

MAYORAL STATEMENT ON CURRENT ISSUES

Thank You

I wish to thank the Deputy Mayor Matthew Burnett, Councillors, CEO and Staff of the Gladstone Regional Council for the wonderful support given to our family last week following the passing of my father Desmond John Bermingham.

Australia Day 2012 Awards

The annual Awards Presentation Evening was held at the Gladstone Entertainment Centre on Wednesday 25th January and the calibre of nominees for the 2012 awards was outstanding and we congratulate all nominees who have made outstanding contributions to our community.

Agnes Water resident **Cheryl Wickes** was named Gladstone Regional Council's 2012 Australia Day Citizen of the Year. Cheryl is: on numerous committees; a member of the Lions Club board; current President of the Agnes Water Surf Life Saving Club; the Captain Cook 1770 Festival; the Disaster Management Group; Agnes Water Triathlon; Discovery Coast Tourism and Commerce Group; the Discovery Coast Sport and Recreation Club Committee; Agnes Water Intra-agency meetings; supported the Agnes Water Men's Shed and Community Garden and is the owner/editor of the Coastal Rag.

The 2012 Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year Award was presented to 17-year-old **Talia Galbraith**, who shows dedication and commitment across academic, sporting and cultural endeavours.

There were 33 nominees across the eight Australia Day award categories and effectively showcases the strength of the community spirit and talent throughout the Gladstone Region.

Winners of 2012 Australia Day awards

Citizen of the Year Award	<i>Cheryl Wickes</i>
Young Citizen of the Year Award	<i>Talia Galbraith</i>
Senior Cultural Award	<i>Beth Jones</i>
Junior Cultural Award	<i>Thomas Hooley</i>
Young Sports Person of the Year	<i>Hannah Lowry</i>
Senior Sports Person of the Year	<i>Lewis Marshall</i>
Sports Official of the Year	<i>Julie Maeyke</i>
Community Event of the Year	<i>2011 Mount Larcom Show</i>