



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Community Recognition Statement

19 October 2021

MERCIA BUCK OAM

Ms SONIA HORNERY (Wallsend) :

Freeman of the City is an honour bestowed by a city upon a valued member of the community, or a visiting celebrity or dignitary. Mercia Buck is that person.

Mercia Buck OAM has been recognised as Lake Macquarie Freeman of the City for her lifetime of commitment and service to performing arts.

In July, Lake Macquarie Mayor, Cr Kay Fraser nominated Mercia to be recognised as Freeman of the City as a part of a Mayoral Minute, and the nomination was passed unanimously.

Mercia has dedicated herself to performance, teaching, lecturing and arts administration. She founded Lake Macquarie Music Society in 1980 and has led it since it was founded, Opera Hunter in 1986, overseeing its growth and success as president, and the Lake Macquarie Eisteddfod.

Between 1991 and 2008, Mercia was a Lake Macquarie City Councillor. During her time as a councillor, she was on many Council Committees and lead the development of the City's art industry.

Mercia has been praised for her passion and tireless advocate for the Lake Macquarie community, especially in her support for the performing arts.

Congratulations, Mercia, on being named Freeman of the City.