

## Council job spot

- **Divisional Manager – Boigu**
- **Multi-Skilled Administration Officer – Mer, Hammond, Boigu x 2**
- **Community Police Officer – St Pauls, Hammond, Ugar, Mer**
- **Healthy Lifestyle Officer – Saibai, Dauan, Erub, Hammond, Masig**
- **Animal Management Worker – Hammond, Iama, Kubin, St Pauls, Boigu**
- **Environmental Health Worker – Hammond, Dauan, Ugar, Erub**
- **Cleaner – Poruma, Erub**
- **Engineering Officer – Poruma**
- **Children's Services Worker (Toddler) – Badu**
- **Children's Services Worker (Mixed Age) – Badu**
- **Casual Assistant Children's Services Worker (Relief) – Badu**
- **Group Leader (Mixed Age) – Badu**
- **HACC 'Home Helper' – Erub, Kubin, Mer, Saibai, Dauan, St Pauls, Badu x 3, Iama x 2, Boigu x 2, Mabuiag x 3, Poruma x 2**
- **RIBS Operator x 2**

FOR POSITION DESCRIPTIONS PLEASE

CONTACT YOUR

COMMUNITY DIVISIONAL MANAGERS

OR RECRUITMENT OFFICER RHIANNON CASH:

T: (07) 40345 730

F: (07) 40345 726

E: [RECRUITMENT@TSIRC.QLD.GOV.AU](mailto:RECRUITMENT@TSIRC.QLD.GOV.AU)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR POSITIONS OR APPLICATIONS: ADDRESS THE SELECTION CRITERIA, INCLUDING A RESUME AND COVERING LETTER

BY FAX, EMAIL OR POST:

PO Box 501 THURSDAY ISLAND, QLD 4875

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY



TORRES STRAIT ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL  
 TSIRC Lot 12 Francis Road Hammond Island Qld 4875  
 Ph: (07) 4048 6200 Fax: (07) 40691868  
 PO Box 501, Thursday Island Qld 4875



## Apprenticeships

Want to be a qualified tradesperson and still live and work in the Torres Strait?

Identified positions include Electricians, Plumbers, Carpenters, Painters, Bricklayers

Apply for an apprenticeship with the TSIRC with a likely commencement date of February 2012.

The TSIRC have a number of vacant apprenticeship positions based in your Community. Successful applicants will be placed with an experienced tradesperson who will provide you with support and guidance to ensure you complete your 3-4 years training in obtaining a Cert III or trade qualification.

As an Apprentice you will:

- Learn your new trade under the supervision of an experienced tradesperson.
- Travel to other islands to gain experience
- Regularly attend TAFE

You will be required to enter into a training agreement to complete your apprenticeship. Your parents or guardian may also have to sign this agreement.

Please obtain an expression of interest form and identify what trade you are interested in completing and what qualifications you have achieved.

For further information contact your Divisional Manager; phone TSIRC recruitment on (07) 4034 5730; or email [Recruitment@TSIRC.qld.gov.au](mailto:Recruitment@TSIRC.qld.gov.au)

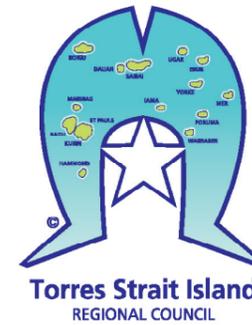
These positions are restricted to Torres Strait Islanders only and accommodation is not provided

## Have your say...

We would like to invite community members to submit any stories, photos or public notices they wish to publish.

Send your ideas to:

[info@tsirc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@tsirc.qld.gov.au)



# Strait Talk

Kawau

Kuikumabaigau

Yangukudul

The official newsletter of the  
 TORRES STRAIT ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

December : EDITION FOURTEEN

What's inside...



*Torres Strait Island Regional Council e sane Merry Christmas greetings and safe wishes for the New Year 2012 to all em staff, constituents and friends*



*Mepla ya lor TSIRC looking forward to working with youpla everyone, towards achieving great results for youme region in 2012!*



## TSIRC Office Closure: Dec 24 - Jan 2

Divisional offices will open for set periods each day during this time (excluding weekends and public holidays) for community members to purchase critical supplies including powercards, gas bottles and fuel.

