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## Australia Day

# Award for defender of city

By Anne Tarasov

LIVERPOOL City Council Young Citizen of the Year Natasha Lay says she's tired of western Sydney being thought of as a bad area.

Ms Lay, who's 19 and who lives in Cartwright, was presented with the award by Liverpool Australia Day Ambassador Wayne Scott Kermond for her work as a representative of the young people of the city.

"I've always been passionate about helping the Liverpool area and especially expanding the opportunities of young people who live here," Ms Lay said.

"But before I joined the Liverpool Youth Council, I knew very little about the services, groups and activities available."

It was in 2004 that Ms Lay joined the youth group, which was started by Liverpool Council. She's been chairperson since 2006.

"The Liverpool Youth Council has given me so many opportunities to get involved in what's going on in the community and learn about how local politics works," she said.

Ms Lay, who went to All Saints Catholic Senior College in Liverpool, is now in her second year at the University of Technology Sydney studying for a double degree – bachelor of arts in communication and bachelor of law.

"It's amazing how bad a reputation western Sydney has with most people who live in other areas," she said. "They just think there aren't any capable and talented people out her, and that's very offensive."

"My aim is to make young people realise they're capable of achieving a lot more than they think and that they have lots of potential."



**Young spirit:** University student Natasha Lay was declared the Liverpool City Council Young Citizen of the Year on Australia Day.

Picture: Elliott Housego

"We organise various events for the young people in the area every year including the recent YOUTHink event which included workshops and seminars on important issues such as human rights, the environment, politics and many others to increase youth awareness of this issue."

## In the swim at the right end

SWIMMER Zoe Diamond said that winning the Liverpool 2008 Australia Day Sports Award on Saturday was a humbling experience.

Zoe, who is 14 and who lives in Austral, thanked the man who nominated her – Liverpool Swim Club life member George Cunningham, who's a prominent and admired figure in swimming.

Zoe, 14, is a member of the Justin Rothwell Swim Academy, which is based at the Whitlam Leisure Centre.

Zoe couldn't accept the award herself because she was at a training camp with the Australian Institute of Sport in Thredbo.

Liverpool Council gave the club \$4000 for high-altitude training in Thredbo.

Zoe's younger sister, Kate, 10, accepted the award on her sister's behalf.

Zoe will represent NSW in March at the New Zealand age championships.

"I am honoured and humbled to receive the award and I thank my family and George Cunningham," she said in the message read by Kate. "I also thank all my swim club members and coaches for their support and guidance."

Kare and the girls' brother – 12-year-old Zac Diamond – are also members of Justin Rothwell's academy.

Zoe said that her parents – Anne and Laurie – had been her inspiration.

# what's on

## ST JOHNS PARK BOWLING CLUB



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G-line (nsw) is a confidential, anonymous and free counselling service. Freecall 1800 633 635.  
Information for Members and Guests





## 鼠年

YEAR OF RAT 2008

**Come in and celebrate the Chinese New Year on Friday 8th February**

Let our dragon dancers welcome you into the club. Be entertained and amazed by our martial arts experts

Enjoy this spectacular show and watch it as it unravels in the auditorium from 8pm

## VALENTINES DAY

**7.30pm Thursday 14 Feb**

Celebrate with a 3 course menu while enjoying the sounds of Two Up. Complimentary glass of champagne plus every lady receives a special gift.

Tickets \$35 (Members) \$40 (Visitors)

**BOOK & you could win a night at the Novotel Darling Harbour plus a double pass Bridge Climb.**

Terms and Conditions apply, see in Club for details. Authorised under NSW LTPM/07/20369.

## WEDNESDAY MEMBERS' BADGE DRAW

**THIS WEEK'S DRAW WEDNESDAY JAN 30**

**\$8,000**

Drawn every half hour from 7-9pm. Must be present to win. See club for details. NSW Permit No. LTPS/07/24366

## SAINTS BRASSERIE



**15 MINUTE MEAL GUARANTEE**  
Available at lunch during January & February

**THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL MASSAMAN BEEF CURRY – \$10**  
Available Dinner only, 30 January to 5 February.

## live entertainment

### GOOD ROCKIN TONIGHT WITH ROC A TAC

**Friday 1 February**  
FREE in the Auditorium 8.30pm

### JJ DUO

**Friday 1 February**  
FREE in the Lounge 8pm



### SEARCHERS

**Sun 10 February 2pm**  
\$12.50 Members  
\$14.50 Visitors

The Searchers are one of the few British pop groups to have maintained their position at the top for well over 40 years. Hit after hit – "Sweets for My Sweet", "Needles and Pins", "When You Walk in the Room" and many more.



## Super Bug Scooter Blitz

**WIN 1 of 6 super speedy BUG VIBE SCOOTERS during March and April**

Promotion commences 1 February 2008.

Members must be present at the draw to win. Terms and Conditions apply. See in Club posters for full details. Members Promotion. Authorised under NSW LTPM 08/00624.