEASED

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Do you know
someone who
makes your
community a
better place?

Nominations close
10 November 2023

Categories

Citizen of the Year

This is presented to someone making an extraordinary contribution to the community and may recognise outstanding service over a number of years.

To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen.

Young Citizen of the Year

This is presented to a young emerging leader who is making a difference in their community.

To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen aged over 16 years and under 30 years of age on January 26, 2023.

Community Event of the Year

This is presented to a person or group who has staged the most outstanding event for their community.

To be eligible, the person or group must be Australian Citizens.

Award for Active Citizenship

This is presented to a person or group delivering outstanding work on an event or project for the community during the past calendar year.

The person or group need not be Australian Citizens.

About the Awards

The Citizen of the Year Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council of South Australia, sponsored by On the Run, Sarah Constructions, MGA Insurance, Community Bridging Services and Local Government Association of South Australia. The Citizen of the Year Awards are administered by local Councils across SA.

The Awards reward and recognise individuals and organisations who through their contributions make our City a better place. These individuals and organisations offer outstanding service each day and enable our communities to be stronger as a result of their tireless efforts.

Outstanding contribution and community service, above and beyond employment includes 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 well being of a community.

Nominate someone who makes a real difference in your community and give them the opportunity to be celebrated and recognised for their important contribution.

Procedure

City of Prospect award recipients will be announced in the lead up to or on Australia Day. Each nominee who does not receive a 2024 Citizen of the Year Award will receive a City of Prospect Community Service Award to be presented at our National Volunteer Week Event scheduled for May 2024.

City of Prospect may forward the details of their Award recipients to the Australia Day Council of SA to go in the running for the State Awards, presented by the Governor of South Australia.

For more information on the awards, including past winners visit:

<https://www.prospect.sa.gov.au/community/programs-and-initiatives/citizen-of-the-year-awards>

Please return completed form before Friday, 10 November 2023 to:

City of Prospect, PO Box 171, Prospect SA 5082 or 128 Prospect Road, Prospect or email to admin@prospect.sa.gov.au

**CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR AWARDS**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Nomination Form 2024

Nominee (the person / organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information of testimonials of achievement.

Award Category: (please tick)

<input type="checkbox"/> CITIZEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YOUNG CITIZEN	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY EVENT	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
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Name:	Eloise Broster		
Address:	[REDACTED]		
Phone:	[REDACTED]	Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]		

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? Yes No

Reason for nomination.

How has the person / organisation contributed to the community?

Eloise is a kind, caring school student who contributes to a broad range of curricular and co-curricular activities at school and in the extended community. She is always one of the first students to volunteer to assist others in a range of ways including Form (home group), House (Sporting teams) and School community activities including many outlined below. She is a quiet, humble student who does not draw attention to herself and is often overlooked in 'popularity' nominations.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

Eloise is an active member of the RoundSquare, Student2Student, and Foster Care programs run through Wilderness School. She is an active member of the Media Team, Student Foundation and was involved in the UN Youth Activity Day. Eloise demonstrates great dedication and passion for the 'Fun in the Wilderness' program with Anglicare SA run at Wilderness School on Tuesday evenings. Eloise spends time each week with a young child that is nonverbal at this crucial point in his development. Eloise is kind and supportive of this child and patiently works with him each week with a big smile on her face. She demonstrates great resilience to do her best to develop methods to communicate with him in a variety of ways, but also helps him to grow and develop his learning through the activities each Tuesday evening. Eloise volunteered in 2022 and again in 2023 during the October school holidays for the Sony Camp program run at St Peter's College. The Sony Camp is a unique respite programs that gives high school students the opportunity to take on the responsibility for the care of children with a disability for the long weekend, allowing their families to have a valuable weekend off.

How has the nominee's contribution been recognized elsewhere?

Eloise is a very committed and active supporter of the Custodians of Crawford Spyridium Project through involvement in the Environment Committee at Wilderness School. (*Spyridium fontis-woodii* is an endangered species that Wilderness, in conjunction with the Adelaide Botanic Gardens are growing to help repopulate the Coorong National Park). As part of this role, she has the privilege to contribute to its reintroduction back into the wild.

To accomplish this, Eloise has taken part in lunch time gathering, seed sorting and planting, picking flowerheads, and trips to the Coorong to help plant the young shrubs in exclusion zones. Helping to repopulate the Coorong with *Spyridium* and other endangered species has allowed her to help prevent the extinction of a native plant which help stop a reduction of biodiversity in the Coorong National Park.

The repopulation project holds significant importance to the broader community, given the alarming rate that species are becoming extinct and the self-sustaining populations of not only *Spyridium fontis-woodii* but numerous endangered species are becoming smaller and closer to extinction.

RELEASED

Please list any other significant contributions and / or achievements:

Sony Camp Volunteer 2022 and 2023 October school holidays
 Active member of the RoundSquare Committee
 Active member of the Student2Student and Foster Care program
 Active member of the Media Team
 Active member of Student Foundation
 Involved in the UN Youth Activity Day
 Committed and active supporter of the Custodians of Crawford Spyridium Project through involvement in the Environment Committee at Wilderness School.

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point.

Nominator (your details)

Name:	Caroline Palmer		
Address:	[REDACTED]		
Phone:	[REDACTED]	Email:	[REDACTED]

I give permission for City of Prospect to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

How did you hear about the Citizen of the Year Award?:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newspaper article
<input type="checkbox"/>	Word of mouth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council (City of prospect)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nominated before
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please specify
[REDACTED]	

Nomination Form 2024

ATTACHMENT C

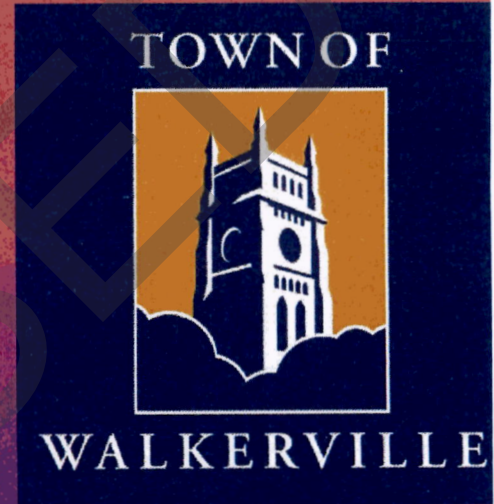
Do you know someone who makes your community a better place?

Nominations close

8 December 2023

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Categories

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RECEIVED
- 7 DEC 2023

THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWN OF
WALKERVILLE

 Local Government Association of South Australia BY:



South Australia

Nomination Form 2024

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Nominee (the person/organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information or testimonials of achievement.

Citizen of the Year Award

CITIZEN YOUNG CITIZEN COMMUNITY EVENT ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Name: Jessica Craig

Address:

Phone:

Date of Birth:

Email:

Council: Walkerville

If you are unsure of the Nominee's Council, go to <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/sa-councils/councils-listing> and enter their address in the search field of Find My Council by Location

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? YES NO

Reason for nomination

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community?

**CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR AWARDS**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Nomination Form 2024

Nominator (your details)

Name: Ben manifold

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I give permission for the Australia Day Council of South Australia to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

Procedure

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Visit the website to nominate online and for more information on the Awards, including past recipients.”

www.citizenoftheyear.com.au

Please return completed form before Friday, 8 December 2023 to: Town of Walkerville, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton SA 5081, or email to walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au

How did you hear about the Citizen of the Year Award?:

- Social media
 Newsletter
 Website
 Newspaper article
 Word of mouth
 Information in Council office
 Nominated before

Other, please specify:

Find out more about the Australia Day Council of SA:

- Yes I want to hear more about the Australia Day Council of South Australia

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point.

Referee

Please provide the contact details of a referee or attach a written reference.

Name: Ben manifold

Phone:

Email:

Occupation: Deputy Principal

What is the referee's relationship to the nominee? Deputy Principal

What can the referee comment on? character

Citizen of the Year Awards – Nomination Form – Jessica Craig

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community?

Jessica has made remarkable and multifaceted contributions to her community, embodying the principles of leadership, service, and social responsibility. As the Vice President of Wilderness School's Student Representative Council, she has exhibited outstanding leadership skills, fostering a positive and inclusive school environment. Her involvement in various charitable endeavours, and her encouragement of fellow students to contribute positively to their community, highlights her dedication to promoting a supportive community culture. Her active leadership, mentoring, fundraising, sports participation, and community engagement, reflect a holistic commitment to making a positive impact within and beyond her own community.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

Jessica has showcased exemplary active citizenship and a dedication to enhancing community life through a range of impactful initiatives. Her involvement in empowerment initiatives, encouraging students to embrace their individuality and respect others, has contributed significantly to the school's harmonious atmosphere.

