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PREVIEW

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ISSUE 625 OCTOBER 15, 2020

SUNSHINE COAST >> CENTRAL / WEST EDITION

+

PROPERTY
Best buys

INSPIRING DESIGN

The HIA-Truecore Steel Sunshine Coast & Wide Bay Housing Awards on October 16 will once again showcase some of the best ideas in residential building and design.



Ken Smith, HIA branch manager,
Sunshine Coast /Wide Bay



8 Delisser Plce, Pelican Waters, Mees Constructions

In a tough year of uncertainty and change triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Housing Industry Association (HIA) is delighted to be holding its annual housing awards showcasing the excellence of Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay building and design on October 16.

In particular, throughout the past eight months, the HIA offices have remained open to provide technical, legal and occupational health and safety support and assistance to our members ranging from JobKeeper information to providing site social distancing requirements as well as providing regular COVID information updates and changes.

While there is an easing of restrictions – apart from border closures – Queensland is well placed to come out of the COVID-19 recession strongly.

Queensland has not seen a housing boom since 2016. Since then, our population growth has accelerated on the

back of overseas migration and interstate workers, retirees and affordability and sunshine seekers. This helped absorb the excess housing supply with many future homebuyers potentially just waiting for the opportune moment to enter the market.

The Sunshine Coast was one of the strongest regions in Queensland for population growth between the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years. Most of this growth was from interstate migration and consequently will not be as adversely impacted from international border closures.

The Federal Government HomeBuilder is also having a positive impact on the Queensland economy, particularly the southeast corner. HIA's new home sales data shows that sales are 48.4 per cent higher in the three months since the announcement of HomeBuilder (June, July and August 2020) compared to the previous three months.

This does not mean Queensland will

escape unscathed, especially in the short term. The tourism industry is a major uncertainty for the state, given the dependence on international tourism for many local destinations.

Our housing awards night will be one of reflection of the past 12 months and a line-in-the-sand moment as the residential building industry prepares for the future.

– By Ken Smith



1 Entrance Island, Bokarina, SX Constructions

SNAPSHOT

The categories for this year's HIA-Truecore Steel Sunshine Coast & Wide Bay Housing Awards are:

- Affordable Housing
- Apartment Complex
- Apartment of the Year
- Bathroom of the Year
- Bathroom Design
- Custom Built Home
- Display Home
- Outdoor Project
- Kitchen of the Year
- Kitchen Design
- Townhouse/Villa Development
- Townhouse/Villa of the Year
- Spec Home
- Specialised Housing
- Steel Frame Project
- HIA Apprentice of the Year
- SCTTTC Student Excellence Award
- People's Choice Award
- Sunshine Coast Wide Bay Home of the Year

The HIA-Truecore Steel Sunshine Coast & Wide Bay Housing Awards will be hosted on October 16. The winners will be published in an upcoming edition of *My Weekly Preview*.

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**MEET
DEBRA KISTLER**
*DDK Consulting
and HIA judge*

As a judge, I am looking for the quality in all aspects of the building balanced by the affordability of the dwelling. I also look closely at the workmanship of the building and the degree of difficulty that was overcome when determining the competition's winner.



Banksia House, Kings Beach, Watt Building



Gullos residence, Palmwoods, Accord Homes

Great design is important, as is a good use of natural light, airflow and open plan living areas designed to have those getaway zones for the modern family to use. As a judge, I look for the use of the latest technology, environmentally friendly and sustainable building practices. Innovation in the design of the floorplan or finishes used is always an interesting aspect of the judging. The variety of ideas and styling to create a home for 2020 were a joy to view and to admire the creative and innovative styling of our leading builders on the Sunshine Coast.

It has been such an honour to be a judge for HIA the last few years and view such stunning properties and amazing craftsmanship. The winners of the HIA 2020 Awards should be applauded for their outstanding creativity and very high building practices. They are all worthy recipients of their awards.



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**MEET
FRANK BARRETT**
*supervisor,
Altopacific and
HIA judge*

The judging panel for the HIA House of the Year consists of building contractors, certifiers, architects, designers, building artists and council building officers.

My background in building on the Sunshine Coast started in September 1978, as a supervisor for Kawana Estates. In the late '80s my wife and I established Bunya Building Services, which still operates on a smaller scale as retirement looms.

From my experience and background as a judge for the HIA Housing Awards, I hope that the residential building industry understands that all decision-making has been carried out ethically without fear or favour. Having being part of the industry for so long, you get to know the builders and designers along the way. Obviously, the owners and builders are keen to guide us and proudly show their buildings.

We firstly judge the workmanship and quality of finish for all the trades involved. We are careful to check every room, open every door and check storage areas, as well as



6 Lorikeet Dve, Peregrin, Dayne Lawrie Constructions

walk the perimeter of the building where possible to check on masonry, glazing, render, soffits, drainage and roof where possible.

We are supplied with a checklist, with all the details of the builder, including the contract price which groups the categories.

The Sunshine Coast has a great record of winning the local and state awards. In 2018, our area won seven out of 10 state awards. The Sunshine Coast is experiencing a very busy period at this time in construction. The competition is healthy and the product on the Sunshine Coast is among the best in Australia. The local awards will continue with passionate and ethical volunteer judges continuing to choose the best of the best.



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**MEET
WILL JOHNSON**
*Town planner and
HIA judge*

I've been fortunate enough to be involved with Housing Industries Australia (HIA) judging for two years consecutively. In such time, I've genuinely been encouraged by the standard of residential building on the Sunshine Coast, and clear attempts by established and emerging local builders who want to deliver quality finishes for their clients.

As a judge for the HIA, we are actively looking to reward good building practices and quality tradesmanship, which in our eyes starts at the landscaping and front door through all aspects of the home and into the backyard. In essence, we look at every trade's involvement in a project. A quality and typically rewarded project reflects a builder's ability to keep all trades accountable to a high standard of finish, even if their job is what some might consider 'hidden by the plaster', or 'the painter will fix that'.

As judges we also take into account the site constraints, which can be a number of factors; steep site, limited access, small site and local government planning matters are most common. It's important to be aware of



49a Helsham St, Point Vernon, Wide Bay, Essentially Residential

“As a judge for the HIA, we are actively looking to reward good building practices and quality tradesmanship...”

the full story in getting to the finished product, because many factors in the initial stages can set the tone for the whole project, and a builder and trades ability to adapt and produce quality regardless is commendable. The Sunshine Coast is fortunate to have some fantastic architects and building designers who have great ability to enhance the landscape and promote good design ethos. Equally, we have some of the best local builders and trades, which bring it all together and HIA believes it is important to celebrate them.



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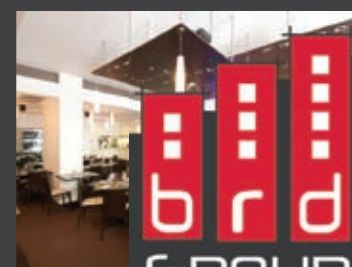
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