

Thursday, 20 July 2023

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN NEWCASTLE PERMANENT FUTURE MAKERS AWARDS

Newcastle Permanent is proud to announce the winners of the inaugural [Future Makers Awards](#), celebrating local people making a real difference.

These awards shine an important light on the people creating a positive, meaningful impact across the categories of *Business, Innovation, Research, Sport and Community*.

Newcastle Permanent Chief Distribution Officer, Paul Juergens, said the Future Makers Awards were a way to formally recognise the people who bring kindness and hope to our communities.

“The response to our Future Makers Awards has been truly overwhelming!” Mr Juergens said.

“The quantity and quality of nominations we received was a testament to the many brilliant people in our midst. I’d like to thank everyone who took the time to tell us about a Future Maker – and to congratulate all our nominees.”

The winners of the 2023 Future Makers awards are:

- Business: Dr Derek Gilligan
- Innovation: Dr Alexander Post
- Research: Lisa Urquhart
- Sport: Tristan Harrison
- Community: Joshua Maxwell

“Congratulations to all our deserving winners,” said Mr Juergens.

Each of the Future Makers Award winners will receive \$1,000, as part of Newcastle Permanent’s 120<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

“As a customer-owned bank, we are incredibly passionate about investing in our community, and we’re extremely grateful for the support we have received over the past 120 years,” Mr Juergens said.

“Here’s to 120 more!”

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Category	Name	Region	Summary
<b>Business</b>	Derek Gilligan	Hunter	<p>Dr Gilligan has been providing clinical and forensic support to clients with mental health-related needs for over 30 years.</p> <p>Often acting on a pro bono basis, Dr Gilligan supports clients who have found themselves involved with the criminal justice system, had a decline in mental health, and are struggling financially.</p>
<b>Innovation</b>	Alex Post	Hunter	<p>Alex is the co-founder of <a href="#">MGA Thermal</a>, a revolutionary clean-energy company headquartered in the Hunter region.</p> <p>The company plans to be a major employer and exporter of their renewable energy product to the rest of the world.</p> <p>Alex's professional passion is in creating sustainable business pathways that will create a real-world impact.</p>
<b>Research</b>	Lisa Urquhart	Coffs Harbour	<p>Lisa is currently completing her PhD, investigating Indigenous health and nutrition to inform better policy in the local area.</p> <p>A non-Indigenous researcher and dietitian, Lisa has experienced the positive power of working together with Aboriginal communities to build brighter futures together.</p> <p>Lisa wants to ensure healthcare isn't just academic – that it makes real difference and leads to tangible change.</p>
<b>Sport</b>	Tristan Harrison	Orange	<p>An accomplished triathlete in his own right, Tristan is making a significant contribution to the community by mentoring young athletes in Orange.</p> <p>He dedicates 20-plus hours a week to coaching, tutoring and travelling with kids at his own</p>

			expense, sometimes entering himself in an event just to run alongside a less-confident child.
<b>Community</b>	Joshua Maxwell	Central Coast	<p>Josh is the Director of Central Coast’s leading Youth Arts body, <a href="#">Jopuka Productions</a>, as well as an avid advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community.</p> <p>Josh aims to nurture his community, introducing ‘pay what you can’ shows to encourage people to the theatre, as well as nurture, include and protect LGBTQIA+ youth.</p>