



Walgett Shire Council

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- Western Magazine
- North West Magazine
- Sydney Morning Herald

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DATE: 11/01/2022

EMBARGO:

CHANGES TO WALGETT SHIRE AUSTRALIA DAY EVENTS

Australia Day 2022.

Due to recent changes to public health orders, capacity limits and other various restrictions the planned Australia Day 2022 Awards and Citizenship ceremonies events have changed.

The event was scheduled to be staged at the Collarenebri Bowling Club this year, however in a bid to offer the broader community a safe COVID friendly event, the event has now been scheduled to be staged outdoors at the Walgett Swimming Pool, Fox St Walgett.

With so many restrictions in place and changes made every few days dependent on case numbers the reality of staging the event indoors in a smaller space is not in the best interests of community. Consultations with Australia Day Council and our local event organizers ruled out the venue in Collarenebri due to guidelines and advice. Council will ensure future Australia Day celebrations in the years to come will take place at Collarenebri aiming at inclusivity for all our communities and residents in such events.

The Walgett Shire Australia Day Awards and Citizenship ceremonies will now take place at the Pool in Walgett. The day will kick off at 8am with breakfast (individually wrapped/ served), coffee, juice and water to those attending. This will be served from 8am-9am. Following this the ceremony and awards presentations will take place. The official ceremony and awards will conclude around 10.30 am. From 11am the three larger pools in the Shire, Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri will offer free entry for all participating and a free “Aussie” meat pie, drink and ice block from 12 pm.

Throughout the day there will be music playing and the youth and community development teams will be conducting lucky entry raffles and prizes and give-aways for novelty games throughout the day.

General Manager Michael Urquhart said, “We need to be cognizant of the current situation with the pandemic and our teams are doing their best to ensure that people across the Shire can still engage in a day of relaxation, good spirits and celebrate the Australian way”. This would be a great way to spend the day at the local pools with family members and friends. Organizers are quick to remind all that the COVID restrictions, safe food practices and public health orders will be strictly adhered to and enforced at all venues, minimizing any issues and make for a fun day for all.

For further information contact:

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