

5 January 2021

Vale Roy Cameron OAM

Christmas Day saw the passing of long-time resident Roy Cameron OAM at age 95.

“Roy was a very lovely person” said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. “He was not only a long-time resident of Coolah he was also a writer, historian, staunch advocate for conservation in the Coolah Tops National Park and Shire Clerk of the Coolah Shire for some 31 years.”

“Many from the Coolah area have remarked to me the kind nature of the man.”

“After living his early days on the far north coast around the Maclean district and a period with the RAAF, Roy moved to Coolah in 1957 to become the Deputy Shire Clerk of Coolah Shire. Just two years later Roy was appointed as the Shire Clerk and served in this role up until his retirement in 1990. In total Roy had some 48 years in local government.”

“In 2005 Roy was recognised for his service to local government and his passion for the conservation of the Coolah Tops National Park, and awarded an OAM. Roy was also known for being a ‘heritage hero’ and his book *Around the Black Stump* (1993) made an invaluable contribution to the understanding of the Coolah, Dunedoo and Mendooran region. Roy also wrote regularly for the Mudgee Guardian” said Cr Doolan.

“In 2020 Roy was awarded the Warrumbungle Shire Council Senior Citizen of the Year. Among Roy’s many achievements, he contributed to a number of history books and historical studies, documented Indigenous history, brought attention to the Talbragar Fish Fossil beds dating to the Jurassic period – the only known Jurassic fish site to be found in Australia – and was instrumental in upgrading the road that became the Golden Highway, opening up the tourism potential of the inland area.”

“Roy has been a wonderful citizen of the Warrumbungle Shire, one who many of us would just dream to emulate” concluded Cr Doolan.

The Service for Mr Cameron will be held at St. Andrew’s Anglican Church Coolah on Friday 8 January 2021 commencing at 11.00am. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendees are required to pre-register by phoning the Funeral Directors on (02) 6372 2384.

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