



Actively making a difference

Tweed Shire Awards Program 2012

6.30 PM WEDNESDAY

12 SEPTEMBER 2012

TWIN TOWNS SERVICES CLUB

Welcome

Program

National Anthem

– Katie Sinnott and Hannah Wells,
Banora Point High School

Acknowledgement of Country

Official Welcome – Maggie-Anne
Leybourne – Master of Ceremonies
KIC Inc – Des Kelly

Indigenous Dancers, Zhi Shilling and
Dylan Brown, Pottsville Beach Primary
School

Dinner – Entertainment

Guest Speaker – Ryan James, Gold
Coast Titans

Guest Speaker – Aaron Murphy, Surf Life
Saving

Presentation of Certificates to all
nominees and announcement of
category winners

Auction

Presentation of the judges award,
Bronwyn Donaghy Award

Presentation to entertainers

Presentation to guest speakers

Sponsors Presentations

Function closes

Rachel Ward's multifaceted career evidences her diverse talents. In conjunction with professional achievements as a model, actor, journalist, scriptwriter and director, Rachel is dedicated to making a positive contribution to public life by helping others.

Through her role as Patron of KIC, Rachel has a special connection to the Northern Rivers region.

She is a tireless fundraiser who has raised over three million dollars for mentoring programs in New South Wales.

What we do

Kids in Community Incorporated (KIC) is a non – profit organisation established in the Northern Rivers in 2000.

KIC elevates the images of youth by celebrating those who positively address issues affecting young people and their communities in ways that strengthen and inspire others.

2012 is an exciting year for KIC "Tweed Shire"

Tonight is the third Annual Tweed Shire KIC Awards Function and has built on the success of previous years' events. KIC Inc. has been operating very successfully in the Northern Rivers NSW area for the past 12 years. This year KIC Tweed Shire welcomed some new committee members with one of them being a youth winner of a KIC award last year.

The KIC awards seek to highlight the wide variety of ways that young people, and those supporting them, strengthen and inspire our community. Their contributions highlight the diversity of social and cultural backgrounds of youth and the acceptance respect they have for their differing traditions, interest and values.

Many young people nominated for the KIC Awards are not conventional achievers: they may not excel in sporting or academic pursuits, Yet, their optimism, generosity, enthusiasm, perseverance or courage has awakened others to opportunities or needs within our local communities.

By acknowledging all these contribution, the KIC Awards encourages young people to reach out to others – both to give and to receive support.



2012 SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTERS

This year we are very fortunate to have two young champion presenters from the Tweed/Gold Coast area for our Awards – Ryan James and Aaron Murphy

Ryan James

Ryan is a 21 year old Tweed local who grew up in Bilambil Heights, comes from a strong rugby league family and he has become a quality young National Rugby League player with the Gold Coast Titans.

In 2006, at the age of 15, Ryan represented the NSW CHS schoolboy team, and he was also signed by the Gold Coast Titans as a development player. In 2008, he represented his school, Palm Beach Currumbin High School where he participated in the sportexcellence program, and the school's open rugby league side participated in the ARL Schoolboy Cup. His school won the final against Matraville Sports High School (from Sydney) 24-22 and James also won the Peter Sterling Medal for Player of the Year. In the same year he represented the Queensland Schoolboys and the Australian Schoolboys rugby league teams.

He made his NRL debut in round 14 of the 2010 season for the



Gold Coast Titans at Skilled Park. The Gold Coast won 28-14 over the Manly Sea Eagles, James starring on debut against Manly's more experienced forward pack.

Last year Ryan suffered a devastating knee injury which required a total knee reconstruction and kept Ryan off the field for more than a year. At the time, Ryan was being touted as a possible State of Origin player. After much hard work, pain and frustration, Ryan returned to rugby league and the NRL in the second half of this year's season.

In 2010 he was named in the National Youth Competition Team of the Year in the second row. We are proud to welcome him here tonight.

Aaron Murphy

Aaron Murphy is a 21 year old lifesaver from the Gold Coast with an inspirational story. On New Year's Day in 2009 Aaron was struck by a car that nearly killed him, spending three weeks in a coma in the Intensive Care Unit at Gold Coast Hospital with serious head injuries, and a stint of three and a half months in hospital.

