

Plaques for 2023 Walk of Honour recipients officially unveiled

Two plaques for Wagga Wagga's 2023 Walk of Honour recipients, Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri Elders Aunty Isabel Reid and Aunty Kath Withers, were officially unveiled in the city's Baylis Street precinct today.

The Walk of Honour was established in 1998 and recognises individuals who have made significant contributions to the community of Wagga Wagga.

Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Dallas Tout said he was pleased to see widely respected Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri Elders, Aunty Isabel Reid and Aunty Kath Withers, become the 39th and 40th inductees respectively.

"These plaques are recognition of their dedication over their lifetimes to the community," Cr Tout said.

"Senior Wiradyuri Elder Aunty Isabel has spent her life advocating for the Stolen Generation survivors receiving redress and inspired all First Nations people by conducting herself with Yindyamarra (respect).

"Aunty Isabel is an effective leader and advocate in the areas of education, juvenile justice, reparations for survivors of the Cootamundra Domestic Training Home for Aboriginal Girls, the need to follow cultural protocols, and for Australia to be a united and harmonious country."

Aunty Isabel was named as the 39th Walk of Honour inductee during Wagga Wagga's Australia Day Awards ceremony in January. Her plaque is displayed along eastern side of Baylis Street, near the entrance to the Sturt Mall.

Aunty Kath Withers has spent her life supporting families in crisis and her First Nations community through foster caring.

Aunty Kath has served as a carer for more than 100 children over several decades.

"Today's unveiling is a celebration of Aunty Kath's contribution to many education initiatives and her support for Wagga Wagga early childhood centres," Cr Tout said.

"Her time in those centres had included teaching children about Wiradyuri culture through storytelling, art programs or Welcome to Country ceremonies."

Aunty Kath was named as the 40th Walk of Honour inductee. Her plaque is located on the western side of Baylis Street, near the entrance to Diamonds on Baylis Street shopfront.

--- Ends ---

Media Opportunity

What: Walk of Honour Plaque unveiling.

Who: 2023 Walk of Honour recipients Aunty Isabel Reid and Aunty Kath Withers, and Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Dallas Tout.

When & Where:

Thursday 25 May 2023

9.15am | Aunty Isabel Reid's unveiling, 140 Baylis Steet (entrance to the Sturt Mall)

10am | Aunty Kath Withers' unveiling, 83 Baylis Street (entrance to Diamonds on Baylis Street)

Contact 6926 9190 or media@wagga.nsw.gov.au

About Wagga Wagga City Council

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of more than \$236M.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as 'the City of Good Sports'.

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