



2019 *Australia Day*

- Citizen of the Year -

Our 2019 Citizen has shown an outstanding commitment to the Jerilderie community over many years.

Her involvement as a volunteer in various community organisations includes contributions to:

- Jerilderie Public School Ladies Auxiliary
- Finley High School P & C
- Development of Lake Jerilderie
- Brownie Pack
- Uniting Church Flower Show
- Jerilderie Football and Netball Clubs
- Australia Day Committee
- Jerilderie United Hospitals Auxiliary

...and the list goes on...

Her passion for the education of children has seen her actively involved in the Jerilderie Public School and Finley High School, where she has worked tirelessly to raise funds to provide the students and teachers with better resources and amenities.

She was involved in Brownies in Jerilderie, and taught basic skills (and also life skills) to the young girls, as well as encouraging them to enjoy the many activities the Brownies offered.

She is the mainstay of the Penguins Public Speaking Award, presented annually to a student from both St Joseph's and Jerilderie Public School. The children are educated in the preparation of speeches, and taught to stand and speak confidently when addressing a group. Perhaps the children may like to critique her efforts tonight!!

For over 40 years our awardee has been involved with the Uniting Church, and every year she has worked with cheerfulness and enthusiasm to promote the success of the Jerilderie Flower Show, through baking, handicraft and as MC of the event.

For the last 12 years, she has been a member of the Country Women's Association, Jerilderie Branch, and is currently serving her fifth term as Branch President. During this time she has organised community events and information sessions with the Police, Community Services and visiting health professionals, including the very successful "Pink Lady" luncheon and High Tea with Rosalie Ham, author of The Dressmaker.

She has served as Vice President for Sturt Group CWA and has attended State Conferences representing both Jerilderie and Sturt Group.

Her service to the Jerilderie Football Club saw many shifts working with other volunteers in canteens that were not to the high standard they are now (in fact they were often little more than tin sheds and dirt floors). However, lasting friendships were forged, and good humour and cheerfulness was always a necessity. I'm sure she is a lot happier with the standard of canteen at the sports ground today.

What comes to my attention when I read through the testimonials provided in support of this nominee, is this person's generosity of spirit, her capacity to organise people

and events, yet never losing sight of the need for everyone to be heard and respected.

She is a selfless person, who not only invests heavily in her town and community, but is generous in giving of her time to assist her family and friends.

Our Citizen of the Year inspires us through her achievements, and encourages us to make our own contribution to creating a better community.

She is an amazing and hard-working lady, and a very deserving winner of the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in congratulating our **2019 Citizen of the Year ...**

- Joy Knight -