

Griffith set to host Queen's Baton Relay

Mark your calendars Griffith, the Queen's Baton will arrive on Sunday 28 January 2018 and everyone is invited to participate!

More than 20 batonbearers have been honoured to carry the Queen's Baton in Griffith, bringing the excitement of the Commonwealth Games to our community.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to line the streets and support our local batonbearers, and to attend the community celebration from 5pm – 7pm at the Burley Griffin Community Gardens.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi said he is thrilled Griffith will be hosting the QC2018 Queen's Baton Relay.

"Hosting this event is not only an exciting opportunity, it's a way to highlight and promote Griffith to people in Australia and internationally," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"It is also the perfect way to pay tribute to the people who make our community great – batonbearers have been nominated by their peers for achievements and contributions to this great community, and selected by the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay Selection Committee. Preparations for the arrival of the Queen's Baton are in the final stages and we are looking forward to an incredible event."

The Queen's Baton will arrive in Griffith on Sunday 28 January with the relay departing the Griffith Exie's Sports Oval in Spiers Street at 4pm. Locals and visitors are welcome to come along and witness this historic event, and follow the Baton as it travels the 2km course to the Community Gardens via Wakaden Street, Blumer Avenue, Banna Avenue and finally into Kookora Street.

"The final batonbearer, stalwart Dr John Binks will conclude the relay at the Community Gardens, to a waiting crowd of supporters – come along to not only the beginning and end of the relay, but

I would you encourage you to line the streets and cheer on the locals as they take part in the Queen's Baton Relay," said Councillor Dal Broi.

All members of the community, batonbearers, their families and friends are invited to attend the celebrations following the relay and will feature comedian and entertainer Games Boy 18, who is sure to test even the most diehard trivia fan and keep the children entertained with his interactive skit.

"The 'after party' also includes music from each of the Commonwealth countries, and there will be plenty of food and drinks on offer with food trucks, a BBQ with thanks to Griffith Rotary Avanti, the Bella Vita Bar, and plenty of ice-cream to keep you cool," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Come along and cheer on the local batonbearers before relaxing in the Community Gardens with plenty of entertainment from 4.30pm – 7pm. Those wishing to be at the start line should be at the Exies Sports Oval at 4pm and you are welcome to line the route."

The Queen's Baton Relay is the longest and most accessible in history, travelling through the entire Commonwealth for 388 days, spanning 230,000 kilometers before arriving at the Gold Coast on April 4, 2018.

Batonbearers – Griffith

- Jenny Beer
- John Binks
- Domenic Calabria
- Laura Crockett
- Veronica Cudmore
- Kellie Dissegna
- Elizabeth Graham
- Carmel La Rocca
- Jodie Landy
- Claire Murray
- Anne Napoli
- Patrick Napoli
- Alex Niven
- Gavin Raccanello
- Dale Paul
- Francesco Scarfone
- Grant Semmler
- Leon Thorpe
- Heather White



Above: Museum volunteers cooking up at storm at the 2017 Australia Day Breakfast

Kick off Australia Day at Griffith Pioneer Park

A fair dinkum, cheap as chips, Aussie celebration is going to be had on Friday January 26 2018 - the bushland setting and historic buildings of Griffith Pioneer Park Museum is the ideal location for a community Aussie breakfast and the best way to kick off Australia Day.

Museum staff and volunteers with the support of local business houses will provide a feast for locals and welcome this year's Australia Day Ambassador, Chelsea Bonner; founder of Bella Models and Chair of the Australia Day Working Group, Councillor Christine Stead.

Due to the generosity of local businesses, entry to the Museum will be free of charge for the morning.

Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Business Coordinator, Jenny O'Donnell-Priest advised that they are usually all but finished by lunch time before

the weather gets hotter than a shearer's armpit.

"Australia Day at the Museum is always a fantastic event - there will be the ever popular train rides and tours, children's old fashioned games, jumping castle and Jeff Gardner's Country West performing. Staff will also lead a bush dancing bracket at 10.00am,"

"Our Curator, Bonnie Owen will be putting on a display of the Todd Shed plans and an example of what will be exhibited as well. The Todd Shed is a new construction which will house a selection of Ian Keith Todd's horse drawn and motorised vehicles. Mr Todd was a Griffith icon and long time volunteer of the Museum."