Lucky to survive the accident it was thought that Aaron may not be capable of running again or continue as a serious athlete. After being released from hospital, the Northcliffe lifesaver spent his first weekend vigorously training at his home beach swimming from Northcliffe to Broadbeach and running back.

Aaron moved to the Gold Coast from Tasmania in 2008 to chase his dream of becoming a champion ironman at the Northcliffe Surf Life Saving Club -- under the instruction of coach Pat O'Keefe.

In the months after waking from the coma, Aaron made a 'miraculous' recovery due his motivation, returning to the sport he loves and resumed training and competing as an ironman with the elite Northcliffe SLSC training squad.

In October 2009, 10 months after the life-threatening accident Aaron competed in the gruelling Coolangatta Gold SLS event not only completing the event but finishing a respectable 13th in the Under-19 event. As he sat exhausted on an Esky, legs shaking from fatigue after that event, Aaron knew he had accomplished something great.

"I was going to finish it, no matter what," he said at the time, "I never doubted it."

He was given the OK from doctors to return to surf lifesaving training & competing, yet they were amazed by his recovery, expecting him to spend 10 weeks in ICU but he was out of hospital by the tenth week.



In addition to his personal drive, he has great support from his family, the Northcliffe Surf Club, his friends and the wider Gold Coast community.

Since 2009, Aaron has continued with his dedicated training in surf lifesaving and kayaking, and he has competed in a range of local, national and international events including just returning from Russia last week where he competed in the World University Canoe & Kayak Championships.

He also competed in the National Kayak Championships earlier this year representing the Gold Coast and won silver and bronze medals for different events.

In addition to his sporting achievements, Aaron is also studying Exercise Science at Griffith University. Aaron Murphy is an inspirational young man and we are delighted to have him involved in the 2012 KIC Awards.

Category 1 & 2

Category 1: Caring for Others

Recognising Youth who actively support people in need..

Sponsored by:
Connect & Prime TV



St Joseph's College St Vincent De Paul Committee – represented by **Sinead Flaherty, Kacey Gambin, Louis Oram & Rhianon Smith** This group of committed year 11 students have worked tirelessly providing support to the disadvantaged including providing Christmas presents to underprivileged kids, conducting outings & activities for kids, and assisting elderly groups.



Edyn Castle

Edyn helps out with NORTEC's Links to Learning program with preparing food for participants, has started a young mums' support program in Murwillumbah plus an on-line service & is herself a young mum, while also supporting her younger sister.



Brooke Mallard

Four years ago Brooke initiated with her parents, assistance to disadvantaged children in Vietnam & has raised money for a church mission there caring for kids, & last year arranged for a group of year 11 students from her school to visit the mission to learn & provide assistance.



Penelope Meeves

Penelope is involved in a range of community projects including feeding the homeless weekly, teaches children with reading difficulties, organised appeals for the homeless, is involved in local environmental projects & is an accomplished public speaker.



Greta Carlson

Greta is a year 12 student & this year is making a dress for a fellow student with Down Syndrome to wear to their school formal in November. She's also heavily involved in her school's St Vincent DePaul Society helping with the Christmas Appeal & activities for disadvantaged families.

Category 2: Celebrating our Cultural Diversity

Recognising Youth who promote &/or foster inclusion of diverse groups

Sponsored by TAFE Kingscliff and TNR Accountants



Karen Duroux

For the past 3 years Karen has been a volunteer of the Tweed PCYC assisting with supervising children at the after school care & vacation care service, at discos, helping out in the canteen & participated in the Club's basketball competitions. She has also participated in a state-wide PCYC youth leadership program & recently joined the Tweed Club's Advisory Committee.



Lynette Larcombe

Lynette has completed a traineeship with Northern Rivers Health Service, is now working in mental health & training to be a mentor. She has been awarded the Indigenous Trainee of the Year, Novaskill's Trainee of the Year and the only Aboriginal person to represent Tomorrow's Leaders.



Jacob Paulsen

Jacob is a talented young Indigenous artist and has involved this year in the Mending Fences community art project & has become a role model & mentor among his peers. His artwork has also been showcased at the North Coast Region Aboriginal Education Awards this year.

