

SE Lifestyle

HD REAL PEOPLE OF THE GC: TIM MCCORMICK

BY AS TOLD TO ALICE GORMAN

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AFTER A LONG WORKING CAREER IN THE COUNTRY, TIM MCCORMICK IS ENJOYING THE CHANCE TO GIVE BACK

I had a business in Taree, manufacturing farm machinery and tractor sales. We had a couple of investment apartments up here on the **Gold** Coast and when the tenants moved out of one we decided we'd move up here to have a trial of Coast life.

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We never went back. We love the temperate climate, it doesn't get too cold or too hot. We live on the Broadwater so we get the breezes.

We used to bring the family up here for holidays every couple of years. When I retired to the Gold Coast I joined the Southport Lions Club. I'd never been in the Lions before, having a business I just didn't have time. Running a business was full on so it's my choice to do the volunteering now. It's also a great social meeting place.

We're here volunteering on the Christmas present wrapping stand at Harbour Town, raising money for children's cancer research.

This is my first time doing present wrapping. There was a young girl here before us, she was excellent. She gave me some tips but I think I need more practice.

I was raised in Sydney and after school did an apprenticeship. After that I worked for the **company** that invented the rotary hoe. When they decided to close down Australian manufacturing myself and another gentleman decided we'd start our own **business** in Taree, which has a strong **dairy** industry.

The first five years were a bit of a nightmare, finding time to design equipment, purchase materials and run the business.

Then we went into retail of tractors so I had to learn about tractors. We had Massey Ferguson, Ford and Lamborghini.

We ran the **business** for 20 years when the offer came for someone to **buy** the **business**.

For the first three to four years of retirement it was very difficult. I'd come from a small acreage to apartment living in a high-rise. That was the most difficult part of it.

But I joined the body corporate committee and I'm involved with the Lion's Haven Aged Care Facility at Hope Island. It helps keep my brain active.

We do a fair bit of travelling too. The best part of living in a high-rise is we can just lock the apartment up and go. There's no lawns to mow, no gardens to tend. It frees us up to travel.

We're just back from Norfolk Island for the inaugural food festival. We travelled with the chef Dominique Rizzo. We had a tremendous time, the food was terrific.

We'll do **China** next year and last year we did France and England. The Christmas before we cruised from Amsterdam to Prague. We get around.

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