Public Holidays during this period are Dec 26 & 27, and Jan 2.



# TIDES



## Torres Strait Islands Summer King Tides Year 2012

Island	Date	Time	Height	
Thursday Island HAT = 3.86m	24/12/2011	12:38	3.61m	
	21/01/2012	11:47	3.62m	king tide
	18/02/2012	11:01	3.49m	
Hammond Island Barge Ramp HAT = 3.81m	24/12/2011	12:35	3.53m	
	21/01/2012	11:44	3.55m	king tide
	18/02/2012	11:00	3.43m	
Badu Island HAT = 4.07m	23/12/2011	13:08	3.75m	
	20/01/2012	12:22	3.89m	king tide
	17/02/2012	11:31	3.88m	
Mabuiag Island Barge Ramp HAT = 3.94m	24/12/2011	13:06	3.60m	
	22/01/2012	12:52	3.63m	king tide
	18/02/2012	12:11	3.56m	
Sabai Island HAT = 3.86m	25/12/2011	13:30	3.57m	
	22/01/2012	12:55	3.55m	
	08/02/2012	13:01	3.58m	king tide
Boigu Island HAT = 4.82m	22/12/2011	14:35	4.43m	
	19/01/2012	13:39	4.70m	king tide
	17/02/2012	13:19	4.67m	
Yam Island (Iama) HAT = 4.16m	25/12/2011	12:38	3.87m	king tide
	22/01/2012	11:55	3.83m	
	08/02/2012	12:14	3.82m	
Sue Island (Warraber) HAT = 4.18m	25/12/2011	12:16	3.91m	king tide
	22/01/2012	11:27	3.88m	
	08/02/2012	11:53	3.80m	
Coconut Island (Poruma) HAT = 4.55m	25/12/2011	11:38	4.29m	king tide
	22/01/2012	10:44	4.23m	
	08/02/2012	11:18	4.16m	
Yorke Island (Masig) HAT = 4.35m	25/12/2011	11:17	4.11m	king tide
	22/01/2012	10:20	4.05m	
	08/02/2012	10:57	3.98m	
Stephens Island (Ugar) HAT = 4.11m	25/12/2011	11:04	3.85m	king tide
	22/01/2012	10:10	3.83m	
	08/02/2012	10:43	3.71m	
Darnley Island (Erub) HAT = 4.13m	24/12/2011	10:08	3.90m	king tide
	22/01/2012	09:55	3.87m	
	08/02/2012	10:30	3.76m	
Murray Island (Maer) HAT = 3.52m	24/12/2011	09:33	3.34m	king tide
	22/01/2012	09:19	3.32m	
	20/02/2012	08:59	3.22m	

### Notes:

The king tides for the Torres Strait islands occur from December to March and as they coincide with the monsoon and cyclone seasons significant tidal surges can be expected to occur.

Please note the spring tide heights the month before and after the king tide are almost as large as the king tide heights.

Tide heights are above Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT08) as determined by "Torres Strait Tidal Survey Datum Analysis Report" by Maritime Safety Queensland.

## Calling 'sea snappers' to capture king tides



Environment Minister Vicky Darling has called on Queenslanders to take photos of this summer's king tides as part of an interactive project to help coastal communities plan for climate change.

Ms Darling recently launched the Witness King Tides community project and invited budding photographers across the State to contribute images to the initiative. "I encourage all Queenslanders to pick up their cameras during the 2012 summer king tide events, head out to your local beach or wetland and snap away," Ms Darling said.

"People can upload their images to the Witness King Tides website ([www.witnesskingtides.org](http://www.witnesskingtides.org)) to build a visual record of Queensland areas vulnerable to high tides.

Alternatively, you can email your images to [info@tsirc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@tsirc.qld.gov.au) or upload to our TSIRC Facebook Page.



Don't forget to 'like' Torres Strait Island Regional Council on Facebook to see the latest Council information, pictures and updates!

## Councillor's Corner



I would like to acknowledge traditional owners, elders and the youth of the Torres Strait Islands.

It is my privilege to serve as Councillor of Masig Island and an honour to work alongside fellow Councillors of the region.