Beyond the school setting, Jessica has actively engaged in community service and outreach efforts. Her voluntary assistance in fundraising for period poverty underscores her commitment to addressing social issues at a local level. Her participation in programs such as 'Fun in the Wilderness' has directly enriched the lives of Foster Care students, exemplifying her dedication to community well-being. Her commitment extends globally, demonstrated through cultural experiences in Ethiopia, where she engaged with diverse communities and provided support at the Catherine Hamlin hospital. During her stay at the hospital, Jessica provided help to the nurses with taking medical care of the women, joining and organising their mental health sessions, as well as supporting the younger children of some of the mothers in the hospital. Through this cultural involvement, Jessica realised the significant difference in opportunities, expectations, and circumstances of girls across the world – many who were the same age as her and highlighting again how lucky she is but also reinforcing her desire to help and support those who are less fortunate.

Notably, Jessica's participation in the SONY Foundation Camp at St Peters College highlights her commitment to making a positive impact beyond her immediate community. During this camp, she provided respite care for a young child with special needs, showcasing her compassion and care. This experience further emphasises her active citizenship on a broader scale, contributing to the well-being of individuals beyond her immediate community.

Jessica's active citizenship extends from her impactful role within the school to her involvement in community service programs. Her contributions reflect a deep sense of social responsibility, leadership, and a genuine desire to make a positive difference in the lives of others, both locally and globally.

Nomination Form 2024

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The Awards acknowledge the unsung heroes of our community who through their contributions make our state a better place. These individuals and organisations offer outstanding service each day and enable our communities to be stronger as a result of their tireless efforts.

Outstanding contribution and community service includes 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 well being of a community.

Nominate someone who makes a real difference in your community and give them the opportunity to be celebrated and recognised for their important contribution.

Nominee (the person/organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information or testimonials of achievement.



Citizen of the Year Award

BY:

CITIZEN YOUNG CITIZEN COMMUNITY EVENT ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Name: CLAUDIA JOHN

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____

Council: WALKERVILLE

If you are unsure of the Nominee's Council, go to <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/sa-councils/councils-listing> and enter their address in the search field of Find My Council by Location

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? YES NO

Reason for nomination

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community?

PREVIOUSLY AWARDED 'REX ADAMS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD' FROM WALKERVILLE ROTARY. CONTINUING VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY WORK.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Nomination Form 2024

Claudia has worked consistently over 2023 and in previous years in a wide range of community service activities. She has worked to develop community-mindedness and a service orientation in other students as well. She has also contributed significantly to St John's. She is always willing to give her time to help others, showing respect in the process.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?

AWARDED 'REX ADAMS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD'
BY ROTARY CLUB OF WALKERVILLE.

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point.

Referee

Please provide the contact details of a referee or attach a written reference.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Occupation:

What is the referee's relationship to the nominee?

What can the referee comment on?

Nominator (your details)

Name: BARRY BLAKEBROUGH.

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I give permission for the Australia Day Council of South Australia to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

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How did you hear about the Citizen of the Year Award?:

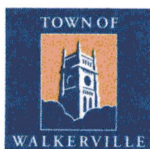
- Social media
 Newsletter
 Website
 Newspaper article
 Word of mouth
 Information in Council office
 Nominated before

Other, please specify: MELISSA JONES.

Find out more about the Australia Day Council of SA:

Yes I want to hear more about the Australia Day Council of South Australia

**CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR AWARDS**
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Nomination Form 2024

Nomination Form 2024

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Nominee (the person/organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information or testimonials of achievement.

Citizen of the Year Award

CITIZEN YOUNG CITIZEN COMMUNITY EVENT ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Name: Walkerville Bushcare volunteers

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED] Date of Birth: _____

Email: [REDACTED]

Council: Walkerville

If you are unsure of the Nominee's Council, go to <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/sa-councils/councils-listing> and enter their address in the search field of Find My Council by Location

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? YES NO

Reason for nomination

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community?

This dedicated group of volunteers have spent countless hours over decades to restore and regenerate riparian zones along the Towns Linear Park, the sites being actively maintained by volunteers with in-fill planting, weeding and watering.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS
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Native plants are replacing weed species.

See more information attached.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

Native plants have been planted to regenerate the banks of the Torrrens. Seeds have been purchased by indigenous growers and local providers including some propagation by the group. Without this work, these areas would be covered in non-native species and it provides enjoyment for those who use Linear Park.

How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?

- The nominee group has received a Community grant from Walkerville Council to contribute to the cost of their work.
- 2016 Civic Trust Award and People's choice Civic Trust Award

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point. — Additional material attached

Referee

Please provide the contact details of a referee or attach a written reference.

Name: James Kelly

Phone: 82697820

Email: jkelly@walkerville.sa.gov.au

Occupation: Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure, Town of Walkerville

What is the referee's relationship to the nominee?

What can the referee comment on? The work being done by the group



Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Relevant office at Nomination Form 2024 The Council

Nominator (your details)

Name: Melissa Jones

Phone: 0419998379

Email: m-jones@walkerville.sa.gov.au

I give permission for the Australia Day Council of South Australia to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

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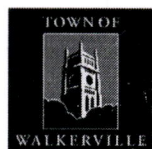
Other, please specify:

Find out more about the Australia Day Council of SA:

Yes I want to hear more about the Australia Day Council of South Australia

**CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR AWARDS**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



Nomination Form 2024

Town of Walkerville Bushcare Restoration Sites

Adjacent the River Torrens – Karrawirra Parri (River Redgum Forest)

Background

The River Torrens bank has suffered from decades of neglect and anti-environmental practices. In the 19th Century it was used as a source of water for sand mines, brickworks and other industries, and until the O-bahn was constructed was often used as an informal dump. Much of the original vegetation was cleared.

Once a nationally famous swimming venue, the water quality deteriorated to such an extent that swimming was banned in the 1970s, and remains so to this day. "Weed" trees species such as, olives, white cedar, ash, willows, white poplar and liquorice and are still in evidence, as well as palms, prickly pear and cacti. Nasturtium, sour sobs, watsonia, bamboo and other invasive vine species choke parts of the bank.

Despite this, it remains an important biodiverse region, containing at least 60 species of birds, five species of fish, five species of frog, turtles, several reptile species and countless invertebrates including rare butterflies. As well Koalas, the native otter rat (Rakali) and Ringtail, Brushtail possums and the Grey Headed Flying Fox can be seen regularly. There are also small patches of endemic bushland containing rare plants.

The construction of the O-Bahn in the late 1980s and the Torrens Linear Park completion in the late 1990s helped change attitudes towards the river precinct, with houses now being built to take advantage of the views. Forward-thinking individuals such as Penny Paton AM and Heather Whiting have worked tirelessly for decades to restore and regenerate riparian zones, and this work continues with small volunteer groups spread from Hamilton Park to the Hackney St Bridge.

There are nine main areas of work, detailed below.

All these areas are actively maintained by volunteers. Some sites are in consolidation phase with infill planting, weeding and watering being the main activities, while others are in *development* phase, with planting, weeding and watering underway. Thousands of volunteer hours have been spent over the last 30 years. These volunteers have performed meticulous, persistent and often tedious restoration work, informed by ecological and biological scientists inside and outside the group.

As well as being good for the environment, the work has enhanced the beauty and amenity of the river bank area. Many urban groups have visited the sites for ideas and inspiration. The Myunggidja Adjika Bush Food Garden is being used as a model for other councils to work with First Nation guides to establish bushfood and biodiversity tracks with schools, bushcare volunteers and their communities more broadly.

1. Original Gilberton 'Our Patch'

Coordinator: Penny Paton AM

Location: The river side opposite the Rose St and Gilbert St intersection extending to the southern section of the Gilberton Woodland adjacent the O-bahn bus route under Gilbert Street.

History: Penny Paton, AM, has a lifelong interest in native plants and animals (particularly birds). She has grown native plants since the 1990s and many of the plants in her garden and in these patches came from seed she collected from the local area and grew in her backyard. The site began in about 1997 when the only native plants were a few river red gum trees (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), six plants of small-leaf bluebush (*Maireana brevifolia*), two plants of berry saltbush (*Atriplex semibaccata*) and 20 plants of tar-vine (*Boerhavia domini*). Over the next few years about 50 species were planted, ranging from grasses and understory plants to large shrubs and trees. These were mainly grown by volunteers, with some purchased from indigenous growers. Seed came from within 10km of the site, from along the River Torrens or in the nearby parklands. Some of these native species have persisted and some have not. Weeding and some infill planting continues at this site.