Category 3

Category 3: Serving Our Community

Recognising Youth who volunteer with community groups

Sponsored by Coach Me NOW & Telco Searchers



Taylor Fien

Taylor is regarded as a quite achiever. She's an active member of the Rainbow Bay Surf Life Saving Club, assists disadvantaged young people through her school's St Vincent de Paul Society group, she also coaches a netball team, volunteers with Meals on Wheels & feeds the homeless.



Mariah Jones

Mariah has an outstanding background in surf life saving, serving the Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Surf Club since being a young nipper and becoming a champion Queensland competitor winning last season's Pool Rescue Championship. She's also an ambassador for the indigenous Water Safety program & assisted kids from western NSW learn to swim & first aid. Has also participated in the Titans Towards Tomorrow Indigenous Program.



Matthew Kirsner

Matthew has been nominated for his efforts with his school's St Vincent de Paul committee including feeding the homeless, a member of the SRC & House Captain 2012, assisted in a community graffiti clean up, participated in November 2011, and participated in a mass rescue with 3 fellow students plus another surf club patrol member, saving a group of 6 Korean tourists in January at Coolangatta.



Emily Longworth

Emily is committed to surf life saving, netball & school activities. She has been a member of Coolangatta Surf Life Saving Club for 14 years & regularly participates in patrols & nippers supervision & been involved in 5 rescues. In netball she's involved as a coach, assistant team manager, umpire & division 1 player. She's also committed to her studies, school community activities & would like to be a paramedic.



Demi Meredith

Another young person committed to surf life saving, Demi has been a long time member of the Coolangatta Club and this season she's an age manager, deputy youth co-ordinator and patrol captain. Earlier this year she participated in a TV show "Excess Baggage" & supported celebrity Christine Anu as an SLS representative. She's also a netball coach & umpire, a school house captain and member of her school's St Vincent DePaul Society group.



Liam Patience

Liam is a member of the Cabarita Beach Surf Life Saving Club. In addition to being an active patrol member, he has gained a variety of qualifications & experience in surf life saving operations, participated in rescues & attended a SLS Youth Matters workshop in Sydney this year. He has also become a member of the Tweed Coast Rural Fire Service this year, & is a member of his school's St Vincent de Paul group assisting with meals on Wheels, Clean Up Australia & other activities.



Geordie Mifsud

Geordie has been nominated for his efforts with fellow students and surf club patrol members, Matthew Kirsner & Andrew Putland for participating in a mass rescue with another patrol member, that saved 6 Korean tourists caught in a rip at Coolangatta Beach in January. He's also a positive role model to fellow students.



Andrew Putland

Andrew has been nominated for his efforts with fellow students and surf club patrol members, Matthew Kirsner & Geordie Mifsud for participating in a mass rescue with another patrol member, that saved 6 Korean tourists caught in a rip at Coolangatta Beach in January. He's also a positive role model to fellow students.

Category 4

Category 4: Raising Funds for Charity

Recognising Youth who help raise money for local, national &/or international charities

Sponsored by Rory Curtis & The Good Guys and South Tweed Sports Club



Liam Boxsell

Liam has been involved in a range of fundraising activities including the Red Shield Appeal, support of QLD flood victims in 2011, Biggest Morning Tea, Shave 4 a Cure, Christmas hamper collections, Bandana Day and collection of Coles & Woolworths docket for his school.



Mikayla Brown

A very active young fundraiser which includes assisting her mother in raising over \$2,300 for Daffodil Day and \$1,700 for Pink Ribbon Day over the past year. In addition she has had family challenges to deal with including having a brother born with cancer & being largely raised by a single mother with four brothers.



Nardia Hancock

Nardia has raised over \$1,000 for uterine prolapse repairs in India & Nepal through a women's pampering night, is currently raising money for medical support for children in Thailand, she also raised funds for a water system in Fiji and in 2010 worked in the Murwillumbah Hospital Café to assist palliative care.



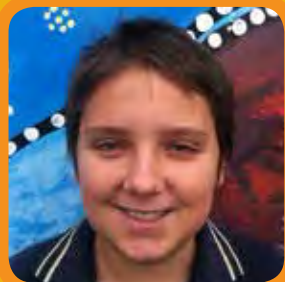
Adam Harkness

Adam has participated in numerous fundraising events including McHappy Day, the 40 Hour Famine, he shaved his head for World's Greatest Shave event at his school & he helped plant trees for a koala hot spot.



