

#australiaday
#reflectrespectcelebrate



COWRA CELEBRATES AUSTRALIA DAY 2026



WE'RE ALL PART
OF THE STORY.

Australia Day Activities in Cowra

AUSTRALIA DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Free Community Breakfast

8am - Cowra Civic Square

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Cowra

Start the day with a bacon & egg roll!



Flag Raising & World Peace Bell Ceremony

8.45am - Civic Square

Performed by the Cowra RSL Sub-Branch

Awards Presentation, Citizenship Ceremony & Australia Day Ambassador Address

9am - Cowra Civic Centre

To be followed by morning tea in Civic Square

Hosted by the Inner Wheel Club of Cowra



AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

12.30pm for 12.30pm - Club Cowra

Hosted by CWA of NSW Cowra Evening Branch

Tickets \$31 from Club Cowra or online at

123tix.com.au/events/51278/2026-australia-day-luncheon

AUSTRALIA DAY CAR SHOW

10.30am to 3pm - Bryant Park (near the Bridge)

Hosted by the Lachlan Valley Social Motor Club

Free sausage sizzle.



AUSTRALIA DAY 3 BOWL TRIPLES

9.30am to 12.30pm - Cowra Bowling & Recreation Club

2 games of 10 ends for bowlers and non-bowlers.

Free entry. \$500 prize money!

Hosted by the Cowra Eagles Bowls Club

Book on 6342 1836

**NEW
TIME**

AUSTRALIA DAY FAMILY AMBROSE GOLF

Tee off from 9am at the Cowra Golf Club

2 Person 9 Hole Family Fun Ambrose with BBQ.

Under 15s free | Over 15s \$20pp

Hosted by the Cowra Golf Club

Contact: 6342 1211



TENNIS FUN!

6pm to 8pm - Cowra Tennis Club

A free BBQ and social tennis. Everyone welcome!

Hosted by the Cowra Tennis Club

Meet our 2026 Australia Day Ambassador

GARY DAWSON OAM



Gary "Smokey" Dawson OAM is a celebrated sportsman, philanthropist and keynote speaker whose passion for giving back has raised more than \$30 million for charities across Australia. Known for his innovative fundraising through golf marathons and endurance challenges, Gary has played over 11,000 holes across 50 golf marathons, covering thousands of kilometres to support causes including Wheelchair Sports NSW ACT, Children's Cancer Institute, Bear Cottage, Heal for Life, Communities Assist, Special Olympics, and the Books in Homes literacy program.

Gary's commitment to community has earned him national recognition, including the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) and the Advance Australia Award for his contribution to sport and charitable work. He co-founded the Charity Challenge Golf Tournament with PGA professional Matthew Laverty, a series that continues to raise millions for vital programs. Beyond golf, Gary is an accomplished athlete in swimming, running and triathlon, holding more than 70 swimming records dating back to the 1960s.

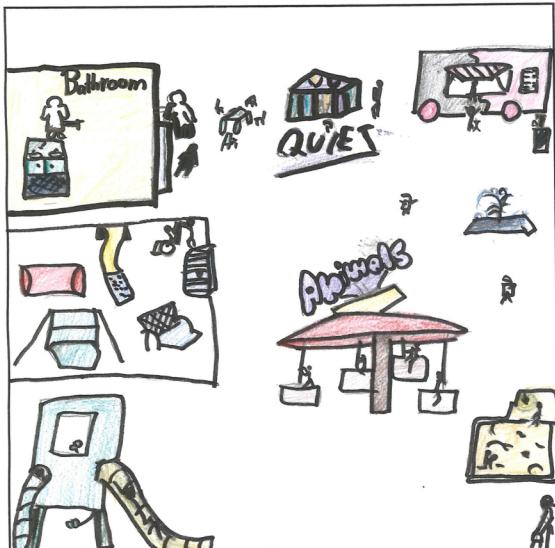
A passionate advocate for literacy, Gary serves as a trustee for Books in Homes, regularly visiting schools to encourage children to embrace reading. His message is simple: "It's cool to read." He also works as an ambassador for Wheelchair Sports NSW and Leukodystrophy Australia, supporting initiatives that make a real difference in remote and Indigenous communities.

As a keynote speaker, Gary shares motivational insights on resilience, goal-setting and overcoming adversity, inspiring audiences from boardrooms to classrooms. For Gary, being an Australia Day Ambassador is about celebrating generosity, unity and mateship - the values that define our nation. His vision is clear - a country where everyone uses their talents to make a difference.

The Australia Day Ambassador Program is proudly supported by the Australia Day Council of NSW.

The Cowra Australia Day Committee would like to thank our local supporters of Cowra's 2026 Australia Day activities:

CWA of NSW Cowra Evening Branch
Rotary Club of Cowra
Inner Wheel Club of Cowra
Cowra Eagles Bowling Club
Cowra Golf Club
Cowra Tennis Club
Lachlan Valley Social Motor Club
Cowra RSL Sub-Branch



My playground is the best because... it is ~~environmentally~~ safe. It also has a snack van incase you're hungry. It is good for everyone because it even has a little swing slide, and tunnel for disabled people. It has different sections including a special merry-go-round with animals, a normal water fountain, coffee for grown-ups, and a little play area for babies and toddlers. It even has a slide for grown-ups, and when they go down, they feel like kids again! And of course it has a bathroom, and ~~luckily~~ for crafty kids, it has a rafting area. My playground also has a little sandpit with play caves in it. There is a guard to make sure every one is safe. The best of all, little rubbish bins that walk around asking for rubbish! My playground is the best mostly because it's eco-friendly, and fun!

Ally Pye

St Raphael's Catholic School

First Prize Winner, Year Four

2026 Australia Day School Literary Competition

"What would your ideal playground in the Cowra Shire look like?

Cowra
Council

Australia Day
Reflect, Respect, Celebrate.