

## 2025 Walk of Honour recipients officially unveiled

Two plaques for Wagga Wagga's 2025 Walk of Honour recipients – recognising First Nations Elders Aunty Dot & Uncle Hewitt Whyman, and the late Zita Denholm – were officially unveiled on Baylis Street 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 says he is pleased to see these three pillars of the community honoured as the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> inductees respectively.

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

"Aunty Dot and Uncle Hewitt Whyman are respected Elders of the Wagga Wagga First Nations community, contributing significantly to local cultural, community development, and sporting activities."

"Their contributions to the community include the establishment of a wide variety of services including the Wiradjuri Childcare Service, Riverina Medical and Dental Aboriginal Corporation, Aboriginal Legal Service, Wagga Wagga Local Aboriginal Land Council, and ATSIC Binaal Billa Regional Council."

Aunty Dot and Uncle Hewitt Whyman were announced as the joint 42<sup>nd</sup> Walk of Honour inductees during Wagga Wagga's Australia Day Awards ceremony in January. Their plaque was unveiled today in front of the Wagga Wagga Civic Centre forecourt.

The late Zita Denholm was represented by members of her family for her Walk of Honour plaque unveiling this morning.

Mrs Denholm began working at Mount Erin Girls' High School as an English and History teacher in 1975. She re-established the Mount Erin Orchestra, and organised fundraising concerts to purchase additional instruments.

"Today's unveiling is a celebration of Zita Denholm's commitment and generosity, ensuring opportunities for generations of people to fulfill their own dreams and passions," Cr Tout said.

"Zita also taught Speech and Drama to young children and teenagers and at the 2024 Wagga Wagga Eisteddfod, she was recognised with a perpetual trophy in her name in the Speech and Drama section. She played a pivotal role in establishing the Riverina Summer School for Strings which has helped shaped the talents of hundreds of students."

"Zita helped establish the Wagga Horse Trials Club, served as a Zone Pony Club Chief Instructor, and was an active member of the REA Wagga Dressage Club."

Mrs Denholm was named as the 43<sup>rd</sup> Walk of Honour inductee. Her plaque is located on the eastern side of Baylis Street, near the entrance to the Myer shopfront.

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**MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:**

**WHAT:** Walk of Honour Plaque unveiling - Uncle Hewitt and Aunty Dot Whyman

**WHO:** Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Councillor Dallas Tout, and recipients Uncle Hewitt and Aunty Dot Whyman.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 9am

**WHERE:** 243 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga – Wagga Wagga City Council Civic Centre

**WHAT:** Walk of Honour Plaque unveiling – the late Zita Denholm

**WHO:** Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Dallas Tout, and family members of the late Zita Denholm.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 9:45am

**WHERE:** 233 Baylis Street Wagga Wagga – in front of Myer

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Contact 6926 9190 or [media@wagga.nsw.gov.au](mailto: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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