

Awards shower on Chris

BY EMILY BLACK
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NOOSA'S Chris Clout Design added another five awards to its accolades at the Building Designers Association of Queensland's Sunshine Coast Regional Awards last Friday.

AT just 27 years old, owner Chris Clout has won 28 awards in three years across regional, state and national categories, and he plans to keep on winning.

Chris said he was after the award for best new home 451-600sq m and was pleased to announce he had received it.

"It's like the top-end house category and I hadn't achieved it," he said.

Chris said the association now had an award for a over 600sq m, which was his next goal to win.

Three of five awards won were for the same Noosa Heads property – Winbirra – which won Best New Home 451-600sq m; Best Pool or Water Feature and Best use of Colorbond steel.

Chris said the retired couple's design brief was that they wanted to feel like they were always away on holidays, and liked the use of timber, but didn't want too much maintenance.

"We had a lot of restrictions with that site with sewer along the back and that block was a triangle, wedge shape block with existing gum trees, so it was quite a challenge to fit everything in. But it came out well," he said.

He said the company had been enlisted to design homes for properties in Brisbane and Western Australia, were working on five homes in Melbourne, wanted to go into resort design and had already been asked to design one in Vanuatu.



WINNING DESIGN: Winbirra (above) was a challenge for Chris Clout (top).



AWARD WINNERS

NEW HOMES – 251-350sq m: Trevor Reitsma, Reitsma & Associates, O House; Chris Clout, Chris Clout Design, Waterfall House, Commendation. **351-450sq m:** Norman Richards, Norman Richards Building Design, Inside Out House; Gerard Smith, Mojo Designs, Wyuna, Commendation. **451-600sq m:** Chris Clout, Chris Clout Design, Winbirra House. **Over 600sq m:** Paul Clout, Paul Clout Design, Sovereign Island House.

RESIDENTIAL ALTERATION AND ADDITION – \$300,000-\$600,000: Ian Gorton, Mojo Designs, Netherby, Commendation; Chris Clout, Chris Clout Design, Allure. **Over \$600,000:** Gerard Smith, Mojo Designs, Satori.

HIGH DENSITY MULTI-RESIDENTIAL: Brad Read Design Group, Kings Palazzo, Caloundra.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS: Brad Read Design Group, Lexus Showroom Maroochydore.

INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS: Kieron James, Kieron James Design, Industrial Shed.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS/SPECIAL PROJECTS: Scott Falconer & Lee Foster, Aboda Design Group, Bell Residence.

BEST COMMERCIAL INTERIOR: Brad Read Design Group Pty Ltd, Lexus Showroom Maroochydore.

BEST RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR: Paul Clout, Paul Clout Design, Sovereign Island House.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE: Tim Christopher, Golden Beach Design, Ausmar Smart Home, Commendation; Tim Christopher, Golden Beach Design, The Bloom.

NEW HOMES <\$1100 PER SQM: Tim Christopher, Golden Beach Design, The Bloom. **\$1101-\$1400 PER SQM:** Norman Richards, Norman Richards Building Design, Maleny Vista.

BEST USE OF COLORBOND STEEL: Chris Clout, Chris Clout Design, Winbirra House.

BEST BATHROOM: Tim Christopher, Golden Beach Design, 105 Deepwater.

BEST POOL OR WATER FEATURE: Chris Clout, Chris Clout Design.

Through the keyhole

>>Sustainable housing

Sustainable House Day will celebrate its 10th year on September 11 and the organisers are looking for volunteers willing to showcase their sustainable homes. This year they aim to have the doors to over 300 homes open for tours and to give visitors opportunities to see first-hand the benefits and practicality of solar, ventilation, water harvesting, recycling, shading, thermal mass, glazing and window treatments, gardens, and lifestyle products. Contact Pia Vogrin by email at pia@shmeco.com or phone 0419 853 614.

>>Borrowers lap up choice

New home loan borrowers are lapping up at an increasing rate the range of ongoing discount products on offer, according to mortgage broker Mortgage Choice. A Mortgage Choice spokeswoman said every state saw a rise in demand for this loan type during April as it reached a high of 30 per cent of Mortgage Choice's new loan approvals nationally. "This is the strongest appetite seen since the broker began differentiating ongoing discount loans from others in its data reporting six months ago," she says. The popularity of fixed rate home loans also jumped to 12 per cent from 10 per cent the month previous, reversing the falling popularity for fixed rates during February and March.

>>Barbecue big success

LJ Hooker Peregian Beach raised just over \$800 at its recent barbecue fundraiser, to be donated to a local family affected by cystic fibrosis. Property manager Charlie Campbell said the agency was pleased with the result and the prize draw was very popular. Charlie said the agency will take donations at their office for May's 65 Roses day. "Later in the year throughout the LJ Hooker network we will do a charity walk for cystic fibrosis," Charlie said.

where i live: Noosaville

"WE live in Wedgetail Lane, in a neighbourhood where all the streets have native bird names.

We chose to live here because of the natural bushland surrounds, backing on to Lake Doonella.

We love the sound of birds. It's close to shops, schools and getting to Eumundi markets, with an added bonus of living in a lovely, quiet, yet friendly and sociable neighbourhood.

We like walking and bike riding on the many walking tracks either to the shops, school or around Lake Doonella.

We have so many beautiful restaurants to choose from, but we like breakfast at Bistro C or Grind Cafe. There are quite a few choices for lunch – the Yacht and Sailing Club, does great counter-type meals with a fabulous view of Noosa River, Amo Gelato do excellent quick meals along with a wicked coffee, followed by a delicious gelato, or a

salad-to-go from Nosh on Thomas. For a luxurious lunch I love Sails on Hastings St. As for an evening meal, you can't go past upstairs at Berado's, or a trip to the Spirit House at Yandina. If we take the children we go to China Jade in Mary St or Magic of India in Thomas St. We truly live in the best neighbourhood. Thanks to neighbours of Wedgetail Lane and Bluebell Court."

>> Karen Solley,
Noosa Interiors