There is no need to book and breakfast will be served from 7.30 am until 10.30 am. The cost is only \$5 for a light (continental) breakfast or \$10 for a full breakfast of cereal, fruit,

bacon, sausages, tomatoes, eggs and toast; bring the family and enjoy the full breakfast for only \$30 (2 adults 2 children).

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi said the traditional Australia Day Breakfast at the Museum is a great way to celebrate all that is Australian.

"Come along, bring your family and friends and enjoy the lifestyle, friendship and picturesque setting that makes Griffith Pioneer Park Museum such a great place to visit," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Following breakfast, you can make your way to the Regional Theatre for the Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony which will be commencing at 9:30am."

Further information relating to the Australia Day Breakfast can be obtained by contacting Griffith Pioneer Park Museum on 6962 4196.



Every Sunday, 7am

Griffith Rotary Markets
15 Collier Street

Every Tuesday, 10am

Baby Bounce, Griffith City Library

Third Thursday of Each Month

Movie Club, Griffith City Library

Every Friday, 11am

Toddler Time, Griffith City Library

Every weekday through the school holidays

Lego Club

Griffith City Library

Friday January 19, from 5pm

Free Tennis Day

Griffith Tennis Club, Wyangan Ave

Friday January 26, 7.30am

Australia Day Breakfast at Griffith Pioneer Park Museum

Friday January 26, 9.30am

Australia Day Ceremony

Griffith Regional Theatre

Sunday January 28, 4pm

The Queen's Baton Relay

Queen's Baton Relay: Starting at the Exies Sports Club at 4.30pm, the baton will travel along Banna Avenue and conclude in Community Garden for a celebration from 5pm.

Friday February 23, 11am

Don't Shoot Me, I'm STILL Only the Piano Player

Griffith Regional Theatre

Sunday February 25, 8pm

Elvis: An American Trilogy

Griffith Regional Theatre

Saturday March 10

Sunday March 11

Australian Formula Powerboat

Grand Prix

Lake Wyangan

See the latest event listings online at visitgriffith.com.au

Congratulations to our 2018 nominees

Citizen of the Year:

- Toni Howard
- Ross Catanzariti
- Margaret Gandy
- Dr Narayanan Jayachandran
- Dr Peter Calaizis

Young Citizen of the Year:

- Daniella Collison

Junior Citizen of the Year:

- Jade Earl

Community Project of the Year:

- Griffith's Biggest Lap
- Yambil Hub

Club Person of the Year:

- Gordon Brown, Cricket
- Veronica Cudmore, Little Athletics
- Ben Pawson, Archery

Junior Sportsperson of the Year:

- Alex Robinson, Soccer
- Claire Murray, Cricket
- Isaac Testoni, Basketball
- Mitch Landini, Futsal
- Wil Donaldson, Swimming
- Carla Vonnida, Multiple Sports
- Blake Argus, AFL
- William Charles, Rugby League
- Jenna Richards, AFL

- Abby Favell, AFL
- Blake Wood, Rugby League
- Apenisa Driti, Rugby League
- Lawrence Salvestro, Archery
- Callan Butcher, Dirttrack Motorbike
- Dean Bennett, Cricket
- Nathan Rowley, Archery (ineligible)

Senior Sportsperson of the Year:

- Dean Gorman, Jiu-Jitsu
- Elizabeth Heffer, Jiu-Jitsu
- Jenny Massey, Cycling

Sports Team of the Year:

- Girls Under 12 Demons

Representative Basketball

- Griffith Under 15 Representative Netball
- Griffith Masters Women's Hockey Team
- Griffith Under 16 Representative Cricket

The winner of each category will be announced at the official ceremony which commences at 9.30am on Friday January 26, 2017 at the Griffith Regional Theatre. The Griffith City Band and Sing Australia Griffith will provide entertainment while the Griffith Branch of Soroptimist International will serve a morning tea to welcome Griffith's newest Australian Citizens and Award Nominees and Winners.