Current Status: Consolidation

2. Sites adjacent Patons' property

Coordinator: Penny Paton AM

Location: Property fence-lines, adjacent Gilbert St Gilberton. There are two fence-lines with the Linear Park – adjacent the Bill Cossey tennis court and at the back of the Paton property to the river edge.

History: Penny planted these areas from about 1998 to the present, with a range of native plants, mainly trees and large shrubs close to the river and smaller species near the Linear Park paths. Most species are local natives but there are a few species from hotter, drier areas (eg weeping myall *Acacia pendula* and silver mulga *Acacia argyrophylla*) with a view to the anticipated changing climate. Planting and weeding continue here, particularly to replace vegetation lost when part of our boundary fence was replaced in November 2022.

Current Status: Consolidation

3. 'Our Patch' sites: Vale Park Wildflower Walk, Gilberton Woodland and Myunggidja Adjika Bush Food Garden

Our Patch Co-ordinator: Heather Whiting

Three Locations: 1. Both sides of Ascot Avenue Road Bridge in Vale Park. 2. Gilbert St between the original Gilberton Our Patch and the O-Bahn, and 3. Victoria Tce, Walkerville

History: The Vale Park "Our Patch" area began in 2000, and later included the Gilberton Woodland (2007), the Swing Bridge site 2018 and the Walkerville Myunggidja Adjika Bush Food Garden (2020).

VPOP also aims to increase community environmental awareness, hence its activities have included Open Days (with letter drops), native plant giveaways, public signs, developing the Wildflower Walk at Vale Park and its associated photographic plant labels, brochures and public signs, creating an appealing, informative VPOP website, hosting a public fungi talk and on-site foray, as well as working with and hosting many environmental groups and organisations. Through various incarnations of VPOP over the years, VPOP has always worked to:

- preserve our natural heritage and develop weed, pest and pollution-free wildlife havens along sections of the River Torrens Linear Park,
- to increase the environmental awareness for VPOP members, the wider community and local schools.
- enhance local biodiversity and habitat value and improve the Linear Park as a wildlife corridor.
- protect our remnant species wherever found, all new plantings are of local as possible provenance and all are planted according to probable pre-European plant associations.
- give special protection to our Rare and Threatened Species (at least ten species on Schedules 8 and 9, NP&W Act 1972).

Plantings

To date, VPOP has planted more than 34,000 native plants at our combined sites (around 200 species, 60 with at least regional conservation significance) including more than 20,000 tubestock grown by VPOP members. On-site recruitment (plants growing naturally on site from our tubestock plantings) has been observed in at least 80 species, including a number of locally native orchids, 4 species of which have formed colonies (growing in the cooler months after dying back over summer).

Support for Neville Bonney, ethnobiologist

In early 2018 an advisory group was formed to support Neville Bonney with his native plant book, *From One Small Seed a Forest Is Born (FOSS)*. Over half of the FOSS members were also VPOP members. In 2021 the group applied for a \$20,000 Green Adelaide grant to assist with the significant publication costs. FOSS was very grateful to the Walkerville Council for both endorsing and sponsoring our grant application. We were successful and the book was published in July 2022. The official launch was hosted by the Town of Walkerville and held in the Town Hall on Sept 1st 2022.

4. Wildflower Walk – Ascot Ave Vale Park

Co-ordinator: Heather Whiting

Location: On the slope beneath the Willow Bend Reserve carpark on the Vale Park side of the Ascot Avenue/Lower Portrush Road bridge over the River Torrens.

History: Since 2008, VPOP and friends have been developing a Wildflower Walk near the Ascot Avenue Road Bridge at Vale Park, with meandering paths through a revegetated open woodland (an open tree canopy, some shrubs, shade-tolerant understory of tussocks and inter-tussocks and natural leaf litter between plants). Here there are close to 100 species of locally native wildflowers and grasses, with most of these flowering successively from mid-winter to mid-summer, with definite peaks in September and October.

VPOP is well known for reintroducing native orchids to the Adelaide Plains, including the planting of over 20 species on the Wildflower Walk, four types of which have formed colonies. VPOP developed comprehensive photographic plant labels for the Wildflower Walk, however, it was decided to remove them to protect our other plants after the labels led to our winter flowering orchids and Nationally Threatened Species (Silver leaf Daisy) being progressively stolen. However, we are intending to try again, and replace the photographic labels in 2023.

In 2012-13, through State Government grants, colourful information brochures associated with the Wildflower Walk were developed. These brochures are extremely popular and are useful for many groups and classes as well as by Wildflower Walk users. The brochures are currently being reprinted (Feb 2023) after almost 7,000 have been used/given away to date. Our on-site ID sign and dispenser of brochures will shortly be repaired, ready for the reprinted pamphlets.

Despite VPOP biodiversity successes and improved environmental knowledge over the years we have struggled recently to keep on top of the Wildflower Walk weeds and pest snails. Realising that continually removing weeds from the area was impoverishing the soil Heather Whiting has been researching and trialing methods of regenerative revegetation without taking weeds off site as much as possible and is currently writing up these ideas for scrutiny by the rest of the group and other interested parties. This also includes ideas for carbon sequestration to lower atmospheric carbon and do as much as we can to help limit climate change. The outcomes of these trials will be made available to the Council and to the community more widely through the VPOP website and other forums.

Current Status: Development

5. Gilberton Woodland

Co-ordinator: Jackie Street

Location: South East of the O-Bahn on Gilbert St adjacent to the original Gilberton Our Patch (see above). Extends along the fence by the O-bahn bridge down to the steps going under the O-Bahn, and along the river side of the path heading south. The lower area by the O-Bahn is Torrens Transit access land but was maintained by Walkerville Council staff by agreement.

History: The Gilberton Woodland was adopted by VPOP in 2007 at the suggestion of Penny Paton to Heather Whiting, when looking for areas to revegetate with a Work for the Dole (WFD) team. There were some remnant native plants (including 3 species of grasses) as well as a few shrubs Penny had planted. Walkerville Council gave approval for the group to look after this site, particularly as it was difficult for the Council staff to bring equipment in for maintenance and mowing.

The upper section was very compacted soil over limestone, with an outer ring of trees and shrubs. Walkerville Council made a log circle out of gum trees which had to be cut down at Vale Park Primary School, paths were made to the log circle and it was planted out as an open woodland. Hence the local designation of "Gilberton Woodland".

The lower section was sunny and only had two trees, so was left low and open for Torrens Transit access. Heather's WFD team made triquetra shaped paths out of Council supplied dolomite making a Labyrinth shape. The Labyrinth was planted out with a class from Wilderness School, with each section containing a different native grass (tussock) and wildflower (inter-tussock) and acting as a seedbank.

This lower area became known as the Gilberton Grassy Labyrinth. In April 2010, permission was given to do a cool burn in the Labyrinth, to mimic First Nations' firestick farming and to assess the regrowth. The Labyrinth design was abandoned around 2014 as the grasses and other natives kept growing out of 'their' sections, and weeding out of native plants was hard on the volunteers. The area then became the Gilberton Grassland, and is managed in conjunction with the Gilberton Woodland.

Various native orchids were introduced on site in 2010, with the Pink Fairies (*Caladenia latifolia*) in particular spreading by seed beneath the trees in the Woodland and across the river into a riverbank site in St Peters. In 2016, with assistance from Walkerville Council staff, a large sign about our 'Nearby Nature' was erected in the Woodland by VPOP, financed through a State Government grant. In 2016, the Woodland also trialled transplanting SAW orchids rescued from the widening of the Kangaroo Creek Dam spillway, but sadly over a number of years they petered out – possibly due to our very limy soils. However, also in 2016 the Gilberton Woodland and the Wildflower Walk at Vale Park, VPOP was awarded a Civic Trust Award and the People's Choice Civic Trust Award for Reintroducing Orchids to the Adelaide Plains.

Including orchids, over 100 local plant species have been planted in the Gilberton Woodland and Grassland, with an estimated 80 species still surviving on site.

Since 2021/2022 Gilberton Woodland management and co-ordination has been passed from Heather Whiting to Jackie Street. The group has:

- delineated a walking path through the woodland site
- planted and watered through first summers over 100 plants including, lillies, ground covers, small bushes and middle story trees, acacia, hakea, senna, native pine, sticky hop, downy mint bushes and two quandong.
- stepped up weed control though hand pulling, slashing and mulching
- attempted to eliminate and suppress non-native tree species

Current Status: Development

6. Gilberton Swing Bridge

Co-ordinator: Rose Dow

Location: the fenced area south of the steps leading down to the Swing Bridge stairs, and a section along the path south of the memorial archway.

