



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 13 October, 2016

King Kyle receives key to Marion

Olympic gold medallist Kyle Chalmers was presented with the Key to the City of Marion at a special ceremony to honour local Olympian and Paralympian heroes at Council's Chambers tonight.

Mayor Kris Hanna presented the superfish with the city's highest honour in front of more than 70 guests, including family, friends and South Australian sporting officials.

The 18-year-old swim star was one of six athletes who either live or train in the City of Marion and competed in Rio who were honoured at the civic reception.

The five other athletes honoured were Patrick Constable (track cycling), Grant Nel (diving), Samuel von Einem (Paralympian – table tennis silver medallist), Kieran Modra (Paralympian – cycling bronze medallist), Jocelyn Neumueller (Paralympian - canoeing).

Chalmers won gold in the 100-metre freestyle with a time of 47.58 seconds. He also won bronze in both the 4x100m freestyle relay and the 4x100m medley relay.

Marion Mayor Kris Hanna said it was a privilege to present Kyle Chalmers with the city's highest honour.

"I am delighted to salute the outstanding achievements of Kyle Chalmers in winning an Olympic gold medal by presenting him with the Key to the City of Marion," Mayor Hanna said.

"Kyle is an exceptional young man and his achievements have made Marion proud.

"Champion athletes like Kyle may be born with talent, but that only gets them as far as the starting blocks. This award recognises the countless hours of hard work, sacrifice and dedication it takes to succeed.

"Kyle trains with the Marion Swimming Club and I am pleased our city could play a part in his success."

The cast metal key measures 30cm wide, is 12cm high, is finished with metallic gold paint and mounted on a black plinth.

The event included a tribute to former Marion resident and BMX star Sam Willoughby who is currently recovering from a serious training accident in the United States.

The Key to the City dates back to medieval times when cities were walled and symbolises the freedom of the recipient to enter and leave the city at will.

Contact: Craig Clarke, Unit Manager Communications, City of Marion, 0434 600 637



facebook.com/CityofMarion



twitter.com/CityofMarion



youtube.com/CityofMarion