First and foremost, I would like to make known my utmost priority and passion in this role – 'our people'.

Everything I aim to work towards and accomplish as Councillor will be for them.

If I continue into the next term as a Councillor there will be many goals and projects I will work toward accomplishing and will also do everything I can to help close the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians across all avenues of life – from health to education and most importantly mentality of thinking.

I will aspire to give my people courage and motivation. I personally believe that leadership should be instilled into our people from a young age so that they can grow with determination to carry our people into the future.

Today is on our watch and in our time and we need to understand the importance of educating our youth.

I am excited to work with the region as a whole for the betterment of the Torres Strait.

I believe that people are in favour of progress but it's the change they don't like and that is something we need to work towards – adapting to change.

Things don't just happen either – we have to invest in our futures by maintaining what we've got.

"Growth doesn't happen by accident, it must be intentional"

Cr. Ted Nai

Division 12  
MASIG Island

# NOISE COMPLAINT

The Community Police have the same powers as State Police for complaints about noisy parties under the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act.

If you are having a party that is too noisy and someone complains, at any time of the day or night, to the Community Police, the Community Police have the power to:

- Enter your house without a warrant AND
- Tell you to stop the noise for 12 hours.

If you do not stop the noise, you can be fined \$750.00

If the Community Police get another complaint within 12 hours about noise after they have told you to stop the noise, they have the power to:

- Enter your house again, without a warrant AND
- Take the stereo for 24 hours, or until the next business day. So if the Community Police take your stereo on a Friday night or on a weekend, then you won't get it back until the Monday.

If you disobey a direction to stop the noise, you can also be fined \$750.00

If you obstruct or assault a Community Police officer you will be charged and go to Court.



## Healthy Christmas Recipe:

Council's Healthy Lifestyle team would like to encourage staff, constituents and friends to eat and drink responsibly during the festive season.

Remember to drink in moderation and try not to over indulge on unhealthy food. Below is quick and healthy recipe that you might like to try at home as a healthier option for the Christmas table!

### Coconut Pudding

MAKES 4 Individually-sized Desserts

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 can coconut milk
  - 2 eggs
  - pinch of salt
  - 1/2 cup rice flour
  - 1 tsp. coconut extract
  - 1 tsp. vanilla extract
  - 1/4 cup sugar (or more to taste)
- TOPPING:**
- 4 dollops of coconut cream (or thick coconut milk from the top of the can), whipped cream, or ice cream
  - 2-3 Tbsp. toasted dry shredded coconut

- PREPARATION:**
1. Place 1 cup coconut milk in a mixing bowl. Crack in the eggs, and add a pinch of salt. Beat well with a fork or whisk until smooth (30 seconds to 1 minute).
  2. Sprinkle the rice flour over and beat until smooth.
  3. Add the extracts plus the sugar. Beat until smooth.
  4. Taste-test the batter for sweetness, adding a little more sugar if desired.
  5. Grease 4 ramekins (individual baking dishes) with a few drops of cooking oil (or you can use butter).
  6. Ladle the batter into



Prep Time: 10 minutes. Cook Time: 30 minutes

7. Place ramekins inside a long baking dish. Pour some water into this dish so that it reaches 1/3 to 1/2 up the sides of the ramekins.
8. Place carefully in the oven. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 - 35 minutes, or until pudding/cakes are set. A fork inserted into the center should come out clean.
9. To Serve Pudding Cakes: Either leave them in the ramekins, or loosen with a knife and remove by turning upside-down over serving plates. Add a dollop of the coconut cream (or whipped/ice cream) and a sprinkling of toasted coconut, if desired.



Masig Island's new Councillor Ted Nai with Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Fred Gela at Cr. Nai's induction on Dauan.

## New TSIRC Councillor for Masig Island

Councillor Ted Nai has been sworn in as Masig Island's new Councillor under the Torres Strait Island Regional Council.

Cr. Nai will serve as the Councillor for Masig until elections for the next term of Council take place in March 2012.



Cr. Nai aims to run for election in March and continue as Councillor into the future.

"I am grateful for the opportunity I have been given to serve as Councillor of Masig Island," he said.