History: Restoration of what was a very degraded, weedy site began 2018 in partnership with Walkerville Primary School, the Town of Walkerville and Vale Park Our Patch. This was done with the assistance of two Walkerville Primary School classes. Additional planting took place in 2019 with a year 5/6 class.

At the beginning of 2022 a separate volunteer group was set up with a regular, first Saturday of the month community working bee. This group includes families and residents able to volunteer out of work hours. The working bees extended planting south along the river side of the path area so that it almost links with the Paton property plantings.

In 2022 the group planted over 50 local plant species, groundcovers, bushes and small trees to reinvigorate this site. Volunteers regularly water the 2022 plants and nurture them through their first summer. The group also weed, purchase additional natives to fill gaps, mulch, collect and disperse seed, cut back grasses and create stick and mulch 'dams' on the steep slopes.

Current status: Development

7. Myunggidja Adjika Bush Food Garden

Co-ordinator: Rose Dow

Location: The garden runs behind the lawned area on Victoria Terrace opposite The Watson building and car parks in Walkerville.

History: The garden is a partnership with the Town of Walkerville, Walkerville Primary School and Vale Park Our Patch. Permission for the garden was granted at the end of 2019. Kaurana/Narrungga Elder Dr Kevin O'Loughlin (Uncle Dookie) generously offered his time to name the Bush Food Garden (also called a 'track') and assist with plant selection. Ethnobiologist Neville Bonney also provided a plant list to guide us. His Native Foods poster and his book *Knowing, Growing, Eating, Edible Wild Native Plants* were invaluable resources. Please see attached endorsement letter written for the Grassroots Grant application for background information.

The Town of Walkerville provided a watering system, mulch and plants sourced from Provenance Nursery. A Risk/Benefit Management Plan was developed prior to planting. There has been active

involvement from Walkerville Primary students. They have helped to guide the planting, research plants and have assisted with planting. In 2021 two Walkerville Primary classes met with Uncle Dookie. For most of the students it was the first time they met and talked with an Aboriginal person. A current plant list from the end of 2022 is included in this package. There are more than 130 plants and over 30 species. The Myunggidja Adjika Garden is providing a template to assist with other gardens (tracks) and the tracks are also integrated with an aboriginal cultural guide course being run by Uncle Dookie. This year in partnership with the Warringga Committee, Pooraka Community Centre, Salisbury Council and Pooraka Primary School another Bushfood Track is being created.

In 2023 we have 25 Lilly Pillies grown for us by Philip Holzknacht to plant next to the bridge as a grove. They are a small variety with large sweet fruit and will be an attractive addition to the garden on its northern end.

Current status: Development

8. Lansdowne Patch

Coordinator: John Rolls

Location: Both sides of the entry to the Linear Park from Lansdowne Terrace, between the O-Bahn track and residential property fences. Much of the planting area is on the steep banks of the river valley.

History: This project was initiated by John in spring of 2019, with the objective of establishing local native plants and providing food and habitat for local insects, birds, and other wildlife. The planted area has progressively expanded since then. Plants have principally been sourced as tube stock from Provenance nursery, and as cuttings from our garden. The planted area now covers about 1500 square metres and includes over 500 plants of about 80 different species, made up of groundcovers, small and large shrubs, climbers, rushes, trees, and perennial herbs.

The principle guiding choice of plants has been to use species of the Adelaide region, but not to be restricted to local endemics, and to attempt to create a pleasing visual effect. The project is now supported by several other volunteers but does not yet have a regular working day.

Current status: Development

9. 13 Mersey St Riverbank sites

Coordinators: Lynda Matthews and Kerry Kavanagh

Location: Mersey St Riverbank, Gilberton.

History: The Mersey St development, built on the old Channel 7 site, includes a series of two-story buildings overlooking the riverbank. These banks were particularly challenging for volunteers. Builders' surplus dolomite covered the embankment the dwellings' fence and the linear path, and in parts the bank is very steep and unstable. Apart from a few large gum trees the only thriving vegetation on the embankment were patchy grasses and very tall thistles. The ground was a thin layer of dry dirt overlaying 10-20cm of compacted water repellent dolomite. Water and soil slid down the embankment away from anything planted requiring the construction of "dams" using cardboard, fallen sticks and waste vegetation as terracing.

The neighbours are in the early stages of regenerative planting on the embankment.

Status: Development

Nomination Form 2024

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

ATTACHMENT F

Do you know
someone who
makes your
community a
better place?

Nominations close

8 December 2023



Categories

Citizen of the Year

This is presented to someone making an extraordinary contribution to the community and may recognise outstanding service over a number of years.

To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen.

Young Citizen of the Year

This is presented to a young emerging leader who is making a difference in their community.

To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen aged over 16 years and under 30 years of age on January 26, 2024.

Community Event of the Year

This is presented to a person or group who has staged the most outstanding event for their community.

To be eligible, the person or group must be Australian Citizens.

Award for Active Citizenship

This is presented to a person or group delivering outstanding work on an event or project for the community during the past calendar year.

The person or group need not be Australian Citizens.

Nomination Form 2024

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Nominate someone who makes a real difference in your community and give them the opportunity to be celebrated and recognised for their important contribution.

Nominee (the person/organisation you would like to nominate)

Please provide as much information as possible. Additional documents may be attached providing further information or testimonials of achievement.

Citizen of the Year Award

CITIZEN YOUNG CITIZEN COMMUNITY EVENT ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Name: South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE)

Address:

Phone:

Date of Birth: N/A

Email:

Council: Walkerville Council

If you are unsure of the Nominee's Council, go to <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/sa-councils/councils-listing> and enter their address in the search field of Find My Council by Location

Is the person being nominated an Australian citizen? YES NO n/a

Reason for nomination

How has the person/organisation contributed to the community?

SAYGE (South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble) has been an outstanding contributor to the performing arts industry, in particular in regards to music education and the classical guitar community, especially for the youth, in South Australia. SAYGE is a not-for-profit organisation bringing young classical guitarists together by providing them with the opportunity to be a part of a guitar ensemble, building confidences and sharing their love of music through ensemble rehearsals and community performances.

Over time SAYGE has become truly intergenerational, expanding to include an Adult ensemble and with members aged from 6 to 77+ years across a range of ethnicities.

SAYGE has a strong presence in major classical guitar community in events such as the Adelaide Guitar Festival's Winter School where at least half of the participants are from SAYGE.

More than just music, SAYGE creates initiatives for young classical guitarists to build friendships and skills such as respect, teamwork and leadership, in an environment which students inspire and motivate each other through their mutual love of music. For some students, music through SAYGE is an outlet whilst they may be navigating through personal loss, and other social and mental health challenges.

How has the nominee demonstrated active citizenship and enhancement of community life?

More than just a not-for-profit organisation, long-time Walkerville Uniting Church tenant, SAYGE has become a community for classical guitarists in South Australia. For many young guitarists, they don't have as many opportunities as their orchestral counterparts - which is where SAYGE fills the gap.

Students are grouped into one of three youth ensembles, based on age and playing ability, enabling them to form friendships with like minded musicians. SAYGE, has built strong relationships with other guitar event organisers: with the Adelaide Guitar Festival, where a majority of Guitar Winter School participants are from SAYGE; with the Adelaide Eisteddfod, where not only are many of the entrants and prize winners are SAYGE Members, SAYGE also sponsors of prizes. Other community events SAYGE has organised performances and partnered with, include Adelaide Fringe Festival, Umbrella Music Festival, The Start at the Gallery children's program at the Art Gallery of South Australia, Regional School Tours and Aged Care Centres. The highlight earlier in the year was being selected as one of 5 youth acts for the DreamBIG Festival's Gala concert at the Adelaide Festival Theatre.

SAYGE is the only non-profit in Australian opened to classical guitarists of ALL ages, abilities and backgrounds

How has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere?

2023 SA Music Awards - Best Music Educator Finalist

2023 SA Community Achievement Awards - Connecting Communities Awards Semi Finalist

Additional material may be attached: maximum five A4 pages, minimum font size 10 point.

Referee

Please provide the contact details of a referee or attach a written reference.

Name: refer to written reference/testimonials

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____

What is the referee's relationship to the nominee? _____

What can the referee comment on? _____

Nominator (your details)

Name: Judith Oh

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I give permission for the Australia Day Council of South Australia to submit this nomination to other recognition programs such as the Australian of the Year Awards.

