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Two worthy recipients share Citizen of the Year honour

Circular Head Mayor Daryl Quilliam has tonight announced two worthy recipients for the 2018 Citizen of the Year award.

Tony Hine and Kim Kay were announced as joint Citizens of the Year at the Circular Head Australia Day Awards at Tall Timbers.

Kurtis Maher was recognised as Young Citizen of the Year, while the Circular Head Garden Spectacular was named Community Event of the Year.

Mayor Quilliam described Tony Hine as an ardent supporter of the Circular Head community over many decades and a highly respected volunteer.

“Tony is the go to man...when you want something done he will certainly do his best to achieve a positive outcome,” Mayor Quilliam said.

Mr Hine is a dairy farmer who has had a strong involvement with the agriculture sector starting in the 1950's when he first became involved with the Junior Farmers Association.

He served on the Farmers and Graziers Association from 1986-1992 and held many roles during this time.

In 1984 Tony and his wife Sybil were awarded the Dairy Farmer of the Year.

Mr Hine has worn many hats over the years, including serving as President of the Circular Head Pony Club and has held many positions with the Smithton Lions Club, where he has been a member for nearly 50 years.

He is a member of the Circular Head Agricultural Society and has held the position of President for the last three years.

“Tony has been instrumental in bringing other Stanley Recreation Ground user groups together to partner with Council to apply successfully for a grant to build a new multipurpose building that will replace the ageing Exhibition Hall,” Mayor Quilliam said.

“Not only has Tony helped our community by the many committees he has been on but when something is needed for Circular Head he has always puts his hand up.



“He is certainly an amazing person and I would like to thank him for his wonderful contribution to our community.”

Mayor Quilliam described Kim Kay as quiet achiever that works tirelessly without any fanfare or fuss.

“Her contributions often go unnoticed and that’s the way she likes it,” Mayor Quilliam said.

After moving to Circular Head after marrying Gerald in 1980, she became involved with a number of local sporting clubs, including the Smithton Saints Football Club and the Smithton Squash and Tennis Clubs.

“Kim’s talent in organising really came to the fore when she was one of the main instigators of the well renowned Bawdy Banquet in 1983,” Mayor Quilliam said.

“During the 30 years of the banquet Kim’s flair for script writing shone through as part of a gifted trio who spent many hours developing storylines for the popular shows.

Kim was in her element when researching and sourcing costumes and props for the shows.

“Over those years, the Bawdy banquet team raised in excess of \$500, 000 for local charities and community groups.”

Mrs Kay has been a volunteer on the Circular Head Relay for Life committee since its inception and has volunteered her time to emcee many community fundraising events including Soroptimist’s bridal parades, Carols by Candlelight’s, and Relay for Life team auctions.

In 2016, the Circular Head Garden Club was seeking volunteers from the community to help them with the mammoth job of staging the 2017 Garden Spectacular at Historic Highfield in Stanley.

“Given Kim’s love of a challenge she accepted and went on to be the most efficient well organised secretary the club could have hoped for,” Mayor Quilliam said.

“The event was 18 months in planning and organising, for the last few weeks before the it was a fulltime job, she gladly (maybe not), took on.

“Kim is humble, caring, loyal and funny...she always has that happy knack of being able to communicate with people from all walks of life which is a true gift.



“She is truly deserving of this recognition and I thank her for her commitment and contribution to our community.”

Young Citizen of the Year Kurtis Maher recently completed Year 12 at Circular Head Christian School, where he had been a member of the school leadership team since Year 7 and school captain for his last two years.

In this role he represented the school and community on many occasions including at Anzac Day celebrations (at which he has been a speaker) and other community events.

In 2015 Kurtis played a huge role in the ABC Heywire documentary ‘Two trains’, volunteering many hours to crew and help produce this project.

“He was a great ambassador for the project speaking to various media outlets about the outcomes of the film and its effect on the community,” Mayor Quilliam said.

“He has been involved with the Rural Health’s Youth podcast ‘The Tonic’, co-hosting three episodes and featuring on others including interviewing Premier Will Hodgman and Deputy Premier Jeremy Rockliff.

“Without Kurtis’s commitment and the commitment of others this program wouldn’t have been possible.

“Kurtis is a well-respected member of our community, has been a great role model to younger students and we would like to congratulate him and thank him for his contribution to our community and wish him well on the next part of his journey at University,” Mayor Quilliam said.

The Circular Head Garden Spectacular is organised by a sub-committee of the Circular Head Garden Club and a number of ‘ring-ins’ that increase the skills base of the committee.

The 2017 Spectacular attracted more than 3000 people from not only Tasmania but interstate visitors as well.

“It would have boosted our local economy and also promotion of our region would extend to an Australia-wide audience,” Mayor Quilliam said.

“Although this is a ‘Circular Head Garden Club’ event it would not be possible without the input and involvement from so many community groups, which is why it is the ‘Community Event of The Year’.