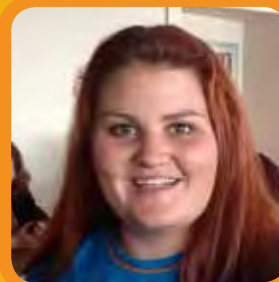
Joel Kelleher

Joel is the Secretary/Treasurer of his school's SRC & been involved in organising events and overseeing finances supporting World Vision, Cancer Cancel, UNICEF, Stewart House supporting sick kids, the Million Paws Walk for the RSPCA, dragon boat race fundraiser & he shaved his head for World's Greatest Shave.



Daniel Sheaff

Daniel has participated in the Salvos Red Shield Appeal, contributed to the World's Greatest Shave for the past 3 years and participated in the 40 Hour Famine. He has also been a great support to a friend with Cerebral Palsy who he been assisting since primary school.



Xanthie Slight

Xanthie lost her mother to cancer 3 years ago and this year raised thousands of dollars for Shave for a Cure and had her lovely locks shaved off. She has also participated in Relay for Life & Canteen events, participates in naval cadets and is a great support to her father & two brothers.

Category 5&6

Category 5: Enriching Community Life

Recognising youth who share their creative talents with the broader community

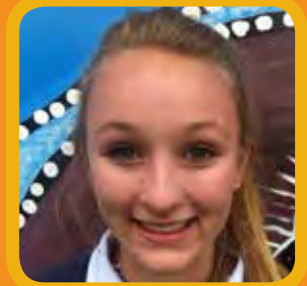
Sponsored by Gold Coast/Tweed Pet Resort and BAM Promotions & Events



Brooke Couler
Brooke is a talented young softball player having represented NSW and QLD in numerous softball competitions, she also travelled to America to compete and assists in coaching an under 12s team. She also contributes to McHappy Day and has raised funds numerous times for the 40 Hour Famine.



Matthew Kirkham
Matthew is a young school teacher who also continues to work as a Disability Support Worker at Lifebridge. He is also the State Deputy Chair of the St Vincent De Paul Society which he has been involved with for over 7 years & is involved in running activities for disadvantaged kids and conducting training for youth leaders.



Hannah Wells
Hannah is a member of her school's SRC, volunteers at the Bargain Op Shop, has raised funds for World Vision, is a peer leader for younger students and is a talented singer participating in community carols around local shopping centres.

Category 6: Leading Their Peers

Recognising youth who share their skills to inspire other young people

Sponsored by: Lions Club of Kingscliff & ABC Radio



Taneshia Atkinson
Taneshia has overcome a range of significant personal challenges to become one of Australia's young indigenous leaders. She was one of 6 people from NSW to be selected to attend the first National Youth Parliament in Canberra. While there, Taneshia prepared & presented on Indigenous issues including youth suicide & Indigenous project funding to senators, the Governor General and Kevin Rudd.



Bianca Calder
Originally from New Zealand, Bianca has achieved significant things at her high school including being an SRC leader, participated in this year's Kokoda Challenge walk, assisted with hospitality at Parish functions, helped organise a school talent quest, supported the Red Cross door knock, Meals on wheels, school Anzac Day March, assists in school tuck shop & achieved 100% school attendance



Laura Coulter
Laura excels in the sport of softball who encourages her peers to be positive role models. She coaches an u12s softball team, was captain of the Wynnum team last year, is trainee coach for Wynnum this year & captain of her school's open softball team.



Sammy-Jo Curtis
This young lady is quite the all-rounder with achievements including being events coordinator of her school's SRC & actively raises funds including Cancer Council events. She is a representative player in touch football (QLD vice-captain) & netball. She also coaches & umpires for junior netball & also achieves well academically.



Jacqueline Norrish
Jacqueline could be described as a shy person that always worked hard but gained considerable confidence from participating in the Youth Kokoda Challenge last year and is now the "poster girl" for the program on the Tweed Coast.