Procedure

Each local Council in South Australia seeks nominations in their local Council area, with the Award recipients announced in late January.

Councils can forward the details of their Award recipients to the Australia Day Council of SA to go in the running for the State Awards, presented by the Governor of South Australia.

Visit the website to nominate online and for more information on the Awards, including past recipients.”.

www.citizenoftheyear.com.au

Please return completed form before Friday, 8 December 2023 to: Town of Walkerville, 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton SA 5081, or email to walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au

How did you hear about the Citizen of the Year Award?:

- Social media
 Newsletter
 Website
 Newspaper article
 Word of mouth
 Information in Council office
 Nominated before

Other, please specify:

Find out more about the Australia Day Council of SA:

Yes I want to hear more about the Australia Day Council of South Australia

About SAYGE

Inspired by his own Guitar Ensemble experience and desire to create the same experience for young classical guitarists, Andras Tuske, Hungarian Refugee, guitarist and Music Educator formed and then later in 2001, incorporated the South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble (or SAYGE).

From humble beginnings of taking 12 of his students to the Darwin International Guitar Festival, SAYGE has now evolved to a membership of over 50 ensemble members, across 3 different Youth Ensembles (Junior, Intermediate and Senior), and is now inclusive of the entire classical guitar community in South Australia, expanding to include an Adult Ensemble.

SAYGE is a not-for-profit organisation with the primary objective of bringing young classical guitarists together with the opportunity to be in a guitar ensemble, build confidence and share their love of music through Ensemble rehearsals and community performances.

To our knowledge, SAYGE is the **only not-for-profit ensemble organisation in Australia** open to **classical guitarists** of **ALL** ages, abilities and backgrounds.



2001 Darwin International Guitar Festival Tour Ensembles



2023 DreamBIG Festival Gala Concert –SAYGE Youth

Notable Alumni



Connor Whyte

2023 Adelaide International Classical Guitar Competition
"Andras believed in me at a time when I didn't believe in myself"



Matthew Withers

ABC Classics artist and Internationally acclaimed guitar performer.



Bradley Kunda

Berlin- based Senior Product Designer of the world's most popular music notation app, [MuseScore](#).

Andrey Lebedev

London-based winner of multiple prestigious guitar competitions and one of the most successful upcoming guitarists of this generation.

Why SAYGE?

The number of ensemble opportunities for classical guitar students in the schooling system is often nowhere near the breadth on offer for their orchestral student counterparts. This is where SAYGE fills in the gap – besides providing fortnightly rehearsals in a warm and nurturing environment, we **create performance opportunities and initiatives to develop music ensemble skills and build confidence**.

Being **surrounded by fellow guitarists of a similar skill level and age helps build relationships and friendships** with other students who **share the same passion for music**. Together with being guided by the dedication and expertise of qualified Tutors, who are all accomplished musicians in their own right, this creates a **supportive atmosphere, with students being inspired and motivated by each other**. Whilst the primary objective for SAYGE has been to focus on youth development, music is a lifelong journey. To this is end, Andras also created an **Adult Ensemble**, thereby **being inclusive of all classical guitarists in South Australia**. One of our adult ensemble members **even travels from Port Lincoln to attend rehearsals in Adelaide!**

The hard work developed from SAYGE Tutors and Members as well as our dedicated SAYGE Committee volunteers has been recognised in recent nominations for music industry and community achievement awards.

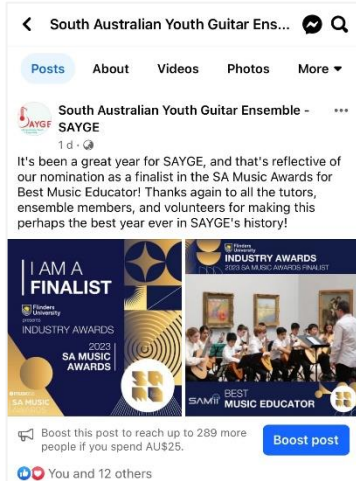
For the **2023 South Australian Community Achievement awards**, SAYGE has been awarded as **Semi-Finalists for the category of "Connecting Communities"**. (Image below of SA Community Service – Connecting Communities Semi-finalist award received from the Hon Nat Cook MP, Minister for Human Services)

In addition SAYGE was one of **5 industry voted finalists for the 2023 SA Music Awards – Best Music Educator**

<https://southaustralianmusicawards.com.au/2023-finalists/>

<https://citymaq.indaily.com.au/culture/sa-music-awards-2023-finalists-announced/>

<https://scenestr.com.au/music/spotlight-on-sa-youth-guitar-ensemble-20231101>



SAYGE committee

The running and administration of SAYGE is run by the SAYGE Committee which is **comprised of Parent Volunteers and Tutor Volunteers**. The Committee consists of the President, Artistic Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Coordinator and Social Media Coordinator and covers a broad range of activities from strategic planning, artistic direction, graphic design of marketing materials, working with community partners, identifying performance opportunities and running concerts, to serving complimentary afternoon tea during rehearsals.

Ensemble Groups

All our performances are well attended by our **55+ SAYGE members, aged 6 to 77** representing a diverse range of cultural backgrounds including members from the Cambodian, Chinese, Croatian, French, Hungarian, Indian, Iranian, Italian, Japanese, Kenyan, Latino, Malaysian, Persian, Polish and Syrian communities

Our **4 Guitar ensembles** are grouped by ability and age as follows

- **Junior Ensemble** – Beginner, AMEB Grade 1 (usually Junior Primary school aged students)
- **Intermediate Ensemble** – AMEB Grade 2+ (usually Upper Primary school aged students)
- **Senior Ensemble** – AMEB Grade 4+ (usually Upper Primary to High School aged students)
- **Adult Ensemble** – 18+ years, any level

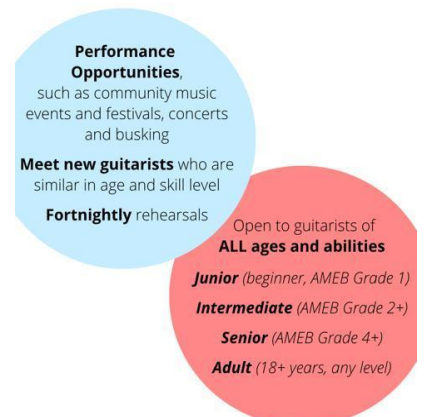
In addition, **SAYGEQ**, our advanced quartet consists of our most accomplished Senior Ensemble students.

Andras has mentored two of our SAYGE tutors, Caleb Lavery-Brook (Artistic Director and Senior Ensemble Tutor) and Marcus Kha (Intermediate and Adult Ensemble Tutors) who commenced in SAYGE as youth ensemble students. This is an example of **SAYGE facilitating growth and personal development opportunities** within the classical guitar community in Adelaide.

When selecting new repertoire, Andras has encouraged SAYGE to have a strong focus on supporting Australian composers, thereby supporting the Australian Music Community.



South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE) is a not-for-profit organisation bringing together young classical guitarists by providing them with the opportunity to be a part of a guitar ensemble.



Whether you learn from a private teacher, through school or even self-taught, please join us!

Contact us for a free trial
enquiriesayge@gmail.com

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are **held fortnightly during school terms** at Walkerville Uniting Church, to maximise student availability and participation.

To provide an open and welcoming environment, SAYGE provide **complimentary coffee, tea and biscuits** during rehearsal times. In addition to parents and siblings enjoying this service, often the students (especially the younger Junior and Intermediate students) like to reward themselves with a treat after rehearsal.

Fees are kept low at a rate of **\$10 per fortnightly rehearsal** (billed per semester) plus a \$10 annual membership fee, to ensure SAYGE is accessible to families from all socioeconomic backgrounds. All families are encouraged to join by **offering a 20% discount for 2 or more family members** – in fact, we have a few parents who have joined the Adult Ensemble, whilst their child is attending the Senior Ensemble rehearsals.

Junior and Intermediate Ensemble students



Adult Ensemble



Other Initiatives - Open concerts, Workshops, Practise Buddies

Besides our fortnightly rehearsals and community performances, Andras has also created and endorsed other initiatives in SAYGE to build confidence in our members

- **Open Concerts** held once a term and open to SAYGE as well as non-SAYGE members, provides the opportunity to practise solo or small group performances in an informal environment. Also gives the Adult Ensemble more of an opportunity to perform in front of an audience.
- **Workshops and Masterclasses** to further develop and enhance existing skillsets.
- **Practice Buddies** - Fostering an environment that allows guitarists of all ages and skill to learn and be inspired by like-minded musicians, whereby senior ensemble members mentor and boost the confidence of younger ensemble members.

