

AGENDA

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Acknowledgement to Country

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Land on which we are meeting and pays its respects to Elders past and present.

1. Apologies / Leave of Absence

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Australia Day Meeting 10 January 2018

3. Community and Customers

3.1 Australia Day 2018 - Debrief Report

To the General Manager

Directorate: Community and Customers
Department: Community Connections

Manager: Kathryn Baget-Juleff – Group Manager Community Connections
Author: Toni Lindwall – Community Engagement Officer

Summary

The purpose of this report is to debrief the Australia Day Committee on Australia Day Celebrations held on 26 January 2018.

Background

Australia Day Celebration has been on Shellharbour City Council's calendar of events for over 20 years and continues to be hugely popular. A community event that incorporates formality and fun, from the Civic Ceremony through to a cooked breakfast to share with family and friends.

This year's celebration was well attended by the local and tourist community, this success is due largely to the tireless effort and dedicated commitment of our volunteer groups, assistance from the Committee and the generous support of our sponsors.

Civic Ceremony

The day commenced with a Civic Ceremony, including Welcome to Country from Uncle Richard Davies, Civic Welcome from the Mayor followed by the formal announcement of the Citizen of the Year, David Williamson and Young Citizen of the Year, KiKi Cuda.

Shellharbour's citizenship ceremony welcomed 14 new citizens, as part of the official ceremony.

The 2018 Australia Day Ambassador was Justin Herald, who gave an engaging speech and personalised view on being Australian.

Ticket sales

This year 2,968 breakfast tickets were sold, raising over \$10,793 for local service clubs and charities. This year's figures are slightly below last year (3,150 tickets sold \$12,500). It was observed that crowd numbers tended to arrive slightly later than normal, with a lot of people bringing their own picnic. Left over fruit, bread and cereal were sold at the event.

Rides and entertainment

The free children's entertainment included a sand modelling competition, thong throwing, animal farm, face painting and amusement rides.

Stage entertainment included; Sandy Feet, Harper Martin, Catch Frazee, Venetia's Porch and Wildfire Aussie Rock.

Several departments within Council continue to support the event by showcasing their area and providing information and/or an activity.

Environment

Sustainable Shellharbour is a vibrant sustainability education program that supports Shellharbour residents to gain practical skills in sustainable living and improve their knowledge and appreciation of our local environment.

250 people were engaged in Council's Sustainable Shellharbour display on the day, and a number of people signed up to the monthly Sustainable Shellharbour e-newsletter. A range of brochures about local wildlife were distributed, including those on frogs, butterflies, birds, rockpool creatures, grey-headed flying foxes, and native bees.

Nursery

Council's nursery engaged residents with a 'pot up a plant' activity. This was extremely popular, attracting people to find out about Council's nursery.

It's estimated that staff engaged with around 300 people between 8:30am and 11:30am, with the three trays of seedlings for the potting up plants distributed.

Community Safety

Council's Community Safety Officer attended the event and engaged over 200 people in creating awareness of community safety initiatives, the Good Neighbour Program. The information stall was well attended and a number of entries were received for the Good Neighbour colouring competition.

Lifeguards

Council's lifeguards attended the event; they were highly visible with the Polaris (all-terrain vehicle) and beach safety equipment. The primary role of the lifeguards was to administer first aid if required, however their presence attracted a lot of interest and the lifeguards informally engaged the community on beach safety.

Youth Services

Shellharbour City Youth Services team held a number of free workshops, 'Spray & Splash' – Aerosol Art. Engaging with young people to explore their creative talents while engaging with the community on youth services and the many programs on offer. This activity was extremely popular, with each workshop fully booked and participants made their very own neon work.

Waste

A critical component in Shellharbour City Council's Waste Management Program is public awareness and participation, which was highlighted at this event with 91.7% of waste diverted from landfill.

The success of waste management efforts included; ensuring that consumables were compostable, bins in highly visible areas, clear signage and bin monitors assisting with 'chose the right bin'.

Waste collected;

- 340kg of FOGO
- 115kg of co-mingled recyclables
- 100kg of cardboard
- Only 50kg of general waste (mostly soft plastic) that was sent to landfill

Of the 605kg of waste that was captured, only 50kg (8.3%) was sent to landfill.

Library

Shellharbour City Libraries hosted a Sand Art activity, proving to be a very popular and enjoyable activity for parents and children alike. Library on the Lawn, which is a pop-up library encouraging children and parents to read a book of their choice. It was also an opportunity to information share to numerous members of the community in which to promote new and upcoming library programs. A particular

highlight of this event was being able to create new library memberships for the library and connect community with various services.

Australia Day Celebrations 2019

Planning has commenced for 2019. The Events Officer will investigate future partnership opportunities with local community groups for provision of:

- Waste management assistance
- Youth activities
- Cultural activities

Financial/resource implications

Council has a budget allocation and receives sponsorship.

Legal & Policy implications

Nil

Public/social impact

Council is committed to delivering a range of events across the City that provide opportunity for social engagement, entertainment and social networks. The Australia Day Celebration encourages and supports activities where the community can gather and celebrate. Additionally, attracting tourism benefits including increased visitation and promotion of Shellharbour City as a destination.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

This report supports the following objectives and strategies of the Community Strategic Plan:

Objective: 1.6 A community which celebrates our local identity, rich cultural history and varied cultural pursuits.

Strategy: 1.6.1 Celebrate, involve and educate our diverse community through a range of community activities.

Consultations

Internal

Nil

External

Nil

Political Donations Disclosure

Not applicable

Recommendation

That the Australia Day Committee receive and note this report and provide feedback on the 2018 event.



Approved for Council's consideration: _____

Date of Meeting: 18 April 2018

Attachments

Nil

4. General Business

Nil

5. Next Meeting

To be advised