

sun spots

SAVING LIVES VALUED

QUEENSLAND

THE economic value of Surf Life Saving Queensland's coastal drowning and injury prevention services in 2009/10 was \$1.1 billion a year, according to a report by PricewaterhouseCoopers. It found Queensland surf lifesavers and lifeguards undertook more than 3900 rescues of 11,900 undertaken nationally.

POLLIES GET PAY RISE

QUEENSLAND

QUEENSLAND State MPs will receive a 2.5 per cent pay increase this year, increasing their annual base salary to \$137,149. In 2010, Premier Anna Bligh ensured that a 4.1 per cent salary increase received by Federal MPs was not passed on to Queensland MPs and was limited to 2.5 per cent. This year she did the same when Federal MPs received a 3.1 per cent increase.

WORLD BIKINI CAPITAL

GOLD COAST

THE Gold Coast has more than 350 reasons to call itself the bikini capital of the world after setting a new record for the world's largest bikini parade. Three hundred and fifty-seven bikini-clad women paraded in single file for 1.6km along Surfers Paradise beach, smashing the previous record of 331 set by the Cayman Islands in June 2010.

MEDAL FOR SERVICE

CANBERRA

SENIOR Sergeant Peter Banaghan from Far Northern Region is one of two Queensland police officers to be the first to receive a National Police Service Medal. He was recognised in a ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra. Commissioner Bob Atkinson said the new medal recognised the unique role sworn officers have in protecting the community.



RECOGNITION: Som Tamang and Jenna-Maree Jacob were announced as Queensland winners of the Pride of Australia Medal.

Heroes recognised

SOM Tamang has devoted his life to improving the lot of Nepalese children and women.

Jenna-Maree Jacob is equally determined to make a difference to the lives of young indigenous people in Australia.

They are ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Now they have been recognised as Queensland winners of the 2011 Pride of Australia Medal, receiving silver medallions at a Brisbane ceremony on Friday.

Cairns State High 17-year-old Jenna won the Young Leader category, for a person under 25 who has advanced a community or will advance a community through academic or personal endeavours.

Som won the Fair Go category, for an Australian



born overseas who has enriched our country through community involvement, hard work and willingness to embrace their new home.

All winners will be eligible to win the national title and a gold medal for their medal category, which will be announced in Sydney on November 22 at a red carpet event attended by many high profile Australians who'll be there to celebrate and recognise our amazing

community heroes.

Queensland's Pride of Australia Medal winners, along with all state and territory winners, will be judged by a national panel to determine the national winner for each of the 10 categories.

News Limited has also announced a new award, the People's Choice Award Powered by Duracell. From October 16 until November 7, each state winner will be featured in News Limited newspapers, giving readers the chance to vote for their favourite Pride of Australia hero. The one with the most votes will be crowned People's Choice winner at the national medal event in November.

Vote now at www.prideofaustralia.com.au

Next step for health services

THE next stage of the Cairns North Community Health Facility is underway to provide locals with more preventative and allied health services.

Member for Cairns Desley Boyle said Hutchinson Builders had been awarded the contract to fit out the space for adult and child health services.

"It's great to see work progressing on this project which is funded as part of the \$454.6 million Cairns Base Hospital redevelopment," she said.

"Feedback from clients visiting the new Cairns North Community Health Facility since it opened last year has been overwhelmingly positive.

"The staff are regularly being told by clients how impressed they are with the new, modern and spacious premises.

"The Cairns North Community Health Facility is already home to Queensland Health's Sexual Health Service and Oral Health Service, and the Australian Red Cross Blood Service's Donor Centre.

Ms Boyle said the expansion would combine primary health care, community and out of hospital services like physio appointments and ante-natal checks all in one place.

"Services will relocate from a number of sites across the city to the Sheridan St facility in early 2012.

"It will be a purpose-built community health centre, helping locals to manage chronic disease and reducing the need for hospital treatment through early intervention."



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