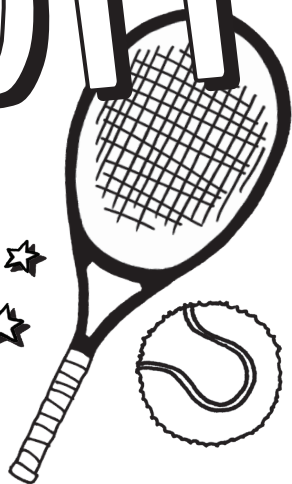


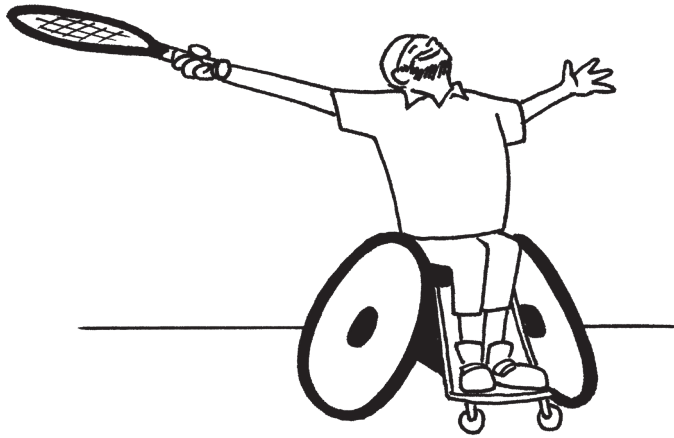
THE ★  
AMAZING  
DYLAN ★  
ALCOTT

Chris Maher

Illustrated by  
Jules Faber



WELBECK



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CHAPTER ONE

# AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR



Every Australia Day, one person is chosen to represent the country for a whole year.

This person must have qualities that are important to Australians – that sum up what it means to be Australian. They must have strengths that inspire us all. That make people across the country say, ***this is the sort of person I want to be!***

Australians of the Year have been famous artists, musicians, novelists, dancers, politicians, advocates, priests, entrepreneurs, community

leaders, doctors, philanthropists, soldiers and scientists.

There have been famous athletes, swimmers, sailors, boxers, cricketers, runners, tennis players and footballers.

But never a Paralympian.

Never a disabled athlete.

**This country had never seen their most celebrated person as someone who was in a wheelchair.**

***Yet!***

Each State selects a nominee for The Australian of the Year.

In 2022, the nominee from South Australia was a doctor who helped saved thousands of lives through her vaccine research.

The Northern Territory nominee saved Indigenous people from unfairly going to prison.

The Tasmanian nominee helped save the world's oceans from plastic pollution, and saved thousands of marine animals in the process.