

2018 PEEL VALLEY LIONS CLUB AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY MUSIC COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Tamworth's Peel Valley Lions Club launched its annual Australian Country Music Community Service Award in 1994 to honour people involved in country music who have been instrumental in serving their community.

This year the club has chosen Di and Winston Masters to receive the Australian Country Service Award in recognition of their exceptional voluntary service to the community through their strong connections and outstanding contributions to the to the Australian country music industry.

Di and Winston Masters have been tireless workers behind the scene, hosting regular Country Music Concerts for many many years to raise funds for local charities supporting children with cancer and the highly successful annual Bungendore Country Music Muster

Winston is president of the Bungendore Country Music Muster which celebrates its 33rd birthday in 2018. The Muster is unique in that it is the only all-Australian country music festival in Australia and has a core policy of existing for the betterment and benefit of Bungendore . All money raised during the festival goes to the local community and improving facilities for patrons.

Di Masters has been passionate in her fundraising to support local charities - the Queanbeyan Childrens' Special Needs group and the Eden Monaro Cancer Support – which help children with cancer and other children in need. Through regular country music concerts Di has raised well over \$50,000 to assist local charities to help children in need.

The Masters were unable to attend the Tamworth Country Music Festival to accept the award on Wednesday, January 24, as they were busy preparing for this year's Bungendore Country Music Muster which starts on February 3.

Popular country music performer Diane Lindsay – the daughter of the legendary Reg Lindsay – accepted the award from Peel Valley Lion's Club project chairman Terry Hill, who presented the traditional trophy of a Fred Hillier ceramic "outdoor dunny" and a cheque for \$500, which the Masters' will donate to the Lion's Children's Cancer Research Foundation.



Diane plans to present the award to the Masters on stage at the Muster.

The Masters were nominated by the Lions Club of Queanbeyan.