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Tuesday 9 January 2018

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS AMBASSADOR



AUSTRALIA DAY
IN NARRANDERA SHIRE COUNCIL

Join Australia Day Ambassador, Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D.Litt., as Narrandera Shire gears up to celebrate Australia Day!

Narrandera Shire is ready to celebrate Australia Day in style. It promises to be the biggest national day so far, with Australia Day Ambassador, Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D.Litt., set to join our festivities at Marie Bashir Park.

Known for his involvement with the Ethnic Affairs Commission, Anti-Discrimination Board and Community Relations Commission, Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D.Litt. is proud to be an Australia Day Ambassador and to visit Narrandera Shire on Australia Day to see how the community comes together.

Narrandera Shire Council Mayor Cr Neville Kschenka is delighted that Stepan has taken the time to join Narrandera Shire for all the fun.

“Australia Day is such a wonderful day, particularly in our community. We have all different experiences of Australia, but it’s an opportunity to remember how fortunate we are to live together, here in Australia. I know that Narrandera Shire will put on a memorable day and having Stepan here just makes it all the more special” said Cr Kschenka.

Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D.Litt., was born in Cyprus, moved to England as a young teenager and migrated to Australia in 1967.

He was a volunteer coordinator of and broadcaster in the Armenian Radio Program on Radio 2EA from 1976 to 1979.

He then became Station Manager of 2EA and from 1980 to 1989, Head of Radio for the Special Broadcasting Service where he was a major catalyst in the establishment of a professional national multilingual radio service.

In 1989 he was appointed as Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Ethnic Affairs Commission. He oversaw the introduction of major new initiatives in Multicultural policy and practices including the introduction of the Principles of Cultural Diversity and inclusion in legislation in 2000. From 2003 he concurrently held the positions of President and CEO of the Anti-Discrimination Board (ADB) and Chair and CEO of the Community Relations Commission (CRC). In 2013 he retired from the CRC but continues as President and CEO of the ADB. In November 2014 he was appointed as the inaugural Chair of the NSW Cemeteries and Crematoria Board. At present he is a member of the Securities Professionals Registration Board, Vice President of the Diocesan Council of the Armenian Apostolic Church of Australia and New Zealand.

Among other things, he has been a member of the NSW Board of Studies for 12 Years; Member of the ABC’s Independent Complaints Review Panel for 10 years, Chair of the

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Multicultural Advisory Committee of Sydney Organising Committee of the Olympic Games, Member of the Complaints Panel for the Australian Medical Council Examination Process. He has chaired enquiries into the Whitlam Park Riots, 1994-5; Recognition Process of Overseas Trained Doctors; Soccer Riot in Western Sydney; Settlement of Refugees from Africa; Recognitions of the Qualifications of Overseas Trained Nurses; and Trafficking of Women for the Purposes of Exploitation.

His contributions have been recognised by the following awards, Gold Cross of Merit of Poland 1990, Member of the Order of Australia 1992, NSW Premier's Community Service Award 1995, Fellow of the University of Technology Sydney 1995, Olympic Order in Silver 2000, Doctor of Letter Honoris Causa from University of Sydney 2007, Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa University of Western Sydney 2013; and recognition of service to national security 2013.

Australia Day Ambassadors volunteer their time and energy to inspire pride and celebrate in hundreds of local communities where they become a guest of honour and participate in activities as diverse as the communities themselves.

"With so much happening here, I hope to see many people and their families coming to join in. Together we can show the rest of Australia just how much Narrandera Shire knows how to celebrate Australia Day." said Cr Kschenka.

For more information: Visit www.narrandera.nsw.gov.au

For more information about Australia Day, please visit australiaday.com.au or visit Narrandera.nsw.gov.au .

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Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D.Litt

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Precis or Summary: Australia Day Celebrations Ambassador			
Attachments	IMAGE Dr Stepan Kerkyasharian AO Hon D Litt	Embargoed: N/A	
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