

AUSTRALIAN RUGBY CHOIR

PATRON'S AWARD 2024

Presenting the Patron's Award at the Choir's Annual Recognition Dinner each year is something I always look forward to.

This is the 18th Patron's Award since it was introduced by David Lewis OAM in 2005 and it has been awarded every year since except for the two covid years in the early 'twenties. One member has won the Award twice and one year two members shared the Award.

This year there were no fewer than 6 nominees who were considered by members to have made an outstanding contribution to the Choir, and most of these, as is usual, have made their contributions over a number of years. In addition some members indicated they would have liked to have nominated members not included in the final count if they were able to vote for more than one nominee. What a positive indication this is of the widespread and dedicated contributions that make this such a smooth-running, vibrant, successful choir with a wonderful camaraderie.

With this in mind, I am pleased to announce that the 2024 winner of the Patron's Award is

JOHN GRANT.

Members have noted that John has made an outstanding contribution over a number of years, especially the last two years, in the demanding task of organising the Choir's Annual Concerts. A splendid example of this was your wonderful Annual Concert just a couple of weeks ago.

John also makes an ongoing contribution to a range of discussions and considerations affecting the Choir, and not only in his role as a valuable Committee member. This year John has stepped up to help with the often not seen storage, transport and set-up of the Choir's musical equipment. In short, he has shown a willingness to take on things that are hard but in the best interests of the Choir.

As a quiet achiever, John has worked so well for the Choir in demanding, somewhat thankless but very important areas. He is willing to do whatever is asked of him. Well, tonight John, you have been recognised by your fellow Choristers and it gives me great pleasure to present this engraved silver tray to you as winner of the Choir's 2024 Patron's Award.