

# Thirroul's street art experiment

By BEN LANGFORD Dec. 12, 2012, midnight



Gary Elliott in front of the wall of images adorning Thirroul. Picture:  
KIRK GILMOUR

Residents of Thirroul and the northern suburbs will see some familiar faces writ large upon a prominent wall as part of a project which aims to show how street art can bring a community together.

Posters showing the faces of 37 area residents have been pasted on a wall near the corner of Lawrence Hargrave Drive and Railway Parade. A 38th face is expected soon.

The wall of faces was organised by resident John Corker, who took the photographs and got them printed onto large posters to be put on the wall, to showcase the diversity of people in the area.

"The idea is that street art can be very valuable in community-building," he said.

"I thought this looks like a good [way] to build awareness of the relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in our community.

"People really like it - there's great feedback."

Mr Corker, a lawyer, took the pictures and utilised the resources of a global art project called Inside Out, which features similar street art projects across the world, to get the posters printed.

One of the faces peering at the passers-by is that of Gary Elliott, a Thirroul retiree who was happy to lend his good looks to the wall.

"There's a lot of diversity in the depiction that reflects the community," he said.

Other faces include those of prominent Aboriginal artist Kevin Butler, actor David Field and singer Jodi Phillis.

Readers can visit [insideoutproject.net](http://insideoutproject.net) to see similar projects worldwide.



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