

## *2018 Australia Day Ambassador to Henley-on-Mersey*

# Andrew Hughes

*Adventure Teacher*

Andrew Hughes has been taking students on adventures for more than ten years to teach them about the natural world.

His online adventure learning platform, Expedition Class, developed with the Bookend Trust, has connected thousands of young Australians with working scientists and real world challenges.

These journeys began in 2006 with Andrew paddling a sea kayak up the East coast of Australia from Hobart to Thursday Island. Since then he has survived on a deserted island in Papua New Guinea, undertaken a Tassie Tiger Hunt, traversed the volcanoes of New Britain, explored the Derwent River from Cirque to Sea, climbed the highest mountain in each Australian state and territory by bicycle and foot, and most recently camped up giant trees to explore forest science. All in the name of adventure learning.

As part of the Bookend Trust team he is passionate about providing engaging and relevant science and environmental education to the next generation so that they understand both the challenges we face and are excited about finding solutions.

Andrew was awarded the Australian Geographic Spirit of Adventure in 2009, the Bryce Courtenay Power of One Australian Hero Award in 2012 and was the 2013 Tasmanian Australian of the Year.

The Henley-on-Mersey Australia Day Festival will be held at Bells Parade, River Road, Latrobe on Friday, 26 January from 9.30am until 3.30pm. Gates open from 8.00am.