"It is an honour and privilege, and I believe that I am in this position because it is my passion to do whatever I can for the betterment of my people."

"Many social and living issues in the Torres Strait can be frustrating and disappointing, which is not how it should be.

"I've been given the challenging privilege to impact on these issues and to assist in creating change," he said.



TSIRC Councillors at Dauan Council Meeting.

## Doing what we can to prepare for king tides!



The monsoonal season is on our doorstep (literally) once again and although Council has desperately pleaded for funds from the government to reconstruct and maintain our seawalls to prevent damage from king tide inundation - we have not been successful.

We were given false hope that \$20 million dollars would be delegated to our seawalls although that money has not been confirmed so again, we do the best we can to prepare, with what we've got.



Council is involved in the Climate Change Working Group which has devised short, medium and long term plans to prepare and protect communities from the effects of king tides. Council also has standard infrastructure plans and 26 schemes each with their own individual emergency response plans.

Our Engineering Officers are also prepared to coordinate any relief that may be needed. A berm (sand dune) at Warraber was constructed last year to alleviate the impact of the tides. TSIRC have been liaising with SES and Emergency Services Qld to make sure that plans are in place on the ground.

Council is aware of which areas are flood zones and have put contingency plans in place including water and drainage operations.



# Vet visits

Island Communities were visited by qualified vets in October to treat animals.

Environmental Health and Animal Management Workers assisted the vets to gather animals in the community for tick and lice treatment, desexing, ear tattooing for monitoring.

It is important to keep the animals in our communities hygienic and healthy so that we can enjoy their company without our health being threatened.



Earlier this month a group of TSIRC staff from the Grafton Street Office undertook their Apply First Aid Course through St John Ambulance.

The two-day course covered a broad range of topics to enable participants to confidently manage emergency situations, providing care for the ill or injured until medical aid arrives.

Participants were taught how to treat broken bones, burns, bites, stings and more, while also learning or refreshing their CPR skills.

It certainly pays to have first aid skills because you can't learn them in an emergency.

## Dengue management in wet season

Communities have been preparing for the wet season and dengue prevention in the past months leading into the wet season. Environmental Health Workers have been focussing on removing any potential breeding sites they see in the community and encouraging residents to do the same.

There are two types of mosquito living in the Torres Strait that can spread dengue. Council encourage constituents to remove breeding sites from in and around your homes and to protect yourselves from mosquito bites.

- Check your yard weekly for empty containers that can hold water
- Store containers in a dry place
- Throw out containers that are not needed
- IBIS stock a variety of mosquito sprays and lotions.
- Note: penalties can be given for breeding mosquitoes on your property



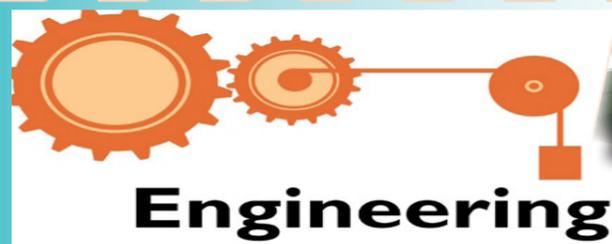
## Dance Kombat

TSIRC Healthy Lifestyle Officers are helping to roll out 'Dance Kombat' within communities.

The Kombat Chronic Disease (KCD) Team from Queensland Health recently teamed up with 4MW to visit island communities in the Torres Strait and teach them Dance Kombat which is a physical dance class aimed at motivating, challenging and inspiring youngsters by empowering them.

KCD Health Promotions message is to drink plenty of water, eat healthy food and eat moderately, and get plenty of exercise, whether it be walking or active sports.