L to R clockwise – Facebook post on Open concert, One of our Andras’ young Intermediate students performing a solo in an Open Concert, Marcus Kha (now Intermediate and Adult Ensemble Tutor) having a Masterclass with Matt Withers, promotional Open Concert Flyer, Matt Withers with Marcus, Caleb Lavery-Brook and Andras Tuske, Practice Buddy session.



“The Practice Buddies Programme has improved Lara’s confidence and her playing greatly”
Parent of Intermediate Ensemble Student

Performances – Connecting Communities

Through Andras direction and connections as Artistic Director, SAYGE facilitates a range of performances for members to build confidence and share their love for music, partnering with a variety of communities in South Australia including

- Guitar Community Events
- Adelaide Festivals
- Youth and Children’s Community Events
- Other music community organisations
- Local Community
- International Community

Guitar Community Events

Through his artistic direction in SAYGE, Andras has also built strong relationships with other organisations to help promote the classical guitar, provide performance opportunities for classical guitarists and to sustain the music industry. These include the *Adelaide Guitar Festival*, where he has been a guest tutor many times for the *Guitar Winter School* and with the *Adelaide Eisteddfod*, where not only does he have many students who are entrants and prize winners, but he has also represented SAYGE in the sponsorship of prizes.

Andras has created a SAYGE has a significant presence and connection to the Classical Guitar Community – in particular with the *Adelaide Guitar Festival* .and the *Adelaide Eisteddfod*.

Adelaide Guitar Festival Winter School - Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra (AGFO)

SAYGE actively promotes the *Adelaide Guitar Winter School* and this year, out of 60 participants of AGFO, over half were SAYGE members.

Adelaide Eisteddfod, Guitar Division

To give back to the community, SAYGE annually sponsors 7 out of around 20 cash prizes. Often SAYGE ensemble members comprise a significant number of entrants as well as prize winners. For example, in 2022, 14 of the 20 prizes awarded were won by SAYGE members.

During COVID-19, when the Eisteddfod was cancelled, with Andras’ guidance, **SAYGE ran a guitar competition in a similar manner**, to continue to motivate the classical guitar community during this challenging period.



Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra from the Adelaide Guitar Festival’s Winter School, a significant majority of whom are SAYGE members

Adelaide Eisteddfod Guitar Division competition organised by SAYGE during the COVID-19 period and 2023 Adelaide Eisteddfod entrants and winners



Adelaide Festivals

SAYGE has also participated in a number of Festivals in Adelaide including the iconic *DreamBIG Children's Festival* (Previously known as *Come Out Festival*), the *Adelaide Fringe Festival* and a number of other Music Festivals thereby connecting with the Youth as well as Performing Arts Communities.

DreamBIG Children's Festival (Gala Concert)

- Oldest Children's Festival in the world
- Opening act and one of 5 Youth acts selected
- 2 compositions written by SAYGE tutors

Adelaide Guitar Festival (with Adelaide Guitar Winter School mentioned previously)

Umbrella Music Festival 2022– SAYGE on Stage

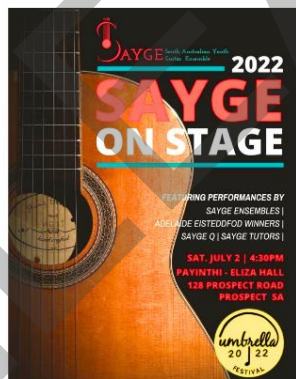
- Self-run fundraiser concert – first big performance post-COVID-19 period
- Involved the local Prospect Council community by seeking donations for raffle prizes and in turn promoting local businesses
- Raised around \$450 from Ticket sales and Fundraiser Raffle

Adelaide Fringe Festival 2019

Great experience for young classical guitarists to be part of this iconic festival in Adelaide

Steampunk Festival 2018

A celebration of nineteenth-century science fiction at the National Railway Museum in Port Adelaide.



*DreamBIG Festival Gala Concert 2023
and
SAYGE on Stage, Umbrella Festival 2022*



*2019 Adelaide Fringe Performance and
2018 Steampunk Festival*



Youth and Children's Community events

Being an ensemble whose primary objective is about bringing together our young classical guitar community together, it is a natural synergy to align ourselves with other Youth and Children's Community events and festivals, such as the DreamBIG Children's Festival and the Art Gallery of South Australia's Youth programmes.

DreamBIG Gala concert, Adelaide Festival Theatre



Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA)

Start at the Gallery is an exciting introduction to art for **children aged 3-12** and their families. Held on the first Sunday of every month, Start is a free family-fun day and includes art activities, tours, **live performances** and entertainment. Each monthly event is themed around current exhibitions or the general collection. **All 4 SAYGE ensembles** (i.e. youth as well as adult ensembles) have performed in this programme during the **SALA (South Australian Living Artists Festival)** and around Christmas time.

Refer to the following links/media promoting the event

<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/event-calendar/start-at-the-gallery-all-about-face/>
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/event-calendar/start-at-the-gallery-folklore-familiars/>

Neo Teen Takeover

Held six times a year, Neo is a free after-hours event for **young people aged 13-17 years**. Programmed by the Neo Ambassadors, Neo is a **parent-free zone** where young people can kick back and hang out with friends, jump into creative labs, **tune into live music** and explore the latest exhibitions at AGSA. Since its beginning in 2016, Neo has welcomed over 8000 teens to AGSA.

Across its annual program, Neo hosts two large-scale 'Teen Takeover' events which take place across the whole gallery, in addition to focused events which activate the latest temporary exhibition and collection spaces.

SAYGEQ, our advanced quartet of high school aged students have performed in Neo Teen Takeover as part of **SA Youth Week**.

<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/event-calendar/neo-teen-takeover-supersaturate/>
<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/event-calendar/neo-teen-takeover-2022-may/>

Senior Ensemble performing for Start at the Gallery, SAYGEQ performing at Neo Teen Takeover during SA Youth Week.



Other Music Collaborations

Inspired by his own children’s musical experiences, through Andras’ Artistic direction, SAYGE has collaborated and performed with a number of other organisations in our music community. This ranges from the primary school aged Adelaide Youth Strings, to Recitals Australia and other music associations such as community orchestra, Norwood Symphony Orchestra.

AdYO End of Year Concert - Adelaide Youth Strings (AYS)

Adelaide Youth Orchestra’s (AdYO) End of Year concert at the Adelaide Town Hall. **Guest Artist collaboration** with the Adelaide Youth Strings (AYS) - Adelaide Youth Orchestra’s Youth Strings programme for primary school aged children. A **unique experience playing in Adelaide Town Hall for 3 primary school aged Senior Ensemble students**, who wouldn’t ordinarily be able to experience playing here as a guitarist, due to the cost of hall hire being prohibitive for SAYGE for this performance venue.

Recitals Australia lunch series

Adelaide-based non-profit organisation that presents leading performances by virtuoso musicians during lunchtime concerts.

Other music associations SAYGE has also participated and partnered with include *Associated Chamber Music Players of SA (ACMPSA) Annual Concert, Norwood Symphony Orchestra Concert, Tuesdays on Flinders* lunchtime concert, *On the Terrace* and *Friends of Adelaide Symphony Orchestra* concert

ADELAIDE YOUTH STRINGS
 Martin Butler | Conductor

Violin 1
 Ruby Lee
 Aliona Kinnedy
 Aino Ishino
 Louise Symonds
 Chenchen Han
 Holly Liu
 Gig Osborn
 Hanyi Huang
 Erin Barnes
 Maggie Tan
 Leevi Cheema-Fleetwood
 Sothee Bang
 Tia Dong
 Jessica Dong
 Sienna Young
 Sean Wang

Violin 2
 Green Supanto
 Dorothy Wu
 Lucy Shigeno
 Zhi Cheng
 Missa Pinccombe
 Saria Eglin
 Ella Gu
 Lannah Baker
 Zoe Andrews
 Penny He
 Olivia Lu
 Ryan Allen
 Abigail Tomouque
 Sora Narend
 Logan Johnson

Viola
 Fiona Li
 Rebecca Lanzilli
 Jen Chong
 Melissa Howard
 Jade Cheema-Fleetwood**
 Sothee Tomouque**

Cello
 Connor Seli
 Ethan Li
 Nicole Guan
 Neil Neam
 Kayla Nguyen
 Sacha Sorn
 Oscar Zhou
 Emily Wu
 Emma Zhou
 Charis Lecker-Gardiner
 Alyssa Huang

Double Bass
 Hannah Fitzroy-Sun
 Frances Peng
 Jesse W
 Indiana Jock**

Guest Artists
 (End of Year Collaboration) from the South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE)
 Logan Lehr
 Zoe Hong-Yi Ly
 Armin Tschel

Special guest artist
 Logan Lehr
 Zoe Hong-Yi Ly
 Armin Tschel

Our members in Adelaide Youth Strings are represented from across over 26 schools in Adelaide. The school most represented is St Andrew's (eight students) and continues to have a very strong music program. We are also well represented by Suzuki students, as has often been the case in the past. Many of the highlights this year have been our concerts:

- > Two performances at the Thebarton Community Centre on Sunday 14th March. These concerts were well attended and coming early in the season gave a great morale boost to our students.
- > The opening of a performance for the DreamBIG Gala Concert on Saturday 22nd May. It was very well received by the audience and was a great showcase for the AdYO organisation.
- > The AdYO "Winter Warmers" Concert at Norwood Town Hall on 6th June. A shared concert in a new venue for us.
- > Friends of ASO Concert at the ASO's Granger Studio on 12th September. It was good to be able to use the "home" of the ASO for this presentation.
- > A Schools Tour on 22nd September visiting Elizabeth Vale PS, Middleton Park PS and Ingle Farm PS. At two of these schools, we linked up with beginner string groups there and performed together for the school. This was a wonderful opportunity to encourage string playing and teaching in local schools.

