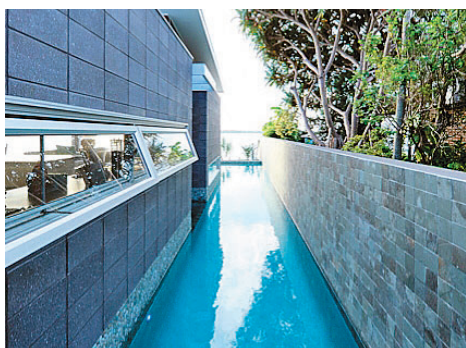




**MEDIAN UNIT
PRICE GROWTH:
SUNSHINE BEACH
6.7% (year to July)**
THREE YEARS TO JULY
19.1%
FIVE YEARS TO JULY
-16.0%



SUNSHINE COAST WINNERS:

- Coastal Properties - Custom Built \$750K to \$1M Brisbane/Toowoomba Award (Brisbane Project)
- Altum Constructions - Qld GreenSmart Energy Efficiency Award and Qld Custom Built Home of the Year
- Quail Constructions - Qld Spec Home of the Year
- Crestmont Homes - Qld Outdoor Project of the Year
- Morwood Constructions - Qld Renovation/Addition Project of the Year and Host Trainer of the Year
- Ausmar Homes - Qld Professional Small Builder of the Year
- Costa Excellence - Luxury-Lifestyle Qld Townhouse Villa Development of the Year & Qld Display Home of the Year

COAST TRIUMPH: Builder David Jones of Coastal Properties, pictured centre at his Buderim home, won the Custom Built \$750k to \$1m Brisbane/Toowoomba award at the HIA-CSR Queensland Housing Awards for a Cleveland Point home, inset images on the left.

Locals shine at state housing awards

BY GEOFF CROCKETT
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A BOUTIQUE Sunshine Coast builder beat the big boys in Brisbane to take out a top gong for prestige housing at the recent HIA-CSR Queensland Housing Awards.

A Coastal Properties' house at Cleveland Point, east of Brisbane, won the Custom Built \$750k to \$1m Brisbane/Toowoomba award at the event, held at the Brisbane Exhibition and Convention Centre late last month.

Company owner David Jones, who runs the business from his Buderim office, said the win was a triumph for Sunshine Coasters, as the property had also been created locally by Paul Braithwaite of

Sprout Architects at Alexandra Headlands.

Mr Jones said it was the first time he had entered his work into the awards and he was more than happy with the result.

He was even happier that the owner of the property and the architect were there on the night to share in the recognition.

"The real thrill was that the client was there with us on the night. That's one of my goals, to make building an enjoyable experience," he said.

Mr Jones said Coastal Properties was a one-man band run by himself with a solid group of sub-contractors, with whom he had worked with for many years, helping out as required.

He said while his background was in developing townhouses and unit-style pro-

jects, he had moved away from that side of the industry several years ago and now focused on doing one or two builds a year.

"The one I've just started, in Buderim, is a big project and will finish in June or July next year," Mr Jones said.

The intricate design of the Cleveland house had its own challenges, including the stone feature element on the front which Mr Jones said involved one sub-contractor working a brick saw for four days to cut the stones to the right size and shape to make it work.

HIA Sunshine Coast/Wide Bay branch manager Stuart Collins said builders from the region had shone at this year's awards.

"HIA holds these awards each year, en-

abling industry participants including builders, developers, designers and contractors to compete against their peers across a range of building categories," Mr Collins said.

"It is a competition that rewards excellence and challenges industry in the region to better itself.

"There is a strong rivalry between builders throughout south-east Queensland with Sunshine Coast builders having outperformed Gold Coast, Brisbane and Toowoomba builders over a number of years.

"This year was no exception.

"It would be no surprise to witness these builders going on to secure further accolades at the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards in May next year."