

Sunday 26 January 2020

## **MAURICE DAWSON NAMED RYDE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR COSMIN LUCA RECEIVES YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Local hockey legend Maurice Dawson has been named the 2020 Ryde Citizen of the Year at the City of Ryde Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony at North Ryde School of Arts Hall this morning.

Mr Dawson has been involved both as an administrator and a coach at Ryde Hunters Hill Hockey Club for more than 40 years.

During that time, Mr Dawson has positioned the club as one of the most successful in Australia with more than 40 players representing NSW and three playing for the Australian national team.

He was also instrumental in developing the Keith Thompson Hockey Centre in Macquarie Park – the home of the Ryde Hunters Hill Hockey Club – which is now viewed as one of the leading hockey venues in Sydney.

The Ryde Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Cosmin Luca for his volunteer work with local youth.

A member of the Ryde Youth Council and a Ryde Youth Ambassador, Mr Luca established the City of Ryde Public Speaking Program which aims to empower more youth voices in the community, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

He is also an advocate for active citizenship and democratic values, having recently participated in the Emerging Civic Leaders program, where he worked with Ryde Secondary College students to encourage them to become more involved in politics and the election process.

Lorraine Carter, meanwhile, received a City of Ryde Special Commendation. Ms Carter has volunteered for Royal Rehab in Ryde since 2013 in which she has undertaken various roles to assist the organisation and its patients.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, congratulated all award recipients.

“Maurice, Cosmin and Lorraine all epitomise the tremendous community spirit that is evident in the City of Ryde. They have all gone above and beyond to help others and for that they are extremely deserving recipients of these awards,” Cllr Laxale said.

The City of Ryde Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards are held under the auspices of the Australia Day Council of NSW.

In addition to announcing the recipients of the Ryde Citizen of the Year awards, 50 local residents became Australian citizens during the City of Ryde Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.

A special presentation was also made to honour local firefighters and emergency services personnel.

---

**Media Contact: Michael East, City of Ryde Communications**  
p • 9952 8083 m • 0466 091 059 e • [meast@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:meast@ryde.nsw.gov.au)