Our repertoire this year was another mixture of old favourites and new material. We have covered nearly twenty pieces ranging from a lovely arrangement of the Finale of Prokofiev's Classical Symphony (which our musicians can play from memory) to the current Tik Tok favourite "Wellerman" - which happens to be a traditional NZ sea shanty. This year I have included a few regular works such as Rossini's Overture to The Barber of Seville, Ravel's Bolero, and a new piece for our large and very capable cello section called "Budapest". This comes from the ANEB Cello Grade 2 repertoire book, and was chosen because I heard it performed at so many of the cello auditions last year!

Martin Butler OAM | Conductor, Adelaide Youth Strings

From L to R clockwise – AdYO End of Year concert programme showing SAYGE as Guest Artists, Lunch time concerts, Norwood Symphony Orchestra concert at Norwood Town Hall and 3 primary school aged Senior Ensemble guitarists performing with the Adelaide Youth Strings at Adelaide Town Hall.



Local Community

SAYGE has also connected to local communities in a variety of ways whether it be through local councils such as *City of Prospect's Summer Busking and Entertainment* program, multicultural festivals like the *Adelaide Hills Baha'i Community – Celebration of the Birth of Bab*, or Schools Tours with developing music programmes and in Regional towns as well as sharing our joy of music with our elderly community at Aged Care centres.

City of Prospect's Summer Busking and Street Entertainment Program

provides a platform for SAYGEQ and other local artists, musicians and entertainers to connect with Prospect community and showcase their talent and unique skills

Walkerville Shopping Centre

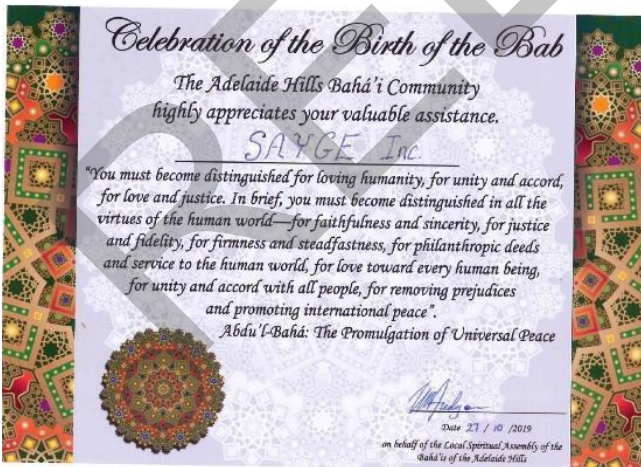
SAYGE Q providing Christmas Carols music for customers

Adelaide Hills Baha'i community performance to celebrate the Birth of Bab

Schools Tours and Aged Care Centres

Schools roadshow visiting schools with developing music programmes in the regional towns of **Victor Harbor and Strathalbyn**, to inspire the next generation of musicians. Sharing the joy of music with our **elderly community** at Aged Care Centres such as LHI Glynde Retirement and Westbourne Park Aged Care

From L to R clockwise – City of Prospect's Summer Busking and Entertainment programme, School Tour to Tyndale Christian College, visit to Westbourne Park Aged Care, Certificate of appreciation from the Adelaide Hills Baha'i community

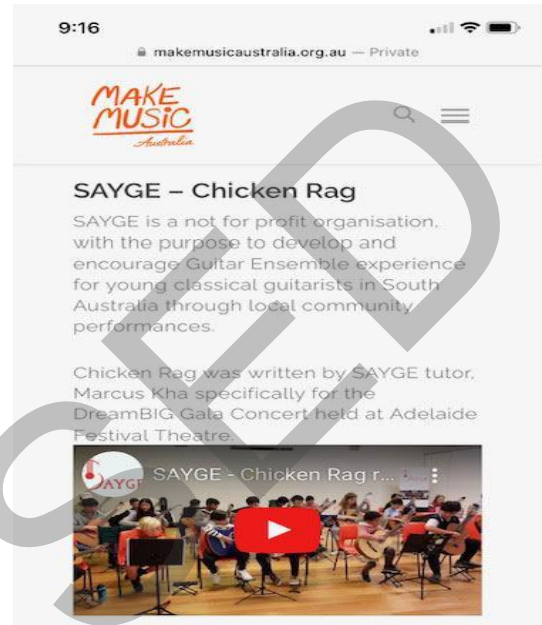


International Music Community

This year, SAYGE participated in **Making Music Day 21st June – the International Day of Music** by submitting a video performance by our Youth Ensembles of **Chicken Rag**, a composition by SAYGE Tutor Marcus Kha, created specifically for the DreamBIG childrens festival theme of 'Our World'. Undertaking this not only shows our connection to the local community but to that of the global music community as well.

Refer to the following link <https://makemusicaustralia.org.au/videos-2023/>

Screenshots of Facebook page and video on Make Music Australia page



Christmas Festivities

Christmas Festivities are always a highlight on the SAYGE calendar – we hold our annual End of Year Christmas Concert where we come together as a community, (followed by a feast), as well as annual tradition of Christmas Carols busking.

Highlights of Christmas performances include the Art Gallery of South Australia's **Start at Gallery** program and **busking at the Adelaide Farmers' markets**.

Refer to media articles written by the following "What's On" websites on upcoming children's events, promoting our busking at the Adelaide Farmer's Markets

- **kidsinadelaide.com.au** which also described SAYGE and encouraged readers to donate <https://kidsinadelaide.com.au/event/christmas-at-adelaide-farmers-market/>
- **Play and Go** <https://playandgo.com.au/christmas-at-the-adelaide-showground-farmers-market/>

Christmas Carols - Busking at Adelaide Farmers Market, Art Gallery performance



[Contact Us](#)

SAYGE thanks Walkerville City Council for considering our nomination for SA Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE) for 2024 Active Citizenship of the Year.

For the latest updates on SAYGE activities, visit our Facebook page or YouTube channel

<https://www.facebook.com/SAYouthGuitarEnsemble/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@sayouthguitarensemble>

General enquiries enquiriesayge@gmail.com

Author: Judith Oh, SAYGE President, saygepage@gmail.com or judithmoh@hotmail.com 0403836651

RELEASED

SAYGE (SOUTH AUSTRALIA YOUTH GUITAR ENSEMBLE) TESTIMONIALS

MUSIC EDUCATORS/GUITAR INDUSTRY LEADERS

"Having directed the Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra ('AGFO'), since 2014, I have been very impressed by the quality contribution to AGFO by members of the South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble program, founded by Mr Andras Tuske. Over the years since its inception, SAYGE has grown rapidly, now boasting 4 classical guitar ensembles – a highly significant achievement in the area of classical guitar community music making! An amazing contribution to music in South Australia!"



Dr Paul Svoboda, Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra Director, Doc. Mus. Arts (Sibelius Academy of Music, Helsinki), B.Mus (Hons) (UQ), Dip. Teach. E.C., L.T.C.L, Director, Aurora Guitar Ensemble

RELEASED



OFFICIAL

RE: Testimonial for SAYGE - Community Achievement Awards

SAYGE provides an outstanding opportunity for young guitarists to develop essential ensemble skills to a very high standard, and regardless of ability or background. SAYGE's leading contribution to the experience of making music with others – the sense of being part of something which is much more than the sum of its parts – has become a core component of South Australia's guitar-playing landscape, and Adelaide Festival Centre is proud to work with such a professional youth music organisation.

