



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**Community Recognition Statement**

21 October 2021

**PETER GEORGE IRWIN**

**Ms SONIA HORNERY ( Wallsend ) :**

Many deserving Australians were recognised in the Queens Birthday Awards for their contributions to community and country.

Wallsend local, Peter George Irwin was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for his significant service to tertiary education, to geography, and to the community of Newcastle. He led a long and distinguished career in the education system, with such highlights as Chair of the Higher School Certificate Syllabus Committee for Geography, the Head of the Department of Geography at the University of Newcastle, and the founder of the P.G. Irwin Prize for Undergraduate Geography Studies, as well as many other positions in both the secondary and tertiary systems. In addition, he authored five and co-authored seven geography books.

He has also contributed greatly to his local community, holding committee positions in the Mayfield Uniting Church, Newcastle District Methodist Homes for the Aged, and Hunter Regional Committee of the National Trust of Australia, among several others. He was recognised with the naming of Irwin Hall in his honour by the New South Wales Synod of Methodist Churches.

Peter has spent a lifetime contributing to academia and to the Newcastle community.

I congratulate him on his much-deserved appointment.