Continued next page

Category 6 & 7

Category 6: (continued) Leading Their Peers

Recognising youth who share their skills
to inspire other young people

Sponsored by:
Lions Club of Kingscliff & ABC Radio



Allana Pengilley

Allana is a representative netball player and amongst her commitments to sport, HSC student & school leader she also dedicates weekday & weekend time to coach an under 10s netball side. She is noted as growing in confidence and has great leadership potential



James McCann

James achievements include being awarded for consistency and effort at his high school. He has also received numerous other awards at school, reached State level in cross country athletics and participated in fundraising for the Red Shield Appeal.



Grace Sleba

Grace has been involved in her school's SRC since 2009 and current Events Co-ordinator. She has raised money for the Cancer Council, Kids in Need, UNICEF, Stewart House & other causes. She is her school's u15s touch football captain and sports house captain. She has also been recognised for significant efforts in volunteering.



Lauren Stevens

Lauren has great potential to be a valuable female role model as she progresses to adulthood & she is committed to social justice. She has coached a female touch football team for 5 years, starting when she was only 11 years old.



Connor Taylor

Connor is the Vice Captain of his high school & chosen because of his leadership & organisational skills. He is strongly involved in surf life saving and rugby league, as well as tutoring other students in mathematics, has raised funds for a variety of charities and is committed to social justice & environmental issues.

Category 7: Achieving Against All Odds

Recognising youth who triumph over considerable personal challenge.

Sponsored by Twin Towns Services Club and Nortec Employment & Training Resources



Amy Bacon

Amy has had significant health problems since 2008 when she went from being active & sport loving to being debilitated by illness. That year she spent 5 months in hospital including a period on life support. Due to her condition she has had to re-learn how to sit, bend & walk, has progressed well and is now re-learning how to run. She has remained positive & been involved in a range of school and community service activities.



Jordan Kerever

Jordan has Asperger's Syndrome and since 2010 has made significant progress at his high school in terms of social development, has participated in challenging activities such as surfing & scuba diving and competed in a recent athletics carnival. He is also a diligent student, he brings out the best in others and is an asset to his school.



Caleb Pevy

Caleb is a young person that has grown up in very challenging circumstances and came to the attention of PCYC police officer Gerry Keyte who, with Caleb's grandmother, has offered support & encouragement. Caleb performs well at school, participates in a variety of sports & activities, and lends a hand at the PCYC.



Jackson Ross

Jackson was born with a condition that affects the muscles in his back and below his waist & has always relied on wheelchairs. He is an active & capable student and attended a range of state & national conferences relating to youth disabilities and leadership. He has also been involved in community service & fundraising events, last year completed a scuba diving certificate & recently received his drivers licence.

Category 8 & 9

Category 8: Adults Supporting Youth

Recognising individuals or groups who volunteer or go above & beyond the call of duty in their support of young people

Sponsored by Cricks Mitsubishi Tweed and Trenches, McKenzie & Co



Rebecca Couch
Rebecca is regarded as a 24/7 worker as an Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer with Tweed Police. She works closely with other agencies to develop youth programs focusing on diversion & early intervention, and she supports young Indigenous people facing criminal charges, court appearance & sentences.



Coral Kelly
Coral is a foundation President of the Tweed Theatre Company since 1999 and has assisted and encouraged many young performers commencing and developing in theatre. She has devoted many hours producing a variety of shows and brought delight to many audiences and young performers.



Shana Lazer
Shana works in both mental health & indigenous community links programs and facilitated such projects as Healthy You programs, Mental Health Week, NAIDOC activities and the DVD "Check Your Head" on depression & suicide, and is now developing mentoring groups.



Christine Morgan
Christine is a teacher at Tweed River High School and nurtures over 100 indigenous students. She has been a key person in the Mending Fences community art & conflict resolution program and facilitated & supported students in the Wollumbin Dreaming junior Aboriginal Education Consultative Group



Nathan Roughead
Nathan is a well-respected young man who is currently a teachers' aid at Banora Point High School. In this role he is regarded highly by students and staff alike for his positive outlooks and contributions. He has also established a cancer awareness fundraiser in memory of his father to be held later this year.

