

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Five-Time Olympian Warren Potent Announced as Warren Shire's 2026 Australia Day Ambassador

Warren, NSW — Friday 12 December 2025

Warren Shire Council is proud to announce that **Mr Warren Potent OLY JP** has been appointed as **Warren Shire's 2026 Australia Day Ambassador**. An Olympic medallist, world champion and dedicated community mentor, Mr Potent brings a lifetime of experience representing Australia at the highest level.

Across a distinguished career, Mr Potent has represented Australia at **five Olympic Games** — Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008 (bronze medallist, 50m Rifle Prone), London 2012 and Rio 2016. He has been crowned **World and Commonwealth Champion, won 16 international gold medals**, set numerous world records and was named **Australian Shooter of the Year** three years in a row.

Beyond elite sport, Mr Potent is deeply committed to community service. A Justice of the Peace since 1990, he continues to coach junior and emerging athletes, support Australia's elite rifle competitors, contribute to Olympic fundraising initiatives and volunteer with the Beacon Foundation, helping young people build confidence and pathways into employment.

Mayor Greg Whiteley said Warren Shire is honoured to welcome an Australian of Mr Potent's calibre.

"Warren's achievements on the world stage and his commitment to giving back speak volumes about the person he is and the values he lives by," he said.

"He's someone who understands hard work, commitment and community spirit — things we value deeply here in Warren Shire. We're looking forward to welcoming him and hearing his story."

Mr Potent will take part in the Shire's official celebrations, delivering the **Australia Day Address**, presenting community awards and spending time with residents throughout the morning.

His visit offers locals the opportunity to hear his personal journey and celebrate the contributions of people within their own community.

The **Australia Day Ambassador Program** is one of the longest-running and most successful national initiatives, sending high-achieving Australians — including Olympians, scientists, authors, community leaders and former Australians of the Year — to more than **300 community celebrations** each year. Ambassadors generously volunteer their time to connect with communities, encourage participation and help celebrate what it means to be Australian.

Australia Day is about so much more than the events of one day — it is about who we are and what we aspire to be. It is a time to recognise the deep history of our land, honour the cultures, resilience and stories of First Nations peoples, and celebrate a proudly multicultural nation defined by its people, generosity and shared identity. Warren Shire Council invites everyone to **Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.** in their own meaningful way, alongside family, friends and neighbours.

Warren Shire's Australia Day celebrations will be held on **Monday, 26 January 2026**, at the **Warren Sporting and Cultural Centre, Victoria Park**. The morning begins with a **free community barbecue breakfast at 8:30am**, followed by the **official ceremony at 9:45am**, with community award presentations to follow.

Mayor Greg Whiteley said Australia Day is a great time to come together as a community, celebrate Australians who've achieved great things and recognise the local people who help make Warren Shire a great place to live.

"We're looking forward to welcoming Warren Potent and sharing Australia Day with our community," Mayor Whiteley said. "It's a day to acknowledge outstanding achievements and to thank the local people who quietly make a difference every day."

Warren Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. The event aims to be accessible and welcoming to all members of the community.

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For more information, please contact:

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