



# PRESS RELEASE

17 September 2019

For Immediate Release

## **KING ISLAND REFLECTS ON AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP DAY**

King Island welcomed one new citizen at an Australian citizenship ceremony today, as part of Australian Citizenship Day 2019. This is in addition to two others welcomed on 11 September 2019 Mayor Arnold said.

The conferees from New Zealand and Ukraine, become Australian citizens as part of ceremonies at the Currie Town Hall.

Mayor Arnold said the ceremony was an opportunity for all Australians, whether they are citizens by birth or by choice, to come together to acknowledge what's great about being Australian.

"There is no greater privilege than our citizenship. It's a life-long commitment to Australia's values of freedom, democracy, equality and respect," Mayor Arnold said.

This year on Australian Citizenship Day, Australia is set to welcome the largest number of new citizens nationally since the inaugural Australian Citizenship Day in 2001.

"We are a thriving multicultural community," Mayor Arnold said.

The Department of Home Affairs and local councils will be hosting 150 ceremonies across the country with more than 8000 people expected to become Australian citizens as part of this special occasion.

Australian Citizenship Day provides an occasion for individuals, schools, community groups and organisations to reflect on the values of Australian citizenship and the contributions of citizens to our local communities.

"I encourage everyone on King Island to reflect on and affirm their Australian citizenship on September 17 as we warmly welcome all those becoming citizens," the Mayor said.

-ends-

Julie Arnold

**MAYOR**

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