

2012 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

GUIDELINES & CRITERIA

Each year the residents of the Cessnock LGA are invited to nominate fellow citizen/s and/or organisations for Cessnock City Australia Day Awards. These awards aim to recognise outstanding achievement during the past year and/or contribution to the local community over a number of years.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year Awards

Achievers from any area, including the arts, sport, the environment, community service, career, sustainable development or science and technology can be recognised by these Awards.

The most important criteria the judging panel considers are results, determination, creativity, enthusiasm, commitment and a demonstrated search for excellence.

Citizen of the Year Award

This Award will be presented to the citizen judged to have made the most outstanding contribution to the City of Cessnock during 2011 and must be 26 years or older on 26 January 2012.

Young Citizen of the Year Award

This Award is presented to the young citizen of the City judged to have been the outstanding achiever during 2011.

Nomination for this Award is open to all residents of the City of Cessnock and they must be **under** 26 years of age on 26 January 2012.

Community Event of the Year Award

The City of Cessnock Event of the Year Award is presented to acknowledge outstanding achievement in conducting an outstanding event or events in the Cessnock community during the past year. The event will have been of benefit to the community or to specific community groups. Events to be considered could be from such areas as cultural, social, education, environment and sport. The benefits will be measured in ways additional to financial. The criteria for this Award are consistent with those outlined in the other Cessnock Australia Day Awards.

Sports Award

This Award is given to person/s or group/s for outstanding sports achievement and for their contribution to the Sports in the local area.

Environment Award

This Award is achieved by individuals, groups or organisations that care about the local environment. The environment is an important issue in this City and this Award is offered to individuals or groups who have displayed personal commitment to the preservation and enhancement of our lands, usually through physical accomplishment.

- Long term commitment to improve the environment by a person/s organisation/s.
- Display an innovative way of addressing environment concerns.
- Increasing the community's education and awareness of the value of our environment.

Heritage Award

This Award provides the opportunity to acknowledge and reward excellence in a variety of areas including the restoration/renovation of older buildings and projects which contribute to public awareness and protection of heritage throughout the Local Government Area.

Given the varying nature of conservation works, projects are classified under the following categories: -

- Residential renovation, restoration, reconstruction and/or conservation work to a building, which demonstrates heritage value.
- Non residential renovation, restoration, reconstruction and/or conservation work to a building or place, which demonstrates heritage value.
- Projects which contribute to the awareness and protection of an aspect of heritage throughout the Cessnock Local Government Area (ie. Historical research project, Conservation study, heritage education/promotion project).

Achievement & Appreciation Awards

The recipients of these Awards are individuals or groups, who have helped through their commitment to bind this community together into a community in which we can be proud to live.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Criteria and Eligibility

A fair go, a concern for the environment and our heritage, desire for prosperity with a share for all, participation in sport, cultural diversity, the importance of strong community values and supports systems, a keen sense that we have our own contribution to make on the world stage - these are all considered among the key factors in the national identity. Outstanding achievement or contribution towards these shared values is the basis of the Awards. Any individual or organisation can make a nomination. The person or event nominated does not need to meet all the criteria described.

- Nominees must be Australian citizens and reside in the Cessnock Local Government Area at the time of nomination.
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years
- Self nominations will not be accepted
- Awards will not be granted posthumously
- Sitting State and Federal politicians and current Vice-Regal Officers are not eligible. Consideration of retired politicians and officers would be for work in addition to their official duties.
- A person cannot receive a second award in the same Awards category, but can be considered for recognition in a separate category in following years eg. Young Citizen of the Year and then Citizen of the Year
- All nominees will be considered for the Citizen of the Year Award
- Nominees aged 16 to 25 years on 26 January 2012 will also be considered for the Young Citizen of the Year Award

Nomination Process

- To nominate, please complete the attached nomination form. The nomination should detail the nature, duration and impact of the nominee's contribution to Cessnock Local Government Area.
- Any supporting documentation should be attached to the nomination form.
- All Awards will be announced and presented on Australia Day 2012
- The selection of recipients will reflect the nominations received and information available to the Judging Panel at the time.
- Cessnock City Council reserves the right to withdraw an award if further information or the recipient's conduct draws the Awards into disrepute.
- Nominations must be received by later than Friday 25 November 2011
- For further information on the Awards contact Ms Pauline Ross on 4993 4210 or email pauline.ross@cessnock.nsw.gov.au.
- Please mark your nomination "Private and Confidential" and forward to:-

The Judging Panel
City of Cessnock Australia Day Awards
Mayors Office
Cessnock City Council
PO Box 152
CESSNOCK 2325