DEBBIE and Steve Bush were very proud when their daughter, Toni, who was presented with the Young Citizen of the Year Award by Greater Taree City Council at the Australian Day presentations.

Toni grew up in Lansdowne. She attended Lansdowne primary school for four years and two years at Taree Primary before attending Chatham High School where she graduated last year.

While at Taree Primary School she was a school leader and she was also vice captain at Chatham High School.

Toni was nominated for the award by the Taree Lions club. They nominated her for consistently demonstrated her leadership ability throughout 2012.

She had represented Chatham High School with distinction during her year as vice captain. She had been an active member of the school community - participating in many extra-curricular activities for the benefit of her fellow students and for the broader community through her fundraising efforts.

Toni also demonstrated her ability to balance school, sport, work and personal commitments and was successful in all her endeavours.

She was also considered to be an excellent role model for her fellow students and the community at large.

Toni’s commitment to the School Representative Council of Chatham High School has meant that students have had the opportunity to have a nutritious breakfast before school.

She has ensured her fellow students have had the opportunities to participate in school social activities, school year 12 formal and receive a year book to commemorate their schooling.

Many worthwhile community based organisations have benefited through Toni’s fundraising efforts.

Toni has set an outstanding example for her colleagues - demonstrating her community mindedness.

Toni Bush was nominated for the award in recognition of her outstanding service to Chatham High School and the community generally.