



# Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award recipients announced

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5th February 2021

A ceremony at Government House on Monday 18 January announced the Australia Day Award recipients across 4 categories.

The Australia Day Awards recognise South Australians who enable their communities to be stronger as a result of their tireless efforts. These individuals offer outstanding service each day and so often this is invisible to us. They don't do it for the praise or for the recognition – they do it simply because it makes a difference to the people of our community. To read more about our recipients and commendation awards – head to <https://www.citizenoftheyear.com.au/state-winners/>

## **Craig Scott from the City of Unley was named South Australia's Citizen of the Year 2021**

Craig is a well-known driving force behind the Goodwood Saints Football Club. Currently in his fifth year as president, his vision and guidance has seen the development of a female football program, as well as the SANFL Inclusive League, which ensures players with integration difficulties – including mental and physical disabilities – are entirely integrated into the club. Craig's strong advocacy for social justice issues is reflected by work undertaken at the club. He's implemented opportunities for the homeless from the Hutt Street Centre, and supported causes like the Red Shield Appeal, breast cancer and Mental Health education.

## **Layan from the City of Charles Sturt was awarded South Australia's Young Citizen of the Year 2021**

A passionate and forward-thinking community leader who has already made a significant difference to our community, Layan arrived in Australia only seven years ago and has fully immersed herself into Australian culture. Layan's personal vision is to establish a facility to support her local Arabic community and provide them with an opportunity to practise their faith and feel connected. With a significant presence at the Henley Surf Life Saving Club, becoming the youngest Vice Club Captain in the club's 95-year history and being nationally recognised by the AFL, Layan demonstrates strong community compassion, drive and leadership.

### **Recycled Runway, an event held in City of Mount Gambier was awarded South Australia's Community Event of the Year 2021**

Since its inception eight years ago, Recycled Runway has grown to become not only the social event of the year for the Mount Gambier community but highlighting the important issue of textile waste, one of the largest contributors to landfill. This event continues to grow in its reach and at the same time educate the broader community on the importance of sustainability. Recycled Runway is an opportunity for those in the fashion industry to showcase their talent and demonstrate how this can be achieved by using recycled items whilst also generously raising funds for AC Care and the Uplift Project.

### **South Australia's Award for Active Citizenship 2021 was awarded to Adam Weinert of the Adelaide Hills Council**

During some of the most devastating bush fires Australia has encountered, Adam was a key leader in driving the Adelaide Hills Community to safety during the Cudlee Creek Fires. Adam was instrumental in the creation of the Lobethal Bushfire Recovery Centre which provided relief and recovery operations to the community and surrounding districts – his liaison with Local, State and Commonwealth Government resulted in securing vital support to the community in times of disaster and emergency services. He mobilised 250 volunteers to ensure bushfire impacted residents receive immediate emergency accommodation, first aid and water provisioning.

### **Gurjinder Singh of the City of West Torrens was named South Australia's Award for Active Citizenship 2021**

Gurjinder's passion for supporting the most vulnerable within our community is demonstrative through a range of initiatives such as distributing meals on Christmas Day and providing breakfasts to those that are experiencing homelessness at Light Square and Hurtle Square in the City. Gurjinder and his Chahut restaurant is a kindness heartbeat of the West Torrens community and beyond as the team donated and distributed 5,000 food boxes to citizens connected with medi-hotels, international students and emergency department staff of the Lyell McEwen hospital, in response to COVID-19.

