

# 2009 Real People Doing Real Things

## Community Building Awards



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WYONG SHIRE COUNCIL



# Individual in a Voluntary Capacity

**WINNER**

## **Trevor Wrightson**

Trevor is a motivator in the Mannering Park community.

Trevor has lived at the “Park” for many years and has initiated many ideas and activities. He finds out what can be done to improve a situation and once that becomes evident he invites individuals and groups he is involved with to join together to achieve it.

Over the past four years he has been part of the Mannering Park Working Party trying to improve the recreational area and facilities located near the hall so that the children and young people can use it more.

It was he who 30 years ago coordinated community members in ‘literally’ building their own community hall.

# Individual in a Paid Capacity

## WINNER

### Kerry Bryant

Kerry has many years experience coordinating courses within the community in response to the community's expressed needs. She brings with her a high level of enthusiasm, open – mindedness, practicality and a “can do” attitude.

Kerry is great at working in partnership with organisations around the type of courses they believe will support their community. She has good knowledge of the local community and TAFE procedures and Child Care funding sources. She is willing to be flexible in the way these courses can be delivered.

Once a pilot is successful for its participants, such as Babe with Babes run at Blue Haven with Central Coast Family Services, Kerry is tireless in exploring avenues to secure the programs. She is skilled at submission writing and skilled in lobbying the government on the program and participants' behalf.

# Young Person aged 12 -25 WINNER

## **Sarah Elrick**

Sarah = Initiative, Courage, Innovation, Energy, Multi-tasker extraordinaire, natural born leader, organisation freak, sense of humour, excellent communicator, motivator, team player, confidence and endearing shyness.

- Community Projects
- Wyong Shire Council's Youth Engagement Strategy, Youth Consultant.
- Wyong Shire Council's Shire Strategic Vision
- Actively Supported Social Projects - Youth Week Leadership Forum, GOATS Festival & Warnervale Fair
- Chairperson and leader for WSC Youth Advisory Council
- Key leader in the development and facilitation of the Shire wide youth lead Random Acts of Kindness campaign
- Sarah has a working knowledge of ABCD methods and relates this well to young people in a real, every day way

# Art and Culture WINNER

## Darlene Cole

**Darlene brings enthusiasm, theatrical and production skills, a passion for community justice and connections throughout the community of arts and culture as well as local community and business organisations.**

- **Darlene found her directorial footing 2 years ago on debut with two One Act plays winning awards at festivals in Wyong, Canberra and the Blue Mountains. Since then her directorial credits have included David Williamson's 'Soulmates' for Wyong Drama Group Inc. and the 2007 and 2008 Central Coast sold out productions of Eve Ensler's multi-award winning 'The Vagina Monologues', raising over \$40,000 to benefit local organisations working toward the prevention of violence against women and children.**
- **Her passion for connecting community to culture and a cause continues this year following the success of Mother & Son – to raise awareness for Dementia, with an involvement in Ad Hoc Community Theatre's Mental Health Project,**

# Voluntary Group / Organisation WINNER

## Mannering Park Working Party

The group had very good communication channels with the community. They have good relationship skills, a store of good will and genuine interest in improving facilities for the kids and young people and local community.

The group set their vision and broke this into achievable goals. They had a good measure of persistence and were very generous individually with their time. Each had particular interests which motivated the energy they gave to the group to pursue these elements. Members were supportive in achieving other elements that others were keen about. The group encouraged residents in general to participate in community days / projects that contributed to the vision.

# Not-for-Profit Organisation WINNER

## Northern Wyong Community Drug Action Team

NWCDAT work together through community projects, education and information to address drug and alcohol issues and promote healthy lifestyles. They are a resourceful group and utilise different events and activities to find out what other interests and ideas the community has in order to develop further projects.

NWCDAT, led a “Community Day” based on ABCD Principles out of which developed a Community Garden and Beautification projects. The first steps in the process were to undertake projects that were of interest to the members that allowed everyone the opportunity to contribute in some meaningful way. NWCDAT has continued on to Add “Rock Against Drugs” (RAD) in various northern suburbs of Wyong and recently started a campaign fightingf@inourtown.

# Project Within a Government Organisation WINNER

## **Wyong Shire Council Random Acts of Kindness**

- After conducting their own youth survey (700 respondents), Youth Advisory Council (YAC) saw community emerge as a top issue. Then they looked at projects that would be inclusive of all members of the community, wanting to improve intergenerational relationships
- Project Aim: Nurture community connectedness by creating and encouraging meaningful, unique and selfless expressions of belonging and recognition through Random Acts of Kindness.
- Over 3000 Random Acts of Kindness cards were anonymously and randomly posted and handed out through Wyong Shire along with 1600 posters, 200 magnets and 250 badges. Over 800 of these cards were handmade.
- Team brought enthusiasm, energy, abundance of creativity, scrapbooking skills, willingness to learn and try new things and a multicultural approach. In the beginning, most had no experience in carrying out a project

# Project Within a Business WINNER

## **Stockland Bay Village**

Nominated for their support of Southern Lakes Communities for Children Project. As part of the project they were approached with the idea of setting up a shop front to provide expectant parents, parent, grand parents & careers information and referral services providing health, education, social connection, activities, support programs and more.

- Stockland Bay Village were extremely helpful and adopted the idea and their business & retail knowledge & experience went about developing a purpose built information stall. The stall was established in an area with prime exposure to families with children.