# Engineering

## Water & Sewerage:

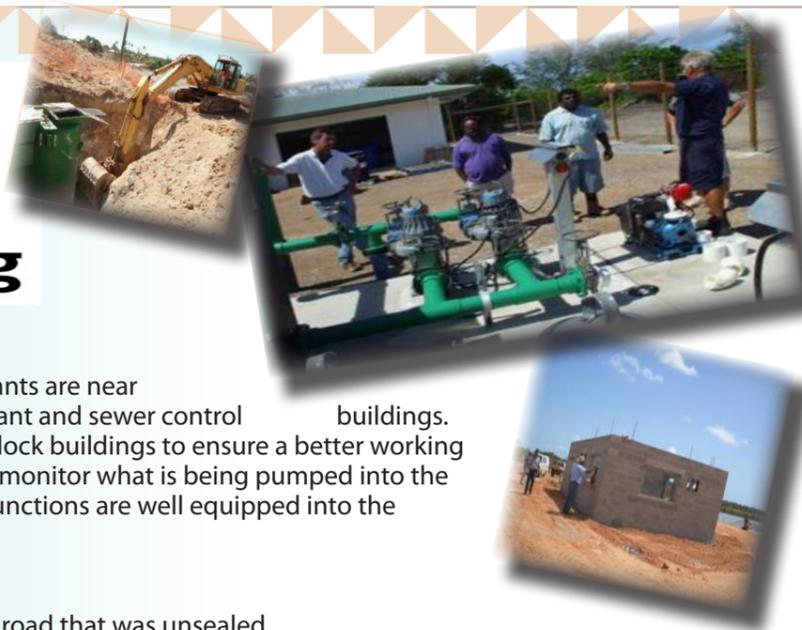
Hammond and Mabuig's new water treatment plants are near completion, as are Saibai's new water treatment plant and sewer control buildings. Council are replacing the old buildings with new block buildings to ensure a better working environment and reliable equipment to efficiently monitor what is being pumped into the community and ensure that water and sewerage functions are well equipped into the future.

## Paving:

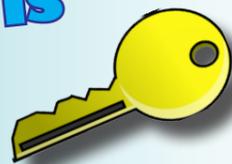
Hammond paving works are near completion on a road that was unsealed.

## Airport:

New airport fences have been completed at Kubin, Saibai and Badu. The old fences were unsafe for the community and animals were often seen on the airstrips via access through the broken fences. New Airport Reporting Officers have been trained on Horn Island improving knowledge of the requirements of aircraft landing areas such as the dimensions that have to be maintained and reported on.



# Education is the key!



This edition of Strait Talk includes a list of our staff who have received qualifications while working with Council.

Council place great priority on supporting its staff through gaining position-relevant qualifications.

TSIRC would like to take the opportunity to congratulate these staff for their hard work and effort in obtaining these qualifications and skills.

These skills are now being utilised in the work place to not only enhance the ability of our staff but to improve the overall operation of our organisation.

Remember: Education is knowledge and knowledge is power. Education is the key to success!



## Disaster Management Plan

Torres Strait Island Regional Council recently adopted its Local Disaster Management Plan and is in the process of establishing a Local Coordination Centre. The Local Disaster Management Plan has been specifically designed for the Torres Strait region and will be called upon in any disaster that may occur in the region.

It is important that in the case of a disaster it is important that we act according to the plan to avoid subsequent disaster. The Local Disaster Management Plan will soon be available to view on the Torres Strait Island Regional Council website at: [www.tsirc.qld.gov.au](http://www.tsirc.qld.gov.au)