Slava Grigoryan - Artistic Director, Adelaide Guitar Festival.
Sarah Bleby – Executive Producer, Adelaide Guitar Festival
Georgi Paech – Creative Producer, DreamBIG Children's Festival
Adelaide Festival Centre.

Adelaide Festival Centre, King William Road, ADELAIDE SA 5000
M: +61 410 645 601 | P: +61 8 8216 8768



I acknowledge the land I work on is the traditional land of Kaurna people and I respect their people and culture.

SAYGE Testimonial

For almost a decade now, SAYGE has been an integral part of my journey in music and more. Throughout school, there was rarely room for the classical guitar in the orchestra and concert band, meaning young classical guitarists such as myself often missed out on the invaluable experience of playing with others. SAYGE, however, filled that gap by providing a unique opportunity for me and other young guitarists to come together and experience playing in an ensemble.

SAYGE showed me that there was more to music and to the guitar than playing on one's own. Through ensemble work, I learned to listen to and communicate with others while adapting my playing to what I heard and saw around me. These skills have greatly enhanced my prowess not only as a guitarist but as a musician in general. Furthermore, thanks to the many performance opportunities provided by SAYGE, I have gained much more confidence in performing both in an ensemble and as a soloist. I have been able to shift my focus from getting the notes right to expressing meaning to the audience in my music.

Throughout my years with SAYGE, I have had the privilege of progressing first to Senior Ensemble leader, and now to conductor and tutor of the Intermediate and Adult Ensembles. This means that in addition to developing as a guitarist, I have gained valuable skills in leadership and tutelage. These skills have served me well as a music teacher, as well as outside of music in my career studying medicine.

Finally, above all, SAYGE has been a deeply enjoyable experience. Meeting and playing with likeminded young guitarists has enabled me to share stories and repertoire, discover new techniques and form friendships over the guitar. Because of this, I continue to find joy in music and have maintained my passion to this day.

In conclusion, SAYGE provides a unique and enjoyable opportunity for young classical guitarists like me to come together and become great musicians. Thanks to SAYGE, I have greatly improved my abilities as a guitarist, musician and performer. I have also gained skills as a leader and teacher, which have served me well in both music and in medicine. SAYGE has made such a positive impact on the South Australian guitar community; I believe the organisation deserves to win the 2024 Active Citizenship Award."

Marcus Kha, SAYGE Intermediate and Adult Ensemble Tutor,
Adelaide University Medical Orchestra Co-Chair and conductor,
Prize-winning composer of The Australian Society of Music Education's (ASME's) Young
Composer Awards and Artology's National Fanfare competition

SAYGE (SOUTH AUSTRALIA YOUTH GUITAR ENSEMBLE) TESTIMONIALS (cont.)

PARENTS

"We very much appreciate the great relationship and culture that SAYGE has created for the SA Youth Guitar Community.

The welcoming atmosphere and the creative approach in bringing the youth guitarists together is evident at the many wonderful performances our daughter has been privileged to be a part of.

Lara has also been given the opportunity to have fortnightly one on one lessons with a more senior player, Aimee in the Practice Buddies program. This assistance and team work has improved Lara's confidence and her playing greatly.

SAYGE takes the time to coach all their guitarists as a group and individually as required which further helps them to achieve their goal for performing great music together.

We also very much appreciate how SAYGE assisted us with a recommendation for our daughter Lara Hagoort to be considered for a scholarship application, the group practice and performances has been key to getting Lara to the level that she is today.

We highly recommend SAYGE to for consideration for all youth guitarists."

Tony and Ting Hagoort Family, (parents of Intermediate Ensemble student)



"Bryan Kang thoroughly enjoys SAYGE and it is great to see how he has matured and improved since joining the junior group. There is a strong sense of community and inclusiveness, regardless of background, age or level of playing, all bonded with a strong passion and interest in guitar. Collaboration amongst members are outstanding, including volunteers.

Bryan has learnt a great deal in SAYGE, not only in guitar playing but also other skills like teamwork, responsibility, emulating great leadership etc. He enjoys regular SAYGE sessions, not to mention fostering some lifelong strong friendships. Through SAYGE he has certainly improved his confidence on stage, performing in Pembroke's own guitar ensemble as one of the leaders. Although he did not apply for scholarship, some of the life skills learnt at SAYGE could be points to consider in future interviews."

The strong sense of community within SAYGE also flows through many community events as they share their proud musicianship, such as Christmas Carols and DreamBIG Festival, raising SAYGE profile and allowing members to contribute to the community. Recent participation in MAKEMUSICDAY showcased our international commitment. SAYGE is a well and truly worthy of the community award."

Porhan Kang (parent of Senior Ensemble student)



"SAYGE has provided our child with amazing opportunities to connect with other young classical guitarists, develop his musical skills, learn from highly skilled teachers and mentors, and participate in community events as a performer and observer. We are grateful for the volunteers who make SAYGE possible. Without SAYGE, our child would not be connected to a whole community of classical guitarists"

Josephine Leombruno (parent of Intermediate Ensemble student)



STUDENTS

“Over the last seven years, SAYGE has offered me a multitude of benefits that go beyond individual musical growth, allowing me the opportunity to play and connect with like-minded individuals. While guitar ensemble music is not yet a ‘mainstream’ form of music, like orchestral or chamber, SAYGE has made considerable headway in pushing the form into the light, spreading both the instrument and classical music as a whole in Adelaide.

One of the most valuable aspects of being part of SAYGE is the sense of friendship and teamwork. As the guitar is generally a solo instrument, I had not experienced working as an ensemble before joining SAYGE. And since joining, I have not only been able to improve my skills in ensemble playing, but also my own solo works, as I have since gained a new perspective on polyphonic music. Furthermore, the friendships that we have made have truly shaped the group, creating a supportive and encouraging environment where we can motivate each other to excel.

Overall, SAYGE has become the beating heart of the classical guitar community of South Australia, connecting like-minded individuals of all ages together to not only perform in ensembles together, but also spread awareness for events and competitions happening throughout. I have gained so many opportunities through SAYGE, from being able to meet legends of the international guitar world like Slava Grigoryan, to performing on the festival theatre stage”

Giulio Mucci, Senior Ensemble Leader, SAYGEQ leader, 2023 Adelaide Eisteddfod Guitar Division Classical Guitar Solo – 17 years and under First Prize winner as well as Open Age First Prize Winner, Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra Soloist 2023, Christian Brothers’ College Music Captain



RELEASED

“Before joining South Australian Youth Guitar Ensemble (SAYGE), my connection to the guitar and the guitar community of South Australia was limited to that of the people who participated in an ensemble at my school. This changed when I decided to become a member of SAYGE. SAYGE has helped me connect with the guitar community of South Australia through the fortnightly ensemble practices and affiliation of the tutors with events such as the Adelaide Guitar Festival.

From day one, SAYGE helped me improve my ensemble playing skills within a warm and nurturing environment, surrounded by fellow guitarists who shared the same passion for music. The relationships among the students, along with the expertise and dedication of the instructors, created an atmosphere that was comfortable and made me look forward to going to practice.

One of the most significant benefits of being part of the guitar school was the increased difficulty of the pieces. Unlike previous ensembles, SAYGE challenged me but was not overwhelming. I appreciated the gradual progression, which allowed me to build a strong foundation before specialising in the bass. Each lesson seamlessly built upon the previous ones, and I felt a sense of accomplishment as I mastered new skills and felt a great sense of progression.

The guidance from the experienced instructors was invaluable. They were not only talented musicians themselves but also excellent teachers who knew how to convey their knowledge effectively. Whenever I encountered challenges or had questions, they were patient and supportive. SAYGE also exposed me to various musical styles and genres. This exposure to different musical styles broadened my musical horizons and my understanding of music. This diversity kept the learning process engaging and helped me become a more versatile and well-rounded guitarist.

In addition to regular lessons, SAYGE organized workshops and performances. These events provided opportunities to interact with other students and perform in front of an audience. Although nerve-wracking initially, these experiences boosted my confidence and stage presence, honing my performance skills and making me a more confident guitarist.

Perhaps the most gratifying aspect of being a member of SAYGE is the sense of community. I found friends who shared my passion for music, and we often collaborated, practiced together, and supported each other's progress. It's incredible how the support and encouragement from like-minded individuals elevates your motivation and causes improvement.”

Aaron Crasto, SAYGE Senior Ensemble Lead Bass Guitarist, Adelaide Guitar Festival Orchestra Bass Soloist 2023, Christian Brothers' College Music Scholarship recipient.