Category 9: Media Promoting Youth

Recognising reporters who actively promote the positive contributions local youth make to their communities

Sponsored by
The Daily News,
Tweed Valley
Weekly & Koori
Mail



Larissa Nicholson
Through her research, media contacts and positive investigative journalism with the Tweed Valley Weekly, Larissa seeks to promote the outstanding achievements of local young people, and to change negative perceptions relating to youth. Her "Focus on Youth" articles have included stories on anti-bullying, sporting achievements of local young people, and youth week activities.



Tania Phillips
Tania is an experienced and tireless journalist and editor of the Tweed Coast Weekly who is committed to positive community news particularly providing positive reports on the great things that young people are achieving in the Tweed whether it being in sports, the arts or community service.



The Tweed Youth Times – Morgan Aley, Keiah Smith & Matt Spiller
The Tweed Youth Times is a street press publication written by young people & distributed bi-monthly and focuses on youth issues and achievements in the Tweed Shire and is supported by St Joseph's Youth Service. All of the young people donate their time and skills to produce a quality, positive publication.

Performers

Didgeridoo by Dylan Brown & Aboriginal Dance
by Zhi Shilling, Pottsville Beach Primary School

'Scar' – Vocals by Susannah Smith, Kingscliff High
School

'Home' - Vocals and Guitar by Jesse Aviu,
Kingscliff High School

Original Composition written by his father 'There
You Are' - Vocals by Milan Martin, Mt St Patricks
College

'Small Bump' – Vocals and Guitar by Joseph Scott, St Joseph's College

'Landslide' – Vocals by Sophie McMahon, Kingscliff High School



*Dylan Brown
on Didgeridoo
and dancer
Zhi Shilling,
Pottsville Beach
Primary School,
performing
at last year's
awards night.*

Items in our Auction this evening



Joel Parkinson
surfboard

Authentic
signed
surfboard. Joel
(known as Parko)
is currently
ranked number
two in the world.

Vegemite Quicksilver Surf
Groms Program
12 Hours of Surf Lessons and a
Quicksilver Gear Package.

*Endorsed by the Sports
Commission of Australia*



Authentic Signed Gold Coast Titans Football.

The Judges' Choice Award

The Bronwyn Donaghy Memorial Award

Recognising an 'all-rounder' who contributes to the community in a variety of ways.



Bronwyn Donaghy was an author and journalist who wrote for more than 20 years about family issues. From 1995 Bronwyn was involved with, in particular, the issue of adolescent health. Bronwyn wrote a number of insightful, entertaining and instructive books (*Anna's Story*, *Leaving Early*, *Unzipped*) which she based on direct communication with young people, medical experts and parents.

She went on to speak directly to thousands of teenagers, teachers, parents and health professionals. Her advice came from her own experience and intelligence. Her information came from painstaking research into actual cases of tragedy and triumph in the lives of adolescents and their parents. Although confronted with many difficult and sad stories, Bronwyn encouraged the community to celebrate the achievements of young people, stating her research reinforced her belief that 'human kindness, compassion and decency are still alive and well in our society'.

Special Thanks to our 2012 Awards Donors

Area 1 Leaders in Hair, Aussie Computers – Kingscliff, Baskin Robins, Casuarina Florist, Chozen Surf Shop, Murwillumbah, Coach Me Now, Crystal Castle, Earth & Sea, Fresh Fashions & Home ware, Gold Coast Titi's Community Foundation, Grill'd Café Coolangatta, Hair It Is, Hy-Profile Promotional Services, IGA Pottsville, James Frielles Automotive Group, Tweed Heads, Joel Parkinson, ASP Surfer, McDonalds Restaurants, Madura Tea Estate, Tweed City News agency, Palm Beach Surf Club, Phar Side Skating, R&B Glass wear, Sizzlers Restaurant, Surfing Australia – Bianca and Mark Richardson, United Discount Chemist, Banora Point, Yalumba Wines

KIC Tweed Shire Committee 2012

Gaye Breen
Michelle Dowling
Jana Cooper

Jay Rickard
Karen Low
Mark Madden

Jacinta O'Keeffe
June Richards

For more information on the Kids in Community Awards please visit www.kic.com.au or contact Kids In Community Inc. on 02 6624 4053.


kids in community

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