# Staff Qualifications

Staff Member	Qualification attained	Staff Member	Qualification attained
Aaron Whap	Certificate III in Water Operations	Michael Passi	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Abi Mooka	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core	Naila Nomoa	Apply First Aid
Abisalom Bob	Certificate III in Water Operations	Nathan Pearson	Certificate III in Water Operations
Akila Barkus	Apply First Aid Plus	Patrick Pearson	Certificate II in Water Operations
Albert Bann	Certificate III in Water Operations	Paul Dai	Certificate II in Water Operations
Ali Dau	Certificate II in Water Operations	Ralph Larry	Solar and Heat Pump Water System Installation
Anson Gibia	Certificate III in Water Operations	Ralph Nona	Certificate III in Water Operations
Benjiman David	Certificate II in Water Operations	Rhiannon Cash	Apply First Aid Plus
Charlie Charlie	Certificate II in Water Operations	Richard Pearson	Certificate II in Water Operations
Corin Yong	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core	Ron Kris	Certificate III in Water Operations
Dan Waigana	Certificate II in Water Operations	Ross Steele	Certificate II in Water Operations
Daniel Pau	Certificate II in Water Operations	Sabake Baudu	Certificate III in Water Operations
Danny Mene	Certificate II in Water Operations	Solomon Aniba	Certificate II in Water Operations
Dawson Mau	Certificate III in Animal Management	Tamwoy Nona	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Dinah Sailor	Certificate IV in Local Government Administration	Thomas Nona	Certificate III Engineering - Mechanical Trade (Diesel Fitting)
Douglas Gaidan	Solar and Heat Pump Water System Installation	Thowa Whap	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Edward Wapau	Certificate II in Water Operations	Wabay Marou	Certificate III in Water Operations
Elizabeth Pearson	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Construction Elective	Wees Nawia	Certificate II in Water Operations
Elton Sailor	Certificate II in Water Operations	William Bero	Certificate III in Animal Management
Francis Pearson	Certificate II in Water Operations	William Gizu	Certificate III in Water Operations
Francis Pearson	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core	William Pearson	Certificate III in Water Operations
Frank Kaigey	Certificate III in Water Operations	Yona Waianga	Certificate III in Water Operations
Frank Nagai	Certificate II in Water Operations	Zitha Mosby	Certificate III in Animal Management
Gabriel Gesa	Solar and Heat Pump Water System Installation	Sandra Garnett	Qld Ombudsman - Good Decision Training
Gelam Salee	Certificate III in Water Operations	Sandra Garnett	Qld Ombudsman - Complaints Management Training
George Mosby	Certificate III in Water Operations	Seriako Dorante	Certificate II in Water Operations
Irene Mauga	Certificate III in Animal Management	Seriako Dorante	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Ishmael Baira	Solar and Heat Pump Water System Installation	Songhie Billy	Certificate II in Water Operations
Ivan Lui	Certificate III in Carpentry	Songhie Billy	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Jerry Marou	Certificate III in Water Operations	Teena Akiba	Apply First Aid Plus
Jess James	Apply First Aid Plus	Teena Akiba	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Services Elective
John Kepa	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core	Teena Akiba	Certificate IV in Occupational Health and Safety
John Paiwan	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core	Teena Akiba	Fire Safety Advisor
Justin Mooka	Certificate III in Water Operations	Teena Akiba	Rehabilitation and Return to Work Coordinator
Justina Warusam	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Construction Elective	Teena Akiba	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Construction Elective
Kathy Cochran	Apply First Aid Plus	Tyson Kebisu	Certificate II in Water Operations
Kevin Asai	Certificate III in Water Operations	Tyson Kebisu	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core
Kevin Malone	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core		
Magina Kelly	Workplace Health and Safety Officer - Core		
Marc Whitehouse	Apply First Aid Plus		
Mark David	Certificate III in Water Operations		
Maurice Tomsana	Certificate III in Water Operations		
Maynard Ware	Certificate III in Water Operations		

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



Poruma Island recently held a beach volleyball competition for the community. There was a great turn-out with many residents joining in on the court. TSIRC encourage communities to participate in an active lifestyle to keep fit and healthy. This competition was a great chance for the community to get-together while also getting some exercise, and most importantly - having fun!

## Environmental Health & Animal Management Workshop

TSIRC Environmental Health and Animal Management Workers undertook a workshop in Cairns in December conducted in conjunction with Queensland Health.

TSIRC place a high importance on training its staff to ensure they are up to date with the best practices and procedures to perform within communities.



The Workshop included computer training, Animal Management Census Reporting, Animal Welfare Dealing with Complaints, Pride in Personal Hygiene, EMQ Disaster Arrangements Course, Micro Chipping, presentations from workers, practical tasks, as well as Mosquito control in the Torres Strait.

## Celebrate Australia Day!

Torres Strait Island Regional Council will be hosting its second Australia Day Awards on January 26, 2012.

Nominations are now closed, but Council would like to take the opportunity to encourage constituents to celebrate Australia Day within communities.

The Mayor will be visiting the Citizen of the Year recipient's community on the day to personally present them with their award and other awards will be given to recipients by the Divisional Councillor during community celebrations.



Last year's TSIRC Australia Day Award for Community Event of the Year went to Badu for The Silver Jubilee 'Island of Origin' Rugby League carnival.