

Floral Fiesta Queen of Casino— Our Sue Davis

Sue Davis, a 19 years-old aboriginal girl, was crowned this year's Floral Fiesta Queen at Casino and has probably won herself a trip to Sydney to see Queen Elizabeth when Her Majesty visits Australia with the Duke of Edinburgh early next year.

Sue was crowned Queen by Casino's Mayor, Ald. R. W. Manyweathers, amidst cheers and clapping by a crowd of more than 3,000 which packed Walker Street at the end of the town's spring festival of flowers.

Visibly shaken, but smiling happily, Sue told the gay crowd: "This is totally unexpected. Nothing like this has ever happened to me in my life before".

Sue, who was sponsored by the Casino Apex Club, raised £806 11s. 1d. for charity to win the award.

The *Richmond River Express*, describing the coronation ceremony, said: "When she stepped down from the dais after the crowning, Sue was surrounded by people congratulating her on her win".

For her success Sue received £50 and a free return air trip to Sydney.

The Member for Casino, Mr. Ian Robinson, told the Fiesta Queen he would do everything he could to make it possible for her to see the Queen during the Royal visit.

Mr. Robinson described Sue's win as "a very unique and wonderful occurrence for a function of this kind in Australia".

It had been with tremendous pleasure that he had learned Sue had accepted the Apex Club's invitation to stand as a candidate and her win was a wonderful personal tribute.

The Mayor, Ald. Manyweathers, said, "Deep down in their hearts everyone felt what a wonderful thing it would be for Sue to win—and now she has won".

Robed and crowned Sue was acclaimed Fiesta Queen with a Mayoral kiss.

Sue, who is a stenographer in a Casino law office, made an attractive picture in her beautiful white, simply cut frock.



Sue Davis musters a shy smile as a joyful Mayor of Casino, Ald. Manyweathers, places the Fiesta Queen crown on her head. Our pictures by courtesy of the *Northern Star*, Lismore

The amount raised by Sue and Apex was £45 more than that raised by her nearest rival, Miss Gail Fryer, who was sponsored by Casino Rotary and Quota Clubs.

The four candidates in the quest raised a total of £2,318 7s. for charity. Individual amounts raised by the three other candidates were: Miss Fryer £761 8s. 10d., Miss Caroline Johnston (Lions Club) £290, and Miss Diane Tams (Jaycees) £460 7s. 11d.

Sue's crowning climaxed three months of fund raising by the candidates and a week of gaiety in Casino at the beginning of September.

Sue later told the *Richmond River Express*, "I cannot make myself really believe it is true.

"It is wonderful . . . I don't know how to say how glad I am", she added.

Perhaps the happiest person in the huge crowd which packed Walker Street for the crowning ceremony was Sue's father, Mr. Sid Davis.

She said her mother and father and other members of the family were very excited.