

# Yarrowonga Mulwala Historical Society Inc

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239 A'Beckett Street,  
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11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

## AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATION Jacye Lorraie Elizabeth Symes OAM.

The Yarrowonga Mulwala Historical Society is please to nominate Mrs Jacye Lorraine Elizabeth Symes OAM, for a 2019 RHSV Award of Merit.

Jacye Symes has always been interested in historical research and publication. Prior to retiring to Yarrowonga in 1993 Jacye co-authored two publications, 'A Journey through the Parish of Karrabumet.' and 'Wilby Walkabout'

On becoming a resident of Yarrowonga Jacye joined the Yarrowonga Mulwala Historical Society and in 1994 took on the role of Secretary /Treasurer. She continued in these positions for 18 and 20 years respectively. Her ascension to these roles was fortuitous as the Historical Society was in the process of establishing the Pioneer Museum. Jacye's meticulous record keeping and attention to detail were invaluable. She has catalogued almost 4,000 items at the Museum working countless hours to keep the Museum open to the public and has always been willing to provide guided tours for groups.

At the same time Jacye became the Research Officer for the Society and has built up a record of people and events that have shaped the history of the district. Jacye carried out this role until recently when ill health required her retirement from the position. She has provided information for a number of history publications for other authors and organisations. Her assistance with at least ten other history books has been acknowledged.

Jacye's research records and her knowledge have also been pivotal to a number of successful projects for the Historical Society. Some of these are the placement of plaques at sites of closed schools and churches, the marking of sites of historic interest in Yarrowonga's main street, the Moira Shire Heritage Overlay project and the Avenue of Honour Memorial Wall. Jacye was a member of the History Book Committee which, in 2018 published the book 'A Bridge Across Time - A General History of Yarrowonga Mulwala' to help acknowledge the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1868 first survey of the Yarrowonga township.

Jacye Symes was declared "Citizen of the Year" for the Yarrowonga Community on Australia Day 1996 and was awarded an Order of Australia Medal on Australia Day 2019. She was made a Life Member of the Yarrowonga Mulwala Historical Society in December 2015.

The outstanding contributions made by Jacye Symes to the history of our district and to our Society in her particular fields and interests are unsurpassed. She has never been one to seek accolades or publicity and remains humble and very private, while always responding positively to requests for her expertise.



SECRETARY.